

LEFT COAST CRIME 2011

The Big Chile



SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
MARCH 24 - 27, 2011



Poisoned Pen Press



Congrats to
Left Coast Crime 2011
Guest of Honor Steven Havill,
author of the Posadas County
Mystery Series

Watch out for more of our “unusual”
suspects at Left Coast Crime 2011

Aileen Baron
Rachel Brady
Robin Burcell
Vicki Delany
Steven Havill
Tammy Kaehler
Ken Kuhlken

Margit Liesche
Jeanne Matthews
Michael Norman
Ann Parker
Twist Phelan
Priscilla Royal
Susan Slater

Poisoned Pen Press—Publishing Excellence in Mystery
6962 E. 1st Ave, Suite 103 • Scottsdale, AZ 85251
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¡Bienvenidos a Nuevo Mexico!

Two years ago, an innocent question landed in my inbox: “How far is Albuquerque from Santa Fe?” I liked Tom and Enid Schantz, so I answered their email quickly, “It’s close—fifty minutes if you’re married to the speed limit.”

Their next response, much longer this time, explained that the hotel for the original location of LCC 2011 had fallen through....

I stopped reading long enough to hit myself on the forehead. I should have remembered that Tom and Enid were major players in the Left Coast Crime world.

My eyes wandered to the end of their message. It concluded with: “Would you consider chairing the convention in Santa Fe?”

Oh, man.

Looking back, I know that the desire to share my love of New Mexico with the mystery community I adore blinded me to the amount of work chairing an all-volunteer convention would require. Honestly, if I counted all the time I’ve spent focused on LCC 2011, I surely could have written another book based in New Mexico. Maybe two.

But the decision to hold Left Coast Crime 2011 in Santa Fe touched a positive nerve in our community. The numbers didn’t lie: We sold out of rooms at La Fonda nearly a year in advance. We hit my attendance goals more than eight months before the convention’s start. People wanted to come to New Mexico. It was my job to make the experience the best it could be.

Every step of the way, I had the most astounding core team imaginable. This convention’s success is because of their sense of responsibility, hard work, and clear thinking. My gratitude to: Joseph Badal, Olin Bray, Christine Goff, David Haughawout, Rob Kresge, Sarah Schwartz, Andrea Sterling, Lucinda Surber, Sue Trowbridge, Stan Ulrich, and Susan Zates.

I had help and advice from Donna Andrews, Bryan Barrett, Michael Befeler, Colleen Collins, Bill and Toby Gottfried, Noemi Levine, Susan Paturzo, Cecilia Runkle, Janet Rudolph, and Tom and Enid Schantz. Our representative from the Santa Fe Visitors and Convention Bureau, Mara Saubers, as well as La Fonda staff April Gallegos, Virginia Leyva, and Stephanie Scrimshaw, have been dreams to work with. Marcia Skillman, our tour operator, deserves a special shout-out. And thank you to all of the conventions from which I borrowed ideas so shamelessly: Bouchercon, past LCCs, Magna Cum Murder, Malice Domestic, Mayhem in the Midlands, and Murder in the Magic City.

There’s a reason New Mexico is called “The Land of Enchantment.” I hope that during our LCC, you’ll take the time to explore Santa Fe. I hope a server at a restaurant asks you our state question: “Red or Green?” and that you’ll say, “Christmas”—which is the way I usually like mine because I adore both types of chile. I hope that you’ll witness the extraordinary quality of light and color here—of a cloudless blue sky against a red-brown adobe wall in the late afternoon. I hope that you’ll smell piñon wood burning in fireplaces, visit museums, and walk this historic town.

These four days represent the culmination of an astonishing amount of work—all done for free—and all done on your behalf.

My final hope is that you’ll enjoy every minute of your stay here.

That will be the true reward for all of our efforts.

Pari Noskin Taichert, Left Coast Crime 2011 Chair

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• **Check the Bulletin Board** by the Registration Table in the Mezzanine for news, announcements, programming changes...

• **Connections:** There is a **sign-up sheet** so you can arrange to meet others, such as for day trips or restaurant visits.

• **Don’t Forget to Vote!** Deposit your ballot in the box at the Registration Table by 1:30 PM on Saturday afternoon.

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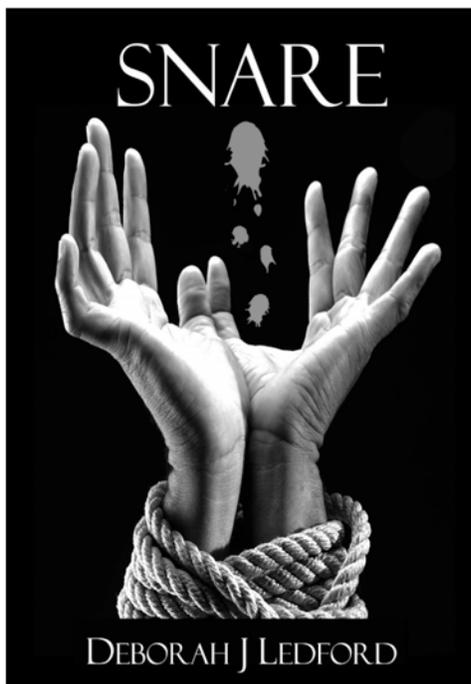
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SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 23

3 PM – 6 PM Registration begins — on the Mezzanine

9 PM Learn poker with John Vorhaus and others, informal and fun — in the Santa Fe Room

Thursday, March 24

1 PM – 5 PM Panels and *Cuentos* begin (see detailed schedule p. 5; *Cuentos* explained p. 70)

7:30 PM – 9 PM **Tony Hillerman's Landscape**— in the Lumpkin Ballroom

Anne Hillerman and Don Strel present a slide show of their award-winning book. An informal memorial for Tony Hillerman follows.

Friday, March 25

7:30 AM – 9 AM Continental breakfast featuring New Writers — hosted by Mike Befeler in La Terraza

9 AM – 5 PM Panels and *Cuentos* continue (see detailed schedule pp. 6-7)

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM **Welcoming Reception** — hors d'oeuvres, dancers from Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, award nominee recognition, and more... — in the Lumpkin Ballroom

8 PM – 9:30 PM **Route 66 in Santa Fe: How a TV Show Made Me a Writer** — in the Lumpkin Ballroom
See a *Route 66* episode and learn how a television show changed David Morrell's life.

Saturday, March 26

7:30 AM Continental breakfast featuring Established Writers — hosted by Donna Andrews in La Terraza

9 AM – 5 PM Panels and *Cuentos* continue (see detailed schedule pp. 8-9)

6 PM Reception — no-host bar on Mezzanine and in the Stiha Room

7:15 PM – 9 PM **Awards Banquet** — in the Lumpkin Ballroom

- Banquet doors open at 7:15 PM
- Presentation of four LCC Awards and the IMBA Dilys Award (see pp. 68-69)
- Silent Auction winners announced at end of banquet

Sunday, March 27

9 AM – 9:45 AM **Officer Down** — Michael McGarrity interviews Tonia Harris, widow of slain Sandoval County Sheriff's Sergeant Joe Harris. She speaks in public for the first time about the fateful day when her husband was ambushed. — in the Lumpkin Ballroom

10 AM – 11:45 AM Panels and *Cuentos* conclude (see detailed schedule p. 9)

¡Hasta la vista! Have a safe trip home and we'll see you at LCC 2012 in Sacramento!

-
- **Registration:** On the Mezzanine: Wednesday, 3 PM – 6 PM; Thursday-Saturday, 8 AM – 5 PM.
 - **Book signings** follow each Panel and *Cuento* session in the Santa Fe Room on the main floor.
 - **Silent Auction** is ongoing in La Terraza, starting Thursday afternoon and continuing through the pre-banquet cocktail party. The winners will be announced at the Awards Banquet. Donated items include: signed 1st editions, character names, a 30-page professional manuscript edit, three hours of professional research, memberships to CrimeFest and LCC 2012, and a variety of crazy-themed specialty baskets. Bid early, bid often, and take home a treasure! (For information on auction proceeds recipient *ReadWest*, see p. 69.)
 - **Volunteers:** If you'd like to help out, check in at the Volunteer Table on the Mezzanine.
 - **Book exchange** — Please use the table on the Mezzanine near the Lumpkin Ballroom.
 - **Hospitality Suite in La Terraza** — Snacks, the Silent Auction, and a tremendous view from the third floor. *Hours:* Thursday, 1 PM – 4 PM; Friday & Saturday, 9 AM – 4 PM; Sunday, 9 AM – 11 AM.
 - **Writers' Breakfast seating is limited** — it's first come, first-served. We've ordered more food than there is seating, so you can stop by and grab a muffin or yogurt before the first panel of the day.
 - **Book Dealers** are in the New Mexico Room on the main floor. *Hours:* Thursday, 1 PM – 5 PM; Friday & Saturday, 9 AM – 5 PM; Sunday, 9 AM – noon.
 - **Don't Forget to Vote!** Your LCC Awards Ballot is included in your registration packet. Please put your ballot in the ballot box at the Registration Table on the Mezzanine by 1:30 PM on Saturday afternoon.





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PANELS, CUENTOS, AND MORE...

Note: Book signings take place in the Santa Fe Room immediately following a panel or cuento.

Panel assignments are subject to change. See the Pocket Program for the latest printed information.

See the map of La Fonda on back cover for room locations. North & South are halves of the Lumpkin Ballroom.

Thursday afternoon, March 24

1:00 PM – 1:45 PM

Sex and Romance in Mysteries

Rebecca Grace Martinez (M), Terry Odell, Twist Phelan, Cindy Sample • *Panel in North*

Santa Fe, the City Different

Susan Paturzo (M), Joe Badal, Margaret Coel, Susan C. Shea • *Panel in South*

Hot and Cold: The Effect of Climate on Crime

Victoria Heckman (M), Vicki Delany, Neil Plakcy, Lance Zarimba • *Panel in Stiha*

Humor Will Discharge Our Anger

Kris Neri • *Cuento in Coronado*

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM

Focus on the Funny: Humorous Mysteries

Elaine Abramson (M), Donna Andrews, Denise (Deni) Dietz, Jimmy Olsen • *Panel in North*

Mysteries at the Heart of New Mexico

Victoria Erhart (M), Mike Orenduff, Pari Noskin Taichert, John Vorhaus • *Panel in South*

Unusual Crime Scenes

Mike Befeler (M), Ruthie-Marie Beckwith, Hannah Reed, Margaret Tessler • *Panel in Stiha*

The Crime Hot Spots of Canada

R.J. Harlick, with Vicki Delany, Barbara Fradkin, • *Cuento in Coronado*

3:00 PM – 3:45 PM

From Printed Word to the Screen

John Vorhaus (M), Brian Garfield, Stephen Jay Schwartz, Mae Woods • *Panel in North*

Supernatural Mysteries

Rochelle Staab (M), Nancy Atherton, Darynda Jones, Margaret Lucke, Kris Neri • *Panel in South*

Growing New Readers

Marlyn Beebe (M), Rebecca Cantrell, Andrea Davis, Chris Eboch, Lea Wait • *Panel in Stiha*

Designing Winning Protagonists for Today's Mystery Market

Katharine Russell • *Cuento in Coronado*

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM

Short But Not Sweet: Short Stories

Jane Burfield (M), Michael Bracken, Andrew Gulli, Patricia Morin, Stephen D. Rogers, Lance Zarimba
• *Panel in North*

Fan Favorites

George Easter (M), Leslie Doran, Marv Lachman, Maggie Mason, Maddy Van Hertbruggen • *Panel in South*

Creating Characters Before Your Eyes

Patricia Gulley (M), Kaye George, Rob Kresge, Kay Stewart • *Panel in Stiha*

Killer Birds: Explore the Newest Trend in Wildlife Mysteries

Christine Goff • *Cuento in Coronado*



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**Thursday evening, March 24**  
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7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Tony Hillerman's Landscape: On the Road with Chee and Leaphorn

Presented by Anne Hillerman and Don Strel • *Event in Lumpkin Ballroom*

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**Friday morning, March 25**  
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7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Continental Breakfast with New Writers

Hosted by Mike Befeler • *Introduction and informal get-together in La Terraza*

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

Crafts, Hobbies, and Murders

Christine Goff (M), Avery Aames, Camille Minichino, Maggie Sefton • *Panel in North*

Villains We Love To Hate

Susan Paturzo (M), Meredith Anthony, J.T. Ellison, Peter Guttridge • *Panel in South*

A Dose of Reality: Forensics

Mysti Berry (M), D.P. Lyle, Priscilla Royal, Zulema Seligsohn • *Panel in Stiha*

Men of Mystery

Joan Hansen, Stacey Aaronson, Tammy Kaehler & guests • *Cuento in Coronado*

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Industry Professionals on Publishing

Barbara Peters (M), Kimberley Cameron, Keith Kahla, Larry Light, Janet Reid, Jodie Renner
• *Panel in North*

The Many Faces of Violence

Charlie Newton (M), Wayne Arthurson, Mark Coggins, David Corbett, J.T. Ellison, Martin Cruz Smith
• *Panel in South*

Spirit, Religion, and the Holy in Mysteries

Margaret Coel (M), Philip Cioffari, Susan McDuffie, Pari Noskin Taichert, Kenneth Wishnia
• *Panel in Stiha*

What I Learned from Nancy Drew

Chris Eboch • *Cuento in Coronado*

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Which Came First: The Lawyer or the Writer?

Ken Isaacson (M), Laura Caldwell, Gabriella Herkert, Paul Levine, Sheldon Siegel • *Panel in North*

Breaking Barricades and Opening Doors

David Morrell (M), Johnny D. Boggs, Michael McGarrity, Zoë Sharp • *Panel in South*

Murder in the Great Outdoors

Beth Groundwater (M), Sandi Ault, Michael Norman, Twist Phelan • *Panel in Stiha*

These Are a Few of My Favorite Cons

John Vorhaus • *Cuento in Coronado*

Lunch Break (on your own)



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**Friday afternoon, March 25**  
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1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

Mysteries with a Social Conscience

Mar Preston (M), Michelle Black, Rhys Bowen, Susan Goldstein, Elizabeth Gunn • *Panel in North*

Publishing Today and Tomorrow

Judith Van Gieson (M), Harlen Campbell, Denise (Deni) Dietz, Patricia Gulley, Carolyn J. Rose, L.J. Sellers
• *Panel in South*

Unearthing Mystery: Digging Up Clues

Susan Cummins Miller (M), Aileen G. Baron, Pete Goodman, Maria Hudgins, Gigi Pandian • *Panel in Stiha*

Hollywood from the Inside Out

Robert S. Levinson • *Cuento in Coronado*

2:45 PM – 3:30 PM

Living Diversity: Mysteries with a Difference

R.J. Harlick (M), Gar Anthony Haywood, Deborah J Ledford, Neil Plakcy, Darryl Wimberley
• *Panel in North*

Are Labels Helpful or Harmful?

Brian Skupin (M), Joan Boswell, Steve Brewer, Betty Hechtman, Christine T. Jorgensen • *Panel in South*

Investigative Smarts: What Do You Need?

Madeline (M.M.) Gornell (M), Michael A. Black, Laura DiSilverio, Michael Nettleton • *Panel in Stiha*

The Detection Club

Maria Hudgins • *Cuento in Coronado*

4:15 PM – 5:00 PM

Guest of Honor Steven Havill

Interviewed by Toastmaster Steve Brewer • *Interview in Lumpkin Ballroom*

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**Friday evening, March 25**  
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5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Welcoming Reception — begins with performance by Ice Mountain Dance Group from Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo • *Event in Lumpkin Ballroom*

8:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Route 66 in Santa Fe: How a TV Show Made Me a Writer

David Morell • *Event in Lumpkin Ballroom*

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**Saturday morning, March 26**  
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7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Continental Breakfast with Established Writers

Hosted by Donna Andrews • *Informal get-together in La Terraza*

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

Pre-20th Century Historical Mysteries

Clyde Linsley (M), John Maddox Roberts, Kelli Stanley, Kenneth Wishnia • *Panel in North*

Crime Solving in Fiction: Urban vs. Isolated Settings

Janet Majerus (M), Philip Cioffari, Rosemary Harris, Steven Havill, Denise Swanson • *Panel in South*

Research: Getting It Right

Robert S. Levinson (M), John Billheimer, Steve Brewer, Susan Cummins Miller, L.J. Sellers • *Panel in Stiha*

Ten Things I've Learned Since I Was Published

Lea Wait • *Cuento in Coronado*

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

20th Century Historical Mysteries

Sharon Rowse (M), Rhys Bowen, Rebecca Cantrell, Ken Hodgson, Laurie R. King, Ken Kuhlken
• *Panel in North*

The Old West Anew

Pati Nagle (M), Brian Garfield, David Edgerley Gates, Craig Johnson, Ann Parker • *Panel in South*

When Location Makes All the Difference

Jeanne Matthews (M), Annamaria Alfieri, Pete Goodman, R.J. Harlick, Sara Sue Hoklotubbe
• *Panel in Stiha*

The Changing Role of Women as Revealed in Mystery Fiction

Vicki Delany • *Cuento in Coronado*

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Guest of Honor Margaret Coel

Interviewed by Craig Johnson • *Interview in Lumpkin Ballroom*

Lunch Break (on your own)

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**Saturday afternoon, March 26**  
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1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

Common and Uncommon Elements in Thrillers

Charlotte Hinger (M), Robin Burcell, Bette Golden Lamb, J.J. Lamb • *Panel in North*

Series vs. Standalones

Rosemary Mild (M), Michael A. Black, Janet Dawson, G.M. Malliet, Larry Mild, Penny Warner
• *Panel in South*

Ghosts of Honor: Frances Crane & Dorothy B. Hughes

Carol Caverly (M), John Apostolou, Marv Lachman, Tom O'Day, Tom Schantz • *Panel in Stiha*

You Can't Run in High Heels

Zoë Sharp, J.T. Ellison • *Cuento in Coronado*



2:45 PM – 3:30 PM

Crime Solvers Without Badges

Rachel Brady (M), Laurie R. King, Harley Jane Kozak, Larry Light, Annette Mahon, Marcia Talley
• *Panel in North*

Out of Your Comfort Zone

Bill Fitzhugh (M), Donna Andrews, Sandi Ault, Parnell Hall, Gar Anthony Haywood • *Panel in South*

It's Not Just Fiction to Me

Susan Goldstein (M), Colleen Casey, Kathryn Casey, Reece Hirsch, Judy Starbuck • *Panel in Stiha*

Wisdom from Industry Pros

Barbara Peters, Keith Kahla • *Cuento in Coronado*

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM

Lifetime Achievement Honoree Martin Cruz Smith

Interviewed by Katherine Neville • *Interview in Lumpkin Ballroom*

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**Saturday evening, March 26**  
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6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Reception and Awards Banquet — No-host cocktails at 6:00 • *in Stiha and on Mezzanine*

Banquet doors open at 7:15 • *in Lumpkin Ballroom*

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**Sunday morning, March 27**  
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9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

Officer Down • *Interview in Lumpkin Ballroom*

Michael McGarrity interviews Tonia Harris

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM

Crime Fiction on Big and Little Screens

Chantelle Aimée Osman (M), Craig Johnson, Jean Utley, Judith Van Gieson, Deborah Harter Williams
• *Panel in North*

International Settings

Joe Badal (M), Jill Amadio, Lise McClendon, Katherine Neville • *Panel in South*

Police Procedurals Across Place and Time

L.C. Hayden (M), Lou Allin, Michael Dymmoch, Barbara Fradkin • *Panel in Stiha*

Who Wants To Be an eBook Millionaire?

Sue Trowbridge • *Cuento in Coronado*

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM

Humor in the Mix: Comic Relief

Kaye George (M), Laura DiSilverio, Parnell Hall, Darynda Jones, Harley Jane Kozak • *Panel in North*

Murder on the Home Front

Marcia Talley (M), Eric Beetner, Ken Kuhlken, Kelli Stanley • *Panel in South*

Research: Stretching the Truth

Rob Kresge (M), Joel Fox, Gerald Weinberg, Curt M. Wendelboe • *Panel in Stiha*

Mixing Humor, Mystery, and Older Characters

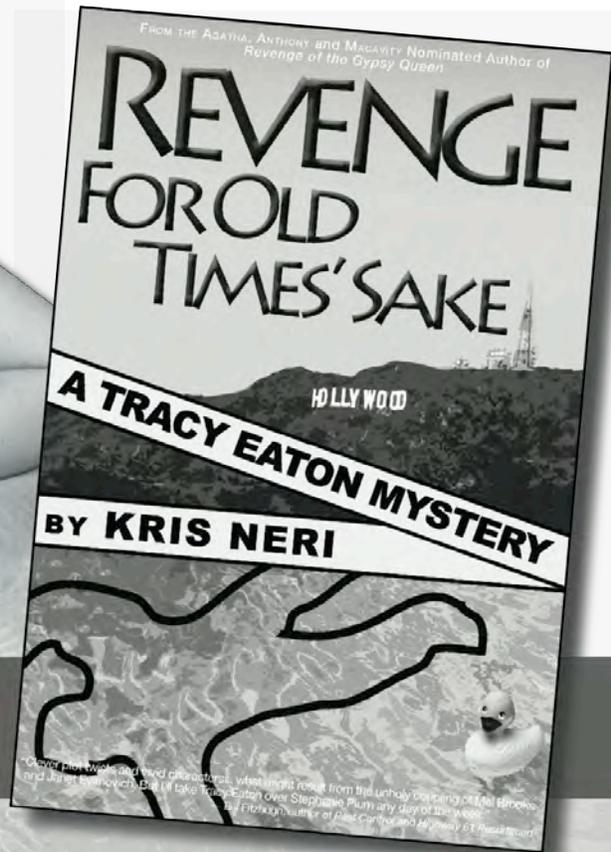
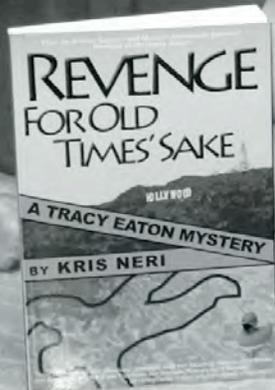
Mike Befeler • *Cuento in Coronado*



Kris Neri CONGRATULATIONS

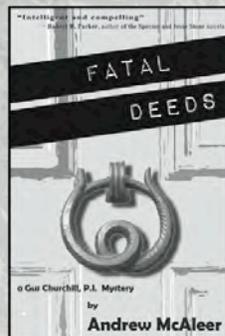
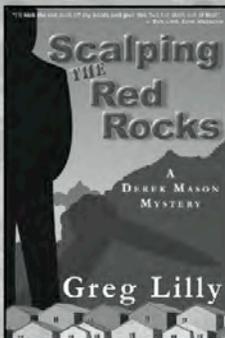
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Welcome to La Fonda!

Ernest Martinez: Painting the Personality of a Place

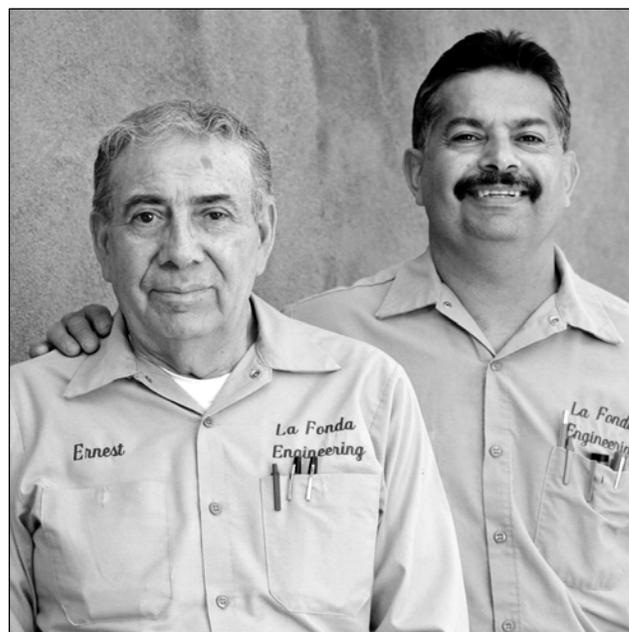
Anyone who enters La Fonda Hotel can't help but notice the framed paintings, the murals, the decorations on the glass tiles in La Plazuela, the Mimbres designs in the Ballroom, and the bright little flowers gracing the walls and furniture in each guest room. It's an undeniable fact: From the lobby to the highest floor, many gifted artists have contributed to this hotel's unique beauty. Arguably the most prolific is Ernest Martinez who served as the hotel's resident painter for 56 years.

Born in the northern New Mexico town of Española, the soft-spoken Martinez, now 78 years old, says that his parents enjoyed his artistic bent from the beginning. "I started painting when I was three," he says. "By the time I was eight, I won first prize for my age group at the State Fair."

Martinez's parents encouraged their only child to pursue his interests, even going as far as to let him decorate the walls in their home. "I'd paint anything I could see," he says.

The connection between Martinez and his long-time employer goes back years before he'd be hired there. Among his earliest memories are trips to Santa Fe and his family stays in the hotel. "I was a little boy, six or seven years old, and I'd walk around La Fonda," he says. "I always thought it needed a little decoration."

Though Martinez started as a janitor at La Fonda, he quickly offered to add his lovely folk-art touches to the place. "They let me do whatever I wanted," he says.

