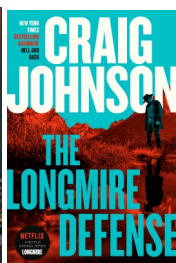




# Sunriver Books & Music

## September Newsletter

[Sunriverbooks.com](http://Sunriverbooks.com)  
541-593-2525



**It's Showtime!**  
**Craig Johnson Saturday September 9**  
**The New York Times Bestselling**  
**Longmire series**  
***The Longmire Defense***

**Pre-purchase *The Longmire Defense* from Sunriver Books for a ticket to attend the event!**  
**There will be refreshments & drawings for prizes.**  
**For information, email [sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com)**

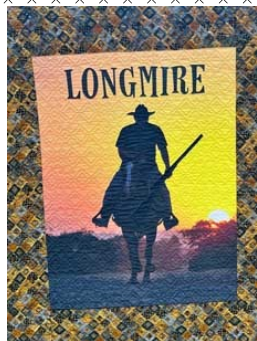
Photo of Craig Johnson & Flashman by Dan Feer

A huge thank you to Craig Johnson for his friendship and continuing to give fabulous events in Sunriver! He is a good friend to Sunriver Books, we are grateful for his generosity and loyalty.

***The Longmire Defense*** is one of the best in a superb series! Sheriff Walt Longmire is on foot searching for a lost motorist in Wyoming's spring snows when he discovers evidence of a crime, a crime committed half a century ago when former Sheriff Lucien Connolly was a young man and Walt's grandfather, Lloyd was alive. Half a century is a long time, but there is no statute of limitation on murder and Walt's grandfather is a prime suspect.

Time has taken care of whatever punishment would be meted out to the killer, but Walt won't let it go, he is intent on getting answers. Oddly enough, without live suspects, the case is still upsetting a lot of people. Some of those opposed to the investigation are willing to use lethal methods to put a stop to it.

Lots of action (especially the finale!) and some great new characters, this book was a joy to read! It only took me a day because I would not put it down!



### In Celebration of The Longmire Series by Craig Johnson

#### Mountain Meadows Quilters

#### Quilting Exhibition inspired by The Longmire Series!

This year Craig Johnson's event will feature something special, a display of about 25 gorgeous quilts crafted by the artisans of the Mountain Meadows Quilters and inspired by the Longmire series. Quilters will be there to display and explain the quilts.

I was thrilled when they told me they were going to honor the Longmire series with an interpretation in quilts. Some of the quilts are on display at Sunriver Books until September 9 (they will be off display temporarily September 1). Many Mountain Meadows Quilters are Master Quilters and Award Winners. The quilt pictured was created by Judy Johnson of the Mountain Meadows Quilters.

Thank you to every quilter listed below who honored the Longmire series with your beautiful quilts!

Candace Ruland, Sue Humiston, Matt Humiston, Jacqui Ervin, Valerie Weber, Carol Stec, Lori Hecker, Marjie Mathison, Pat Jones, Debbie Ewing, Marcia Schonlau, Joy Ryan, Judy Johnson, Gail Eldred, Christine Watkins (2), JoAnna Rogers, Gail Newton, Leilani Purvis (2), Linda Dawson, Bevalee Runner, Bonnie Schaefer, Ruth Kinane (5)

A special thank you to Ruth Kinane who created 5 amazing quilts! ***Another Man's Moccasins*** goes to Walt and Henry Standing Bear's time in Vietnam. Ruth's quilt is powerful, I cannot look at it without being moved.

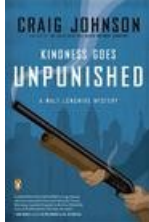
**Sunriver Books will close at 1 PM or earlier on Saturday September 9 the day of the Craig Johnson event.**



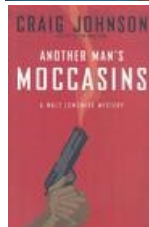
**Cold Dish** introduces the characters. Walt is a big guy who prefers talking his way out of trouble to fighting. Henry Standing Bear is tall, soft spoken, thoughtful, whip smart, a favorite of the ladies, and often quite funny. Vic, from a family of tough Philadelphia cops, has a razor sharp tongue, and is gleefully ready for action. Four white boys escaped serious consequences for raping a Native American high school girl. Years later, someone is shooting them.



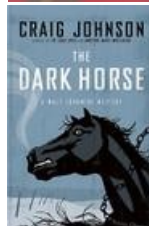
**Death Without Company** opens with a death in an assisted living facility. Former Sheriff Lucien Connolly is positive the death was murder; The story goes to the past, a woman hard done by, and the Basque community.



**Kindness Goes Unpunished** is set in Philadelphia where Cady, Walt's daughter, is a lawyer. Walt wants to meet her new beau. Henry Standing Bear is involved in a photo exhibition so the two men travel together, where they will meet trouble as they always do, side by side.



**Another Man's Moccasins** finds a dead Vietnamese girl along a road in Wyoming with a picture of Walt from years ago in Vietnam. The story moves back in time to Walt as a young Marine in the jungles of Southeast Asia.



**Dark Horse** has Walt holding a prisoner he fears is innocent. She was found with a gun in her hand, a shot dead husband in her burned house, and a confession. It doesn't add up for Walt, he goes undercover to find the truth. The horse is pretty cool too!



**Junkyard Dogs.** A new McMansion subdivision looks out to snowcapped mountains and down on a dump. The developer wants the dump closed. Add a Romeo and Juliet story for the older set and you have a heady brew of greed, passion, and intrigue.



**Hell is Empty** lets all the devils loose in a snow storm where Walt is following a band of stone cold killers after a hand off of prisoners to the Feds goes tragically awry. He climbs up the mountainside entering the circles of hell after armed and deadly men.



**As the Crow Flies** introduces Tribal Police Chief Lolo Long. She proved her bravery in Iraq, but her hair trigger temper and inexperience are not ideal in a Police Chief. Oddly enough, the prickly Lolo is immune to Henry Standing Bear's considerable charms.

**A Serpent's Tooth** begins with discovering Cord, a "lost boy" ejected from a rogue polygamous Mormon splinter group. Henry Standing Bear and Walt cross state lines to find answers at a heavily armed Mormon compound while Cord discovers movie DVDs and is inspired to try his hand at horse rustling. Cord is soon joined by his self-proclaimed protector, Orrin Porter Rockwell, Man of God, Sun of Thunder blessed by Joseph Smith himself, a man who died over a century ago.

**Any Other Name.** One of Former Sheriff Lucian Connolly's cronies, Detective Gerald Holman, either committed suicide or was helped from this world. Holman was working cold cases, should have been safe. Lucian asks Walt to figure out what went wrong.

**Dry Bones.** The last place any cop wants to be is in the middle of a territorial dispute between the FBI, the Justice Department, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, a local ranching family, and a museum of sorts. That's exactly where Sheriff Walt Longmire finds himself when the largest most complete T-Rex skeleton is discovered on a ranch owned by the Lone Elk family.

**An Obvious Fact.** Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear go to Hulett, Wyoming near Devil's Tower National Monument and across the border from the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. They travel in Henry's 68 Thunderbird, Lola, named for a mysterious woman from Henry's past. Lola the original, a stunningly dangerous beauty, shows up. Henry Standing Bear is reading Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories; a quote is apt, "*There is nothing more deceptive than an obvious fact.*"

**The Western Star** moves between two time frames. Current day Sheriff Walt Longmire, Deputy Vic Moretti, former Sheriff Lucian Connolly and Henry Standing Bear are in Cheyenne trying to stop the release of a prisoner. Back in 1972 Walt was in his first days as a deputy, boarding the legendary train, **Western Star**, with Sheriff Lucian Connolly. The Sheriffs were riding across the state to relax, party a bit with other officers, and have a good time. On this ride, not all of the Sheriffs who board will survive.

**Depth of Winter.** There are some things worthy of risking your life. At the top of Longmire's list is his daughter Cady. Alone Longmire travels to Mexico where she is held captive by a sadistic drug lord. In a land where he has no jurisdiction, a country he was forbidden entry, he goes against an army of vicious drug runners.

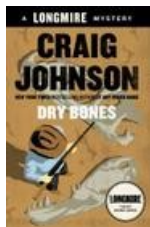
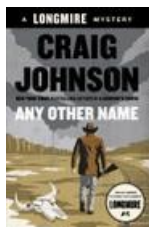
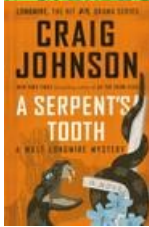


Photo of Craig Johnson by Adam Jahiel



Photo by Judy Johnson





**Land of Wolves** has Sheriff Walt Longmire and Deputy Vic Moretti heading into the high country to assess the death of a sheep. A lone wolf is the probable culprit in the sheep's demise. Vic is against shooting the wolf. Then they find the shepherd dead in suspicious circumstances. Walt's focus is on catching a two-legged predator.



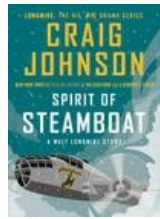
**Next To Last Stand.** Charley Lee Stillwater's death by heart attack at the Wyoming Home for Soldiers and Sailors presents Sheriff Walt Longmire with a conundrum. Why does Charley have a shoebox with a million dollars and a painting? Custer's Last Fight by Cassilly Adams depicting the Battle of the Little Big Horn was destroyed in a fire at Fort Bliss Texas in 1946, or was it? And away we go!



**Daughter of the Morning Star** takes Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear to Lame Deer, Montana at the behest of Tribal Police Chief Lolo Long. Chief Long is short on patience, quick to rile and immune to the considerable charms of Henry Standing Bear (read **As The Crow Flies**). She proved her courage as a combat veteran in Iraq. It would take something important for her to ask Walt and Henry's help. Her niece, Jaya, has been receiving death threats. A year ago, Jaya's older sister Jeanie disappeared. Chief Long is worried about Jaya. Once Walt and Henry start investigating, the body count rises and the bad guys come out of the woodwork.



**Hell and Back** involves Native American legend, belief, and history. Walt wakes up in the middle of a road covered in snow. He doesn't remember who he is, where he is from, nothing. The road is by the remnants of the Fort Pratt Montana boarding school where 30 Native American boys perished in a fire in 1896. Dusting himself off, he wanders down the hill to the little town. And then things get even stranger. The people feel familiar, starting with the beautiful strawberry blond at the café. In Native American lore there is an all powerful being, evil, a being that wants to eat the soul of it's victim. The town where small boys perished could be the kind of place the Taker of Souls would seek victims. What if it is after Walt? Henry Standing Bear and Vic are looking for him. They don't have a lot to go on, but Henry is an accomplished tracker and Vic is determined.

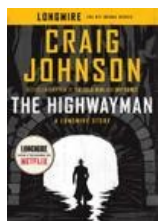


There are also 3 novellas; **Spirit of Steamboat**, **Wait for Signs**, and **The Highwayman**.

**Spirit of Steamboat** opens with a dark haired woman seeking Lucien, the former sheriff, she has something to deliver to him. Her visit transports Walt and Lucian back to 1988 when a horrific accident left a little girl hanging onto life by a thread. Wyoming is under siege by one of those maelstroms of snow and wind that come along about once a century just to reassure you how feisty Mother Nature can be. The medevac helicopter cannot make it to Denver. None of the light planes at the small airport have a chance against the ferocity of the wind. There is one plane, a dinosaur from WWII, with the speed, power, and heft to fight out in the storm. But no pilot is able to fly the old bomber, except former Sheriff Lucian Connolly, the Doolittle Raider is intimately acquainted with the craft but it has been a while since he bailed out over the China Sea back in the big war. So as the story opens Walt, Lucian and Doc are preparing to fly a relic into the storm of the century in an attempt to save the life of a young burn victim. Long odds on success and a pretty good chance of being scattered all over the Wyoming landscape. Walt's reply "...it's a question of what you have to do, what you have to live with if you don't."



**Wait For Signs** has 12 short stories featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire. They show different aspects of Walt's character and background. Those acquainted with the Longmire series will delight in seeing our favorite sheriff in different situations, learning a bit more about favored characters. Those new to the series will find this a perfect introduction. Old Indian Trick takes place in autumn; Walt is driving Lonnie Little Bird to a doctor's appointment. Along the way they stop at a roadside diner for a bite to eat, arriving just after a robbery. Never discount the intuition of an Old Indian. Divorce Horse puts Henry Standing Bear, Walt, and Vic on the trail of an ill-tempered horse much prized by a divorcing couple. Messenger involves Walt, Henry Standing Bear, Vic along with a family of bear, and an owl. Henry and Vic together are always entertaining, throw in bears and an owl and things quickly get out of hand. The last story is Petunia, Bandit Queen of the Bighorns; the title speaks for itself.



**The Highwayman.** Rosy Wayman was a stand up Wyoming Highway Patrolman, who earned the respect of Sheriff Walt Longmire. A few months back she was transferred to the Wind River area, a place of spectacular landscape with granite canyon walls and white water. Also a land of legends. One of those legends was Officer Bobby Womack an Arapaho Highway Patrolman known as the **Highwayman** who died over 30 years ago in a fiery inferno. Now Officer Wayman is getting midnight calls asking for assistance, from the dead man. Her commanding officer wants to send her for psychological counselling. Rosy is sure she is hearing those calls. She turns to Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear for help.

Pick up any book by Craig Johnson and be transported to the wild beauty of Wyoming where you can catch up with good friends, Sheriff Walt Longmire, Henry Standing Bear, and Vic!

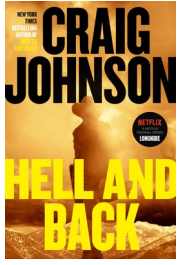
Photo of Craig and Judy Johnson and Carolyn Barr is by Janet Gordon.



Photo of Craig and Judy Johnson in Sunriver Books by Brooke Snaveley



Book Clubs are a fun way to meet other readers. Everyone is welcome. Email [sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com) to attend a discussion.



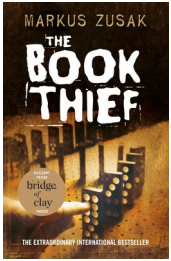
**Hell and Back** by Craig Johnson will be discussed by Mystery Book Club via Zoom on September 4 at 6 PM and in-person September 11 at 4:30 PM. **Hell and Back** will pit Walt against his greatest challenge, it is not just his life that is in danger, but his very soul.

Wyoming is beautiful country, but it can also be deadly cold. Walt wakes up in the middle of a road covered in snow, his hat nearby and his coat frozen to the ground. He doesn't remember anything, not who he is, not where he is from, not who his people are, nothing. The road is right by the remnants of the Fort Pratt Montana boarding school where 30 Native American boys perished in a fire in 1896. The name of the notorious school hangs over the gate still standing in front of the desolate site. Dusting himself off, he reasons the best course of action is to wander down the hill to the little town. And then things get even stranger. The people feel familiar, starting with the beautiful strawberry blond at the café. She gives him the first clue to his identity, reading his name in the band of his hat. There is something off about the people, something he should know if he could just remember.

In Native American lore there is an all powerful being, evil, a being that wants not only to kill, but to eat the very soul of it's victim. The town where small boys perished in a fire could be just the kind of place the Taker of Souls would relish, would seek victims to feed it's hunger. What if such a thing has set it's focus on Walt? What if he is running out of time, must remember who he is and what he does before it finds him?

While Walt is battling the forces of evil, Henry Standing Bear and Vic along with Dog are in Fort Pratt Montana looking for him. They don't know what has happened to him, where he might be, if he is in dire straits. They just know he may have come here seeking a missing Native American girl., Jeanne. Not a lot to go on, but then Henry is an accomplished tracker and Vic is determined. She is not the sort of woman people get away with annoying. Henry and Vic know something must have happened to Walt, they fear time may be short to find him.

The two stories blend together, moving back and forth as Walt searches for answers while Henry and Vic search for Walt. There are so many edge of your seat moments! I read it one sitting, just could not put it down. I would be with Walt wandering about baffled while battling the forces of darkness, getting out of one tight spot after another, when the story would turn and I would be with Henry and Vic, trying desperately to find out what happened to Walt. Henry Standing Bear shows just how dangerous he can be and Vic is in high gear!



Banning Books is wrong! September 18 via Zoom at 6 PM and September 25 in-person at 4:30 PM Fiction Book Club discusses our Banned Book selection, **The Book Thief** by Markus Zusak. There is a dangerous move afoot to move into the territory of George Orwell's **1984** and re-write history to suit political agendas. History is history, facts are facts, and neither should be rewritten because a group of people don't like the way it was. I am absolutely certain, no one suffering Hitler's genocide or slavery in the US, or any number of horrible things was in favor of the way it was either, they all would have been better served by horrific events not happening. But they did happen and it is a disservice to humanity to attempt to sugarcoat history.

**The Book Thief** by Markus Zusak is an amazing novel of WWII with the perfect narrator for the story, Death. Liesel Meminger's brother dies in her arms on the train ride to her foster parents. This is the first time Death crosses her path. Liesel begins her career as a book thief at her brother's funeral, she picks up a book in the snow, although she does not know how to read yet, and hides it under her mattress. It is an interesting way to tell the story of a little German girl that works perfectly on so many levels!

Liesel comes to love her foster parents, especially her papa, Hans. Her best friend, Rudy Steiner, is obsessed with the Olympic runner, Jesse Owens. The reader is drawn into the lives of these characters as Hitler's drastic changes to Germany impact them. Death is an empathetic character, kind to those human souls he is charged to collect and overworked as the world plunges into war. Liesel touches something in Death. Zusak is able to convey moments of happiness and joy, along with the overarching dread, terror, and tragedy of the era. It is a gripping story that I can whole heartedly recommend.

#### Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings

Everyone is welcome, Meetings are held in person at 4:30 & via Zoom at 6 PM on Mondays.

##### October

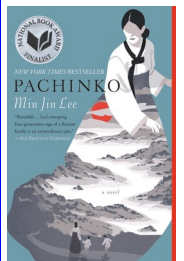
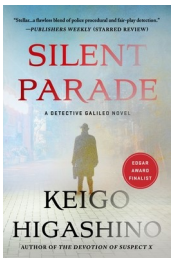
10-2 Zoom & 10-9 in person **Silent Parade** by Keigo Higashino Mystery Book Club **A Month of Japan.**  
October 16 via Zoom & 10-25 in person **Pachinko** by Min Jin Lee Fiction Book Club **A Month of Japan.**

##### November

November **A Game of Fear** by Charles Todd Mystery Book Club.  
November **Mercury Pictures Presents** by Anthony Marra Fiction Book Club

##### December

December **The Maid** by Nita Prose Mystery Book Club  
December **The Reading List** by Sara Nisha Adams Fiction Book Club  
**Comment on book clubs, look up future book clubs, or find more information at [Sunriverbooks.com](http://Sunriverbooks.com)**



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