



**Wiscasset Public Library**  
**21 High Street**  
**Wiscasset, ME 04578**

**[www.wiscasset.lib.me.us](http://www.wiscasset.lib.me.us)**

## Friends to Friends

May 2018

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### Schedule for 2018 Friends Meetings:

**Mondays at the  
Wiscasset Public  
Library:**

July 9

September 10

November 12

All meetings include  
refreshments at 9:30 a.m.  
and the business meeting at  
10:00 a.m.

### Second Hand Prose Used Book Sale Room Update

If you haven't visited the Wiscasset Public Library Used Book Room recently, the Friends invite you to stop in and browse the terrific book selections, stock up on summer reading and purchase a gift of two for family and friends. The room is open during all Library operating hours and will be staffed by Friends on Tuesdays and Thursday from 10 am to 4 pm beginning Tuesday May 29 and continuing through June, July and August. Fridays may also be staffed if volunteers are available.

In an attempt to increase UBR revenue, the price of hard cover and trade paperbacks changed on May 1, 2018. Audios and videos remain priced at one dollar. Mass Market paperbacks will remain priced at one dollar. Trade Paperbacks (larger size paperbacks) will increase to \$2.00 and Hard Covers to \$3.00. Books that are culled from the collection are now placed on a rolling cart in the UBR and available for purchase for a small donation.

Remember you are always welcome to enjoy the delightful Library patio and lawn area outside the Used Book Room.

Happy Reading.

*Second Hand Prose  
Today:*



## Meet Assistant Librarian David Cherry

I was born in Ohio in April of 1954, preceded and followed by sisters. My father was newspaperman and my mother was an English and Music teacher. My dad regularly brought home unedited UPI, AP and Reuters news wire clippings and our dinners were filled with spelling and grammar bees courtesy of my mother and current events/political history discussions courtesy of both parents. It was also at this time that my love and respect of public libraries was instilled in me.

When I was four my family moved to Louisville, KY. We lived on a dead end street backing up onto some woods and a golf course. Some of my fondest childhood memories are from this time. It was also a time of educational events. In addition to JFK's assassination, two in particular have stayed with me through the years. The first was having our family threatened with violence after my father wrote an expose on corruption and graft in a local school district and the second was when we were selling our home and a family of color considered purchasing it, again we were subjected to threats of violence. It would be generous to say that the South at that time was still struggling with desegregation and I can clearly recall seeing "Colored" and "White" drinking fountains and restrooms.

We moved to Pittsburgh, PA, in 1964 and lived there for a year during which time I discovered that "bad" kids often had more fun than "good" kids. A rebel was born. We then moved to Los Angeles in 1965 just a week before the Watts riots. For me, another educational opportunity. It was during this time that I started participating in civil rights protests and marches. A couple of years later I was protesting the Viet Nam war and then marching for the women's movement. In high school I found myself helping to organize a student strike in support of a teacher's strike for better classroom conditions/teaching supplies. School authorities did not look kindly on my activities and I was subsequently expelled for the term. I was also removed from my AP classes.

After spending a term in sheer academic boredom I turned sixteen and dropped out of school with the understanding that when I reached college age I would return. I took my G.E.D., joined the typographers union and worked for about a year until I was laid off. Turning eighteen and finding fulltime employment, I attended college at LACC and Santa Monica College at night ultimately transferring to UCLA where I took a B.A. in Cultural Anthropology. After moving to Berkeley for a year I went to Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and took my Master's in Socio-economic and Political Affairs. Moving back to Berkeley and finding no work in my field, I worked as a consultant and started a national monthly newsletter on nonprofit management, Board responsibilities and ethics, and fundraising.

After about ten years I gave up the newsletter and took a job at Kaiser Permanente's Division of Research (DOR) editing and writing medical research for publication for a few years before taking a year off to travel around the country by car. Returning to Berkeley and DOR, I met my partner and another few years later we went on another cross-country road trip looking for a place east of the Mississippi to live. That (1998) is when I discovered Wiscasset. I fell in love at first sight. In addition to the beauty of the town, the main selling point was the friendly people who said "Hi" as we passed on the street. It took a while to move here but we finally did in 2002. After three years as the Director of Quality assurance and Licensing at a nonprofit in Portland I left and started Miss Kittie's Cakes in 2006, which did very well until the recession finally hit Maine about 2009/2010. Fortunately, I was able to find a position at the Wiscasset Public Library in 2012. As I suspected it might, given my love of libraries, between the patrons, staff, books and other materials, it quickly became my all-time favorite job.



## Local Author Details Changes in Lives of Women in Saudi Arabia

by Wendy Ross

### Kay & Gary Campbell

The lives of women in Saudi Arabia are changing rapidly, Kay Hardy Campbell told a gathering at the Wiscasset Public Library March 28. She pointed to the fact that in June Saudi women will be permitted to drive, and strict restrictions on covering themselves with the abaya in public spaces are being relaxed.

To promote her highly acclaimed debut novel set in Saudi Arabia, “Caravan of Brides,” Campbell gave a fascinating hour-long illustrated presentation on Saudi history – beginning in the 1930s when oil was discovered in the poor desert kingdom, until the present where 95 percent of the population is educated and traditional tribal customs are giving way to modernization.

A series of recent decisions by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the country’s young de facto ruler, is making a difference in the lives of Saudi women, she said. For example, women have been named to prominent positions and now are allowed to attend soccer matches at public stadiums.

About two-thirds of Saudi Arabia’s 22 million citizens are under 30, she said. Hundreds of thousands of them have studied abroad, including in the United States, and some newly built universities in Saudi Arabia use the European curriculum.

Campbell said that social media and satellite television have played an enormous role in the modernization efforts, making even those who remain at home familiar with other societies.

International automobile manufacturers including General Motors, Ford, and Nissan are giving courses to Saudi women on how to drive, and yoga classes are becoming popular, she said.

But she said men and women are still separated in public spaces, and women still have to get permission from a male relative to do most anything, although that too, is changing.

Campbell and her husband Gary lived in Saudi Arabia from 1978 to 1985, after studying Arabic at the University of Minnesota. While he worked in business in Saudi Arabia, she began writing feature articles for the English language daily the Arab News. She went on to write for other regional publications, and has become a regular contributor to AramcoWorld, which takes her back on assignment to Saudi Arabia from time to time. She speaks Arabic and French and has a master’s degree from Harvard University in Middle Eastern Studies, and an MBA from Northeastern University. She and Gary recently



### *Second Hand Prose in 2015:*



## **May 18 Friends Book Group Hold a Book Share**

The Friends Book Discussion Group will meet on May 18 at 10:15 a.m. for a book share. June 15 and July 20 are the next meeting dates. We have yet to decide what book we will read together. Come to the May meeting to help us decide on a title and on which month we will report on it. At the present time, there are only 4 fiction books recommended to choose from. We recently decided to have someone compile a list from which to choose.

If you would like to add titles to both a non-fiction and a fiction list, please send your choices to [janetcomorgn@gmail.com](mailto:janetcomorgn@gmail.com).

## **April Book Discussion a Hit**

On April 20 Rev. Josh Fetterling led our discussion on *Heaven is Beautiful*. He had this to say about our success: "I was so pleased to see a total of 20 folks from the church, the book group, and even a few from the wider community, join together for this discussion. There was a great degree of openness and acceptance of the different experiences of this book as well as of the different ideas and beliefs regarding the subject matter of death and the afterlife. That open spirit melded this group together and led us in a wonderful time shared! I thank the