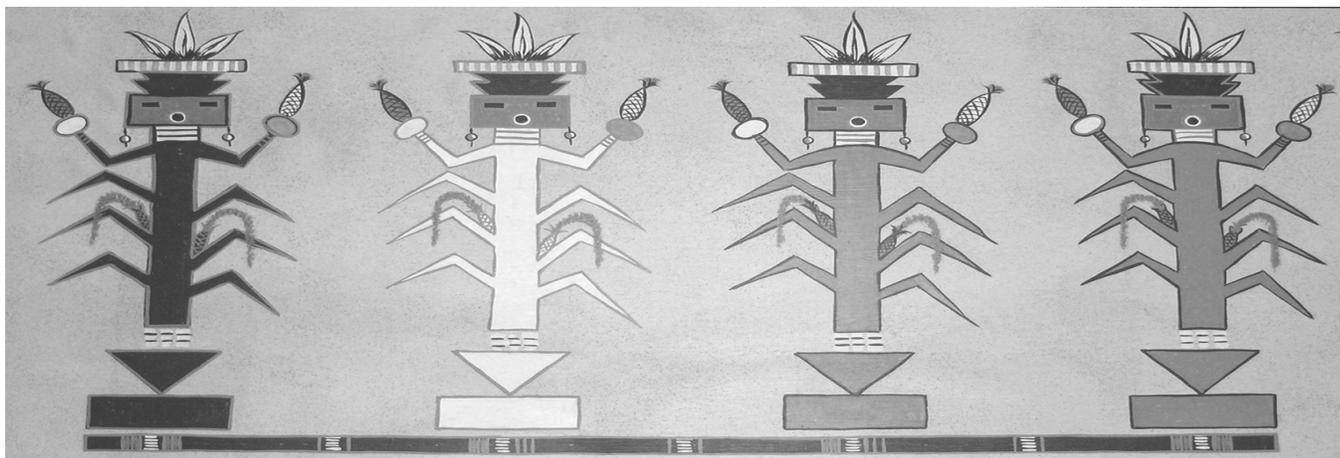


*Ernest Martinez and son Joseph © InSight Photo
Photo courtesy of La Fonda*

Though not formally trained, Martinez studied with Vladan Stiha, an internationally known artist from Belgrade, Yugoslavia. Stiha painted the panels of Native Americans on La Fonda's Mezzanine. (One of our Left Coast Crime panel tracks is in the room named after him.)

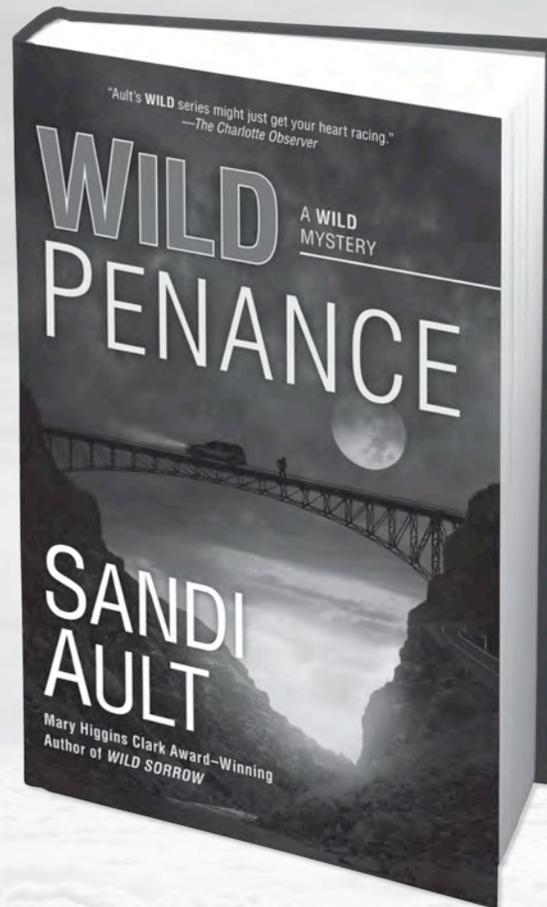
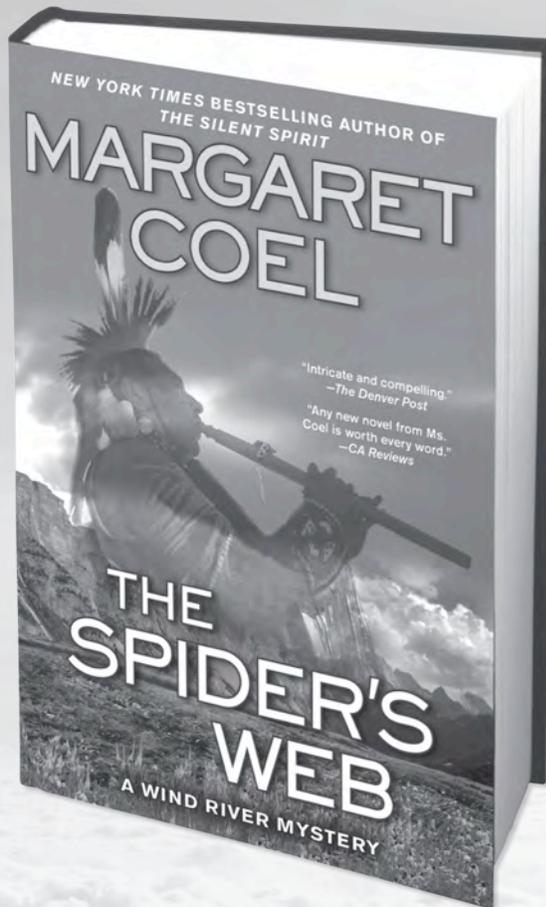
Though retired from La Fonda now, Ernest Martinez is still busy creating art. "I paint landscapes and whatever else I feel like painting," he says. "For me, it's what I've always done. And I'll always do it, too."

Pari Noskin Taichert



Detail from painting in Lumpkin Ballroom, by Ernest Martinez. Sand paintings and Mimbres designs in this program by Ernest Martinez, used by permission of La Fonda.

Berkley Prime Crime Congratulates Its 2011 Left Coast Crime Award Nominees



©Madeira James

**Prime Crime also salutes
the convention's Guest of Honor,
Margaret Coel.**



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Lifetime Achievement: Martin Cruz Smith

Martin Cruz Smith is the quintessential “Writers’ Writer.”

That statement requires a bit of explaining. In the publishing world, there are two kinds of enormously successful authors:

First, there is the important category of those who can understand, accept and deliver under specifically fixed conditions: always writing within a recognized genre (pick one: mystery, crime, history, romance); always delivering books within a scheduled timeframe (one to two years per book); always using recurring characters, an ongoing plot structure, and consistent type of locale that the audience can relate to; always delivering a conventional conclusion to each story.

Then, there is the kind of writer who breaks the mold: enter Martin Cruz Smith.

For decades Smith was dubbed, by fellow authors, an “Industrial Strength Writer”—meaning that he could crank out books as needed to pay the rent. (“Delivery was more important than what was delivered,” as Smith puts it.) In the early days, he both wrote and edited *For Men Only*—a magazine of the prolific Magazine Management, which published *Marvell Comics*, *Silver Screen*, *Romance*, *Stag* magazines—as well as writing some Nick Carters, some novelizations of the popular films *Adventures of the Wilderness Family*, some cowboy novels (Smith will cross the street to avoid discussing them), and so on. Fascinatingly, his co-crankhouse authors of the day were guys like Jimmy Breslin, Mario Puzo, and Ernest Tidyman (famous for *Shaft*, the first Black cultural blockbuster). Everybody had to make a living, Smith reasoned, and this was excellent training ground for “How to find the story fast,” as he puts it. But Smith had to do a bit more.

The first important self-acknowledged novel he published, *Gypsy in Amber*, had a very respectable advance for the time—\$2500—and it was nominated for an Edgar Allan Poe award! You can’t get higher than that. But then his second book received an advance of only

\$2200. Wait! Smith was puzzled: If he was so successful, why were his advances going *down*? Most writers, reaching that fork in the road, would try to figure out what they needed to do to hook more readers—agents—publishers, to sell more books. Smith elected to write more books in different genres: detective procedurals, westerns, romances, thrillers. And to write about topics and people that he loved, and loved to know better:

gypsies, Native Americans—you name it, and he did it. And this would provide the very fertile ground he needed to become the Writers’ Writer: a master of research.

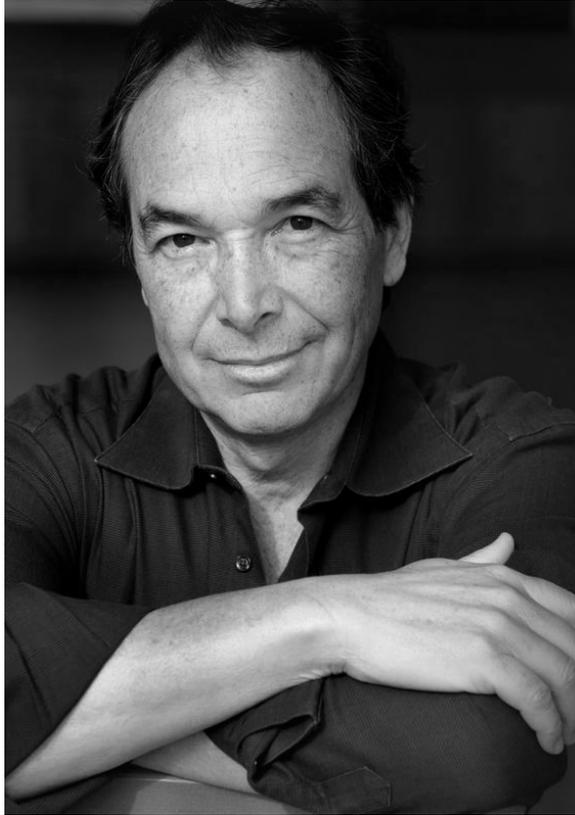
Ten years of “grinding” and then Martin Cruz Smith produced from his imagination something that no one had ever believed could be sold to a publisher, much less to the American people. At the height of the Cold War, he wrote a book that would turn political perception on its head: a book where the hero is a Russian prosecutor’s investigator. And the villain is a rich and respected American capitalist. A book whose ending was nobody’s idea of conventional.

Publishing heresy? Perhaps. Publishing legacy? Definitely.

Gorky Park.

From the moment Smith opened for us that window upon the fascinating literary world that lay “behind the curtain,” an outpouring of great thrillers has ensued. For one thing, Smith lit the torch that lighted the way for other writers into the dark continent of the Soviet Empire. For another, he ignited his own flame which resulted in sequels with his Russian hero, Arkady, through the fall of the Berlin Wall (*Polar Star*, *Havana Bay*, *Red Square*, *Three Stations*). But there are also the stand-alone novels, like the astonishing story of the powerful British coal dynasties that he so brilliantly evokes in *Rose*.

Martin Cruz Smith has encouraged all of us writers to explore, tackle, and conquer multiple eras of history, geographical realms, characters, and even genres of literature. And his courage in researching these things permits us to do likewise: his delving deep into a British coal mine to investigate the world of those who



HONOREE APPRECIATION

labor a mile beneath the earth (for *Rose*); his trip to Chernobyl to see life around it first-hand *after* the meltdown (for *Wolves Eat Dogs*); his risky voyages on a Soviet factory ship and several trawlers (for *Polar Star*)—just to name a few. Is it any surprise, then, that most authors consider him the Writers' Writer? The author who has led the way into that magical place where facts create fiction, and fiction creates for us a new way of looking at our world.

Katherine Neville
Santa Fe, NM

Martin Cruz Smith: a selected bibliography

Series:

Roman Grey, a Gypsy art dealer in New York City:

Gypsy in Amber (1971)

Finalist 1972 Edgar Award for Best First Novel

Canto for a Gypsy (1972)

Finalist 1973 Edgar Award for Best Mystery

Arkady Renko, a chief homicide inspector for the prosecutor's office, in Moscow, Russia:

Gorky Park (1981)

1981 Gold Dagger Award

Polar Star (1989)

Red Square (1992)

Havana Bay (1999)

2009 Hammett Prize

Finalist 2000 Gold Dagger Award

Wolves Eat Dogs (2004)

Stalin's Ghost (2007)

Finalist 2007 Hammett Prize

Three Stations (2010)

Non-series:

Analog Bullet (1972)

Nightwing (1977)

Finalist 1978 Edgar Award for Best Mystery

Stallion Gate (1986)

Rose (1996)

1996 Hammett Prize

December 6 (2002)

APA: Tokyo Station (2002)

Written as Simon Quinn

Francis Xavier Killy ("The Inquisitor") a lay brother investigator for the Vatican:

The Devil in Kansas (1974)

The Last Time I Saw Hell (1974)

Nuplex Red (1974)

His Eminence, Death (1974)

The Midas Coffin (1975)

Finalist 1976 Edgar Award for Best Paperback

Last Rites for the Vulture (1975)



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Guest of Honor: Margaret Coel



I heard about “Saint” Margaret before meeting her, and by all reports, I figured she was too good to be true: a fourth-generation Coloradoan with more than 16 prize-winning novels and one of the kindest human beings to walk the face of the earth?

It’s hard not to mention Margaret Coel in conjunction with one of her mentors, Tony Hillerman, who referred to her as a master in the field. You can read some of the resonances of the old master in Margaret’s work, but you can also see where she advanced from there, cutting a new path for herself and her writing.

A fellow I once worked with said there was no such thing as tough, there’s just prepared. I think that’s one of the ways I view Margaret’s work—prepared. She doesn’t do anything by the seat of her skirt—as a true student of the craft, she prepares in a way that makes other authors blush. Each work is an opportunity for study, one she takes very seriously, but one which she attacks with excitement and intellectual enthusiasm.

Dark and statuesque, I’ve heard Margaret field the inevitable question of, “Are you Arapaho?” with grace and candor. Generally they take another look at her and insist, “Well, maybe you are and you just don’t know it—maybe you should have your DNA done.” Margaret usually informs them that she really doesn’t need to do that since the only people who’ve never mistaken her for Arapaho—are the Arapahos.

It was only in a chance event where she heard the aforementioned Tony Hillerman speak of his love for the Navajo and how they had enriched his life that that first spark of the novelist took place. There in that massive ballroom, surrounded by others, she heard that small voice that speaks to would-be authors that said, “I can do that.”

I don’t know if Margaret knew she’d still be dealing with the unlikely relationship between Father John Aloysius O’Malley and Arapaho lawyer Vicky Holden after 17 installments, but in my mind the two characters are representative of church and state; an uneasy alliance where the stakes couldn’t be any higher.

The same can be said of Margaret’s craft as a novelist—the more specific she becomes with her characters the more she approaches the universality of the human condition, another hallmark of great writing. I have to admit that with my critical mind set, I was dubious of all the stories I’d heard about “Saint” Margaret—but I can now say with all honesty, that I’ve become a true believer.

*Craig Johnson
Ucross, Wyoming*



Margaret Coel bibliography

John Aloysius O'Malley, a Jesuit missionary, and Vicky Holden, an Arapaho attorney, on the Wind River Reservation, in Wyoming:

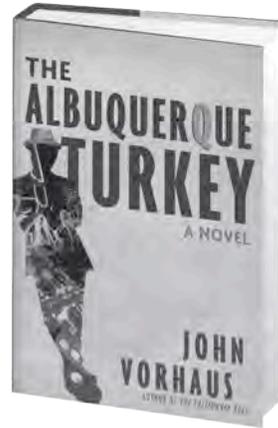
- The Eagle Catcher (1995)
- The Ghost Walker (1996)
- The Dream Stalker (1997)
- The Story Teller (1998)
- The Lost Bird (1999)
- The Spirit Woman (2000)
- The Thunder Keeper (2001)
- The Shadow Dancer (2002)
- Killing Raven (2003)
- Wife of Moon (2004)
- Eye of the Wolf (2005)
- Drowning Man (2006)
- The Girl with Braided Hair (2007)
- The Silent Spirit (2009)
- The Spider's Web (2010)
- Finalist 2011 Hillerman Sky Award*

Non-series:

- Blood Memory (2008)

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Guest of Honor: Steven Havill

Steven Havill and His Work: A Land of Enchantment

Even today, 20 years after publication date, I still recall the thrill and the joy of reading *Heartshot*, Steven Havill's first mystery set in New Mexico's Bootheel in a fictional but vividly real Posadas County. And its pulse-pounding climax as the wounded lawman Bill Gastner is flown by air ambulance towards an urban hospital. Would he survive? This was a first mystery, if not a first novel—Havill wrote four novels of the American West before turning to crime—so no guarantees here for Bill.

Who knew reading *Heartshot* would signal the start of a love affair (so far) numbering 17 mysteries? Two of them, I add, take Havill to the Pacific Northwest where adventurous doctor Thomas Parks establishes a practice in a high-risk community where lumbering is king. Not everyone who dies, dies from a medical incident....

Hillerman Country is what we at The Poisoned Pen call the territory in New Mexico and Arizona with its cross-border cultures and allegiances, racial mix, and exciting history. Yet I'm as much fascinated with the Bootheel, a rich and vivid landscape where the residents face the same challenges, although southward-facing towards Mexico. If we have tribal jurisdictions and federal as well as state issues in Hillerman Country, so we have local, state, and federal issues in Posadas County, plus Mexico in the mix. If you read for the joy of spending time in a much loved landscape, Havill is your author.

If an appeal of a series is the ensemble cast, Havill provides them in spades as they transition through life. If plots built on character, not coincidence or artificial constricts woo you, be won. If you are into impeccable procedure executed by not only by law officers but by the various professionals county wide, they perform brilliantly and meticulously. Havill takes procedure and how things work so seriously he has recently completed an AAS degree in gunsmithing.

How did he become Steven Havill, author? He taught school for some 25 years in the Ruidoso area, learning about deviousness and deceit and delight from his pupils, and also how to structure a narrative so inquiring minds would understand it. Reading his work is a special education as well as entertainment.

Here is what another fan, distinguished critic Bill Ott, wrote in *Booklist* about *Double Prey*, the latest series entry. "Havill is a master at using procedural details to expose the complexities of small-town relationships, but he also excels at drawing meaning from landscape. Like an archaeologist sifting history from the ground, Reyes-Guzman digs clues from the guano-splattered floor of the cave where the jaguar's skull was found. One of the stronger entries in an always-satisfying series."

It's not easy to move from being a fan to a bookseller to an author's editor. Way scary, in fact. That this new relationship has worked so well across three, soon to be four, mysteries and



the republication of Havill's backlist, now entitled The Posadas County Series, to embrace both Bill and Estelle as lead sleuths, is a credit to Mr. Havill's professionalism: in other words, he puts up with me. And I remain his biggest fan (well, outside his wife of 40-some years, Kathleen, first reader and critic).

Barbara Peters
Poisoned Pen Press
Scottsdale, AZ



Steven Havill bibliography

Bill Gastner, insomniac undersheriff, and Estelle Reyes-Guzman, later the new undersheriff, in Posadas County, New Mexico:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Heartshot (1991) | Scavengers (2002) |
| Bitter Recoil (1992) | A Discount for Death (2003) |
| Twice Buried (1994) | Convenient Disposal (2004) |
| Before She Dies (1996) | Statute of Limitations (2006) |
| Privileged To Kill (1997) | Final Payment (2007) |
| Prolonged Exposure (1998) | The Fourth Time Is Murder (2008) |
| Out of Season (1999) | Red, Green, or Murder (2009) |
| Dead Weight (2000) | Double Prey (2011) |
| Bag Limit (2001) | |

Notes: Beginning with Scavengers (2002), Estelle Reyes-Guzman is the main character. In chronological sequence, Red, Green, or Murder fits between Bag Limit and Scavengers.

Thomas Parks, a doctor in 1890s Port McKinney, Washington:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Race for the Dying (2009) | Comes a Time for Burning (2011) |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|

Other fiction (westerns):

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| The Killer (1981) | Leadfire (1984) |
| The Worst Enemy (1982) | Timber Blood (1986) |

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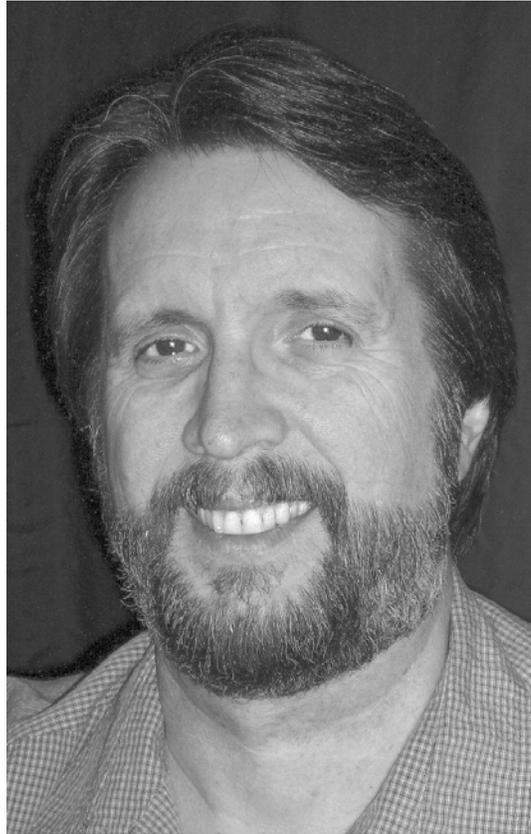
Toastmaster: Steve Brewer

Steve Brewer is an imposing skyscraper-of-a-man who cannot be ignored. Hell, he refuses to be ignored. He enters a room like a desert-hot gust of wind, riffing the atmosphere and changing the molecules of everything there. At first impression, he appears to be looking for trouble. But you quickly discover that what he's actually looking for is an audience.

Steve loves to make people laugh, and he's armed with enough stories to leave your stomach aching and your brain in ice cream-freeze mode. He's an ambassador of smiles who is at his happiest when he is able to infect his listeners – and readers – with his sense of humor.

I first met Steve in 2002 when I was trying to find an agent and a publisher for my first novel. Despite the frustrations and failures associated with working on becoming a novelist, Steve quickly energized me with optimism and pragmatic advice. Despite the fact that I have now had three novels published, I still fall into the morass of frustration over working with agents and publishers. When I find myself slipping into the dark pit of self-pity, I call Steve for a counseling session that always invigorates my spirit and stiffens my backbone.

I have never asked Steve where he gets his ideas for his characters, for two reasons. First, it would be frightening to learn that his characters are based on real people. God forbid! Life is already frightening enough. Second, if they're actually, purely creations of his imagination, I'd have nightmares thinking that I had a friend who had that sort of imagination. Sometimes not knowing is best.



Like Elmore Leonard, Steve describes characters and scenes that are vivid, that pop up – hologram-like – in the reader's mind. You can see them, smell them, hear them as though you are there, as though the characters are sitting across from you. "The pilot, a lipless crag of a man..." "Rio Rancho, where every other person's middle name is *The*." Or, "The stranger was pretty and wholesome and healthy. She could've been Miss Wisconsin. She had auburn hair that fell straight to her shoulders and a complexion like fresh milk and full lips painted a bright pink."

But it's the action in his stories that appeals to readers most. Reading a Steve Brewer novel is like riding a roller coaster. Just when you start to catch your breath, your stomach rises to your throat as you are carried over the precipice for another wild ride.

Steve is more than a talented writer; he is a resource to the suspense writing and reading communities. He is a supporter of our art and of his contemporaries.

And, despite his line in *Dirty Pool*: "Friends come and go, but enemies are forever," he is a fast and lasting friend to anyone who wants to hear a good story and who appreciates a good laugh.

*Joe Badal
Albuquerque, NM*

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Steve Brewer bibliography

Bubba Mabry, a private investigator in Albuquerque, New Mexico:

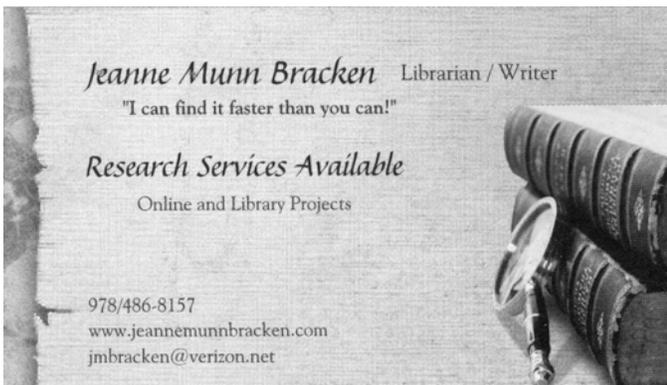
- Lonely Street (1994)
- Baby Face (1995)
- Witchy Woman (1996)
- Shaky Ground (1997)
- Dirty Pool (1999)
- Crazy Love (2001)
- Sanity Clause (2004) [novella]
*Included in anthology *The Last Noel* (2004)*
- Monkey Man (2006)
Finalist 2007 Lefty Award

Drew Gavin, an Albuquerque Gazette sports columnist in Albuquerque, New Mexico:

- End Run (2000)
- Cheap Shot (2002)

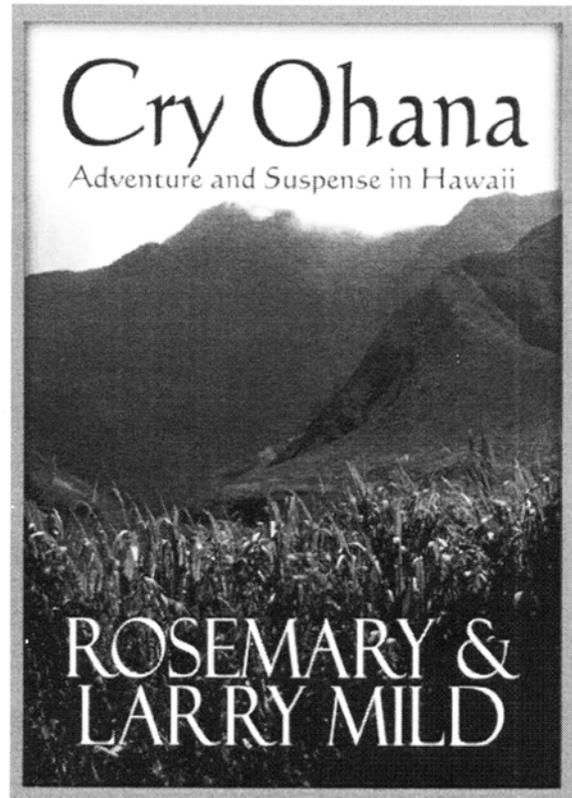
Non-series:

- Bullets (2003)
- Fool's Paradise (2003)
- Boost (2004)
- Bank Job (2005)
- Whipsaw (2006)
- Cutthroat (2007)
- Firepower (2010) [eBook]



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Fan Guest of Honor: Marvin Lachman

I don't remember the first time I met Marv Lachman, but I am sure I "met" him first in the pages of *The Armchair Detective*. Marv has contributed to just about every fan magazine, and if he didn't, he made up for it by writing *The Heirs of Anthony Boucher: A History of Mystery Fandom*, the first history of mystery fandom, telling the story of publications and conventions and the fans who produce them, through anecdotes, personal reminiscences, facts, and pic-



tures. Surprisingly it's not all about Marv, although it could have been because Marv is the quintessential Mystery Fan.

