



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

For more information and directions, visit:
www.ocsistersincrime.org



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.

If you have not already done so, please renew your Sisters in Crime membership today!

Following are the dates for OC SinC meetings in 2013. Please mark your calendars.

February 24
March 24
April 28
May 26

June 23
July 28
August 25
September 15

October 27
November 24
December 15



FORENSICS FEST 2013 – Part II

Feb. 24th at 2:00 p.m. – Forensics Fest – *Please arrive at 1:30 p.m. for mingling and refreshments.*

At **2:00 p.m.**, Beverly Hills Confidential Investigative reporter **Barbara Schroeder** and Beverly Hills Police Dept CSI Supervisor **Clark Fogg**, authors of *Beverly Hills Confidential: A Century of Stars, Scandals and Murders*, will re-examine the sensational and never-to-be-forgotten stories of the past century in Beverly Hills. Some examples include: the Doheny murder-suicide, gangster “Bugsy” Siegel’s contract style murder, Charlie Chaplin’s paternity trial, the death investigation of Lana Turner’s boyfriend Johnny Stompano, and the mystery surrounding the death of Jean Harlow’s MGM mogul husband Paul Bern. Revisit the most horrific crimes: the heinous Menendez double homicide, the ill-fated Van-Cleef and Arpels attempted heist and triple homicide, and the recent, much publicized shooting of high-powered publicist Roni Chasen. Schroeder and Fogg will share their insight into how greed, jealousy, passion, corruption, and sometimes just simple bad luck, turned the once-idyllic movie star sanctuary into a haven for gruesome headlines.

At **3:00 p.m.**, we have another panel of talented, experienced investigators to enlighten our audience and answer questions, including:

Sam Zuorski - Sam worked for the Costa Mesa Police Department for 40 years, where he wore many hats; e.g. patrol duty, traffic enforcement, C.S.I. and field training. He worked in the detective bureau for 10 years; initially he worked Crimes against Children and then Crimes against Persons – including murders, robberies, sexual assaults & domestic violence. He retired in July 1997, but went back to work part time, where his primary assignment was to organize and work cold cases. Working cold cases involves reviewing the entire case – including every witness statement – conducting interviews, and evaluating all physical, biological and trace evidence.

Daniel McKerren – Daniel specializes in computer forensics and data recovery. He can answer questions regarding computer fraud, falsification of documents, and how to recover data that has been deleted from a computer. He will also address the topic of search warrants, probable cause, and how long it takes to obtain a warrant. (Hint: It’s not quite as fast as it seems on T.V.)



MEETING ROUNDUP

The Forensics Fest got off to a great start last month with guest speakers, **Richard Longshore** and **Matt Weinstein**.

Richard Longshore worked for many years in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept., first as a uniformed officer and later as a detective. On the same day he retired, he was rehired and assigned to investigate cold cases. He has been involved in over 300 death investigations, and he put to rest several murder myths and misconceptions. For example:

- There is no golden time period after which a murder cannot be solved.
- Confessions do not always lead to convictions.
- Polygraphs, while not admissible in court, can enable investigators to obtain a search warrant.
- Fingerprints on a weapon are not necessarily a slam dunk.
- Eyewitness testimony is not generally reliable.
- DNA is not always conclusive.
- Miranda rights must only be read once a suspect is in custody and being interrogated.
- Offering a reward for information in a case seldom works.
- Involving the public in an investigation brings out more false sightings than helpful information.
- Not every case involves physical evidence.

Richard took us through a fascinating cold case, the homicide of two El Segundo police officers in 1957, which only came to light because of a false confession from a dying man. A series of twists and turns, including a man digging up the murder weapon and stolen goods in his backyard and advances in technology which allowed investigators to combine two partial fingerprints into one, led to a conviction over 40 years later. The criminal is now behind bars and eligible for parole when he turns 90.

Matt Weinstein is a jack-of-all-trades when it comes to police work. He's worked on cases involving domestic violence, sex crimes, crimes against children, elder abuse, fraud, forgery, identity theft, robberies, and assaults. He is currently working for the Professional Standards Unit (PSU) investigating internal affairs, political corruption, officer involved crimes, etc.

Matt talked about identity theft and how little time it takes for a person to find a likely victim and establish a connection online. He discussed the CSI myth, noting that the job often involves dirty, painstaking work with little glamour or glory. And CSI personnel do not arrest criminals. He also told us how hard it is to get fingerprints off a gun, but that you can sometimes get good prints off the most unlikely objects.

Both men fielded questions from attendees and provided us with a unique look into the world of law enforcement and homicide investigation.



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The new board was voted in at the January meeting. The 2013 board members are:

President – Aileen Baron

Vice President – Jack Martin

Treasurer – Diane Hemme

Recording Secretary – Pat Broeske

Corresponding Secretary (PR) – Dmitri Ragano

Members at Large – Debbie Mitsch, Mary La Greek, Jackie Houchin

Volunteers:

President Pro Tem – Gayle Carline

Newsletter Editor – Theresa Schultz

Website – Diane Hemme

Event Coordinator and PR – Debbie Mitsch

Raffle – Gita Fisher

Refreshments – Mary LaGreek (with volunteers for each month)



THE WRITER'S BOOKSHELF

Laurie Thomas is taking a hiatus from her column to finish her textbook *Got Grammar? A Storyteller's Handbook*.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 24th at 3:00 p.m. – **Carol Hughes** was a covert intelligence officer with a background in theater/documentary filmmaking/journalism/research science that allowed her to maintain her cover as a Hollywood writer while carrying out her “real job.”

