

**LEFT COAST CRIME 10 - MARCH 17-19 2000**

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CELEBRATING MYSTERY, MURDER & MAYHEM

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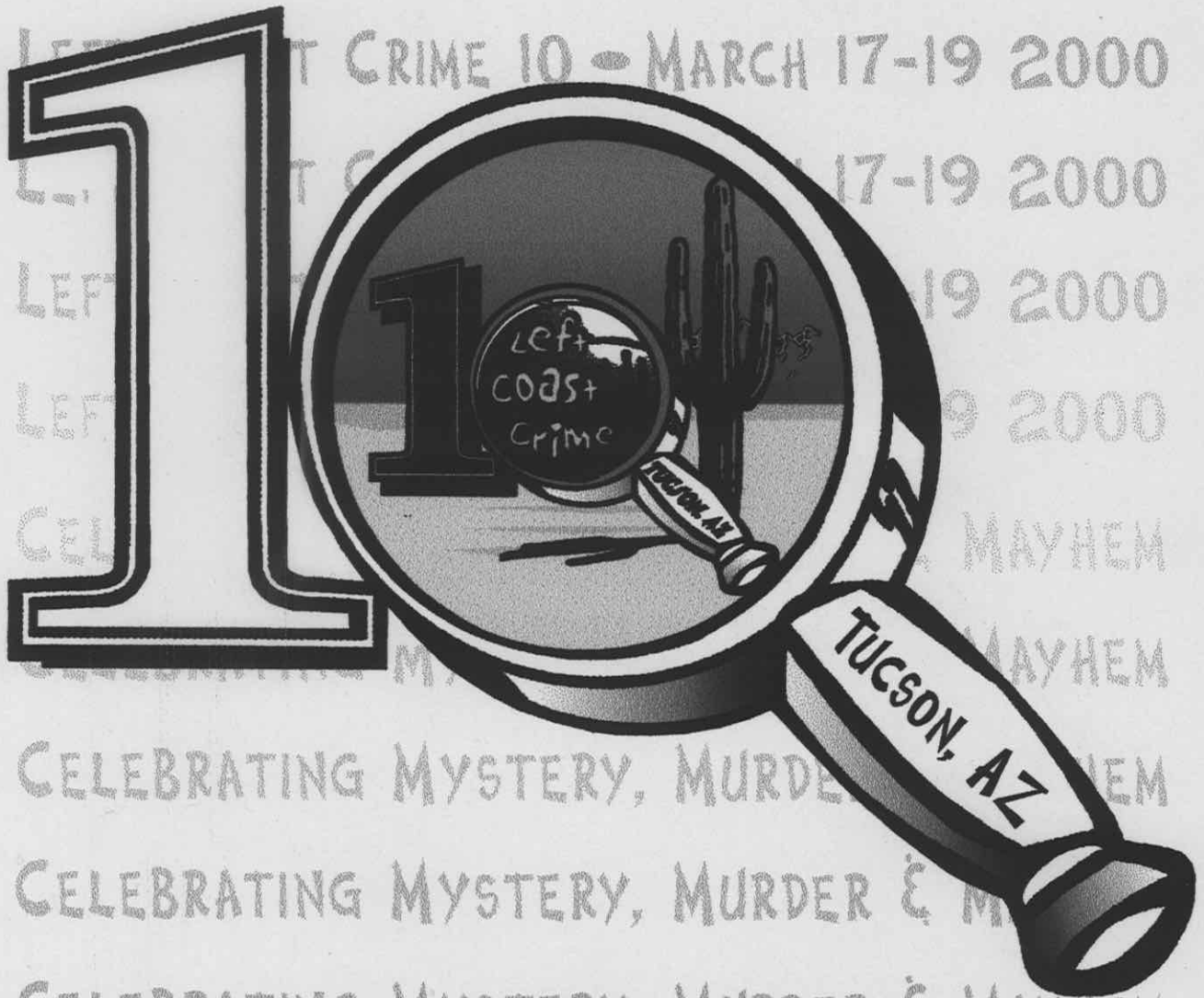
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**CELEBRATING MYSTERY, MURDER & MAYHEM**





# Welcome to the Old Pueblo!

We're glad you decided to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Left Coast Crime. There are so many things to do during the convention, you'll be busy every minute. If you can manage to squeeze in a bit of sightseeing, there are lots of things to see and do in and around Tucson:

- **The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum** is a great place to explore all that the desert southwest has to offer. From minerals to wildlife, there's something sure to please everyone. Allow several hours to see everything, and be sure to wear sunscreen and a hat and drink plenty of fluids. Fee.
- **Old Tucson Studios** is a step back in time to the wild west. Live shows, including gunfights, are scheduled several times a day. Old Tucson is located near the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, so you could see both if you have the stamina. Again, allow enough time to see everything, and be sure to wear your hat and sunscreen. Fee.
- **Pima Air Museum**, one of my son's favorites, has military and specialty aircraft on display. You can tour the JFK Airforce One, see a SR70 Blackhawk, view vintage WWII B-17 and B-29 bombers, and see hundreds of other planes. Guided tram tours are available. And you'll need the hat and sunscreen for this one! Fee.
- **Colossal Cave** is one of the few natural caves in this area. It's a dead, dry cave, used as a hide-out by rustlers in days gone by. Fee.
- **Kartchner Caverns**, located near the town of Benson, just opened to the public a few months ago. Kartchner rivals Carlsbad Caverns in beauty and is well worth the trip. Prior reservations are required, so call first. 1-520/586-CAVE. Fee.
- **The Arizona Renaissance Festival** provides entertainment, food and fun for all ages. Artisans display their wares for sale, stunt riders perform in three daily jousts, and a variety of artists perform on 12 different stages. Don't miss the singing

nuns! The festival runs Saturday and Sunday this weekend and next. Gates are open from 10 am to 6 pm. Buy your admission tickets at Fry's Grocery Store and save \$1 per ticket. The festival is held near Apache Junction, close to Phoenix. I always take my parasol and wear sunscreen. Fee.

- **Sabino Canyon** is a lovely oasis in the desert. Hike to a 20-ft waterfall, or just take a guided tram ride. Fee.
- **Flandrau Planetarium**, located on the University of Arizona campus, has terrific hands-on science activities for adults and children. Be sure to leave enough time after the show to check out all the activities. The University community is on Spring Break, so it should be quiet. Pay parking is available near the Planetarium, if you can get to it in spite of all the construction. Fee.
- **The Tucson Mall** has all the shops you ever wanted, and then some. If you want to cool off, buy some souvenirs, or just people watch, you can do it here.
- **The Grand Canyon** is a must, if you have a few extra days to spend in Arizona. For a change of pace, take the old steam train from Williams into the Canyon. Reservations are required, so call first.

While you're here, take advantage of all the activities we've arranged for you: be a Mystery Jeopardy contestant, tour the new Federal Courthouse, take in a few panels, and check out the raffles and auctions. Wear your western costume (historical or contemporary) Friday and you might win a prize! Visit the dealer room often without worry—we have a shipping service available to mail your new books home.

We hope you have fun during your stay here in Arizona. We want you to say, "This was the best Left Coast Crime Convention ever!"

--Ellie Warder  
LCC10 Organizing Committee Member

# Thank you, thank you, thank you!

The work involved in putting on a convention, any convention, is enormous. Many, many wonderful persons generously donated their time and talents to putting together this Left Coast Crime convention. The following people helped organize this year's convention:

## Left Coast Crime 10 Organizing Committee

Auction Coordinator	<b>Jan Thomas</b>
Author 15-minute Sessions Coordinator	<b>Ellie Warder</b>
Dealer Room Coordinator	<b>Maggie Mason</b>
Hotel Liaison	<b>Andi Grantham</b>
Lefty Award Coordinator	<b>Ellie Warder</b>
Mystery Jeopardy	<b>Jerrilyn Farmer &amp; Elaine Kelley</b>
Newsletters	<b>Pat Davis</b>
Panel Committee	<b>Chris Acevedo, Joyce Bartlett, Sinclair Browning, Carol Foster &amp; Nancy Smallhouse</b>
Program Booklet	<b>Ellie Warder</b>
Publicity Coordinator	<b>Kathi Westerhaus</b>
Registration Coordinator	<b>Sue Haley of Carnevale &amp; Associates</b>
Secretary/Treasurer	<b>Pat Felker</b>
Special Events	<b>Kathy Curley</b>
Webmaster	<b>Ellie Warder</b>

We'd like to thank Drake MacFarland for his generous and invaluable help in printing the program, bookbags, t-shirts and countless other things. We thank Carol McGinnis Kay, Gary Warren Niebuhr, Maggie Mason and Russ Isabella for writing articles for our program booklet. A very big thank you to Lisa Elfring and Heather Taylor of The University of Arizona, who so graciously agreed to present the DNA Fingerprinting Workshops. For their invaluable help in writing Mystery Jeopardy questions, we thank Dawn Weiss and Dick Higgins. We also thank Chris Nelson, Dan Harvey, and Marian Wood at Penguin Putnam for their support and assistance. We'd also like to thank Ballantine Books for their generous donation to the Literacy Volunteers of Tucson, and, specifically, Joe Blades, for his assistance in arranging it. A big thank you to Christian Waters of Dell Books and Mike Hultquist at Lerua's Mexican Restaurant for their help with the reception. A BIG thank you to J.C. Martin of the *Arizona Daily Star* and Randy Garsee of KOLD TV for providing publicity for this convention. We'd like to thank Mike Scherf of Catalina Foothills High School and his students, who generously volunteered their assistance during the convention.

We offer special thanks to the many unnamed convention volunteers who helped keep things running smoothly. You know who you are.



## Guest of Honor: Sue Grafton

How could anyone resist a heroine who believes, "As long as you have sufficient toilet paper, how far wrong can life go?" Obviously not many people, if we judge by the increasing popularity of Kinsey Millhone, P. I., from her initial appearance in "*A*" *Is For Alibi* in 1982 to her most recent outing in "*O*" *Is For Outlaw* in 1999. Sue Grafton's fifteen Millhone novels have sold over 40 million in this country alone and have been translated into twenty-six other languages. They have won award after award for the best mystery of the year; for example, four Anthonys from Bouchercon, two Shamuses from Private Eye Writers of America, and eight Doubleday Mystery Guild Awards. Few writers in the mystery genre have been as popular or as influential as Sue Grafton.

Grafton grew up in Louisville, the child of alcoholic parents who loved literature but often left her to her own devices. She learned to parent herself and to survive. There's no surprise that much of Grafton's own strengths are echoed in the self-sufficient character of Kinsey Millhone. She is funny, tough, smart, and determined to balance the scales of justice by finding the killer even if she puts herself at great risk. Readers are engaged by her minimalist life-style, with her rusty VW bug and her tiny shipshape apartment rented from adorable Henry Pitts. They laugh at her eating habits, and they usually have no desire to emulate her fondness for peanut-butter-and-pickle sandwiches, but they often envy the ease with which Kinsey dresses in turtle-necks and jeans, not giving a hoot what anyone thinks of

her car or clothes.

Kinsey echoes her creator in other ways: both have been divorced twice, both have an acute distaste for receiving injections, both are tidy and well organized, and both are addicted to regular exercise. Grafton owned that blue bug long before Kinsey did, and they both started taking Spanish lessons at the same time. Also, many of Grafton's early job experiences—as a hospital staffer, as a secretary-receptionist, as a file clerk, as a temp who worked as a maid—are reflected in the word in which Kinsey operates.

The two are not twins, however, for Grafton has been happily married for over twenty years to Steven Humphrey, a professor of philosophy at USC-Santa Barbara and the University of Louisville. They are sociable people, dividing their time between their primary home in Santa Barbara (on which Santa Teresa is closely based) and their second home in Sue's hometown, Louisville. They are appalled by Kinsey's fondness for junk food, and they are excellent cooks. Their homes are filled with Sue's quilt collection, Steven's antique scientific instruments, and their cats. They relish visits from friends and family, especially Sue's three adult children and two grandchildren, one of whom is named 'Kinsey.'

In appreciation for this pleasant life, Grafton has a car tag that reads, "THNX KNZY."

Grafton began to create Kinsey in the late 1970's. Although successful as a writer of screenplays and teleplays, Grafton decided to focus increasingly on her own writing; for a genre, she turned

to her early love of hard-boiled detective fiction. Kinsey is the classic loner private eye, smart-mouthed, often cynical, yet heroic to the core. But, significantly, Kinsey also breaks ground in her gender, her introspection, the frequency with which compassion is part of her response to a case, and her interest in understanding her case and herself in broader social and moral contexts.

When "A" appeared, most publishers had assumed the reading public would not accept a woman in the hard-hitting roles occupied by a Philip Marlowe or a Sam Spade. Only Marcia Muller had begun to breach this barrier, but in 1982 Grafton's first novel, along with Sara Paretsky's first V. I. Warshawski novel, changed the face of detective fiction. 'Strong' no longer automatically has to mean 'male', nor does 'tough' require a high body count. Anyone going into a bookstore today will be inundated with mystery novels featuring women who are professional P. Is—a fictional generation of women who are both strong and responsible, women who can thoughtfully analyze what led the villain into evil and still be able to punch that villain right in the nose. They are credible women who, like Kinsey, may be afraid of injections, but they are indefatigable in their determination to find and defeat the killer.

Countless readers would suggest that the car tag *should* read, "THNX GRFTN."

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Carol McGinnis Kay, co-author of  
"G" Is For Grafton:  
*The World Of Kinsey Millhone*

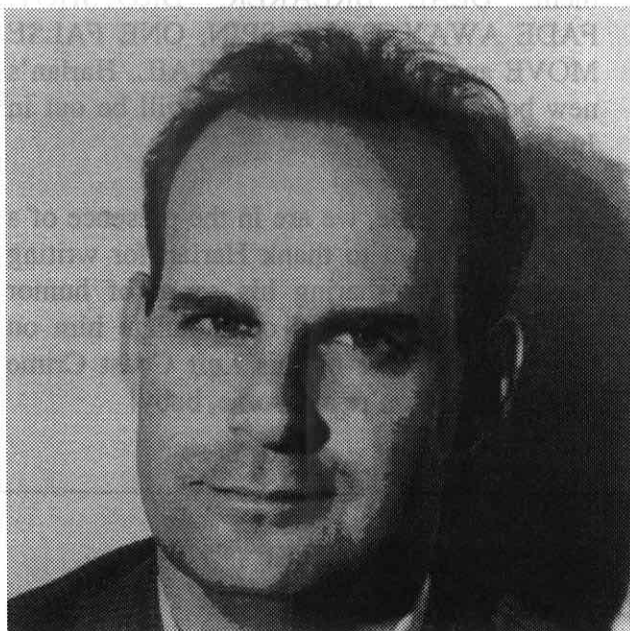
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# Toastmaster: Harlan Coben

by

Gary Warren Niebuhr

I first met Harlan Coben when he arrived at EYECON'95, a little party I helped throw in Milwaukee to honor the private eye writers that I knew and loved. Harlan Coben I neither knew nor loved. Who was this guy? My first



impression of him was that he was twice as big as I was, and a man that tall should not be weeping. Why was he crying? Because this his first convention, because nobody knew who he was, because he was a little lost boy in the big bad world where Sue Grafton was the guest of honor.

That was Friday. By Sunday, he managed to turn that convention into Harlanfest. Some images stay with a person forever. I, for one, shall never forget Harlan and Robert Crais dancing together the night of the dance, even though Robert was too short for Harlan.

The next time I met Harlan Coben was on a bus ride to the authors' dinner at Magna Cum Murder in Muncie, Indiana. The shy and

retiring Harlan was once again whining about nobody knowing who he was, but this did not stop him from entertaining the entire bus of dignitaries with the rather puny names of every pornographic movie made in the last ten years. We laughed, we cried, we wondered how he knew the names of these films.

When he was born and raised in New Jersey, who knew that this former political science major (aren't you supposed to go to law school?) and graduate of Amherst College (isn't that an all-woman's school?), would choose a career in the travel industry (i.e., airport porter). Needing an outlet for his creative energies (i.e., money), he turned to a career as a novelist.

His first book was entitled *PLAY DEAD* and evidently so did his career as a writer. Scour his web site, if you don't believe me. This long-lost child is not even mentioned. However, it did have a nice dust jacket photo. This was followed by *MIRACLE CURE*, which was not one for his sales. Again, not mentioned on the web site. However, Kirkus called it "lurid."

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Harlan created a support team for his detective that includes some of the most interesting sidekicks in contemporary mysteries.

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At this point in his marriage to his pediatrician wife Anne and after the birth of his three children, Charlotte, Benjamin and Will, the most common thing heard around

the Coben household was, "Why doesn't Daddy have to go to work like all the other Daddies?"

