

Esther Ayers

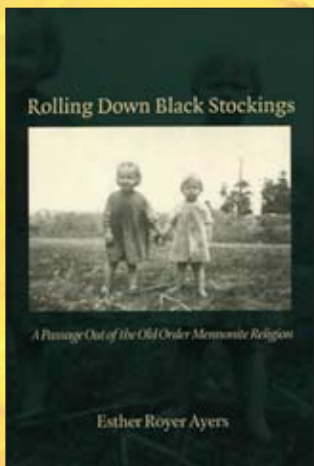
Author of

“Rolling Down Black Stockings”

Visits the

D-M Base Library

Wed, May 25, 2011 - 10:45am



Ms. Ayers will discuss her novel and answer questions.
Attendance is limited -- please sign up by May 22 at the Base Library.

Book signing follows at the **AAFES** Base Exchange from Noon-1pm

Biography

Esther Royer Ayers, the fifth child of eight children, was born into an Old Order Mennonite family in a farming community just outside the town limits of Columbiana, Ohio.

"I attended Columbiana Public School until seventeen. At that time, my mother, disenchanted with the Old Order Mennonite religion, moved her children to the big city of Akron, Ohio. I graduated from Akron's North High in 1957 - then promptly went to work for the B.F. Goodrich Company. I left Akron in 1964 because of my husband's employment.

"When in my twenties and raising my two sons, I realized how differently I was raised and wondered what my childhood religion was about. I began writing down some of my childhood stories so I'd never forget them. It took me decades to put everything together. However, these childhood stories are now the basis of early chapters in Rolling Down Black Stockings: A Passage Out of the Old Order Mennonite Religion."

Critical Praise

"Her story is both fascinating and touching, a glimpse into a hidden world and the deeply personal emotions of one who was a part of it."

-The Cleveland Plain Dealer

"Only when she wrote her book did Ayers come to terms with her upbringing."

-The Tampa Tribune

"Ayers release came through the awareness that she didn't need to fear her past."

-Mennonite Weekly Review

"Ayers' childhood was a hardscrabble place of black stockings, brimmed bonnets, a dress code so austere that even buttons were considered vanity."

-St. Petersburg Times

"This careful account of a quiet young woman's successful journey through the thickets of religious dogma is both readable and enlightening."

-Arizona Daily Star

For more information, call 228-4381.