



ORANGE HERRING

Sisters in Crime  Orange County



MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the professional development and advancement of women crime writers to achieve equality in the industry.



MEETING PLACE

Irvine Ranch Water District
15500 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92618

The meeting location is still at the Irvine Ranch Water District, but it's now in the Community Affairs meeting room on the northeast side of the parking lot. For directions, visit: www.ocsistersincrime.org. ([IRWD map](#))

"IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT NEITHER SUPPORTS NOR ENDORSES THE CAUSE NOR ACTIVITIES OF ORGANIZATIONS WHICH USE THE DISTRICT'S MEETING ROOMS THAT ARE MADE AVAILABLE AS A PUBLIC SERVICE"



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's time to renew your membership! To join or renew your membership in our Sisters in Crime Chapter, you must also be a member of National. To renew your national membership, go to: www.sistersincrime.org/. To renew for our chapter, go to: www.ocsistersincrime.org/membership.htm and download the form, or fill out the form at the end of this newsletter and mail it in with your check. You can join national online or send your check to national along with your check for our chapter.

Start the New Year right by renewing your Sisters in Crime membership today!



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2014 BOARD MEMBERS

President
Vice President
Corresponding Secretary
Recording Secretary
Treasurer
Members at Large

Gayle Carline
Jack Martin
Pat H. Broeske
Theresa Schultz
Diane Hemme
Aileen Baron
Debbie Mitsch
Jackie Houchin

2014 Directors:
Newsletter Editor
Website
Event Coordinator
Hostess
Refreshments

Theresa Schultz
Diane Hemme
Debbie Mitsch
Gita Fisher
Marcy Lescault

Many thanks to our outgoing president, Aileen Baron, and welcome to the new kids on the block.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

In 2014, we will be meeting on the fourth Sunday of every month, with the exception of December. Here are the dates. Please mark your calendars.

Jan. 26, Feb. 23, Mar. 30, Apr. 27, May 25, Jun. 29, Jul. 27, Aug. 24, Sep. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 23, and Dec. 14.

Sunday, January 26: *Forensics Fest* is back with guest speakers **Jan Burke** and **D.P. Lyle**. Jan is the award-winning author of the Irene Kelly mysteries, the Edgar winner for Best Novel (*Bones*), and founder of The Crime Lab Project. DP Lyle is the author of several best-selling books on forensics, as well as *Stress Fracture*, Book One in the Dub Walker series.

DP Lyle and Jan Burke have launched a new twice-monthly internet radio show called Crime and Science Radio on Suspense Radio/Blog Talk Radio with John Raab. Join them every other Saturday at 10 a.m., or catch the archived shows at a later date. Topics will include all things crime and science, both current and historical, as well as interviews with crime science professionals and writers of crime fiction. For more info, visit: <http://www.suspensemagazine.com/CrimeandScienceRadio.html>.



Orange County Sisters in Crime Presents

Ladies of Intrigue

Featuring Remarkable Women Mystery Writers

Saturday, March 29th 2014

Hotel Huntington Beach (Near Bella Terra)

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

Program 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Our 2014 Headliners

Carolyn Hart



Carolyn Hart, an accomplished master of mystery, has been given the honor of being one of the prestigious Grand Masters at the 2014 Edgar Awards. She is the author of 49 mysteries, and her books have won multiple Agatha, Anthony and Macavity awards. Hart was also one of ten mystery authors featured at the National Book Festival on the Mall in Washington D.C. in 2003 and again in 2007. Her three mystery series include her Death on Demand series featuring Annie Darling, the Bailey Ruth Raeburn series, and the Henry O series.

Rhys Bowen has been nominated for every major award in mystery writing, including the Edgar, and has won seven, including both the Agatha and the Anthony. Her Royal Spyness mysteries are set in the 1930s and feature penniless minor royal Lady Georgiana. She is also the author of the Molly Murphy series, set in turn of the century New York, and the Constable Evans mysteries set in Wales.

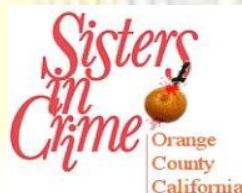
Rhys Bowen



Mystery Author Panels

Moderators: Aileen Baron, Terri Nolan and Patricia Smiley

Panelists: Jill Amadio, Cara Black, Lisa Brackmann, Jan Burke, Kim Fay, Naomi Hirahara, Tammy Kaehler, Sheila Lowe, Jeanne Matthews, Jeri Westerson, Patricia Wynn



For information and registration forms, visit: <http://www.ocsistersincrime.org/>



Ladies of Intrigue



Hotel Huntington Beach, 7667 Center Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
(Near Bella Terra)

Registration Form

Event Information:

Saturday, March 29th 2014

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

Program 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Lunch Option (Chicken Fettuccini, Chicken Caesar Salad, or Vegetarian): _____

Price for event:

\$60 for Sisters in Crime members

\$70 for non-members

**If you would like to join Sisters in Crime,
go to our website for membership info.**

www.ocsistersincrime.org

Check payment:

Make Check payable to: **Orange County Sisters in Crime**

Addressed to:

O. C. Sisters in Crime

P.O. Box 53132

Irvine, CA 92619-3132

If you would like a receipt, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope with your payment.

Please indicate lunch option on registration form.

PayPal payment:

"Send Money" to: secretary@sistersincrime.org

Please add an additional \$1 handing fee to your total event price.

When prompted with, "What are you sending money for?" click "I'm paying for goods or services".

In "Message" box please indicate lunch option.

For more information visit: www.ocsistersincrime.org

Non-refundable / Free Parking

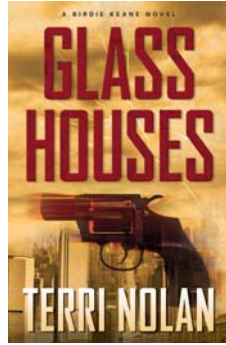


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MEMBER NEWS



The second in **Terri Nolan's** Birdie Keane series, GLASS HOUSES, will be released February 8. Available wherever books are sold.

Appearance schedule:

2/8 Book Carnival, 2 p.m.

2/8 Mystery Ink, 4:30 p.m.

2/9 Noir at the Bar, 8 p.m. (Mandrake Bar, Culver City)

2/10 Dana Point Library, 11 a.m.

2/22 Mysterious Galaxy in Redondo Beach, 2:30 p.m.

Please visit www.terrinnolan.com for further details and to learn more.

Aileen Baron - Alpha readers, Beta readers, and Critique groups.

I've been hearing about it everywhere: the book industry is undergoing a sea-change. Publishers no longer publish, editors no longer edit, and e-books and audio books are replacing the printed page. But raw manuscripts must still be tamed. This brings us to the need for, and rise of, Alpha and Beta readers.

Alpha readers are the first readers, reading the second draft and even rewrites of sections of the book while it is still being written. They give feedback on whether a scene works, suggestions and improvements for communication of mood, setting, description of a character, grammar and spelling, a chapter or so at a time. Beta readers are the final readers before the book is submitted. They read the completed book, checking pacing, character development, holes in the plot, consistency.

Right now, I belong to a critique group with seventeen charming professional writers who meet once a month. They are all nice people, they are all professional writers, they all care about each other. And as a critique of my writing, it is absolutely useless.

At each meeting, three writers get to read ten pages out loud and bring a delicious snack. When the reading is



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finished, we go around the table and make comments, all full of praise, and small critical comments about vocabulary, and point out the repetition of a word or two, or a sentence that is blatantly unclear. Whoever reads at the meeting cannot read at the next one. As a result, there is little continuity. Most are Romance writers. Some are bestselling writers of YA dystopias, and there is a scattering of mystery writers.

Jill Amadio, Jack Martin and I are trying to form a new kind of critique group, of alpha and beta readers. We are hoping to meet once a week for lunch. At each meeting, a member will bring enough copies of whatever they wish to be critiqued to circulate among all the members to be discussed in depth (without reading aloud) at the next meeting. It isn't necessary to bring copy to be critiqued, but it is necessary for each member to give feedback on what has been circulated. When the book is finished, it's time for the beta reading. Copies of the completed book will be given to each member, and two weeks later, the entire meeting will be devoted to discussion of the book.

We hope to limit the group to four to six people. Anyone interested, please let me know at abaron@fullerton.edu.



MYSTERY INK NEWS

Mystery Ink Bookstore, 8907 Warner Avenue, #135, Huntington Beach, (714) 960-4000
www.mysteryink.com. Coffee & Wi-Fi available.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Linda O. Johnston – TEACUP TURBULENCE - Saturday, Jan. 25th, 2:00 p.m.

