

## **Reading While Driving: Let's Talk Audio Books**

Thirty –five OLLI members gathered on June 15 to talk about audio books. For those of you planning long car trips this summer or who just want to listen to a book while cooking, gardening, or exercising, the class wanted to share their favorites with you.

According to a 2008 consumer survey by the Audio Publishers Association, 28% of adults have listened to an audio book in the past year and audio book users are more likely than the general public to be readers of print books and college educated. The most popular genre for those over 35 and the favorite genre for all listeners is Mystery/Suspense/Thriller, followed by general fiction. The same held true for OLLI listeners.

### **OLLI MEMBER FAVORITES IN AUDIO BOOKS**

#### **Mystery/Suspense/Thriller, by author:**

Any book by--

Alexander McCall Smith

Bruce Alexander (Henry Fielding series)

David Baldacci

M. C. Beaton (Agatha Raisin series, Hamish Macbeth series)

Edna Buchanan

James Lee Burke (Dave Robicheaux series)

Clive Cussler

Janet Evanovich (Stephanie Plum series)

Elizabeth George (Inspector Lynley series)

Tony Hillerman

P. D. James

Donna Leon

John Lescroart

Laura Lippman

Patrick O'Brien (Jack Aubrey series)

Sara Paretsky

Anne Perry (Inspector Monk series)

Ellis Peters (Brother Cadfael Series)

Ruth Rendell

John Sanford (Lucas Davenport series)

Margaret Truman

Jacqueline Winspeare (Maisie Dobbs series)

**Mystery/Suspense/Thriller, by title:**

*Dracula* by Brian Stokes

*Cell* by Stephen King

*The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon* by Stephen King

*Lisey's Story* by Stephen King

*The Mistress of the Art of Death* by Ariana Franklin

*The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield

*A Woman of Independent Means* by Carl Hiaasen

**General Fiction by author:**

Any book by--

Jan Karon (At Home in Mitford series)

Barbara Kingsolver

Fannie Flagg

**General Fiction by title:**

*Winter Solstice* by Rosamond Pilcher

*The Help* by Kathryn Stockett

*Beach Music* by Pat Conroy

**Classic Fiction by title:**

*Emma* by Jane Austen

*Nicholas Nickleby* by Charles Dickens

*House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton

**Non-fiction by author:**

Any book by—

Frank McCourt

David McCullough

**Non-fiction by title:**

*Barbarians at the Gate* by Bryan Burrough and John Helyar

*Game Change* by John Heilemann

*The Great Railway Bazaar* by Paul Theroux

*The Infidel* by Ayaan Hirsi Ali

*The Olive Farm* by Carole Drinkwater

*The Professor and the Madman* by Simon Winchester

*Presidents' Wives* by Cokie Roberts

*Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson

*Truman* by David McCullough

*A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson