

MEDIA KIT FOR
Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher;
What is Happening to Education Today
SUSAN HADLEY PLANCK

BIOs

5 Fun Facts You Didn't Know about Me
2-line, Short, Medium, Long

PRESS RELEASE

Introduction
About the Author
About the Book
Review Copies and Media Interviews Availability

SYNOPSIS for *Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher*
Short, Medium, Long

BOOK DETAILS AND PURCHASE INFORMATION

Contact Information for Susan Hadley Planck

SAMPLE CHAPTER

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

BOOK REVIEW

EXCERPTS

PHOTOS

5 Fun Facts You Didn't Know About Me

1. I was a waterskiing fanatic in the Wisconsin summers.
2. I have climbed over half of the 14,000 ft. peaks in Colorado.
3. Kayaking down the Rogue River in Oregon, I almost drowned.
4. Bagpiping nude on a deserted beach near Hong Kong is described in my *Piping Hot!* book. I never taught school in the nude, however.
5. I have a football signed by the 1967 Championship Green Bay Packers team.

3-line bio:

Traveling from one state to another and even to other countries, Susan Hadley Planck shares amusing, interesting, and poignant tales of trying to reach students of all kinds, ages, in over 30 different subjects, while observing the evolution of education in the past 70 years.

Short bio:

Teacher of myriads of subjects for over 30 years, Susan Hadley Planck, in *Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher; What is Happening to Education Today?* walks you through several schools, states, subjects, students, and parents to see the actual evolution of education since the 1950s. Having taught school in kindergarten through high school, she had also taught bagpiping and climbing. Her sense of adventure infused that passion with all her students.

A seasoned teacher, traveler, and bagpiper, Susan shares her humorous, frustrating, and poignant encounters through the years as education went through traumatic changes. Commentary on the current state of education and how we got there is interspersed in the stories of her personal journeys. How did we get from round-robin reading of Dick and Jane to reading stories about changing gender?

Long bio:

Susan Planck exemplifies the word eclectic. Not just a teacher of one subject or one grade level, Susan hopped and skipped from teaching high school history to a combined third/fourth grade, and finished as a middle school teacher, which included thirteen different subjects, from language arts to geography to even "food for fun." Over thirty years of teaching encompassed even some challenging substitute teaching gigs and provided Susan with experiences that stretch the imagination.

Starting her teaching career with history in high school in Oregon, she eased into elementary school in Washington, and, finally, middle school in geography and language arts in Colorado. At the same time for ten of those years, she operated a climbing school in Washington State, taking clients from all over the world around and up glaciated Mt. Adams. Just to add interest to the fire, Susan learned to play the bagpipes to become an instructor in the City of Denver Pipe Band.

Born near Chicago, living in Washington state for 14 years, she has lived in Boulder, Colorado, since 1985. A graduate of Colorado College, Susan attended the University of Washington and the University of Oslo, Norway. A world traveler, sometimes with her bagpipes, Susan enjoys sharing her experiences with others. Her previous book, *Piping Hot! Tales of a Wandering Bagpiper*, describes in detail her encounters with other cultures while playing her pipes.

Susan has now moved on to learning the alphorn, the 12-foot long instrument associated with Switzerland, Germany, and Austria. Having retired from teaching and bagpiping, Susan still travels, hikes, and skis. She and her husband, Andrew, who has written his own book, *What's Hot on the Moon Tonight?* reside in Boulder and enjoy music of all kinds. They keep bumping into their old students on the streets of Boulder.

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CURIOUS TALES OF A WANDERING TEACHER

What is Happening to Our Education Today?

Boulder, Colorado, 2021: How does it feel to be thrown into a class teaching a subject you have no background in? Scary? Or a challenge? Food for Fun in middle school was such a class. For someone who had her heart on teaching history in high school, this was just one of the slings and arrows involved in Susan Hadley Planck's teaching career. Hopping from high school to elementary school, and finally middle school as well as some substitute teaching of all subjects in all levels, Susan gathered amusing, poignant, and frustrating tales in her journey. Shared in her book, *Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher; What is Happening to Education Today?* (Moonscape Publishing, 2022; ISBN: 978-0-9908769-4-6, \$15.95, www.SusanPlanck.com.) Susan entertains the reader with a fascinating trip into education through the last 70 years.

A student with spina bifida with minimal experience in school when he reached her third-grade class, a deaf student, students with few records of their school history, students with heart-wrenching home lives, and, of course, students with ADHD and other physical and emotional baggage all contributed to making Susan's teaching life interesting and challenging.

Curious Tales takes you into the world of teaching, whether it is in the classroom or outside in the mountains or in bagpipe lessons. Beginning as a student herself in kindergarten, Susan describes her own tales of learning and how they affected her teaching styles. From reading books about Dick and Jane, she found herself teaching reading in middle school, shucking oysters while sharing the book *The Pearl*, learning about some of the Hispanic culture. From using 16 mm movie projectors (and seeing a reel fly off and almost hit a student) and filmstrip projectors (lobbing a metal filmstrip container at a student to get his attention only to hit him square in the middle of the forehead) Susan learned how to integrate into the 21st century and navigate projectors hanging from the ceiling connected to the computer.

As an educator of over 30 years, member of the award-winning City of Denver Pipe Band for more than 15 years, and operator of an outdoor climbing institute, Susan has witnessed the behind-the-scenes antics of teachers, students, and parents in many various settings. Commentary on the change of direction education has taken is clear, concise, and courageous.

FIVE TIPS FOR TEACHING:

1. Learn names. Learn names. Learn names. As fast as you can.
2. Love each child ... because of what they do, or in spite of what they do.
3. Prepare. Plan. Participate. If the class is silent reading, so are you.
4. Enjoy what you do. Have fun. Make lessons interesting.
5. Have and show passion for what you are teaching. If you don't feel it, create it.

Order *Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher* through Amazon.com, SusanPlanck.com for \$15.95. Please email any questions to: plancksusan@gmail.com.

About the Author

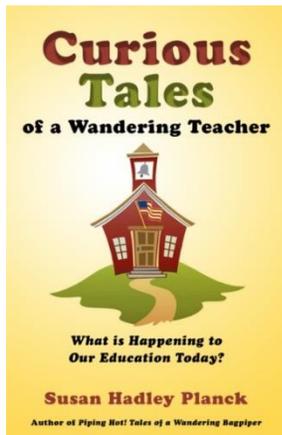
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Born near Chicago, living in Washington state for 14 years, she has lived in Boulder, Colorado, since 1985. A graduate of Colorado College, Susan attended the University of Washington and the University of Oslo, Norway. A world traveler, sometimes with her bagpipes, Susan enjoys sharing her experiences with others. Her previous book, *Piping Hot! Tales*

of a Wandering Bagpiper, describes in detail her encounters with other cultures while playing her pipes.

About the Book



How does it feel to be thrown into a class teaching a subject you have no background in? Scary? Or a challenge? Food for Fun in middle school was such a class. For someone who had her heart on teaching history in high school, this was just one of the slings and arrows involved in Susan Hadley Planck’s teaching career. Hopping from high school to elementary school, and finally middle school as well as some substitute teaching of all subjects in all levels, Susan gathered amusing, poignant, and frustrating tales in the journey. Even tales of teaching climbing and bagpipes are included. Shared in her book, *Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher; What is Happening to Our Education Today?* (Moonscape Publishing, 2022; ISBN ; ISBN: 978-0-9908769-4-6, \$15.95, www.SusanPlanck.com.) Susan entertains the reader with a fascinating trip into education through the last 70 years and thoughts about where education is headed today.

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integrate into the 21st century and navigate projectors hanging from the ceiling connected to the computer.

Review Copies and Media Interviews:

For a review copy of *Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher; What is Happening to Education Today?* or an interview with Susan Hadley Planck, please contact 303-499-3916 or plancksusan@gmail.com. When requesting a review copy, please provide street address.

SYNOPSIS FOR CURIOUS TALES OF A WANDERING TEACHER

3-line, short Synopsis:

Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher takes you into the world of a teacher, whether it is in the classroom of elementary, middle, or high school students, in the mountains or on the bagpipes, Susan shares the insides of how education has evolved in the last 70 years with comments of where it is going.

Medium Synopsis:

Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher takes you into the world of a teacher, whether it is in the classroom of elementary, middle, or high school students, in the mountains or on the bagpipes, Susan shares the insides of how education has evolved in the last 70 years with comments on where it is going.

How does it feel to be thrown into a class teaching a subject you have no background in? Scary? Or a challenge? Food for Fun in middle school was such a class. For someone who had her heart on teaching history in high school, this was just one of the slings and arrows involved in Susan Hadley Planck's teaching career. Hopping from high school to elementary school, and finally middle school as well as some substitute teaching of all subjects in all levels, Susan gathered amusing, poignant, and frustrating tales in the journey. Shared in her book, *Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher; What is Happening to Education Today?* Susan entertains the reader with a fascinating trip into education and thoughts about what is happening to education today.

Long Synopsis:

Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher takes you into the world of a teacher, whether it is in the classroom of elementary, middle, or high school students, in the mountains or on the bagpipes, Susan shares the insides of how education has evolved in the last 70 years with comments on where it is going.

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What do you do when your fourth-grade student enters the classroom and throws a chair across the room? How do you handle a 7th grader calling you a bitch? What happens when you accidentally hit a student in the middle of his forehead with a metal container? Or when an old 16 mm movie projector reel flies away just missing a student's head? Teachers survive and learn techniques that can be used in all sorts of teaching situations whether it is teaching climbing or bagpipes ... or even teaching a grandchild, as Susan has done.

Book Details and Purchase Information

Book Title: *Curious Tales of a Wandering Teacher; What is Happening to Education Today?*

By: Susan Hadley Planck

Published by: MoonScape Publishing

Available for Sale at:

Amazon.com and www.SusanPlanck.com

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SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. With all your experience in teaching so many subjects in so many levels, which was your favorite?
2. How did our education system get to its divisive situation today?
3. Were there teachers who inspired you?
Did you work with totally incompetent teachers as well?
4. Do you feel like you accomplished anything in your teaching career?
5. Does this book help teachers in anyway deal with their own teaching situations?
6. What was it like growing up in the 1950s and 1960s compared with what students are faced with today in school?
7. What is the most important thing readers can take away from this book?
8. Who is your favorite author?
9. Where can we buy the book?
10. If you were to do it again, what would you do differently regarding your teaching career?