

off the shelf

The Inland Ladies

By Laurie Glazer Levy '53
Syren Book Company

Midwestern women of the 1950s and 1960s are not much examined, and it is this often-silent group that Levy turns to in her first collection of short stories. Beginning in 1949 and running through 2004, the book traces the multifaceted lives of girls from places like Omaha, Chicago, and Mason City, Iowa, who are infused with youthful dreams before moving through the victories and personal disappointments of adulthood. It is, said one reviewer, "about the women who survived the '50s bowed but not broken."

Laurie Glazer Levy is a Chicago journalist who has published three previous books of nonfiction.

Table's Edge

By Carol Colitti Levine '75
The Hadley Printing Co.

The variety and quality of restaurants in the Pioneer Valley of Massachusetts makes it a dining destination for all manner of visitors and residents. Levine, a former banker and San Francisco resident, long harbored a desire to open a restaurant of her own but has chosen instead to write an anecdotal history of the chefs

and restaurateurs of the region's best tables. Included are interviews with the proprietors of Spoleto, Del Raye, and the Green Street Café, among others. Fifty recipes are also included in the book, whose proceeds will benefit, in part, the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts.

Carol Colitti Levine and her family live in Florence, Massachusetts.

Ambient Light and Shadow: Images and Poems From Five Decades of My Life

By Patricia Feiser Wismer '58
MBK Publishing

Wismer has lived a creative and full life, as evidenced in this glossy compilation of her poetry and photographs from 1960 to the present day. Dedicated to Mount Holyoke mentors and classmates, the black-and-white volume touches on life's recurring themes of love, passion, pain, and new growth in words and pictures that are sensitive and artistic.

Patricia Feiser Wismer taught English for more than thirty years in California. She has since pursued her interest in photography from her summer residence in Cannon Beach, Oregon.

The Inland Ladies

Stories by Laurie Levy



TABLE'S EDGE

Stories and favorite recipes of the people who created a dining paradise in the Pioneer Valley of Massachusetts

Carol Colitti Levine

PARIS, PARIS

JOURNEY INTO THE CITY OF LIGHT



David Downie

Edited by Diane Johnson
Photographs by Alison Harris

Paris, Paris: Journey Into the City of Light

By David Downie
Photographs by Alison Harris '79

Transatlantic Press

Alison Harris and husband David Downie have collaborated on their third book, *Paris, Paris: Journey Into the City of Light*. Harris has contributed thirty black-and-white photographs to illustrate Downie's essays. Diane Johnson, author of *Le Divorce*, has written the introduction. Essays include "A Day in the Park: The Luxembourg Gardens," and "Paris in the Spring." Downie describes Paris as "the kind of city butterfly catchers have trouble netting, tacking down, and studying. Like

all great cities and yet unlike any other it is alive and fluttering, buffeted by the Seine-basin breezes. This place called Paris is at once the City of Light that inhabits literature and film, an imagined land, a distant view through shifting, misty lenses, and a vibrant world where a kaleidoscope of millions seems bent on the grand conspiracy to enjoy life."

Alison Harris has been working as a professional photographer in Paris since 1989. She specializes in food photography and has shot a number of cookbooks. She lives with husband David Downie, and the two

have collaborated on *Cooking the Roman Way and Enchanted Liguria*.

Beading for the Soul: Inspired Designs from 23 Contemporary Artists

By Deborah Cannarella '77
Interweave Press

Beading can be relaxing, meditative, and even healing for some people. *Beading for the Soul* looks at how beading can be used as a tool for beaders and artists interested in imbuing their work with meaning. The book includes twenty-six projects, including necklaces, bracelets, wall hangings, and bags. Each artist writes about the significance of beading in his or her life and the focus and purpose of each piece. *Beading for the Soul* explores the parallels between beading and mindfulness, teaching the reader how beading can be a useful tool for contemplation. Step-by-step instructions are included for each project, along with color photos and illustrations. Deborah Cannarella, of Roxbury, Connecticut, has written and edited several nonfiction books for children and adults. She was formerly the editor of *PieceWork*, a magazine about women's history and textile arts, also published by Interweave Press.

E.T. Culture: Anthropology in Outerspaces

Edited by Debbara Battaglia
Duke University Publishing

Anthropologists have long sought to describe foreign or "alien" societies, yet few have considered communities centered around a belief in aliens and UFO sightings and their effect on popular culture. The contributors to

E.T. Culture open up a new frontier for anthropological study by taking these communities seriously. They demonstrate that extraterrestrial forms of visitation—including alien beings, alien technologies, and uncanny visions—engage primary concepts found in anthropological research: host and visitor, home and away, subjectivity and objectivity. Contributors to this volume show how discussions and representations of extraterrestrials express concerns about racial and ethnic differences, the anxieties and fascination associated with modern technologies, and alienation from the inner workings of government.

Debbara Battaglia is professor of anthropology. She is the author of *On the Bones of the Serpent: Person, Memory, and Mortality in Sabarl Island Society* and the editor of *Rhetorics of Self-Making*.

The Alaska Reader
Edited by Anne Wood Hanley '68

Fulcrum Publishing

How can anyone write with authority about such a vast, mysterious, and myth-filled place as Alaska? Hanley and her coeditor have found a collection of authentic voices that do just that through poetry, fiction, nonfiction, native Alaskan languages, and oral tradition. Organized thematically, *The Alaska Reader* considers taking risks, Alaska as a parable for the future, and many other characteristics of the state in the words of John Muir, Jack London, and John McPhee, to name a few of the diverse group of authors represented. Anne Wood Hanley was the Alaska state writer laureate

from 2002 to 2004. She has a weekly column on Alaskan writing in the Anchorage Daily News.

Campus Legends: A Handbook

By Elizabeth Tucker '70
Greenwood Press

Campus legends have been a factor at colleges and universities since their founding. Students have told and retold stories of the extraordinary, bizarre, and just plain baffling events in their daily lives in often dramatic fashion. In *Campus Legends* the author explores the important role legends and folklore play in popular culture and offers fifty examples of the genres, including several MHC legends—the intriguing "Hatchet Man" story included.

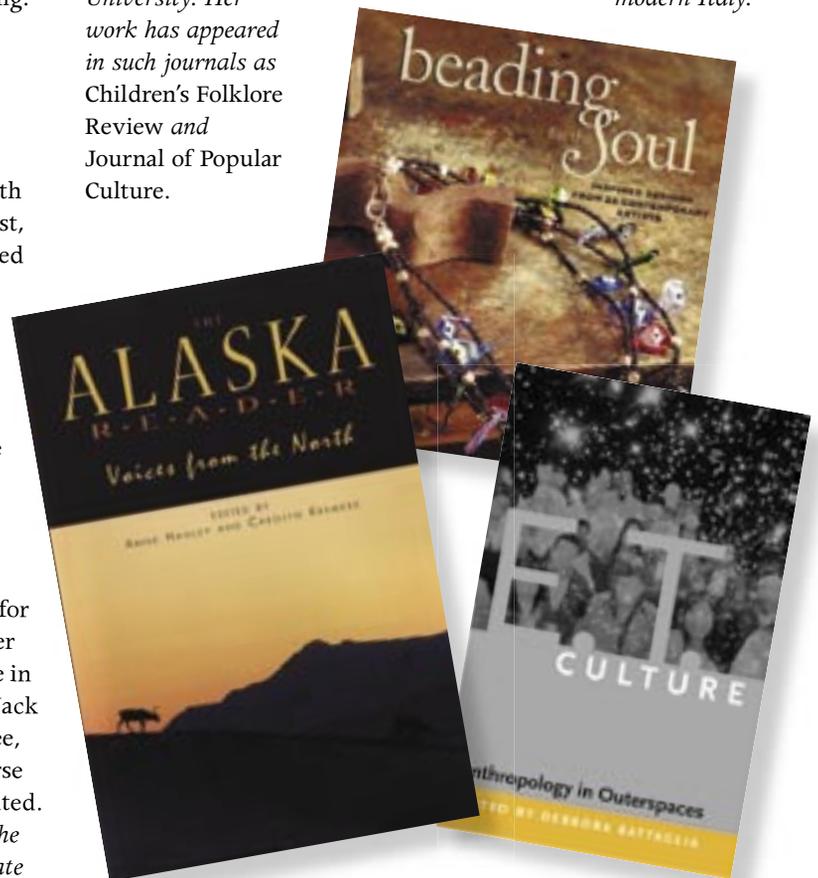
Elizabeth Tucker is associate professor of English at Binghamton University. Her work has appeared in such journals as *Children's Folklore Review* and *Journal of Popular Culture*.

