

Librarian's Shelf by Rachelle McPhillips

Book group announces reading list for 2013

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.

In October each year, book club attendees make suggestions for the reading list for the upcoming year. At our October meeting in 2012, we discussed those titles and chose eleven for 2013. Our 2013 reading list includes classics, bestsellers, fiction and nonfiction. I hope you will find something appealing to check out.

On Thursday, January 31st, the group will discuss Wallace Stegner's "Angle of Repose."

Published in 1971, this Pulitzer Prize winning novel traces one woman's journey across a young America. The novel is narrated by her grandson, a retired historian researching his family's past. This novel should appeal to readers who love the western landscape and pioneer stories. Genealogy enthusiasts might give this one a try as well.

In February we will read and discuss, "Wild" by Cheryl Strayed. After her mother died, her marriage fell apart, and she picked up a heroin addiction, the author decided to embark on a solo 1100-mile hike of the Pacific Crest Trail. Strayed was no stranger to reckless behavior when she set out incredibly ill-prepared to hike alone. Can the challenges she faces heal her and map out a better future?

"Friday Night Knitting Club," by Kate Jacobs is our selection for March. Georgia Walker is a single mother who owns a small yarn shop in Manhattan. The shop's frequent visitors gather on Friday nights to share what's on their needles and their minds. Over time their lives are stitched together and when tragedy strikes, they realize just how much they all mean to each other.

"Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption" by Laura Hillenbrand, is our selection for April.

An Olympic runner in the 1930s and a B-24 crewman in the United States Air Force, Louie Zamperini survived 47 days on a life raft after his plane crashed. Those long days of thirst and starvation are just the beginning of Zamperini's trauma. How he faces tragedy is what keeps readers turning pages. This book has been popular with library patrons and should lend itself to wonderful book club discussion.

Other titles we will discuss in 2013 include, "The Casual Vacancy" by J. K. Rowling, "The Catcher in the Rye" by J. D. Salinger, "The Memory Palace" by Mira Bartok, "O Pioneers!" by Willa Cather, and "A Train in Winter" by Caroline Moorehead.

For a complete list of all the books we will read and chat about, visit the book club page at <http://www.columbusne.us/library> or call Rachelle at 562-4201.

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