Besides fanzines, Marv has contributed to the Bouchercon and LCC program books. One of my favorite columns in the B'con book is his summary of obits for the year. He calls himself an "obituarian."

Marv is well-known as a reviewer, and he has also edited many short story collections, encyclopedias and biographies about the mystery. Personally I appreciate his short story column in the *Mystery Readers Journal*. I'm thrilled that he's a regular columnist-reviewer for *Mystery Readers Journal* and that he

brings his encyclopedic knowledge base to our thematic periodical.

Marv's interest in mystery fandom goes way back. Even before becoming involved in "organized" fandom such as attending Bouchercon and Left Coast Crime, Marv and his wife Carol held special mystery readers parties around the time of the Edgars in his Bronx apartment from 1969 to 1976 with writers and fans.

Now back to his own initial involvement. Marv says he's been a mystery reader since he was eleven, but he didn't get involved in fandom until 1967. His entry into this world was helped along by Allen J. Hubin, who founded *The Armchair Detective*. Through Hubin he began writing about mystery fiction and met other mystery fans. Beginning in 1973 he began attending mystery conventions such as Bouchercon and Left Coast Crime. Marv has often participated on panels devoted to the History of the Mystery, especially the Golden Age. And, let's not forget the very popular "Just in Crime: The Musical" panel where he and his wife Carol have performed.

This is not Marv's first turn as a Fan Guest of Honor. He was Fan Guest of Honor at Bouchercon in Chicago in 1984 and at Cluefest in Dallas in 1993. Marv's involvement in fandom was recognized also when he won a Raven Award, a "special award given for outstanding achievement in the mystery field outside the realm of creative writing" from Mystery Writers of America in 1997, for his fan-related activities.

Fandom has taken Marv into the "mainstream" of crime nonfiction crime! He won the Edgar for Best Critical/Biographical Work in 1977, for the *Encyclopedia of Mystery and Detection* (with co-authors Chris Steinbrunner, Otto Penzler, and Charles Shibuk) and was nominated for the same award in 1994 for *A Reader's Guide to the American Novel of Detection* (1993). His *Reader's Guide* was also nominated for an Agatha, an Anthony, and a Macavity Award. Marv won the Macavity Award in 2001 for *The American Regional Mystery*, which was also nominated for an Anthony and an Agatha. He was co-author and co-editor of *Detectionary* (1971). As I mentioned above, he also wrote *The Heirs of Anthony Boucher: A History of Mystery Fandom* (2005), which won the Anthony Award.

Asked about his favorite mysteries, it should come as no surprise to those who know him or read his columns and reviews, that they are strong on plot and puzzle. His favorites authors are Ellery Queen

and Agatha Christie. He's a huge fan of short stories, and he applauds Edward D. Hoch as the best at writing stories in which the clues were fairly placed for readers wanting to solve the mystery. Marv also enjoys suspense and thinks that Cornell Woolrich was the best at creating it. Among more recent novelists, he enjoys Dick Francis and thinks that Michael Connelly and Peter Lovesey are the best of those currently writing. He says, "my reading tastes have not changed, so I still find books from the 'Golden Age' between the World Wars to be the most satisfying. It all started when I read a Rex Stout mystery at age eleven and became 'hooked.'"

Marv is also a collector, and his collection of short story magazines includes a complete run, since 1941, of *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*. He also collects old paperbacks and books by favorite authors, especially if he likes their series characters. Of his hobbies and interests, he says he has more than he has time. He's been playing tennis since 1949 and still manages to play twice a week. He's also a fan of opera and theatre.

Perhaps the most interesting moment in his "career" as a fan came in 1980. An article he had written called "Murder at the Opera" for *Opera News* was

published a few days before a violinist was murdered at the Metropolitan Opera House. The *New York Times* mentioned his article, and there was more coincidence to come. When the murderer was caught, it turned out he had lived on the same floor (the 19th) as Marv did at an apartment house in the Bronx. He was even someone Marv would casually say "Hello" to while waiting for an elevator. Coincidences like that happen in real life, but Marv has trouble accepting them in his mystery reading.

I asked Marv what mystery fandom means to him. His answer: Mystery fandom means the opportunity to share with others who also take their escape reading seriously, and to have made more good friends than he can count.

I've taken this to heart, and I number Marv Lachman among my friends since we were brought together by such a wonderful common interest—mysteries and mystery fandom.

Marv Lachman, the ultimate mystery fan, lives in Santa Fe with his wife Carol.

Janet Rudolph
Mystery Readers Journal
 Berkeley, CA

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New Mexico and Its Mystery Writers

The tourist industry, eager to attract people, stresses that, more than in other states, three cultures—American Indian, Hispanic, and “Anglo”—live side by side in New Mexico. Mysteries show they are often in an uneasy truce.

In early New Mexico mysteries, American Indians seem almost invisible. Dorothy B. Hughes showed in *The Blackbird* (1943) that Indians were not welcome in Santa Fe hotels, though they were allowed to sell beads and pottery in the Plaza. In *The Turquoise Shop* (1941), Frances Crane’s Jean Holly notices her future husband, Pat Abbott, at a party and finds him the best looking man “except Luis, who didn’t count, being an Indian.”

Beginning with *The Blessing Way* (1970), Tony Hillerman’s series about the Navajos, whose huge reservation—nearly 25,000 square miles—includes a large portion of New Mexico, helped increase respect for Native Americans, while fostering interest in regional mysteries. His Navajo policemen, Joe Leaphorn and Jim Chee, became the first major Indian detectives. Hillerman’s mysteries present pictures of the Dineh (“The People”), as Navajos call themselves, without minimizing their problems, especially alcoholism. He especially shows insight into the conflicts of Navajos who find it hard to maintain traditional beliefs while living in a predominantly white society.

Aimee and David Thurlo write two series set on the Navajo Reservation, or “The Rez” as it is called in New Mexico. Their books show the tribe trying to deal with chronic poverty. One series is about Ella Clah, a former FBI agent who becomes head of the Navajo Tribal Police’s major crime unit. In *Bad Medicine* (1997), a Navajo deal with a mining company invites political corruption and the danger of pollution. The Thurlo’s latest Clah book is *Never-Ending Snake* (2010). A second Thurlo series features Lee Nez a New Mexico State Police Officer who is part-vampire!

Many bones of Indian ancestors and other sacred objects have ended up in museums and private collections. Shepard Rifkin’s *The Snow Rattlers* (1977) is one of the first mysteries about the efforts of Indians to have them returned. No one writes more effectively about this matter than Hillerman, especially in *A Thief of Time* (1988).

Rudolfo Anaya, one of New Mexico’s best known mainstream writers turned to mysteries in *Zia Summer* (1995), creating private detective Sonny Baca in probably the most bilingual mystery ever published. Many words and sentences are in Spanish. Though not translated, meanings are generally clear. Anaya clearly

expresses the Hispanic viewpoint in his work, even having some characters say “gringos,” a pejorative terms for Anglos.

In *The Lies That Bind* (1993), Judith Van Gieson says that between Santa Fe and Taos “time stopped a couple of hundred years ago,” and the area remains one of small farms. Walter Satterthwait observes, in *Wall of Glass* (1988): “Living here are descendants of the original Spanish settlers, many of whose families saw their private land stolen by the United States government.” Many Hispanics believe the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, ending the Mexican-American War and preserving Spanish land grants, was violated. There was violence in 1967 when activists took over the courthouse in Tierra Amarilla in pursuit of land claims. The plot of Whit Masterson’s *The Undertaker Wind* (1973) has similarities to this case, though the setting is fictional “Mescalero” County.

As an attendee at Left Coast Crime, you are just one of the many visitors to Santa Fe, whose often unconventional lifestyle has led to its being called “The City Different.” Satterthwait calls Santa Fe the “land of the free, home of the occult.” In *Wall of Glass* he describes someone in dusty Western boots, faded jeans, and a Stetson, saying, “This being Santa Fe, he could’ve been exactly what he looked like. A real live cowboy. On the other hand, this being Santa Fe, he could’ve been a stockbroker.”

Santa Fe and Taos have long attracted artists. Frances Crane turned Taos, where she lived, into fictional “Santa Maria,” an artist’s colony. Her series characters are Jean Holly who owns The Turquoise Shop, selling jewelry and art work, and her future husband, Pat, a private detective who would rather be a painter. Both A.E. Maxwell’s *The Art of Survival* (1989) and Jake Page’s *The Lethal Partner* (1996) are about “lost” paintings that may be by New Mexico’s most famous artist, Georgia O’Keefe.

If you’ve been short of breath since arriving at LCC, it may be because Santa Fe is at 7,000 feet. Skiing is an important tourist attraction. Despite runoff from snow, there is insufficient water in this dry climate, creating the problem of which Satterthwait writes in *Wall of Glass*. “The level of the aquifer upon which Santa Fe sits is going down every year, and the developers ... keep bulldozing new subdivisions ... sinking new wells.”

If you flew to LCC, you probably landed in Albuquerque since Santa Fe’s airport can’t handle large, commercial jets. Bigger, but not as distinctive as Santa Fe, Albuquerque has become quite popular as a mys-

tery location. Its annual Balloon Festival attracts people from all over the world and was described in *The Balloon Affair* (1981) by “Marion Margery Layne,” the pseudonym of three New Mexico writers.

The best and most realistic mystery writer about Albuquerque is none other than Left Coast Crime’s 2011 Toastmaster, Steve Brewer. His series character is private detective “Bubba” Mabry, whose work often brings him to Central Avenue, which borders the main campus of the University of New Mexico and also is a high-crime area. In *Baby Face* (1995), Mabry describes the street’s drug dealers, homeless, and prostitutes. He calls the street “sin corridor” and advises: “Keep your head down. Looking the wrong way at the wrong guy can get you killed.”

Another Thurlo series character is Sister Agatha of Our Lady of Hope Monastery in Bernalillo, near Albuquerque. There are many descriptions of the area as she solves crimes, driving her motorcycle with her police dog Pax beside her.

No writer covers more areas of New Mexico than Michael McGarrity in his series about Kevin Kerney, retired from the Santa Fe Police Department because of wounds suffered in the line of duty. (Kerney eventually returns to active duty as New Mexico’s Police Chief.) McGarrity’s first book, *Tularosa* (1996), starts at a Galisteo Valley ranch and then moves south to the desert and mountains near the White Sands Missile Range and on to Las Cruces. *Mexican Hat* (1997) opens in the Gila Wilderness of southwestern New Mexico. *Serpent Gate* (1998) is especially good at describing small New Mexican towns such as Mountai-

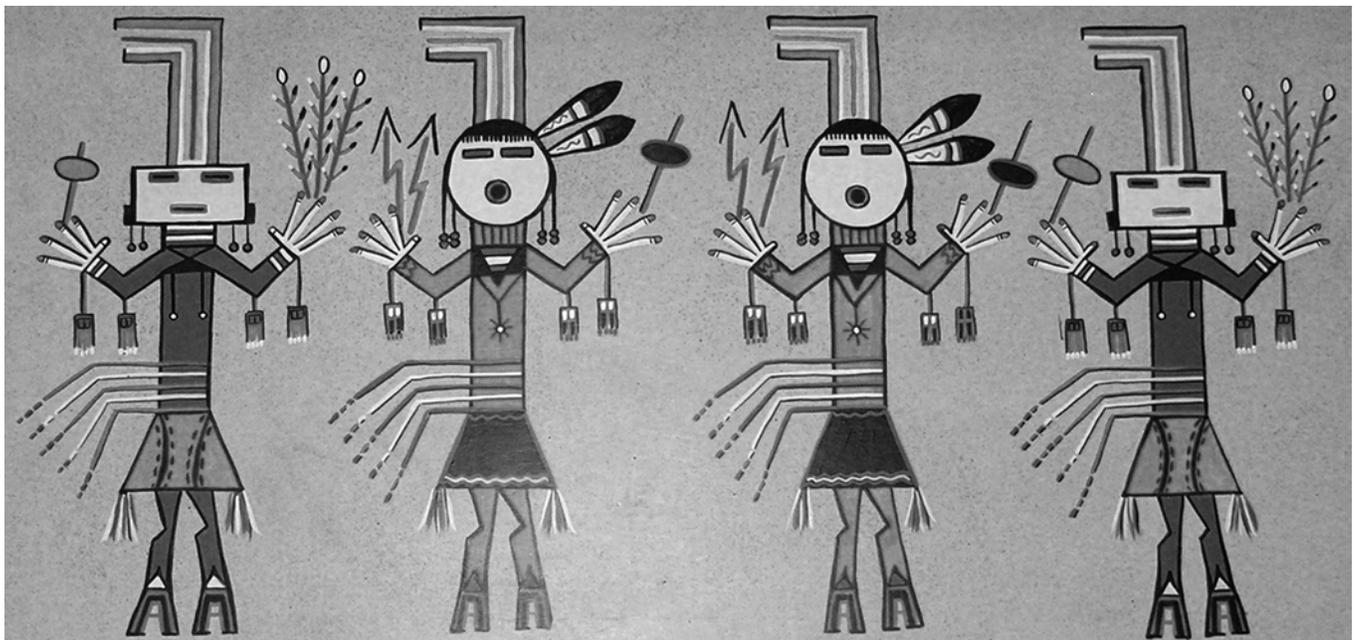
nair and Truth or Consequences.

Left Coast Crime Guest of Honor Steven F. Havill started writing New Mexico mysteries with *Heartshot* (1991), the first in his books about Bill Gastner of fictional “Posadas” County, which the author says is approximately located between Deming and Lordsburg. It is an area of desert “harsh beauty” whose proximity to the Mexican border results in crimes involving illegal immigrants and drug dealing. At the start of Havill’s series, Gastner is a 60ish Undersheriff who is overweight and an insomniac; he has a heart attack during the book. However, he recovers and continues to be active, though by the new century he retires, with his duties assumed by his deputy Estelle Reyes-Guzman, whose problems are mainly complicated family ones. Gastner remains active, becoming a State Livestock Inspector. In some books he makes only a cameo appearance, while in others he helps Reyes-Guzman solve crimes. The latest book in the Posadas County Mysteries is *Double Prey*, out in January 2011.

The chairwoman of this year’s Left Coast Crime, Pari Noskin Taichert, has immortalized actual New Mexico towns with a series that began with *The Clovis Incident* (2004), and continues with *The Belen Hitch* (2005) and *The Socorro Blast* (2008).

New Mexico may be relatively small in population, but it is big in mysteries.

Marvin Lachman
Fan Guest of Honor
Santa Fe, NM



LCC 2011 Ghosts of Honor:

Frances Crane and Dorothy B. Hughes

Dorothy B. Hughes (1904-1993) and Frances Crane (1890-1981), our two Ghosts of Honor, were not only two of the most accomplished women mystery writers to call New Mexico home, but they were both among the most influential mystery critics of their time. Both began their careers as journalists, Crane after graduating Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Illinois in 1912, Hughes a dozen years later following her graduation from the renowned school of journalism at the University of Missouri in 1924.

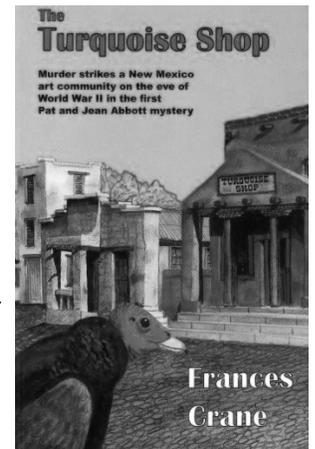
Hughes did graduate work in journalism at Columbia and the University of New Mexico. She wrote that school's history, *Pueblo on the Mesa* (1939), and worked on newspapers in Missouri and New York before marrying a Santa Fe native and moving to the city and state she would call home for most of her life. Crane wrote light, humorous non-fiction sketches from London for a brand-new sophisticated humor magazine called *The New Yorker*, which were collected in book form in 1932 as *The Tennessee Poppy or Which Way Is Westminster Abbey?* She also wrote far more serious pieces which were critical of the Nazi regime, and these—along with several incidents in which she protested the persecution of the Jews (including one in which she posed as a Jew herself)—resulted in her expulsion from her new base in Germany in the late 1930s.

Newly divorced from her advertising executive husband and looking for a new market for her writing, Crane moved to Taos and took up mystery fiction at the encouragement of her editor, who told her it was a “hot market.” She based her first novel, *The Turquoise Shop* (1941), on a real-life incident involving a jewelry store in her newly adopted home town which she rechristened Santa Maria. One of its characters is Mona Brandon, a thinly disguised stand-in for Mabel Dodge Luhan, the rich patron of the arts largely responsible for turning Taos into a haven for writers and artists. Lois Palken Rudnick, Luhan's biographer, described her as “a difficult woman who brought people here and sometimes drove them away,” filling her famous adobe house with “a lot of tension and anger,” an opinion Crane apparently shared, having her heroine, Jean Holly, mutter “down with tyrants everywhere” after an encounter with Mona.

While Crane had a very strong sense of social justice, as witnessed by her escapades in Germany, she mostly kept her mysteries on the lighter side, although

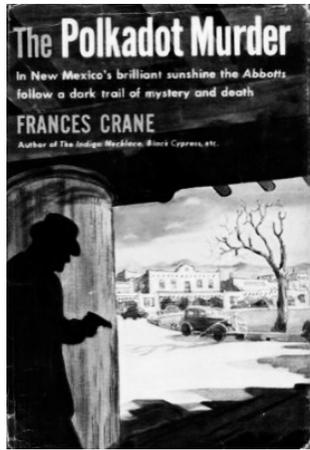
The Turquoise Shop shows a number of insights into life in the New Mexico of the early 1940s. Jean Holly is acutely aware of the various ethnic groups that make up the multicultural community she now calls home. She observes that the three groups—Mexicans, Indians and Anglos—pass each other on the plaza in front of her store, but each group keeps largely to itself. Various mystical powers are attributed to the Indians, but Crane (through Jean) merely comments on these claims without accepting or disputing them. The Mexicans are an even more dominant presence in the town, although even Jean is surprised at how greatly they outnumber the Anglo population when they show up in town for a political rally. Most of the Mexicans she sees on a daily basis work for Anglos, herself included. She notes, but does not comment on, the fact that the Mexican bar-keeper at the Castillo (where she eats every day) refuses to serve Mexicans at his bar. One can almost hear Crane shouting “No!” at this example of social injustice, yet Jean herself merely observes it in passing. That it is mentioned at all indicates that the author considers the situation ironic at the very least. However, the local Anglo sheriff in *The Turquoise Shop* is not cut from the typical fictional redneck fabric of the time but speaks fluent Spanish and shows a great deal of respect for the culture and work ethic of both the local Hispanics and Indians, and both Jean and her private detective boyfriend, Pat Abbott, frequently express their approval of Sheriff Trask. Crane's own feelings about the town's cultural division are further revealed when Jean observes that she is one of only two Anglos who show up for the funeral of a young Mexican girl.

The Turquoise Shop was followed by 25 more books, all with colors in the title, featuring Pat and Jean Abbott, who marry toward the end of the third book. Many of them take the Abbotts to locales across the United States and around the world, although they were to return to Santa Maria several times in the course of the series, most notably in *The Amethyst Spectacles* (1944). While contemporary critics weren't always kind to her books, readers loved them, and still



do. Even today, more than 60 years after her first mystery was published, she remains one of the most sought after mystery writers on the out-of-print market. The series was so popular that it spun off a radio program, *Abbott Mysteries*, which ran on the Mutual Network in the summers of 1945, 1946, and 1947.

While Crane was friends with the likes of James Jones and Sinclair Lewis, as well as her editor at Random House, the very urbane Bennett Cerf, she fully realized that she was not the equal of these literary heavyweights, remarking once to Cerf that she was but a “minor light” in the literary world. There is little doubt that this very bright former contributor to *The New Yorker* deliberately adopted the breezy



writing style familiar to readers of the slick women’s magazines of the day, well aware that this lively, chatty and—yes, feminine—style would gain her a larger readership, especially among the women who, then as now, dominated the reading audience. Every year saw a new book featuring the Abbotts, except 1949, when Nancy, the author’s only daughter and the widow of pulp magazine writer Norbert Davis, was seriously injured in an automobile accident.

The Abbotts cracked their last case in 1965 with *The Body Beneath the Mandarin Tree*. In the 1960s, Crane also wrote five stand-alone mysteries, which were published in England but failed to find an American publisher. The last of these, *Worse than a Crime*, appeared in 1968 when she was 78 years old, and though she would live another 13 years and enjoy relatively good health, her career as a mystery writer was over, and she settled into a well-earned retirement. She had a better run than many women writers of her era, and, unlike most writers, male or female, she earned a good living at it. While many other female mystery writers who began in the 1930s and 1940s saw their careers end with the death of the rental libraries and the advent of the male-oriented paperback original (and television) in the early 1950s, Crane not only survived, publishing well into the 1960s, but endured, as any out-of-print book dealer who has ever offered one of her titles in a catalog and been overwhelmed with orders can testify. Her fans don’t just enjoy her books, they revel in them, then and now.

She spent much of the last 40 years of her life in her adopted New Mexico, mostly in Taos (though the “hippie invasion” in the 1960s drove her eventually to

move to Santa Fe). She returned frequently to Lawrenceville, her birthplace in Illinois, to visit family. Three months before her 91st birthday, failing health forced her to enter a nursing home in Albuquerque, where she died on November 6, 1981. But she made one final posthumous visit to Lawrenceville, a trip that many old-timers in that town still recall with amusement. The postmaster sent word to her nephew Bob, a local doctor, that a package had arrived for him from New Mexico. “Only,” he explained, “you’ll have to pick it up yourself. I’m not touching it.” The package was marked “human remains.” Bob and other fellow family members scattered the ashes it contained on the family farm. Frances Kirkwood Crane not only came home, she did so in her usual unconventional style.

Like Crane, Dorothy B. Hughes did not set out to be a mystery writer. Her first book, *Dark Certainty* (1931), was a collection of poems that won the Yale Younger Poets Award. In fact, the dedication to her first mystery novel, *The So Blue Marble* (1940), reads almost like an apology to her mother, who disliked the genre. The critical reception to her 14 mystery novels was much kinder than that accorded to Frances Crane’s, and although she was generally considered a member of the noir or hardboiled school, critic Will Cuppy called her first effort “glittering” rather than hardboiled. But a *New York Times* reviewer wrote, “If you wake up in the night screaming with terror, don’t say we didn’t warn you.”

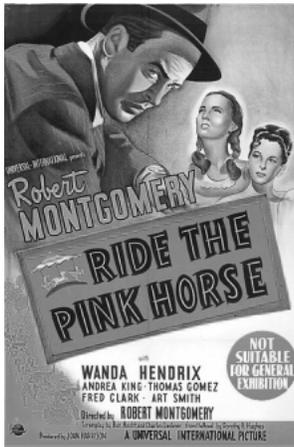
That first book features a divorced woman fashion designer chasing after an unblemished marble from the Far East that Marco Polo was said to have been the first Westerner to see. A secret map in it is said to lead to “a secret cache wherein are stored the riches of the world... rubies as big the moon, cut diamonds and emeralds, moonstones, pearls—like pebbles on the ground.” More importantly it also promises to reveal the secret to establishing a utopian society. Like Hammett’s fabled bird, it was the thing of which dreams are made. While this first novel was set in New York, many of Hughes’ subsequent novels were set in her adopted Southwest, especially New Mexico. She moved to Santa Fe in the 1930s, left for Los Angeles in 1944, returned to Santa Fe in the 1960s (although her husband made frequent trips back home to monitor the family business), and then ulti-



mately settled in Ashland, Oregon, where she died of a stroke in 1993.

In 1943, she published a World War II thriller, *The Blackbird*, in which the heroine, an American expatriate member of the French Resistance, flees the Gestapo and heads for Santa Fe with the help of the title character. Anthony Boucher called it an “ethical melodrama almost as deeply moving as [her] *The Fallen Sparrow* (1942) and if anything even more intricately exciting.”

Ride the Pink Horse (1946), one of her most famous novels, is often said to have been set in a fictional version of Santa Fe, here called San Pablo. However, Las Cruces, a city in the southern part of the state near the Texas-Mexico border, is a more likely candidate for its locale, though it’s likely that San



Pablo is an amalgamation of several New Mexico towns. The confusion may have risen from the fact that the 1947 movie version was partially filmed on location in Santa Fe (including La Fonda), with the balance of the scenes shot at the Universal Studio lot in Hollywood. Universal further confused the issue. Instead of going to nearby Taos to shoot the scenes involving

that town’s 1882 carousel, the studio paid Taos \$2,000 to ship it to their lot in California. Set during Fiesta, the book tells the story of a veteran searching for a war profiteer who murdered his friend. “To the reader it is a dreamlike mixture of beauty and terror,” Boucher, one of her biggest fans, wrote in his *Times* review. “Nobody but Dorothy Hughes can cast suspense into such an uncanny spell, and she’s never done it better.”

Hughes returned to Santa Fe in 1950’s *The Candy Kid*, in which Dulcinda Farrar, a beautiful blonde from New York’s Upper West Side, hires a bum to pick up a mysterious package, not realizing the man is a member of one of the city’s most influential and wealthy families. Many of Hughes’ other books were set in Los Angeles and various parts of the American West. After 1952’s *The Davidian Report*, Hughes took an 11-year sabbatical from writing, citing family issues, before publishing her 14th and final novel, *The Expendable Man*, in 1963. She published no other novels during her final 30 years, but still earned Grand Master honors from Mystery Writers of America in 1978.

