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contact: Ken Hobson
(541) 996-1242
khobson@lincolncity.org

for immediate release:

Dark & Stormy Nights at Driftwood Public Library

Driftwood Public Library is delighted to announce the schedule of mystery writers for its 15th annual Dark & Stormy Night series for this October. This will be the 15th year in which the library invites genre authors to speak in Lincoln City. The series takes place at the library at 4:00 Thursday afternoons in October, beginning October 4th.

Sixteen years ago, Driftwood teamed with the late Marcy Taylor to bring Northwest mystery writers to the Oregon coast. That first year was so successful that the series has continued every October, with only one break while the library was closed for its renovation in the Autumn and early Winter of 2009.

Wendy Wagner will open this year's series on October 4th. Wendy is the author of the science fiction thriller *An Oath of Dogs*, published last July. She grew up in a town so tiny it didn't even have a post office. With no television reception, she became a rabid reader, waiting impatiently for the bookmobile's fortnightly visit to her tiny hometown. Today, her family struggles to find room for her expanding book collection in their Portland home. She really likes books about horror movies, ecology, gardening, and vegan cooking.

The series continues on October 11th with a visit from Cindy Brown. Author of the Ivy Meadows series, mysteries set in the off, off, off Broadway world of theater, Cindy has been a theater geek (musician, actor, director, producer, and playwright) since her first professional gig at age 14. Now a full-time writer, Cindy and her husband live in Portland, though she made her home in Phoenix, Arizona, for more than 25 years and knows all the good places to hide dead bodies in both cities.

On October 18th, we're delighted to welcome John Larison. A native Oregonian and the son of National Geographic filmmakers, much of John's childhood was spent traveling, often staying in remote tropical or mountainous regions. He attended the University of Oregon and studied philosophy and literature, and stayed to earn a Master's of Education. For several years, he worked as a fly-fishing guide and high school English teacher, writing fiction in the evenings. His first book in 2008 was a how-to text on fly-fishing, *The Complete Steelheader*. He went on to publish two fishing related novels, then

in late 2009, he began work on the novel that would become *Whiskey When We're Dry*, which was published last month.

The series wraps up on October 25th with a visit from Melissa Eskua Ousley. Melissa's most recent novel was last year's *Pitcher Plant*, a supernatural suspense story. A resident of the coast, Melissa lives with her family as well as a neurotic dog and a pirhana. Her writing is often inspired by the forests and beaches of Oregon, and her love of ghost stories is evident in the frequent paranormal twists in her books. In addition to writing, she teaches writing and publishing workshops and edits for Braking Rain press.

All events in the Dark & Stormy Night series are free to the public and made possible by ongoing generous support from The Driftwood Library Foundation, U.S. Bank Foundation, and the D'Sands Condominium Motel. Questions about the series may be directed to Ken Hobson at Driftwood Public Library: 541-996-1242 or khobson@lincolncity.org. Driftwood Public Library is located at 801 SW HWY 101 in Lincoln City on the 2nd floor of the City Hall building, across the street from Burger King and adjacent to McKay's Market.

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