

# Left Coast Crime

Program Book



Colorado Springs, Colorado

March 20-24, 2013

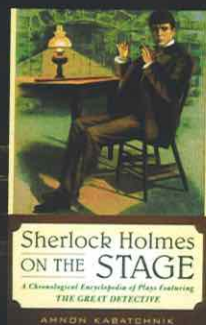
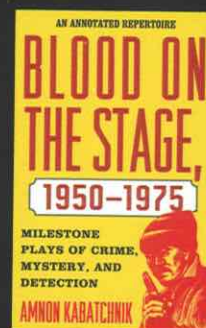
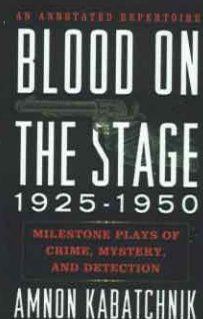
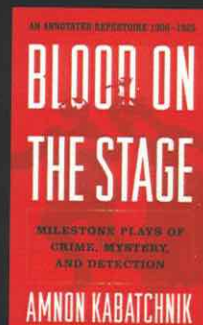
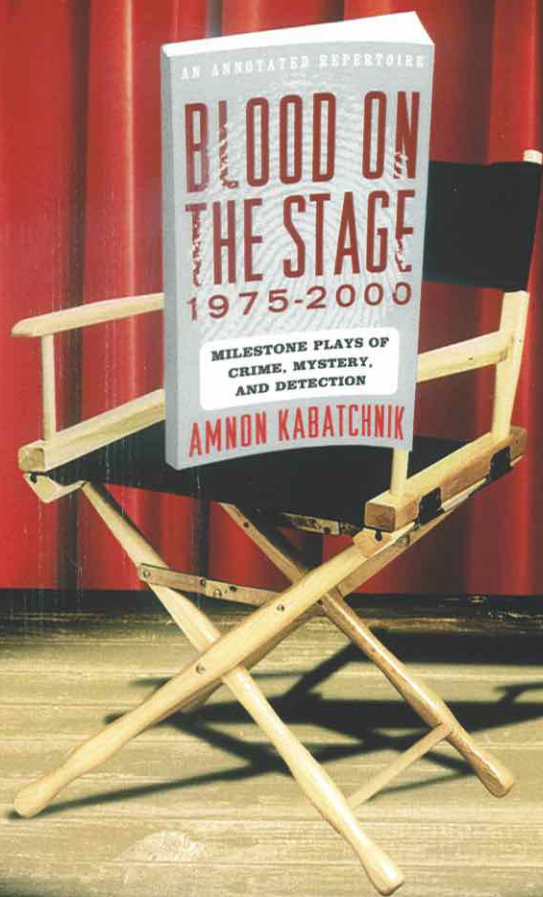
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# Welcome to Colorado Springs and the Cheyenne Mountain Resort



We're glad you're here. We hope you have a great time. We have some outstanding authors lined up, and programming we hope you'll enjoy. In your down time, enjoy the amenities of the resort, the scenery, and check out some of the tourist attractions. But first, a few moments to thank some of the people who made this happen.

We'd like to thank, first of all, our guests of honor: **Enid Schantz**, who is missed and mourned, and **Tom Schantz**, Fan Guests of Honor, without whom there'd be no Left Coast Crime; Guests of Honor **Craig Johnson** and **Laura Lippman**; and Toastmaster **David Corbett**.

Love and kisses to **Parnell Hall**, our Last Resort Troubadour (and look in your bags for a special CD of songs Parnell has composed for various Colorado Left Coast Crimes).

We'd also like to thank **Bob Spiller**, our auctioneer, and his intrepid assistant, **Donnell Ann Bell**, for setting up the auction to benefit Colorado Motherhead/Fatheread; **Shannon Baker** for serving as registrar; **L.C. Hayden** for putting together the book bags; **Sherry Lilly** for getting the word out via our newsletter, and **Janet Rudolph** for getting the word even further out by sending updates to her vast network of readers, writers, fans, critics, editors, and publishers. We appreciate the efforts of **Lucinda Surber** and **Stan Ulrich** for organizing the awards, the volunteers, and, at times, the co-chairs. **Mike Befeler** put together the popular

New Authors Breakfast and Established Authors Breakfast, while **Stina Branson** worked magic with the Awards Banquet. **Curt Wendelboe**, **Ellen Byerrum** and **Bonnie Ramthun** generously offered their technical assistance, equipment and general know-how putting together our fashion show, and a special shout out to Bonnie, who was invaluable for her help getting advertising to support this program book. **Catherine Dilts** and **Beth Groundwater** put together the GOH welcome bags.

We'd like to thank **Christine Jorgensen** for giving us a jump start on programming, and thanks also to the moderators and, of course, all the panelists, who have been very patient as we changed things around, gave them the wrong panel times, and misspelled their names (all that's fixed now, right? Right?)

Thanks to all our volunteers, and check out the names of the organizing committee. These folks did a tremendous amount of work to make this happen. They deserve a round of applause.

And if your name ought to be here and isn't—the omission wasn't intentional.

We have four tracks of programming running for most of the conference. If you're torn between two panels at the same time, pick one, then check out the book room, where **VWTapes** will have tapes of all the panels so you can pick up the ones you missed and listen to them on your way home.

Needless to say, there are also **BOOKS** in the book room, and the hotel will provide shipping services if needed.

Don't forget to vote for your favorite for the Lefty, Rocky, Watson, and Bruce Alexander Memorial Mystery awards! Panels featuring nominees

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The mission of Sisters in Crime is to promote the professional development and advancement of women crime writers to achieve equality in the industry.

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## ...Welcome

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nees who are attending are sprinkled throughout the program so you can hear what the authors of these great books have to say.

Also don't forget to get your tickets for the drawing for the LCC 2013 quilt made every year by **Vallery Feldman** and **Pam Dehnke** (see page 41). The drawing will be held at the Saturday night banquet, but you don't have to be there to win. (And just in case you feel generous, you might write LCC Christine Goff's name on your raffle tickets. She really wants the quilt this year. She has a thing about birds, you know?! She even said she'd donate an additional \$200+ to the raffle proceeds just to have it.)

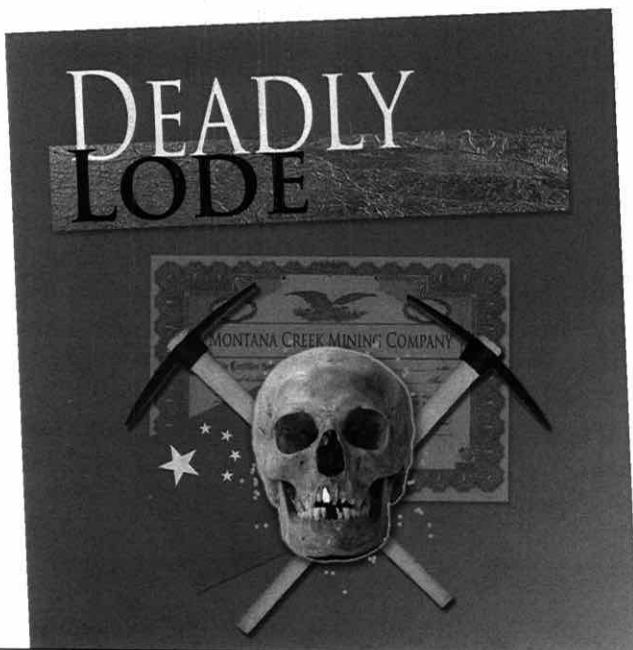
Christine Goff  
Suzanne Proulx  
LCC 2013 Co-chairs

Look for the LCC 2013 logo throughout the book for clues that will lead you to instructions to a free on-line issue of Southern Writer magazine. (This is not the first clue.)

## LCC 2013 Committee

Co-chairs: Christine Goff, Suzanne Proulx  
Registrar: Shannon Baker  
Treasurer: Christine Goff  
Advertising: Bonnie Ramthun  
Auction: Robert Spiller, Donnell Ann Bell  
Awards: Lucinda Surber, Stan Ulrich  
Awards banquet: Stina Branson  
Book bags: L.C. Hayden  
Book room: Tom Schantz  
Newsletter: Sherry Lilly  
Publicity: Janet Rudolph  
Hotel liaison: Christine Goff  
Programming: Christine Goff, Christine Jorgensen, Suzanne Proulx  
Author breakfasts: Mike Befeler  
Volunteer coordinator: Lucinda Surber  
Fashion show: Ellen Byerrum, Bonnie Ramthun, Curt Wendelboe. Music: Bob Williams.  
Models: Donna Andrews, Rhys Bowen, Jack Chapple, Ann Charles, Heather Cunningham, John Gilstrap, Parnell Hall, Brad Parks, Twist Phelan, Curt Wendelboe.

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# Guest of Honor: Laura Lippman

## Laura Lippman writes exquisitely.

As a convention of those who love our genre, Left Coast Crime chose well when it decided to honor Laura Lippman, whose body of work demonstrates both artistry and craftsmanship. Her nineteen books, her short stories, her essays, and other work give us ample evidence of a thought-provoking and exceptionally gifted writer. Her abilities go beyond that of style—there is such substance in her novels. In our genre, she has ventured into examinations of relationships and created characters that others might have left invisible, and by doing so has enriched crime fiction as a whole.

You don't need know of the success, both in the U.S. and overseas, or of her long list of awards (among them the Edgar, the Anthony, and the Agatha), to be made aware of this. Just open one of her books and begin to read.

Beyond this, she has given generously of her time to other writers, not only through her volunteer efforts with organizations, but by teaching writing at Goucher College and elsewhere.

She is devoted to her children and family. She is one of those people who maintains friendships over many decades. Her friends can tell you about her love of robots, shoes, Baltimore, and New Orleans. That she works out faithfully, has an amazing eye for design, and that you should never turn down any offer of a meal made by Laura. She likes

good wine and stimulating conversation. She is well-read, both within the genre and beyond it, and maintains a former journalist's awareness of current events. She has a sense of humor that is utterly addictive.

She is someone who will identify a need in her community and then begin to work for change from within her immediate environment—herself, her home, her neighborhood. She's not the person who does a bit of charitable work on Thanksgiving and then wishes everyone good luck until next year. She's the one who is there all the other weeks. At the founding of the Crime Lab Project, she was among the first to say "yes," and she made good on her commitment to help us educate others.

She's not after quick and easy answers—as with her writing, she goes deeper. There have been any number of occasions upon which she has posed a seemingly simple question about the accepted way of doing things that has left me pondering, days later, why no one ever asked that excellent question before.

For the many of us to whom you have been so kind, for the hours of good reads, for being such an inspiration, thank you—and congratulations, Laura, on your recognition as Left Coast Crime 2013 Guest of Honor!

—Jan Burke



Photo: Jan Cobb

# Guest of Honor: Craig Johnson

I READ CRAIG JOHNSON'S FIRST NOVEL *The Cold Dish* when it was on submission from the agent Gail Hochman nearly ten years ago and I knew immediately that I had something special on my hands. But what did I know about the American West as an English woman who had come to New York in 1976? Perhaps I'd seen too many episodes of "The Lone Ranger" when I was a child! What I loved about Craig was his ability to combine my romantic notions of the American West with a down-to-earth sensibility that kept his stories and characters utterly modern. Sheriff Walt Longmire of Absaroka County is the embodiment of the honorable and tough men that the West is known for, but he can also quote Dante, grieve deeply for his late wife, wring his hands over his only daughter, and manage to joke about it all with his signature wry humor.

But it's not just Walt that we admire. We keep coming back to Craig's books for his terrific writing, unique plots and the whole host of diverse and very real characters that he has created, from the tough, taciturn and ever loyal Henry Standing Bear to sassy Philadelphia-import Victoria Moretti to Walt's leathery predecessor Lucian Connally, and many more.

Craig's seventh book in the series, *Hell Is Empty*, hit the *New York Times* bestseller list, as did his eighth book *As the Crow Flies*. After we

had published seven Longmire mysteries, the series attracted the attention of A&E and the books have now been adapted for television in A&E's hit drama series, *Longmire*, starring Robert Taylor as the Sheriff, and with Lou Diamond Phillips as Henry Standing Bear and Katee Sackhoff as Victoria Moretti.

No author deserves such success more than Craig. He is a man with an amazing work ethic, always responsive to his publisher's requests—something that sadly can't be said for all authors! And it's not just about writing. Aply supported by his wife, Judy, Craig is always working, whether it's writing a newsletter for his fans or going on the road for months, not only doing the fifteen to twenty events his publicist sets up for him, but adding another fifteen to twenty on what we now dub "Craig's great motorcycle

tour." Craig is a man of the West himself, from his ten-gallon hat to the cowboy code of honor by which he lives, to his great, big American heart. I couldn't wish for a better author.

—Kathryn Court  
President & Publisher, Penguin Books



# Fan Guests of Honor: Tom & Enid Schantz

ALMOST EVERYBODY IN THE MYSTERY WORLD has made one important stop on their way to fame, and that stop was the bookstore on the Boulder mall known as Rue Morgue.

The proprietors of said bookstore are ubiquitous, and were pretty much

known by the name Tom&Enid, irretrievably linked. Left Coast Crime would probably not exist if not for Tom and Enid, and probably it's because of their role in starting the conference that it took such a long time for them to be recognized as Fan Guests of Honor. We're sorry that it didn't happen sooner, but that's tempered by the fact that it happened in time for Enid to

know it.

After marrying and fleeing the Iowa Writers Workshop in 1969, Tom and Enid Schantz started their bookstore, then called the Aspen Bookhouse (anticipating a move back to Colorado) in upstate New York, specializing in mysteries. In the late 1970s they changed the name to The Rue Morgue, and opened a brick and mortar store in downtown Boulder in 1980, which they operated until selling it in 2000. Since then they have been issuing catalogs of mysteries designed to appeal to lovers of traditional, historical and literary mysteries.

They began publishing mysteries, mostly Sherlockian and detective short stories, in 1973 as the Aspen Press. In 1997, they launched The Rue Morgue Press, which has so far reprinted more than 150 classic mystery novels. They hosted Left Coast Crime in 1996 in Boulder, Bouchercon in Denver in 2000, and two Historicons, a convention devoted to the historical mystery, in the 1990s in Boulder. Until Enid's death in August 2011 they were a fixture in the bookrooms of most major mystery conventions. Tom is a permanent member of the Left Coast Crime mystery convention. Tom and Enid received a Raven from the Mystery Writers of America in 2001.

**When the Left Coast Crime committee asked people if they had a memory of Enid or Tom (or Tom & Enid) that they'd like to contribute, the memories flooded in. And here they are:**

Back in 1989 when the idea of The Poisoned Pen was forming, my husband Rob and I stopped in at the Rue Morgue in downtown Boulder. The warm welcome, the vision, ideas, and in fact tutelage we received made all the difference. Tom and Enid were, and Tom remains, a treasury packed with resources for readers and the whole publishing community. They were in the group who formed The Independent Mystery Booksellers Association and created The Dilys Award, started and advanced the careers of many authors, and through Rue Morgue Press brought back into print a host of wonderful books. Rob and I only wish that Enid were able to be at the celebration honoring their myriad contributions to us all.

*Barbara Peters*

Tom and Enid will be forever etched in my mind as the personification of the mystery book world we inhabit. I seem to remember them at every conference I attended, always with a smile and a kind word. You couldn't find a more

deserving Fan Guest of Honor. *Bill Fitzhugh*

Tom and Enid will always have a fond spot in my heart for hosting the 1996 Left Coast Crime in Boulder, Colorado, and inviting Kinky Friedman to be the Guest of Honor. The result was the Left Coast Crime Cabaret, headlined by the Kinkster himself, and featuring several mystery authors. I wrote *Signing in the Waldenbooks* on the airplane on the way to that convention, and debuted it at the cabaret. I have been singing it at conventions ever since, and I am happy to include a recording of it on the *Last Resort Troubadour* CD. *Parnell Hall*

I was lucky enough to win the Lefty at the Left Coast Crime held in 1995 in Boulder. At the time there was no established Lefty plaque or trophy. I am pleased to say that part of Enid will always be with me as it was her left hand imprint that was used in the making of the plaque that was awarded to me.

Enid had a small hand but a big heart. *Alan Russell*

When I got my first mystery published, *Who's Susan?*, I attended my first writing conference in Dallas. Tom and Enid were there. I felt completely lost and overwhelmed. I had no



## Memories of the Rue Morgue

idea what I was doing or even how. Tom and Enid took me under their wings and helped paved the road. I will always be grateful to them for that. *L. C. Hayden*

Tom & Enid are the most wonderful booksellers, and I still recall the "dark and stormy night" that I'd had to battle the elements, flying through terrible storms to reach my old stomping ground, Colorado. Unbelievable as it may be, despite the weather, they had a turnout of so many people in their small, cozy, comforting store that I found about ten former friends who wanted to go have hot soup and wine with me afterwards! So what had begun for me in the east as a combat-zone book tour ended up as Old Home Week in Colorado - thanks to them! *Katherine Neville*

I first met them in person in the book dealers room at a Bouchercon. At the Chicago Bouchercon, I interrupted Dana Stabenow railing to poor Tom about people not wanting to attend the Anchorage Bouchercon because they think it's too cold. I'm normally quite quiet and reticent but I felt so sorry for Tom. Besides, I had books to buy, doncha know. Tom and Enid were always gracious. As booksellers, they supported those of us from independent presses and, as publishers, kept alive the out-of-print classics. They are classic themselves, and I am grateful for all they have done for the writer/reader community. *Priscilla Royal*

Tom and Enid were always incredibly gracious to me at each conference where we met. Not just in terms of agreeing to sell books on consignment -- but as friends and advisors, always willing to answer questions and talk about books in general. Both have made a great impact on our community. *Neil Plakcy*

I didn't know Tom and Enid well on a personal level, but I've been attending mystery conventions for nearly 20 years, and their presence was a constant over that time. I have no idea how many times I heard a "new to me" author, then ran

to the book room to find the book. Tom and Enid usually had what I wanted. I will miss Enid's familiar face and friendliness as she took care of the sale. *Suzanne Epstein*

Tom and Enid introduced me to readers that would never have heard of me, and they did the small things for their in-store events that made me feel important, such as special signs and banners, even when I obviously did not deserve such attention. They hosted my first ever reading and signing for my debut novel, and were always there for each book afterwards until they sold the brick-and-mortar Rue Morgue. Their support, encouragement, and humor never flagged and I always felt at home in their shop. Thank you, muchisimas gracias, Tom and Enid. Those were great times with great people. *Manuel Ramos*

While attending a conference in Denver I convinced one of the attendees with a car that we needed to go to Boulder. My motive was to visit a mystery book store that I read about. My friends dropped me off at Rue Morgue. Enid was the only one there and I spent a delightful hour talking mysteries. I have attended Bouchercon since 1986 and Enid was always so gracious and she always recommended new authors to me. . . .She always said that if she could get my extensive "want list" and my husband's VISA card they could retire. —*Jane Lee, Diamondhead, MS.*

Can't remember which conference, but one evening my glasses fell apart and I lost the screw. Couldn't see a damn thing. The hotel people were unhelpful. Tom dashed up to his room and came back with a mini-screwdriver. *Carola Dunn*

Shortly after my first mystery novel came out (*Evans Above* back in 1997) I found a review of it in the *Denver Post*. A really good review and I was thrilled. That was my first encounter with Tom and Enid and I've been forever

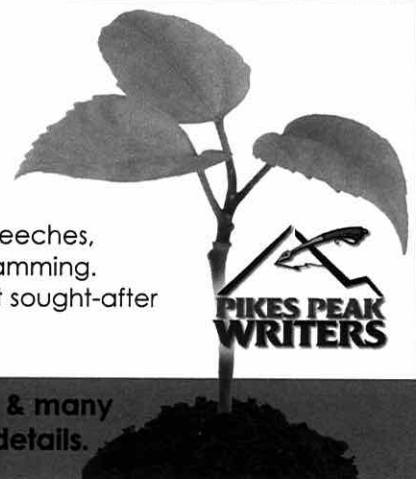
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## Toastmaster: David Corbett

ONE OF THE PERKS OF BEING A WRITER is the occasional free meal courtesy of your publisher. I first met David at a such a dinner thrown by our mutual publisher in conjunction with Bouchercon, and of the writers at the table on that particular outing, David made the biggest impression. It's immediately obvious that he's a force. He's a big guy, with a big voice (more about that later) and a big heart.