However, she did not completely desert the genre during this period. Between 1940 and 1978 she wrote mystery book reviews for several major newspapers, including the *Albuquerque Tribune*, the *New York Mirror*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. The noted British mystery writer and critic Julian Symons referred to her as one of the few reviewers he considered his equal. In 1951, she received an Edgar from Mystery Writers of America for Outstanding Mystery Criticism, an award now discontinued.

Her output was not immense, but Hughes left an indelible stamp on the mystery world. She said of herself that “one learns to write by writing, and it takes time to learn your material.” There is no doubt but that she learned her lessons well. Her books combine lyricism with a sense of fear, as Geoffrey O’Brien wrote in *Hardboiled America*. But she’ll probably no doubt be best remembered, as critic Nancy C. Joyner wrote in *Twentieth Century Crime and Mystery Writers*, for “her attention to place,” which gave “her tales of romantic adventure an impressive verisimilitude.”

Tom and Enid Schantz,
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In Memoriam: David Thompson

We first met David Thompson in 1998, in Key West, where we had been invited by Hyperion to be part of a “reverse signing tour” to celebrate the publication of Laurence Shames’ new book, *Mangrove Squeeze*. Five mystery bookstores took part in this publicity stunt: Rue Morgue (Boulder), Seattle Mystery Bookstore, Booked for Murder (Ann Arbor), Murder Ink (New York) and Murder by the Book (Houston), represented by then-owner Martha Farrington and her young employee and protégé, David Thompson.

Then 26, David was a skinny kid who had already put in nearly ten years at the store, having started working for Martha as a teenager. But that weekend he wasn’t thinking about books. He was thinking about babes. He spent most of our three days in Key West trolling for them on the beaches and on Duval Street, with nothing to show for his efforts but a painful sunburn. He spent one memorable evening drowning his sorrows with a potent drink named a Mangrove Squeeze, after Larry’s book. Each of us was entitled to one free drink, but David was the only taker. He drank his and all of ours. You see, it looked and tasted exactly like Nyquil over ice, and after one sip the rest of us weren’t having any. But David was. As we said, it was free.

As the years went by and Martha retired, David became the heart and soul of the store, overseeing an ambitious program of author events and tirelessly hand selling books to appreciative customers. He founded his own publishing imprint, Busted Flush Press, and flew out to Colorado one week to pick our brains about the publishing business. He arrived too late for dinner but stayed up late into the night talking with us over chips, guacamole, and Margaritas. We learned later that this was pretty much his normal diet.

On January 11, 2003, a smart, pretty young redhead, McKenna Jordan, came to work for Murder by the Book. From that day on David’s frequent phone calls to us were peppered with enthusiastic comments about this amazing new employee. It was the beginning of a love story worthy of a Meg Ryan–Tom Hanks movie. But although everybody could see how smitten David was with McKenna, it took him an agonizing 18 months to make his move. In fact, McKenna had just written him a letter calling the whole thing off and was curled up at home in her red plaid flannel pajamas about to have a good cry when he showed up at her door to ask her out on their first date. Finally, in 2008, they were married, in a fairy-tale wedding at an abbey in Scotland.

In the meantime, McKenna had bought the store from Martha, and David had become her employee, still publicity manager and still full of enthusiasm for mysteries and the people who read and write them. And then, on September 13, 2010, David died suddenly at their home from an undiagnosed heart arrhythmia, while McKenna was at work. They had been married not quite two years.

The entire mystery community was stunned by the news of David’s death. The internet was filled with tributes to this young man who had been so full of energy and plans for the future. The celebration of his life was attended by friends from all over, including writers he had hosted at signings at the store. His loss will be felt by all of us for years to come. Today McKenna, who is even younger than David, continues to run the store and its ongoing success is a tribute to both David’s spirit and her determination.

But we will always miss David.

Tom and Enid Schantz

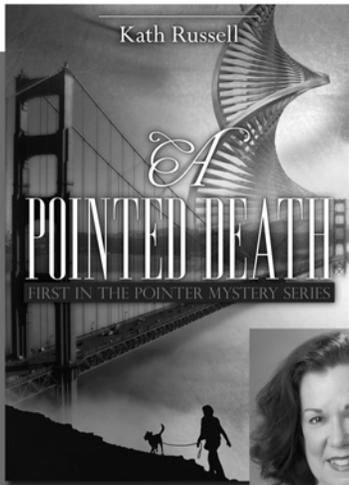


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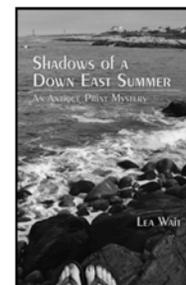


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Avery Aames



Avery Aames had a co-starring role in *Murder, She Wrote*. The experience prompted her to write her own mystery. Avery is now the author of a Cheese Shop mystery series for Berkley Prime Crime, which allows her to indulge her love of mysteries as well as cheese and wine. Avery knows how to order a good meal in French and once even played a French chanteuse on stage. She blogs at Mystery Lovers Kitchen, for foodies who love mysteries.

www.averyaames.com

Stacey Aaronson



A not-yet-published aspiring author, Stacey relishes the opportunity to be involved with writers and engage in her love of reading as a committee member for two sensational literary events – the Festival of Women Authors and Men of Mystery – both founded by her writing mentor and literary maven, Joan Hansen. Stacey could not have foreseen that after reconnecting with Joan in 2008, she would become her “man hunting” partner at Left Coast Crime for future Men of Mystery events. “Speaking to talented, handsome, charming writers is tough work,” Stacey says. “But it’s all for the cause.”

Elaine Abramson



Elaine Abramson is the first woman State Artist of Texas. She has worked with Viacom Entertainment. Her work has also appeared in Texas tourism materials, on television, the Pixelon Network, in books, and on licensed merchandise. In *Thursday's Child* Elaine claims she could be Stephanie Plum’s alter ego because she is always in the wrong place at the wrong time. Published by Echelon Press, *Thursday's Child* is unique because publishers rarely publish short story collections before an author has written several best selling novels. It is also unique because these tales are based on the author’s life.

www.elaineabramson.com

Annamaria Alfieri



Annamaria Alfieri is the author of *City of Silver*, an historical mystery published by St. Martin’s Press to critical acclaim. *Deadly Pleasures Mystery Magazine* called it one of the best first novels of the year, and the *Washington Post* said, “As both history and mystery, *City of Silver* glitters.” Writing as Patricia King, she is also the author of the short story “Baggage Claim,” in the anthology *Queens Noir*, a volume of Akashic Books’ award-winning Noir series. Her five books on business subjects include *Never Work for a Jerk*, which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show, and the current *Monster Boss*. She lives in New York City.

www.annamariaalfieri.com



Lou Allin



Lou Allin is the author of the Belle Palmer mysteries set in Northern Ontario, ending with *Memories Are Murder*. Now living on Vancouver Island with her border collies and mini-poodle, she is working on a new series where the rainforest meets the sea. *On the Surface Die* and *She Felt No Pain* feature RCMP Corporal, Holly Martin, in charge of a small detachment near Victoria. In 2010, Lou will debut *That Dog Won't Hunt*, a novella in Orca's Raven Reads editions for adults with literacy issues.

www.louallin.com

Jill Amadio



Hovering ghostlike is a cinch for author Jill Amadio, whose debut suspense novel was happily signed by someone else, a very rich client, on national book tours. She is a ghostwriter, collaborator, biographer, and journalist. Her books include *A Moment in Crime*, *Günther Rall: Luftwaffe Ace and NATO General*, *Help! I've Hired a Lawyer!*, and several others she's sworn to secrecy to deny. A Cornishwoman based in Dana Point, CA, Amadio worked for the *London Daily Mail*, *The Bangkok Post*, the *Spanish-American Courier*, *Los Angeles Times*, Gannett Newspapers, and *Newsweek*. Her own, newest mystery stars screwball amateur sleuth Tosca Trevant.

www.jillamadio.blogspot.com & www.jillamadio.com

Donna Andrews



Donna Andrews has written 12 books in the Meg Langslow series. *Booklist* called her latest, *Stork Raving Mad* (Minotaur, 2010), "a fine blend of academic satire, screwball comedy, and murder." It is nominated for a Lefty award at LCC 2011. Her next book, *The Real Macaw*, will be out this summer. Andrews is a founding member and currently president of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of Mystery Writers of America, and a longtime member of Sisters in Crime.

Meredith Anthony



Meredith Anthony is the co-author (with her husband Larry Light) of the serial killer novel *Ladykiller* (Oceanview Press), which received over 30 rave reviews and was nominated for Best Mystery by *ForeWord Magazine*. Her short stories have appeared in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* and in the anthology *Philadelphia Noir* (Akashic Press). She lives in Manhattan and is working on a thriller.

www.meredithanthony.com

John Apostolou



Born in Brooklyn, but I have lived most of my life in Los Angeles. Studied cinema at the University of Southern California and graduated in 1956. Earned my living making short documentary films for missile and space companies and the U.S. Air Force. Spent some time in Japan while serving in the Army and developed a deep interest in Japanese culture. Edited, with Martin Greenberg, two anthologies: *Murder in Japan* (1987) and *The Best Japanese Science Fiction Stories* (1989). The science fiction book was included on the New York Times list of notable books of the year. I have attended over 40 mystery conventions, and I fondly remember the first three Left Coast Crime events in San Francisco.



Wayne Arthurson



Wayne Arthurson is a Canadian aboriginal writer who lives in Edmonton, Canada. He has been a professional writer for over 20 years, but at the same time was also a punk rock drummer, semi-professional clown, reality show contestant, ghostwriter, husband, dad, and novelist. His first crime novel, *Fall From Grace*, the first in a series set in his hometown, will be published by Forge Books in March 2011. He now drums for an indie rock band, The Ways.

bigtimewriteryeahright.blogspot.com

Nancy Atherton



Nancy Atherton had no idea that she was supposed to be a writer until the first line of her first book, *Aunt Dimity's Death*, woke her up one night. One line led to another and before she knew it she'd created the much-loved, long-lived Aunt Dimity Mystery Series. The sixteenth book in the series, *Aunt Dimity and the Family Tree*, was published in February 2011. In her spare time, she climbs mountains. Slowly. (Nancy's photo, by the way, was taken by Greg Taylor.)

www.aunt-dimity.com

Sandi Ault



Sandi Ault has won the Mary Higgins Clark Award, the Willa, and the Spur Finalist and Willa Finalist Awards for her bestselling Wild Mystery Series, including *Wild Indigo*, *Wild Inferno*, *Wild Sorrow*, and *Wild Penance*. The latter is a current nominee for the Mary Higgins Clark Award, the Hillerman Sky Award, and the Watson. Sandi lives and writes in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado with Wild companions: a hunky husband, a massive Canadian timber wolf, and a Missouri wildcat.

www.sandiault.com

Joe Badal



Joe Badal has worked for 35 years in the banking and financial services industries. He has written numerous articles that have been published in a variety of business magazines and newspapers, and has had two thrillers—*The Pythagorean Solution* and *Terror Cell*—published in the United States and in several other countries. His third novel, *The Nostradamus Secret*, was released in February 2011. Much of what Joe writes about is historically-based and borrows from his personal experiences while serving in highly classified positions in the military. Joe is also an accomplished speaker, giving talks about writing and business matters across the United States.

josephbadalbooks.com

Aileen G. Baron



Aileen G. Baron has a Ph.D. in archaeology, and is retired from a distinguished career teaching archaeology, and numerous seasons of archaeological fieldwork in the Middle East. She is the author of *A Fly Has a Hundred Eyes* and *The Torch of Tangier*, set in the Middle East during WWII, featuring archaeologist Lily Sampson, and a contemporary stand-alone about the intrigue and deceit in the antiquities trade, *The Gold of Thrace*, published by Poisoned Pen Press. In the latest book in the Lily Sampson series, *The Scorpion's Bite*, Lily is doing an archaeological survey of Transjordan for the OSS.

www.aileengbaron.com

Ruthie-Marie Beckwith



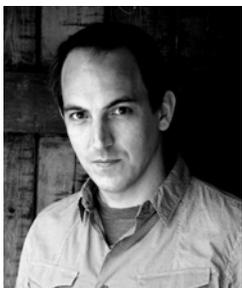
Ruthie-Marie Beckwith, Ph.D., is a nationally recognized advocate for individuals with disabilities. Her focus on helping people leave large state-run institutions has taken her to desolate places across the country and abroad. From her love of mysteries, she wrote *Seven Days at Oak Valley*, with a new brand of sleuth, Tony Bedford Ervin, a resident in a fictional facility in Tennessee. When not writing, or launching herself at windmills, she weaves articles of another type on her collection of vintage and modern looms. She lives in Murfreesboro, TN, with her multi-talented husband, youngest genius son, anxiety-ridden dog, and two recalcitrant cats.

Marlyn Beebe



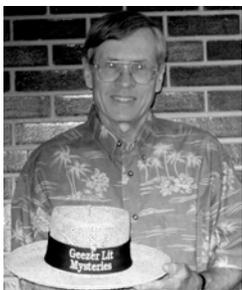
Marlyn Beebe grew up in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, where she graduated from the University of Alberta with a degree in Library and Information Studies. Not being a fan of frozen water falling from the sky, she now lives in Southern California with her husband, Tod, and daughter Katy. She works part-time at Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts as well as the Long Beach Public Library, and spends the rest of her time reading, reviewing, blogging, cooking, and avoiding being pounced on by Nacht the Jungle Cat. Marlyn's blog, *Stuff and Nonsense*, can be found at marlyn-stuff.blogspot.com.

Eric Beetner



Eric Beetner did a crazy thing. He decided it would be a good idea to write a novel with a co-author (JB Kohl) whom he'd never met and never even spoken to. An unlikely email partnership emerged and the result, *One Too Many Blows to the Head*, inspired Megan Abbott to say it, "Feels like a long lost pulp you find in a favorite bookstore." The craziness continues with their brand new sequel, *Borrowed Trouble*, that has been called, "Pulp fiction at its finest" (Hilary Davidson, *The Damage Done*). Eric is also an award-winning short story and screenwriter. Visit ericbeetner.blogspot.com for free stories and info.

Mike Befeler



Mike Befeler's 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*, appeared April, 2009. The third book in the series, *Senior Moments Are Murder*, will be out later this year. Mike, a geezer-in-training, is active in organizations promoting a positive image of aging and is vice-president of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Mystery Writers of America. He grew up in Honolulu, Hawaii, and now lives in Boulder, Colorado, with his wife, Wendy.

www.mikebefeler.blogspot.com & www.mikebefeler.com

Mysti Berry

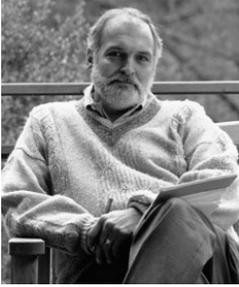


Mysti Berry received a Bachelor of Arts in linguistics from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and received her Master of Fine Arts in writing from the University of San Francisco in 2005. She has published short stories, won awards for short and long fiction, and screenplays, and been an invited reader at LitQuake. She is a third-generation Californian, a mad fan of all things noir. She is working on her first mystery novel about a fraud investigator in San Francisco and Las Vegas. She lives in San Francisco with her husband, comic book writer and illustrator Dale Berry.

www.mysti.us



John Billheimer



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. The Droid Review voted his first book, *The Contrary Blues*, one of the ten best mysteries of 1998. Four subsequent novels explore various Mountain State scams and scandals. The most recent, *Stonewall Jackson’s Elbow*, deals with a billion-dollar bank fraud. He has also written *Baseball and the Blame Game*, a non-fiction look at scapegoating in the major leagues.

www.johnbillheimer.com

Michael A. Black



Michael A. Black is the author of 14 books. He has a BA in English and an MFA in Fiction Writing. Black has written over 50 short stories and articles. He has been a police officer in the south suburbs of Chicago for over 30 years and has worked in various capacities in police work. His Ron Shade series, featuring the Chicago-based kickboxing private eye, has won several awards, as has his police procedural series featuring Frank Leal and Olivia Hart. He has also written two novels (*I Am Not a Cop* and *I Am Not a Psychic*) with television star Richard Belzer of *Law & Order SVU*. *Hostile Takeovers* is his latest paperback.

Michelle Black



Michelle Black is the author of six novels set in the Victorian West, including *The Second Glass of Absinthe*, a sequel to the bestselling, *An Uncommon Enemy*. Her next mystery, *Séance in Sepia*, featuring feminist firebrand Victoria Woodhull, will be released in October 2011. She has also practiced law, owned a bookstore, and published a course in the Cheyenne language. She is currently at work on her first Steampunk novel, writing as E.J. Bell. She blogs at www.thevictorianwest.com.

www.michelleblack.com

Johnny D. Boggs



When *True West* magazine named Johnny D. Boggs “Best Living Fiction Writer,” he said, “It’s better than Best Dead Fiction Writer.” A South Carolina native and former Texas newspaper journalist (OK, he worked in sports, the “Toy Department”), he lives in Santa Fe. He has won four Spur Awards and the Western Heritage Wrangler Award for his fiction and is past president of Western Writers of America. His novels include *Northfield*, *Camp Ford*, and *The Killing Shot*, and he has a Western/Mystery series (*Killstraight*, *Whiskey Kills*) about a Comanche tribal policeman in the 1880s.

www.johnnydboggs.com

Joan Boswell



Joan Boswell co-edited four of the seven Ladies’ Killing Circle short story anthologies. Her Hollis Grant mysteries, *Cut Off His Tale*, *Cut to the Quick*, and *Cut and Run*, were published in 2005, 2007, and 2009. The new Hollis Grant mystery, *Cut to the Bone*, will appear in the fall of 2011. In 2000 she won the \$10,000 Toronto Star’s short story contest. Her website is joanboswell.ca and she frequently blogs on mysterymavencdn.blogspot.com. Joan lives in Toronto where three Flatcoated retrievers run her life.

Rhys Bowen



Rhys was guest of honor at Left Coast Crime 2009. She currently writes two mystery series: the Molly Murphy mysteries, featuring an Irish immigrant sleuth in early 1900s New York City, and the lighter romps, the Royal Spyness series, about a minor member of the British royal family in the 1930s. Rhys's books have been nominated for all the major mystery awards and she has won Agatha, Antonies, Macavities, Bruce Alexander, and Reviewer's Choice. Although she was born and raised in Britain, she divides her time between Marin County, California, and Arizona, where she goes to escape the harsh California winters.

www.rhysbowen.blogspot.com

Michael Bracken



Even though he is the author of 11 books—including the private eye novel *All White Girls*—Michael Bracken is better known as the author of more than 800 short stories published in *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, *Espionage*, *Flesh & Blood: Guilty as Sin*, *Hardboiled*, *Hot Blood: Strange Bedfellows*, *Mike Shayne Mystery Magazine*, *Out of the Gutter*, and many other publications. Bracken has edited five crime fiction anthologies, including the three-volume *Fedora* series, and has served as vice president of the Private Eye Writers of America and three terms as vice president of the Mystery Writers of America's Southwest Chapter.

www.CrimeFictionWriter.com

Rachel Brady



Rachel Brady lives in Houston, Texas, where she works as an engineer at NASA. Her interests include health and fitness, acoustic guitar, and books of all kinds. *Final Approach* and *Dead Lift* are the first installments in her Emily Locke mystery series, which bases each story in a different sports community. *Dead Lift* is nominated for a Watson award at LCC 2011.

writeitanyway.blogspot.com & www.rachelbrady.net

Steve Brewer



LCC Toastmaster Steve Brewer is the author of 17 crime novels, mostly recently the thrillers *Firepower* and *Cutthroat*. An award-winning journalist, Steve is best known in mystery circles for his Bubba Mabry private eye stories; the first in that series, *Lonely Street*, was made into a 2009 Hollywood movie. His short fiction has appeared in three collections, including last year's MWA anthology, *Crimes by Moonlight*. He also writes humor, including his recent "Rules for Successful Living." Steve grew up in Arkansas and spent many years in Albuquerque, but now lives in Santa Cruz, CA, where he is learning to be a beach bum.

www.stevebrewer.us.com

Robin Burcell



Robin Burcell, an FBI-trained forensic artist, has worked as a police officer, detective, and hostage negotiator. *The Bone Chamber* is her latest international thriller about an FBI forensic artist. *Face of a Killer* received a starred review from *Library Journal*. She is the author of four previous novels. Robin is co-chair of the 2012 Left Coast Crime Convention, which will be held in Sacramento.

www.robinburcell.com

Jane Burfield



Toronto born, Jane has spent her life learning how to think like a matronly criminal. She honed her skills bringing in various weapons through Canadian Customs, and declaring them as potential murder weapons. Surprisingly, Canada let her back in. She began writing short stories ten years ago, and was gobsmacked to win the Boney Pete Award with her first effort. Jane is a fan of all things criminous, short stories, theatre, bridge, Farmville, travel, and her three daughters, two cats, and one very large rescue dog.

Laura Caldwell



Laura Caldwell, author of 10 novels, including the Izzy McNeil trilogy, translated into 13 languages and published in over 22 countries, has released her first nonfiction book, *Long Way Home: A Young Man Lost in the System and the Two Women Who Found Him* (Free Press, Simon & Schuster). Research on her 6th novel led her to Jovan Mosley, a young man sitting in a Cook County holding cell for over five years without a trial. Compelled by his story, Caldwell joined a renowned criminal defense attorney to defend him, ultimately proving his innocence and inspiring *Long Way Home*.

www.lauracaldwell.com

Kimberley Cameron



Kimberley Cameron began her literary career as an agent trainee at the Marjel de Lauer Agency in association with Jay Garon in New York. She worked for several years at MGM developing books for motion pictures. She was the co-founder of Knightsbridge Publishing Company. In 1993 she became partners with Dorris Halsey of The Reece Halsey Agency, founded in 1957. Among its clients have been Aldous Huxley, William Faulkner, Upton Sinclair, and Henry Miller. She opened Reece Halsey North in 1995 and Reece Halsey Paris in 2006. In 2009 the agency became Kimberley Cameron & Associates. She resides and works from Tiburon, CA, and Paris, France, with many visits to New York to make the rounds of editorial offices.

Harlen Campbell



Harlen Campbell, a writer of mystery/suspense novels, lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico. His first novel, *Monkey on a Chain*, was released by Doubleday in 1993, the first of a series built around Rainbow Porter, a “throwback to the outlaw/heroes of the old west.” The second in the series, *Jennifer’s Weave*, was published by ABQ Press, as was his stand-alone, *Sea of Deception*. Campbell attended New Mexico State University and has BA’s in English and Journalism and an M.A. in English Literature. His interests lie in the nature of the individual’s relationships to society and to the world, but he is willing to apologize if they show up in his writing. In general, he prefers beaches to mountains, warm to cold, indolence to industry.

Rebecca Cantrell



Rebecca Cantrell writes the award-winning Hannah Vogel mystery series set in 1930s Berlin, including *A Trace of Smoke* and *A Night of Long Knives*, which is a Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Mystery Award nominee at LCC 2011. Her short stories are included in the “Missing” and “First Thrills” anthologies. Rebecca also writes the critically-acclaimed YA iMonsters series, including *iDrakula*, as Bekka Black. Currently, Rebecca lives in Hawaii with her husband, her son, and too many geckoes to count.

www.rebeccacantrell.com & www.bekkablack.com

Colleen Casey



Colleen Casey graduated from UC Berkeley and is currently the asbestos judge in San Francisco. She has written legal texts, such as the *Workers' Compensation Practice Guide*, the *Tax Action Guide*, and dozens of articles on topics such as, "Top Ten Mistakes Physicians Make When Rating Impairments" and "Lender Liability Under Superfund." Her short stories have been published by a local literary journal. She is currently working on a legal thriller dealing with an artifact smuggling ring.

Kathryn Casey



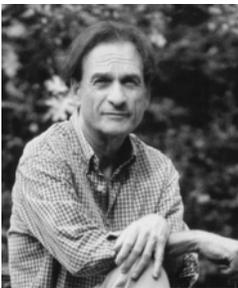
Kathryn Casey is an award-winning, Houston-based novelist and journalist, the creator of the Sarah Armstrong mystery series and the author of six highly acclaimed true crime books. *Singularity*, the first in the Armstrong series, was included in *Booklist's* best crime novel debuts of 2009, and *Library Journal* included the third in the series, *The Killing Storm*, on its list of the best books of 2010. Casey's protagonist is a Texas Ranger/profiler headquartered in Company A, Houston. In addition, Ann Rule calls Casey "one of the best in the true crime genre." She has chronicled sensational murder cases across Texas, and her books have been Literary Guild, Mystery Guild, and Doubleday Book Club selections.

Carol Caverly



Carol Caverly is the author of the Thea Barlow Wyoming mystery series, *All the Old Lions*, *Frogskin and Muttonfat*, and *Dead in Hog Heaven*, and a variety of short stories. Her books were local best sellers and selections of the Detective Book Club. She's a frequent presenter of programs at local and national writing conferences, judges writing contests, and served on the editorial boards for two short story anthologies. She's currently working on the book from hell, a thriller.

Philip Cioffari



Philip Cioffari is the author of three books of fiction: the short story collection, *A History of Things Lost or Broken*, which won the Tartt fiction prize and the D.H. Lawrence award for fiction; a crime thriller, *Catholic Boys*; and the suspense novel, *Jesusville* (forthcoming May 2011). His short stories have appeared widely in both commercial and literary magazines, including *North American Review*, *Playboy*, *Northwest Review*, and *Michigan Quarterly*. He wrote and directed the independent feature film, *Love in the Age of Dion*.

philipcioffari.com

Margaret Coel



Margaret Coel is a Guest of Honor at Left Coast Crime 2011. She is the *New York Times* and *Los Angeles Times* bestselling author of the Wind River mystery series. Set on Wyoming's Wind River Reservation, the novels feature Arapaho attorney Vicky Holden and Jesuit priest Father John O'Malley. *The Spider's Web*, the 15th in the series, was published in 2010 and is a nominee for the Hillerman Sky Award. Margaret is also the author of the suspense novel *Blood Memory*. Her short stories have appeared in numerous anthologies. Recently she received the Frank Waters Award for "exemplary literary achievement," and for a "canon of writing that communicates a deep understanding and celebration of peoples of all races."



