

never hear from again. We have had the ongoing support of many of our advertisers from the beginning, and had folks pull their ads never to return. Some advertisers pay for a whole year at a time in the winter when we really need the support, some advertisers just ignore our bills and we stop sending them. In anticipation of this day, we have taken only one yearly payment this year, and if we fail to continue we will do our best to refund their money, because it was never about the money.

If the Edge does not continue I must say how proud I am of everyone who has been involved over the years; together we created a truly unique thing in this world. In our small way we have carried on the traditions of a free press, we have informed and entertained our community and encouraged them to let their voices be heard, their art be seen, and their ideas be shared. This is a good thing.

A while back, we received a letter that chided us about becoming a 'literary rag' with no guts for the good fight; we giggled, and did confess to having a love of words and books, as is obvious to our constant readers, and so with no apologies, we would like to recommend some reading.

Chinook Eyes

Rick Rubin was in town recently, reading from his book "Naked Against the Rain". The People of the Lower Columbia River, 1770-1830, Far Shore Press, \$29.95, and worth it.

Don Berry, the author of *Trask*, *Moontrap*, and *A Majority of Scoundrels* wrote, "Rick, There are a lot of things a writer can try to do with a book. He can try to make it funny. He can try to make it profound. He can try to make it entertaining, or even successful. But a writer cannot try to write a book that endures. A book that endures is an extraordinary event that lies well beyond our voluntary intentions and skills. *Naked Against the Rain* will endure."

Your beloved editor agrees. I have read many books about Native Americans, and by Native Americans, but Rick's book about the Chinook is one of maybe five books that made me see through different eyes. Throughout the book, which is the tragic story of an intelligent, talented and unique group of human beings' eventual destruction, Rubin turns your eyes into Chinook eyes, he almost always uses the terms 'bahsten' or 'clothmen' when referring to the Americans, and Europeans, so you start to think of them as 'them' and the Chinook as 'us'. He skillfully introduces you to Chinook Jargon, the language they created as the Merchant Princes of the Columbia to facilitate the trading empire they dominated. He brings alive the myths and history of these unusual, and, he suggests, anarchist people. (In Oregon? I'm shocked!) He suggest that the Chinook were not really a 'tribe' as we define the term, but families with more in common with the Medicis than the Hopis. They kept and traded slaves, gambled constantly, were vain and fastidious in some things, apathetic and slothful in others. They were misogynists, but women often guided their fantastic war canoes into battles. The research done is excellent, the illustrations profound, and the writing, oh, the writing, wit and irony, the subtle poetry of history flow across the pages as he tells the tragic story.

This is not an unbiased criticism of Mr. Rubin's work. Your beloved Rev. has been aware of this old owl for quit a while, and enjoys his company. He was 'my ride' into Portland the day after his reading. We talked about the book, and the business; when we got to his house, where he has lived almost since the Chinook left, there was a pile of books in his living room. A familiar site in an author's home. I bought some for Jupiter's, and I'm sure they are available at a bookstore near you, but if you want one from the source, give Rick a call, or send him a letter with a check (for \$29.95) enclosed, & tell him the Rev. Coyote sent ya.

Rick Rubin
2147 NW Irving
Portland OR 97210
(503 227-4207.

Be Careful what you Ask For! Uncle Mike.

Okay, so you didn't act fast enough to get your limited first edition of *Letters to Uncle Mike*, and other people read them out loud to you when you are acting like "you were raised by weasels", or you were trying to explain to this bartender about the quantum physics of death, and you couldn't quite remember what he said. Fear not. Tools will soon be available. Yes, *Letters to Uncle Mike* will soon be back in print, but equally importantly, an all new tome is ready for the press. More *Letters*? Son of *Letters*? my favorite is "Nephew of *Letters to Uncle Mike*" but whatever the title may become, watch this space, collect the whole set, and stand by for the "Greetings From the Real Oregon Coast", a soon-to-be-available line of greeting cards, with more disturbing illustrations by Steve McLeod, and appropriate salutations by Uncle Mike; no, we are not kidding. Are we having fun yet? Saddle Mountain Press rides again!

For those few new readers, Uncle Mike is not like Ann Landers or her not so twin sister, Dear Abby, unless you are referring to the John Prine song, and then you are getting closer. Uncle Mike is the friend every one really needs; you know, the one who tells you when you are acting like an idiot. But, as his fans will tell you, he always shows compassion for the participants in the dance we call life; he does suggest however, that one listen to the melody and try to keep time, and not frighten the other dancers. His columns are the first thing most readers of the Upper Left Edge, Hipfish and several other rags turn to when they pick up the paper. There is a reason for that.

He is the best writer I have ever gotten drunk with. Yes, he is my friend, yes, I do suggest you buy a copy of anything he writes; no, I don't suggest playing poker with him.

And now,

Dario Charnay

Many of those who co-inhabit this little blue ball with us here on the upper left edge may not have heard of Dario Charnay, but he is very familiar to KMUN listeners and has been for years. Recently Dario's shows have been done by Dave. . . . Ambrose. Dario travels a lot. Dario is a kinda unusual for a disc jockey in that you never actually hear Dario Charnay on the radio. But his show has been a staple on KMUN for years. Well, we hate to do it but a free press demands that we tell our readers the truth. Dario

Charnay is a myth. He is like the rest of the mythical figures, our heroes, our ideals, he's not dependable, he never shows up to do his show, other people have to fill in for him, they have to try to do what he would do, if he weren't gallivanting around the planet, having fun. He is not a good 'role model' like a lot of our 'heroes'. Those of us who listen when we can to the Dario Charnay show, are pleased to note that the folks filling in for our hero are doing just fine, they produce shows that make us think and wonder. They do things we've never heard done on radio, things we didn't think they could do, they are living up to his name, and its anagram.

Computers can figure out all kinds of problems, except the things in the world that just don't add up. James Magary

It's comin' in over the rock!

Our beloved Professor Lindsey shared pieces of his new work with the village recently. It was a packed house last Tuesday in the City Council Chamber; they were turning them away. The Chamber hasn't been this full since the heady days of Off Shore Oil Drilling, and later the Cavenham Timber Company's departure, or even the Community Policing efforts.

Yep, Pete packed 'em in, and did good. I would like to share a personal thought about Peter Lindsey. I first remember meeting him shortly after I moved back to the village, and learned that he was among other things a gentle soul, a ready wit, a Vietnam vet, and a former High School English teacher. His way with the language delighted me and I begged him to join my humble efforts at the upper left edge. He resisted. I persisted, as is my way. When Peter's mentor, the truly holy Don Thompson passed, I asked that he turn his tears into ink and write Don's obit. It was perhaps a cruel thing to do, and was certainly self serving, for I knew that he couldn't not do it, and that the village needed to know more about Don and Vi and what they had done here. He owed nothing to me or the Edge, but he owed much to Don and Vi. Well, as our constant readers know, he hasn't stop writing since. And he finally started writing for himself. His reading Tuesday night far exceeded what I had ever hoped for. His command of the language and his voice stirred the intellect and the emotions of the audience, who were mostly standing. He took the village back to its roots and challenged it to consider its future. The laughter echoed and a few tears swelled. All in all it was well done. It should be noted that a half dozen last minute arrivals consisted of the Thanatopsis Literary and Inside Straight Association who had, in an unprecedented move, adjourned their weekly poker game to stand silently in the back of the room and listen, rarely giggling at the wrong places. Of course as soon as he had finished speaking and had been given the obligatory pats on the back, they immediately disappeared back to the secret hideout to finish their intellectual endeavors.