Los Angeles animal shelter manager Lauren Vancouver has a soft spot for animals in need—and a keen eye for crime. . .Thanks to a savvy ad campaign featuring teacup pups sporting HotPets Bling—a new line of faux jewelry dog collars—small dog adoptions have skyrocketed across the city. So when Lauren discovers a shelter in the Midwest with more toy dogs than it can handle, she arranges to fly the pups back to LA. But Lauren didn't count on rescue worker Teresa Kantrim coming along for the ride whose biting comments haven't earned her any friends. So when she turns up murdered, it's time for Lauren to dig into Teresa's past.

Terri Nolan - Launch Party for GLASS HOUSES - Saturday, Feb. 8th, 4:30 p.m.

Reeling from heart-aching losses, newly sober investigative journalist Birdie Keane immerses herself in wrapping up a famous cold case, the Paige Street Murder. As the newspaper feature creates a maelstrom of unwelcome scrutiny on her close-knit Irish cop family, Birdie teams up with her cousin, hard-living homicide detective Thom Keane, to catch the killer. The cousins have much to lose, professionally and personally, as they strive to bring the killing spree to a halt.



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FYI - John Shannon to be rescheduled in February.

Outside Events

Sunday, January 26th, 2:00 p.m. - Orange County Sisters in Crime

2:00 PM: Readers/Writers Forum - contact: ocsistersincrime.org

3:00 PM: Forensics Fest is back with guest speakers Jan Burke and D.P. Lyle.

Saturday, February 22nd, San Clemente Friends of the Library

Authors Luncheon with Elizabeth George, Karen Joy Fowler and Gail Tsukiyama

Sunday, February 23rd, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Distinguished Speakers Series

Fullerton Library w/Elizabeth George - <http://fullertonlibrary.org/schedule-of-events/>

Saturday, March 29th – First Annual Ladies of Intrigue: Featuring Remarkable Women Mystery Writers – hosted by O.C. Sisters in Crime

Headliners: Rhys Bowen and Carolyn Hart – www.ocsistersincrime.org

Signed Copies Now in Stock at Mystery Ink!

Patricia Cornwell – DUST

Sara Paretsky – CRITICAL MASS

Sue Grafton – W IS FOR WITNESS

Elizabeth George – JUST ONE EVIL ACT

James Lee Burke – LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Janet Evanovich/Lee Goldberg – THE HEIST

Timothy Hallinan – CRASHED, LITTLE ELVISES, THE FEAR ARTIST

Lisa Brackmann – HOUR OF THE RAT

Dean Koontz – DEEPLY ODD

T. Jefferson Parker – THE FAMOUS AND THE DEAD

Ellen Crosby – MULTIPLE EXPOSURE

Anne Cleland – MURDER IN THRALL

Jeri Westerson – SHADOW OF THE ALCHEMIST



UPCOMING CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, and EVENTS

Saturday, March 29, 2014: Ladies of Intrigue – Featuring Women Mystery Writers



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Keynote Speakers: Carolyn Hart and Rhys Bowen

Please register today using the enclosed Registration Form or go to secretary@ocsistersincrime.org.
Registration is limited, so don't miss out!



Support your local SinC chapter. Buy a lovely mug at the next meeting, and bring your novels for our Sister Share!



PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

If you have events coming up or announcements you want to make, let me know. Please send your contributions and suggestions to: ocsinc.newsletter@gmail.com. **The deadline is the 7th of each month!**



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SISTERS IN CRIME ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

Print and complete this form. NOTE: YOU MUST ALSO JOIN SISTERS IN CRIME NATIONAL TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER.

Send the completed form with both checks, \$40 payable to Sisters in Crime (National) and \$25 payable to Sisters in Crime, OC to:

Membership

Sisters in Crime, Orange County

P.O. Box 53132

Irvine, CA 92619-3132

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please print all information and list your name as you want it listed in the Membership Directory.

New **Renewal Name: Address:**

Day Phone:

Evening Phone:

Email: I am a (check all that apply):

Mystery Writer **Published** **Unpublished**

Writer in other fields **Published** **Unpublished**

Screenwriter
--Produced: **Features** **TV/Cable** **Other**

Reviewer **Agent** **Bookseller** **Librarian** **Reader**

I would like to help with (check all that apply):

Publicity **Refreshments** **Speakers** **Raffle** **Other:**