Mark Coggins



Mark Coggins' connection to New Mexico can only be described as checkered. On the one hand, his great uncle was shot and killed by the Sheriff of Silver City in 1911. On the other, his parents honeymooned at this selfsame La Fonda Hotel, and he was born in Farmington and grew up in Albuquerque. His books have won two awards, been nominated for four others and were selected for best of the year lists compiled by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Detroit Free Press*, and Amazon.com, among others.

www.markcoggins.com

David Corbett



David Corbett is a recovering Catholic/ex-PI/former bar-band gypsy and—lest we forget—a novelist, poet, and screenwriter. Nominated for virtually every major prize in crime-writing, he would hate to ruin things by actually winning one, though having a *New York Times* Notable Book and a story in *Best American Mystery Stories* is kinda sweet. He has four novels under his belt (which frees up room on his bookshelf)—the most recent being 2010's *Do They Know I'm Running?* (“a hard-hitting epic”—*Publishers Weekly*)—and routinely gets compared to Graham Greene, Dashiell Hammett, and Elmer Fudd.

www.davidcorbett.com

Andrea Davis



Inspired by her father who reinvented his teaching self when he was ordained as a Catholic priest, Andi Davis edited her dreams, revising herself from a former reporter and freelancer (*Modern Maturity*, *Woman's World*, *USA Today*) into a writer of mystery fiction. Relying on her experience as a volunteer advocate for abused children in Tampa, Florida, Andi is writing a series (*Fostering Murder*, *Fostering Deceit*) featuring Ellen Lucksavage, a Guardian ad Litem who saves endangered children from abusive parents, indifferent social services workers, and, when complicated by these children's desperate need for love, murder.

Janet Dawson



Janet Dawson's Oakland PI Jeri Howard is back in *Bit Player*, from Perseverance Press. Janet's first novel, *Kindred Crimes*, won the St. Martin's Press/Private Eye Writers of America best first PI novel contest, earning Shamus, Macavity, and Anthony nominations. Her short stories include Macavity winner “Voice Mail” and Shamus nominee “Slayer Statute.” Forthcoming books include a standalone, *What You Wish For*, and a mystery set on a train, *Death Rides the Zephyr*. Janet loves New Mexico's people, landscape, and history, and plans to translate her longtime fascination with Billy the Kid and the Lincoln County War into a historical novel.

www.janetdawson.com

Vicki Delany



Vicki Delany writes everything from standalone novels of suspense (*Scare the Light Away*, *Burden of Memory*), to the Constable Molly Smith books, a traditional village/police procedural series set in the B.C. Interior, beginning with *In the Shadow of the Glacier*, to a light-hearted historical series, (*Gold Digger*, *Gold Fever*), set in the raucous heyday of the Klondike Gold Rush. Vicki took early retirement from her job as a systems analyst in the high-pressure financial world and now lives the simple writer's life in bucolic rural Prince Edward County, Ontario, where she rarely wears a watch. *Negative Image*, the fourth book in the Constable Molly Smith series, was released in November 2010.

www.vickidelany.com

Denise “Deni” Dietz



Denise “Deni” Dietz is the author of *Strangle a Loaf of Italian Bread*, #4 in the Ellie Bernstein/Lt. Peter Miller “diet club” mysteries. For those who want to read a series from the beginning, Deni’s backlist has been reissued in paperback and digital venues. The books have been updated and re-edited; Deni calls it “writing wrongs.” Deni’s latest “Mary Ellen Dennis” novel, *Stars of Fire*, is a history-mystery-romance, and she is writing a second Ingrid Beaumont/Hitchcock the Dog mystery. Wearing another cap, usually a Denver Broncos cap, Deni is an Associate Editor for Five Star Mysteries.

www.denisedietz.com

Laura DiSilverio



Laura DiSilverio spent 20 years as an Air Force intelligence officer—serving as a squadron commander, with the National Reconnaissance Office, and at a fighter wing—before retiring to parent and write full time. With the release of *Swift Justice* and a mall cop series in the works, the writing’s going great. *Swift Justice* is nominated for a Lefty award at LCC 2011. The jury’s still out on the parenting—check back in, oh, 30 years. She resides in Colorado with her hubby, tweenage daughters, and dog, and is currently working on the second Charlie Swift book.

www.lauradisilverio.com

Leslie Doran



Leslie Doran lives in Durango, Colorado. She is a freelance writer, editor, photographer, and videographer. She has completed two documentaries. She writes non-fiction and book reviews for the *Denver Post*, *Mystery Scene Magazine*, and others. Her interviews of authors Tony Hillerman, Sue Grafton, Dana Stabenow, Michael Connelly, and more have appeared nationally. After teaching herself to read at the age of three, she continues this passion by reading as many books as possible and then sharing her views with readers. She can be contacted at sierrapoco@yahoo.com.

Michael Dymmoch



Michael Dymmoch was born in Illinois and grew up in a suburb northwest of Kentucky. As a child she kept a large number of small vertebrates for pets and aspired to become a snake charmer, Indian chief or veterinarian. She was precluded from realizing the former ambitions by a lack of charm and Indian ancestry, and from achieving the latter by poor grades in calculus and physics. This made her angry enough to kill. Fortunately, before committing mayhem, she stumbled upon a book titled *Maybe You Should Write a Book* and was persuaded to sublimate her felonious fantasies. Moving to Chicago gave Michael additional incentives to harm individuals who piss her off. On paper of course.

George Easter



George Easter is the editor of the Anthony-Award-winning *Deadly Pleasures Mystery Magazine*, now in its 19th year. He and the magazine sponsor the annual Barry Awards presented at Bouchercon. Much to his surprise, he was the Fan Guest of Honor at the Tucson Left Coast Crime Convention in 2000. Born and raised in New York (Long Island), George has lived in Utah for the last 40 years. An avid reader, he remains an enthusiastic advocate and supporter of mystery/crime/thriller fiction and loves to talk about his favorite books which he will do at this convention. For more information, please go to www.deadlypleasures.com.



Chris Eboch



What do you do when a ghost needs your help? Chris Eboch's Haunted series for ages 8-12 follows a brother and sister who travel with their parents' ghost hunter TV show and try to help the ghosts, while keeping their activities secret from meddling grownups. In *The Ghost on the Stairs*, an 1880s ghost bride haunts a Colorado hotel, waiting for her missing husband to return. *The Riverboat Phantom* features a steamboat pilot still trying to prevent a long-ago disaster. In *The Knight in the Shadows*, a Renaissance French squire protects a sword on display at a New York City museum. Read samples at www.chriseboch.com.

J.T. Ellison



J.T. Ellison is the bestselling author of the critically acclaimed Taylor Jackson series, with novels published in 21 countries. A former White House staffer, she moved to Nashville and began research on a passion: forensics and crime. She has worked extensively with the Metro Nashville Police, the FBI, and various other law enforcement organizations to research her novels. Visit her website for more insight into her wicked imagination, or follow her on Twitter @Thrillerchick.

www.JTEllison.com

Victoria Erhart



To counteract the effects of a respectable career in academia, Victoria Erhart turned to a life of vicarious crime through the creation of a female tribal cop character who solves rez problems while exposing the larger social and economic issues that bedevil New Mexico. Advised to join the Federal Witness Protection Program, Ms. Erhart instead moved to a small town in northern New Mexico, which amounts to about the same thing. She writes for pleasure under the name of Tori Lee.

torileeenterprises.blogspot.com

Bill Fitzhugh



Bill Fitzhugh has been described as “of average height” and “not terribly fast in the hundred meters, though quick enough to escape capture that one time.” According to the New York Times, “He is the author of enough books to keep you busy for a while.” Confounding critics and readers alike, his series of stand-alone novels explores the dark underbelly of the world of testicle transplants, the international kitty porn industry, and pie-eating contests. His novel, *I Think I Need My Stomach Pumped*, features a new protagonist, Angus McNaughty, a loner, and an alley cat, who travels only with a toothbrush and furball medicine. Fitzhugh lives in Los Angeles with very little hope of a decent future.

www.billfitzhugh.com

Joel Fox



Joel Fox's first novel, *Lincoln's Hand* (www.lincolnshand.com), is a modern day mystery based on a bizarre historical event: an attempt to steal Abraham Lincoln's body. Fox has been involved in bizarre situations over the years himself—he's got a long rap sheet in California politics, serving on numerous state commissions, working on many ballot issue campaigns, and advising candidates, including Arnold Schwarzenegger in the historic gubernatorial recall election of 2003. Fox has authored hundreds of opinion pieces for many national and state publications. In 2008, Fox completed the Los Angeles FBI Citizens Academy program, gaining a deeper understanding of the FBI and its mission.

Barbara Fradkin



Barbara Fradkin is a psychologist with a fascination for how we turn bad. Her dark, compelling short stories haunt numerous publications, but she is best known for her gritty detective novels, set in Canada's Capital and featuring the exasperating, quixotic Ottawa Police Inspector Michael Green. The series has won two Arthur Ellis Best Novel Awards for *Fifth Son* and *Honour Among Men*. The eighth book, *Beautiful Lie the Dead*, was released by Napoleon & Company in fall 2010. In a new venture, the first in her Rapid-Reads series, entitled *The Fall Guy*, will be published by Orca books this spring.

www.barbarafradkin.com

Brian Garfield



Brian Garfield (*Death Wish*, *Hopscotch*) is descended from a line of notables including Josiah Wynne (a Boston bartender who poured the shot heard 'round the world, deserted from both the Colonial and British armies, and later was hanged for stealing a mule) and Samuel "Mark Twain" Clemens, who in his youth deserted from the Confederate army and went West. Brian's own military experience caused no desertion charges to be filed—he enlisted in 1957 and was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in 1965. He has wondered, ever since, where he went wrong.

www.briangarfield.net

David Edgerley Gates



David Edgerley Gates lives in Santa Fe. A past Shamus and Edgar award nominee for his short stories, he recently completed *Black Traffic*, a Cold War spy novel, the first of a series.

Kaye George



Kaye George has been around. She's lived in several states, most of which, oddly, begin with M. Meanwhile, she's been able to write a bunch of short stories (one even got nominated for an Agatha, to her amazement). You'll find that story in her collection, *A Patchwork of Stories*. Her comic mystery, *Choke*, will be published in May 2011 by Mainly Murder Press. She blogs a couple of places, reviews for *Suspense Magazine*, and writes articles that pop up here and there. She, her husband, and a cat aptly named Agamemnon live together in Texas, near Austin.

AllThingsWriting.blogspot.com; TravelsWithKaye.blogspot.com; KayeGeorge.com

Christine Goff



Christine Goff wanted to be a writer from the time she penned her first book, *The Haunted Mansion*. Well, okay, so it was third grade, and the book was more of a short story. It was still the spark that kindled the flame that fanned a burning desire to one day publish a novel. Several false starts later, she is now the author of the bestselling "Birdwatcher's Mystery Series," two of which were nominated for prestigious Willa Literary Awards. Her latest promotional idea: a springtime karaoke tour of Tokyo, to coincide with the Japanese release of her second novel.

www.christinegoff.com



Susan Goldstein



Susan Goldstein's debut murder mystery, *Hollywood Forever*, takes a page (or two) from her many years as an attorney practicing family law (AKA divorce) in Los Angeles, CA. She is the co-author of two non-fiction books but her true passion is mysteries, where "justice" can be doled out to the bad guys without waiting for a judge to rule! A native of NYC, Susan now lives in the hills of Hollywood, CA, where life is always interesting.

www.susangoldsteinbooks.com

Pete Goodman



Pete Goodman is a member of the Mystery Writers of America and the Maya Research Program. As a journalist in the U.S. Air Force, he wrote news releases and feature articles that were published in national and international media. As a university professor, he has published over a dozen articles and translations and delivered papers nationally and internationally. An avocational archeologist, *Smoking Frog Lives!*, his first mystery book is set in the modern Yucatan with a classic Maya background. The follow-on, *Blood on the Stone*, is in press. Contrary to popular belief, he is not Indiana Jones.

Madeline (M.M.) Gornell



Madeline (M.M.) Gornell has three published mystery novels: PSWA award-winning *Uncle Si's Secret*, *Death of a Perfect Man*, and her latest release, *Reticence of Ravens* (her first Route 66 mystery). She continues to be inspired by historic Route 66, and is currently working on a trilogy that fictionally connects murder, truths untold, and Chicago's Lake Michigan with California's High Desert. She is a lifetime lover of mysteries, and an admitted anglophile. Also a potter, M.M. lives with her husband and assorted canines in the Mojave Desert near Route 66. Visit her at her website or blog, or "friend" her on Facebook. She loves meeting readers and authors.

www.mmgorrell.wordpress.com & www.mmgorrell.com

Beth Groundwater



Beth Groundwater writes the Claire Hanover gift basket designer mystery series (*A Real Basket Case*, nominated for the 2007 Best First Novel Agatha Award, and *To Hell in a Handbasket*, released in May, 2009). She also writes the Rocky Mountain Outdoor Adventures mystery series starring whitewater river ranger Mandy Tanner. The first, *Deadly Currents*, was just released in March, 2011. She lives in Colorado and enjoys its many outdoor activities, including skiing, hiking, and whitewater rafting. Beth loves talking to book clubs, too, and not just for the gossip and wine!

bethgroundwater.blogspot.com & bethgroundwater.com

Patricia Gulley



Patricia Gulley is the author of *Downsized to Death*, a mystery that takes place in a travel agency. Retired from the travel industry, twenty-five years as a travel agent, she claims not to do research; she just calls friends to help with the memories. Her short story, "The Observer," a SF/mystery, is available to read at the Wings site. Her humorous mystery, "Floaters," appeared in the anthology *Murder Across the Map* and takes place in a floating home moorage, which is where Pat lives. Her book is available at www.wingsepress.com, both trade paper and eBook.

www.patgulley.com.

Andrew F. Gulli



Andrew F. Gulli was born in Detroit, but when he was just two, he and his parents moved to Athens, Greece. It was during his childhood in Athens that Gulli’s passion for mysteries began to develop. In 1999, Gulli was offered the job of managing editor of *The Strand Magazine*. Guided by his editorial vision, the magazine has earned a reputation among readers for publishing high quality fiction by best-selling authors. In addition to being an editor, Gulli also writes short stories (under a pseudonym), is an accomplished portrait artist whose work has been exhibited at art shows, and has done consulting work for documentary producers. He has recently edited a serial novel, *No Rest for the Dead*, to be released July 2011.

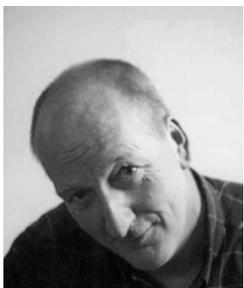
Elizabeth Gunn



Elizabeth Gunn, innkeeper, live-aboard sailor, and travel writer before she settled down to real work, writes two police procedural series. Jake Hines, mixed-race foundling still searching for his roots, heads the detective division in a mid-size Southeast Minnesota city and makes nice with his soul-mate Trudy, a criminalist at the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension in St. Paul. Sarah Burke is a homicide detective in the sizzling city of Tucson, where hikers, bikers, and peace-loving snow birds frolic in the sun, wannabe Americans dodge the Border Patrol to find jobs in *Estados Unidos*, and drug dealers and gun-runners cater to all tastes.

www.elizabethgunn.com

Peter Guttridge



Peter Guttridge recently moved from the Daft Side to the Dark Side. *Cast Adrift*, the sixth of his comic Nick Madrid series, won the Lefty for best comic novel of the year but there aren’t many laughs in his new Brighton trilogy — *City of Dreadful Night*, *The Last King of Brighton*, and *God’s Lonely Man*. Suspense and devious plotting aplenty though. (The *Times* of London once said “peppy plotting is his stock in trade.”)

www.peterguttridge.com

Parnell Hall



Parnell Hall is the King of Kindle. If you haven’t seen his music video on YouTube, stop reading this and watch it at once. Then watch King of Kindle, Bouchercon version, shot at that convention last year. See all the author cameos in them? Get the idea? Unless you want to be on YouTube, be ready to duck if he comes at you with a camera. Oh, he also writes books.

www.parnellhall.com

Joan Hansen



“Founder” could be her middle name: Founder of the English Council of Long Beach, an organization of teachers of English and Language Arts. Founder of Authors Festivals featuring the creators of children’s books, involving thousands of youngsters. Founder of the Literary Guild of Orange County, an 18-year-old Festival of Women Authors. Founder of Men of Mystery, winner of MWA’s Raven Award, now in its 12th year, starring more than 50 gentlemen of the genre. My Friday morning *Cuento* features cameo appearances by Martin Cruz Smith, joined by Eric Beetner, Mike Befeler, Joel Fox, Brian Garfield, Ken Kuhlken, Paul Levine, Bob Levinson, David Morrell, Stephen J. Schwartz, Sheldon Siegel, and John Vorhaus.



R.J. Harlick



Canadian author R.J. Harlick writes the Meg Harris mystery series set in the wilds of West Quebec. Like her heroine Meg Harris, RJ loves nothing better than to roam the forests surrounding her own wilderness cabin or paddle the endless lakes and rivers. But unlike Meg, she doesn't find a body at every twist and turn, although she certainly likes to put them in Meg's way. The fourth book, *Arctic Blue Death*, was a finalist in the 2010 Arthur Ellis Award for Best Novel. The soon to be released *A Green Place for Dying* is the fifth and latest in the series.

www.rjharlick.blogspot.com & www.rjharlick.ca

Rosemary Harris



Rosemary Harris is the author of *Pushing Up Daisies* and *The Big Dirt Nap*, featuring amateur sleuth Paula Holliday. Her books have been called "quirky, original and captivating" (Carolyn Hart) "a nifty puzzle" (*Publishers Weekly*), and "a perfect summer read" (NPR, WSHU, CT). Her latest book, *Dead Head*, will be released in paperback March 2011, and *Slugfest*, a murder mystery set at a legendary flower show, will be available May 2011. She lives in Connecticut with her husband and a big sloppy golden retriever named Max.

rosemaryharris.com

Steven Havill



Steven Havill is a Guest of Honor at Left Coast Crime 2011. He lives in New Mexico, with his wife Kathleen, a writer and artist. Havill earned both his B.A. and M.A. from the University of New Mexico, and was a high school biology and English teacher for many years. He is author of the Posadas County mysteries, a now-17 book series set in southwestern New Mexico, and a new historical series featuring Thomas Parks, a doctor in 1890s Port McKinney, Washington.

L.C. Hayden



Elsie Hayden refuses to be outdone by Bronson, her series character. He geo-cached, so Hayden geo-cached. Most of the caches in *Why Casey Had To Die* are actual geo-caching sites—and just like Bronson, Hayden and her husband own a motor home and travel all over. She promotes her books; Bronson solves the mysteries. For another series she's writing, her character took up scuba diving—so did Hayden. She encounters more adventures during her "working" cruises as Author-in-Residence. This year alone, Princess Cruises sent her and her husband on a Grand Mediterranean Cruise and Celebrity sent them on a Panama Canal cruise. Hayden's latest release is *When Death Intervenes*.

lchayden.com

Gar Anthony Haywood



Gar Anthony Haywood is the Shamus and Anthony award-winning author of 11 crime novels and numerous short stories. He has written six mysteries featuring African-American private investigator Aaron Gunner; two starring Joe and Dottie Loudermilk, retiree crime-solvers and Airstream-owning parents to five grown Children From Hell; and three standalone thrillers. Gar has written for both the *New York Times* and *Los Angeles Times*, and for such television shows as "New York Undercover" and "The District." His latest novel is the urban crime drama *Cemetery Road*, which *Publishers Weekly* called, in a starred review, "a beautifully crafted novel of unintended consequences."

www.garanthonhaywood.com

Betty Hechtman



Betty Hechtman writes the nationally bestselling crochet mysteries featuring Molly Pink and the Tarzana Hookers. Her latest release is *You Better Knot Die*, and once again there are dead bodies, but everybody has a good time. Betty lives in Southern California with her family and her ever-growing stash of yarn.

BettyHechtman.com

Victoria Heckman



Victoria Heckman's first Hawai'i mystery series features officer Katrina (K.O.) Ogden of the Honolulu Police Department. Her second series, Coconut Man mysteries of Ancient Hawai'i, begins with *Kapu-Sacred*. Her newest work, *Burn Out*, released in 2010, is a stand-alone mystery starring animal communicator Elizabeth Murphy.

www.victoriaheckman.com

Gabriella Herkert



By night, Gabi Herkert is an assassin, a serial killer, a kidnapper, and a con artist. Her day job is so evil she doesn't talk about it. She writes the Animal Instinct mystery series, including *Catnapped*, *Doggone*, and the upcoming *Horsewhipped*. She's also working on something new—still searching for a title—so be sure to ask her about “X.” Use air quotes like it's a password. Or check her website for new clues. On Sundays, you can find her blogging with a group of equally disturbed writers at www.7criminalminds.blogspot.com.

www.gabriellaherkert.com

Anne Hillerman



After enjoying myself as a newspaper reporter, I spent some exciting years writing editorials for our Santa Fe paper and the *Albuquerque Journal*. I continue to do newspaper restaurant reviews, the source of *Santa Fe Flavors*, the fifth of my seven published books. With my photographer husband, Don Strel, I created *Gardens of Santa Fe* and *Tony Hillerman's Landscape*. Mountains and Plains Independent Booksellers honored THL as best art book of 2010. I help plan the Tony Hillerman Writers Conference, which includes a mystery short story contest and the \$10,000 Tony Hillerman Prize for first novel.

www.wordharvest.com

Charlotte Hinger



Charlotte Hinger is a Western Kansas historian. *Deadly Descent*, first in the Lottie Albright series, won the AZ Book Publishers Award for Best Mystery/Suspense. It 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. *Lethal Lineage*, published March 2011 by Poisoned Pen Press, is the second in the series. Convinced that mystery writing and historical investigation go hand to hand, Charlotte applies her M.A. in history to academic articles and her wicked, depraved imagination to murder most foul.

www.charlottehinger.com



Reece Hirsch



Reece Hirsch's debut legal thriller, *The Insider*, was published by Berkley Books in 2010. Reece is a partner in the San Francisco office of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, where he specializes in privacy and security law. Reece's author website is www.reecehirsch.com, and every other Saturday, he shares his dark, twisted thoughts at the Criminal Minds blog 7criminalminds.blogspot.com.

Ken Hodgson



Born in the shadow of Pike's Peak, Ken Hodgson has enjoyed various and interesting careers. He has worked in a state mental hospital, been a gold and uranium miner and a professional prospector, and owned an air compressor business. A former newspaper columnist, Ken has written hundreds of magazine stories and articles along with over a dozen published novels, including Westerns, mysteries, and a medical thriller. Ken is an active member of both Western Writers of America and Mystery Writers of America. He divides his time between San Angelo, Texas, and Tucumcari, New Mexico, where he resides with his wife and prime editor, Rita, along with two totally spoiled cats, Penelope and Ulysses.

Sara Sue Hoklotubbe



Sara Sue Hoklotubbe and her amateur sleuth Sadie Walela both hail from Oklahoma, both are Cherokee, and both have suffered through careers in the banking business. Sara swears the rest is totally fiction! The Sadie Walela mystery series transports readers straight into modern-day Cherokee life where Sadie keeps finding herself caught up in murder investigations. Sara's latest mystery, *The American Café*, is the second in the series. Her first mystery, *Deception on All Accounts*, won Sara "Writer of the Year" by Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers. Sara and her husband presently live in Colorado.

www.hoklotubbe.com

Maria Hudgins



Maria writes the Dotsy Lamb travel mysteries. The third book in the series, *Death on the Aegean Queen*, published in 2010, follows *Death of an Obnoxious Tourist* and *Death of a Lovable Geek*. Setting each story in a different country, Maria first visits the place and looks for good places to commit a murder. Her last trip was to Istanbul, the setting for a current work-in-progress.

www.mariahudgins.com

Ken Isaacson



Ken Isaacson has practiced law for 30 years, having graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Columbia Law School. His legal career began on Wall Street, and today he is in-house general counsel to an international transportation company. Lawyers write for a living, and many people think they write *fiction* for a living. Ken decided one day to abandon all pretenses and write something that he could readily admit was completely made up. So now he writes crime fiction. His bestselling first novel, *Silent Counsel*, won critical acclaim, and his recently-completed second is on its way.

www.KenIsaacson.com

Craig Johnson



Craig Johnson has received high praise for his Sheriff Walt Longmire novels *The Cold Dish*, *Death Without Company*, *Kindness Goes Unpunished*, *Another Man's Moccasins*, and *The Dark Horse*, named a *Publishers Weekly* best book of 2009. *Another Man's Moccasins* received the Western Writers of America Spur Award for best novel of 2008 as well as the Mountains and Plains award for fiction book of the year. *Junkyard Dogs* is on the stands now. The French edition has won the *Le Prix du Polar Nouvel Observateur/Bibliobs*, *Le Grand Prix des Litteratures Policières*, and *Le Prix 813*. The Warner Brothers Horizon TV pilot for the series *Longmire* has been greenlighted by the A&E network. www.craigallenjohnson.com

Darynda Jones



Winner of the 2009 Golden Heart® for Best Paranormal Romance for her manuscript *First Grave on the Right*, Darynda was born spinning tales of dashing damsels and heroes in distress for any unfortunate soul who happened by, annoying man and beast alike. After the Golden Heart final, she pimped herself as best she could, landed an amazing agent and sold to St. Martin's Press in a three-book deal. Darynda lives in the Land of Enchantment, also known as New Mexico, with her husband of more than 25 years and two beautiful sons, AKA the Mighty, Mighty Jones Boys.

www.daryndajones.com

Christine T. Jorgensen



Calling for a Funeral is the latest of Christine T. Jorgensen's humorous amateur sleuth mysteries. Francie Starzel finds mothering her almost-adopted, nearly ten-year-old son, Mac, and his pet tarantula, Spike, the most difficult thing she has yet faced, until her boss and former best friend fires her and inconveniently turns up dead in the trunk of Francie's aged auto. If only Francie hadn't threatened to kill her. As in her previous mysteries, the successful Stella the Stargazer series, *Calling for a Funeral*, is set in Denver, Colorado, where Jorgensen lives with her husband, Jim, and her little dog, Rex.

