



The Squid Speaks - Vol. 5, December 2013

Welcome to all our new registrants since the last newsletter! Only 99 more days until Left Coast Crime 2014 in Monterey, California.

Advertise in the Calamari Crime Program Book

LCC Authors — we will be contacting publishers at the end of the month about advertising in the Left Coast Crime Program Book. Have you sent us your publisher info yet? If not, please send contact name and email address of your publisher (or someone most likely to arrange advertising for you in the program book), to [Carol Fairweather](#). For information on advertising in the program book yourself, visit our [Advertising webpage](#). There are sizes and prices for every budget. Don't be left out!

Squid FAQs

Dear Squid: Do you have any suggestions for that hard-to-buy-for person on my gift list?

You can't go wrong with an item from the [Calamari Crime store](#) — your official source for all things squid!



Left Coast Crime Award Nominations

Registrants of the 2013 and 2014 Left Coast Crime Conventions will be able to nominate three titles in each category:

- **The Lefty:** *Best humorous mystery novel*
- **The Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Mystery Award:** *Best historical mystery novel covering events before 1960*

- **The Squid:** *Best mystery set within the United States*
- **The Calamari:** *Best mystery set anywhere else in the world*

Your nomination form will be emailed on January 1, 2014, and must be returned by January 24, 2014.

Quilt Raffle

Each year Pam Dehnke and Vallery Feldman create a unique quilt to commemorate the Left Coast Crime Convention, signed by all the Guests of Honor. All raffle proceeds for the 2014 Quilt raffle will go to the Monterey Public Library and the Monterey County Free Libraries. Raffle tickets will be one ticket for \$3.00, four tickets for \$10.00, eleven tickets for \$25.00. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Registration Table during the convention, or in advance online with the



[online order form](#) (minimum 4 tickets). If you purchase raffle tickets online, you will find your ticket stubs waiting in your registration envelope when you sign in at the convention.

(Pam and Vallery with the 2013 Colorado Springs quilt.)

Auction

Do you have an item or items you think might make a tantalizing auction item? Please send a picture and description to [Noemi Levine](#). To whet appetites for the auction, selected items will be posted on the [LCC 2014 website](#). This year Calamari Crime's charitable grantees are the Monterey Public Library and the Monterey County Free Libraries. Anyone can donate to the silent auction.

Side Trips

Monterey and surrounding areas offer much to see and experience. We've worked with Premiere Events to arrange five optional tour opportunities to explore the Monterey Bay area before and after the Left Coast Crime 2014 convention. Our reduced hotel rates will apply before and after the convention at both the Portola and the Marriott so you can extend your stay.



The Big Sur Scenic Tour on Wednesday, March 19, 2014 from 1:00–5:00 PM has met the tour minimum of 20. Seven more spots are still open for the Big Sur tour. Premiere Events will open a waiting list and add another bus if 20 more register.

Email [Premiere Events](#) if you have any questions about the tours.

[Tour Descriptions and Registration Form](#)

Programming Ideas

We want to hear from you! Do you want more interviews? Two or three person discussions? Dance interpretations of mystery plots? Quizzes? Trial by combat? Author dunk tanks? Now is the time to send [Robin Burcell](#) that event you have always wanted to see at a Left Coast Crime convention!

Sponsorship Opportunities

Left Coast Crime encourages organizations to sponsor a variety of events such as the Opening Reception, the Awards Banquet, the Meet the New Authors breakfast, and the hospitality suite. Other options include sponsoring one of our Guests of Honor or supporting Left Coast Crime by sponsoring products such as the convention name badge holder. Please contact [Janet Rudolph](#) if you are interested in learning more about our [sponsorship opportunities](#).

Registration Notes

The cost of registration goes up to \$239 after December 31st. If you have friends who are procrastinating, remind them to register now!

Due to the size of the conference facilities, we can only comfortably accommodate around 750 or so registrants, so it is possible we will need to close registration.

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