



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

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

April 28
May 26
June 23
July 28
August 25

September 15
October 27
November 24
December 15



UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 28th at 1:30 p.m. – T. Jefferson Parker

Please note: This meeting will take place at **Mystery Ink**, located at 8907 Warner Avenue, #135, Huntington Beach, CA 92647. Call [714 960-4000](tel:7149604000) for more information.

T. Jefferson Parker will discuss his new book, *The Famous and the Dead*, and share his experiences as a best-



selling, award-winning mystery writer. In *The Famous and the Dead*, three men: earnest law-enforcer, inveterate lawbreaker, and the man who pits them against each other—hurtle toward one another in the jaw-dropping conclusion to Parker’s mesmerizing vision of the border. Their climactic showdown brings to a close a crime series that obliterated the boundaries of the genre. The meeting will start at 1:30 p.m. with refreshments and Jeff will speak at 2:00 p.m.



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Hello all.

I’m back in sunny Southern California from Left Coast Crime in cold and snowy Colorado Springs. As usual, LCC was great, I got to visit with old friends and attend some great panels. It was a warm and welcome experience.

I couldn’t say the same for springtime in the Rockies. It was cold and snowing. And they have an altitude that makes breathing a problem. At the hotel, conference rooms were in the main building and guest rooms were in lodges, the nearest one about 300 feet away from the main building.

Otherwise, the conference was great. A hilarious Truth or Dare panel was moderated by Rhys Bowen, and a Concealed Weapons Fashion Show took place, in which authors dressed as mystery characters and sported concealed weapons. Twist Phelan wore the wedding dress that she was married in a few days before. Check out the web site, www.leftcoastcrime.org/2013/. It’s filled with pictures of the fashion show, panels, and signings. The only other OC sister at LCC was Gayle Carline. She came in a day late, because the Denver airport was closed because of snow. Lou Diamond Phillips, who made a special appearance, was also held up at the Denver airport because of the snow.

On Saturday morning, there was a special breakfast scheduled for 7:30 a.m. (6:30 our time) called Meet the Established Authors, with one minute presentations by 30 authors. Who can talk at that unlikely hour? I woke up, showered, dressed and looked outside. Everything was covered with snow: the roofs, the sidewalks, the parking lot, the cars. And it was only five degrees Fahrenheit. The electric carts that went from building to building couldn’t run because of the cold. There were twenty-nine other speakers. Who’s going to miss me? I made a cup of tea and nibbled on half a cookie that was left over from the evening before and sat down at my laptop, when the phone began to ring. That was the first call, from a fellow Poisoned Pen writer to find out if I was all right. Then came another call. And another. And then a man from hotel security came with an oxygen tank. He gave me oxygen, and said my color was returning, and walked me through the snow to the main building. Of course I missed the breakfast; it was nine o’clock.

Otherwise, it was a great conference.



All the best, Stay warm,
Aileen



MEETING ROUNDUP

Our speaker for the March meeting, **Carol Hughes**, has worn many hats over the years: award-winning documentary filmmaker, playwright/poet/TV and film writer, military officer, and—most fascinating of all—covert intelligence agent. We got a peek into the world of espionage, including the importance of blending in, the pitfalls of deep cover assignments, and the value of being able to out drink the enemy. Books played an important role in Carol's life, including the time she used particular details mentioned in *Gorky Park* to trick a KGB agent into revealing his identity. After leaving the world of covert intelligence for the world of Hollywood, Carol wrote for Disney, Warner Bros., Universal, Paramount, 20th Century Fox, Orion Pictures, MGM, and Nickelodeon/MTV.

Carol had some excellent advice for writers. She talked about the importance of reeling the reader in by raising a question on the first page of a novel. When that question has been answered, raise another one. Also, never forget—it's not about you, the writer. It's about the reader. If the reader can put herself in the protagonist's place and see the world through that character's eyes, then you've done your job.



MEMBER NEWS

D. P. Lyle's latest Q&A book *More Forensics and Fiction* has been nominated for Edgar and Agatha Awards in the Best Fact Crime category. And...he has been asked to be the Guest of Honor (along with Anne Perry) at Killer Nashville this August. 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.



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The Manipulator, a new ebook thriller by OC SinC member **Michael McQuade**, is now available on Amazon's Kindle, Apple devices, and 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.



MYSTERY INK NEWS

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

In Store Events:

Saturday, April 13th, 3:00 p.m. – Jim Pascoe and Tom Fassbender

The 15-year anniversary of *By the Balls*, a collection co-written by Pascoe & Fassbender, includes the novel *By the Balls*, the short story collection *Five Shots and a Funeral*, and two new short stories, plus...several short essays from fellow authors and booksellers.

Sunday, April 14th, 3:00 p.m. – O. C. Launch Party for Tammy Kaehler

Braking Points - A new Kate Reilly Racing Mystery. Cake! Goodies!

Kate Reilly can't remember a worse time in her life, on-track or off. She wrecks her racecar at Road America in Wisconsin, sending a NASCAR star to the hospital, then ends the day finding the body of a friend. And...her friend's killer is still out there and, aiming at Kate.



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Signed Copies Available: 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*, Robert S. Levinson – *Phony Tinsel*, Cara Black – *Murder in Montparnesse*, Harlan Coben – *6 Years*, Joanne Fluke – *Red Velvet Cupcake Murders*, Dean Koontz – *Odd Apocalypse*

Outside Events:

Saturday & Sunday, April 20th & 21st – Los Angeles Times Festival of Books! Mystery Ink booth #376, Section F., USC campus. Free Admission.

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



UPCOMING CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, and EVENTS

May 2, 2013 – Edgar® Awards
Grand Hyatt Hotel • New York City

May 3, 2013 – Malice Domestic 2013
Bethesda, MD. For more information, follow this link: [Malice Domestic 2013](http://www.malicedomestic.org)

May 11, 2013 – The Literary Guild of Orange County annual luncheon.
20th Annual Festival of Women Authors. For further information, go to: www.lgoc.org.
Participating authors include: Nancy Pickard, Julia Spencer-Fleming, Fannie Flagg, and Amy Dickinson

June 22-23, 2013 – California Crime Writers Conference
Pasadena, CA For more information, visit www.ccwconference.org

September 19-22, 2013 – Bouchercon 2013
Albany, NY, at the Empire State Plaza. For more information, follow this link: [Bouchercon 2013 | A New York State of Crime](http://www.bouchercon.com)



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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: