



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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UPCOMING MEETINGS

In 2014, we will be meeting on the fourth Sunday of every month, with the exception of December. Here are the remaining dates: Apr. 27, May 25, Jun. 29, Jul. 27, Aug. 24, Sep. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 23, and Dec. 14.



LADIES OF INTRIGUE EVENT

By Jill Amadio

One of the most remarkable gatherings of international best-selling women mystery writers is on tap for **Saturday, March 29** when Sisters in Crime hosts its annual full day of crime-writing panelists and speakers, Ladies of Intrigue. Members of several chapters of Sisters in Crime will be featured.

Carolyn Hart and **Rhys Bowen** headline the event. Hart, one of the most prestigious Grand Masters of the 2014 Edgar Awards, is the author of 49 mysteries and her books have won multiple Agatha, Anthony and Macavity Awards. Her crime novels include her Death on Demand series, the Bailey Ruth Raeburn series, and the Henry O. series. Bowen has been nominated for every major award in mystery writing, winning seven. Her series include the Molly Murphy and Her Royal Spyness mysteries.

Fifteen published authors will be panelists and moderators at Ladies of Intrigue. Topics are: Tough Cookies: Strong Female Protagonists; Down a Dark Alley: How Setting Shapes Story, and Passport Required: Mystery Goes International. The authors are Jill Amadio, Cara Black, Lisa Brackmann, Jan Burke, Carol Higgins Clark, Kim Fay, Naomi Hirahara, Tammy Kaehler, Sheila Lowe, Jeanne Matthews, Jeri Westerson, and Patricia Wynn. Moderators are Aileen Baron, Terri Nolan, and Patricia Smiley.

Registration for the event, at the Hotel Huntington Beach, starts at **8:00 a.m.** The program is from **8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** and includes lunch. For more information and registration forms please visit <http://www.ocsistersincrime.org>.

Note: This event takes the place of the OC Sisters in Crime March meeting.



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.

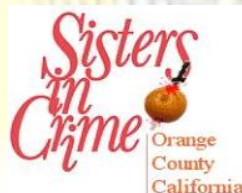
Rhys Bowen



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



MEETING ROUNDUP

By Pat H. Broeske



Our two guest speakers for the recent Forensics Fest, Part 2, had lots of compelling information for writers and readers of mysteries.

Sheila Lowe, a court-qualified handwriting expert, who testifies in forensic cases, gave a PowerPoint presentation that revealed how handwriting is authenticated – and how it can determine behavior. She talked about her work in the high-profile 2013 court case involving the man who claimed to be Clark Rockefeller – of the famed and moneyed Rockefeller family – who was actually the German conman Christian Karl Gerhartsreiter. When he was tried for the 1985 murder of San Marino resident John Sohus, Sheila was hired by the defense to analyze handwriting attributed to John’s wife, Linda. John and Linda disappeared at the same time; John’s bones were later discovered, along with “Rockefeller’s” ties to the couple. Linda remains missing.

The defense sought to show that John’s wife could still be alive – and that she could have been the culprit. Sheila testified that postcards sent to friends of the couple, following their disappearance, were in fact written by Linda. But, under what circumstances? “Rockefeller,” a man of many aliases, wound up being convicted.

Sheila went on to bravely detail the dramatic case of her own daughter’s untimely death -- it happened in February 2000 – carried out by a man whose handwriting she’d previously analyzed, and determined to be authoritarian and controlling. Jennifer Lowe was shot and killed by her boyfriend, an INS agent named Tom Schnaible, who subsequently took his own life.



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The author of multiple books on handwriting analysis, including “The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Handwriting Analysis,” Sheila is also the author of the Claudia Rose mystery series, and the new standalone novel of psychological suspense, “What She Saw.”

Dennis Palumbo, a former Hollywood screenwriter-turned-licensed psychotherapist, spoke about PTSD -- post-traumatic stress disorder.

Over the years it’s been known by other names. For instance, during World War I it was called “shell shock.” World War II saw its returning veterans suffering from “battle fatigue.” Today it is widely known as PTSD. Sufferers experience anxiety, sleeplessness and hyper-vigilance. Those who survived a traumatic event that hurt or claimed the life of another can suffer from survivor’s guilt.

“PTSD shocks the system,” says Palumbo. “The traumatized person no longer feels a sense of control. Their world has changed.” As a result, someone who was mugged on a brightly-lit seemingly safe city street might opt to walk down a dark alley – rather than an area similar to that of the previous traumatic experience. Palumbo stressed that it’s important for writers to understand that their characters must deal realistically with the consequences of violent acts.

The author of the insightful “Writing from the Inside Out” – about overcoming psychological writer’s block – Dennis also writes the mystery series about psychologist-trauma expert, Daniel Rinaldi. The latest title in the series is “Night Terrors.”

For more about these forensics authorities-authors, see their respective websites, at: www.sheilalowe.com and <http://dennispalumbo.com>.



MEMBER NEWS

Here is the schedule for shows in March on Crime and Science Radio with DP Lyle and Jan Burke:

3-15-14: Burning Down the House: An Interview with Fire Investigator John Lentini

3-29-14: Sex, Lies, and Crime: An Interview With Sex Crimes Expert and Best-Selling Author Linda Fairstein

OC Sisters in Crime member **Dmitri Ragano** has written a book review for Barry Lancet's new thriller Japantown for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Follow this link to read the review:

<http://www.post-gazette.com/ae/books/2014/01/19/It-s-only-Japantown/stories/201401190020>



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On February 1, Kings River Life Magazine published an article by OC SinC member **Terry Ambrose** about female crime-fiction writers who were pioneers in the genre.

Who's your favorite female crime-fiction pioneer?

Terry interviewed Allison Brennan, Deborah Crombie, Carolyn Hart, CJ Lyons, and Hank Phillippi Ryan to find out their answers to this question. Some of their answers may surprise you as Carolyn Hart walks you through a history of who helped pave the way for today's female crime-fiction writers. The article is at <http://kingsriverlife.com/02/01/early-female-mystery-authors-paving-the-way/>.



MYSTERY INK NEWS

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

Store Events

Saturday, March 15th, 2:00 p.m. – Robert S. Levinson – FINDERS, KEEPERS, LOSERS, WEEPERS

This is a wise, profane, thrilling, and thoroughly entertaining tale of unimaginable loss and extraordinary redemption. Twist after unpredictable twist, Levinson delivers a story that's not only a savvy look inside the music industry, but also an insightful glimpse into the human heart. Believe me, you're going to love this book."—WILLIAM KENT KRUEGER, New York Times

"Levinson is a pro who knows a hundred ways to tell a story, and in this book he has a wild and moving story to tell."—Thomas Perry, Edgar-Award Winning Author

"...the fast-paced narrative builds to an explosive, yet emotionally satisfying, conclusion."—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY



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Saturday, March 29th, 4:30-5:30 p.m. – Cara Black & Rhys Bowen

Cara Black (MURDER IN PIGALLE) & Rhys Bowen (CITY OF DARKNESS and LIGHT) will be signing their new books at the after-party of the Ladies of Intrigue at the Mystery Ink Bookstore.

Outside Events

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

Headliners: Rhys Bowen and Carolyn Hart

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

At the Hotel Huntington Beach, Huntington Beach, CA

For reservations contact: events@secretary@ocsistersincrime.org



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:**