

1-1-2010

Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty

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Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2010) "Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 52 : Iss. 4 , Article 20.

Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol52/iss4/20>

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Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty

COURTNEY TOLLISON '99, *World War II and Upcountry South Carolina* (The History Press, 2009). The author, a history professor at Furman, uses first-person accounts to describe how state residents supported American troops during World War II, from growing “victory gardens” to manufacturing various materials to aid the war effort. In addition, Camp Croft in nearby Spartanburg, S.C., and the Greenville Army Air Base welcomed thousands of trainees to the area, and more than 166,000 state residents fought in the war. Says the publisher, “The resulting import and export of culture through the war and long after reflect the modernization and diversification that occurred across the South.” In addition to her work at Furman, Tollison is museum historian at the Upcountry History Museum. She received the university’s 2009 Outstanding Young Alumni Award and is spending the spring as a Fulbright Scholar in the Ukraine.

KRISTY DUNCAN DEMPSEY '91, *Me with You* (Philomel, 2009). This children’s book follows the every-day adventures of a grandfather and granddaughter. The publisher says, “With simple rhymes and delightfully charming illustrations [by Christopher Denise], *Me with You* is the perfect book to remind young readers how unique they and their grandparents truly are.” The author lives in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, and has two more books in the works. Visit www.kristydempsey.com.

PEGGY HAYMES '82, *Didn't See It Coming* (West Summit Publishing, 2009). When the author was hit by a car while riding her bike, she had to answer — literally and figuratively — this question: What do you

do when you’re blindsided? Although she knew the healing process would be a long one, she wasn’t prepared for all the trials she would face during her convalescence. Haymes, an ordained minister and licensed professional counselor, writes with honesty, insight and humor. Says James Dunn, Resident Professor of Christianity and Public Policy at the Wake Forest University School of Divinity, “It is a quick read. It is a satisfying read. It is, theologically speaking, a damn good read.” Haymes, who lives in Winston-Salem, N.C., received Furman’s Richard Furman Baptist Heritage Award in 2005.

ROBERT WHITLOW '76, *Greater Love* (Thomas Nelson, 2010). Due in March, this is Whitlow’s 10th novel and the third in his “Tides of Truth” series. The story revolves around attorney Tami Taylor, who, according to the publisher, “is offered a coveted position as associate partner in one of Savannah’s oldest and most prestigious law firms. Though her strong faith and convictions are valued by the firm’s partners, Tami struggles to discern if God’s will for her career is elsewhere. Meanwhile, she must protect a young client named Jessie who is on the run from some shady characters. Her association with Jessie puts Tami in mortal danger. With her life on the line, Tami falls in love and discovers the power of romantic love forged by the activity of the Holy Spirit.” Whitlow is an attorney in Charlotte, N.C. Visit www.robertwhitlow.com.

SCOTT WALKER '73, *The Edge of Terror: The Heroic Story of American Families Trapped in the Japanese-Occupied Philippines* (Thomas Dunne/St. Martin’s Press, 2009). The publisher says, “Before the Japanese invaded the

Philippines in World War II, MacArthur ordered Americans living on the islands to evacuate. Several families of Baptist missionaries chose to remain to support the Filipinos, continue their ministry and help the war effort.” The author tells their story, drawing from first-person accounts, interviews and military archives “to describe the dangers the missionaries faced in their effort to serve both God and country.” Walker, a Baptist minister and author of 10 books, is a senior lecturer and director of the Institute of Life Purpose at Mercer University in Macon, Ga. He is the son of Baptist missionaries to the Philippines.

ORVILLE VERNON BURTON '69, editor, *The Essential Lincoln* (Hill and Wang, 2009). Burton is the Burroughs Distinguished Professor of Southern History at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C., and an award-winning author or editor of 15 books, including the critically acclaimed *The Age of Lincoln* (2007). In *The Essential Lincoln*, he brings together the 16th president’s most defining speeches and correspondence. Harold Holzer, co-chair of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, says, “Orville Vernon Burton notes that ‘Lincoln chose his words deliberately,’ and so does Burton. His introductions and editorial notes are concise, lively and reliable. . . . There have been many collections of Lincoln’s writings, but this slender, thoughtfully selected compendium more than lives up to its title.”

ALEXIA JONES HELSLEY '67, *Hidden History of Greenville County* (The History Press, 2009). The author, an instructor in history at the University of South Carolina-

Aiken, describes the personalities, places and events that have given Greenville its progressive, diverse environment. The publisher says, “From mansions to murders, learn things about Greenville County history that you’ve never encountered before.” Helsley is an archivist, historian and genealogist and has written a number of books on regional history.

KIRK H. NEELY '66, *A Good Mule is Hard to Find* (Hub City Writers Project, 2009). Neely’s latest features 50 “country tales” from upstate South Carolina, the author’s home area. The publisher says, “Just like his blue jeans after an adventure in *Dead Horse Canyon*, Neely’s tales are caked with red clay.” Neely is a Baptist minister from Spartanburg, S.C., and has written several other books. This one is illustrated by his nephew, Emory Cash. Visit <http://kirkhneely.com>.

MITCH CARNELL '56, editor, *Christian Civility in an Uncivil World* (Smyth & Helwys, 2009). This collection of essays promotes a change in the tone of Christian dialogue. As the publisher says, “When we encounter a Christian who thinks and believes differently, we often experience that difference as an attack on the principles upon which we have built our lives and as a betrayal to the faith . . . However, it is possible for Christians to retain their differences and yet unite in respect for each other.” One of the contributors to the book is the Rev. Stacy Sauls '77, Episcopal bishop of Lexington, Ky. Carnell is a writer and communication expert who served for 35 years as president and CEO of the Charleston (S.C.) Speech and Hearing Center. Visit www.mitchcarnell.com.