Tammy Kaehler



Before trying her hand at fiction, Tammy Kaehler established a career writing marketing materials, feature articles, executive speeches, and technical documentation. A fateful stint in sports marketing introduced her to the world of automobile racing, which inspired the first Kate Reilly racing mystery, *Dead Man's Switch*, coming in August 2011 from Poisoned Pen Press. Tammy works as a technical writer in the Los Angeles area, where she lives with her husband and many cars.

tammykaehler.blogspot.com & www.tammykaehler.com

Keith Kahla



Keith Kahla is an Executive Editor at St. Martin's Press, where he has worked since 1988. His list includes a substantial amount of crime and thriller fiction, which is published under both the St. Martin's Press and the Minotaur Books imprints. His authors include Nevada Barr, Joseph Finder, Gregg Hurwitz, Steven Saylor, S.J. Rozan, Gayle Lynds, Jeri Westerson, among many others.



Laurie R. King



Laurie R. King claims to be the literary agent for Mary Russell, memoirist and wife of one Sherlock Holmes (in ten books from *The Beekeeper's Apprentice* to *God of the Hive*). King is also the author of the Kate Martinelli series and five standalone novels, although her next book will again be a Mary Russell novel, *Pirate King*, in September 2011. King's background ranges from Old Testament theology to running a coffee store. Her web site is a positively alarming source of time-wasting essays, art, puzzles, and Things You Never Knew. She urges you to avoid it at all costs.

www.laurierking.com

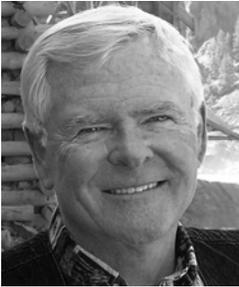
Harley Jane Kozak



Harley Jane Kozak's checkered past includes acting on stage and screen (with minimal nudity). When she grew too old for the foxy babe roles, she turned her romantic escapades into a novel, *Dating Dead Men*, which won the Agatha, Anthony, and Macavity awards (along with the Nebraska Book Award, which is often confused with the National Book Award). This encouraged her to continue her series with three more books combining homicide and dating, which have far more psychological depth than you'd guess from the cover art. The latest is *A Date You Can't Refuse*. She also writes shorter stuff.

thelipstickchronicles.typepad.com; www.harleyjanekozak.com

Rob Kresge



Robert (Rob) Kresge's first mystery novel, *Murder for Greenhorns* (ABQ Press 2010), takes place in 1870 Wyoming. Kate Shaw, a new schoolteacher from Buffalo, and Monday Malone, a Texas cowboy heading for Montana, team up to find the killer of the new lawman for the isolated town of Warbonnet. Rob worked 30 years as a CIA senior analyst on counterterrorism, North Korea, gray market arms dealers, and sanctions on the former Yugoslavia. He and his wife retired to Albuquerque in 2002. He belongs to Mystery Writers of America, Western Writers of America, and Sisters in Crime (a founding member and 2008 president of the Albuquerque Chapter). He served as programs and panels chair of Left Coast Crime 2011.

Ken Kuhlken



After borrowing time from his youthful passions, such as baseball, golf, romance, and trying to make music, to study at San Diego State University and the University of Iowa, Ken got serious (more or less). His stories have appeared in *Esquire* and dozens of other magazines and anthologies and earned a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship. With Alan Russell, in *Road Kill* and *No Cats, No Chocolate*, he chronicled the madness of book promotion tours. Ken's novels are *Midheaven* (Hemingway Award finalist) and the Tom Hickey California Century series: *The Loud Adios* (PWA Best First PI Novel), *The Venus Deal*, *The Angel Gang*, *The Do-Re-Mi* (2007 Shamus Best Novel finalist), *The Vagabond Virgins*, and *The Biggest Liar in Los Angeles*.

Marv Lachman



Left Coast Crime 2011 Fan Guest of Honor and an avid mystery reader since 1943 (it seems like only yesterday), Marv Lachman is coauthor of the Edgar-winning *Encyclopedia of Mystery and Detection* (1976). His *A Reader's Guide to the American Novel of Detection* (1993) was nominated for the Edgar, Anthony, Agatha, and Macavity Awards—but didn't win. However, his *The American Regional Mystery* (2000) won the Macavity Award and was nominated for the Anthony and Agatha. His last book, *The Heirs of Anthony Boucher: A History of Mystery Fandom* (2005), the culmination of his many years as a fan, won the Anthony Award at Bouchercon.

Bette Golden Lamb



Bette Golden Lamb, an ex-Bronxite, writes crime novels and plays with clay in her studio. Her artistic creations appear in juried exhibitions, and she sells through galleries, associations, and stores (including Kris & Joe Neri's The Well Red Coyote bookstore in Sedona, AZ). She likes to hang out with her 50+ rose bushes, or sneak out to the movies when she should be writing. Being an RN is a huge clue as to why she writes medical thrillers with husband J.J. in marvelous Marin County, California. They have just completed a new gritty medical thriller.

www.twoblacksheep.us

J.J. Lamb



J.J. Lamb switched from engineering to journalism and on to an Associated Press career. Army intervention provided a Top Secret clearance, a locked room with table, chair, typewriter, and time to write short stories. This led to an OPB series featuring PI Zachariah Tobias Rolfe III. Then collaboration with wife Bette Golden Lamb produced a medical thriller, *Bone Dry*, and a suspense-adventure, *Heir Today...*, both HBs from Five Star Mysteries and now available as e-books (SynergEbooks) and in audio (Books in Motion). A new Zach Rolfe PI caper is on the horizon, plus more collaborations with Bette.

www.jjlamb.com

Deborah J Ledford



New Mexico's Taos Pueblo Indian reservation is the setting for Deborah's latest suspense novel, *Snare*, which has been nominated for the Hillerman Sky Award here at LCC 2011. A three-time nominee for the Pushcart Prize, her award-winning short stories appear in numerous print publications, as well as mystery and literary anthologies. The classical music themed *Staccato* is book one of her Deputy Hawk/Inola Walela thriller series. Both novels are published by Second Wind Publishing. To find out more about Deborah and to read a few of her published short stories, she invites you to visit her website.

www.DeborahJLedford.com

Paul Levine



Paul Levine is a former trial lawyer and an award-winning author of legal thrillers, including *Solomon vs. Lord* (nominated for the Macavity award and the James Thurber prize), *The Deep Blue Alibi* (nominated for an Edgar Award), and *Kill All the Lawyers* (a finalist for the International Thriller Writers award). He won the John D. MacDonald award for his critically acclaimed Jake Lassiter novels, which are now available as e-books. His next book will be *Lassiter*, to be published by Bantam in the fall. Levine also wrote more than 20 episodes of the CBS military drama "JAG" and co-created the Supreme Court drama "First Monday."

www.paul-levine.com

Robert S. Levinson



Robert S. Levinson—Bestselling author of nine novels, including current *The Traitor in Us All*, forthcoming *A Rhumba in Waltz Time*. Short stories frequently in the *Ellery Queen* and *Alfred Hitchcock* mystery magazines. Derringer award winner. Ellery Queen Readers Award recognition three times. Plays "Transcript" and "Murder Times Two" produced at International Mystery Writers Festivals in Owensboro, KY. Served four years on Mystery Writers of America's national board of directors. Wrote and produced two MWA annual "Edgar Awards" shows, two International Thriller Writers "Thriller Awards" shows. Resides in Los Angeles with wife, Sandra, and pooch, Rosie.

www.rslevinson.com

Larry Light



Lawrence Light is the Executive Vice President of Mystery Writers of America. He is the author of the Karen Glick series, set on Wall Street, the dark thriller *Ladykiller* (with his wife, Meredith Anthony), and the forthcoming *Taming the Beast*. He is a contributor to the Edgar-nominated *Thrillers: 100 Must Reads*. His short stories have appeared in *Wall Street Noir* and *Thriller 2*. He has been an editor and reporter at the *Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, and *Business Week*.

www.lawrencelight.com

Clyde Linsley



Clyde Linsley is the author of three historical mysteries set in pre-Civil War America, featuring Josiah Beede, a New England lawyer and farmer who was a “hero” of the Battle of New Orleans. Linsley and his wife live in the Virginia suburbs of Washington, DC.

Margaret Lucke



Margaret Lucke flings words around as a writer and editorial consultant in the San Francisco Bay Area. She has always been fascinated by the power of stories and the magic of creativity. Her newest novel is *House of Whispers*, a tale of love, ghosts, and murder on the California coast. An earlier book, *A Relative Stranger*, was an Anthony Award nominee. A former president of the Northern California Chapter of MWA, she teaches fiction writing classes, coaches other writers, and has authored two how-to books, *Schaum's Quick Guide to Writing Great Short Stories* and *Writing Mysteries*.

www.margaretlucke.com

D.P. (Doug) Lyle



D.P. Lyle, M.D., is the Macavity Award-winning and Edgar Award-nominated author of *Forensics for Dummies*, *Forensics & Fiction*, *Howdunnit: Forensics*, and *Stress Fracture*, a Dub Walker thriller. His essay on Jules Verne's *The Mysterious Island* appears in *Thrillers: 100 Must Reads*. His next Dub Walker novel, *Hot Lights, Cold Steel*, and the tie-in novel, *Royal Pains: First, Do No Harm*, will be released June 2011. He has worked with many novelists and with the writers of popular television shows such as *Law & Order*, *CSI: Miami*, *Diagnosis Murder*, *Monk*, *Judging Amy*, *Peacemakers*, *Cold Case*, *House*, *Medium*, *Women's Murder Club*, *1-800-Missing*, and *The Glades*.

www.dplylemd.com & writersforensicsblog.wordpress.com

Annette Mahon



Annette Mahon lives in Paradise Valley, with her husband and their spoiled Australian Shepherd. A former librarian, Annette likes to think that she's moved from tending the library shelves to filling them, as both of her publishers sell primarily to the library market. Annette writes the St. Rose Quilting Bee mystery series where a group of quilters in Scottsdale, Arizona, solve mysteries over the quilt frame, and romances with Hawaiian settings. She is a member of MWA, SinC, RWA, and NINC.

www.facebook.com/author.annettemahon & www.annettemahon.com

Janet Majerus



Janet Majerus grew up in Quincy, IL, on the bluffs of the Mississippi River. She served as mayor of University City, MO, a suburb of St. Louis for ten years. After she retired from public office, she turned to writing murder mysteries. Asked why, she explained, “My years in politics taught me a lot about intrigue, plots, misleading statements, inflated egos, and half truths. Seemed a shame not to use that experience.” Her latest mystery, *Thicker Than Water*, was released in July 2010. Check her website, JanetMajerus.com, for other books and experiences.

G.M. Malliet



G.M. Malliet’s *Death of a Cozy Writer* won the Agatha Award in 2009 for Best First Novel. An IPPY silver medalist, it was nominated for Anthony, David, and Macavity awards, and a Left Coast Crime award for best police procedural. Kirkus Reviews named it one of the best books in any category of 2008. The second St. Just book is *Death and the Lit Chick*, a 2010 Anthony nominee. The third St. Just book is *Death at the Alma Mater*. She is currently writing a new series for Thomas Dunne/Minotaur Books.

GMMalliet.com

Rebecca Grace Martinez



Becky Martinez, who writes as Rebecca Grace, is a former broadcast journalist who always wanted to make up stories, so when she left the mainstream media, she turned to fiction writing full time. She started out writing romance but then those dead bodies started to show up. Now she specializes in mystery and romantic suspense. Her latest romantic suspense novella, *Shadows from the Past*, will soon be available from The Wild Rose Press. Her last novel, *Deadly Messages*, was published in 2010 and a sequel, *Deadly Intentions*, is on the way. She lives in Littleton, CO.

Maggie Mason



Maggie is a recovering bookseller, who lives in San Diego, CA. She was the first fan guest of honor for LCC, and was a fan Guest of Honor for Bouchercon 1999. She reads many sub-genres of detective fiction, and has attended many mystery conventions. Golden Retrievers (and other big dogs) are her favorite things, but she is sadly allergic to dogs, so has imaginary ones. Be careful driving with her: she will pull over to pet adorable dogs if possible. The most interesting thing she’s done so far this year is to attend the internment of Raymond Chandler’s wife, Cissy.

Jeanne Matthews



Jeanne Matthews was born and raised in Georgia, where owning a gun is required by law in certain places and “he needed killing” is a valid legal defense to homicide. Jeanne’s debut novel, *Bones of Contention*, published in June 2010 by Poisoned Pen Press, features a con-ning Georgia clan plopped down in the wilds of Northern Australia where death adders, assassin spiders, man-eating crocs, Aboriginal myths, and murder abound. Jeanne currently resides in Renton, Washington, with her husband, Sidney DeLong, who is a law professor, and their West Highland terrier. Her next novel, *Bet Your Bones*, is due out in June 2011.

www.jeannematthews.com



Lise McClendon



Lise McClendon has lived and written novels in Wyoming and Montana for the last 30 years. Her first novel, *The Bluejay Shaman*, features Jackson Hole art dealer Alix Thorssen. She has published three more mysteries featuring Alix and two in the World War II-era Kansas City series beginning with *One O'Clock Jump*. Her latest is the suspense novel *Blackbird Fly*, set in southwest France. Lise has served leadership roles in International Crime Writers Association, Jackson Hole Writers Conference, and Mystery Writers of America. She lives in Bozeman, Montana.

www.lisemcclendon.com

Susan McDuffie



Susan McDuffie has been a devotee of historical fiction since her childhood, when she believed she had mistakenly been born in the wrong century. Her discovery that Clorox was not marketed prior to the 1920s reconciled her to modern life. Susan writes historical mysteries set in medieval Scotland, and has also published Regency short stories. The Muirteach MacPhee mysteries include *A Mass for the Dead* (Five Star 2006) and *The Faerie Hills* (Five Star April 2011). Additional information about Susan's work can be found on her website.

www.SusanMcDuffie.net

Michael McGarrity



Michael McGarrity lives in Santa Fe and writes the Kevin Kerney novels. A former psychotherapist and ex-cop with the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Department, he will advise you on bail bondsmen, inpatient and outpatient mental health treatment services, and what bars to avoid or frequent during your stay in Santa Fe. He also knows all the best places for a green chili fix. He is currently working on an historical prequel due out from Dutton—God knows when (early 2012). Do not attempt to approach him if you are considered armed and dangerous.

www.michaelmcgarrity.net

Rosemary & Larry Mild



Rosemary and Larry Mild winter in Honolulu, where they delight in their family, the beach parks, and the opera season. They're members of both the Hawaii and Chessie Chapters of Sisters in Crime. Their newest novel is *Cry Ohana, Adventure and Suspense in Hawaii*, where murder, blackmail, and passion thrust a Hawaiian family into the tentacles of Honolulu's dark side. They also coauthor the Paco & Molly mysteries: *Boston Scream Pie*, *Locks and Cream Cheese*, and *Hot Grudge Sunday*, and teach "Mystery and Thriller Writing" at a community college in Arnold, Maryland.

www.magicile.com

Susan Cummins Miller



Susan Cummins Miller's Frankie MacFarlane mysteries—*Death Assemblage*, *Detachment Fault*, *Quarry*, *Hoodoo*, and *Fracture* (Texas Tech University Press)—feature a field geologist, college professor, and geosleuth, who lives and works in the West. Each novel is set in a unique geographic and geologic locale and includes archaeological, historical, and prehistorical elements. Miller, a recovering field geologist, holds degrees in history, anthropology, and geology. Prior to writing full-time, she worked for the U.S. Geological Survey and taught geology and oceanography. She's presently a research affiliate of the University of Arizona's Southwest Institute for Research on Women.

web.mac.com/scmiller46

Camille Minichino



Camille Minichino is a person of many names. Camille wrote eight books in the Periodic Table mysteries. As Margaret Grace, she writes the Miniature Mysteries (*Monster in Miniature* is the latest). And now—another new name! Ada Madison writes a new series, debuting this summer: the Professor Sophie Knowles mysteries. Watch for *The Square Root of Murder!* She's on the Board and past president of NorCal Sisters in Crime, past physicist, past nun, a minister, and a miniaturist. She loves writing, but misses her He-Ne laser.

www.minichino.com

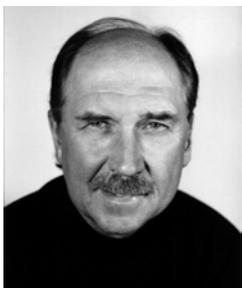
Patricia L. Morin



Patricia L. Morin, a doctoral candidate in psychology at CIIS, has masters in both Counseling Psychology and Clinical Social Work. She's also a certified herbalist, licensed pilot, and playwright. She is a member of numerous writing organizations and has served on a number of their boards. The inner complexities of the human mind play a strong part in her writing. *Mystery Montage* was published and released by Top Publications, Ltd., Dallas, Texas, in October 2010. Many of the short stories from her collection were previously published in anthologies and have won awards.

www.patriciamorin.com

David Morrell



David Morrell is the award-winning author of *First Blood*, the novel in which Rambo was created. He holds a Ph.D. in American literature from Penn State and was a professor at the University of Iowa. Noted for his research, Morrell has written numerous international best-sellers that include the classic spy trilogy *The Brotherhood of the Rose* (the basis for an NBC miniseries after the Super Bowl), *The Fraternity of the Stone*, and *The League of Night and Fog*. International Thriller Writers honored him with its ThrillerMaster award. His writing book, *The Successful Novelist*, discusses what he has learned in his almost four decades as an author.

www.davidmorrell.net

Pati Nagle



Pati Nagle was born and raised in the mountains of northern New Mexico. An avid student of music, history, and humans in general, she loves the outdoors but hides from the sun. Her stories have appeared in *Asimov's Science Fiction*, the *Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction*, *Cicada*, *Cricket*, and in various anthologies. Her short story "Coyote Ugly" received an honorable mention in *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* and was honored as a finalist for the Theodore Sturgeon Award. She has written a series of Civil War historical novels as P.G. Nagle. Her latest novel is the fantasy *Heart of the Exiled* (Del Rey). She lives in the mountains in New Mexico, with her husband and two furry feline muses.

Kris Neri



Through her writing, Kris Neri inhabits the real world—or as real as madcap mysteries get—and the paranormal realm. She writes the hilarious Tracy Eaton mystery series, the latest of which is *Revenge for Old Times' Sake* (nominated for a Lefty), which begins with a punch in the nose and builds to bodies stacking up in a pool; as well as a humorous paranormal series, *High Crimes on the Magical Plane*, a Lefty Award nominee, featuring a fake psychic and a genuine Celtic goddess/FBI agent. Kris hails from Sedona, AZ, the Vatican City of the New Age. She blogs with the Femmes Fatales at femmesfatales.typepad.com.

Michael Nettleton



Mike Nettleton, AKA Mike Phillips, recently pulled the pin on a 42-year radio career, a dozen spent (happily) in Albuquerque. There he met his wife, Carolyn Rose, another broadcast professional. They've co-written five books including the sequel to 2009's *The Big Grabowski* called *Sometimes a Great Commotion* (Krill Press). In retirement he's playing golf, trying to elevate his pool game to a level to hustle the social security checks of some of the other geezers he hangs with, and oh, yes, writing. He's reworking *Shotgun Start*, about a former Albuquerque cop turned golf hustler. He lives in Vancouver, Washington.

www.deadlyduomysteries.com

Katherine Neville



Katherine is the award-winning, NY Times best-selling author of *The Eight* (voted one of the top ten books of all time in a national poll by the noted journal *El Pais*), as well as *A Calculated Risk*, *The Magic Circle*, and her latest, *The Fire*. Her swashbuckling adventure-quest novels are translated into 40 languages. *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal* credit her work as having paved the way for books like *The Da Vinci Code*. She's drawn from her many escapades as a commercial photographer, portrait painter, busboy, waiter, and model to enrich her novels. She has appeared on the "Today" show, "Voice of America," NPR, and at numerous universities, conferences, and award programs. She lives in Virginia, Washington DC—and Santa Fe!

Charlie Newton



My 2008 debut *Calumet City* (Simon & Schuster) was nominated for the Edgar, ITW, Macavity, ALA, and Ian Fleming Steel Dagger. Number two in the trilogy, *Start Shooting* publishes in hardcover November 2011 (Doubleday). A full-time, eleven-year journey to publish two books. I fit somewhere in the common-man landscape of Studs Terkel, the semi-sober wanderings of Kerouac or Hunter Thompson, and the B-picture noir of the 1950s. I've lived in a lot of bad places and behaved accordingly. I helped some, hurt more than my share, and write these novels to make sense of what I saw, what others did, and what I did.

www.CharlieNewton.com

Michael Norman



Michael Norman is the author of three mysteries. His debut novel, *The Commission*, was selected by *Publisher's Weekly* as a Best Book of 2007. Subsequent books have included *Silent Witness* (2008), and most recently, *On Deadly Ground* (2010). Norman is a former police officer, state parole board member, and university criminologist. Currently, he is a licensed private investigator in Utah. Michael lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Star Valley, Wyoming, with his wife, Diane, and their pit bull, Eddy.

michaelnormanauthor.com

Tom O'Day



Tom O'Day is a collector of mystery books. Lots of them! Traditional, cozies, thrillers, historicals, locked rooms, police procedurals, noir, supernatural, whatever. He and his lovely wife Marie, who shares his book addiction, collect them all. Sometimes he even reads them. Once upon a time, Tom was an educator (AKA lobbyist) of legislators and regulators about the mystery of the insurance industry. Now he travels with Marie as they enjoy being part of the mystery world where they were recently honored as Fan Guests of Honor at Malice Domestic. Tom and Marie also collect dragons, art, and old movies. It's all elementary!

Terry Odell



Terry Odell was born in Los Angeles, moved to Florida, and now makes her home in Colorado. An avid reader (her parents tell everyone they had to move from their first home because she finished the local library), she always wanted to “fix” stories so the characters did what she wanted, in books, television, and the movies. Once she began writing, she found this wasn’t always possible, as evidenced when the mystery she intended to write rapidly became a romance. She found her niche in romantic suspense, and has published six novels, including the upcoming *Where Danger Hides*.

terryodell.blospot.com & www.terryodell.com

Jimmy Olsen



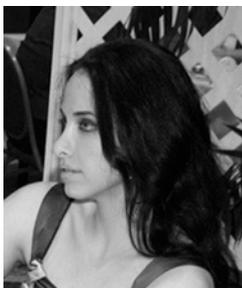
It’s tough being the real Jimmy Olsen. When my first mystery, *Things In Ditches*, was published in 2000 I decided to take advantage of my name and sent a pre-pub of the novel to *The Daily Planet*, published in Metropolis, Illinois, asking for a review. Weeks passed, no review, so I called the editor and explained I was the *real* Jimmy Olsen. He waited patiently as I told how cool it would be to have a blurb from the *Daily Planet* on my back cover, then drew a deep breath and said, “Listen Buddy. Jimmy Olsen is a fictional character,” and hung up. So now with *Poison Makers* coming out June 1, 2011, click on www.jimmyolsen.net because I didn’t bother to call the *Planet* for a review.

Mike Orenduff



Mike Orenduff grew up so close to the Rio Grande he could frisbee a tortilla into Mexico. After four college presidencies, three of which he left voluntarily, Mike opted for early retirement (described by his friends as a midlife crisis) and a writing career. His first book, *The Pot Thief Who Studied Pythagoras*, won the Dark Oak Mystery Contest and is a finalist for the New Mexico Book of the Year in two categories. The Kindle version won the 2010 EPIC Award for eBook Mystery of the Year. The second book, *The Pot Thief Who Studied Ptolemy*, was chosen as Fiction Book of the Year by the Public Safety Writers Association. *The Pot Thief Who Studied Escoffier* will launch in Santa Fe during the LCC Conference.

Chantelle Aimée Osman



Chantelle Aimée Osman is an author whose flash fiction and short stories appear in anthologies, literary journals, magazines, and e-zines. She is a founding member of The Sirens of Suspense (www.SirensOfSuspense.com), a blog by award-winning authors on all things mystery writing and publishing, as well as a reviewer for the syndicated Poisoned Fiction Review. Also a rogue book designer, her most recent work appears on the cover of Hillerman Sky nominee *Snare*. In her other life, she is an attorney and owner of a script editing and consulting company, A Twist of Karma Entertainment, LLC (www.TwistOfKarma.com), and speaks at writing conferences across the country. She may or may not be in the CIA.

Gigi Pandian



Gigi Pandian is a writer, photographer, and graphic designer in the San Francisco Bay Area. She was awarded a Malice Domestic Grant for her first mystery novel featuring treasure-hunting Indian-American historian Jaya Jones. Jaya makes her first public appearance in “The Shadow of the River,” a short story in the *Fish Tales* anthology being published by Wildside Press in 2011. Gigi serves on the board of the Northern California Chapter of Sisters in Crime. You can learn more about her at gigipandian.com and see her mysterious photographs at gargoylegirl.com.