Then, a wiser person than he (his agent) suggested that he write about sports and be funny. And here is where I have to stop being funny myself, as a wonderful thing happened. Harlan developed Myron Bolitar, sports agent, detective, and all around nice guy. Harlan created a support team for his detective that includes some of the most interesting sidekicks in contemporary mysteries. Anyone who has read the series debates the qualities of Win. Everyone is attracted to Esperanza; who is not affected by Big Cindy? And don't we all wish we could still retreat to the comfort of our parents' house when things get bad.

Harlan's writing has advanced with the series, and he has matured along with his characters. Perhaps initially thought of as humorous

mysteries, this series has developed into one that deals with deep and disturbing themes. Books in the series have won and been nominated for the Edgar Award, Shamus Award and Anthony Award, have been twice nominated for the Dilys Award, and a short story he wrote was nominated for the Anthony, Macavity and Agatha awards. Here are the titles so that if you don't have them, you can run to the dealer's room and buy them: DEAL BREAKER, DROPSHOT, FADE AWAY, BACK SPIN, ONE FALSE MOVE and THE FINAL DETAIL. Harlan's new book, DARKEST FEAR, will be out in June of this year.

All kidding aside, we are in the presence of a presence. I want to thank Harlan for writing his books, for sharing his sense of humor wherever he goes, and congratulate him on being Toastmaster of this Left Coast Crime Conference. You're awesome, baby!

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## 2000 Lefty Award Nominees for the Most Humorous Mystery Originally Published in 1999

<b>Donna Andrews</b>	<b>MURDER WITH PEACOCKS</b>
<b>Dave Barry</b>	<b>BIG TROUBLE</b>
<b>Janet Evanovich</b>	<b>HIGH FIVE</b>
<b>Jerrilyn Farmer</b>	<b>IMMACULATE RECEPTION</b>
<b>Anne George</b>	<b>MURDER SHOOTS THE BULL</b>

**Be sure to cast your ballot by Saturday at 4 pm.** The ballot box is located in the registration area. The Lefty Award winner will be announced at the reception Saturday evening in the Empire Ballroom.

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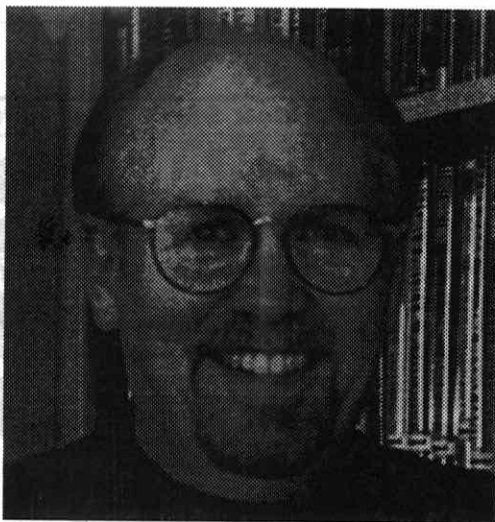


# Fan Guest of Honor: George Easter

By

Maggie Mason and Russ Isabella

loves, be they by his favorite authors What can we say about George Easter? Let's not use the old, worn cliché: you know, look in the dictionary for the word "nice" and you'll see his picture. We will say that one of the greatest pleasures of participating in mystery fandom is meeting wonderful people, and George Easter is an example of the best. In fact, he's so nice that it took two people to write this tribute!



George is an attorney by trade, but he no longer practices law. He and his wife, Michelle, publish a magazine from their home: *Refunding Makes Sense*. By all accounts, this is more than a full-time job for both George and Michelle.

Several years ago, George decided to publish a mystery magazine. He had been a reviewer for the now-defunct magazine, and he wanted to create a magazine for and by fans of the mystery field.

George sent out birth announcements for *Deadly Pleasures* and recruited some of the finest reviewers and critics around, such as Al Hubin, Marv Lachman, and the late Barry Gardner and Don Sandstrom. He also discovered some new talent, such as Gordy

Magnuson, Russ Isabella and Maggie Mason (yes, that's us!).

*Deadly Pleasures* has evolved into one of the finest mystery magazines. In fact, at Bouchercon 1999 in Milwaukee, *Deadly Pleasures* was voted an Anthony Award for best non-fiction mystery publication. In true George fashion, while accepting the award he asked all attending contributors to stand and share this honor with him (though George did keep the plaque!).

George proves he is an innovator by creating such features as "Reviewed to Death" (one book each issue which is reviewed by all contributors to the magazine), and the "Quarterly Question" (a unique question for each issue about different aspects of the mystery genre and open to all readers' responses), thereby making *Deadly Pleasures* an interactive magazine.

We think those features are what set *Deadly Pleasures* apart from the rest and make it a force that welcomes participation from all readers. George spotlights a different mystery writer in each issue. Also, he has incorporated many other features such as:

- articles on collectible mysteries
- a British viewpoint (reviews of recent publications from the UK),
- a convention calendar,
- a running list of the best mysteries of the year, and
- a visit to Raymond Chandler's La Jolla, California by reader (and La Jolla Realtor) Nancy Mitchell, and more.

About three years ago, one of George's innovations for *Deadly Pleasures* was his creation of the Barry Awards. Named after Barry Gardner, the aforementioned contributor to *Deadly Pleasures* who so epitomized the heart of fandom in the mystery field, the Barry Award each year

honors new and established writers for the best works of the year, as voted by readers of *Deadly Pleasures*.

In his home state of Utah, George participates in a monthly mystery-readers' book club. To this dedicated group of avid readers, George brings his insider's knowledge of mysterydom, with all of the tales, history, and esoterica that only the true and loyal mystery fan--one with a library to kill for--could offer.

During a weak moment not long ago, George made an interesting decision. As if he weren't busy enough with his business, *Deadly Pleasures*, family, church, and community responsibilities, George decided to become a bookseller. He quickly has become a popular and honorable member of the book-selling ranks, selling via mail order and at mystery conventions, with the ever-present threat that he will be taking to the internet any day now. A quick look at *Deadly Pleasures* will tell you that George works hard to keep abreast of trends, both long-standing and quickly passing; he also hand sells the books he or promising upstarts.

There is so much more that could be said about George, but we find that much of it is too heart-felt to express. Left Coast Crime has made a wonderful choice for Fan Guest of Honor. If you haven't yet had the pleasure of meeting George, be sure to introduce yourself. You won't regret it, and you may just find yourself having a lot more fun. There are many of us proud to call George friend.

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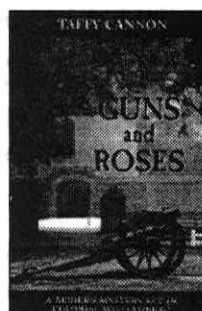
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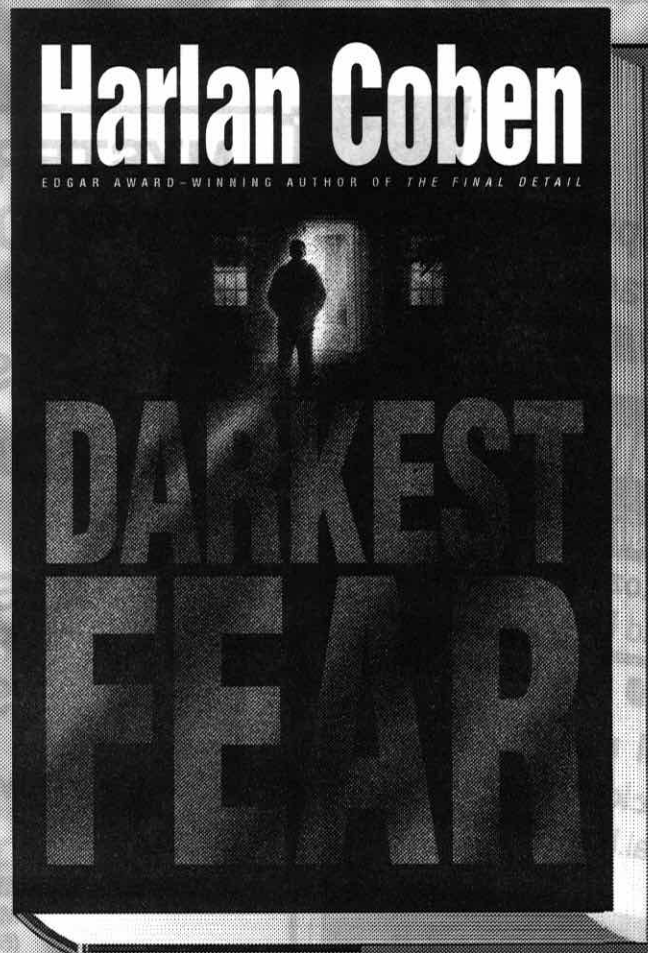
*Baby Mine* by Janet LaPierre  
*Royal Flush* by Shelley Singer

#### Forthcoming Authors—

Eric Wright (fall 2000)  
Penny Warner (spring 2001)  
Rebecca Rothenberg (fall 2001)

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# Panels and Panelists

Friday, March 17, 2000

**9:00-9:45 am**

## **Conventions 101:**

### **Getting the Most out of your Convention**

*Kathy Curley, George Easter & Janet Rudolph*

Empire Ballroom East

### **Mystery Jeopardy: Game 1**

*Maggie Mason, Ruth Simon & Nathan Walpow*

vs.

*Kent Braithwaite, Sandy Morse & Suzanne Proulx*

*Gary Warren Niebuhr, Master of Ceremonies*

*Robin Burcell, M.C.'s Assistant*

Plaza Room, mezzanine level

**9-11 am**

## **DNA Fingerprinting Workshop**

*Lisa Elfring & Heather Taylor*

Forum Room, main level

Has your reading left you puzzled about DNA evidence and how it is analyzed to reveal the identities of criminals and victims? Have you wondered what is really involved in forensic molecular biology, and how long it takes to do these procedures? Would you like to learn how DNA samples are generated, treated and analyzed? If so, this workshop is for you! Biological scientists from The University of Arizona will present a hands-on workshop that allows participants to work with real DNA and laboratory instruments to determine a DNA fingerprint. Limited to 20 ticketed participants; however, other people are welcome to observe the workshop.

**10:30-11:30 am**

## **Welcoming Session**

Empire Ballroom

**11:30 am – 12:15 pm**

## **Researching the Police Procedural**

*Bill Crider, Elizabeth Gunn (moderator), Mary Logue,*

*Peter Robinson & Paula L. Woods*

Empire East

Five writers of police procedurals discuss their sources and methods. They'll talk about internet searching, library prowling, favorite books, and working friends they contact for inside information on what's happening now—the latest bells & whistles in science and weapons.

**11:30 am- 12:15 pm**

## **Anthologies & Short Stories**

*Suzanne Bratcher, Edward Hoch, Marv Lachman,*

*Cynthia Lawrence, Tammie Schmid-Thompson &*

*Valerie Wolzien (moderator)*

Empire Central

Take a look at the history of the mystery short story as well as its future—in print and on the internet. What makes a short story? Must there be a body? The panelists will discuss the marketplace—short story magazines, anthologies, etc., and they will share their favorite stories with the audience.

**11:30 am-12:15 pm**

## **Women Writing the West**

*Paula Boyd (moderator), P. J. Grady,*

*Julie Wray Herman, Carol Davis Luce*

*& Marlys Millhiser*

Empire West

Does the landscape affect story? Whether it's Contemporary or Historical Fiction, there's no doubt that these mysteries are set in the West. Western authors talk about what makes a mystery "western" and the inherent misconceptions of the label.

**1:00-2:00 pm**

## **George Easter interviews Harlan Coben**

Empire Ballroom

**2:30-3:15 pm**

## **Series Versus Stand Alones**

*Robert Greer, Rochelle Krich (moderator), Janet*

*LaPierre, William Manchee, Ridley Pearson & Taylor*

*Smith*

Empire East

Panelists will explore the advantages and limitations of writing stand-alone mysteries versus a series. How does each impact on the writing process, marketing the mystery, and readers' expectations?

**2:30-3:15 pm**

## **Equal Crime Opportunity:**

### **Jobs that Lead to Trouble**

*Jan Burke, Jonnie Jacobs, Suzanne Proulx, Megan Rust*

*& Janice Steinberg (moderator)*

Empire Central

**2:30-3:15 pm**

**Mystery Milieu:**

**When Background Comes Forward**

*Kent Braithwaite (moderator), David Cole, Tess Collins,  
Raymond Derouin & Stan Jones*

Empire West

Mystery milieus can be found anywhere in the world. They range from C. Auguste Dupin's dark and gloomy Paris and Miss Marple's quaint English village of St. Mary Mead to Sam Spade's fog-shrouded San Francisco and Travis MacGee's sun-baked Florida beaches. This panel will examine five equally diverse mystery milieus, reflecting the cultural and ethnic diversity of modern America and the contemporary American mystery.

**2:30-3:15 pm**

**Mystery Jeopardy: Game 2**

*Denise Dietz, Nancy Rodich-Hodges  
& Patti Owen-Slater*

vs.

*Brooke Frain, Sandy Goodrich & Matt Witten  
Jerrilyn Farmer, Master of Ceremonies  
T. Macdonald Skillman, M.C.'s Assistant  
Plaza Room, mezzanine level*

**2:30-4:30 pm**

**DNA Fingerprinting Workshop**

*Lisa Elfring & Heather Taylor*

Forum Room, main level

Has your reading left you puzzled about DNA evidence and how it is analyzed to reveal the identities of criminals and victims? Have you wondered what is really involved in forensic molecular biology, and how long it takes to do these procedures? Would you like to learn how DNA samples are generated, treated and analyzed? If so, this workshop is for you! Biological scientists from The University of Arizona will present a hands-on workshop that allows participants to work with real DNA and laboratory instruments to determine a DNA fingerprint. Limited to 20 ticketed participants; however, other people are welcome to observe the workshop.

**3:45-4:30 pm**

**Cops & Robbers**

*Chris Acevedo (moderator), Robin Burcell, Scott  
Flander, Michael McGarrity & Michael Newton*

Empire East

We will discuss the ways that the art of fiction transforms the unpleasant reality of crime, and also how fiction transforms the ways that real-life policemen and investigators see themselves and their professions. In other words, we'll get the lowdown from experts in crime!

**3:45-4:30 pm**

**Balancing Home & Homicide**

*Eleanor Taylor Bland, Gini Hartzmark, Kathy Hogan  
Trocheck, Darryl Wimberley (moderator)*

*& Matt Witten*

Empire Central

Providing the sleuth with a life after death.

**3:45-4:30 pm**

**Unholy Acts: Religion in our Writing**

*Carolina Garcia-Aguilera, Lee Harris, Fr. Brad  
Reynolds (moderator), Mari Ulmer & David Walker*

Empire West

From Chesterton to Grisham, religion and murder has always made a volatile mix. Five writers with VERY different outlooks explore the religious (and maybe some of the profane!) themes and characters in their works.

**Mystery Jeopardy: Game 3**

*Virginia Dixon, Gary Phillips & Mary Ann Steele*

vs.

*Reed Andrus, Chris Andrus & Lise McClendon  
Bob Maddox, Master of Ceremonies  
N. J. Lindquist, M.C.'s assistant  
Plaza Room, mezzanine level*

**4:45-5:30 pm**

**Mystery Jeopardy: Game 4**

*Bill Capron, Susan Eggers & Kris Neri*

vs.

*Bonnie Cardone, Taylor Smith &  
JoAnne von Zastrow  
Nathan Walpow, Master of Ceremonies  
L.C. Hayden, M.C.'s assistant  
Plaza Room, mezzanine level*

Saturday, March 18, 2000

9:00-9:45 am

**Dance on the Tables; Shoot Out the Lights**

*Sinclair Browning, J. A. Jance, Michael McGarrity  
(moderator), Rick Riordan & Virginia Swift*

Empire East

A discussion of the influence of western myth and history in contemporary mystery fiction, the importance of landscape and the physical environment in plot development, the utilization of the western persona and the rich multi-cultural milieu in character development, how research used to establish real and imagined places became travel guides for readers, and why the Southwest mystery transcends regional fiction and the genre.

9:00-9:45 am

**Creating the Murder Blues:  
Art & Music in the Mystery**

*Mark Coggins, Larry Karp, Lise McClendon, Bill  
Moody (moderator) & Keith Snyder*

Empire Central

9:00-9:45 am

**Menus, Murder and Mayhem: What's Cooking?**

*Diane Mott Davidson, Denise Dietz, Joanne Pence,  
Janet Rudolph (moderator) & Robert Weibezahl*

Empire West

9:00-10:00 am

**Everything's Negotiable, or Interpreting Your Book  
Publishing Contract"**

Author Dana Stabenow takes you by your little hand and leads you into the wilderness of joint accounting, royalties, hard-soft deals, electronic rights, foreign rights, screen rights, audio rights, option clauses, and out-of-print revisions and leads you safely back out again.

**Amateur Sleuths with Interesting Day Jobs**

*John Billheimer, Harlan Coben (moderator), Jerrilyn  
Farmer, Martha C. Lawrence & Steve Oliver*

Empire East

10:15-11:00 am

**Historical Mysteries**

*Bruce Alexander, Dale Furutani (moderator), Lyn  
Hamilton, Sam McCarver & Mary Pacios*

Empire Central

This diverse panel will tell you why detectives can walk down the corridors of time as easily as they do the mean streets of cities.

10:15-11:00 am

**Psychological Suspense**

*Sandra Levy Ceren, J. R. Dailey, Alex Matthews, Maxine  
O'Callaghan (moderator)*

*& T. Jefferson Parker*

Empire West

From anxiety to terror, from romantic suspense to serial killer novels, this panel will define the genre, talk about the differences between the whodunnit and the whydunnit, and try to predict new trends.

10:15-11:00 am

**Mystery Jeopardy: Semi-Final Game 1**

*Dan Barton, Master of Ceremonies;*

*Joyce Holland, M.C.'s Assistant*

Plaza Room, mezzanine level

11:30 am-12:15 pm

**Hard Boiled, & We Aren't Talking Eggs!**

*Lee Child, Steve Hamilton, Gary Warren Niebuhr*

*(moderator), Gary Phillips & J. R. Ripley*

Empire East

Four writers who use their unique settings to drive home a story with a hard-hitting theme will discuss whether writers intentionally try to be hard-boiled, or if this is the only way they know to write a great mystery.

11:30 am-12:15 pm

**What's Really in that Tea Cup?  
Has the Cozy Changed?**

*Donna Andrews, Taffy Cannon (moderator), Patricia*

*Guiver, Lora Roberts & Mary V. Welk*

Empire Central

Is "cozy" a gentle, friendly identification of a mystery that won't give you nightmares...or pejorative shorthand for teacup books with too many cats? Are the lines blurring as more amateur sleuths reveal themselves to be competent folks who don't dither?

11:30 am-12:15 pm

**Keeping a Series Fresh: Been There, Done That**

*Rhys Bowen (moderator), Earlene Fowler, Christine T.*

*Jorgensen, Chris Rogers & Judith Van Gieson*

Empire West

Hercule Poirot didn't age in fifty years, but is the modern reader content with the status quo? Is it enough to keep on doing what worked before, over and over again? And what happens if the writer loses enthusiasm for her characters long before her readers do? These talented series writers share their secrets for making each book more fun to write and better than the one before it.

**11:30 am-12:15 pm**

**Mystery Jeopardy: Semi-Final Game 2**

*Cathy Gallagher, Master of Ceremonies*

*Maryelizabeth Hart, M.C.'s Assistant*

Plaza Room, mezzanine level

**1:00-2:00 pm**

**Carol McGinnis Kay interviews Sue Grafton**

Empire Ballroom

**2:30-3:15 pm**

**Old Pros & New Blood:**

**How Mysteries Have Changed**

*Jan Burke (moderator), Sue Grafton, Steve Hamilton, Ed*

*Hoch, Maxine O'Callaghan & Rick Riordan*

Empire East

What's new about mystery writing today? What traditions should remain sacred? Which ones should be abandoned? We'll take a look at who's breaking new ground and talk about writers from the past who deserve more attention. Have mysteries changed? Or are today's writers and readers simply unaware of mystery's heritage? Join us as we take a look at mystery's past, present and future!

**2:30-3:15 pm**

**Meet the Newcomers!**

*Lynnette Baughman, Rebecca Cramer, Kris Neri*

*(moderator), Sarah St. Peter & Mary Saums*

Empire Central

**2:30-3:15 pm**

**So, You Want to Be Published!**

*Patricia Gebhard (moderator), L. C. Hayden, Connie*

*Sheldon, T. Macdonald Skillman & Susan Slater*

Empire West

This panel will consider what an author can do to get published after repeated rejections from both agencies and publishers (assuming proper procedures and presentation have been followed). Options will be discussed ranging from self-criticism; outside criticism from friends, colleagues and book doctors; classes or workshops; posting on the web; attendance at conferences; co-publishing or self-publishing.

**3:45-4:30 pm**

**Mystery Jeopardy: Final Game**

*Harlan Coben, Master of Ceremonies*

*Taffy Cannon, M.C.'s Assistant*

Plaza Room, mezzanine level

**3:45-4:30 pm**

**Cheaper than Therapy...or Who Do You Kill?**

*Christine Andrae, Gini Hartzmark (moderator), Joyce*

*Holland, Ken Kuhlken & Valerie Wolzien*

Empire East

Our intrepid panelists discuss their homicidal urges and what they'd do if they couldn't channel them into their books. Also, they will discuss killing off established characters, what makes a good victim, and why it's so much fun to bump off people who truly deserve it.

**3:45-4:30 pm**

**Laughing Your Way to the Morgue**

*Burl Barer (moderator), Dan Barton, Steve Brewer, Meg*

*Chittenden & Nathan Walpole*

Empire Central

Death is very serious, but these authors incorporate laughter into their mysteries.

**3:45-4:30 pm**

**Collecting Hypermodern Mysteries**

*Larry Gandle (moderator), Dennis McMillan, Joan*

*Montgomery, Barbara Peters & J. D. Singh*

Empire West

This panel will discuss the basics of collecting hypermodern mysteries and many other topics related to collecting today, such as signed vs unsigned books, British vs American first editions, where to best purchase books, where to best sell books, limited edition books, collecting paperbacks and the future of collecting these books.



Sunday, March 19, 2000

9:00-9:45 am

**Private Parts—Is There a Difference? Male & Female PI's Square Off**

*Chris Acevedo (facilitator), Sinclair Browning, Lee Child, Elizabeth Cosin, Sue Grafton, Steve Oliver & Buzz Poverman*  
Empire East

9:00-9:45 am

**The Insider's Viewpoint: A Reviewer's Panel**

*Reed Andrus, George Easter, Cathy Gallagher, Willetta Heising (moderator) & Maggie Mason*  
Empire Central

Courting death—the trials and tribulations of reviewing mystery fiction.

9:00-9:45 am

**Romancing the Mystery**

*Sharon Dennison, Mary Logue (moderator), Ed Mitchell, T. Jefferson Parker & Linda Wisdom*  
Empire West

10:15-11:00 am

**Sidekicks: Who's the Boss, Anyway?**

*Harlan Coben, David Dial, Steve Havill (moderator), N. J. Lindquist & Kathy Hogan Trocheck*  
Empire East

The balancing act between the protagonist and his alter ego.

10:15-11:00 am

**The Lady & the Tramp**

*Steve Brewer, Joyce Christmas (moderator), Jerrilyn Farmer, Robert S. Levinson & Barbara Seranella*  
Empire Central

A panel of tramps and ladies will discuss the use of class distinctions in mysteries. They also will cover social commentary in mystery fiction (including the timeless: "True or False: If you want to send a message, try e-mail."). What kind of reality do mysteries convey?

10:15-11:00 am

**For the Straight Scoop, Ask the Experts!**

*Sandra Levy Ceren,, John Cheek, Carolina Garcia-Aguilera, Robert Greer, Willetta Heising (moderator), James Martin & Joyce Spizer*  
Empire West

A chance for authors and interested fans to ask specific questions about procedure or facts from people who have actually been or still are in the fields of psychology, pathology, private investigation or police.

11:30 am-12:15 pm

**Literary Mysteries: Tautology or Oxymoron?**

*Bill Crider, Pete Hautman (moderator), Mary Logue, Gary Phillips, Buzz Poverman & Darryl Wimberley*  
Empire East

We'll discuss examples of "literary" writers who write mysteries (James Lee Burke, Joyce Carol Oates, David Gutterston) and "pulp" writers who have become darlings of the literati (Elmore Leonard, Jim Thompson, James Ellroy). We also will discuss the pros and cons or genrefication, what makes a mystery a mystery, and so forth. We will endeavor to entertain and provoke, in that order.

11:30 am-12:15 pm

**Our Protagonists, Ourselves? How and Why Mystery Writers Develop Their Protagonists**

*Leslie Budewitz, Michael Allen Dymmoach (moderator), Margaret Falk & Taylor Smith*  
Empire Central

How and why mystery writers develop the characters they do.

