



BOOK CLUB BOOKS

*Chosen to represent a range of interests, it is hoped these books will stimulate thought and discussion among our diverse group of readers.
As always, your comments and suggestions are welcome.*

SUMMER, 2016

Best Boy by Eli Gottlieb

Todd Aaron has lived in a “therapeutic community” for forty years because of his autism. A joyous, gentle man who loves to reread the encyclopedia compulsively, he feels threatened by the arrival of a new staff member and a brain-injured roommate. When Todd decides to escape and return to the world he only remembers from childhood, his disability and inexperience create challenges that Gottlieb is adept at showing from Todd’s unique point of view. A deeply moving, fast-paced read told with wit and empathy. (fiction)

Delicious Foods by James Hannaham

An unforgettable, satirical novel about the tenacity of racism and its long-term effects. Undone by her husband's murder, Darlene turns to drugs, which blunt her judgment so badly that she abandons her 11-year-old son to work at a mysterious, capably run farm called “Delicious Foods.” Mother and son must struggle to reclaim each other—and to beat Darlene's crack cocaine addiction. Winner of the Pen/Faulkner Award for Fiction. (fiction)

Girl Waits with Gun by Amy Stewart

Constance Kopp doesn't quite fit the mold. At nearly six feet tall, she towers over most men, has no interest in marriage, and has been isolated from the world since a family secret sent her and her sisters into hiding fifteen years ago. One day a powerful, crooked silk manufacturer runs down their buggy, and a dispute over damages turns into a nasty “war” as he unleashes his gang on their family farm. When the sheriff enlists her help, Constance is forced to confront her past and defend her family - and she does it in a way that few women of 1914 would have dared. An enthralling, charming novel based on the forgotten true adventures of one of the nation's first female deputy sheriffs. (fiction)

Hold Still: A Memoir with Photographs by Sally Mann

Winner of the Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction, the author is also an award winning photographer. In this groundbreaking book, Mann's preoccupation with family, race, mortality, and the storied landscape of the American South are revealed. Sorting through boxes of family papers and yellowed photographs she finds more than she bargained for: "deceit and scandal, alcohol ...vast sums of money made and lost, the return of the prodigal son, and maybe even bloody murder." In lyrical prose and startling images she crafts a totally original form of personal history with the drama of a great novel but firmly rooted in the fertile soil of her own life. (nonfiction)

Orhan’s Inheritance by Aline Ohanesian

When Orhan Turkoglu’s grandfather Kemal is found dead, submerged in a vat of dye, the old man’s will grants him the family’s thriving rug business. But to everyone’s surprise, their home in Anatolia is left to a stranger, Seda Melkonian, now 90 and living in a nursing home in Los Angeles. Wasting little time, Orhan is soon boarding a flight to California, intent on confronting this mystery woman. Who is she, and what was she to Kemal? Those questions lead Orhan to unearth a story of doomed love set against

the backdrop of the Armenian genocide a hundred years ago. (fiction)

The Wright Brothers by David McCullough

On December 17, 1903 at Kitty Hawk, NC, the Wright Flyer became the first powered, heavier-than-air machine to achieve controlled, sustained flight with a pilot aboard. The Age of Flight had arrived. How did they do it and why? Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner McCullough tells the extraordinary and truly American story of the two very different brothers who ran a bicycle shop while endeavoring to teach themselves the theory of flight and ultimately changing the course of history. (nonfiction)