April 28th at 1:30 p.m. at Mystery Ink – **T. Jefferson Parker** will talk about his new book, *The Famous and the Dead*, and share his experiences as a best-selling, award-winning mystery writer.



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MEMBER NEWS

D. P. Lyle's latest Q&A book *More Forensics and Fiction* has been nominated for an Edgar Award in the Best Fact Crime category. Congratulations, Doug!

Hey sports fans. **Dmitri Ragano's** latest novel, *The Fugitive Grandma*, is now out in paperback... A crime thriller/black comedy/family drama about a boy and his grandma who rob big box retail stores for cash and medicine. Available on Amazon.

The Manipulator, a new ebook thriller by OC SinC member **Michael McQuade**, is now available on Amazon's Kindle, Apple devices other ebook readers. In *The Manipulator*, Nathan Foster uses a Congressman, a Mafia connection, and an Interpol agent to track down a terrorist group and a money laundering operation in an attempt to influence the Presidential election.



Bill Wilbur's book *Saragosa* has been turned into a stage production! Performances will be held at Northview High School in Covina, CA, on Feb. 15th and 16th at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 17th at 1:30 p.m.



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MYSTERY INK NEWS

Located at: Bridgecreek Plaza
8907 Warner Avenue, #135
Huntington Beach, CA 92647
[714 960-4000](tel:7149604000)

In Store Events:

Sunday, February 17th, 3:00 p.m. – Robert S. Levinson – *Phony Tinsel*

Levinson will be discussing and signing *Phony Tinsel*. “A delightfully, improbably romp through 1938 Hollywood with all the usual Levinson wit and humor.” – *Margaret Maron*

Saturday, March 2nd, 4:00 p.m. – Joanne Fluke – *Red Velvet Cupcake Murder*

Fluke will be signing her new Hannah Swensen mystery with recipes!...and cupcakes?

Sunday, March 3rd, 2:00 p.m. – Linda O. Johnston will be talking about and

signing her new Pet Rescue Mystery, *Oodles of Poodles* and her latest paranormal novel, *Undercover Wolf*.

Outside Events:

Saturday, February 23rd, 11:30 p.m. – San Clemente Friends of the Library

Annual Luncheon with DeAnna Cameron, Miles Corwin and Debra Ollivier.

Saturday, March 2nd, 10:30 a.m. – Dean Koontz – Author’s Luncheon at Alta Vista Country Club,

www.placentiallibrary.org

Signed Copies:

Robert Crais – *Suspect*

Michael Connelly – *The Black Box*

Jesse Kellerman - *Potboiler* (2013 Edgar Award nomination for Best Novel)

Earlene Fowler – *The Road to Cardinal Valley*

Mystery Ink Bookstore, 8907 Warner Avenue, #135, Huntington Beach, (714) 960-4000,

www.events@mysteryink.com. Coffee & Wi-Fi now available.



UPCOMING CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, and EVENTS



Sisters in Crime/Los Angeles and So Cal Mystery Writers of America welcome both members and non-members to the 2013 California Crime Writers Conference for a weekend of workshops geared to the needs of both emerging and established mystery writers.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Sue Grafton and Elizabeth George

WHEN June 22-23, 2013

WHERE Hilton Pasadena

168 S. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA

AGENDA

- Elizabeth George: “Finding Your Process” – Sat. from 10:30-11:45
- Michael Levin: “Take your Manuscript from Good to Great: 12 Things you Must do to Make your Novel “Unrejectable!”
- Trident Media literary agent Adrienne Lombardo ACTIVELY looking for crime writers
- Award-winning writer T. Jefferson Parker
- Freelance Editor Kristen Weber
- Hank Phillipa Ryan, award winning author and Emmy-winning news reporter
- Marcia Clark – lead prosecutor in the O.J. Simpson trial and crime writer
- Anthony Manzella, former LA County Deputy D.A., Major Crimes division.
- Four tracks for writers: Business, Craft, Crime, Nuts & Bolts
- Agent & Editor cocktail party
- First Five Pages-manuscript critiques
- Live Auction and Raffle
- Noir Movie Night



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ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Established in 2009, CCWC is a biennial writers conference dedicated to education and support. For more information, visit www.ccwconference.org

ABOUT SINC/ LOS ANGELES

The Los Angeles Chapter (SinC/LA) was founded in 1989 and is a non-profit organization. For more information, visit <http://sistersincrimela.com/>

ABOUT MWA/SO CAL

Mystery Writers of America, Inc. (MWA) was established in 1945 for the purpose of promoting and protecting the interests and welfare of mystery writers and to increase the esteem and literary recognition given to the genre. The Southern California (So Cal) Chapter of MWA covers members in California and Nevada below the 36th parallel, as well as all of Arizona and Hawaii. For more information on MWA/So Cal, visit <http://www.socalmwa.com/>



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 1st 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: