



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thanks to a tip from Patricia Wynn, I was invited by the San Joaquin chapter of Sisters in Crime to go up to Fresno and talk about my medieval mystery series. It seemed like a good opportunity for a long weekend with my husband, so we toddled on up on a Friday, taking a leisure drive through desert, through the beautiful and historical Tehachapi Valley (where a rail line winds around hillsides and into tunnels and I swear it looks just like a model railroad set, complete with puffball trees), and finally to the flat and fertile plains of Kern County and Fresno County, at the foot of Yosemite Valley.

The ladies of SinC took us out to dinner Friday night (and believe me, I will drive a long way for a free meal!). I'd never met them before except through email but I was not disappointed. I'm never disappointed when I meet fellow Sisters no matter where they are from. Friendly, funny, interesting. We had a fine meal at the Macaroni Grill and a convivial time (and it wasn't just the wine!).

The next morning my husband and I ventured to the Yosemite Falls Café where the local sisters have their meetings. Now this was Easter weekend. Neither I nor Cheri Plant, the local Sister putting together this event, even thought of that, and we were both anxious that it might muffle our event, but I needn't have worried. There were over thirty members and friends of members there, even one gal who came from San Francisco for the weekend to see me.



The café was decorated like a log cabin and was quaint and cozy, even in our separate meeting room.

As per usual, I set up my collection of medieval weaponry—sword, helm, daggers, flail—and readied for my talk.



The local bookstore sold my books and we had good sales, nearly selling out. I chatted with librarians (so that means I'll probably be up there again).

Talking with the ladies of SinC made me feel right at home. We've always got something to talk about, haven't we? No matter where we are from, all the Sisters have in common the same thing; our love of mysteries. Whether you are a member of a large chapter, like the one in Los Angeles, or a small one like Orange County, or don't have one at all and are involved with the largest one of all—online—you know you are never alone. And that's the best thing about Sisters in Crime.

*Your President
Jeri Westerson*



SISTERS IN CRIME MISSION STATEMENT:

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 18TH

2PM: Writer's Forum: Marketing vs Platform.
What's the difference and which is more effective?

3PM: Panel of authors from the anthologies -
Orange County Noir and *L.A. Noir*: Barbara de
Marco-Barrett and Patricia McFall, (*O.C. Noir*) and
Denise Hamilton and Naomi Hirahara (*L.A. Noir*)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

*April 24th and 25th
L.A. Times Festival of Books, at the UCLA campus.
For more details:

http://www.iuniverse.com/LA_Times_Festival_of_Books_2010.aspx

MEMBER EVENTS:

D.P. Lyle:

*April 17, 2 pm
Mysterious Galaxy, San Diego, CA
Stress Fracture Signing & Talk
7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, # 302
San Diego, CA
858-268-4747
<http://www.mystgalaxy.com/>

Eric Stone

* April 17, 10 am until 2 pm
Sisters in Crime Los Angeles
Workshop, "Building Better Characters."
Place: Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church, 73 N.
Hill Avenue, Pasadena.

*April 24, 5 - 6pm
L.A. Times Festival of Books
Signing at The Mystery Bookstore Booth
UCLA Campus
Los Angeles, CA

***May 1, 2 - 4pm**

Murder Abroad
with Kwei Quartey, Edward Arno, Aileen G. Barron
and Moderator Eric Stone
Burbank Public Library, Buena Vista Branch
300 N. Buena Vista Street
Burbank, CA

Jeri Westerson:

*April 24, 2010
Los Angeles Times Festival of Books at UCLA.
Book signings
10 am

Mystery Writers of America/The Mystery Bookstore
booth #411,

*April 25, at 11 am

Vroman's bookstore booth

*Noon

Sisters in Crime booth #355

*1 pm

Mysterious Galaxy Bookstore booth #614.

*May 2, 2010, 2 pm

Sisters in Crime Los Angeles panel about Agents!
with Darrell James, Eric Stone, and moderated by
the president of the chapter, Ashley Ream. The
Community Room, South Pasadena Library, 1115 El
Centro, South Pasadena, CA.