Ann Parker



Ann Parker lives in the San Francisco Bay Area where she slings scientific and corporate prose by day and writes historical mysteries at night. Her award-winning Silver Rush mystery series features saloon owner Inez Stannert in the 19th-century silver mining boomtown of Leadville, Colorado. Books in the series are *Silver Lies*, *Iron Ties*, *Leaden Skies*, and the upcoming *Mercury's Rise*. Suggestions for future titles gratefully accepted. Ann blogs 2nd and 4th Fridays at The LadyKillers (www.theladykillers.typepad.com) and erratically at silverrushmysteries.blogspot.com. She also tweets (TheSilverQueen) and "facebook" (tinyurl.com/annparker) with abandon (if not great skill).

www.annparker.net

Susan Paturzo



Susan Paturzo's obsession with death and mayhem is on display in her short fiction, including "Hospice," awarded 4th Place out of 18,000 entries in the Writer's Digest Short Story Competition (2005), and her upcoming mystery novel *Killing Streak*. If asked the question, which famous person living or dead would you like to have dinner with, she'd include a couple of serial killers, as long as there were also a couple of hot detectives in attendance to make sure she didn't *become* dinner. To find out more about how a nice girl from Long Island wound up in this line of work, or to read a sample chapter, please visit:

www.susanpaturzo.com

Barbara Peters



Barbara Peters was born in Evanston, raised in Winnetka, Illinois, spent way too much time in graduate school, and founded The Poisoned Pen in 1989. With her husband Robert Rosenwald, she gambled on Poisoned Pen Press in 1997 where she is Editor in Chief. Barbara has won the Raven and Quill Awards from Mystery Writers of America (and been nominated for an Edgar for Best Biographical Work) and is a Bouchercon Fan Guest of Honor and Lifetime Achievement honoree. Meaning she's turning into an antique...

www.poisonedpen.com

Twist Phelan



A Stanford graduate and former plaintiff's trial lawyer, Twist Phelan writes 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, Ellis, and Derringer awards. Once she lined her front walk with Santa-Fe-style luminarias for a holiday party. Much to the joy of the single women in attendance, several members of the Fire Department ended up as unexpected guests. Who knew snow-covered leaves were so flammable? Currently, Twist is finishing up a suspense novel set in the business world. Find out more at her website.

www.twistphelan.com

Neil Plakcy



Neil Plakcy is the author of the Aidan and Liam bodyguard adventure series, *Three Wrong Turns in the Desert* and *Dancing with the Tide*. His other books are *Mahu*, *Mahu Surfer*, *Mahu Fire*, *Mahu Vice*, *Mahu Men*, and *Mahu Blood*, about openly gay Honolulu homicide detective Kimo Kanapa'aka, *GayLife.com*, and *In Dog We Trust*, a golden retriever mystery. Plakcy is a journalist and book reviewer as well as an assistant professor of English at Broward College's south campus in Pembroke Pines. He is also vice president of the Florida Chapter of Mystery Writers of America and a member of Sisters in Crime.

www.mahubooks.com

Mar Preston



Mar Preston has just published *No Dice*, a police procedural featuring Santa Monica Police Detective Dave Mason, and community organizer Ginger McNair. They manage somehow to get past their political differences to work out the solution to the murder of the champion leading the campaign to prevent a casino consortium from building on the shores of Santa Monica Bay. *No Dice* shows how grassroots organizations and smart, conniving women sometimes win local contests against powerful moneyed opponents. She has lately been impersonated by a shameless huckster who bends all the rules of civilized intercourse to sell this 5-star (at this moment) good read on Amazon.

marpreston.com

Hannah Reed (AKA Deb Baker)



Hannah Reed (AKA Deb Baker) writes the Queen Bee mystery series—*Buzz Off* (9/2010), *Mind Your Own Beeswax* (5/2011), and #3 (due 2/2012). As Deb, she writes the award-winning Gertie Johnson Backwoods series. Look for book #4 in the series soon. When not struggling with her split personality, she is busy writing, gardening, and enjoying life in the rolling wooded hills of Southeastern Wisconsin.

www.cozychicksblog.com & www.debbakerbooks.com

Janet Reid



Janet Reid specializes in compelling fiction, particularly crime fiction, and narrative non-fiction. She's always on the lookout for fabulous projects. Her publishing background includes 15 years in book publicity with clients both famous and infamous. In her spare hours she drinks scotch and stalks Jack Reacher.

Jodie Renner



Jodie Renner is a freelance fiction manuscript editor, specializing in thrillers, romantic suspense, mysteries, romance, and YA fiction. Jodie is a member of International Thriller Writers, Editorial Freelancers Association, and Canadian Editors' Association. When she's not editing fiction manuscripts, Jodie enjoys reading thrillers and mysteries, dancing, movies, gardening, and most of all, traveling. Jodie has traveled extensively throughout North America, Europe, and the Middle East. In fact, Jodie loves traveling so much, she's thinking of changing her tagline from "Let's work together to enhance and empower your writing" to "Have laptop, will travel."

JodieRennerEditing.blogspot.com & www.JodieRennerEditing.com

John Maddox Roberts



John Maddox Roberts has been a professional writer for more than 30 years in the mystery, science fiction, and historical genres, with more than 50 books to his credit. His first mystery, *SPQR*, was nominated for the Edgar award and was first in a series that now numbers 13 volumes and has been published in 13 languages to date. His most recent novel is *SPQR XIII: The Year of Confusion*. He lives with his wife, Beth, and an ever-varying number of cats, in a 100-year-old adobe house in the town of Estancia, New Mexico.



Stephen D. Rogers



Stephen D. Rogers is the author of *Shot to Death* and more than 600 shorter pieces, meaning that he spends almost as much time updating his website as he does writing. Which is good, in a way, since if he spent more time writing, he'd simply have that many more updates to his website hanging over his head.

www.StephenDRogers.com

Carolyn J. Rose



Carolyn J. Rose is the author of *Hemlock Lake* and the co-author of *The Big Grabowski* and *Sometimes a Great Commotion*. She grew up in the Catskill Mountains and worked 25 years as a television news producer and assignment editor in Arkansas, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington. Since 2001 a mix of sarcasm and stand-up comedy has helped her survive as a substitute teacher. She lives in Vancouver USA with her husband Mike Nettleton, a godson named The Viper, and a motley collection of pets. She's too lazy to write her own blog, but contributes to others. Her hobbies are reading, gardening, and not cooking. She can't tweet to save her life, but has a website.

www.deadlyduomysteries.com

Sharon Rowse



Sharon Rowse has always loved reading—in the absence of a good book, she's been known to read the backs of cereal boxes. Fulfilling a lifelong dream, Sharon now has books available in several series. The Arthur Ellis–nominated *Silk Train Murder*, set in 1899 Vancouver, captures the romance of the silk trains that raced across North America. *Death of a Secret* features artist-turned investigator Barbara O'Grady—a twisting tale of old secrets and lies, death and treachery. The second books in both series will be available soon.

www.sharonrowse.com

Priscilla Royal



Priscilla Royal, author of seven books from Poisoned Pen Press in the thirteenth century Prioress Eleanor/Brother Thomas English medieval mystery series, grew up in British Columbia and earned a B.A. in World Literature at San Francisco State, where she discovered the beauty of medieval literature. Before retiring from the federal government in 2000, she worked in a variety of jobs, all of which provided an excellent education in the complexity of human experience and motivation. She is a theater fan and reader of history, mystery, and fiction of lesser violence. *Valley of Dry Bones* is her most recent.

www.priscillaroyal.com

Katharine Russell



Katharine Russell writes the Pointer mystery series (*A Pointed Death*) under Kath Russell. She also has written a coming-of-age novel, *Deed So*, and a children's book, *Buddy's Tail*. Before transitioning to a life of fiction writing, Russell enjoyed a rewarding career in the biotechnology industry. She was an executive with one of the first gene-splicing companies and later founded a consulting firm that advised startups. She received a BA in history from Northwestern University, an M.S. in journalism from Boston University, an M.B.A. in marketing from the Kellogg School of Management, and a certificate in creative writing from UCLA.

Cindy Sample



Cindy Sample is a former mortgage banking CEO turned mystery author who decided plotting murder was far more fun than plodding through paperwork. Her first humorous romantic mystery, *Dying for a Date*, was released by L&L Dreamspell in June 2010. Cindy writes the popular *Hot Flash* column for the *Gold River Newspaper* and is a frequent speaker in the Sacramento area. Cindy is past president of the Sacramento Chapter of SinC and has served on the boards of the Sacramento Opera and YWCA. She is co-chair of the 2012 Left Coast Crime Convention, which will be held in Sacramento.

cindysamplebooks.com

Tom Schantz



Tom Schantz has been selling, publishing, and reviewing mysteries for over 40 years, together with his wife Enid, with whom he operates The Rue Morgue Press, mail-order booksellers and publishers of vintage mystery fiction. In 2001 they were awarded the Raven by the Mystery Writers of America for their contributions to the mystery world. They live on 13 acres in the mountains outside Lyons, Colorado, together with their two cats, two pygmy goats, four chickens, countless deer, and the occasional elk, mountain lion, black bear, and bobcat. In his spare time he helps coach his granddaughter's softball and basketball teams.

Stephen Jay Schwartz



Los Angeles Times bestselling Author Stephen Jay Schwartz spent a number of years as the Director of Development for Wolfgang Petersen, where he worked with writers, producers and studio executives to develop screenplays for production. Among the film projects he helped developed are *Air Force One*, *Outbreak*, and *Bicentennial Man*. His two novels, *Boulevard* and *Beat*, follow the dysfunctional adventures of LAPD Robbery-Homicide detective Hayden Glass as he fights the bad guys and struggles with his sex-addiction. Stephen has written for the Discovery Channel and is currently writing a 3D zombie film on assignment. He lives in Southern California and can be found at his website, www.stephenjayschwartz.com.

Maggie Sefton



Maggie Sefton is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Berkley Prime Crime Knitting mysteries. Eighth in the series, *Skein of the Crime* (June 2010), was Barnes & Noble #5 bestselling hardcover mystery, and was on their bestseller list five months. *Publishers Weekly* has said about the series, "Readers will enjoy visiting with Kelly and her knitting buddies, who, in their carefree way, resemble the cast of Friends." Maggie has been a CPA and a real estate agent in the Rocky Mountain west, but finds nothing can match creating worlds on paper. Mother of four grown daughters scattered around the globe, she lives in Northern Colorado.

www.maggiesefton.com; www.cozychicksblog.com; www.killercharacters.com

Zulema Seligsohn



As for me, I am better known to most LCCers as Noemi Levine's mother. I have not written any mysteries or published books of my own, as I am basically a translator. The one book that is related to the genre is *Poisons in Mystery Literature*, published (appropriately) by Poisoned Pen Press, but it was my decades-long enjoyment of mysteries that piqued my curiosity and interest in this pretty little volume published by a Spanish professor of pharmacology and avid mystery reader. One learns a lot when translating.



L.J. Sellers



L.J. Sellers is an award-winning journalist and the author of the bestselling Detective Jackson mystery/suspense series: *The Sex Club*, *Secrets To Die For*, *Thrilled to Death*, and *Passions of the Dead*. Her novels have been highly praised by *Mystery Scene* and *SpineTingler* magazines, and all four are on Amazon Kindle's bestselling police procedural list. L.J. also has two standalone thrillers: *The Baby Thief* and *The Suicide Effect*. When not plotting murders, L.J. enjoys performing standup comedy, cycling, social networking, and attending mystery conferences. She's also been known to jump out of airplanes.

ljsellers.com

Zoë Sharp



Zoë Sharp spent most of her formative years living aboard a catamaran on the northwest coast of England. She opted out of mainstream education at the age of twelve and became a freelance photojournalist in 1988. After receiving death-threats in the course of her work she created her no-nonsense bodyguard heroine, Charlotte "Charlie" Fox. The latest in this award-nominated crime thriller series is *Fourth Day* (Pegasus) and US editions of the earlier books from Busted Flush Press. When she isn't writing or hanging out of a moving vehicle with a camera, Zoë blogs regularly on her website www.ZoeSharp.com or on www.Murderati.com.

Susan C. Shea



Susan C. Shea spent more than 25 years as an executive in the non-profit world. During her time working and consulting for universities, arts organizations, and a science institute, she directed award-winning communication, public relations, fundraising, and marketing programs. She was an active member of the professional organizations that serve the advancement community. Today, she lives and writes in Marin County, California, where she is a member of Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime.

www.susancshea.com

Sheldon Siegel



San Francisco attorney Sheldon Siegel is the *New York Times* bestselling author of seven critically-acclaimed courtroom dramas featuring San Francisco criminal defense lawyers Mike Daley and Rosie Fernandez. His seventh book, *Perfect Alibi*, was released in 2010. Sheldon began writing novels on the ferry on his commute to San Francisco. His books have sold millions of copies. Sheldon is a graduate of UC-Berkeley and he's been in private practice for 26 years. He lives in Marin with his wife, Linda, a computer graphics artist, and their twin sons. He is currently working on his eighth novel.

www.sheldonsiegel.com

Brian Skupin



Brian Skupin is the webmaster and co-publisher of *Mystery Scene*. Brian, originally from Toronto, is the chief detective behind the popular "What's Happening With..." author interview feature, writes reviews, and runs the magazine's website. In 2006, he and co-publisher Kate Stine were awarded the Ellery Queen Award by the Mystery Writers of America for contributions to mystery publishing.

www.mysteryscenemag.com

Martin Cruz Smith



Martin Cruz Smith is the recipient of the Left Coast Crime 2011 Lifetime Achievement award. His novels include *Stalin's Ghost*, *Gorky Park*, *December 6*, *Polar Star*, *Stallion Gate*, and *Three Stations*. He is a two-time winner of the Hammett Prize from the International Association of Crime Writers, a recipient of both Gold Dagger and a Silver Dagger Awards from the British Crime Writers' Association, and a multiple Edgar Award nominee. His father was a jazz musician; his mother was a nightclub singer. They met at the '39 World's Fair, where she represented New Mexico. He now lives in California.

www.martincruzsmith.com

Rochelle Staab



Rochelle Staab had a choice: draft her bio for a dating site or write the witty, LA-based mystery haunting her. She opted for spellbinding and penned *Hollywood Hoodoo*, her first murder mystery. A veteran of the radio and music industries, Rochelle lives in LA and is currently writing book two in her series featuring psychologist Liz Cooper and Professor Nick Garfield—amateur sleuths who swap conflicting opinions of the supernatural and share a mutual attraction for each other. *Hollywood Hoodoo* will be released by Berkley Prime Crime in November 2011.

www.rochellestaab.com

Kelli Stanley



Kelli Stanley is very, very honored that her 1940 San Francisco-set *City of Dragons* is a Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Mystery Award nominee at LCC 2011 and a *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize finalist. The sequel, *City of Secrets*, will release on September 13, and "Children's Day," a short story prequel to *City of Dragons*, appears in the ITW anthology *First Thrills*. In the mean-time, *The Curse-Maker*, the relaunch of her "Roman noir" series for Thomas Dunne/Minotaur, was just published February 1. Kelli earned a Master's Degree in Classics, loves jazz, old movies, battered fedoras, and speakeasies, and currently serves as MWA President of her region. She's thrilled to be in Santa Fe for Left Coast Crime!

www.kellistanley.com

Judy Starbuck



Judy Starbuck is a Scottsdale teacher, a handwriting analyst, an adoptee, and an AZ state-certified Confidential Intermediary who assists in reuniting family members separated through adoption. She has five published short stories and three unpublished mysteries. Her blog, "This Writer's Journey" was featured in Type M for Murder, and her article, "If I Were Serving Books for Dinner" was a feature in the *Arizona Republic* and the NoCal MWA Newsletter. She is an active member of the Desert Sleuths Chapter of Sisters in Crime.

www.judystarbuck.com

Kay Stewart



Kay Stewart is a native Texan who escaped to Canada without being a draft dodger. After too many years in hiding as an English prof, she took up a new profession: crime. She's made her mark in organized crime as president of Crime Writers of Canada and co-chair of Bloody Words, Canada's largest mystery conference, to be held in Victoria, BC, June 3-5, 2011. Crimes of the messier sort feature in *A Deadly Little List* (co-authored by husband Chris Bullock) and the recently released *Sitting Lady Sutra*. She is currently at work on a third novel.

Don Strel



A lifelong photographer, Don Strel has had his photos published in numerous books and magazines. He works primarily as a documentary photographer who captures his subject as is, not enhanced by time or manipulation. He has taught design at San Francisco State and Northern Illinois University, and has served as the director of the Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of New Mexico. He is currently the director of the Southwest Assignments design and photo agency, which he founded in 1985. He lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He enjoys traveling, skiing, creative projects, and classic cars.

Denise Swanson



Denise Swanson is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Scumble River mystery series. After coming face-to-face with evil, Denise quickly decided she would rather write about villains than encounter them in her daily life. She was shocked to discover that getting a book published was nearly as difficult as vanquishing scoundrels. Her series features Skye Denison, a school psychologist-sleuth. Denise writes from her experiences as a school psychologist and small town resident. Her 13th book, *Murder of a Bookstore Babe*, debuted March 1, 2011. Denise lives in Illinois with her husband, classical composer David Stybr, and their cool black cat, Boomerang.

www.DeniseSwanson.com

Pari Noskin Taichert



Pari Noskin Taichert has garnered two Agatha Award nominations for her mystery series from the University New Mexico Press. Her books are *The Socorro Blast*, *The Belen Hitch*, and *The Clovis Incident*; all humorously celebrate the Land of Enchantment while exploring the deeper human condition. Pari is also a 20+ year veteran in the public relations industry, the founder of the Anthony-nominated web log *Murderati.com*, and an award-winning freelance features writer. She finds delight in eating Vietnamese food, playing cello, lifting weights, hanging out with writers and readers, loving her family, and practicing gratitude. She'll be especially grateful on March 28, 2011.

www.murderati.com & www.parinoskintaichert.com

Marcia Talley



Marcia Talley is the Agatha and Anthony award-winning author of *All Things Undying* and eight previous mysteries featuring survivor and sleuth, Hannah Ives. The tenth novel in the series, *A Quiet Death*, will be released this summer. Marcia's critically-acclaimed short stories appear in more than a dozen collections. She divides her time between Annapolis, Maryland, and living aboard an antique sailboat in the Bahamas. Marcia is the immediate past president of Sisters in Crime.

www.marciatalley.com

Margaret Tessler



Although I've won awards for my short stories, I discovered that writing full-length mysteries is my real niche. The first two in my series, *Tangled Webs* and *Class Disunion*, take place in Texas. The setting for the third, *Black Widow White Lies*, is Chama, New Mexico. The fourth, *Deadly Triangles*, set in Mustang Island, Texas, was a finalist in the 2010 New Mexico Book Awards. Originally from Houston, I now live in Albuquerque with my husband, Howard, and our cat, Einstein. Besides writing and traveling, I enjoy time with our blended/extended family, which includes nine children and several grandchildren.

www.ABQ-TaleSpinner.com

Sue Trowbridge



Sue Trowbridge, a lifelong mystery reader, is the official Left Coast Crime webmaster. Her company, interbridge.com, also provides web services to many mystery authors and small businesses. While she lives in Northern California, she is a frequent visitor to New Mexico, considering it a home away from home. Her answer to New Mexico's state question is "green."

Jean Utley



Jean was born with a silver book in her mouth. She grew up in a house filled with books in Columbus, Ohio, and is still an avowed bookaholic. After graduating from The Ohio State University, she came to Los Angeles and met and married her husband, Allen LaVinger, whereupon she proceeded to fill their house with books. She has worked in various bookstores, and can be found at Book'em Mysteries in South Pasadena, California. She reviews for www.ILoveAMysteryNewsletter.com, and reads about 300 books a year. She was chair of Left Coast Crime 2010 in Los Angeles.

Judith Van Gieson



Judith Van Gieson is the author of 13 mystery novels set in New Mexico. Her first series (published by HarperCollins) features Albuquerque lawyer/sleuth Neil Hamel. The protagonist of the second series, Claire Reynier, is an archivist and librarian at the University of New Mexico. The Reynier series was published in paperback by Signet and in hardcover by UNM Press. After graduating from Northwestern as an English major, Judith worked in publishing in New York for several years. In recent years she has become a publisher herself. She lives and works in Albuquerque's North Valley.

www.judithvangieson.com

Maddy Van Hertbruggen



Maddy Van Hertbruggen is known as an enabler of the mystery addiction of many readers. As the owner of the readers' discussion group, 4 Mystery Addicts (4MA), many have followed her down a path of no return, an obsessive need to read and discuss crime fiction. She's also contributed to their downfall through the reviews that she writes for *Deadly Pleasures* magazine, *I Love a Mystery Newsletter*, and ReviewingTheEvidence.com.

John Vorhaus



John Vorhaus's "sunshine noir" novel, *The California Roll*, has been called, "The best novel my son ever wrote" by his mother. But she hasn't yet read the sequel, *The Albuquerque Turkey*, so whatever. John also wrote the classic comedy writing textbook, *The Comic Toolbox: How To Be Funny Even If You're Not*. An international writing consultant—25 countries on four continents at last count—his most recent engagements were Moscow, running the writing staff of the Russian version of *Married... with Children*, and Nicaragua, creating and head-writing a social-action drama. He's also written ten books on poker, but whatever.

www.johnvorhaus.com

Lea Wait



Lea Wait says by some time warp she really grew up in the 19th century. A Maine antique print dealer and expert on Winslow Homer wood engravings, she lives in a house built in 1774 and channeled Homer himself when writing the fifth in her contemporary Shadows Antique Print Mystery series, *Shadows of a Down East Summer*, in which Homer and two young women who posed for him are major characters. Lea also writes historical fiction (19th century, natch) for young people, collects sea glass, and invites you to check her website (www.leawait.com) and friend her on FB.

Penny Warner



In spite of partying since she was a teenager, Penny Warner has published over 50 books, including over a dozen party books. Her latest mystery series features an event planner, Presley Parker, who lives and works on Treasure Island in the San Francisco Bay Area. Presley's parties are held on Alcatraz (a "surprise" wedding in *How To Host a Killer Party*), at the de Young Museum (a murder mystery party in *How To Crash a Killer Bash*), and at the Winchester Mystery House (a Séance Party in *How To Survive a Killer Séance*). Penny's non-fiction book, *The Official Nancy Drew Handbook*, was nominated for an Agatha Award. She can be reached at www.pennywarner.com. Party on!

Gerald M. Weinberg



Gerald M. Weinberg (Jerry) writes mystery/thrillers such as *The Aremac Project*, *Aremac Power*, *Freshman Murders*, and *Mistress of Molecules*—about how brilliant people solve crimes. He incorporates his knowledge of science, engineering, and human behavior into all of his writing. He is one of five charter members of the Computing Hall of Fame in San Diego. The book, *The Gift of Time* (Fiona Charles, ed.), honors his work for his 75th birthday.

www.geraldmweinberg.com

Curt M. Wendelboe



Curt M. Wendelboe served in the Marines during the Vietnam War. During his 38-year law-enforcement career, he always has felt most proud of "working the street." He was a longtime firearms instructor at the local college and within the community. He retired in 2010 to pursue his true vocation as a mystery writer. He could write about any Wild West crime—but murder is more interesting than antelope crossing and cattle rustling. *Death Along the Spirit Road* (Berkley Prime Crime) is the first in a series set on Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

www.spiritroadmysteries.com

Deborah Harter Williams



Deborah Harter Williams is a Mystery Scout. Her company, Hollywood and Crime, works with Hollywood producers searching for mystery novels that will make good TV. Previously, as co-founder of M Is for Mystery she was involved in the original design of the store from bookshelves shaped like poison bottles to Latin phraseology on the cash wrap, which proclaims "Sweet Mystery of Life." She blogs about mysteries at www.CluesSisters.com and is developing support services for authors, including online promotion, audio and video trailers, a line of Mystery Calendars, and information about legal issues. She reads more than 250 books a year.

Darryl Wimberley



Darryl Wimberley has earned star reviews and national awards for both genre and literary work. Special Agent Barrett Raines returns this March in *Devil's Slew*, the fifth novel in a "Gulf Coast noir" series. Darryl's last literary novel, *The King of Colored Town*, earned national recognition as the first winner of the Willie Morris Award for Fiction. A screenwriter as well as a novelist, Wimberley also enjoys a long-time membership in the WGAW.

darrylwimberley.com

Kenneth Wishnia



Kenneth Wishnia's first novel, *23 Shades of Black*, was nominated for the Edgar and the Anthony Awards. His other novels include *Soft Money*, a *Library Journal* Best Mystery of the Year, and *Red House*, a Washington Post Book World "Rave" Book of the Year. His short stories have appeared in *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*, *Murder in Vegas*, *Queens Noir*, and elsewhere. His latest novel, *The Fifth Servant*, is a Jewish-themed historical set in Prague in the late 16th century. He teaches writing, literature, and other deviant forms of thought at Suffolk Community College on Long Island.

www.kennethwishnia.com

Mae Woods



Mae Woods wrote three episodes of HBO's *Tales from the Crypt* and produced the TV movie *When Danger Follows You Home* based on an original treatment by Sara Paretsky. Her feature film credits include posts as a story analyst, development executive, and associate producer on six films directed by Walter Hill (*Streets of Fire*, *Brewster's Millions*, *Crossroads*, *Extreme Prejudice*, *Red Heat*, *Johnny Handsome*). As a freelancer, she has written for Mysterynet, Digital City, MGM Home Entertainment, and Abdo & Daughters Press. She currently works as an oral historian for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.

Lance Zarimba



Lance Zarimba is an occupational therapist working in Minneapolis, MN. His mystery, *Vacation Therapy*, is the first book in his "Therapy" series, which involves an occupational therapist who solves crimes with the help, but more likely the hindrances, of his friends. He also has two children's books: *Oh No, Our Best Friend Is a Zombie*, and *Oh No, Our Best Friend Is a Vampire*. His short stories are in: *Mayhem in the Midlands*, Pat Dennis' *Who Died in Here? 25 Mystery Stories of Crimes and Bathrooms*, Anne Frasier's *Deadly Treats* anthology, Jay Hartmann's *The Killer Wore Cranberry*, and several other short stories for Untreed Reads, and e-short stories on Echelon Press.



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Left Coast Crime #21 in Santa Fe



Welcome to the 21st Left Coast Crime, *The Big Chile* in Santa Fe! The Left Coast Crime Convention is an annual event sponsored by fans of mystery literature for fans of mystery literature, including both readers and authors. Held in the western half of North America during the first quarter of the year, LCC's intent is to provide an event where mystery fans can gather in convivial surroundings to pursue their mutual interests. Left Coast Crime Conference, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) organization. Stay in touch on the Web at www.leftcoastcrime.org.

