

"Librarian's Shelf" by Rachelle McPhillips

Book group's reading list has something for everyone

The Columbus Public Library Book Discussion Group usually meets at the library on the last Thursday of the month. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion. Our 2010 reading list includes classics, bestsellers, fiction and nonfiction in adult and young adult categories; I hope you will find something appealing to check out.

On Thursday, March 25th, the group will discuss Robert Traver's "Anatomy of a Murder." Traver is the pen name for John D. Voelker, a former Michigan Supreme Court judge who was the defense attorney in the 1952 murder case that inspired the novel. In the story, a young soldier admits he murdered his wife's rapist. The young man's defense attorney searches for legal justification of the killing.

Released in 1959, the film adaptation starring James Stewart is notable for its straightforward dialog and bold handling of the subject matter. The history of book and movie are exciting; it will be interesting to hear what other readers have to say about the story.

In April, the book discussion group will read "All the King's Men" by Robert Penn Warren. This is one of the books on a recommended reading list for this summer's Chautauqua. The Columbus Chautauqua theme is "Bright Dreams, Hard Times: America in the Thirties."

One of the Chautauqua's visiting scholars will portray former Louisiana governor Huey Long. Long is believed to be the inspiration for one of the central characters in Warren's novel. For more information about the Chautauqua, visit <http://nebraskahumanities.org/programs/chautauqua.html>.

In lieu of our regular Thursday evening meeting in April, the group will join a book discussion hosted by the Friends of the Library on Sunday, April 25th.

Other titles we will discuss year include an Oprah Book Club pick, "Say You're One of Them," by Uwem Akpan; "Half Broke Horses," by bestselling author Jeanette Walls; and "Fine Just the Way It Is," by Annie Proulx.

Later this year we will pick up "The Hemingses of Monticello," by Annette Gordon-Reed, a Pulitzer Prize winner about Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings; "The Book Thief," by Markus Zusak; "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo," by Stieg Larsson; "Bog Child," by Siobhan Dowd.

Got Facebook? Become a fan of the library's Facebook page to see our reading selection and meeting times. A link to our page can be found at <http://www.columbuslibrary.info>. For all the details about the library's book club, please visit <http://www.columbuslibrary.info/bclubs/bclibrary.htm> or call me at 564-7116