



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 the remaining OC SinC meetings in 2013. Please mark your calendars.

May 26
June 23
July 28
August 25

September 15
October 27
November 24
December 15



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

We have exciting plans for the rest of the year.



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Naomi Hirahara will be the speaker at our May 26th meeting, which will be back at the Irvine Ranch Water District. Naomi is the author of the Edgar Award winning series about amateur detective and Japanese gardener Mas Arai. Her latest book, *Strawberry Yellow*, takes place in the strawberry fields of Watsonville, California. In keeping with the theme of her mystery, the topic of our forum this meeting (at two o'clock) will be ethnic mysteries. Be ready to talk about your favorite ethnic mystery, and bring some books to lend to fellow members, or for Gita's raffle if you are finished with them.

We will have the joint meeting with MWA this year at the August meeting. Pat Broeske came up with a wonderful idea for the meeting with a true crime theme about famous murders in Orange County. Just so you know, Naomi is a former president of MWA and the present president is our own Jeri Westerson. Maybe we can con Jeri into providing some of her famous mead for the meeting.

There are plenty of conferences and events for mystery lovers in other venues coming up. SinC LA and MWA are sponsoring the California Crime Writer's Conference in June in Pasadena. For those who like to travel and want an excuse to go to England, there is the Crime Fest in Bristol. And there is *Malice in Baltimore*, *Magnum cum Murder* in Indianapolis, and *Bouchercon* in Albany. Next year, *Bouchercon* will be right here in Long Beach. We have been working with Ingrid Willis, who is organizing next year's *Bouchercon*, on the possibility of putting on an all-day event for women of mystery. Stay tuned on that.

If you have any suggestions for meeting topics, speakers, or forums, please let me know, and we will try to oblige.

All the best, see you at the next meeting,

Aileen Baron



UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 26th at 3:00 p.m. – Edgar Award winning author, **Naomi Hirahara** will be our speaker. Author of the Mas Arai series, her newest book is *Strawberry Yellow*.

Curmudgeonly Japanese American gardener and unwitting detective Mas Arai is back in his most compelling and evocative mystery yet, *Strawberry Yellow*. This fifth installment is set in the strawberry fields of Watsonville, California, where young Mas first arrived from Hiroshima in the 1940s. Now a semi-retired gardener who lives in an L.A. suburb, he returns for the funeral of a cousin and quickly gets entangled in the murder of a young woman. Was his cousin murdered, too?



Mas has to figure out what happened, keep himself safe in the face of considerable peril, and uncover the mystery of the Strawberry Yellow blight—and a new strawberry varietal so important that it could be inspiring a murderer.

At 2:00 p.m., Marlyn Beebee, a librarian from Los Alamitos, a reviewer and blogger, will lead the forum, discussing ethnic mysteries. Marlyn has been a librarian for 20 years and has worked with public, academic and special libraries. Her love of reading led to a blog called [Stuff and Nonsense](#). It's mostly book reviews, but she posts other stuff and nonsense as well, including food porn, knitting porn and travel porn. She reads (and reviews) mostly mysteries, interspersed with general fiction, fantasy, and young adult literature.



MEETING ROUNDUP

Last month's meeting was held at Mystery Ink, where T. Jefferson Parker discussed his twentieth book, *The Famous and the Dead*, the sixth and final entry in his Charlie Hood series. Before a standing room only crowd, Parker discussed:

--How the series' various titles allowed him to explore disparate locales, from the suburban streets of L.A. to the wide openness of the Antelope Valley.

--How the character of Charlie Hood evolved from title to title. He started as a rookie detective with the sheriff's department...by book six he was working with the ATF, ostensibly to intercept illegal guns, but, the border being the border, much more took place.

--As an author, Parker wanted to explore "the crazy, lawless world of Mexico" so he put Charlie in a small town near the U.S.-Mexican border. "I wanted to send him up the proverbial river...where he'd face things that would never happen in Orange County."

For those interested in reading the series from beginning to end, here's how the series plays out: *L.A. Outlaws* (2008), *The Renegades* (2009), *Iron River* (2010), *The Border Lords* (2011), *The Jaguar* (2012) and the new *The Famous and the Dead*.

*** Many thanks to Pat Broeske for this summary of April's meeting. ***



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MEMBER NEWS

Jill Amado's debut mystery, *Digging Too Deep*, featuring Cornish-cussing Tosca Trevant, will be published by Mainly Murder Press in paperback with a release date of December 1, 2013. She also has a short story being published May 25 in King's River Life, an online magazine. The story is set in Bangkok, where Jill was a reporter for the Bangkok Post for five years.

D. P. Lyle's has been chosen as Guest of Honor (along with Anne Perry) at Killer Nashville in 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.

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.





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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, May 12th, 2:00 p.m. - Peter Lovesey – *The Tooth Tattoo*

British author Peter Lovesey will be on his US tour talking and signing his new Peter Diamond Investigation mystery, *The Tooth Tattoo*.

Peter Lovesey is the author of twelve previous mysteries in the Peter Diamond series and eight in the Sergeant Cribb series. He has won the CWA's Silver and Gold Daggers, as well as the Diamond Dagger for lifetime achievement. He lives in Chichester, England.

Sunday, May 12th, 5:00 p.m.-Jenny Milchman – *Cover of Snow*

New Jersey author, Jenny Milchman will be discussing and signing her debut novel, *Cover of Snow*.

“Terrifically suspenseful...feels like racing across a frozen lake: heart-pounding, exhilarating, frightening.” *N.Y Times bestselling author, Louise Penny*

Waking up one wintry morning in her old farmhouse in New York, Nora Hamilton discovers her husband, Brendan, has committed suicide. Unraveling her late husband's final days, Nora gets resistance from everyone that was close to him. For beneath the soft cover of snow lies a powerful conspiracy that will stop at nothing to keep its presence unknown...and its darkest secrets hidden.

Saturday, May 18th, 11:00- 1:00 p.m.-Matt Coyle - *Yesterday's Echo*

Debut author, Matt Coyle, will be discussing and signing his novel, *Yesterday's Echo*.

Branded a murderer, but never convicted of his wife's murder, Rick Cahill can't escape his past or the eyes of those who'll never forgive. Eight years later the suspicion remains, as well as his guilt. But when a woman accused of murder gives him a chance at love and redemption, he risks his life confronting those desperate enough to kill in order to keep their own dark pasts buried.

Yesterday's Echo is the first in the Rick Cahill crime novels. Coyle graduated from UC Santa Barbara and currently lives in San Diego with his wife and their yellow lab.



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, May 11th, Literary Guild of Orange County

20th Annual Festival of Women Authors

Registration 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. – contact: lgoc.org for more information.

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 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

August 22-15, 2013 – Killer Nashville

8th Annual Killer Nashville Conference. For more information, visit www.KillerNashville.com

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



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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: