

# The Mark Twain Library BOOK GROUP

meets

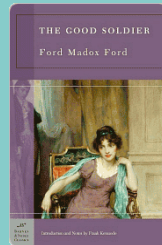
**the 2nd Monday of each month, 7 to 8:30 pm**  
**discussion leader is Catherine Riordan**  
Redding resident and Ph.D. in English Literature

**2010 THEME: From the 100 Best Books of the 20th Century**



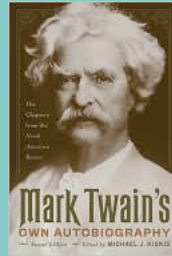
**A ROOM  
WITH A  
VIEW**  
1908  
**E. M. Forster**  
**January 11**

This British social comedy examines a young heroine's struggle against Victorian attitudes as she rejects the man her family has encouraged her to marry, and chooses, instead, a socially unsuitable fellow she met on holiday in Italy.



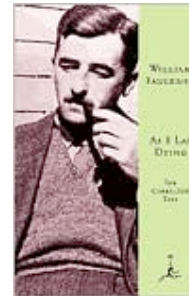
**THE GOOD  
SOLDIER**  
1915  
**Ford Madox  
Ford**  
**February 8**

Tells of the complex social and sexual relationships between 2 couples, one English, one American, and the growing awareness by the American narrator John Dowell of the intrigues and passions behind their orderly Edwardian facade.



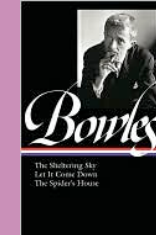
**THE  
AUTOBIOGRAPHY  
OF MARK  
TWIN**  
1924  
**March 8**

Writing on his deathbed, Twain vowed to be "free and frank and unembarrassed" in the recounting of his life and his experiences



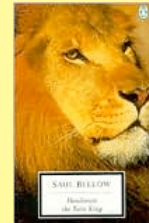
**AS I LAY  
DYING**  
1930  
**William  
Faulkner**  
**April 12**

During the Bundren family's bizarre journey to Jefferson to bury Addie, their wife and mother, Faulkner lets each family member - including Addie - tell their private responses to Addie's life.



**THE  
SHELTERING  
SKY**  
1949  
**Paul  
Bowles**  
**May 10**

[E]xamines the ways in which Americans' incomprehension of alien cultures leads to the ultimate destruction of those cultures...explores the limits of humanity when it touches the unfathomable emptiness and impassive cruelty of the desert



**HENDERSON  
THE RAIN  
KING**  
1959  
**Saul  
Bellow**  
**June 7\***

Henderson has come to Africa on a spiritual safari, a quest for the truth. His feats of strength, his passion for life, and, most importantly, his inadvertent "success" in bringing rain have made him a god-like figure among the tribes

\*1st Monday of month