

HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 9: NUMBER 2.....FEBRUARY, 2014

Down Home Mystery

New Mexico is the home of numerous authors, many of whom are not particularly well-known. Steven F Havill, the author of the book reviewed here, is one of these. He was a secondary school teacher for 25 years and has lived in several small towns in New Mexico. This is the first of his series of mysteries taking place in the state.

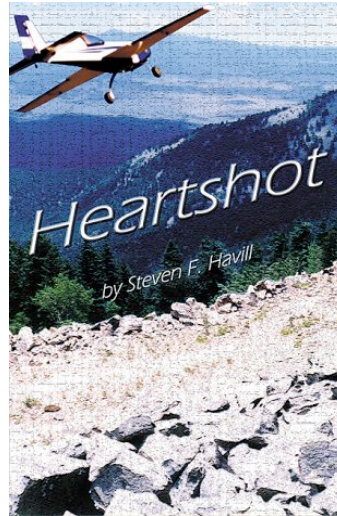
Featured this Month

Heartshot by Steven F. Havill

Heartshot takes place in a fictional location, Posadas County, New Mexico in the southwest corner of the state. It appears to lie somewhere between Luna and Hidalgo counties and includes its own stretch of I10 and the Mexican border complete with a part-time border crossing. The county seat is also called Posadas. It is a small town, but big enough to have its own high school, hospital and private airport, all of which figure in the story. The county is pretty typical of southwest New Mexico with the usual mountains, mesas, state roads, county roads, unmaintained roads, abandoned mining facilities, ranchers, farmers and small-town residents.

This novel and its sequels are centered around the Posadas County Sheriff's office. Sheriff Martin Holman is a recently elected ex-used-car salesman turned politician; Undersheriff Bill Gastner is a 20 year military and sheriff's deputy veteran, a widower with chronic insomnia and major heart problems. Other members of the sheriff's office include Deputy Estelle Reyes, the new young female detective, Deputy Bob Torrez, a five-year veteran patrolman, and various other deputies and dispatchers.

The first incident in the story is the crash of a car trying to negotiate a curve at a speed over 100 miles per hour. Its driver and four passengers were all teenagers, and all of them were killed in the crash. The story gets more complicated when a kilo of coke



is discovered under the front seat of the car.

The story continues as a basic police procedural including a young detective borrowed from the Grants County Sheriff's Office acting as an undercover high school student. This attempt ends disastrously with an emergency medical evacuation to a hospital in Albuquerque. The case is eventually solved aided by a chance observation by the undersheriff during the investigation of the seemingly unrelated death of another teenager.

The perpetrator is tracked down and intercepted attempting to fly off to Mexico. He doesn't escape, but is killed after gravely injuring another deputy. Almost as an afterthought the instigator behind the drug smuggling is discovered and we are treated to another hair-raising episode with the undersheriff being the person at risk.

The setting, while fictitious, is very typical of the ranching and mining country of southwestern New Mexico with believable characterizations of both the major characters and the other inhabitants of the region. For those who like the book, the author has written several more mysteries in the same series, many of which are available at our library.

Introduction and review by Joseph Diel

HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 9: NUMBER 2.....

.....FEBRUARY, 2014

New at the Library

Films on DVD

2-Headed Shark Attack
Felon
Tanta Agua
Turistas
Adrift
The American
Epic Romance Collection (4 films: Dangerous Liaisons, The Painted Veil, Silk, The Affair of the Necklace)
The Last Brickmaker in America
Midnight Cowboy
Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?
Truth or Consequences, N.M.
4-Film Pack (Cheatin' Hearts; South of Heaven West of Hell; Barbarosa; A Texas Funeral)
The Sackets (VHS)

Fiction

Miracle Beach by Erin Ceello
Suicide Mission by William W. Johnstone
The Lady from Toledo: *An Historical Novel in Santa Fe* by Fray Angelico Chavez
The Silver Star by Jeanette Walls
The Love of a Good Woman by Alice Munro

Nonfiction

The Politics of the Family by R. D. Laing
Huck: *The remarkable true story of how one lost puppy taught a family--and a whole town--about hope and happy endings* by Janet Elder
The Remarkable T.L. Reber; *Soda Bottles and Bottling in the Black Range and Silver City, New Mexico* by Bill Lockhart and Zang Wood
Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream by Doris Kearns

Mystery

Ghost Writer by Robert Harris
The Racketeer by John Grisham
The Split Sky by Tom McCourt
Rewilding the World by Caroline Fraser
Dressed for Death by Donna Leon
Friends in High Places by Donna Leon
Doctored Evidence by Donna Leon
A Venetian Reckoning by Donna Leon
Inferno by Dan Brown
Gone Tomorrow by Lee Child
Just One Evil Act by Elizabeth George
A Place of Hiding by Elizabeth George
What Came Before He Shot Her by Elizabeth George
White Fire by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child

Books on CD

The Venetian Betrayal by Steve Berry
The Time Keeper by Mitch Albom
A History of Hitler's Empire: The Great Courses

Library Hours:

Sunday & Monday: closed
Tues. 3:30 - 5:30pm Wed. 1:00 - 4:00pm
Thurs: 3:30 - 5:30pm Fri: 10:00am - 1:00pm
Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm

For a complete listing of Library materials, visit
<http://www.hillsborocommunitylibrary.com>

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, February 19

Hillsboro: 1:00 - 2:00 pm Kingston: 2:30-3:30 pm

Published by

THE HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY
P.O. BOX 205, HILLSBORO NM 88042 (575-895-3349)