MEMBER BOOK RELEASES

Aileen Baron's New Book:
Scorpion's Bite--Coming from Poison Pen Press,
July 2010

Jeri Westerton's New Book:
The Demon's Parchment--Coming from St. Martin's,
October 2010



SPECIAL INVITATION

OC Sisters in Crime members are invited to the
Orange County Noir Cocktail Party on April 17th,
4 - 6 pm, city of Orange.

Please contact Debbie Mitsch at
mysteryink@hotmail.com for the address.

MYSTERY INK

Debbie Mitsch has over 500+ collectible paperbacks
plus many hardbacks listed at 50% off at the
California Greetings store at 301 Main Street,
Huntington Beach now through April 30th.



2010 CALENDAR

May 16th – 2 pm Reader's Forum, 3 pm Martin J. Smith - Senior Editor of *Orange Coast Magazine* and mystery writer (*O.C. Noir*) plus mystery novels and non-fiction books hosted by Gary Phillips, editor of *O.C. Noir* and *L.A. Noir* plus mystery writer.

June 13th – Joint event with SoCal Mystery Writer's of America.

July 18th – 2 pm Writer's Forum, 3 pm Kristen Weber, previously the Sr. Editor at Penguin, now a free-lance editor here in California

August 15th – 2 pm Reader's Forum
September 19th – 2 pm Writer's Forum

October 17th – 2 pm Reader's Forum

November 21st – 2 pm Writer's Forum

December 12th – Holiday Party



STRESS FRACTURE

Our sibling in crime, Doug Lyle, has released a new book. If you haven't read his blog or the article quoted below, do so soon.

Stress Fracture by D. P. Lyle
By Terry DiDomenico | Permalink

"This story would not let go."

That's what D.P. Lyle has to say about his new novel *Stress Fracture* that introduces Dub Walker, an expert in forensic investigation and criminal behavior. And while Dub may be new to us, he has been with Lyle for nearly fifteen years.

As with first novels, the book, according to its author "has undergone 23 major rewrites, changed settings three times, changed titles four, and went from 138,000 words of bloat to a much crisper 85,000 word story." And its most challenging aspect was "getting it right."

"The only thing that didn't change through all of its major surgeries was the villain and the through line. It's basically the same story as it started only better told."...

For more of the story, follow this link:
<http://www.thrillerwriters.org/2010/03/stress-fracture-by-d-p-lyle.html>



BASKETS NEEDED

As you know, our June meeting is a joint event with the SoCal Mystery Writers of America. To raise money to cover the costs, Jeri Westerton is putting together baskets of goodies to be raffled. This is where your help comes in. Jeri needs the baskets in which to put the goodies, so if you have a basket suitable, bring said baskets to the next meeting.



YOUR INPUT INVITED

This is every "Sister's" newsletter. Let us hear from you if you have events coming up or news that we'd all like to share. If you have any suggestions for the Orange Herring, let us know that, too.

Send your contributions and suggestions to:
Linda Smith: softpoet@yahoo.com

Deadline for May newsletter is May 5th.

Sisters in Crime Orange County – April 2010 News



UPCOMING MEETING:

April 18th, 2010, 2pm: Writer's Forum, Marketing vs. Platform
**3pm: Panel of authors from the anthologies - *Orange County Noir* and *L.A. Noir*:
Barbara de Marco-Barrett and Patricia McFall, (*O.C. Noir*) and Denise Hamilton
and Naomi Hirahara (*L.A. Noir*).**

May 16th, 2010, 2pm: Reader's Forum
**3pm: Martin J. Smith - Senior Editor of Orange Coast Magazine and mystery
writer (*O.C. Noir*) plus mystery novels and non-fiction books hosted by Gary
Phillips, editor of *O.C. Noir* and *L.A. Noir* plus mystery writer.**



Look inside to find out more... or visit www.ocsistersincrime.org

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