

Say Aloha to Murder



LCC 2009, Hawaii

Left Coast Crime 2009

March 7-12, 2009

Marriott Waikoloa Beach
Resort, The Big Island,
Hawaii

Notes from the Lava Flow

Getting ready for the unconventional
convention Vol. 2 August, 2008

Just Announced! A new play –

The House Without a Key Debuts on Stage at Left Coast Crime 2009

Charlie Chan will solve a murder in Hawaii, and you can watch him do it next March.

The 19th annual Left Coast Crime mystery convention will be held for the first time in Hawaii. Appropriately, its “ghost-of-honor” is Earl Derr Biggers, who created the Chinese police detective from Honolulu in six novels, beginning in 1925 with “The House Without a Key.” As part of the convention’s tribute to Biggers, LCC 2009 will present a one-act stage play of “The House Without a Key,” adapted by mystery writer Hal Glatzer. Each registration includes a free ticket to the show.

In the 1920s, when newspapers were warning of a “yellow peril,” and most Chinese characters in fiction were villains, Biggers crafted a street-smart and perceptive Chinese sleuth. Though Chan affects a deferential persona, and speaks with an accent, he is always—in the words of film scholar Peter Feng—“the smartest man in the room.”

The House Without a Key is one of two Chan novels that are set in Hawaii, in this case, on the mostly undeveloped Waikiki Beach. Although both a silent film and an early talkie were made from this book, there are apparently no surviving prints; and none of the dozens of subsequent Charlie Chan movies were based on it, either. Hal Glatzer’s production will be the first time the story is presented on stage, and (one silent film excepted) the first time that Chan will be portrayed by an Asian-American actor.

web site: www.leftcoastcrime.org/2009



Rhys Bowen - Guest of Honor

Rhys’s mysteries have been nominated for every major mystery award, including the Edgar for best novel, and she has won seven of them. She writes three series, the Constable Evans mysteries, set in Wales, the Molly Murphy mysteries, set in turn-of-the-century New York City and the Lady Victoria Georgiana Charlotte Eugenie mysteries set in 1930s England.



Barry Eisler - Guest of Honor

Barry’s series about half-American, half-Japanese assassin John Rain has been translated into nearly twenty languages and has been optioned for film by Barrie Osborne. Before he started writing the Rain novels, Barry worked for the CIA. We hope none of his “special” skills will come into play during Left Coast Crime!



Lee Goldberg - Toastmaster

Lee has written extensively for TV including *Diagnosis Murder*, *Nero Wolfe* and *Monk*. His TV work has earned him two Edgar Award nominations from the Mystery Writers of America. He is also the author of several acclaimed novels, including *The Man with the Iron-On Badge*.

Fan Guests of Honor, Pam Dehnke and Vallery Feldman have contributed the quilted wall hangings to LCC since 1997.

e-mail: gottfried@leftcoastcrime.org

Planning your stay – Programming to date:

Mystery and vacation at a wonderful beach resort.

Plan to arrive at the latest on Saturday, March 7th – most planes get in from the Mainland around the 11 to 1 o'clock hour, though there are some that arrive later in the afternoon. It is very easy to relax at the hotel the minute you arrive (it is like you have been there forever).

Programming begins on Saturday, March 7th at 1PM with Welcome to Hawaii which will feature A Picto-Historical Talk about Hawaii, Images of Nature – flora and fauna, Hawaiian Music, Dancing, and Meet the Hawaiian Authors in Paradise. In the early evening will be Deserts To Die For ice-breaker and social event. There will be plenty of time to enjoy the beach, the pools, the lounges, the bars and shopping,

Sunday, panels begin at 1PM and later will be the Welcome Luau.

Full day programming (from about 9 AM to 5 PM) is scheduled for Monday (9th) and Tuesday (10th), with “to be announced” evening events.

Wednesday, March 11th begin with a brunch, led by our Toastmaster Lee Goldberg followed by an afternoon of more programming.

Wrap-up programming is scheduled for Thursday, March 12th followed by all convention beach party.

Some highlights of what makes Left Coast Crime 2009 the “unconventional convention”:

1. Four book clubs – one for each of the guests of honor, who will discuss the book of theirs we read, and one for our ‘ghost of honor’, the classic “House Without a Key” that will also be presented as a play Sunday night

2. Very special introduction to Hawaii programs

3. A solid writing track including:

a. Insomniac’s critique sessions – open to all who are interested – starting one hour after the end of the evening program(s), lasting until ? Attendees (published or un) are encouraged to bring works in progress with them.

b. Real writing workshops: in addition to other sessions on revision, and discussions of various aspects of the mystery, we’ll have one two-hour hands-on fiction workshop, and one two-hour hands-on workshop session on writing for TV and film

4. A surprisingly different sort of forensic demonstration

5. Audience-interactive games, quizzes, panels – and prizes, too!

6. Intimate talks on the history of the mystery by a trio of experts.

7. An assortment of terrific evening events and a grand finale of a beach party.

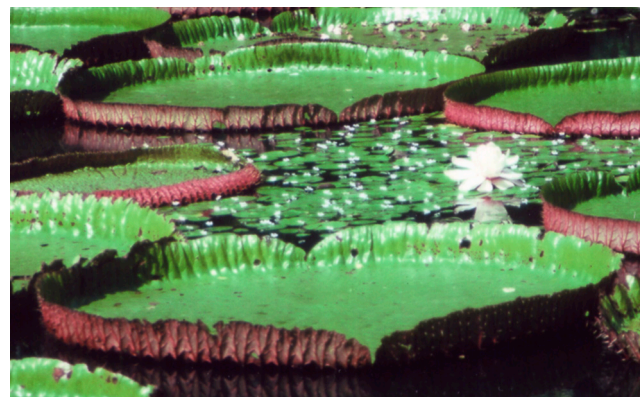
Hotel – Marriott Waikoloa Beach Resort, on the Kona coast

Call **1-877-359-3696** for reservations. Be sure to mention Left Coast Crime 2009. The special hotel rates are good for three days before the convention and three days after. Book now. The special rates may increase Sept. 1. Plan to make this a family vacation and take advantage of the pre- and post-convention trips currently under consideration.

www.waikoloabeachmarriott.com.

Left Coast Crime 2009 BOOK CONTEST

Visit the Left Coast Crime Contests web page monthly to enter the latest book contest. Win autographed books by attending authors. There will be a trivia question for you to answer to have your name placed in the pool for the next drawing. Good luck! **www.leftcoastcrime.org/2009**



Giant Lily pads

photo by Carol Fairweather

Time to think about the Program Book – Ad Rates

Back outside cover:	\$2,000 – full color
Front inside cover:	1,500 – full color
Back inside cover:	1,500 – full color
Full Page	1,000 – full color
Full Page	750 – black and white
Half Page	500 – black and white
Quarter Page	250 – black and white
Business size	75 – black and white

(approximately business card size, to be adjusted as necessary for page formatting.)

Send your photo ready copy (300 dpi) of your advertisement with your payment in full by Dec. 15. Please make your check payable to Left Coast Crime Conference, Inc. The non-profit tax number (EIN) is 86-0775004. Send the check, with ad copy, to Margaret Howland, 12 Pinehurst Green Way, Greenville, SC, 29609, or send the ad copy in a .jpg file via email to howlanma@yahoo.com.

Trips: Before, during, after the convention

A variety of excursions are being planned so you can explore the Big Island. Check the website for the complete list. Reservations will be taken later in August. Here is a sampling.

Mauna Kea Summit & Stars Adventure

Dates: Reserved Space on Thursday 3/5, Saturday 3/7, Tuesday 3/10, Wednesday 3/11, Thursday 3/12, Friday 3/13; other times available upon request

Everyone we've ever sent on this tour has returned describing it as a once in a lifetime experience. After stopping for a gourmet dinner and acclimatization at a scenic highland ranch, you will travel to the summit of Mauna Kea (13,796 feet) for breathtaking views, the mountain's world-class array of telescopes, surrounding volcanic geography and the famous Mauna Kea sunset. You will then descend to 9,000 ft for a star party and entertaining "talk story" with an expert astronomer where you will marvel at the brilliance of the Hawaiian sky from one of the best spots on earth. Includes picnic dinner, exclusive group telescope, warm gear, and snacks.

Price: \$185 per person (minimum age 16)
Departs 3:45 PM - Roy's at Kings Shops; returns 10:30 PM

Kohala Kayak & Snorkel Eco-Adventure

Date: Exclusive on Sunday 3/8 only
The beauty of the nearby marine sanctuary at Puako Reef

web site: www.leftcoastcrime.org/2009

and the excellent staff and equipment of our Kayaking outfitter make this day among green sea turtles and multi-colored fish a rare treat! You'll begin your adventure with a brief orientation on paddling technique and some instruction on how to get in and out of the kayak. You'll paddle for about 30 minutes to the first snorkel spot where instruction will be provided for first-time snorkelers (buoyant vests available). The variety of tropical fish you'll see in their 20' deep home is quite remarkable. While no kayak experience is necessary, everyone should know how to swim as you'll be going out past the reef.

Price: \$79 (adults); \$59 (8-11)
Departs 9 AM from Puako Boat Ramp; returns 12 noon

Kilauea Volcano Adventure

Date: Reserved Space on Friday 3/6; other days by request

Welcome to a tour that takes you from the oldest corner of the Big Island to the newest land on earth. You will discover the diversity of the utopia Hawaiians call home. Begin your full day excursion to Kilauea Volcano with a continental breakfast, as you travel the remote and spectacular Saddle Road. One of the top naturalists on the island will lead you through this heritage site that encompasses the world's most active volcano. A rich history of myths, legends, and stories surround an incredible collection of geologic, plant, bird and insect wonders. Whether in hot pursuit of an active lava flow, hiking into a pit crater, or exploring a lava tube, your guide will inform and entertain as he recounts unique stories of Hawaiian natural history. The focus is on Volcanoes National Park, but we're sure you'll also enjoy the beautiful Hamakua Coast with its picturesque plantation towns, the Parker Ranch and upcountry Waimea.

Price: \$169 (adults); \$129 (child 12 and under)
Departs 7:40 AM - Roy's at Kings Shops; returns 6 PM
www.leftcoastcrime.org/2009



The shaka is the hello and good-bye sign of the Hawaiians. Most Hawaiians appreciate it if you use it. It's the one where your pinky and thumb are fully extended and the three fingers in the middle are curled inward toward your palm. You shake your hand once or twice

- Pat Morin

Awards – at the Brunch Banquet Ceremony, March 11, 2009, three awards will be given for mystery novels published in English (anywhere), between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008.

Lefty Award: Funny, humorous, smiling mystery
Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Mystery Award: Historical mystery, covering events before 1950

Hawaii 5-0 Award: Law enforcement, police procedural

All publishers, authors and fans are invited to send in nominations by e-mail to <cheryl@cherylstevenslaw.com> OR books themselves may be sent to (will not be returned) to Bill Gottfried, 10 Rustic Way, Orinda, CA 94563, USA.

All book nominations must have: Name of the Author, Title of the Book, Date of Publication, Award Category, Publisher. Deadline for nominations Dec. 1. Judges reserve the right to review nomination categories.

Ballots will be sent to all Attending Members of the Convention the first week of January 2009 and must be returned to the individual identified on the ballot by January 28, 2009 to be eligible for counting.

WIN a Free Registration to Left Coast Crime 2009
To participate, send either a color .jpg photo of your smiling self in an Outlandish Beautiful Hawaiian shirt or outfit (dress, costume?) to: pam@leftcoastcrime.org or, if you prefer, a picture to Bill Gottfried, 10 Rustic Way, Orinda, CA 94563. Deadline Oct. 15.

Contacts

Name	Position
Bill and Toby Gottfried	Co-chairs
Louise Ure	Program co-chair
Gillian Roberts	Program co-chair
Sue Trowbridge	Web master
Noemi Levine	Treasurer
Cecilia Runkle	Registration
Janet Rudolph	Publicity
Margaret Howaland	Ads
Vallery Feldman	Program Book
Tom and Enid Schantz	Dealers' Room
Cheryl Stevens	Book Awards, Auction
Pam Dehnke	Hawaiian Costume contest
Carol Fairweather	Book giveaways
Pat Morin	Hawaii Contact

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Pidgin – the Language

While visiting Hawaii, you'll be introduced to the soft lyrical timbre of the Hawaiian language. You can look through the Hawaiian dictionary, but most of the language spoken by the locals is a mix of English, Hawaiian, Portuguese, and all the cultures that sailed in from other countries to work the sugar, pineapple, and macadamia nut farms. Since there was such diversity, with even more cultures joining the plantation ranks, the divergent groups formed words to communicate with one another.

The Chinese were the first Asian immigrants to the islands. By the early 1900s, more than sixty percent of the estimated 40,000 Chinese had intermarried. Many cultures had adapted, at that time, to a Pidgin English to communicate, mixing Portuguese and Chinese with Hawaiian and English.

There are some words you will hear OFTEN.

Brah / bruddah – Similar to “Brother” or “pal” in slang. Example: “Eh, brah!”

Check U'm Out – Check it out

Da kine – Versatile word used to replace words that can't be remembered or are unknown while you are speaking-or have to do with what is spoken
Hawaiian Time – To be late.

Hoele – Caucasian—can be used as negative—not wanted foreign Caucasian

More next issue. Pat Morin

(Left Coast Crime Conference Committee, Inc.)

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