Art and Culture of the Sistine Court: Platina's "Life of Sixtus IV" and the Frescoes of the Hospital of Santa Spirito

By Eunice D. Howe '69
Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana

This book examines the collaborative culture that flourished in the court of Sixtus IV, the pope who built the Sistine Chapel among other key projects in Renaissance Rome. Howe proposes that humanist and first Vatican librarian Bartolomeo Platina was instrumental in promoting the intermingling of art and scholarship that gave rise to the distinctive frescoes and architecture of Sixtus IV's court.

Eunice D. Howe is professor of art history at the University of Southern California. Her most current interests include women's history, urbanism, and travel literature of early modern Italy.



History on the Road: The Painted Carts of Sicily

By Marcella Croce '72 and Moira F. Harris
Pogo Press

The painted carts of Sicily have been around for less than two centuries. Once there were many thousands of them, carrying the products of the island and participating in celebrations. The carts were fashioned from beautifully carved wood and intricately wrought metal. All visible parts were colorfully painted with religious, chivalric, historical, or other culturally symbolic designs and figures. They carried passengers, food, wine barrels, minerals, and other cargo from place to place. Described as ungainly and awkward, they were pulled over less-than-satisfactory roads by horses, mules, and

donkeys decorated in colorful harnesses and feathers. These carts are part of Sicily's art, culture, and history on the road.

Marcella Croce was born in Palermo, Sicily. She earned her PhD in Italian literature from the University of Wisconsin. She is a lecturer, Italian language teacher, and Elderhostel coordinator. She has written books and articles concerning Italian folklore, including puppets and decorated carts.

Crossfire

By Miyuki Miyabe, translated by Deborah Sturhl Iwabuchi and Anna Husson Isozaki '90
Kodansha America

Junko Aoki, a 'Tokyoite' in her mid-twenties, has the extraordinary

ability to start fires using just willpower. Furthermore, she believes it is her duty to use these powers to punish violent criminals who have evaded justice. A chance encounter one night sends Junko on a mission to rescue a young woman abducted by a vicious gang of youths. The trail of bodies she leaves across Tokyo attracts the attention of two very different groups: a secretive vigilante group, which tries to recruit her, and the arson squad of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department. *Crossfire* takes us on a hair-raising journey through the landscape of Tokyo—a journey that challenges us, along with two women whose paths gradually come together, to consider what's right and what's wrong in the name of justice.

Anna Husson Isozaki relocated to Japan in 1992. She later earned an MA in advanced Japanese studies through England's University of Sheffield, and currently divides her time between editing and translation, teaching, and family.

Final Fore

By Roberta Isleib
Berkley/Penguin

At the bucolic Mount Holyoke College campus, Cassie Burdette is steeling her nerves for the U.S. Women's Open, the most prestigious—and toughest—women's golf event in the world. She's already rattled by the absence of Laura, her favorite cad-die, and by a controversial invitation to a men's pro tournament. But then a rival dies, and Cassie learns that in high-stakes golf, competition can truly be murder.

Roberta Isleib is a clinical psychologist and mystery writer. She researched Final Fore at Mount Holyoke last summer.

Driven to Murder

By Judith Skillings '72
Harper Collins/Avon

The third in Skillings's mystery series, *Driven to Murder* once again follows the antics of Rebecca Moore, an investigative reporter turned car restorer and now pit crew member at the Indianapolis Speedway. The sexist taunts of her coworkers are child's play compared to the bullet that misses her skull by a hair's width. Then there's that body in the cockpit. And deadly secrets—all adding up to a high-speed lap that may well be the heroine's last.

Judith Skillings and her husband own an automobile restoration shop in Pennsylvania.

The Little Black Book of Hors d'Oeuvres

By Karen Berman '78
Peter Pauper Press

Small in size but chock full of delectable recipes for hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, this little book is a help for everyone who needs new ideas for mini starters. Flavors from around the world are included in chapters such as "Dips and Spreads," "Topped, Stuffed, and Wrapped," and "Out of the Frying Pan." Ah! tuna bites, pork tenderloin-mango kabobs, and petit apple-gruyere quiches are among the fifty-one recipes included in this tasteful text. *Karen Berman is a writer and editor whose work includes cookbooks and articles for Wine Enthusiast and the New York Times. She holds a certificate in cuisine from Le Cordon Bleu in Paris.*