Winston Churchill once said, "History will be kind to me; I know, because I intend to write it." That is usually the way; those in charge, the winners, write the 'history'. It is the rest of us that 'live' the history they write about. Peter Lindsey has written our history of this small village on the Oregon Coast. His stories rarely begin, 'August 18th 1963', but rather, 'one summer night in the early sixties'. . . . most of his history never made the papers, and even if it did, they didn't tell the real story, about the human beings living it. And they certainly never wrote it with the style, compassion, humor and understanding that Peter has. Peter has written an anecdotal history of Cannon Beach, and it is, as I write, in manuscript form. Folks are already yelling for the book. Will there be one? Yes. When? When he's done. But, that could take years!!! Yep, but we're working on it. Stay tuned.

WHERE TO GET AN EDGE

Cannon Beach: Jupiter's Rare and Used Books, Osburn's Grocery, The Cookie Co., Coffee Cabana, Bill's Tavern, Cannon Beach Book Co., Hane's Bakerie, The Bistro, Midtown Cafe, Once Upon a Breeze, Copies & Fax, Haystack Video, Mariner Market, Espresso Bean, Ecola Square & Cleanline Surf
 Manzanita: Mother Nature's Juice Bar, Cassandra's, Manzanita News & Espresso, & Nehalem Bay Video
 Rockaway: Neptune's Used Books
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 Pacific City: The River House
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 Lincoln City: Trillium Natural Foods, Driftwood Library, & Lighthouse Brewpub
 Newport: Oceana Natural Foods, Ocean Pulse Surf Shop, Sylvia Beach Hotel, & Canyon Way Books
 Eugene: Book Mark, Cafe Navarra, Eugene Public Library, Friendly St. Market, Happy Trails, Keystone Cafe, Kiva Foods, Lane C.C., Light For Music, New Frontier Market, Nines (ten by Street), Bread Path, Oasis Market, Perry's, Red Barn Grocery, Sundance Natural Foods, U of O, & WOW Hall
 Corvallis: The Environmental Center, OSU
 Salem: Heliotrope, Salem Library, & The Peace Store
 Astoria: KMUN, Columbian Cafe, The Community Store, The Wet Dog Cafe, Astoria Coffee Company, Cafe Untown, & The River
 Seaside: Buck's Book Barn, Universal Video, & Cafe Espresso
 Portland: Artichoke Music, Laughing Horse Bookstore, Act III, Barnes & Noble, Belmonts Inn, Biblot Art Gallery, Bijou Cafe, Borders, Bridgeport Brew Pub, Capt'n Beans (two locations), Center for the Healing Light, Coffee People (three locations), Common Grounds Coffee, East Avenue Tavern, Food Front, Goose Hollow Inn, Hot Lips Pizza, Java Bay Cafe, Key Largo, La Patisserie, Lewis & Clark College, Locals Only, Marco's Pizza, Marylhurst College, Mt. Hood CC, Music Millenium, Nature's (two locations), NW Natural Gas, OHSU Medical School, Old Wives Tales, Ozone Records, Papa Haydn, FCC (four locations), PSU (two locations), Reed College, Third Eye, Multnomah Central Library, and most branches of the YWCA
 Ashland: Garo's Java House, The Black Sheep, Blue Mt. Cafe, & Rogue River Brewery
 Cave Junction: Coffee Heaven & Kerby Community Market
 Grants Pass: The Book Shop
 (Out of Oregon)
 Vancouver, WA: The Den
 Longview, WA: The Broadway Gallery
 Naselle, WA: Rainy Day Artistry
 Nahcotta, WA: Moley Dick Hotel
 Duvall, WA: Duvall Books
 Bainbridge Island, WA: Eagle Harbor Book Co.
 Seattle, WA: Elliot Bay Book Co., Honey Bear Bakery, New Orleans Restaurant, Still Life in Fremont, Allegro Coffeehouse, The Last Exit Coffee House, & Building News
 San Francisco, CA: City Lights Bookstore
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 Brighton, England: The Public House Bookstore

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UPPER LEFT EDGE

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