His first book, *The Devil's Redhead*, had been out for less than a year and had been nominated for the Anthony and Barry awards for best first novel, and his second one, *Done for a Dime*, was poised to come out the next year. Over the course of this dinner he was funny, irreverent, generous, outlandish, and at times a little melancholy. He was still mourning the death of his wife Terri and didn't care who knew it. He had spent many years working as an actual PI, first for a large firm, and then in conjunction with his wife's law practice. He had done a stint as a waiter. As a PI, he had investigated some high-profile cases, including the first Michael Jackson child molestation trial. He thought Scott Phillips's *The Ice Harvest* should have won the Edgar for best first novel that year, and I don't think he just said that because Scott was there, too.

I hadn't read *The Devil's Redhead*, but I bought it and became a big fan. You know how sometimes a writer impresses you in person but his books disappoint? Not the case with David Corbett. His written work is just as passionate as he is in

person, just as literate, with perfect timing. Only maybe not quite as loud.

Mean streets: He writes them with authenticity because he's been there. Dirty jobs: he's been there. Musician and stand-up comic? He's been there. In fact he has a real writer's resume—flight

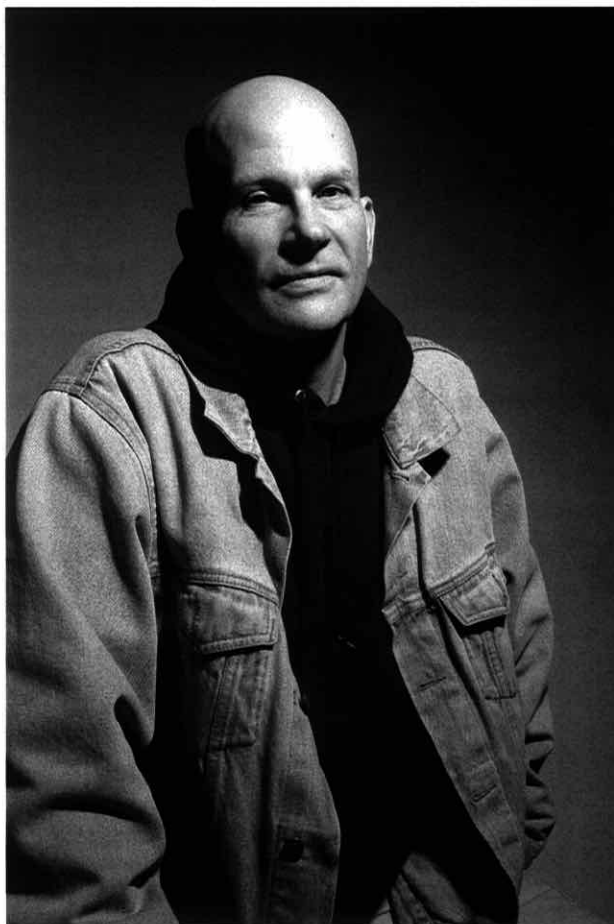
from the midwest to the coast, rejection of graduate study in linguistics (good call, David!), paying his dues, and living an interesting life.

Reviewers have compared his published work to various literary greats, in case you need a frame of reference: Graham Greene, Dashiell Hammett. His books have the qualities that appeal to male readers—action, thrills, low-down double-dealing, strong male characters. But they also have characteristics that endear them to women—tenderness, romance, loyalty, strong female characters. And of course the qualities that appeal to all readers, a damn good story.

Oh, I said there would be more about the big voice. We ended the publisher's dinner with David leading the group (well, those of us who remembered the words, I think two of us) in singing some show tunes and a few selections by Tom Lehrer. He knew *all* the words and, unlike everybody else at the table he could actually sing.

As the Left Coast Crime toastmaster, he may not even need a microphone.

—Suzanne Proulx



# MINOTAUR BOOKS

## Congratulates Our 2013 Left Coast Crime Nominees!

### THE LEFTY AWARD

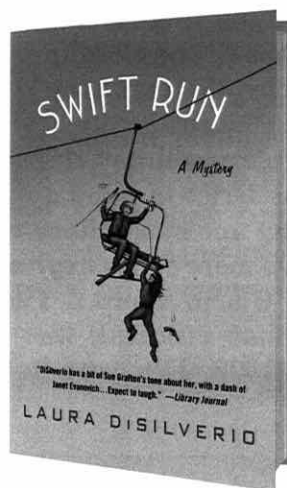
THE GIRL NEXT DOOR

by *Brad Parks*  
(Minotaur Books)



SWIFT RUN

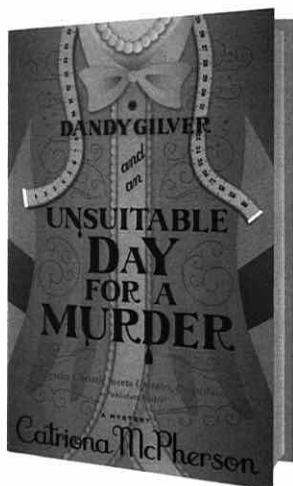
by *Laura DiSilverio*  
(Minotaur Books/A Thomas Dunne Book)



### THE BRUCE ALEXANDER AWARD

DANDY GILVER AND AN  
UNSUITABLE DAY FOR A MURDER

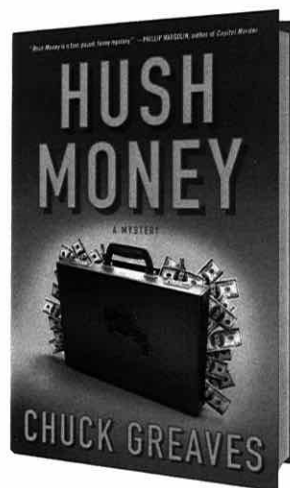
by *Catriona McPherson*  
(Minotaur Books/A Thomas Dunne Book)



### THE ROCKY AWARD

HUSH MONEY

by *Chuck Greaves*  
(Minotaur Books/A Thomas Dunne Book)



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Where Murder Is the Last Resort

# Troubador: Parnell Hall

PARNELL HALL IS THE KING OF KINDLE—or at least he aspires to be King. Mary Higgins Clark wants to be Queen. Don't believe me, visit his website and watch the video!

So what or who else is Parnell Hall?

He is a penny ante gambler, who bets a mean sugar packet when there's nothing else to play with. He's an ex-PI, an actor, a singer and songwriter—hence his title, *The Last Resort Troubadour*. He kicked off his singing career at sixteen, but made *Left Coast Crime* headlines in 1996 by singing his hit single "Signing at the Waldenbooks and Nobody's There" at the Kinky Friedman show on Saturday night. Parnell had arrived in Boulder, ink wet on the lyrics in hand and performed it live to a cheering audience. Since then he has written at least two more songs expressly for *Left Coast Crime*. The "Ode to Alferd E. Packer," Colorado's most notorious cannibal, was debuted at *Left Coast Crime* 2008. This year he will unveil "The Last Resort."

Still, Parnell is much more than a once-was PI, a once-was actor, and a so-so gambler with a good voice and a pretty face. He is the bestselling author of the *Puzzle Lady* crossword puzzle mysteries, the *Stanley Hastings* mystery novels, and the *Steve Winslow* courtroom dramas.

He and Cora Felton, the *Puzzle Lady*, have a lot in common. Cora lives in Connecticut (Parnell doesn't) and has a nationally syndicated crossword puzzle column (Parnell doesn't). But Cora couldn't construct a puzzle if her life depended on it. Her niece Sherry Carter writes the column for her. The much married Miss Felton is much happier solving crime. Common ground! As research for the *Puzzle Lady* books, Parnell competed in the National Crossword Puzzle Tournament in Stamford, Connecticut. Out of a field of 254 contestants, he finished 250th, just ahead of the four people who failed to turn in a paper. Cora made her debut in 1999 in *A Clue for the Puzzle Lady* and romped through thirteen books. Number fourteen in the series, *Arsenic and Old Puzzles*, hit the stands in January.

Parnell worked for two years as a private detective in NYC, and drew from his own experience writing his *Stanley Hastings* series. The first book in the series, *Detective*, published in 1987, was nominated for an Edgar award by the Mystery Writers of America and a Shamus award by the Private Eye Writers of America. His eighteenth *Stanley Hastings* novel, *Stakeout*, was released in January.

He also wrote five books in the *Steve Winslow* courtroom drama series under the pseudonym J.P. Hailey. With no courtroom experience, he claims he "owes the series to a childhood spent

## Wordharvest

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Chuck Greaves  
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reading Erle Stanley Gardner.” Parnell is a member of the Writers Guild of America East and has several screenplays to his credit, including the underground horror movie *C.H.U.D.*, which has been satirized on *Saturday Night Live*, *The Simpsons*, *Pushing Daisies*, *The Dailey Show* and *The Colbert Report*.

Without a doubt, Parnell Hall is a talented man. But there is one thing that defines him. Humor. Parnell Hall is a funny guy. I’m not sure if he’s the King of Kindle, but he’s definitely a King of Comedy. More importantly, he’s the one and only Last Resort Troubadour. Hats off, and bow.

—Christine Goff

## ...Rue Morgue



continued from page 7

They have continued to say nice things about my books, and they were one of the first bookstores I visited back in the days when I drove across America (self funded) making contact with the mystery community. They have been a stable, welcoming presence at every convention since--champions of mystery writers. Enid continued to be there beside Tom, brave and cheerful when she was obviously in pain, right until the very last. We'll all miss her and we salute them both for their great contribution to the genre. *Rhys Bowen*

Tom and Enid, are two of the kindest and nicest people I have ever met. I first got to know them better when they guided the Bristol UK team through organising Left Coast Crime in 2006 and, since then, through swapping recommendations for books and television programmes. (Thank goodness they kept going on about Friday Night Lights!) There are a lot of things I'll miss about not being at LCC 2013, but I am the saddest about not being there to honour Tom and Enid. *Adrian Muller*

Tom and Enid loved life, adventure, books, their family, Colorado and each other. Enid leaves us with a memory of sweetness, kindness, and courage. Tom and Enid reached out always to writers, encouraging them, supporting them, bringing their books to readers who would never have known them otherwise. Enid, we remember you with love. Tom, we thank you. *Carolyn Hart*

continued on p. 25

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# 2013 Left Coast Crime Award Nominations

Each year, Left Coast Crime presents four awards in various categories. The Lefty is Left Coast Crime's own award, given for the best humorous mystery novel (sometimes also known as "the funniest mystery novel") published in the previous year. The Lefty has been awarded since 1996.

Each year's committee decides which other awards to present, and this year those awards include the Rocky (first presented at LCC 2008 in Denver), for best book written in (or about, or by an author living in) the Left Coast Crime geographical region; the Bruce Alexander Historical Mystery Award, for best mystery novel covering events before 1960, first given in 2004; and the Watson, mystery novel with the best sidekick, previously given at LCC 2011 in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The nominees are selected by the membership, and the winners are determined by attendees. These awards will be presented at the banquet on Saturday, March 23.

## And the nominees are...

### The Lefty

Mike Befeler, *Cruising in Your Eighties Is Murder* (Five Star)

- Laura DiSilverio, *Swift Run* (Minotaur)
- Jess Lourey, *December Dread* (Midnight Ink)
- Lisa Lutz, *Trail of the Spellmans* (Simon & Schuster)
- Brad Parks, *The Girl Next Door* (Minotaur)
- Nancy Glass West, *Fit To Be Dead* (Southwest Publications)
- 

### The Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Mystery Award

- Rhys Bowen, *The Twelve Clues of Christmas* (Berkley Prime Crime)
- Rebecca Cantrell, *A City of Broken Glass* (Forge)
- Dennis Lehane, *Live by Night* (William Morrow)
- Catriona McPherson, *Dandy Gilver and an Unsuitable Day for a Murder* (Minotaur)
- Jacqueline Winspear, *Elegy for Eddie* (HarperCollins)

### The Rocky

- Margaret Coel, *Buffalo Bill's Dead Now* (Berkley Prime Crime)
- Chuck Greaves, *Hush Money* (Minotaur)
- Beth Groundwater, *Wicked Eddies* (Midnight Ink)
- Darrell James, *Sonora Crossing* (Midnight Ink)
- Craig Johnson, *As the Crow Flies* (Viking)

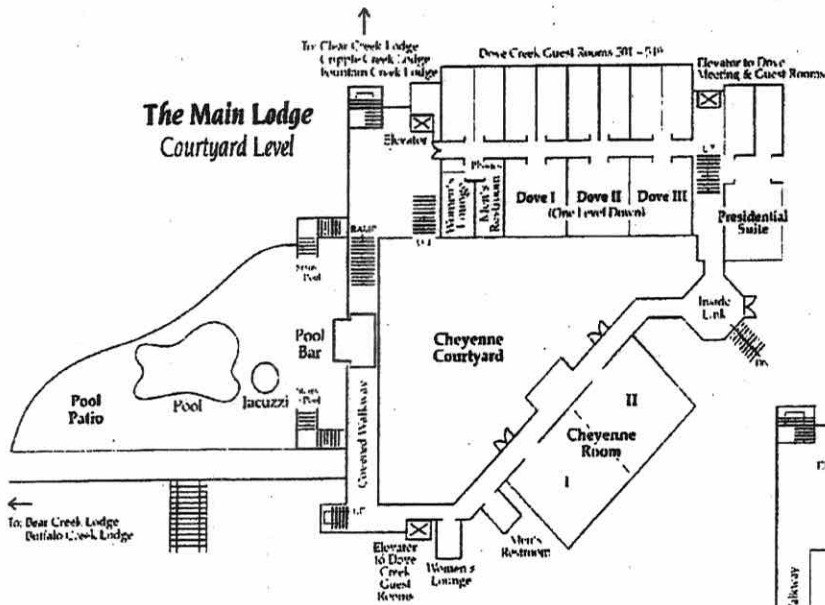
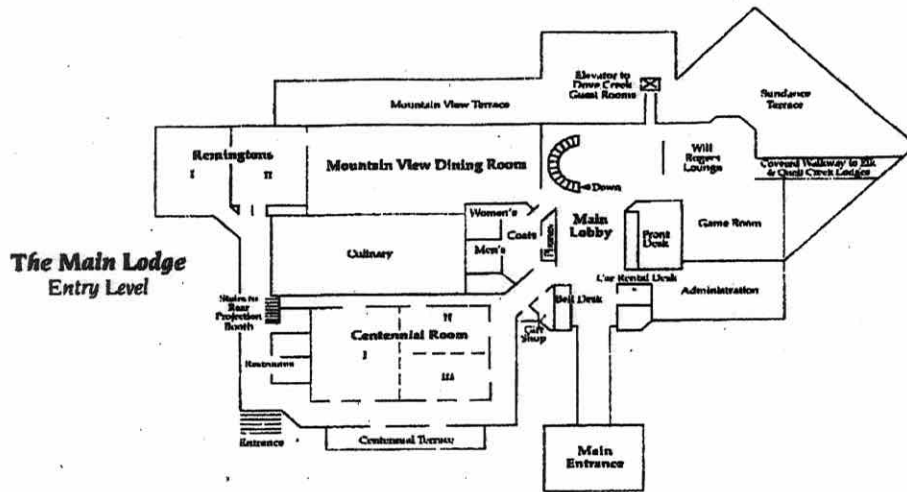
### The Watson

- Juliet Blackwell, *In a Witch's Wardrobe* (Obsidian)
- Robert Crais, *Taken* (Putnam)
- Chris Grabenstein, *Fun House* (Pegasus)
- L.C. Hayden, *When the Past Haunts You* (CreateSpace)
- Rochelle Staab, *Bruja Brouhaha* (Berkley Prime Crime)

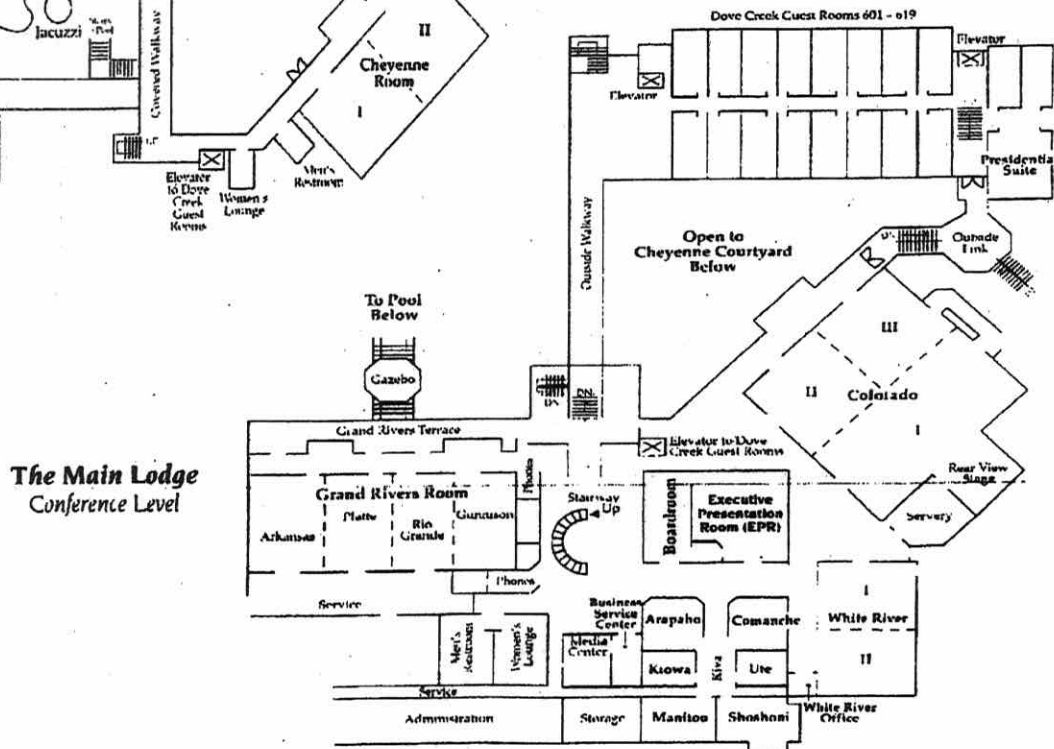
Dilys nominees (to be awarded Thursday night)

Colin Cotterill, *Granddad, There's a Head on the Beach* (Minotaur)  
Tana French, *Broken Harbor* (Viking)  
Susan Elia MacNeal, *Mr. Churchill's Secretary* (Bantam)  
Chris Pavone, *The Expats* (Crown)  
Peter Robinson, *Before the Poison* (William Morrow)

# Cheyenne Mountain Resort Map



Auction—Gunnison  
 Signings—Rio Grande  
 Book Room—Platte & Arkansas



# Schedule

(Subject to change)



## Thursday, March 21

Registration: 12 Noon – 5:30 p.m.

Bookstore open: 1 p.m.–5 p.m.

	Colorado 1	Colorado 2	White River	Executive Presentation
9 a.m.–noon				<b>The Art of Character: Creating Memorable Characters</b> David Corbett
LUNCH				
1:30–2:15 pm	<b>Make your E-book Sales Soar or Eek! It's an E Book - Part 1</b>  a workshop by: <b>LC Hayden</b>	<b>Going it Alone - Self-Publishing</b> J.L. Austgen Steve Brewer Del Jack Larry Mild Sue Star <b>(M) Rosemary Mild</b>	<b>A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Left Coast Crime:</b>  <b>Lefty Nominees</b> Mike Befeler Laura DiSilverio Jess Loury Brad Parks Nancy West <b>(M) Suzanne Proulx</b>	<b>They Never Saw Her Coming: Undercover Work as a Last Resort Part 1</b>  a workshop by: <b>Lucinda Schroeder</b>
2:15–2:30 pm	(workshop continues)	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room		(workshop continues)
2:30–3:30 pm	<b>Make your E-book Sales Soar or Eek! It's an E Book - Part 2</b>  a workshop by: <b>LC Hayden</b>	<b>Ask the Editors</b> Terry Bischoff Diane O'Connell Jodie Renner <b>(M) Deni Dietz</b>	<b>Romance and Mystery—Finding the Right Mix</b> Maggie Toussaint Tina Whittle Mara Purl <b>(M) Donnell Ann Bell</b>	<b>They Never Saw Her Coming: Undercover Work as a Last Resort Part 2</b>  a workshop by: <b>Lucinda Schroeder</b>
3:30–3:45 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room			
3:45–4:30 pm	<b>Websites &amp; Social Media: The Dos, the Don'ts, the Dangers</b> Hilary Davidson Maddee James Janet Rudolph Patricia Stoltey <b>(M) Jen Forbus</b>	<b>Using 3-Act, 8-Sequence Film Structure in Novels</b> Presented by <b>Alexandra Sokoloff</b>	<b>Deadly Collaborations: Writing Teams</b> Sparkle Abbey A.K. Alexander Meredith Anthony Andrew E. Kaufman Bette Golden Lamb J.J. Lamb <b>(M) Larry Light</b>	<b>Murder 1977: Working the Cold Case (Can You Solve It?)</b>  Presented by <b>Trey R. Barker</b>
4:30–4:45 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room			
5:15–????	<b>Left Coast Crime Welcome</b> Conference opening/Award nominees announced/Dilys award presented			
7:30–	<b>Movie Night</b> Join us to watch movies or shows written by Ghost of Honor Steven Cannell			



# Friday, March 22

Registration: 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Bookstore open: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

	Colorado 1	Colorado 2	White River	Executive Presentation
7:30–9 a.m.	<b>New Authors Breakfast—Centennial Ballroom, Main Floor</b>			
9:00–9:45 am	<b>Chills on the mean streets...Thrillers</b>  A.K. Alexander Manual Ramos John Rector Alan Russell (M) Michael Sherer	<b>Literary Inspirations for Traditional Mysteries</b>  Sara J. Henry Charlotte Hinger Christopher Lord Gigi Pandian (M) Susan Shea	<b>Let's Get Cozy</b>  Barbara Graham Camille Minichino Nancy Parra Margaret Tessler (M) Judy Dailey	<b>It's a Noir Cozy Steampunk Police Procedural!</b> <b>(Where did all the subgenres come from?)</b> j.a. kazimer Bette Golden Lamb Chantelle Aimee Osman Mara Purl (M) Mysti Berry
9:45–10:00 am	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
10:00–10:45 am	<b>You Got A Bone To Pick? Make It A Point To Entertain</b>  John Billheimer Bill Fitzhugh Lawrence Light Clark Lohr (M) Tina Whittle	<b>Mayhem &amp; Merriment</b>  Barbra Annino Steve Brewer David Freed Kathleen McIntosh Larry Mild (M) Meredith Anthony	<b>Truth Is More Violent Than Fiction--Or Is It?</b> <b>(Crime Fiction Collective)</b> Peg Brantley Gayle Carline Andrew E. Kaufman Jodie Renner L.J. Sellers (M) Marlyn Beebel	<b>Star Crossed Genres</b>  Rebecca Bates Donnell Ann Bell Katriena Knights Charlene Nusser (M) Becky Martinez
10:45–11:00 am	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
11:00–11:45 am	<b>Fan Extraordinaire: An Interview with Fan Guest of Honor Tom Schantz</b> Interviewer: Margaret Coel			
11:45–noon	<b>Lunch (on your own)</b>			
1:00–1:45 pm	<b>If There's a Bad Pun in the Title, It Must Be a Funny Cozy</b>  Donna Andrews Bonnie Biafore Jess Lourey Kris Neri (M) Linda Joffe Hull	<b>The Anti-hero, good guys in black hats</b>  John Gilstrap Manual Ramos Mark Sullivan Reavis Wortham (M) Simon Wood	<b>The Character, the 'Why' in Mystery</b>  Shannon Baker Jeanne Mathews Terry Shames (M) Robert Kresge	<b>Murder in the Past Tense</b>  Aileen Baron Patricia Coleman Denise Dietz Susan Tornga (M) Michelle Black
1:45–2:00 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
2:00–2:45 p.m.	<b>The Nuts and Bolts of Traditional Mysteries</b>  Janet Dawson Ragnar Jonasson Christopher Lord Lise McClendon (M) Cricket McRae	<b>The Lighter Side of Death &amp; Dismemberment</b>  Chuck Greaves Harley Jane Kozak Brad Parks Rochelle Staab (M) Deb Coonts	<b>Read My Shorts</b>  Rex Burns Charlene Dietz Catherine Dilts R.T. Lawton (M) Brian Thornton	<b>This Can't Be Normal, Can It?</b>  Ann Charles Theresa Crater Linda Hilburn Alexandra Sokoloff (M) Kris Neri
2:45–3:00 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			

## Friday, March 22

Registration: 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Bookstore open: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

	Colorado 1	Colorado 2	White River	Executive Presentation
3:00– 3:45 pm	<b>You Don't Have To Be A Lawyer To Kill Like One!</b> Deb Coonts Chuck Greaves Parnell Hall Paul Levine (M) Charles Rosenberg	<b>International Intrigue</b> David Freed Lisa Brackmann Leo J. Maloney Thomas Perry (M) Robin Burcell	<b>Authors With Altitude</b> Laura DiSilverio Beth Groundwater Robert Spiller Mark Stevens (M) Denise Dietz	<b>Bruce Alexander &amp; Watson Nominees Panel</b> <i>Bruce:</i> Rhys Bowen & Catriona McPherson <i>Watson:</i> L.C. Hayden & Rochelle Staab (M) Stina Branson
4:00– 4:45 pm	<b>Truth or Dare:</b> David Corbett, Parnell Hall, Laura Lippman, Brad Parks (M) Rhys Bowen			
4:45– 5:00 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
5:15– 6:45 pm	<b>RMMWA Reception</b> "Does This Shoulder Holster Make Me Look Fat?"—It's the Concealed Weapons Fashion Show!			
7 and onward	<b>Dinner on your own</b>			

## Saturday, March 23

Registration: 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Bookstore open: 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

	Colorado 1	Colorado 2	White River	Executive Presentation
7:30–9 a.m.	<b>Established Authors Breakfast —Centennial Ballroom, Main Floor</b>			
9:00– 9:45 am	<b>You say Teepee, I say Hogan. Writing Other Cultures</b> Shannon Baker Margaret Coel Craig Johnson Curt Wendelboe (M) R.J. Harlick	<b>Do It The Right Way...A Police Procedure Panel</b> Kathy Bennett Rex Burns Rob Kresge Alan Russell (M) Terry Odell	<b>Traditional Mysteries: Murder by the Book</b> G.M. Malliet Sheila Simonson Maggie Toussaint Nancy G. West (M) Patricia Stoltey	<b>2020 Foresight: The Future of Publishing</b> Terri Bischoff Stacey Cochran David Hansard John Rector (M) Donus Roberts
9:45– 10:00 am	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
10:00– 10:45 am	<b>Thoroughly Modern Molly And Inez And Decius... Engaging The Contemporary Reader</b> Rhys Bowen John Maddox Roberts Ann Parker (M) Ken Kuhlken	<b>Real Life Lawmen (and women) Turn to Fiction</b> Trey R. Barker Kathy Bennett R.T. Lawton Carolyn Stell (M) C.M. Wendelboe	<b>Niche Mysteries</b> Sparkle Abbey Mike Befeler Ellen Byerrum Naomia Hirahara (M) L.C. Hayden	<b>Gritty Details: The Forensics of Crime Writing</b> Robin Burcell J.T. Ellison L.J. Sellers (M) Jan Burke

# Saturday, March 23

Registration: 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Bookstore open: 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

	Colorado 1	Colorado 2	White River	Executive Presentation
10:45–11:00 am	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
11:00–11:45 am	<b>Hollywood! Murder in the Movies (or in the City)</b> Diana Gould Harley Janae Kozak Paul Levine Leo J. Maloney Clive Rosengren (M) David Freed	<b>Sex! Now That We Have Your Attention: Do You Write for Everyone, or Gender Specific?</b> Donna Andrews Robert Downs Darrell James J.J. Lamb Rochelle Staab (M) Bonnie Ramthun	<b>Settings, as a Character or as a...Setting</b> Sandra Brannan Deborah J. Ledford Ann Parker Travis Richardson (M) Terry Shames	<b>Occupations to Die For</b> Ellen Byerrum Naomi Hirahara Tammy Kaehler Gigi Pandian Patricia Wood (M) Camille Minichino
11:45–noon	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
12:15–1:00 pm	<b>The Woman With a Gun: An Interview with Laura Lippman</b> Interviewed by Twist Phelan			
1:00–1:15 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
1:15–2:00 p.m.	<b>Dangerous Methods, Settings, and Assignments That Lead to Jeopardy</b> Bill Fitzhugh John Gilstrap David Hansard Julia Pomeroy Reavis Wortham (M) Sandra Brannan	<b>Lawyers, Guns &amp; Money: Thrillers in Mysteries</b> Robert Greer Teresa Burrell Charles Rosenberg Clive Rosengren (M) J.L. Austgen		<b>Murderous Nature: Natural Settings in Mysteries</b> Pamela Beason R.J. Harlick Mark Stevens (M) Kathy Brandt
2:00–2:15 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
2:15–3:00 pm	<b>The Sporting Side of Murder</b> John Billheimer Beth Groundwater Tammy Kaehler (M) Christine Goff	<b>Foreign Affairs: Thrills from Other Countries</b> Hilary Davidson Ragnar Jonasson G.M. Malliet Edith McClintock Catriona McPherson (M) Lourdes Venard	<b>Collaboration II: Working with Big Name Authors</b> Thomas Perry Mark Sullivan (M) David Edgerley Gates	<b>YA: Not for Adults—Or Are They?</b> Del Jack Travis Richardson Michael Sherer Robert Spiller (M) Bonnie Ramthun
3:00–3:15 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			

# Schedule

(Continued)

## Saturday, March 23

Registration: 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Bookstore open: 1 p.m.–4 p.m.

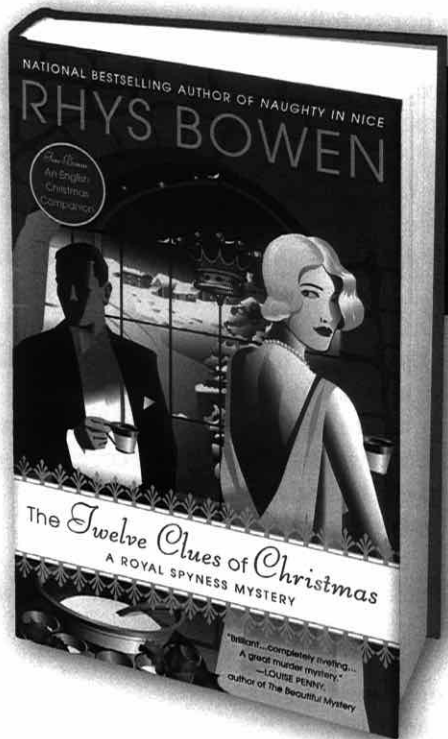
	Colorado 1	Colorado 2	White River	Executive Presentation
3:15– 4:00 pm	<b>What You Don't Know About Thriller Writers</b> Lisa Brackmann Jan Burke David Corbett Mark Sullivan (M) J.T. Ellison	<b>Ask the Sweethearts: Secrets of Living With a Writer</b> Tim Burke Jack Chapple Judy Johnson Bill Ramthun Marcia Silvers (M) Twist Phelan	<b>Gumshoe, Flatfoot, Peeper, Snoop: The PI Is Still Kicking</b> Pamela Beason Janet Dawson Ken Kuhlken Clark Lohr (M) j.a. kazimer	<b>Writing the West: The Rocky Nominees</b> Margaret Coel Chuck Greaves Beth Groundwater Darrell James Craig Johnson (M) Christine Goff
4:00– 4:15 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
4:15– 5:00 pm	<b>Lawmen &amp; Sidekicks: Craig Johnson Interview</b> Interviewed by Lou Diamond Phillips			
5:00– 5:15 pm	<b>Author Signings</b> Book Room: Rio Grande Room			
6:00– 7:00 pm	<b>Sisters In Crime Reception</b>			
7:00– 9:00 pm	<b>Banquet and Awards</b> Toastmaster David Corbett, serenaded by Last Resort Troubador Parnell Hall (Banquet, quilt raffle, live auction, awards)			

## Sunday, March 24

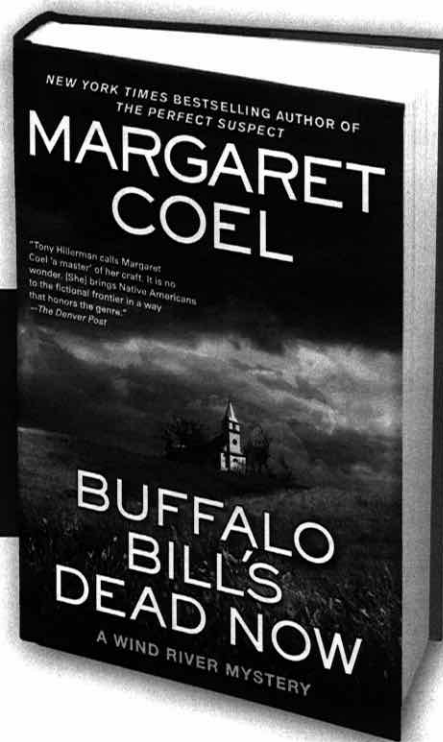
Bookstore open: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

	Colorado 1	Colorado 2	White River
7:30–9 a.m.	<b>Continental Breakfast</b>		
9:00– 9:45 am	<b>Breaking &amp; Entering: Tales of the First Sale</b> Judith Dailey Linda Joffe Hull Patricia Wood Liesa Malik Terry Shames (M) Catriona McPherson	<b>Out of the Ordinary Mysteries</b> Michelle Black Theresa Crater Diana Gould Terry Odell (M) Deni Dietz	<b>Traditional, With a Twist</b> Aileen Baron Patricia Coleman Susan C. Shea Sheila Simonson Susan Tornga (M) Deborah J. Ledford
9:45– 10:00 am	<b>Author Signings</b> <b>Book Room</b>		
10:00– 10:45 am	<b>Thrills &amp; Laughs: A Conflict of Interest?</b> Bonnie Biafore Robert Downs Kathy McIntosh	<b>Where Do We Come Down on Genre?</b> Sara J. Henry Charlotte Hinger Mary Vensel White (M) Lynda Hilburn	
10:45– 11:00 am	<b>Author Signings</b> <b>Book Room</b>		
11:00– 11:45 am	<b>Farewell Wrap-Up</b>		

# Penguin Group (USA) and Berkley Prime Crime congratulate our talented Left Coast Crime Award finalists



Bruce Alexander  
Memorial Historical  
Mystery Award  
finalist



The Rocky  
Award finalist



The Watson  
Award finalist

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# *Ghost of Honor: Stephen J. Cannell*

ANYONE WHO GREW UP WATCHING TV in the 1970s, 80s or 90s and loved detective series and action shows, no doubt watched something scripted by Stephen J. Cannell. Throughout his TV career, Cannell scripted more than 450 episodes and produced more than 1,500 episodes.

A staggering number, this takes on even more significance because Stephen was born with dyslexia. It's something he shared in common with several of my children. Knowing he was an avid spokesperson and advocate for children and adults with learning disabilities, I took my daughter Mardee to meet him in 1997. Stephen was scheduled to speak at the Tattered Cover. Mardee was twelve and had been struggling in school. That night, Stephen gave us a magical gift. He gave us his undivided attention for forty-five minutes, minutes that changed my daughter's outlook on life. He told her to follow her dreams, and he backed it up with his own story.

Stephen J. Cannell was born in 1941. He struggled with dyslexia throughout his schooling. He was held back several grades. Yet, he listed "author" as his future career in his high school yearbook and his favorite subject was English. Also told his was an impossible dream, he eventually graduated from the University of Oregon with a degree in journalism.

After college, he worked for his father's business during the day and wrote every night, churning out television spec scripts. It took five years, but his persistence paid off. In an ironic twist, I learned it was my uncle Stanley Kallis, executive producer of *Mission Impossible*, who bought Stephen's first script giving him his first big break. He then sold another script to *It Takes a Thief* and landed his first staff job as the story editor of *Adam-12*. By age 29, he had become one of the youngest executive producers at Universal Studios.

It was there that Stephen wrote a pilot called *The Rockford Files*. He claimed that the networks "hated" the concept because it broke the mold of the tough-as-nails private detective stereotype by featuring a cantankerous PI who would drop a case if it got too rough. After James Garner committed to playing Rockford, NBC picked up the series and the pilot tested with the highest score in NBC history.

Fueled by this success, Cannell went on to create more hit series such as *Baretta* and *Baa Baa Black Sheep*, connecting with TV audiences by creating flawed heroes who were quirky

and street smart. He left Universal in 1979 to form Stephen J. Cannell Productions. A gutsy move, but with faith in his own talent the list of hits he wrote include: *Tenspeed and Brown Shoe*, *The Greatest American Hero*, *The A-Team*, *Hunter*, *Riptide*, *Hardcastle and McCormick*, *The Commish*, *Silk Stalkings* and *21 Jumpstreet*.

Seven years later, Stephen formed The Cannell Studios. Having surpassed the \$1 billion mark in production outlays, the studio experienced remarkable growth and diversification. In 1989, Cannell developed the North Shore Studios, at the time, the largest feature film and television studio in Canada. Stephen had redefined the definition of the television writer by becoming the third biggest television producer, with multiple shows on several networks. Cannell Studios still owns the worldwide distribution rights to more than 1,000 hours of Cannell-produced series and TV movies.

By the mid-1990s, broadcasting had changed. Stephen decided it was time to follow his dream of becoming a novelist. Segueing into the world of print, he wrote sixteen bestselling mystery novels, including a number of standalones and the critically acclaimed *Shane Scully* series. The winner of numerous awards for his television career, in 2005 Stephen received The Marlow Lifetime Achievement Award for his body of work from Mystery Writers of America. Stephen died from melanoma in 2010. He was 69.

My mother told me that when someone passes, that person lives on in the hearts of those who remember them. I remember Stephen with a special fondness. That evening at the Tattered Cover in Cherry Creek was a turning point for Mardee. By the time we drove away, Mardee viewed herself differently. She no longer saw a person with a disability, but rather a person who learns differently. Someone who approaches the world in a different way. She no longer saw her limitations, but rather saw her potential and value. Like Stephen, my daughter has gone on to achieve great things, including earning a master's degree.

The legacy of Stephen J. Cannell is his collection of work. It's a testament to his creative ability. But it is through children like Mardee, whose lives he touched, that Stephen lives on. It is in the hearts of parents, like me.

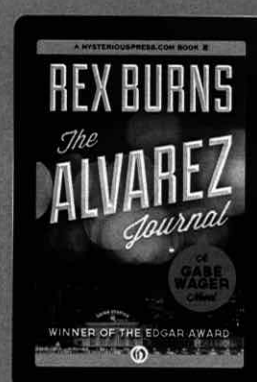
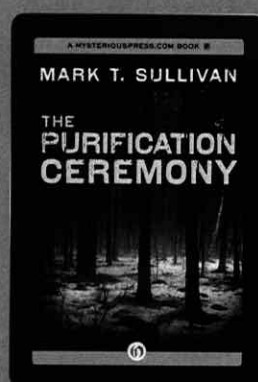
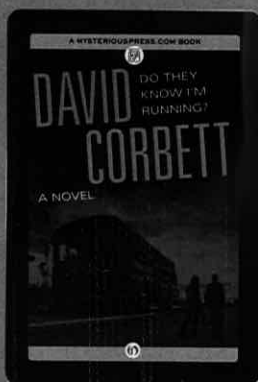
—Christine Goff



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Where Murder Is the Last Resort

## LCC Auction

### ***Literacy Changes Lives—Motherhead Changes Literacy***

Motherhead/Fatheread Colorado is this year's auction recipient. It is a program where Parents/adult caregivers and children read books together and talk about the issues in the stories and in their lives. The program pays for training adult literacy educators to deliver the program to parents or children at their local libraries, family resource centers, childcare centers and public schools. They're growing readers!

Motherhead, Inc. is a nationally acclaimed private, non-profit organization that helps adults and children learn to use the power of language to discover more about themselves, their families, and their communities.

Since 1987, Motherhead has connected the teaching of literacy skills with a variety of content. Using original curricula, we build connections on the local, state, and national levels with thousands of instructors and students each year by teaching, or training others to teach, literacy development classes.

Motherhead offers classes for both adults and children. In adult classes, participants learn critical literacy skills in a group structure that supports their own sense of worth and ability. These classes are appropriate for all adults, regardless of reading ability or prior educational experience. By teaching the "why" of reading rather than just emphasizing the "how," classes also encourage parents to be reading role models for their children. For children, Story Exploring provides a structured environment for learning reading, critical-thinking, and problem solving skills.

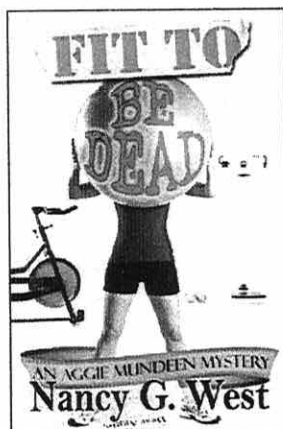
In addition to an original typescript by Ghost of Honor Stephen J. Cannell, auction items include:

- Hank Phillippi Ryan is donating a Book-A-Month—signed hard copy editions of bestselling authors, one per month for a full year. This is in addition to copies of her current bestseller, *The Other Woman* and her new book due out this year.
- C.J. Box is donating a character in his upcoming book.
- Camille Minichino is donating a log cabin doll house where several current novels of LCC attendees (in miniature version) are on display. I do believe a murder will happen in one of the rooms.
- A Colorado chef is donating 4 cooking lessons. The chef will come to your house and not only feed

you and your guests but also teach you how to prepare that particular meal.

- R.T. Lawton (Former DEA agent) is donating a few DEA hats and mugs but will also spend time in a Fireside Chat Sunday morning with folks interested in an intimate conversation with someone who spent years on the front lines of America's war on drugs. We will have also Fireside Chats with a small publisher, a networking guru, and a famous author.
- Laura DeSilverio had donated what she is calling a Book-Club Meeting in a Box. Ten copies of one of her books together with a promise to come and speak at a book club.

### **Aggie Mundeen Mysteries by Nancy G. West**



**Lefty Finalist**

**If you've tried to start over, get in shape or loved the wrong man, you'll appreciate Aggie Mundeen.**

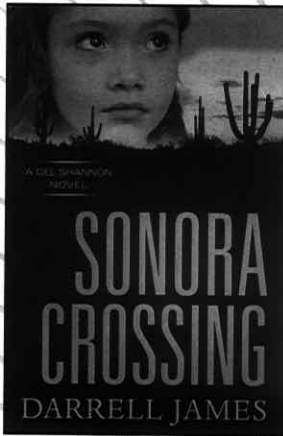
**"I love this book!"  
—Dr. Rollo Newsom, an editor of  
*Lone Star Sleuths*.**



## MIDNIGHT INK

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### Wicked Eddies

Beth Groundwater

*An RM Outdoor Adventures Mystery*

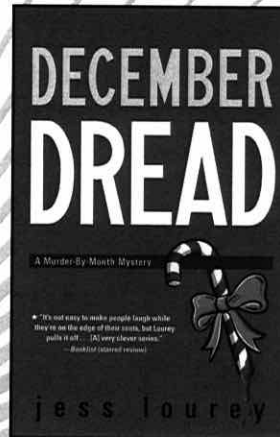
Finalist for The Rocky Award for best mystery novel set in the Left Coast Crime Geographical Region

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Fatal Descent (Book 3) releases June 2013



### December Dread

Jess Lourey

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as she left it

### As She Left It

Catriona McPherson

We'd also like to congratulate Catriona McPherson on being a finalist for The Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Mystery Award for *Dandy Gilver and an Unsuitable Day for a Murder* (Minotaur). Pick up her Midnight Ink debut, *As She Left It*, in June.

June 2013 • 978-0-7387-3677-8 • \$14.99

AUTHOR OF THE DANDY GILVER MYSTERY SERIES  
CATRIONA McPHERSON

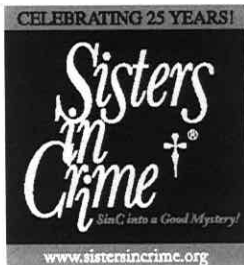
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# Sponsors



**Sisters in Crime, Inc.** supported Left Coast Crime in 2008 and now in 2013. In 2008, the local chapter (previously-based in Colorado Springs) shouldered the hospitality duties in the hospitality/auction room. They provided snacks, beverages and hosts with knowlege throughout the entire convention. This year the national organization has earmarked a substantial sum to host the Saturday Night Reception at Left Coast Crime 2013. Everyone is invited to attend!

**Mystery Writers of America-Rocky Mountain Chapter (RMMWA)** has always been a BIG supporter of Colorado-based Left Coast Crimes. In 2008 it sponsored the Friday evening welcome event, the culmination of an hour-long workshop on Tailing a Suspect, taught by retired DEA agent R.T. Lawton, a hilarious cat-and-mouse game played out on the 16th St. Mall in Denver. This year it is hosting another event to remember: an hors d'oeuvres reception, cash bar and Concealed Weapons Fashion Show! Not to be missed.



## and Contributors

Our thanks to **Whistling Pines Gun Club** and Patty Fowler, their Whistling Pines training events coordinator, for provided expertise and props for the Concealed Weapons Fashion Show.

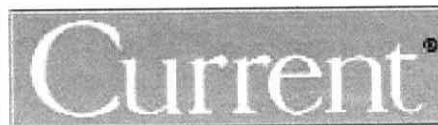
*Gun Club*  
1412 Woolsey Heights,  
Colorado Springs, CO 80915  
719-597-3456

*And to the following for their contributions to the Guest of Honor Gift Bags:*



Donna Brock from **Donna's Brok'n Spoke Western Shop**,  
2345 E Boulder St., Colorado Springs, CO 80909-6024  
(719) 632-3131

Roxanne at **Current**, Colorado Springs Factory Outlet, 1025 E. Woodmen Road, Colorado Springs, CO, (719) 630-7446



**Mountain Man Nut & Fruit Co.**

Theresa Barbera from **Mountain Man Nut & Fruit Co.**,  
In the Heart of Old Colorado City, West Colorado Avenue & 25th Street in the Plaza, Colorado Springs, CO 80904  
(719) 635-9880, (888) 465-9880 toll free

**Breckenridge Resort Chamber**, <http://www.gobreck.com>, gave reuseable shopping bags, thumb drives, yo-yos, and granola bars.

**GO**

**BRECK**

.com



**Breckenridge Distillery**, <http://www.breckenridgedistillery.com/home/>, gave shot glasses, bottles of vodka chocolate sauce and bourbon chocolate sauce (yum!), souvenir stickers.

continued from page 11

My first book came out in 1973 and I thought I was hot stuff, until their review brought me down to earth. It was honest, as they were, and encouraging. There was no character arc in their lives. They stayed the same: honest, and encouraging to writers of mystery: always open and easy to talk to, never really influenced by "hot stuff." *Wick Downing*

Without the education and advice I received from Tom and Enid Schantz, the RM Outdoor Adventures series, and

## Who's Who in the Book Room

### Booksellers

BUNGALOW BOOKS, ABAA

Mike Tuck

P.O. Box 369

Pueblo, CO 81002

719.251.2661

email: mail@bungalowbooks.com

Antiquarian bookseller specializing in Crime Fiction, Modern First Editions and Signed Books. It carries some hard-to-find books by some of our favorite authors.

RUE MORGUE

Tom Schantz

87 Lone Tree Lane

Lyons CO 80540

800.699.6214

Fax: 303.823.9799

As a publisher, Rue Morgue reprints vintage mysteries from the Golden Age of detective fiction as well as selected titles from the 1950s through 1970s. As a bookseller, it issues Murders from the Rue Morgue, regular catalogs of hand-picked new mysteries with an emphasis on traditional, vintage, historical, British and international crime novels. It also issues irregular catalogs of out-of-print and collectible used mysteries.

SCENE OF THE CRIME BOOKS

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### Other

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Listen to the panels you missed! Keep a permanent record of the panels you loved! Most will be available shortly after the panel ends. Also, order from the website vwtapes.com (LCC 2012 is still available, too).

Pikes Peak Writers

Rocky Mountain Chapter-Mystery Writers of America

Sisters in Crime

Western State University MFA Program (Genre Fiction)

Left Coast Crime 2014

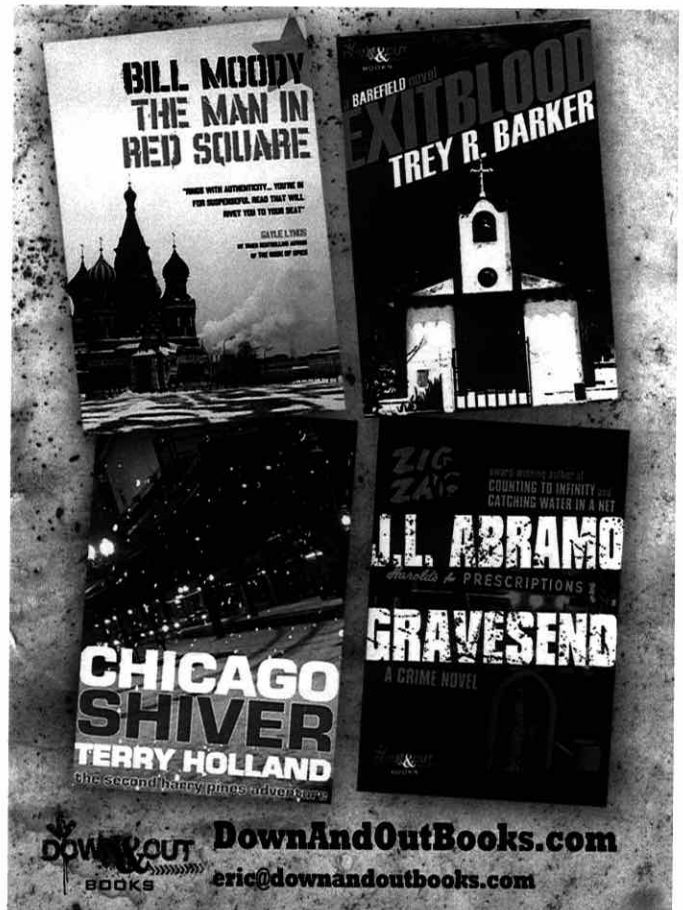
ROCKY-nominated book WICKED EDDIES, might not have come into existence. It was from discussions with them about the back-end business of distribution to bookstores that I realized I needed to make the move from a library publisher to a trade publisher. To do that, I had to develop a new series, which became the RM Outdoor Adventures series and was sold by my agent to Midnight Ink. I will be forever grateful to Tom and Enid for their support, and I will sorely miss Enid's presence at Left Coast Crime. *Beth Groundwater*

Alan Russell had just finished a booksigning at the Rue Morgue. Tom took us aside and said, "Would you like to make a lot of money?" We, of course said we had no objection to that. Tom said, "Write a book called *The Cat Who Would Die for Chocolate*." Well, Alan and I, being ornery sorts, instead of taking that wise advice, wrote a wild tale of our misadventures on the road and called it, *No Cats, No Chocolate*, some copies of which should be available at LCC. *Ken Kuhlken*

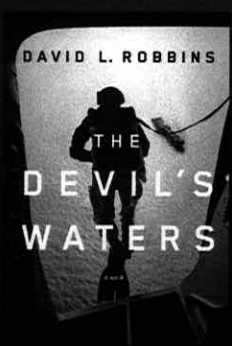
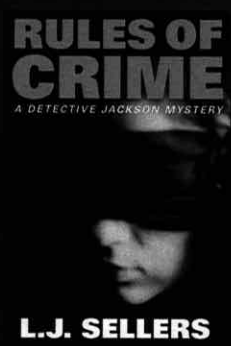
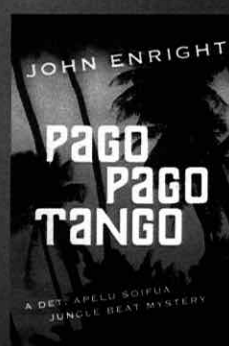
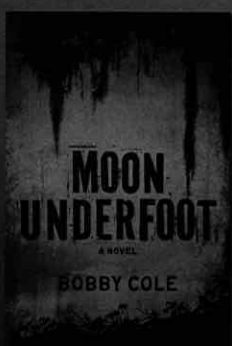
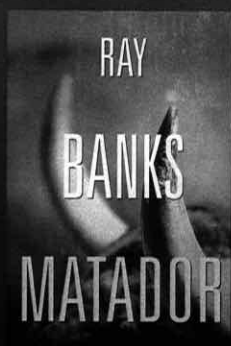
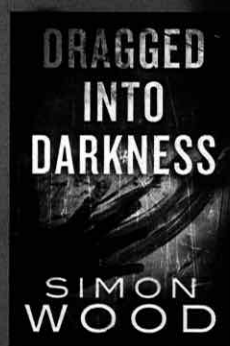
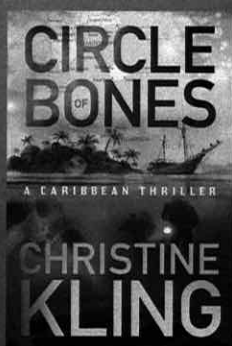
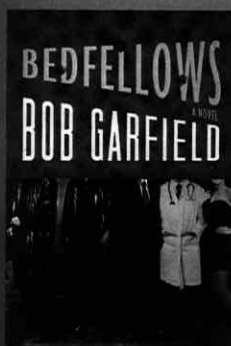
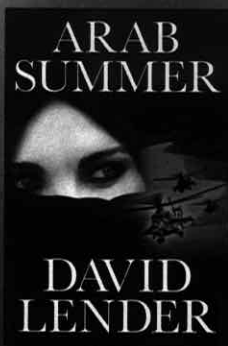
Enid was always such a pleasure to deal with and her knowledge of authors and their books was extensive. I have been coming to Left Coast Crime for over 15 years and my first visit to the Book Seller's room was to look for Enid. It was so sad to hear of her passing. She will be greatly missed.

