

Golden oldies make for good summer reading

By now, you've probably read several lists of what's on current for summertime reading. I know I have. You can be sure that I look forward to these snippets of information every vacation season, hoping they'll put me onto something I haven't yet heard about that will make for worthwhile reading during my favorite time of the year — and they almost always do.

For this week's column, however, I thought I'd put together a slightly different kind of list. After a recent afternoon at my favorite library, and a look at my own bookshelves, I found a dozen "golden oldies" that aren't on any current publishing lists but which definitely make for fascinating reading nonetheless. What's more, you can get every one of them simply by handing over your library card. Also, most are in paperback and consequently make great traveling companions.

So if you're looking for a good read in the coming months, consider:

• **"Diamonds Are Forever: Artists and Writers on Baseball" (1987).** Contains essays, poems and random thoughts of American writers on "the thinking man's game." Supplemented generously with fine illustrations by noted artists. You can almost taste the hot dogs and hear the c-r-r-r-ack of the Louisville Slugger as you settle back with this highly attractive book, edited by Peter Gordon, Sydney Waller and Paul Weinman.

• **"A Kiss Is Still a Kiss: Roger Ebert at the Movies" (1984).** Film critic Ebert writes not of movies here, but of film stars. In his lively, conversational style, he records observations on such diverse personalities as Mel Brooks, John Wayne and David Bowie. There's even a brief chapter on Muhammad Ali.



**book
break
Victoria
Diaz**

I'm not sure what it's doing in a book on film folks, but it's fun to read anyway.

• **"Night Shift" (1978).** In the opinion of a book columnist we all know and love, these lusciously terrifying short stories, written in the days before Stephen King became Stephen King, are far and away his best efforts ever.

• **"Twice Over Lightly" (1972).** Take an unusual tour of New York with actress Helen Hayes and writer Anita Loos. Pay a visit to Bellevue Hospital at night, take a cruise aboard one of New York's famous

garbage scows, drop in on His Honor at Grace Mansion, experience Thanksgiving at a Salvation Army center, explore the Lynne Palmer School of Astrology, the Atlas Barber School, a super-lively Puerto Rican market in Spanish Harlem and much more. Photos included.

• **"Angle of Repose" (1971).** If you're looking for something a little different, try this offbeat Western by Wallace Stegner. Stegner puts his emphasis on his unforgettable characters and not on a lot of shoot-'em-up, cowboys-and-Indians fodder.

• **"Little Big Man" (1964).** Told by the fictional Jack Crabb (who claims to be the only non-Indian survivor of Custer's Last Stand), this novel by Thomas Berger is another offbeat Western and makes for a sometimes funny, sometimes sad, always enthralling look at the Old West.

• **"I Sing the Body Electric"**

(1969). A terrific collection of 18 pleasantly bizarre short stories by Ray Bradbury. In "Tomorrow's Child," you can read about the unfortunate Peter Horn, who happens to be "the father of a small blue pyramid." In "The Tumbling Day," Grandma Lobell exhausts the body of her long-dead lover and makes an important discovery. And in Bradbury's popular title story, a motherless family is cared for by a practically perfect grand mother — so what if she isn't quite human. Bradbury at his best.

• **"them" (1969).** One of Joyce Carol Oates's most dramatic novels. Set in Detroit, it covers a period of almost 40 years, climaxing in the 1967 riots.

• **"The Last Picture Show" (1968).** Larry McMurtry's greatest gift is for capturing the essence of Texas in the 1950s. Nobody does it better. A hundred years from to-

day, this sparsely written masterpiece is what McMurtry will be remembered for.

• **"The Day of the Locust" (1939).** Read of lost dreams and lost souls in Nathaniel West's splendid evocation of 1930s Hollywood.

• **"The Painted Word" (1975).** Whether or not you agree with author Tom Wolfe's irrelevant conclusions on modern art and its creators, you'll be entertained by this short book on the subject. The little man in the white suit takes on here such giants as Jasper Johns, Andy Warhol and Picasso as well as Fauvism, Cubism and Pop Art. Includes photos.

• **"Overdrive" (1981).** If you think you're busy, read this diary-like account of a week in the life of William F. Buckley, Jr. No wonder he ended up in a hospital bed on his last visit to Detroit. Aplytly titled. Photos.

exhibitions

• **KRESGE ART MUSEUM**
44th annual Michigan Water Color Society exhibit continues through Aug. 16. Among the local artists represented are Karen Carter of Birmingham and Barbara Coburn of Bloomfield Hills. Reception 2-4 p.m. Sunday, June 24. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays, 1-4 p.m. weekends. Michigan State University, East Lansing.

• **CIVIC CENTER GALLERY**
Photography exhibit, "Images" by Ralph B. Stillwell, continues through Friday, June 15. These black and

white candid portraits taken in U.S., Europe and South America, are the photographer's private collection. They have been shown in Ann Arbor, West Bloomfield and Tokyo. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday, until 5 p.m. Saturday, 26000 Evergreen, Southfield.

• **ROBERT KIDD GALLERY**
New handmade paper relief paintings by Aviva Robinson continue on display through July 7. She's always had a way with paper and paint that makes her work special. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-

Saturday, 107 Townsend, Birmingham. Works by five women artists from Flint's Buckham Fine Arts Project will be on display through June 16. Open Wednesday-Saturday afternoons, 422 W. Willis, Detroit.

• **DETROIT FOCUS**
Sculpture by 11 artists from as many Michigan cities is on display through July 7. Joseph Wesner of the Center for Creative Studies sculpture faculty was the curator. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 743 Seaboard, Detroit.

• **CITY ARTS GALLERY**
Recent paintings and sculptures by Don Puglisi and Edward Carmody are on display through June. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 47 E. Adams, Detroit.

• **CREATIVE ARTS CENTER**
"Strength and Diversity," a show by Pontiac area artists, includes works in a variety of media by some widely recognized artists as well as some exciting newcomers. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday, until 2 p.m. Friday, 47 Williams, Pontiac.

• **GALVEZ ART GALLERY**
Paintings, sculptures and drawings by Howard Wright, Nancy Boyca, Helen Poppelier and Sharon Surfas are on display through July 11, 3255 Bagley, Detroit, above the Bagley Cafe. For hours, call 841-2790.

• **DETROIT GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS**
Fishing rods, bird houses, flying machines and plant and garden sculptures are on display through June. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, until 5 p.m. Saturday, 104 Fisher Building, Detroit.

• **LAWRENCE ST. GALLERY**
Paintings by George Gravelander of Southfield are on display through June 23. His paintings are fired with color and emotion. Gallery members

are showing their work concurrently. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 29 W. Lawrence, Pontiac.

• **PRESTON BURKE GALLERIES**
"Safari," a new group of animal paintings by Maximilian Shaye of Franklin are on display through June 29. The gallery is at 204 E. Grand River, Detroit. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, until 8 p.m. Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

• **T'MARRA GALLERY**
Pastels by Joan Rosenblum and prints by Paul Stewart are on display through July 28. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 111 N. First Street, Ann Arbor.

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A LITTLE TLC AND THIS HOME WILL BE A WINNER! A motivated seller offers this Cape Cod home featuring spacious living room, 3 bedrooms, formal dining room, large kitchen with breakfast room, bath and 2 car garage. Bring all offers! \$78,800 626-9100 02-B-4258



YEAR ROUND ENJOYMENT! Lakeshore on Walpole Lake this exceptional Condo offers launching and docking facilities. Highlights 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, formal dining room, kitchen, living room and 1 car garage. Won't last long! \$74,900 626-9100 02-B-3941



INVESTMENT FOR INCOME! Priced for a quick sell this Ranch Condo is sharp. Features one spacious bedroom, 1 bath, large living room, central air, carpet and new carpet. Come check it out! Lease \$400/month or \$29,900 626-9100 02-B-3629



COURTYARD VIEWS! Located in smaller complex this upper Ranch Condo features 2 bedrooms, large living room, dining room, 2 baths, marble tile, neutral carpet throughout, central air and balcony. Complex has pool and clubhouse! \$87,900 626-9100 02-B-4279

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