

HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 4: NUMBER 7....

.....JULY, 2009

#### **Culture Clash:**

Deep in our concept of what it is to be an America is our sense of the land. America was always a frontier, a bounty, a place that people would change and that would change them. But what of the people who were here before even the concept of America? What was this place to them?

#### **Featured This Month:**

#### The Man Who Killed the Deer by Frank Waters

The Navajo, Apache, and various Pueblo tribes in New Mexico had given up the battle with Spaniards, Mexicans, and, finally, Gringos by the 1890s. The wars were fought over wild lands and the freedom of the Indians to continue traditional use of their resources. Once subdued, the tribes were expected to live within Gringo law. They could submit further to tribal constraints within allotted reservations or villages. On all other lands Gringo law applied.

Seldom recorded are the conflicts that occurred after the tribes became submissive. Ceasing to fight did not instantly change their traditions or their ways of getting food. For all of these tribes, seasonal hunts and stockpiling venison and other wild meat was a way of life. The limited areas given to them as reservations did not produce the wildlife needed to sustain them; they had ranged through the wilder parts of the Southwest for centuries during annual hunts.

But hunting for food by Indians conflicted with the new Gringo law that, from Indian viewpoint, protected wildlife for the benefit of a few, relatively wealthy, sportsmen. And this conflict created renewed confrontations that came close to human bloodshed as late as the 1920s. Louis Warren, in *The Hunter's Game* (not in our library) chronicled this conflict from a Gringo standpoint, suggesting that only through enforcement by Federal Forest Rangers and State Game Wardens was the wildlife saved from depletion by the marauding hunter bands. At the same time, with the Indians subdued,



the white settlers turned their efforts to controlling less dangerous predators such as wolves, bears, cougars, and coyotes. What resulted was irruption of deer numbers to the point of serious damage to plant life on the ranges. The most famous area so affected was the North Kaibab in Arizona, but New Mexico's upper Gila River suffered equal damage. The Gringos then, all the while preventing the annual hunts of the Indians, slaughtered the deer themselves in order to prevent permanent damage to the range.

What was happening in the Indian cultures during this period of wild land conflicts has not been adequately documented, but it is part of the story told by Frank Waters in The Man Who Killed the Deer. Waters uses the illegal killing of a deer by a young and rebellious Pueblo man to depict the effects of increasing Gringo pressures within the rigid communal Pueblo culture. Written in 1942, the book discloses the stresses created by increasing power of the BIA and the U.S. Forest Service bureaucracies. Martiniano, educated away from the village in white man schools, finds himself hanging between both cultures and punished by both when he kills a deer to kill his family. Even a perceived spirit of the deer haunts him. *(continued next page)* 



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Compared with Gringo law, which seeks binary legality—guilty or innocent— Pueblo punishment of rebelliousness is slow, variable, and complex. Waters knew the Pueblos and, better than anyone, told what life was like in a village constrained by centuries of tradition.

Review by Harley Shaw

### **Library Board Notes:**

After a summer hiatus, the Library Bake Sale will be back again in August. Look for all your favorite cookies and pastries and breads the first Saturday of the month in front of the Post Office.

July is the last month for this year's fundraiser in the Bullocks Cash for Clubs receipts program. Donate your receipts at the Library and Bullocks returns a 2% rebate. August receipts aren't eligible, but we'll be starting up again in September for the 2009-10 fundraising year.

# Library Hours:

Sunday & Monday: closed Tues. 6:30 – 8:30pm Wed. 1:00 – 4:00pm Thurs: 6:30–8:30pm Fri: 10:00am – 1:00pm Saturday 10:00am–2:00pm

#### Bookmobile: Wednesday, July 22

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

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

#### New Additions at the Library:

#### Fiction

**Into the Beautiful North** by Luis Alberto Urrea **Eventide** by Kent Haruf

### **Non-fiction:**

Almost by Elizabeth Benedict The Myth of You & Me by Leah Stewart

### **Books on CD**

The Innocent Man by John Grisham

#### Films (on DVD)

The Spy Who Loved Me ... Licence to Kill The Man with the Golden Gun ... Dr. No Goldfinger ... Tomorrow Never Dies GoldenEye ... Cast Away ... The Fifth Element The Good, The Bad and The Ugly ... I-Spy I [Heart] Huckabees

### Films (on VHS)

The Astronaut's Wife ... Awakenings Before and After ... Class Action Dancing at Lughnasa ... Dreamcatcher Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood The Emperor's Club ... Far and Away Five Days One Summer ... Good Bye, Lenin! Hilary and Jackie ... The Rainmaker The Innocent ... The Muse ... The Paper Chase Practical Magic ... Prizzi's Honor sex, lies, and videotape ... Sneakers

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