*Jacque Bates*

She has left a huge gap there that I still haven't figured out how to bridge *Noemi Levine*



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Where Murder Is the Last Resort

# Past Winners

The LEFTY is Left Coast Crime's signature award, for the best humorous mystery, and competition is intense. It's almost always given. Occasionally, there is a tie. Past winners are:

2012 *The Real Macaw* by Donna Andrews  
2011 *The Pot Thief Who Studied Einstein* by J. Michael Orenduff  
2010 *Getting Old Is a Disaster* by Rita Lakin  
2009 *Greasing the Pinata* by Tim Maleeny  
2008 *Murder with Reservations* by Elaine Viets  
2007 *Go to Helena Handbasket* by Donna Moore  
2006 *Cast Adrift* by Peter Guttridge  
2005 Tie: *We'll Always Have Parrots* by Donna Andrews

*Blue Blood* by Susan McBride

2004 *Mumbo Jumbo* by Jerrilyn Farmer  
2003 Tie: *The Hearse Case Scenario* by Tom Cockey

*Pipsqueak* by Brian M. Wiprud

2002 Tie: *Dim Sum Dead* by Jerrilyn Farmer  
*Fender Benders* by Bill Fitzhugh

2001 No Award(s) Given  
2000 *Murder with Peacocks* by Donna Andrews  
1999 *Four to Score* by Janet Evanovich  
1998 *Three To Get Deadly* by Janet Evanovich  
1997 No Award(s) Given  
1996 *The Fat Innkeeper* by Alan Russell

Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Mystery Award

This award, for the best historical mystery (defined for now as events prior to 1960, but that's a moving target) published the previous year, is voted on by the membership of and given out at Left Coast Crime. Previous winners are:

2012—Ann Parker, *Mercury's Rise* (Poisoned Pen)  
2011—Jacqueline Winspear, *The Mapping of Love and Death* (HarperCollins)  
2010—Rebecca Cantrell, *A Trace of Smoke*  
2009—Kelli Stanley, *Nox Dormienda, A Long Night for Sleeping*  
2008—no award given  
2007—no award given

2006—Tony Broadbent, *Spectres in the Snow*  
2005—Sharan Newman, *The Witch in the Well*  
2004—Rhys Bowen, *For the Love of Mike*

## The Dilys Award

The Dilys Award has been given annually since 1992 by the Independent Mystery Booksellers Association (IMBA) to the mystery titles of the year which the member booksellers have most enjoyed selling. The award is named in honor of Dilys Winn, the founder of Murder Ink (now sadly closed), the first specialty bookseller of mystery books in the United States. Past winners:

2012—S. J. Rozan, *Ghost Hero*  
2011—Louise Penny, *Bury Your Dead*  
2010—Alan Bradley, *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*  
2009—Sean Chercover, *Trigger City*  
2008—William Kent Krueger, *Thunder Bay*  
2007—Louise Penny, *Still Life*  
2006—Colin Cotterill, *Thirty-Three Teeth*  
2005—Jeffrey Lindsay, *Darkly Dreaming Dexter*  
2004—Jasper Fforde, *Lost in a Good Book*  
2003—Julia Spencer-Fleming, *In the Bleak Midwinter*  
2002—Lehane, *Mystic River*  
2001—Val McDermid, *A Place of Execution*  
2000—Robert Crais, *L. A. Requiem*  
1999—Dennis Lehane, *Gone, Baby, Gone*  
1998—Janet Evanovich, *Three to Get Deadly*  
1997—Michael Connelly, *The Poet*  
1996—Michael Connelly, *The Last Coyote*  
1995—Janet Evanovich, *One for the Money*  
1994—Peter Hoeg, *Smilla's Sense of Snow*  
1993—John Dunning, *Booked to Die*  
1992—Carl Hiaasen, *Native Tongue*

# Left Coast Crime at a Glance

Year	Place	Guest(s) of Honor	Fan Guests of Honor	Toastmaster
1991	San Francisco	Marcial Muller Bill Pronzini		
1992	San Francisco	J.A. James Earl Emerson Burke		James Lee Burke
1993	Anaheim	Susan Dunlap		Ann & Evan Maxwell
1994	Anaheim	Aaron Elkins		Carolyn Hart
1995	Scottsdale	Tony Hillerman		Judith van Gieson
1996	Boulder	Kinky Friedman	Maggie Mason	Nevada Barr
1997	Seattle	Faye Kellerman Jonathan Kellerman		Lia Matera
1998	San Diego	Elizabeth George	Willis Herr	Alan Russell
1999	Albuquerque	John Dunning	Tasha Mackler	Deborah Crombie
2000	Tucson	Sue Grafton	George Easter	Harlan Coben
2001	Anchorage	Michael Connelly Lindsay Davis	Andi Schecter	
2002	Portland	Steven Saylor Laurie King	Don Herron	G.M. Ford
2003	Pasadena	Robert Crais	Sue Feder	Jerrilyn Farmer
2004	Monterey	Sharan Newman Walter Mosley	Bryan Barrett Tom Walls	Gillian Roberts
2005	El Paso	Paco Ignacio Taibo S.J. Rozan	Ernie Bulow	Rick Riordan
2006	Bristol, UK	Boris Akunin Jeffrey Deaver Anne Perry	Bill & Toby Gottfried Donna Moore	Lee Child
2007	Seattle	Dennis & Gayle Lynds	Kara Robinson Diane Kovacs	Gary Phillips
2008	Denver	Stephen White	Michael Masliah	Elaine Viets Joanne Pence
2009	Kona	Rhys Bowen Barry Eisler	Pam Dehnke Vallery Feldman	Lee Goldberg
2010	Los Angeles	Jan Burke Lee Child	Janet Rudolph	Bill Fitzhugh
2011	Santa Fe	Margaret Coel Steve Havill	Marvin Lachman	Steve Brewer
2012	Sacramento	Jacqueline Winspear John Lescroart	Noemi Levine	Harley Jane Kozak
2013	Colorado Springs	Laura Lippman Craig Johnson	Tom & Enid Schanz	David Corbett



This is the first clue. The next clue will appear on the last page of the program book.

## Left Coast Crime Program Participants



**Sparkle Abbey** writes the popular pet mystery series featuring former Texas beauty queens who've ditched their hairspray and tiaras for botanical flea dip, doggie couture, and over-the-top pet lovers.

The cousins, Caro and Mel, solve whodunits in the wacky world of precious pedigrees, pampered pets, and secrets. The first book in the series was *Desperate Housedogs*, an Amazon best-seller, followed by *Get Fluffy* and *Kitty, Kitty, Bang, Bang. Yip/Tuck* will be out this summer. [www.SparkleAbbey.com](http://www.SparkleAbbey.com)



**A.K. Alexander** writes gritty thrillers that will have you looking over your shoulder. Alexander's thrillers have appeared on *The Wall Street Journal's* best-seller list and Amazon's Kindle Bestseller list. When not writing thrillers as **A.K. Alexander**, the author also writes lighter mysteries and contemporary fiction as **Michele Scott**. If not writing, she is busy with her family and their many animals.



**Donna Andrews** was born in Yorktown, Virginia and now lives in Reston, Virginia. *Some Like It Hawk* (July 2012) is the latest book in her Agatha- and Anthony-winning Meg Langslow series.

*The Hen of the Baskervilles* is coming in July 2013 and *Duck the Halls* in fall 2013. She has also written four books in the Turing Hopper series from Berkley Prime Crime. A member of MWA, Sisters in Crime, and the Private Investigators and Security Association, Andrews spends her free time gardening and conquering the world (but only in Civilization IV).

For more information: <http://donnaandrews.com>. Photo credit: Joe Henson Photography



**Barbra Annino** is a native of Chicago. She is the author of the best-selling Stacy Justice mystery series. She's worked as a bartender and humor columnist, and

currently lives in picturesque Galena, Illinois, where she ran a bed-and-breakfast for five years. She now writes fiction full-time—when she's not walking her three Great Danes. Visit her online at [www.barbraannino.com](http://www.barbraannino.com) or Facebook via her fan page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Barbra-Annino>.



**Meredith Anthony** is a copywriter for a major New York ad agency. She is married to author and editor Lawrence Light, a/k/a the world's best husband. They make their home in Manhattan where they see most Broadway and off-Broadway plays, almost all movies and Tivo an amazing amount of TV—as well as keeping up with literature, particularly thrillers. Meredith has also been taking boxing lessons. Her thriller *Ladykiller*, co-authored with Larry Light, is published by Oceanview Publishing.



**J.L. Austgen** is the author of the Evelyn Morgan series of mystery thrillers, including *Keyser Run* and *Muckross Folly*. He grew up in Indianapolis, Indiana, and studied creative writing at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. Partnering with his wife, he founded Dreampipe Publishing in 2012. He lives in Colorado Springs with his wife and two rambunctious boys. He is hard at work on the third novel in the Evelyn Morgan series, scheduled for publication in 2014. He blogs at <http://www.jlaustgen.com>.



A lover of mountains, plains, oceans and rivers, **Shannon Baker** can often be found traipsing around the great outdoors. *Tainted Mountain*, the first in her Nora Abbott mystery series, is set in Flagstaff, Arizona, where she lived for several years and worked for The Grand Canyon Trust, a hotbed of environmentalists who, usually, don't resort to murder. It involves manmade snow on sacred peaks, uranium mining in the Grand Canyon, kachinas, and murder. Shannon now makes her home in Boulder, Colorado. Surprisingly, Nora followed her and the next book in the series takes place there. Visit Shannon at [www.Shannon-Baker.com](http://www.Shannon-Baker.com)



## Left Coast Crime Program Participants



Since publishing his first short story in 1994, **Trey R. Barker** has been fortunate to publish more than 150 short stories, novels, collections, plays, poems, non-fiction, and whatever else tickles his particular fancy. His most recent books are the ebook and trade paper edition of the novel *2,000 Miles to Open Road*, the collections *Road Gig* and *Remembrance and Regrets*, and his non-fiction *The Cancer Chronicles*. Premiering at Left Coast Crime this year is the second Barefield novel, *Exit Blood*, available from Down and Out Books. Barker has held lots of odd jobs but right now he patrols the back roads of northern Illinois as a sergeant with the Bureau County Sheriff's Office.



As an archaeologist, **Aileen G. Baron** taught in the Department of Anthropology at California State University, Fullerton, and conducted fieldwork in the Middle East, including a year at the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem as an NEH scholar. Her mysteries in the Lily Sampson series feature an American archaeologist working in the Middle East during World War II. The latest in the series are *The Scorpion's Bite* and *The Torch of Tangier*. *The Gold of Thrace* is a contemporary mystery, the first in a series about the intrigue and deceit in the antiquities trade, and features archaeologist Tamar Saticoy. She is currently the president of the Orange County chapter of Sisters in Crime.



**Sue Star** writes mysteries about families in chaos. Her novel, *Murder in the Dojo*, is the first of the black belt mystery series, released from D.M. Kreg Publishing in 2012. The next book in the series, *Murder with Altitude*, will come out in spring, 2013. In real life, she is **Rebecca Bates** who also writes science fiction and is the author of *The Signal*. As **Rebecca Williamson**, she writes romantic suspense and has published *The Drowning of Chittenden*. Short stories are collected in e-book format under her different pen names.



**Pamela Beason** lives in the Pacific Northwest, where she writes novels and screenplays and works as a private investigator. When she's not on the job, she explores the natural world on foot, in cross-country skis, in her kayak, or underwater scuba diving. [www.pamelabeason.com](http://www.pamelabeason.com)



**Marlyn Beebe** grew up in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, where she graduated from the University of Alberta with a degree in Library and Information Studies. Not being a fan of frozen water falling from the sky, she now lives in Southern California, with her husband, Tod. She works part-time at multiple libraries, and spends the rest of her time reading, reviewing, blogging, and watching hockey games. Marlyn reviews books for *VOYA* magazine ([www.voya.com](http://www.voya.com)) as well as Crime Fiction Collective ([www.crimefictioncollective.blogspot.com](http://www.crimefictioncollective.blogspot.com)) and her own blog *Stuff and Nonsense* ([www.marlyn-stuff.blogspot.com](http://www.marlyn-stuff.blogspot.com)).



**Mike Befeler** was identified by the AARP Bulletin as one of four authors in a new emerging mystery subgenre: geezer-lit. Mike turned his attention to fiction writing after a career in high technology marketing. His debut novel, *Retirement Homes Are Murder*, was published January, 2007. The second novel in his Paul Jacobson Geezer-lit Mystery Series, *Living With Your Kids Is Murder*, came out in 2009 and was nominated for the Lefty Award, and the fourth book, *Cruising In Your Eighties Is Murder*, came out in 2012 and is a nominee for this year's Lefty.



**Donnell Ann Bell** is a two-time Golden Heart finalist who previously worked for a weekly business newspaper and a parenting magazine. Her debut novel *The Past Came Hunting* became an Amazon bestseller, reaching as high as #6 on the paid overall list and finaling in 2012 Gayle Wilson Award for Excellence, RWA's Greater Detroit Bookseller's Best, and the 2012 Daphne du Maurier Award for Excellence

## Left Coast Crime Program Participants

in Mystery/Suspense. *Deadly Recall*, brought to you by Bell Bridge Books, is her second published novel. Learn more about Donnell at [www.donnellannbell.com](http://www.donnellannbell.com)



**Kathy Bennett** served twenty-one years as a sworn police officer with the LAPD. Most of her career was spent in patrol, but she's also been a Firearms Instructor, a crime analyst in the "War Room," a Field Training Officer, and worked undercover. Kathy was honored to be named Officer of the Year in 1997. Kathy's debut novel, *A Dozen Deadly Roses*, and her second book, *A Deadly Blessing*, became bestselling ebooks. *A Deadly Blessing* is the first book in the LAPD Detective Maddie Divine series. Her third book, *A Deadly Justice*, should be released early 2013.



**Mysti Berry** has an MFA from the University of San Francisco and numerous awards for short story and screenwriting work. Her latest short stories are scheduled to be in the upcoming Public Safety Writers anthology, and another anthology whose contract hasn't quite been signed yet. She has moderated panels at Left Coast Crime and Bouchercon, and given technical writing presentations at many conferences. Mysti is working on her first crime novel, *Dark Money*, about fraud, casinos, and murder. She lives in San Francisco with her graphic novelist husband Dale Berry.



**Bonnie Biafore** is the author of more than 25 award-winning technical books including *Project 2013: The Missing Manual*, *Successful Project Management* (award-winner at the 2012 STC International Competition), *QuickBooks 2013: The Missing Manual* (Intuit's Official Guide to QuickBooks), and several wildly popular courses for Lynda.com. Her novel, *Fresh Squeezed* is a comedic thriller with incompetent hit men, stupid criminals, and an alcoholic ferret. It's available on amazon.com, bn.com, and [slowtoastpress.com/freshsqueezed.html](http://slowtoastpress.com/freshsqueezed.html). When unshackled from her computer, she hikes in the mountains with her two Bernese Mountain Dogs, cooks gourmet food,

and hangs around with fiction writers. Connect with Bonnie: [www.bonniebiafore.com](http://www.bonniebiafore.com); Twitter: BBiafore; Facebook: Bonnie Biafore; LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/in/bonniebiafore/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/bonniebiafore/)



**John Billheimer**, a native West Virginian, lives in Portola Valley, California. He holds an engineering Ph. D. from Stanford University and is the author of the "funny, sometimes touching" Owen Allison mystery series set in Appalachia's coalfields. A new series featuring an Ohio sports-writer with a gambling problem came out in September 2012 with *Field of Schemes*. He has also written *Baseball and the Blame Game*, a non-fiction look at scapegoating in the major leagues. [www.johnbillheimer.com](http://www.johnbillheimer.com).



**Terri Bischoff** joined Midnight Ink as an Acquiring Editor in October 2009. She leads all editorial directions and creates the seasonal lists. She has dramatically increased the number of titles per season, publishing 30-36 titles per year, as well as expanded the type of crime fiction MI has published. Terri has a wealth of experience and knowledge in both mysteries and in bookselling, having been involved for 17 years in all areas of bookstore operations, particularly as book buyer and reviewer. She has worked at Kramer Books in Washington, DC, and more recently, Terri owned and operated **Booked For Murder** Mystery Bookstore in Madison, Wisconsin. Terri is looking for all types of crime fiction, from cozy to suspense/thriller.



**Michelle Black** is the author of six novels of historical suspense. Her most recent, *Seance in Sepia*, features real life feminist firebrand Victoria Woodhull as its protagonist. The novel was recently named a finalist in the 2012 WILLA Literary Book Awards, named for Willa Cather. Michelle divides her time between Boulder County, Colorado, and a mountain home at 9,000 feet in the Rocky Mountains. In addition to writing, she has been known to practice law and own a bookstore (but not at

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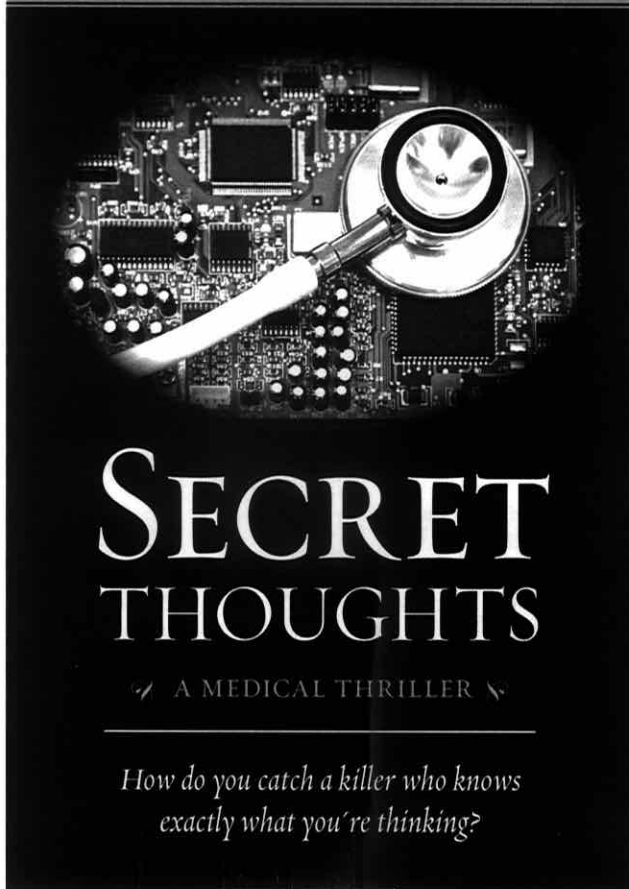
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the same time). She can often be found wherever Steampunks gather as her motto is: "Have bustle, will travel."



**Rhys Bowen** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Royal Spyness Series, Molly Murphy Mysteries, and Constable Evans, an Agatha winner and an Edgar nominee. Rhys's books have received rave reviews around the globe. She currently writes two mystery series, the atmospheric Molly Murphy novels, about a feisty Irish immigrant in 1900s New York City, and the funny and sexy Royal Spyness mysteries about a penniless minor royal in 1930s Britain. She was born in England and married into a family with historic royal connections. She is a transplanted Brit who now divides her time between California and Arizona.



**Lisa Brackmann's** debut novel, *Rock Paper Tiger*, set on the fringes of the Chinese art world, made several "Best of 2010" lists, including Amazon's Top 100 books and Top 10 Mystery/Thrillers. Her second novel, *Getaway*, a thriller in Mexico, was chosen as an ALA Summer Reading Pick and was a finalist for SCIBA's T. Jefferson Parker Award. Lisa's upcoming book, *Hour of the Rat*, features the return of *Rock Paper Tiger* heroine Ellie McEnroe, on another wild adventure in today's China. Lisa is a California native and a former film industry professional who has lived and traveled extensively in China.



**Kathy Brandt** writes The Hannah Sampson Underwater Investigation Series (*Swimming with the Dead*, *Dark Water Dive*, *Dangerous Depths*, and *Under Pressure*), which were recently released as ebooks. Her memoir, *Walks on the Margins, A Mother and Son's Story of Bipolar Illness* will be published in April. Kathy has a B.A. in English and an M.A. in Rhetoric and taught writing at the University of Colorado for ten years.

*Widow's Might*, winner of the ABA Indie NextList in August 2012, is the third and most recent release in **Sandra Brannan's** heart-pounding mystery series. Protagonist Liv Bergen, described

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by fans as the love child of Kinsey Milhone and Jack Reacher, embodies the spirit of South Dakota and the hard-working people of the mountain states. *In the Belly of Jonah*, the first in the series, was an ABA Indie NextPick Notable in September of 2010, followed

up by *Lot's Return to Sodom* in 2011.



Stina Branson's first literary crush was Encyclopedia Brown. She met author Donald J. Sobol when she was in third grade, and she blames him for her writing habit. Stina has published short mystery fiction in a number of obscure (and mostly defunct) publications and is currently working on another draft of her first completed mystery novel, a steampunk thriller written under the name Chris L. Pontius ([cpon-tius.wordpress.com](http://cpon-tius.wordpress.com)). Stina writes book reviews for *Skullduggery*, and she also posts reviews and miscellanea at [stinalyn.wordpress.com](http://stinalyn.wordpress.com).



A Colorado native, Peg Brantley is a member of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers and Sisters In Crime. She and her husband make their home southeast of Denver, sharing it with the occasional pair of mallard ducks and their babies, snapping turtles, peacocks, assorted other birds, foxes and deer named Cedric. Her first two books, *Red Tide* and *The Missings*, have made their way into the hands of more than 175,000 readers. Her next book will be released in 2013. Learn more about Peg at <http://www.pegbrantley.com> or meet up with her on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pegbrantleyauthorpage>



Steve Brewer is the author of 16 books, as well as a humor writer whose columns have appeared in newspapers across the United States and Canada. Brewer grew up in Arkansas, but called New Mexico home for nearly two decades before moving to Redding, California, in 2003. He spent 22 years in the daily news business, but has since written his weekly column, *The Home Front*, from home, in his pajamas. Brewer spent two years on the national

board of directors of Mystery Writers of America, and twice served as an Edgar Awards judge. He also belongs to International Thriller Writers and Northern California Writers Forum.



Jan Burke's fourteenth book, *Disturbance*, is the latest entry in the Irene Kelly series and a sequel to *Bones*, which won the Edgar for Best Novel. Her other novels include *Flight* and *Bloodlines*. Her books have appeared on the USA Today and *NY Times* bestseller lists, have been published internationally, and optioned for film. An award-winning short story writer, she is also the author of a supernatural thriller, *The Messenger*. Born in Houston, Texas, Burke has lived in Southern California most of her life. She founded the nonprofit Crime Lab Project, dedicated to the improvement of public forensic science. <http://www.janburke.com>. Photo: Sheri McKinley Photography (2010)



As an attorney in San Diego, Teresa Burrell maintained a private law practice that specialized in domestic, criminal, and civil cases. Her work in juvenile court focused on representing abused minors and juvenile delinquents. Burrell also enjoyed a satisfying career as a teacher. She taught children of all ages with diverse backgrounds and special needs. She is the author of The Advocate Series which now contains three novels, *The Advocate*, *The Advocate's Betrayal*, and *The Advocate's Conviction*. *The Advocate's Dilemma* will be released soon.



Ellen Byerrum is a novelist, playwright, former Washington, DC reporter, and a graduate of private investigator school in Virginia. Her Crime of Fashion mysteries star a savvy, stylish female sleuth named Lacey Smithsonian, a reluctant fashion reporter in Washington D.C. (which she calls "The City Fashion Forgot.") While researching fashion, Byerrum has collected her own assortment of 1940s vintage dresses and suits, and the occasional accessory, but laments her lack of closet space. Although she currently resides in Denver,

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Colorado, fashion reporter Lacey Smithsonian will continue to be based in Washington, D.C. *Veiled Revenge* is the ninth book in the series.



**Gayle Carline** is an author of mysteries and humor. Her Peri Minneopa Mystery series stars a housecleaner-turned-detective who solves crimes in Gayle's hometown of Placentia, California. She lives with her husband, Dale, their son, Marcus, and a small menagerie of pets. In her spare time, she likes to sit down with friends and laugh over a glass of wine—and maybe plot a little murder and mayhem.



**Ann Charles** is an award-winning author who writes romantic mysteries that are splashed with humor. For her first book, *Nearly Departed in Deadwood*, she won the 2010 National Daphne du Maurier for Excellence in Mystery/Suspense award AND the 2011 National Romance Writers of America Golden Heart award. A member of Sisters in Crime and Romance Writers of America for many moons, she has a B.A. in English with an emphasis on creative writing from the University of Washington. When not dabbling in fiction, she is standing on her workshop soapbox, sharing what she has learned over the years about the craft and self-promotion. website: [www.anncharles.com](http://www.anncharles.com).



**Stacey Cochran** is the bestselling author of *In Love with Eleanor Rigby*, *The Loneliest*, *The Colorado Sequence*, and *CLAWS*. His collection *The Kiribati Test* reached #6 overall in the Kindle store in January 2010. An excerpt from his current novel-in-progress *Eddie & Sunny* was selected as a finalist for the James Hurst Prize for Fiction by PEN/Faulkner Finalist Ron Rash in November 2011. Stacey was born in the Carolinas where his family traces its roots to the 1700s. In 1998 he was selected as a finalist for the Dell Magazines Award for undergraduate fiction writing, and he made his first professional short story sale three years later. In 2004, he was selected as a finalist in the St. Martin's Press/PWA Best First Private Eye Novel Contest, and he began teaching

at North Carolina State University in 2006. He lives in Raleigh with his wife Susan, son Sam, and daughter Harper Jane.



**Margaret Coel** writes mystery novels set on the Wind River Reservation with the Arapahos. Sixteen novels, two novels in Denver, bestseller lists like the *New York Times* and *Los Angeles Times*, numerous awards including the Frank Waters Award for outstanding literary achievement, and Margaret is still writing.



**Deborah Coonts** was raised in Texas on barbecue, Mexican food and beer. She currently resides in Las Vegas, where her friends assure her she cannot get into too much trouble. Silly people. She is the author of *Wanna Get Lucky* (a *New York Times* Notable Crime Novel for 2010 and double RITA Finalist), *Lucky Stiff*, *So Damn Lucky*, and two digital novellas, *Lucky in Love* and *Lucky Bang*. She can usually be found at the bar, but also at [www.deborahcoonts.com](http://www.deborahcoonts.com).



**Theresa Crater** brings ancient temples, lost civilizations and secret societies back to life in her paranormal mysteries. The shadow government search for ancient Atlantean weapons in the fabled Hall of Records in *Under the Stone Paw* and fight to control ancient crystals sunk beneath the sea in *Beneath the Hallowed Hill*. Her short stories explore ancient myth brought into the present day. The most recent include "The Judgment of Osiris" in *Tales in Firelight and Shadow* and "White Moon" in *Ride the Moon*. Writing as **Louise Ryder**, she publishes women's fiction. *God in a Box* returns us to the 1970s world of feminism and Eastern philosophy. Theresa has also published poetry and a baker's dozen of literary criticism. Currently, she teaches writing and British lit in Denver. Visit her at <http://theresacrater.com>.

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Award-winning author **Judy Dailey** grew up on an 80-acre organic farm in Indiana. Now she lives on a 1,200-square-foot urban farm in Seattle with six chickens. A graduate of Bryn Mawr College, Judy earned an MBA from the University of

Washington and a certificate in compost management. She has been a pilot, skydiver, spelunker, bicyclist, skier, and night-time sailor. She managed a multi-million-dollar grant fund for affordable housing. She handcrafts artisan salami, beer, and ricotta cheese. But her greatest challenge is eradicating the gray garden slug. *Animal, Vegetable, Murder* is her first traditional mystery. Follow her at <http://www.judydailey.com>



**Hilary Davidson** won the 2011 Anthony Award for Best First Novel for *The Damage Done*. The book also earned a Crimespree award and was a finalist for the Arthur Ellis and Macavity awards. The sequel, *The Next One to Fall*, a

mystery set in Peru, was published by Forge in 2012, and *Evil in All Its Disguises* came out in March 2013. Hilary's widely acclaimed short stories have been featured in publications from Ellery Queen to Thuglit, and in many anthologies. A Toronto-born travel journalist and the author of eighteen nonfiction books, she has lived in New York City since 2001. [www.hilary-davidson.com](http://www.hilary-davidson.com). Photo credit: Trish Snyder.



**Janet Dawson's** mysteries include award-winning *Kindred Crimes*, *Bit Player* (LCC 2012's Golden Nugget Award nominee), and suspense novel *What You Wish For*. Short stories include Macavity winner "Voice Mail," and Shamus nominee "Slayer Statute." Due

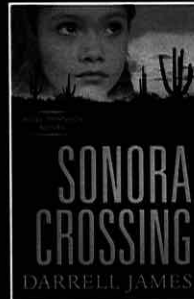
out fall 2013 is a suspense novel on a train, *Death Rides the Zephyr*.



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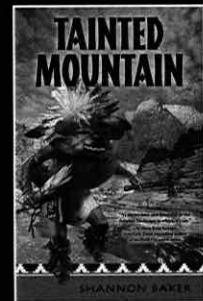
Darrell James



Catriona McPherson  
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Beth Groundwater  
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**Charlene Dietz** lives in the mountains outside of Torreon, New Mexico. She's a retired public school administrator, instructor at the College of Santa Fe, and educational consultant for teachers in school districts around the nation. Her writing includes published articles, children's stories, and award-winning short stories. Unusual protagonist faces countless conflicts, some humorous and some tragic, in her corporate espionage novel, *Cuba Libre Conspiracies*.



**Denise [Deni] Dietz**, senior editor for Five Star Mysteries, doesn't want to know that General Santa Anna was captured in 1836. She prefers to know that he was naked except for his underpants. Deni is the bestselling author of the Ellie Bernstein diet club series and *Fifty Cents for Your Soul*. As **Mary Ellen Dennis**, she wrote *Heaven's Thunder*—a Colorado Saga—with an emphasis on the Ludlow Massacre and Colorado's silent film industry.



**Catherine Dilts** has a short story set to appear in the April 2013 issue of *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*. Her day job as an environmental scientist provides fodder for fiction by the shovelful. In addition to short stories, she also writes murder mysteries. Her novel *Stone Cold Dead* is under contract with Five Star Publishing and scheduled to be published in December 2013. In her spare time, she enjoys raised bed gardening, which her husband claims look the perfect size for burying bodies, while reminding her that you can't get rid of the bones.



Author of ten novels, **Laura DiSilverio** is a former Air Force intelligence officer. She writes the Mall Cop series (Berkley Prime Crime) and the Swift Investigations humorous PI series (Mino-taur), teaches for MWA's Mystery University, and serves as VP for Sisters inCrime. She plots murders and parents teens in Colorado, trying to keep the two tasks separate.



**Robert Downs** aspired to be a writer before he realized how difficult the writing process was. Fortunately, he'd already fallen in love with the craft, otherwise Casey Holden, PI, featured in his debut novel *Falling Immortality*, might never have seen print. Originally from West Virginia, Bob has lived in Virginia, Massachusetts, and now resides in New Mexico. Despite his literary side, numbers are very much a part of his world, to the point that he has a business administration degree from West Virginia University as well as an MBA from Columbia College. To find out more about Casey, visit the author's website: [www.RobertDowns.net](http://www.RobertDowns.net).



**J.T. Ellison** is the bestselling author of eight critically acclaimed novels, multiple short stories and has been published in over twenty countries. Her novel *The Cold Room* won the ITW Thriller Award for Best Paperback Original of 2010 and *Where All the Dead Lie* was a RITA Nominee for Best Romantic Suspense of 2012. She lives in Nashville with her husband and the ghost of a poorly trained cat, and is hard at work on her next novel. Visit [JTEllison.com](http://JTEllison.com) for more insight into her wicked imagination, or follow her on Twitter @Thrillerchick. Photo credit: Chris Blanz.



**Bill Fitzhugh** has been described as "of average height" and "not particularly fast in the hundred meters, though quick enough to escape capture that one time." He is the author of seven novels. His latest book, *The Exterminators*, is the long-awaited sequel to *Pest Control*. He still has all of his original organs and plans to keep it that way until the very end, at which point he is willing to let the doctors divvy them up among anyone (with the exception of politicians) who might need them. However, he makes no promises about the quality of his liver. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife and all of her organs. [www.billfitzhugh.com](http://www.billfitzhugh.com)



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**Jen Forbus** has been blogging at Jen's Book Thoughts for five years and is now a full-time freelancer in a variety of areas: web work with xuni.com, social media with the Criminal Element site, book reviewing and interviewing with Shelf Awareness and *Crime-spree* magazine. In a previous life she taught high school English then worked with adult professional development at the National Association of College Stores. Besides her obsession with reading, she loves animals, crafting, walking and warm weather. Why the stork dropped her in northeast Ohio is still a mystery!



**David Freed** is a pilot, screenwriter and former Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist for the *Los Angeles Times* who's worked within the U.S. intelligence community. The Associated Press hailed his first mystery-thriller, *Flat Spin*, as "one of the best debuts of 2012." Audiofile called it, "One of the funniest books of the year." His second mystery-thriller, *Fangs Out*, lands in May.



**David Edgerley Gates** lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The author of the Placido Geist bounty hunter stories, a series of noir Westerns, he is a past Shamus and Edgar Award nominee for best short story. He recently completed *Black Traffic*, a Cold War spy novel set in Berlin, and is at work on his next book, *The Bone Harvest*, which takes place during the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. A Russian linguist and intelligence analyst in the Air Force, he is a long-time student of spook craft.



**John Gilstrap** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *High Treason* (August, 2013), *Damage Control*, *Threat Warning*, *Hostage Zero*, *No Mercy*, *Six Minutes to Freedom*, *Scott Free*, *Even Steven*, *At All Costs* and *Nathan's Run*. His novels have been translated into more

than 20 languages. John has also adapted four bestselling novels for the big screen. He is currently writing and co-producing the film adaptation of his book *Six Minutes to Freedom* for Sesso Entertainment. A former firefighter and EMT, John holds a master's degree in safety engineering and a bachelor's degree in history. Please visit [www.johngilstrap.com](http://www.johngilstrap.com).



**Christine Goff** is the author of the bestselling "Birdwatcher's Mystery Series," two of which were nominated for prestigious Willa Literary Awards. Her backlist will be released in e-book in November 2013 by Astor+Blue Editions, with paperbacks to follow. A new book in the series is due out in 2014.



**Diana Gould** has written pilots, movies, episodes and mini-series for network and cable. She was writer-producer of *Dynasty*, executive story consultant on *Knots Landing*, created and produced *Berengers*. Her script for the TV movie *I Love You . . . Goodbye* won the Population Institute Award, and she served on the Board of Directors of the Writers Guild of America. Her short story "The Monkey's Daughter" was nominated for the James Kirkwood Award. She received an MFA in fiction from Bennington, has taught fiction, screen- and playwriting, and coaches writers privately. When she's not writing, she teaches at InsightLA, a mindfulness meditation center, and works as a spiritual care volunteer with Vitas Hospice. *Coldwater* is her first novel.



**Barbara Graham** was always a daydreamer. Her early literary efforts centered around her saving the world. Thank goodness it didn't all fall on her shoulders. She's a bit of a flake. Born in the Texas Panhandle and unable to remain still, she has lived in places as diverse as Denver, New Orleans and East Tennessee. A former travel agent, mom, and ballet teacher, she resides in Wyoming with her long suffering husband and two dogs.

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**Chuck Greaves** spent 25 years as an L.A. trial lawyer before becoming a novelist. He is the award-winning author of *Hush Money* and the forthcoming *Green-Eyed Lady*, both legal mysteries, both from St. Martin's Minotaur. His second novel, *Hard Twisted*

(Bloomsbury) is a work of literary/historical fiction based on a true crime. Please visit [www.chuckgreaves.com](http://www.chuckgreaves.com).



**Robert Greer** is a professor of pathology, medicine, surgery, and dentistry at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. He also holds a masters degree in Creative Writing from Boston University and an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Miami University, his alma

mater. In 1986 he founded *The High Plains Literary Review* and continues to serve as its editor-in-chief. In addition to his novels, he is the author or co-author of three medical textbooks and more than 125 scientific articles. His short stories have appeared in dozens of national literary magazines and his short story collection, *Isolation and Other Stories*, was published in 2000. In addition to writing, medicine, and research, Greer reviews books for a Denver National Public Radio affiliate, KUVU, and raises cattle on a ranch in Wyoming.



**Beth Groundwater** writes the Claire Hanover gift basket designer mystery series (*A Real Basket Case*, nominated for the 2007 Best First Novel Agatha Award, *To Hell in a Handbasket*, May, 2009, and *Basketful of Trouble*, due in November, 2013)

and the Rocky Mountain Outdoor Adventures mystery series (*Deadly Currents*, March, 2011, *Wicked Eddies*, May, 2012, and *Fatal Descent*, due in May, 2013). *Wicked Eddies* is a nominee for the 2013 Rocky award. She lives in Colorado and enjoys its many outdoor activities, including skiing and whitewater rafting.

**David Hansard** is best known for building snow fences along I-80 in Southern Wyoming, after getting his MA in English. They didn't work, but it's not his fault. He writes an amateur PI series set in NYC and Texas, featuring Porter Hall, who is raising young twins as a single father. He's not sure where he lives right now, but his next project is reinventing the publishing industry. Wish him luck.



Canadian writer **R.J. Harlick** writes the acclaimed Meg Harris mystery series set in the wilds of Quebec. Like her heroine Meg Harris, R.J. loves nothing better than to roam the forests surrounding her own wilderness cabin or paddle the endless lakes and rivers. The fourth book, *Arctic Blue Death* was a finalist in the 2010 Arthur Ellis Award for Best Novel. In the recently released *A Green Place for Dying*, the latest in the series, "Meg Harris...gets an education in evil in Harlick's absorbing fifth mystery." *Publishers Weekly*. [www.rjharlick.ca](http://www.rjharlick.ca)



**L. C. Hayden** is the creator of the award winning Harry Bronson Mystery Series. Critics are hailing her latest release, *When the Past Haunts You*, as the best mystery of 2012. Her newest introduced series, the Aimmee Brent Mystery Series, begins with *ILL Conceived*. Check out her books at [www.tinyurl.com/LCHayden](http://www.tinyurl.com/LCHayden)



**Sara J. Henry's** first novel, *Learning to Swim*, won the Anthony and Agatha awards for best first novel and the Mary Higgins Clark award; its sequel, *A Cold and Lonely Place*, is "a deeply atmospheric, seductive read" set in the Adirondacks. She's a Tennessee native who now lives in Vermont.



**Lynda Hilburn** writes the Kismet Knight, Vampire Psychologist series. After a childhood filled with invisible friends, sightings of dead relatives and a fascination with the occult, turning to the paranormal was a no-brainer. In her other reality, she's a licensed psychotherapist, hypnotherapist,

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group facilitator, instructor, presenter and professional psychic/tarot reader.



**Charlotte Hinger** is a Western Kansas historian. The Lottie Albright series was inspired by a childhood listening to the natural born liars in her small community of Lone Elm, Kansas, and the mesmerizing “rest of the stories” whispered behind closed doors

when she edited over 500 family submissions for county history books. She has published a number of mystery short stories. Simon and Schuster published her historical novel, *Come Spring*, which won the Western Writers of America Medicine Pipe Award.



**Naomi Hirahara** is the Edgar Award-winning author of the Mas Arai mystery series, which features a Japanese American gardener who solves crimes. Her latest installment in the series is *Strawberry Yellow*, which returns her protagonist to his birthplace and past, the strawberry

fields of Watsonville, California. Her new mystery series with a 22-year-old female LAPD bicycle cop will be released by Berkley Prime Crime in spring 2014.



**Linda Joffe Hull** is the author of *The Big Bang* (Tyrus Books) and *Eternally 21* (Midnight Ink) the first in the Mrs. Frugalicious mystery series. She is a native of St. Louis, Missouri, but lives in Denver, Colorado. Linda is a longtime member of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers and is currently on the board of Mystery

Writers of America. Please visit her at [www.linda-joffehull.com](http://www.linda-joffehull.com).



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**Darrell James** has served time in the armed forces, sailed the islands of the Caribbean, and ridden motorcycles cross-country. In 2010, Darrell signed a contract for the first three novels in a mystery/thriller series with Midnight Ink/Llewellyn Worldwide Publishing.

*Nazareth Child* launched the series in September 2011, winning the Left Coast Crime Eureka Award for Best First Novel, and was nominated for both the Anthony and Macavity Awards. [darrelljames.com](http://darrelljames.com)



**Maddee James** is the owner of [xuni.com](http://xuni.com) which specializes in website design and development, particularly for mystery and thriller writers. She has been doing design, management, and maintenance of author websites for more than 15 years. You can

check out her site and list of clients and designs at <http://www.xuni.com>.



**Ragnar Jónasson** was born in Reykjavik in 1976 and is a lawyer. He teaches copyright law at Reykjavik University and has previously worked on radio and television, including as a TV news reporter for the Icelandic National

Broadcasting Service. Before starting a career as a crime writer he translated fourteen novels by Agatha Christie from English to Icelandic, from the age of 17. Film option rights to Ragnar's novel *Snjóblind* (*Snowblind*) were sold in October 2012.



**Tammy Kaehler's** career in marketing and technical writing landed her in the world of automobile racing, which inspired her with its blend of drama, competition, and welcoming people. Following up on her award-nominated debut, *Dead Man's*

*Switch* she takes readers back behind the wheel in *Braking Points*, the second Kate Reilly Racing Mystery. Tammy works as a technical writer in the Los Angeles area, where she lives with her husband and many cars. [www.tammykaehler.com](http://www.tammykaehler.com)

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**Andrew E. Kaufman** is an award-winning journalist and author living in Southern California. He became one of the highest-grossing independent authors last year with combined sales pushing well past the six-figure mark. His novels include *The Lion, the*

*Lamb, the Hunted* and *While the Savage Sleeps*. *Darkness and Shadows* will be released this year from Thomas & Mercer Publishing.

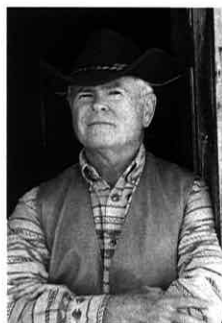
**J.A. Kazimer** is a writer living in Denver, Colorado. Novels include *CURSES! A F\*\*\*ed-Up Fairy Tale*, *Holy Socks & Dirtier Demons*, *Dope Sick: A Love Story* and *Froggy Style*. J.A. spent years spilling drinks as a bartender and then stalked people working as a private investigator. Visit: [www.jakazimer.com](http://www.jakazimer.com) or [www.gold-digging-princess.com](http://www.gold-digging-princess.com).



**Katriena Knights** believes there's no point writing in one genre at a time when you can write in two. Or six. She's written several mixed genre books, including paranormal and science fiction romance, urban fantasy with romance and/or erotic elements, a vampire/urban fantasy/hockey novel (unpublished as of yet), and some weird paranormal/romantic suspense/werewolf/action novel conglomeration that was hella fun to write. Her published books can be found at Samhain Publishing, ImaJinn Books, and Crimson Romance.

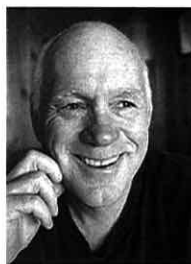


**Harley Jane Kozak**, a sometimes actress, lives with her family in southern California. Her debut novel, *Dating Dead Men*, won the Agatha, Anthony, and Macavity awards, and was followed by *Dating Is Murder*, *Dead Ex* and *A Date You Can't Refuse*. Her short prose has appeared in *Ms.* magazine, *Soap Opera Digest*, *The Sun*, *The Santa Monica Review*, and the anthologies *Mystery Muses*, *This Is Chick Lit*, *A HELL OF A WOMAN*, *Butcher Knives and Body Counts*, *Crimes by Moonlight*, and *The Rich and the Dead*. Her paranormal novel *Keeper of the Moon* is out in March 2013.



**Robert (Rob) Kresge** is the author of *Murder for Greenhorns* and three other historical mysteries set in 1870s Wyoming, and a Civil War spy novel based on real events. Deciding early on that he wanted to be a writer, Bob received a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri.

He retired from the CIA in 2002 after working on Southeast Asia, North Korea, Iraq during Desert Storm. In 2000 he founded a writer's group in the CIA that grew to 180 members and is still active, and in 2004 he helped found the Albuquerque chapter of Sisters in Crime. [www.robertkresge.com](http://www.robertkresge.com)



Sometime during high school, **Ken Kuhlken** decided to become an itinerant philosopher, a career path he still intends to pursue if he ever becomes wise. Meanwhile, his stories, features, essays and columns have appeared in *Esquire* and dozens of other

magazines and anthologies, been honorably mentioned in *Best American Short Stories*, and earned a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship. His novels are *Midheaven*, chosen as finalist for the Ernest Hemingway Award for best first novel, and the Tom Hickey's California crime series.



**Bette Golden Lamb**, unmistakably from the Bronx, loves to write dark and gritty novels. Being an RN explains her intense interest in medical thrillers. The RN Gina Mazzio series, *Bone Dry*, *Sin & Bone*, and soon to be released *Bone Pit*, features a

gutsy nurse who can't ignore life-threatening situations. All three books were co-authored with husband J.J. Lamb. [www.bettelamb.com](http://www.bettelamb.com)



The Army interrupted **J. J. Lamb's** journalism career, but provided a Top Secret clearance; a locked room with table, chair, typewriter, and the privacy to write short stories. Next, a PI series featuring Zachariah Tobias Rolfe III (a new one soon), followed by three gritty medical thrillers: *Bone*

## Left Coast Crime Program Participants

*Dry, Sin & Bone, Sisters In Silence*, plus a suspense-adventure-romance, *Heir Today...* with Bette Golden Lamb. [www.jjlamb.com](http://www.jjlamb.com).



**R.T. Lawton** is a retired federal law enforcement agent, a past member of the Mystery Writers of America board of directors, and a 2010 and 2011 Derringer Award nominee. He has more than 80 short stories in various publications, including *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*, *Who Died in Here?* anthology, *West Coast*

*Crime Wave* e-anthology, *Easyriders*, *Outlaw Biker*, and several mini-mysteries in *Woman's World*. His short story "The Delivery" will appear in the 2013 MWA anthology. R.T. also has four e-books at amazon.com for Kindle and at Smashwords for other e-readers. <http://www.tinyurl.com/rtlawton> and [www.SleuthSayers.org](http://www.SleuthSayers.org).



**Deborah J Ledford's** latest novel, *Crescendo*, is book three of the Steven Hawk/Inola Walela thriller series. *Snare* is the LCC 2011 Hillerman Sky Award Finalist and the NM-AZ Book Awards Finalist. *Staccato* is book one of the series. Three-time nominee

for the Pushcart Prize, her award-winning short stories appear in numerous print publications as well as literary and mystery anthologies. [www.DeborahJLedford.com](http://www.DeborahJLedford.com).



The author of 17 novels, **Paul Levine** won the John D. MacDonald fiction award and was nominated for the Edgar, Macavity, International Thriller, and James Thurber prizes. A former trial lawyer, he also wrote more than 20 episodes of the CBS military drama "JAG" and co-created the

Supreme Court drama "First Monday" starring James Garner and Joe Mantegna. The critically acclaimed international bestseller *To Speak for the Dead* was his first novel. He is also the author of the "Solomon vs. Lord" series and the thrillers *Illegal*, *Ballistic*, *Impact*, and *Paydirt*. His most recent novel is *Last Chance Lassiter*.

**Larry Light** started his journalism career after graduating from Lafayette College and the Columbia School of Journalism. In 1993 he published a



humor book with his talented and beautiful wife, Meredith Anthony, called *101 Reasons Why We're Doomed*. He and his wife live on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, where they give great parties. He has no children, dogs, cats, or house plants, although the occasional rabbit is welcome

in his home. He is a member of the Mystery Writers of America, where he served for three years as Executive Vice President, and of the Thriller Writers of America.



**Clark Lohr** comes from a Montana farm and ranch background. He is a Vietnam vet and a member of Veterans for Peace. He's trained as a photographer and holds degrees in Writing and in English from

the University of Arizona. Clark Lohr has drifted considerably in his life, thus informing his crime fiction. *Devil's Kitchen* is his first novel.



**Christopher Lord**, author of *The Christmas Carol Murders*, was born in Astoria, Oregon. He now lives in Portland with his partner of twenty years and their Devon Rex, Miss Corey, the inspiration for Simon's Miss Tox. He is hard at work on future books in

the Dickens Junction mystery series. [www.dickensjunction.com](http://www.dickensjunction.com)



**Jess Lourey** is the author of the Lefty-nominated Murder-by-Month mysteries set in Battle Lake, Minnesota, and featuring amateur sleuth Mira James. In a starred review of the series, Booklist writes, "a splendid mix of humor and suspense...[T]hese

must-have books are guaranteed to deliver hours of reading enjoyment!" Jess is a member of Sisters in Crime, The Loft, and the Mystery Writers of America.

## Left Coast Crime Program Participants



Debut novelist **Liesa Malik** considers herself lucky to have been steeped in reading from an early age. Today, Liesa lives in Littleton, Colorado with her husband, her German shepherd and her wonderfully cranky cat. Weekly calls with her daughter and granddaughter keep Liesa up-to-date on any new “good read,” and introduce her next best friend—a good book.



**G.M. Malliet**, two-time Anthony and 2013 Agatha nominee, won the Agatha for her first book, *Death of a Cozy Writer*. Her *Wicked Autumn* was a 2011 Dylis and Agatha nominee and an NBC TODAY Summer Reads Pick by Charlaine Harris. *A Fatal*

*Winter* followed in 2012; Library Journal chose both as best mysteries of 2011 & 2012. Website: [GMMalliet.com](http://GMMalliet.com)



**Leo Maloney** was born in Massachusetts, where he graduated from high school and Northeastern University. He was inducted into the army and during basic training he was recruited to become a Black Ops contractor for a clandestine government agency.

He also served in a MA police department as a motorcycle officer, detective, and undercover narc. Leo has acted in several independent films and also worked technical advisor. His first book, *Termination Orders*, was published by Kensington Publishing Corporation and released in September 2012. The book is written as a fiction but is based on his career in Black Ops. [www.leo-jmaloney.com](http://www.leo-jmaloney.com)



**Becky Martinez** is an award-winning former broadcast journalist and published author who writes under the name Rebecca Grace. Her latest work, *Shadows from the Past*, a gothic romantic suspense novella, was published in March, 2012, by The Wild Rose

Press. She recently signed a contract with TWRP for her next romantic suspense novel, *Dead Man's Rules*, the first book in a three book series set in New Mexico. She is also one of the co-authors of

*Ten Steps to Creating Memorable Characters*, a workbook for writers.



**Jeanne Matthews** is the author of the Dinah Pelerin international mystery series including *Bones of Contention*, *Bet Your Bones*, *Bonereapers*, and *Her Boyfriend's Bones* (coming in June 2013). Like her anthropologist sleuth, Jeanne is a Southerner who travels widely and weaves her observations of other cultures into her plots.



**Lise McClendon** is the author of nine novels, most recently a mainstream story, *All Your Pretty Dreams*. Her thriller, *Jump Cut*, was published in 2011 under the nom de plume **Rory Tate**. She is the author of the suspense novel *Blackbird Fly* and two mystery series set in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and Kansas City during the war years. More at [www.lisemcclendon.com](http://www.lisemcclendon.com). She lives in Montana.



When not writing mysteries, **Edith McClintock** works in the conservation and development field and blogs about travel and life abroad. She was born in a school bus on a commune in the Tennessee woods, grew up in Miami, and wrote her first mystery, *Monkey Love and Murder*, following Peace Corps when she joined a monkey research project deep in the Amazon. [www.edithmcclintock.com](http://www.edithmcclintock.com)



**Kathy McIntosh**, author, columnist and speaker, lives in Idaho with two hairy cats, one large, lazy dog and a husband who generally is neither hairy nor lazy. *Mustard's Last Stand* is the first in a humorous suspense series about the offbeat denizens of Hancock, Idaho. For more about Kathy, visit [www.KathyMcIntosh.com](http://www.KathyMcIntosh.com).



The next clue will appear on a page that prominently mentions Colorado Springs.

## Left Coast Crime Program Participants



**Catriona McPherson** writes the Dandy Gilver mysteries, set in Scotland in the 1920s where (but not when) she was born. Novels in the series have been short-listed for a CWA Dagger and long-listed for the Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the year in

the UK. *The Proper Treatment of Bloodstains* lauded the Dandy Gilver series in the U.S., and last year's *Dandy Gilver and an Unsuitable Day for a Murder* (Minotaur) is nominated for the Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Mystery Award. As Catriona McCloud, she writes modern dramatic novels, and she has just sold a girl-in-peril psycho thriller to Midnight Ink. [www.dandy-gilver.com](http://www.dandy-gilver.com), [catrionamcpherson.blogspot.com](http://catrionamcpherson.blogspot.com).

Photo credit: Rob Clark.



**Cricket McRae** writes the Home Crafting Mystery Series featuring soap maker Sophie Mae Ambrose. As **Bailey Cates** she also writes the Magical Bakery Mysteries, set in Savannah and starring new witch and baker Katie Lightfoot. She lives in Colorado where she

fits hiking, cooking and gardening around writing. For more information see [www.cricketmrae.com](http://www.cricketmrae.com).



Special Delivery! **Rosemary** and **Larry Mild** bring you *Death Goes Postal*, A Dan and Rivka Sherman Mystery. As new owners of The Olde Victorian Bookstore, the Shermans innocently buy into the company of misfits,

liars, and the crime of stolen rare printing artifacts. Then dive into *Cry Ohana*, Adventure and Suspense in Hawaii. [www.magicile.com](http://www.magicile.com).



**Camille Minichino** has published seventeen novels, short stories, and articles. Her three series are: The Periodic Table Mysteries; the Miniature Mysteries (as Margaret Grace); and the Professor Sophie Knowles Mysteries (as Ada Madison). Visit <http://www.minichino.com>.



A three-time Lefty Award nominee, **Kris Neri** writes the mad-cap Tracy Eaton mysteries, which feature the daughter of eccentric Hollywood stars, and the Samantha Brennan & Annabelle Haggerty magical mysteries, featuring a questionable psychic who

teams up with a modern goddess/FBI agent. Her books have also been honored with Agatha, Anthony and Macavity Award nominations. Debuting at LCC is her latest, *Revenge on Route 66*, a funny road trip mystery. Kris hails from Sedona, Arizona, where she and her husband operate The Well Red Coyote bookstore. She welcomes readers to her website, [www.krisneri.com](http://www.krisneri.com), and her blog, Postcards from Sedona: <http://krisneri.blogspot.com>.

### The Left Coast Crime quilt—it could be yours!



Since 1997, Vallery Feldman and Pam Dehnke have been celebrating Left Coast Crime by making a unique quilt for each conference. For this contribution, Pam and Vallery were honored at Left Coast Crime 2009 as Fan Guests of Honor. This year's one-of-a-kind memento, pictured here, will go to the lucky person whose number is drawn at the Saturday night banquet. Look for tickets at registration, and they'll also be available from Pam and Vallery, who will be wandering around the programming area. Remember, in order to win you have to play! Multiple purchases give you multiple chances!

## Left Coast Crime Program Participants



**Diane O'Connell**, a writer and editor with 25 years of book and magazine experience, has worked as an editor at Random House, Sesame Workshop, and Family Life, has written over 200 articles for national publications, and is the author or co-author of five books. Diane is a four-time recipient of the Educational Press Award for Excellence in Journalism, a two-time winner of the National Health Information Award, and a finalist for the National Writer's Voice New Voice Award in Fiction, and is a member of the American Society of Journalists and Authors. A sought-after speaker, Diane has conducted writing seminars and workshops throughout the country. [writetosellyourbook.com](http://writetosellyourbook.com)



**Terry Odell** was born in Los Angeles, moved to Florida, and now makes her home in Colorado. An avid reader, she always wanted to "fix" stories so the characters did what she wanted. Once she began writing, she found this wasn't always possible, as evidenced when the mystery she intended to write rapidly became a romance. Although her genre is labeled "romantic suspense", Terry prefers to think of her books as "Mysteries With Relationships." She writes the Blackthorne, Inc. covert ops series, the Pine Hills Police series, the Mapleton Mystery series, as well as stand-alone novels and contemporary romance short stories. Her latest release is *Deadly Bones*, book 2 in her Mapleton Mystery series. Website: <http://terryodell.com>. Blog: <http://terryodell.com/terryspace> Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AuthorTerryOdell>



**Chantelle Aimée Osman** is the author of numerous flash fiction and short stories published in literary journals, e-zines and anthologies. In 2011 she was an Anthony Award nominee for *The Sirens of Suspense* ([www.sirensofsuspense.com@SuspenseSirens](http://www.sirensofsuspense.com@SuspenseSirens)), a blog on all things mystery. In her former life she worked as head of business affairs and development for various production companies in Hollywood, and now owns the screenplay consulting company A Twist of Karma Entertainment ([www.twistofkarma.com@TwistofKarma](http://www.twistofkarma.com@TwistofKarma)). Chantelle is also a licensed attorney who moonlights as a rogue book designer and a book reviewer for *New York Times*—reporting Poisoned Pen bookstore.



**Gigi Pandian** writes the Jaya Jones Treasure Hunt Mystery Series. Her debut mystery novel, *Artifact*, was awarded a Malice Domestic Grant and was named a "Best of 2012" debut novel by *Suspense* magazine. Gigi is a graphic designer and photographer in the San Francisco Bay Area. [www.gigipandian.com](http://www.gigipandian.com)



**Ann Parker** is a California-based science/corporate writer by day and a historical mystery writer by night. Her award-winning Silver Rush series, featuring saloon owner Inez Stannert, is set in 1880s Colorado, primarily in the silver-mining boomtown of Leadville. *Mercury's Rise* won the 2012 Bruce Alexander Historical Mystery Award. Ann is a member of Mystery Writers of America, Women Writing the West, Western Writers of America, and the National Association of Science Writers. Ann and her family reside in the San Francisco Bay Area. Website: <http://www.annparker.net>. Photo credit: Photo by Charles Lucke



**Brad Parks** is the only author to have won the Shamus Award and Nero Award for the same novel. That book, *Faces of the Gone*, introduced Carter Ross, the sometimes-dashing investigative reporter, who has gone on to star in *Eyes of the Innocent* and *The Girl Next Door*, which was named to the Kirkus Reviews' Best Fiction of 2012 list and nominated for a Lefty Award for best humorous mystery. The series has earned starred reviews from *Library Journal* and *Booklist*. It will continue with *The Good Cop* (due March 5, 2013) and a fifth, as-yet-unnamed installment. Parks is a graduate of Dartmouth College and spent a dozen years as a reporter for *The Washington Post* and *The (Newark, N.J.) Star-Ledger*. He is now a full-time novelist who lives in Virginia with his wife and two small children.



## Left Coast Crime Program Participants



If you spot a redhead jumping up and down, it's **Nancy J. Parra**. Happy to bring her humorous voice to the mystery genre, Parra says, "I'm so lucky to be a member of this wonderful community." *Gluten for Punishment: a Baker's Treat Mystery* debuts May 7,

2013. *All Fudged UP, a Candy Coated Mystery* is out November 2013. *Her Hand in Murder*, the debut for The Perfect Proposal mystery series, is out in 2014.



Edgar Award-winning author **Thomas Perry** was born in New York, received a B.A. from Cornell and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Rochester, and has worked as a park maintenance man, factory laborer, commercial fisherman, university administrator and teacher, and a writer and

producer of prime time network television shows. He lives in Southern California. Perry is the author of 20 novels including the Jane Whitefield series, *Death Benefits*, *Pursuit*, the first recipient of the Gumshoe Award for best novel, *The Butcher's Boy*, and *Metzger's Dog*. The Independent Mystery Booksellers' Association included *Vanishing Act* in its "100 Favorite Mysteries of the 20th Century."



A Stanford graduate and former plaintiff's trial lawyer and commodities trader, **Twist Phelan** wrote the critically acclaimed legal-themed Pinnacle Peak mystery series (Poisoned Pen Press). Her short stories appear in anthologies and mystery magazines

and have won or been nominated for the Thriller, Anthony, Ellis, and Derringer awards. Her latest novel is set in Santa Fe and features a corporate spy. Find out more at [www.twistphelan.com](http://www.twistphelan.com).



**Julia Pomeroy** was born in Okinawa, spent her childhood in Libya and Somalia and her teens in Rome. She came to the US at nineteen, fell in love with the theatre, and worked as a freelance Italian interpreter in New York to support her habit. Her family

restaurant, the Blue Plate in upstate New York,

provided inspiration for her Abby Silvernale series. Her first book, *The Dark End of Town*, was published in 2006, and were followed by *Cold Moon Home* and *No Safe Place*. [www.juliapomeroy.com](http://www.juliapomeroy.com)



As an actress, **Mara Purl** was "Darla Cook" on *Days Of Our Lives*. As a writer, she pioneered small-town fiction for women with her popular and critically acclaimed Milford-Haven novels ("the heart books"). Her beloved fictitious town has been delighting audiences since 1992, when

it first appeared. Mara's other writing credits include plays, screenplays, scripts for *Guiding Light*, cover stories for *Rolling Stone*, staff writing with the *Financial Times* (of London), and the Associated Press. She is the co-author (with Erin Gray) of *Act Right*. [www.marapurl.com](http://www.marapurl.com)



**Manuel Ramos**, Denver lawyer, is also the award-winning author of eight novels and a co-founder of and regular contributor to *La Bloga*, a blog devoted to literature, news, and opinion. Recent publications: *Desperado: A Mile High Noir* (2013 - *Arte Público*

*Press*), and *King of the Chicanos* (2010 - *Wings Press*).



**Bonnie Ramthun** grew up in Colorado and earned a degree in computer science so she could find her way into strange and amazing jobs and write about them. She's now a full time mom and a writer and lives in Colorado with the love

of her life, their four kids, lab-mix dog, two cats and an unruly school of Japanese koi in the backyard pond. She has written the Eileen Reed mystery series (*Ground Zero*, *Earthquake Games*, *The Thirteenth Skull*), the Templeton-Stone thrillers (*Blood Print*, *The Night Queen*) and a middle-grade mystery about a snowboarder who must find the modern villain behind an ancient curse (*The White Gates*).

## Left Coast Crime Program Participants



**John Rector** is the best-selling author of *The Grove, Already Gone*, and *The Cold Kiss*, which has been optioned for a feature film now in development. His short fiction has appeared in numerous magazines and won several awards, including the Porterhouse Prize. He lives in Omaha, Nebraska.

<http://johnrector.blogspot.com>



**Travis Richardson's** first novella *Lost in Clover* was named *Spinetingler* magazine's Best Crime Fiction of 2012. He has been published in *Shotgun Honey*, *Powder Burn Flash*, *All*

*Due Respect* and the anthology *Scoundrels: Tales of Greed, Murder and Financial Crimes*. He also writes and directs short movies. Find out more at <http://tsrichardson.com>



**John Maddox Roberts** has been a professional writer for more than 30 years in the mystery, science fiction, and historical genres, with more than fifty books. His first mystery, *SPQR*, was nominated for the Edgar award and was first in a series

that now numbers 13 volumes, published in 15 languages. His most recent novel is *SPQR XIII: The Year of Confusion*. His most recent short story, "Beware the Snake," was published in the anthology *Down These Strange Streets*. He lives with his wife and an ever-varying number of cats in a 100-year-old adobe house in Estancia, New Mexico.



**Charles ("Chuck") Rosenberg** is a Los Angeles-based, Harvard-trained lawyer. He was the credited legal script consultant to TV's *The Paper Chase*, *L.A. Law*, *The Practice* and *Boston Legal* and a full-time on-air legal analyst for E!'s coverage of the Simpson criminal and civil trials.

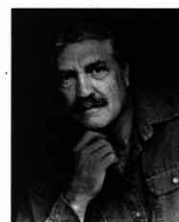
*Death on a High Floor: A Legal Thriller* is his first novel.



**Clive Rosengren** has been an actor for the better part of the past forty years, eighteen of them pounding the same streets as private eye Eddie Collins does in *Murder Unscripted*. Movie credits include *Ed Wood*, *Soapdish*, and *Bugsy*. Among his television credits are "Seinfeld" and "Cheers," where he played the only person to throw Sam Malone out of his own bar. He currently lives in Ashland, Oregon, amidst an extensive movie and crime fiction library. *Murder Unscripted* is his debut novel.



**Janet Rudolph** is the editor of *Mystery Readers Journal* and creative director/writer at *Murder on the Menu* and *Team-Building Unlimited*. She blogs daily at [MysteryFanfare.com](http://MysteryFanfare.com) and [DyingforChocolate.com](http://DyingforChocolate.com), facilitates a weekly mystery book group, hosts literary salons with mystery authors, and has been a committee member on numerous mystery conventions, including Left Coast Crime. A long-time contributor to the mystery genre, she received her Ph.D. in religious mystery fiction. She lives in the Berkeley, California hills with her husband, a golden retriever, and two cats who often appear on her Facebook page (along with a daily garden/rose photo). She loves gardening, photography, and reading, of course..



The rumors of **Alan Russell's** death have been greatly exaggerated, but it has been nine years between novels. His just published *Burning Man* might be his best novel yet. *Publisher's Weekly* calls him "one of the best writers in the mystery field today." The *New York Times* says, "He has a gift for dialogue," and the *Los Angeles Times* calls him "a crime fiction *rara avis*." Russell's nine novels have ranged from whodunits to comedic capers to suspense, and his works have been nominated for most of the major awards in crime fiction. A California native, Russell is a former college basketball player who these days can barely touch the rim.

## Left Coast Crime Program Participants



**Lucinda Schroeder** holds a BA degree in criminology from the University of Maryland. In 1974, she became one of the first women hired in federal law enforcement and went to work as a special agent for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. After 30 years of service she retired in 2004. During her career she conducted many unique undercover operations, taught undercover techniques to other federal agents, and was responsible for the repatriation of nearly a million dollars worth of sacred artifacts. Lucinda's *A Hunt for Justice*, takes readers inside a criminal world rarely seen.



**L.J. Sellers** is an award-winning journalist and author of the best-selling Detective Jackson mystery/thriller series: *Secrets to Die For*, *Thrilled to Death*, *Passions of the Dead*, *Dying for Justice*, and *Liars, Cheaters & Thieves*. Readers Favorite award winner, as well as provocative standalone thrillers. Her novels have been highly praised by *Mystery Scene*, *Crimespree*, and *RT Reviews*, and her Jackson books are Kindle bestsellers as well as top-ranked novels. In May 2012, she signed an 11-book contract with Thomas & Mercer. When not plotting murders, she enjoys standup comedy, cycling, social networking, and attending mystery conferences. She's also been known to jump out of airplanes.



**Terry Shames** grew up in Texas, and has abiding affection for the small town where her grandparents lived. It is the model for Jarrett Creek, setting for the Samuel Craddock series. *A Killing at Cotton Hill*, the first book in the series, will be released in July 2013 by Seventh Street Books. Terry lives in Berkeley, California, with her husband, two terriers, and a contentious cat. She is currently working on book two of the series, *The Last Death of Jack Harbin*. Terry also writes thrillers and PI novels.



**Susan Shea** spent more than two decades as a non-profit executive before beginning her best-selling mystery series with *Murder in the Abstract*. The second, *The King's Jar*, comes out in May, with a third later in 2013. She loved her former work but admits to having much more fun hanging out with crime writers and inspired storytellers. She's a regular on The LadyKillers blog, is on the board of the Northern California chapter of Sisters in Crime and is a past board member of Norcal's chapter of Mystery Writers of America. She lives in Marin County, California, but hopes no one will hold it against her.



After stints as manual laborer, dishwasher, bartender, restaurant manager, commercial photographer, magazine editor and public relations executive, **Mike Sherer** decided life should imitate art and became an author and freelance writer. Mike has published six novels in the Emerson Ward series, along with the stand-alone *Island Life*. *Night Blind* is the first of his Blake Sanders thrillers.



**Sheila Simonson** was born in Montana and raised in eastern Oregon, graduated from the University of Washington, and has advanced degrees (English and history) from the UW and Portland State. She taught at Clark College in Vancouver, Washington for more than thirty years before retiring to write full time. She's had nine novels published—four regencies and five mysteries—and is now collaborating with a friend on a YA fantasy set in Ireland before the Christian era. She's been happily married for many years to a man "who is not only terrific but a great photographer and a computer genius." Her son's Rhodesian ridgeback, Mugabe, is the model for Towser in *Buffalo Bill's Defunct*, her current mystery. Her cat, Ethel White, "is less jolly, but I'm used to her." She has taught fiction writing, science fiction, and Irish history.

## Left Coast Crime Program Participants



**Alexandra Sokoloff** is a Thriller Award winner and Anthony and Bram Stoker nominee. She's a produced screenwriter and teaches the internationally acclaimed Screenwriting Tricks for Authors workshop, based on her workbooks and blog. Her bestselling *Huntress Moon* series, about an FBI agent's hunt for a female serial killer, is out now. [AlexandraSokoloff.com](http://AlexandraSokoloff.com)



Besides being a master of space and time, **Robert Spiller** is the author of the Bonnie Pinkwater mystery series: *The Witch of Agnesi*, *A Calculated Demise*, *Irrational Numbers*, and most recently *Radical Equations*. His math teacher/sleuth uses mathematics and her knowledge of historic mathematicians to solve murders in the small Colorado town of East Plains. A retired mathematician, Robert lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado with his wife Barbara.



**Rochelle Staab**, a former award-winning Top 40 radio programmer and music industry advertising and marketing executive, blends her fascination with the supernatural and a love for mystery in *Bruja Brouhaha*, the second novel in her bestselling Mind for Murder Mystery series featuring L.A. psychologist Liz Cooper and occult expert Nick Garfield. According to Library Journal, "Staab sets her fairly sophisticated blend of the occult in a flashy West Coast locale for great escape reading." Her debut, *Who Do, Voodoo?* garnered Agatha, Anthony, and Eureka! Best First Mystery nominations. *Hex on the Ex*, Rochelle's third Mind for Murder Mystery, will be released on May 7. Contact: [www.rochellestaab.com](http://www.rochellestaab.com)

**Sue Star**, see page 31



The son of two librarians, **Mark Stevens** was raised in Lincoln, Massachusetts, and graduated from Principia College in Illinois. He has worked as a reporter for *The Christian Science Monitor*, and the *Rocky Mountain News*, and produced field documentaries across the U.S. and Latin America for the *MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour*. After tending bar for a year on a self-financed sabbatical (and to write fiction), he joined *The Denver Post* to cover education. Five years of reporting led to a position as director of communications with Denver Public Schools. *Buried by the Roan* was a finalist for the 2012 Colorado Book Awards and Colorado Authors League awards.



**Patricia Stoltey** grew up in Illinois and has also lived in Indiana, Oklahoma, the south of France, and Florida. Now retired from their corporate lives, she and her husband live in northern Colorado where they enjoy changes of seasons and no hurricanes. She is the author of *The Prairie Grass Murders*, set in central Illinois and south Florida. [www.patriciastoltey.com](http://www.patriciastoltey.com)



**Mark Sullivan** is the author of 12 thrillers, including the #1 NYT bestselling novels *Private Berlin* and *Private Games*, co-written with James Patterson. An international bestseller in his solo career, Mark's recent novel, *Rogue*, introduced Robin Monarch, a big-time thief with a bigger heart. *Outlaw*, the second Monarch book, debuts this fall from St. Martin's Minotaur. He has published in forty languages, and garnered awards here and abroad, including an Edgar nomination, the W.H. Smith Fresh Talent Prize, and an *LA Times* best book nod. Mark's first novel was a *New York Times* Notable Book, a rare feat in debut fiction.



Originally from Texas, **Margaret Tessler** now lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with her husband and their cat. The ideas that inspire her novels often originate with her large extended family, but she adds the hasty

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disclaimer that the escapades that ensue result are a product of her own overactive imagination. Mysteries in her series are *Tangled Webs*, *Class Disunion*, *Black Widow White Lies*, and *Deadly Triangles*.



**Brian Thornton's** first paying gig in "the business" was writing opinion columns for beer money back in college at Gonzaga University. His short fiction has appeared in *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*, *Shred of Evidence*, and *Bullet UK*. He is the author of

several full-length works of nonfiction, including *101 Things You Didn't Know About Lincoln*. His historical articles and book reviews have appeared in *Columbia*, *The Magazine of Northwest History*, and *The Pacific Northwest Forum*.



**Susan Tornga** was raised in Tucson, an upbringing that fueled her love for the Arizona desert. Her novel, *Seashells in the Desert*, is set in Winslow, Arizona in 1895. She dedicates this historical mystery to the women who endured countless hardships and

risked so much to open the West for others. Susan is a frequent contributor to the Chicken Soup for the Soul series and the Patchwork Path anthologies. Her stories and articles have won awards from Women on Writing and Writers' Weekly. Her short story, "The Pink Pack," won second place in the international Wild Violet Writing Contest in 2009. [www.susantornga.com](http://www.susantornga.com)



A scientist by training, a romantic at heart, **Maggie Toussaint** loves to solve puzzles. Whether it's the puzzle of a relationship or a whodunit, she tackles them all with equal aplomb. Maggie writes cozy mysteries for Five Star, romantic suspense for The Wild

Rose Press, and contemporary romance for Middle House Publishing. She's a member of Washington Romance Writers, First Coast Romance Writers, Southeast Mystery Writers of America, and Sisters in Crime.



Comma Sense was founded by **Lourdes Venard**, a newspaper editor with more than 27 years of experience writing and editing at major newspapers, including *The Miami Herald*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* and *Newsday*. Her freelance editing

has involved wide-ranging subjects and both fiction and nonfiction books. She has spoken at national conferences about copyediting and has run editing training sessions for young journalists. Currently, she teaches a course for the University of California, San Diego Extension's respected copyediting certification program. She is a member of the American Copy Editors Society, Editorial Freelancers Association, National Association of Hispanic Journalists, and Sisters in Crime. She can be found at LinkedIn and Twitter.



**Mary Vensel White** is the author of *The Qualities of Wood*, the first book published under the HarperCollins Authonomy imprint. The novel was discovered on HarperCollins' site for writers, [authonomy.com](http://authonomy.com), and released as an ebook in January 2012. The

print edition is forthcoming this July. Vensel White was born in Los Angeles and raised in Lancaster, California. She attended the University of Denver and DePaul University, Chicago. Her short fiction has appeared in *The Wisconsin Review* and *Foothills Literary Journal*. Vensel White currently lives in southern California with her husband and four children. She has just finished another novel entitled *Fortress for One* and is working on a collection of short stories.



**C. M. Wendelboe** is the author of the Spirit Road Mysteries series, featuring Lakota FBI agent Manny Tanno and a cast of quirky characters, set on Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The third in the

series, *Death on the Greasy Grass*, is scheduled for release in June. C. M. Wendelboe served as a Marine in the Vietnam War. He then spent the initial third of his thirty-eight year law enforcement career in South Dakota. He assisted federal and tribal agencies on several Indian reservations. C. M. Wendelboe lives in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Visit his website: [www.spiritroadmysteries.com](http://www.spiritroadmysteries.com).

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Nancy G. West's *Fit to Be Dead*, a Lefty finalist, features Aggie Mundeen, the columnist who anonymously writes, "Adventures in Staying Young." Single and pushing forty, Aggie fears only one thing: middle-age decrepitude. Struggling to shape up at the health club before anyone discovers she's the author, she stumbles into murder. If you've tried to start over, get in shape, or loved the wrong man, you'll appreciate Aggie. [www.nancygwest.com](http://www.nancygwest.com)



Tina Whittle's Tai Randolph/Trey Seaver series—featuring the intrepid gun shop owner and her corporate security agent partner—has garnered starred reviews in *Kirkus*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Booklist*, and *Library Journal*. Published by Poisoned Pen Press, this Atlanta-based series debuted with *The Dangerous Edge of Things*, followed by *Darker Than Any Shadow*. The third book—*Blood, Ash and Bone*—premieres March 2013. You can find the author online at her official website—<http://www.tinawhittle.com>.



As a child Patricia Smith Wood entertained herself and others making up stories and putting on plays. Law enforcement is in her DNA: her father served as a police officer and completed a distinguished career with the FBI. She became an FBI employee for a brief period. She graduated from the FBI Citizens' Academy in 2009. Career experiences include:

executive assistant in hospital administration; managing banking telecommunications network; bank security operations; computer technology. She became president of her own computer company and sold the business in 2006. Her first mystery, *The Easter Egg Murder*, came out in February 2013.



Simon Wood ([www.simonwood.net](http://www.simonwood.net)) is an ex-racecar driver, a licensed pilot and an occasional private investigator. He's an Anthony Award winner and a CWA Dagger Award nominee. He's the author of the Aidy Westlake series, *Paying the Piper* and *Terminated*. His next book is *No Show*, out in June.



In two consecutive years, Reavis Z. Wortham's *The Rock Hole* and *Burrows*, books one and two in the critically acclaimed Red River Mystery Series, received starred reviews from both *Publisher's Weekly* and *Kirkus Reviews*. The *Library Journal* placed *Burrows* on its list of Nine Historical Mysteries for the Summer of 2012.



This is the second clue. The next clue will appear on the page opposite the picture of the LCC quilt.

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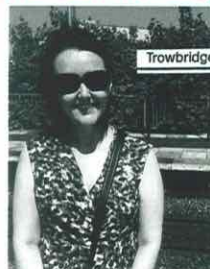
*"G" Is for Guest*  
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