Left Coast Crime Honorees Through the Years

Year	Place	Guests of Honor	Fan Guests of Honor	Toastmaster	Lifetime Achievement
1991	San Francisco, CA	Marcia Muller Bill Pronzini			
1992	San Francisco, CA	J.A. Jance Earl Emerson Burke		James Lee Burke	
1993	Anaheim, CA	Susan Dunlap		Ann & Evan Maxwell	
1994	Anaheim, CA	Aaron Elkins		Carolyn Hart	
1995	Scottsdale, AZ	Tony Hillerman		Judith Van Gieson	
1996	Boulder, CO	Kinky Friedman	Maggie Mason	Nevada Barr	
1997	Seattle, WA	Faye & Jonathan Kellerman		Lia Matera	
1998	San Diego, CA	Elizabeth George	Willis Herr	Alan Russell	Bob Wade
1999	Albuquerque, NM	John Dunning	Tasha Mackler	Deborah Crombie	
2000	Tucson, AZ	Sue Grafton	George Easter	Harlan Coben	
2001	Anchorage, AL	Michael Connelly Lindsay Davis	Andi Shechter		
2002	Portland, OR	Steven Saylor Laurie King	Don Herron	G.M. Ford	
2003	Pasadena, CA	Robert Crais	Sue Feder	Jerrilyn Farmer	
2004	Monterey, CA	Sharan Newman Walter Mosley	Bryan Barrett Tom Walls	Gillian Roberts	Richard Lupoff
2005	El Paso, TX	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, WA	Dennis & Gayle Lynds	Kara Robinson Diane Kovacs	Gary Phillips	
2008	Denver, CO	Stephen White	Michael Masliah	Elaine Viets	
2009	Kona, HI	Rhys Bowen Barry Eisler	Pam Dehnke Vallery Feldman	Lee Goldberg	
2010	Los Angeles, CA	Jan Burke Lee Child	Janet Rudolph	Bill Fitzhugh	
2011	Santa Fe, NM	Margaret Coel Steven Havill	Marvin Lachman	Steve Brewer	Martin Cruz Smith
2012	Sacramento, CA	John Lescroart Jacqueline Winspear	Noemi Levine	Harley Jane Kozak	



Book Awards Given at Left Coast Crime

The Lefty

The Lefty is an award for the most humorous mystery published in the prior year.

2011 Nominees:

Stork Raving Mad by Donna Andrews
Swift Justice by Laura DiSilverio
Old Dogs by Donna Moore
Revenge for Old Times' Sake by Kris Neri
The Pot Thief Who Studied Einstein
by J. Michael Orenduff

Past Winners:

2010: *Getting Old Is a Disaster* by Rita Lakin
2009: *Greasing the Piñata* 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: *We'll Always Have Parrots* by Donna Andrews
[tie] *Blue Blood* by Susan McBride
2004: *Mumbo Gumbo* by Jerrilyn Farmer
2003: *The Hearse Case Scenario* by Tim Cockey
[tie] *Pipsqueak* by Brian M. Wiprud
2002: *Dim Sum Dead* by Jerrilyn Farmer
[tie] *Fender Benders* by Bill Fitzhugh
2001: [no award 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 given]
1996: *The Fat Innkeeper* by Alan Russell

The Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Mystery Award

An award given for the best mystery novel covering events before 1950.

2011 Nominees:

A Night of Long Knives by Rebecca Cantrell
Murder for Greenhorns by Robert Kresge
City of Dragons by Kelli Stanley
The Demon's Parchment by Jeri Westerson
The Mapping of Love and Death
by Jacqueline Winspear

Past Winners:

2010: *A Trace of Smoke* by Rebecca Cantrell
2009: *Nox Dormienda, A Long Night for Sleeping*
by Kelli Stanley
2006: *Spectres in the Smoke* by Tony Broadbent
2005: *The Witch in the Well* by Sharan Newman
2004: *For the Love of Mike* by Rhys Bowen

The Hillerman Sky Award

A special award given this year, in honor of the convention's New Mexico location, to the mystery that best captures the landscape of the Southwest.

Nominees:

Wild Penance by Sandi Ault
The Bone Fire by Christine Barber
The Spider's Web by Margaret Coel
Snare by Deborah J Ledford

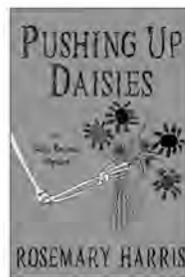
The Watson

A special award given this year to the mystery novel with the best sidekick.

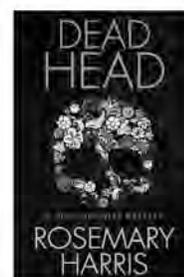
Nominees:

Wild Penance by Sandi Ault
Dead Lift by Rachel Brady
Rolling Thunder by Chris Grabenstein
Junkyard Dog by Craig Johnson
To Fetch a Thief by Spencer Quinn

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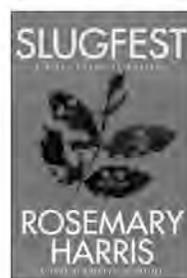


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"Lively... and refreshing."
Publishers Weekly



April 2011

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"Slugfest is a knockout! Witty and
bilarions, wry and wise...quirky
characters, clever dialogue and a
page-turner of a plot. I loved it!"
Hank Phillipi Ryan
Agatha, Anthony, and Macavity
winning author



The Dilys Award

The Dilys Award is given annually by the Independent Mystery Booksellers Association (IMBA) to the mystery title that the member booksellers most enjoyed hand-selling. The award is named in honor of Dilys Winn, the founder of the first specialty bookstore for mystery books in the United States. The award is traditionally presented at the Left Coast Crime Convention. This year, the Dilys will be presented by Barbara Peters of Poisoned Pen Press during the Saturday night Awards Banquet.

The IMBA is a network of individually owned retail bookstores across North America and the United Kingdom devoted to the sale of mystery books. For more information, visit www.mysterybooksellers.com.

Dilys Nominees for books published in 2010:

Love Songs from a Shallow Grave by Colin Cotterill
The Lock Artist by Steve Hamilton
Moonlight Mile by Dennis Lehane
Bury Your Dead by Louise Penny
Once a Spy by Keith Thomson
Savages by Don Winslow

Past Winners:

2009: *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*
by Alan Bradley
2008: *Thunder Bay* by William Kent Krueger
2007: *Still Life* by Louise Penny
2006: *Thirty-Three Teeth* by Colin Cotterill
2005: *Darkly Dreaming Dexter* by Jeff Lindsay

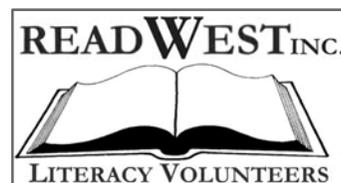
2004: *Lost in a Good Book* by Jasper Fforde
2003: *In the Bleak Midwinter*
by Julia Spencer-Fleming
2002: *Mystic River* by Dennis Lehane
2001: *A Place of Execution* by Val McDermid
2000: *L.A. Requiem* by Robert Crais
1999: *Gone, Baby, Gone* by Dennis Lehane
1998: *Three To Get Deadly* by Janet Evanovich
1997: *The Poet* by Michael Connelly
1996: *The Last Coyote* by Michael Connelly
1995: *One for the Money* by Janet Evanovich
1994: *Smilla's Sense of Snow* by Peter Høeg
1993: *Booked To Die* by John Dunning
1992: *Native Tongue* by Carl Hiaasen

Who Benefits? The LCC 2011 Charity

Money raised by our silent auction and quilt raffle will be donated to this year's charitable organization: ReadWest Inc., headquartered in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. • One percent of adults in New Mexico cannot read. Thirty-six



percent have only limited communication skills in English. • ReadWest has been teaching adults to read and write in Rio Rancho and the surrounding area since 1989. They currently have 235 volunteer tutors and 350 enrolled students, and provide help with basic literacy, English as a second language, preparation for the GED, citizenship, basic life skills, and computer literacy. With enhanced literacy skills, these students can create a better life for themselves and their families. • The gift of literacy gives them a voice, a vote, a job, and a future. Thank you for helping us give the gift of literacy!



The LCC Quilt Raffle

Valery Feldman and Pam Dehnke, LCC 2009 Fan Guests of Honor, have been making quilts for charities since 1997. Each quilt is unique and the Guests of Honor of the convention sign the label on the back. The quilt for LCC 2011 is an attic windows pattern with Southwestern fabrics. All the money raised by either auction or raffle, which now comes to several thousand dollars, goes to the charity chosen by the convention. Valery Feldman reports that they have fun making the quilts and they enjoy using their hobby for a useful purpose.

You can see a gallery of past quilts at the Left Coast Crime main website: www.leftcoastcrime.org/quilt.html.

**Raffle tickets for this year's special quilt can be purchased at the Registration Desk.
Tickets are \$1 each — \$5 for six tickets. The raffle runs until the silent auction ends.**



Useful Information

About the *Cuentos* — a Note from Pari

The idea for the *Cuentos*—which means “stories” in Spanish—came about because I’ve participated in several of what are often referred to as “Fifteen Minutes of Fame” sessions at conventions. These 20-40 minute presentations are usually organized on a first-come, first-served basis. Their quality can be inconsistent and the attendance sporadic.

This makes no sense since panel real estate at a convention is quite valuable. Why not make the solo—or small group—offerings something really special? From an organizer’s perspective, doing this can add dimension to the entire programming. For presenters, submitting proposals to a competition can force the thinking-through of the concept well in advance of giving it. And if the proposal is selected, it has more credibility because it went through a judging process. And finally, for audience members, I believe handling the sessions this way provides a certain guarantee for the level of the content.

It’s win-win for everyone. See you in the Coronado Room!

Hospitality Suite — La Terraza

There will be **snacks**, and sometimes *especially nice hors d’oeuvres* in the hospitality suite, which is located in La Terraza on the third floor, east side. There is a great view, too. Come and check it out!



Hospitality Suite hours:

Thursday: 1 PM – 4 PM
Friday: 9 AM – 4 PM
Saturday: 9 AM – 4 PM
Sunday: 9 AM – 11 AM



Convention Breakfasts and the Banquet

Both **convention breakfasts** will be on a first-come, first-served basis. If you like getting up for events that start at 7:30 AM, join us for a continental breakfast in La Terraza. If you’ve stayed up too late the night before, feel free to sleep in. The room can seat about 160 people at one time.

Our **Awards Banquet** on Saturday night is **sold out**. If you have a banquet ticket, it is in your registration packet, and fits in the pocket of your badge holder. Tickets will be collected at the door to the Lumpkin Ballroom. Please be sure to have yours handy so that everyone can get into the ballroom with as little fuss as possible.

Plaza Area Elevator Information for Attendees with Mobility Issues

La Fonda hotel is located at 100 East San Francisco Street. One block west of the hotel on Don Gaspar Avenue there is a hill going south to the shops, restaurants, and other attractions on Water Street. If you want to avoid the hill, you can take one of the elevators located in buildings on East and West San Francisco Streets and have lower levels on Water Street. The elevator locations are:

Plaza Galleria

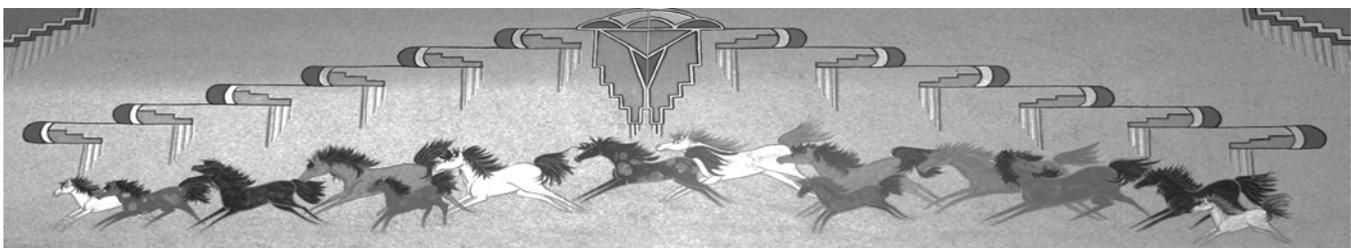
66-70 East San Francisco St.
Hours: 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM daily

Arcade Building

60 East San Francisco St.
Hours: 8:00 AM – 11:00 PM
weekdays, midnight on weekends

Plaza Mercado

116-118 ½ West San Francisco St.
Hours: 9:00 AM – midnight daily



Left Coast Crime 2011 Book Dealers

The Book Room is located in the New Mexico Room on the ground floor of La Fonda.

Hours: Thursday, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM; Friday & Saturday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Sunday, 9:00 AM – noon.

<p>Book Fever chris@bookfever.com bookfever.com 209-274-6960</p>	<p>Chris Volk & Shep Iiams — We specialize in first editions of modern mystery and suspense fiction, but have a smattering of vintage crime fiction and quite a few juvenile mystery series. We also have a small shop within a shop, Books Upstairs, on Main Street in Jackson, CA.</p>
<p>Buffalo Medicine Books ernie@buffalomedicine.com buffalomedicine.com 505-879-0980</p>	<p>Ernie Bulow — Specializing in Tony Hillerman and other Southwestern authors such as Judith Van Gieson and Walter Satterthwait, as well as signed mysteries. • PO Box 1762, Gallup NM 87305</p>
<p>Fantasy Connection fantcont@comcast.net 503-655-6210</p>	<p>Dale Johnson — Specializing in collectible and out of print mystery hardcovers and paperbacks. • PO Box 251, Lake Oswego OR 97034</p>
<p>Mary Mason Bookseller maggiemary@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Mary Mason — A bit of everything, including children's books with original drawings by illustrator, vintage mysteries, children's series books.</p>
<p>op.cit. books opcitbooks@yahoo.com info@opcit.com opcit.com 415-279-1781</p>	<p>Noemi de Bodisco & Daniel Webb — Modern first editions, mysteries, literature, children's, and cookbooks. Focusing on books by authors attending LCC, as well as other authors local to the Southwest and Rocky Mountain area. • 44 Winding Road, Santa Fe NM 87505 • 3929 26th Street, San Francisco CA 94131</p>
<p>Rue Morgue orders@ruemorguepress.com ruemorguepress.com 800-699-6214</p>	<p>Tom & Enid Schantz — As publishers, we reprint vintage mysteries from the Golden Age of detective fiction as well as selected titles from the 1950s through 1970s. As booksellers, we issue Murders from the Rue Morgue, regular catalogs of hand-picked new mysteries with an emphasis on traditional, vintage, historical, British, and international crime novels. We also issue irregular catalogs of out-of-print and collectible used mysteries. At LCC we carry titles by all attending authors. • 87 Lone Tree Lane, Lyons CO 80540</p>
<p>Scene of the Crime Books murdermysterybooks@yahoo.ca murdermysteriesandmore.com 905-646-0214</p>	<p>Don & Jennifer Longmuir — New and collectible hardcovers and paperbacks. Specializing in Canadian and UK mystery authors. • 20 Hawthorne Ave., St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2M 6A9</p>

<p>IN DOG WE TRUST</p>  <p>A NOVEL BY NEIL S. PLAKCY</p> <p><i>In Dog We Trust</i> is a very well-crafted mystery that kept me guessing up until Steve figured out where things were going. -- E-book Addict Reviews</p> <p><i>In Dog We Trust</i> is a completely enjoyable way to spend a reading afternoon. -- Carl Brookins, author of <i>The Case of the Deceiving Don</i></p>	
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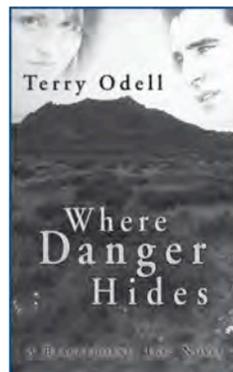
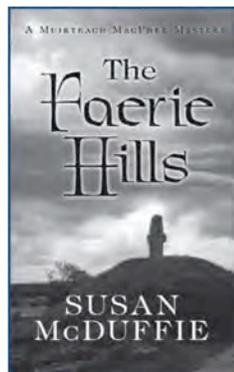
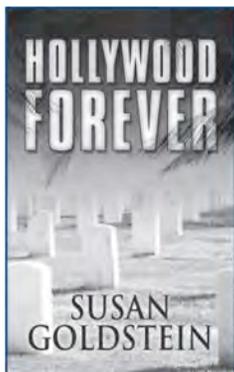
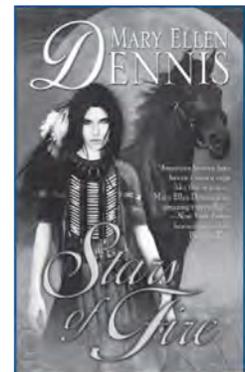
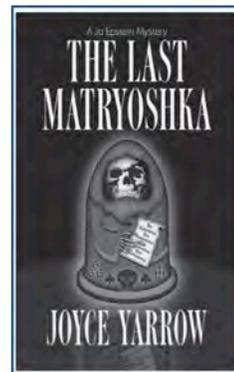
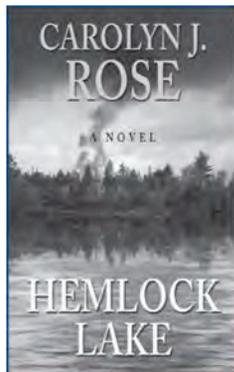
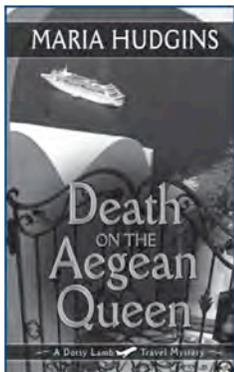
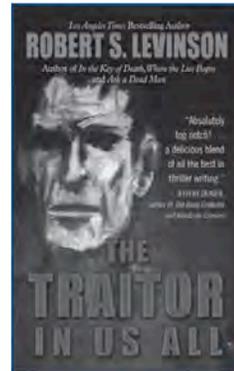
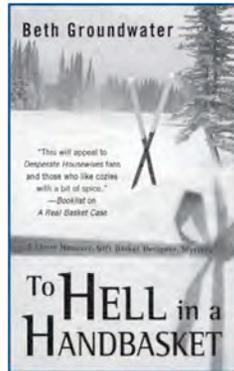
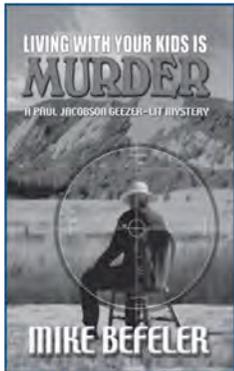
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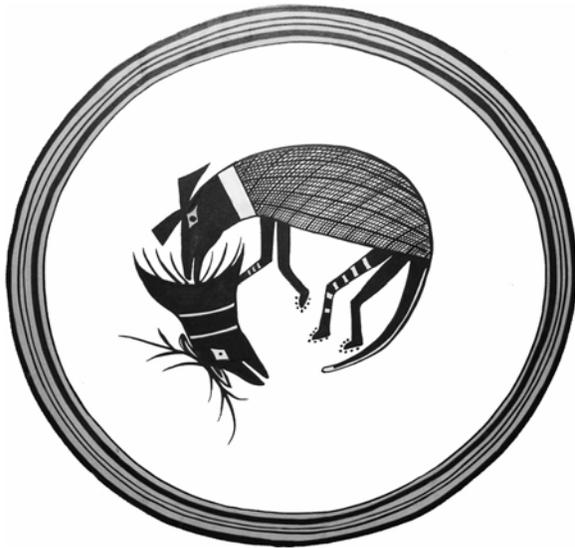
The Usual Suspects:

The LCC 2011 Committee



Some of us are wearing neon yellow name tags. If you need something, hunt one of us down, or just start screaming...

Convention Chair	Pari Noskin Taichert
Treasurer	Olin Bray
Registration	Sarah Schwartz
Program	Rob Kresge
Hotel Liaison	David Haughawout & Andrea Sterling
Program Books	Stan Ulrich & Lucinda Surber
Advertising & Sponsorships	Joe Badal & Susan Zates
Awards	Lucinda Surber & Stan Ulrich
Publisher Liaison	Toby Gottfried
Volunteer Coordinator	Bill Gottfried
Auction	Christine Goff
Hospitality	Cecilia Runkle & Colleen Collins
Dealers' Room	Tom & Enid Schantz
Book Signing Coordinator	Susan Paturzo
New Writer Breakfast	Michael Befeler
Established Writer Breakfast	Donna Andrews
Website	Sue Trowbridge
National Public Relations	Janet Rudolph



The LCC National Committee

LCC Conference, Inc., Website: www.leftcoastcrime.org

The Standing Committee:

- Tom Schantz
- Thom Walls
- Bryan Barrett
- Janet Rudolph
- Noemi Levine (three-year floating member, elected 2010)

The Current LCC Committee:

- 2009: Hawaii — Bill Gottfried
- 2010: Los Angeles — Jean Utley
- 2011: Santa Fe — Pari Noskin Taichert
- 2012: Sacramento — Robin Burcell & Cindy Sample



Acknowledgments

- Thank you to **Rocky Mountain Mystery Writers of America** and **Mystery Writers of America** for their generous donation to our Welcoming Reception.
- Our appreciation to all the **publishers** who provided books and magazines for the book bags: Bleak House Books, Penguin Group USA, Poisoned Pen Press, Random House, Simon and Schuster, Texas Tech University Press, along with *Mystery Scene* magazine, *The Strand Magazine*, and *Local Flavor*.
- The Green Chile of Gratitude goes out to all of the wonderful folks who donated books, character names, goodies, services, and more for the Silent Auction.
- A special thanks to **Pam Dehnke** and **Vallery Feldman** who create the beautiful themed quilts each year for Left Coast Crime.
- Our thanks to **Katherine Neville** for her generosity and enthusiastic support of this convention.
- **Mara Saubers**, Sales Manager at Santa Fe Convention and Visitors Bureau, for her tremendous patience and help in too many ways to count.
- **Vaune Hegmann**, Director of Disabilities Services at Santa Fe Community College, for her help with ASL interpreters services.
- The Committee especially appreciates all the other volunteers who are moving boxes of books, stuffing book bags, helping at the Registration Table, serving as room monitors, working on the Silent Auction, helping in the Hospitality Suite, and everywhere else!



Who's Here From Where? *

Avery Aames • CA
Stacey Aaronson • CA
Elaine Sandra Abramson • MO
Stan Abramson • MO
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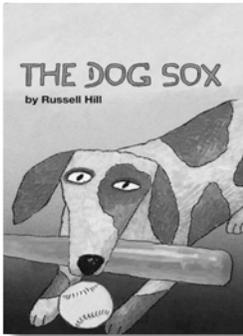
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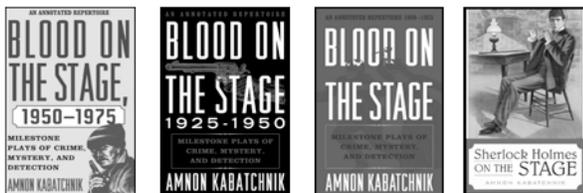
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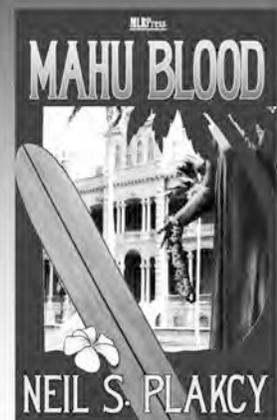


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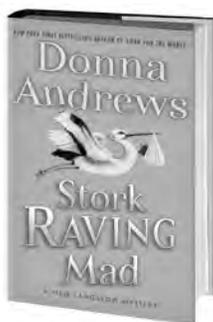
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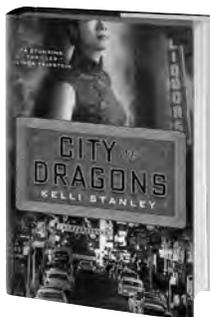
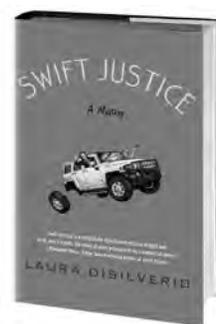
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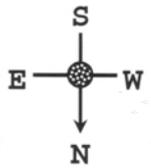
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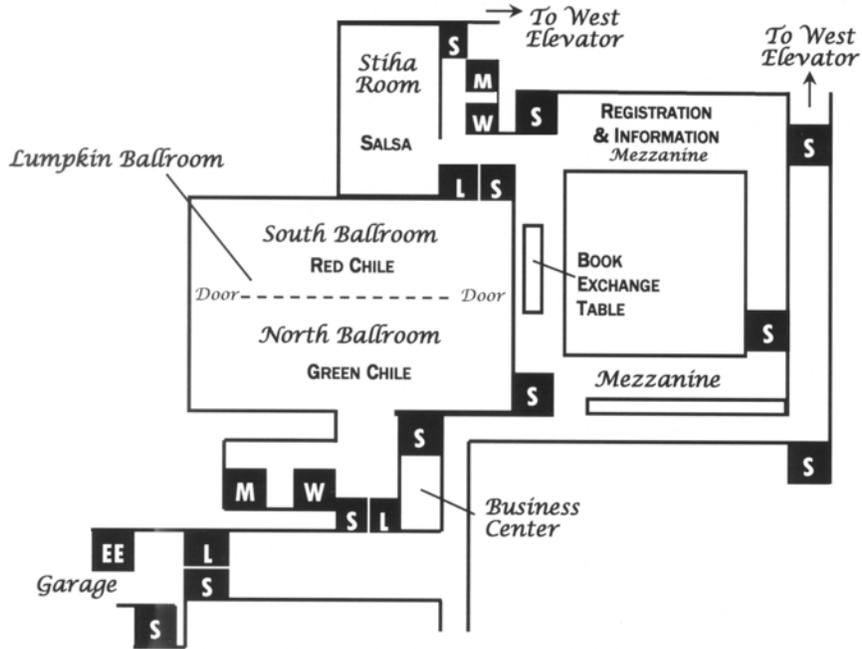
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