12:30 pm

**Closing Session**  
Empire Ballroom

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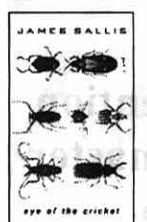


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## Left Coast Crime 10 Panelists

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**BRUCE ALEXANDER** was born in Chicago, the son of a railroad train dispatcher. He grew up in cities all around the Midwest and West and graduated from Loyola University. He enlisted in the Army, attended the Army Language School, and served as a translator in Germany. After that he joined the staff of the *National Observer*, where he worked first as a book critic and then a film reviewer. Subsequently, he worked on newspapers in Washington, DC, Detroit, and Los Angeles. He and his wife, the violinist Judith Aller, now live in Southern California. Alexander has written six historical mysteries featuring the real-life historical figure, Sir John Fielding, magistrate of the Bow Street Court during the latter half of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. His most recent book was *DEATH OF A COLONIAL*.



**CHRISTINE ANDRAE** lives in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, but her mysteries are set in Montana where she, her architect husband, and their two sons have spent years of summer vacations hiking and riding in Montana's high country. Her first mystery, *TRAIL OF MURDER*, was nominated for an Edgar and begins the series starring Lee Squires, a professor and poet from Washington, DC, who moonlights as a camp cook in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. In *GRIZZLY*, Lee cooks and solves a murder at a dude ranch on the Rocky Mountain front. *SMALL TARGET* takes her into the wilderness of the Mission Mountains on a murderous llama trek. Andrae's forthcoming novel due to be released this March, *SMOKE EATERS*, is a thriller set on a wildlands super-fire. Her protagonist is the first female "fire general" in the country to take charge of a federal command team.



**REED ANDRUS** was born and raised in Salt Lake City, a gentile in a family of Mormons. He took nine years to get undergraduate degrees in History and English, but four of those were spent in the Navy during Vietnam. He did post-grad work at the University of Cincinnati. Andrus and his wife, Chris, will celebrate 27 years together in June. They have one granddaughter. Andrus has been reviewing for *Mystery News* for 5-6 years, and he has pieces of three novels collecting dust until he can afford to retire.



**DONNA ANDREWS** is a self-confessed nerd, rarely found without her laptop. In her day job, she serves as website editor for a large corporation. *MURDER WITH PEACOCKS*, her first published novel, won the St. Martin's Press/Malice Domestic Best First Traditional Mystery contest in May 1998, and it is one of this year's Lefty Award nominees. Andrews now lives in Arlington, Virginia. *MURDER WITH PUFFINS*, the second in her series, will appear in May.

## Left Coast Crime 10 Panelists



**BURL BARER** is an Edgar Award winner and two time Anthony Award nominee best known for **THE SAINT**, **CAPTURE THE SAINT**, and **MAN OVERBOARD: The Counterfeit Resurrection of Phil Champagne**. Forthcoming in 2000 is **MURDER IN THE FAMILY** (true crime) and **HEADLOCK**, the first entry in Barer's new "Jeff Reynolds, PI" series. Burl is also cute and amusing. Just ask him.



**DAN BARTON** is a professional stand-up comedian. He began his performing career while a student at the University of Texas. He then moved to Houston and began performing at the Comix Annex. After moving to Los Angeles, he concentrated on writing. The result was two suspense novels, **BANSHEE** and **RELIFE**. Upon returning to stand-up, Barton began to appear on such programs as A&E's "Evening at the Improv," "Star Search," "Talk Soup" and "Live from Rascal's." He spent two years opening for the late Sam Kinison on his international concert tours. Barton has appeared in feature films, television programs, industrial videos and national commercials. He continues to perform regularly at the Comedy Store. **KILLER MATERIAL** is his first mystery.



**LYNNETTE BAUGHMAN** was born in Bremerton, Washington but grew up in Las Cruces, New Mexico. She is a graduate of New Mexico State University with a B.A. in English. She is married and the mother of three grown daughters. A former award winning newspaper editor, she is now freelancing and writing novels. **A SPY WITHIN** is her first novel.



**JOHN BILLHEIMER**, a native West Virginian, lives in Portola Valley, California. He holds an engineering doctorate from **Stanford** and is Vice President of **SYSTAN**, a small transportation planning firm. His first two novels, **THE CONTRARY BLUES** and **HIGHWAY ROBBERY**, tell the funny, sometimes touching stories of bus and highway scams gone wrong in the Appalachian coalfields.



**ELEANOR TAYLOR BLAND** has published eight novels in the Marti MacAlister series to date: **DEAD TIME**, **SLOW BURN**, **GONE QUIET**, **DONE WRONG**, **SEE NO EVIL**, **TELL NO TALES**, and **SCREAM IN SILENCE**. The ninth in this series, **WHISPER THE DEAD**, will be published in February 2001. Born in Boston, Bland now lives in Waukegan, Illinois. She is on the National Board of Directors of Mystery Writers of America and is a charter member and national secretary of Sisters in Crime. Bland graduated from Southern Illinois University and the College of Lake County with degrees in Accounting and Education. Abbott Laboratories employed her as a cost accountant for 17 years and presently is retired. She has two sons and four grandchildren.

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## Left Coast Crime 10 Panelists

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British-born author **RHYS BOWEN** currently lives in California, where she writes the critically acclaimed Constable Evans mystery series set in the mountains of Snowdonia. Born in Bath of an English father and Welsh mother, Bowen spent her childhood summers with relatives in a little village in North Wales, which later inspired her setting and eccentric characters. She studied at London University, as well as the Universities of Freiburg and Kiel before landing a job with BBC drama, where she began writing her own plays. Her American husband brought her to San Francisco, where they have raised four children. *EVAN AND ELLE* is her latest mystery.



**PAULA BOYD** has written for local and regional publications. Her novels have been winners in contests sponsored by Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers, Pikes Peak Writers Conference, Southwest Writers Conference and Authorlink. She recently received the RMFW Jasmine Award. Her debut mystery, *Hot Enough to Kill*, is set in a small Texas town, and Boyd declares, "As one might guess, I grew up in a small town in Texas. But that doesn't mean Kickapoo is my old hometown, nor is Readwater Falls the fictional equivalent of Wichita Falls. No, indeed. Both Holliday and Whichita Falls are fine and wondrous places full of really great people—lots of them my relatives. Consequently, no one should assume that any of the stuff I write about mirrors reality in any way. Nope, I made it all up. Really."



A professional educator for over twenty years, **KENT BRAITHWAITE** is an active member of the Mystery Writers of America, and his short fiction has appeared in a variety of mystery, sports and academic publications. His first novel, *THE WONDERLAND MURDERS*, stems from a variety of his life experiences. The mystery takes place primarily in an amusement park, similar to the one in which Braithwaite worked during college. Married with three children, Braithwaite was born and raised in Orange County, California where *THE WONDERLAND MURDERS* takes place. He spends every summer in Huntington Beach, and the rest of the year he lives in Palm Desert, California.



**SUZANNE BRATCHER** teaches writing and writing pedagogy at Northern Arizona University. She writes in a variety of genres, including non-fiction, poetry, mainstream fiction, and mystery fiction. She has published two books for elementary teachers on teaching children to write, and her articles have appeared in numerous professional publications. Her poetry and fiction have appeared in a variety of small-press publications. A recent story, "The Zucker Legacy," was chosen best of issue for the Fall, 1998 issue of *Mystery Time*.

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## Left Coast Crime 10 Panelists

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**STEVE BREWER** is the creator of the comic Bubba Mabry private eye series. St. Martin's Press, simultaneously with the Intrigue Press paperback edition of an earlier Bubba book, *WITCHY WOMAN*, published the first book in this series, *DIRTY POOL*, in March. Brewer grew up in Arkansas, but has called New Mexico home for about 15 years. He spent 22 years in the newspaper business before turning to fiction full-time in 1997. Brewer is a member of the Mystery Writers of America and sometimes teaches detective fictions in the honors program at the University of New Mexico. He lives in Albuquerque with his wife, two sons and a dog named Elvis.



Arizona cowgirl **SINCLAIR BROWNING** writes a mystery series featuring Trade Ellis—part Apache, part rancher, and all private eye against the backdrop of the modern Southwest. *THE LAST SONG DOGS* was quickly followed by the recently released *THE SPORTING CLUB*. Browning lives with her husband and assorted menagerie in Southern Arizona where she still breaks her own horses and works cattle.



**LESLIE BUDEWITZ** is a writer and a lawyer, making a life of crime in Northwest Montana. Read one story of how we live in the west today, "Driving to the War House," in *Murderous Intent Mystery Magazine* (winter 2000).



**ROBIN BURCELL** has been a police officer since 1983. She has been assigned to different details in the Investigations Division, working Crimes against Property, Persons, and Juvenile. She is a forensic artist, trained by the FBI at Quantico, Virginia. Currently she works patrol and is a member of the Hostage Negotiation Team for her department. She lives in Northern California with her husband and three children. *EVERY MOVE SHE MAKES* is her first police procedural thriller.



**JAN BURKE** is the author of *BONES*, the seventh in her series featuring newspaper reporter Irene Kelly. Her most recent short story, "An Unsuspected Condition of the Heart," is set in Regency England and appears in the *IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES* anthology edited by Lia Matera. Burke has won the Macavity and the *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* Readers Award and has received several Agatha and Anthony awards nominations. *BONES* was recently nominated for an Edgar Award. She is the President of the Southern California Chapter of the Mystery Writers of America.



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## Left Coast Crime 10 Panelists

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**TAFFY CANNON** is the author of five novels, including three mysteries featuring attorney Nan Robinson: *A POCKETFUL OF KARMA*, *TANGLED ROOTS*, and *CLASS REUNIONS ARE MURDER*. *GUNS AND ROSES*, the first in a new series of travel mysteries, will be published this year. Cannon has worked a multitude of odd jobs from carnival barker to professional feminist, but she intends her epitaph to read: "She Never Waitressed." She once correctly wagered everything on a Women Writers Daily Double as a *Jeopardy!* Contestant. Cannon is a Chicago native and graduate of Duke University. She lives in Southern California with her husband, daughter and various highly indulged cats.



**SANDRA LEVY CEREN, Ph.D.**, is a clinical psychologist in Del Mar, California. She has appeared on *Oprah*, *Good Morning America*, local and national radio, TV and in print media. For the past thirty years, she has treated a wide range of patients, including crime victims. *RECEPTION FOR TERROR* is her debut novel. This psychological thriller introduces the first in a series featuring Dr. Cory Cohen, psychologist/sleuth.



**LEE CHILD** was born 45 years ago in England, and after law school he went to work as a television director, which kept him happy for 18 years, until he was downsized out of a job in 1995. So he became a writer, because entertainment was all he knew, and the "novel is the purest form of entertainment. . .the author is one-on-one with the reader, for hours and hours at a time." Child's first novel, *KILLING FLOOR*, was an instant hit, winning the Anthony Award for Best First Novel in 1998 and the Barry Award. It was followed by *DIE TRYING* and *TRIPWIRE*, with *RUNNING BLIND* due in June 2000. All four books feature ex-US Army investigator Jack Reacher. Child moved from England to New York in 1998, where he is working on the fifth Reacher book heading for publication in 2001.



After 29 years of writing, **MARGARET (MEG) CHITTENDEN** has shed her former mild-mannered English persona and dress-for-success suits and gone country. Why the transformation? She's identifying with Charlie Plato—part owner of *CHAPS*, a country western tavern on the San Francisco Peninsula—chief sleuth in the Charlie Plato Mystery Series, and a nineties woman with an attitude suspiciously like Meg's own. See for yourself in *Dead Beat and Deadly*, the third Charlie Plato novel.



**JOYCE CHRISTMAS** is the author of 14 mysteries published by Fawcett Gold Medal, 10 featuring expatriate Brit in Manhattan, Lady Margaret Priam, who solves crimes in a society setting. Her most recent title is *DYING WELL*, to be published in June. Christmas' second series stars retired office manager and senior sleuth, Betty Trenka. The fourth in this series, *MOOD FOR MURDER*, was published last June. Her short stories have appeared in *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*; *Malice Domestic V* ("Takeout" was a Macavity nominee); *Murder, They Wrote II*; *More Murder, They Wrote*; and *Women of Mystery II*. Her profoundly moving recipe for Betty Trenka's Bean Soup appears in *A TASTE OF MURDER*.

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## Left Coast Crime 10 Panelists

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**MARK COGGINS** earned two degrees and a Phi Beta Kappa key from Stanford University. He has worked for a number of Silicon Valley computer and venture capital firms, including Netscape Communications and three (other) software start-ups. Although *THE IMMORTAL GAME* is his first novel, he introduced the character of August Riordan in a short story titled "There's No Such Thing as Private Eyes" published in "The New Black Mask," vol. 4, Harcourt, Brace Jovanovich. He lives in San Francisco with his wife, Linda, and their cat, Taki.



**DAVID COLE** co-founded NativeWeb, an Internet corporation for Native Americans and indigenous peoples of the world. He spent twenty years in theatre as playwright, director, and lighting designer, and also worked as a Production/Technical Editor in business and education. *BUTTERFLY LOST* is his first novel. He lives in Syracuse, New York, with his wife and five cats, where he also teaches online courses about social issues and is building a harpsichord.



**TESS COLLINS** graduated from the University of Kentucky with a degree in journalism. She moved to San Francisco, where she became the Manager of the Curran Theater and wrote and produced a play, "Tossing Monte". Collins has written two novels, *THE LAW OF REVENGE* and *THE LAW OF THE DEAD*, featuring lawyer Alma Bashears. Collins claims that in about 50 years or so, she plans to retire, probably to the Appalachian Mountains.



**REBECCA CRAMER** is a professor of Cultural Anthropology and Native American Studies at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kansas. She has lived and worked in the Southwest for long periods of time over the past dozen years and currently divides her time between the two areas. Born in Kansas City, Missouri, Cramer has done field research on the Caribbean island of St. Lucia and has traveled extensively through the American West and in Mexico. *THE VIEW FROM FROG MOUNTAIN*, Cramer's newest novel, will be released in March.



**BILL CRIDER** lives and works in Alvin, Texas (a.k.a. "America's Glitz Capital"). By day a mild-mannered English teacher, at night he concocts maniacal fictions about a Texas sheriff named Dan Rhodes (*DEATH BY ACCIDENT*), a retired weatherman not unlike his collaborator Willard Scott (*MURDER UNDER BLUE SKIES* and *MURDER IN THE MIST*), and even other college English teachers (*THE MURDER IS AN ART*). His wife, Judy (a.k.a. "Judy"), when not engaged in her strenuous exercise program, patiently reads Bill's manuscripts and corrects his often flagrant grammatical errors. Their collaborative story "At the Hop" appears in the anthology *TILL DEATH DO US PART* edited by Jill Morgan.

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## Left Coast Crime 10 Panelists

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**DIANE MOTT DAVIDSON** is the author of nine best-selling culinary mysteries, including *PRIME CUT*, *THE GRILLING SEASON*, and *DYING FOR CHOCOLATE*. She started writing in high school, but gave it up to study political science at Wellesley. Eventually Davidson transferred to and graduated from Stanford, and then went on to earn her M.A. in history of art at the Johns Hopkins University. After moving to Colorado, she became involved in raising a family and volunteer work. Davidson returned to writing in 1982, and in 1988 she sold her first novel, *CATERING TO NOBODY*. In 1990 she was named the Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers Writer of the Year. Davidson lives in Colorado with her husband and three sons and is working on the next *Goldy the caterer* novel.



**SHARON DENNISON**, who has written under the name of Shawna Delacorte, has lived most of her life in Los Angeles. Even though she earned her living for many years by working in television production, she's always been interested in writing. Her first published novel, *SARAH AND THE STRANGER*, was purchased by Silhouette, and Dennison received the Waldenbooks award for Best-selling Series Romance by a New Author. While temporarily residing in Kansas, Dennison plans to move to the Seattle area in the not-too-distant future. She currently is working on a mystery series.



**RAYMOND DEROUIN** has written a dozen plays, four of which were national award winners. But now that he has settled in the west, he is devoting his time to novels. *TIME TRIAL* was published in 1999. *SAN JUAN SOLUTION*, his second David Dean mystery, again set in beautiful Ouray, Colorado, will be released this June. He presently is working on the third in the series, *MOUNTAIN ICE*. Derouin is a retired insurance company vice president. He and his wife own a toy store in Ouray and winter in Apache Junction, AZ.



**DAVID DIAL** earned his undergraduate degree in creative writing from California State University at Long Beach. He is the past general coordinator of a statewide satellite of Mystery Writers of America and the former editor of *Crime Times*. Dial has written three novels, of which *FIVE FINGER DISCOUNT* is the first in the Mike Stafford and Roz Reed series. He currently is working on the second book in this series, as well as a suspense novel set in Arizona.



**DENISE DIETZ'S** first two mysteries, *THROW DARTS AT A CHEECAKE* and *BEAT UP A COOKIE*, start a diet club leader/sleuth. *FOOTPRINTS IN THE BUTTER* – An Ingrid Beaumont Mystery co-starring Hitchcock the Dog – was #8 on the Barnes & Nobel (epub) bestseller list before it was print-published by Delphi Books. Other novels include *THE RAINBOW'S FOOT*, *DREAM DANCER*, *PROMISES TO KEEP*, and *THE LANDLORD'S BLACK-EYED DAUGHTER*. Dietz lives in Colorado Springs, where she gains inspiration from the majestic mountains and her beloved Denver Broncos.

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**MICHAEL ALLEN DYMMOCH**, who has degrees in chemistry and law enforcement, lives and works in Chicago's northern suburbs. Dymmoach has served as President of the Midwest chapter of Mystery Writers of America, and is newsletter editor for the Chicagoland chapter of Sisters in Crime. **THE MAN WHO UNDERSTOOD CATS**, the first novel featuring Chicago police detective John Thinnes and psychiatrist Jack Caleb, won the St. Martin's Press *Malice Domestic Award* for Best First Traditional Mystery and received enthusiastic reviews from *The New York Times Book Review*, *Kirkus Reviews*, and *Publisher's Weekly*. **INCENDIARY DESIGNS**, Dymmoach's third book, has been favorably reviewed also.



**LISA ELFRING** is a biology educator/adjunct lecturer in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Arizona. She coordinates a master's degree program for biology teachers and teaches courses on how to use biology laboratories as effective teaching tools. She received her Ph.D. from the University of California, Santa Cruz, in Cell and Molecular Biology and went on to do postdoctoral research on genes that control embryonic development at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, a private institute affiliated with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She decided nearly three years ago to change her professional focus to science education, and feels fortunate to have found a position in science education that allowed her to move back to the West.



**MARGARET FALK** grew up in Tucson and spent her youth riding her stick horse and shooting at other kids with her cap gun. When not riding, she wrote and drew far too many pictures of horses, according to her teacher. At the age of 14, Falk traded her stick horse for a real live Navajo pony, and they explored the desert together. Falk graduated with degrees in vocal performance from the University of Arizona and went on to study voice in Europe. But she loved the desert and mornings, two things you can't have if you want to be an opera singer. So Falk returned to writing. Setting her books in the southwest, Falk has published two historicals under the name Annie McKnight and three suspense novels under the name Margaret Falk. She lives with her husband and cats in southern Arizona. She currently is working on a mystery series set in contemporary Tombstone, home of the OK Corral gunfight.



**JERRILYN FARMER** writes the wry, LA-based Madeline Bean catering mysteries, which include **SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL**, the Macavity Award winner as Best First Novel of 1998, as well as an Agatha and Anthony Award nominee, and 1999's **IMMACULATE RECEPTION**, which received a Lefty Award nomination. Her third murderously hip novel, **KILLER WEDDING**, is out just in time for LCC. Farmer also writes a wide range of television projects from comedy specials to celebrity interviews to game shows from Jeopardy! to Supermarket Sweep. In addition, she teaches mystery writing at UCLA Extension and is a board member of SoCal MWA. And Avon Books has just signed Farmer to write three more delicious Mad Bean mysteries.



As a reporter, **SCOTT FLANDER** has spent plenty of time in places that tend to make some people nervous. Out of his experience comes **SONS OF THE CITY**, a tale of cops, the black community, and the mob in Philadelphia. Born in California, he graduated from Berkeley in 1976. He now lives in Philadelphia, his adopted home.

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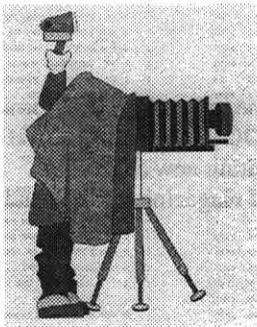
**EARLENE FOWLER** was raised in La Puente, California, by a Southern mother and a Western father. She lives in Southern California with her husband, Allen, a large number of quilts, and twenty-four pairs (at last count) of cowboy boots. She is a member of Sisters in Crime, Mystery Writers of America, and the Flying Geese Quilt Guild. She is at work on the next Benni Harper mystery, *ARKANSAS TRAVELER*, and expects book number seven in this series, *SEVEN SISTERS*, to be released in May 2000.



**DALE FURUTANI** is the first Asian American to win mystery writing awards, and his first book, *DEATH IN LITTLE TOKYO*, won the Anthony Award, the Macavity Award, and was nominated for an Agatha Award. His other books include *THE TOYOTOMI BLADES* and *DEATH AT THE CROSSROADS*. Furutani is a third-generation Japanese-American (a Sansei), who was born in Hilo, Hawaii, where his family has lived since 1896. He currently lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Sharon, and their unruly Labrador Retriever, Darby.

<http://mysterybooks.about.com>

**CATHY GALLAGHER** has been a literary columnist since 1996, first developing her own book-related website, then through her work with About.com. Gallagher is the guide to About.com's Mysteries site [<http://mysterybooks.about.com>], providing articles, interviews, news and information on the world of mystery books -- and, yes, book reviews too. She is also the managing editor to the mysteries section of the International Book Collector's Association. Gallagher is a member of the Mystery Writers of America, Sisters in Crime and the Pacific Northwest Writers Association.



**LARRY GANDLE**, a physician living in Tampa, FL, is a lifelong avid reader and has been collecting mystery fiction for over five years. His collection is somewhat eclectic, encompassing masters of the golden age (i.e. Christie, Queen, Van Dine and Woolrich), as well as modern authors, both US and British. He currently writes a column on collecting hypermodern mysteries, as well as a column reviewing first novels for the Anthony award winning *Deadly Pleasures* magazine.



**CAROLINA GARCIA-AGUILERA** has written several Lupe Solano mysteries, including *A MIRACLE IN PARADISE*, *BLOODY SECRETS*, *BLOODY SHAME*, and *BLOODY WATERS*.

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**PATRICIA GEBHARD** grew up in Minneapolis and attended college in Ohio, California and Minnesota. She has traveled extensively in Europe, the Middle and Far East, and spent a year in Turkey. She has been writing for years, but until the publication of her mystery **MOTIVES FOR MURDER**, she mainly published a book and articles on librarianship and in the field of architectural history and criticism. Like her heroine in her mystery, Gebhard has lived in Berkeley, has camped at Dinwoody Lakes, Wyoming, and has been part of a music group. She has two grown daughters and currently lives in Santa Barbara, California.



A cousin by marriage of outlaws Frank and Jesse James, **P. J. GRADY** (a.k.a. P. J. Liebson) was born and raised in Missouri, a stone's throw from "Jefftown", the Missouri State Penitentiary. She holds degrees in Comparative Literature from Washington University in St. Louis, and at one time she was a doctoral candidate in Medieval Latin at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She currently is a member of the New Mexico State Bar. Grady lives in the high desert near Santa Fe with her husband and their son. A member of Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime, she contributes a monthly column to the MWA official newsletter.



**ROBERT GREER**, author of the CJ Floyd mystery series, **THE DEVIL'S HATBAND**, **THE DEVIL'S RED NICKEL**, **THE DEVIL'S BACKBONE**, and **LIMITED TIME**, lives in Denver, where he is a practicing surgical pathologist, research scientist, and Professor of Pathology and Medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. He edits the **HIGH PLAINS LITERARY REVIEW**, reviews books for National Public Radio, and raises Black Baldy cattle on his ranch near Steamboat Springs, Colorado. He currently is working on his fifth novel.



Born in England, **PATRICIA GUIVER** now makes her home in Southern California, the setting of her pet detective series. The latest, **DELILAH DOOLITTLE AND THE MISSING MACAW**, is just out from Berkley. When not creating new capers for Delilah and her ex-pat chums, Guiver writes short stories and magazine features and volunteers for the local SPCA.



**ELIZABETH GUNN** grew up in southeast Minnesota, the setting of the Jake Hines mysteries. After graduating from the University of Minnesota, she yielded to an impulse to drift: she and her husband have lived all over the United States, as well as in Spain and Mexico, and have traveled extensively on both coasts by sailboat and trawler. A pilot, certified SCUBA diver, and a freelance travel writer, she currently lives in Tucson, Arizona, where she spends many hours each week hiking in the nearby Rocky Mountains. "I like to try things," she says.

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Courses in physical and cultural anthropology at the University of Toronto inspired an interest in ancient cultures that **LYN HAMILTON** has pursued ever since. She is the author of a series of archaeological mysteries featuring antiques shopowner Lara McClintoch, who travels the world in search of the rare and beautiful, finding more than a little murder and mayhem along the way. The first in the series, *THE XIBALBA MURDERS*, was nominated for an Arthur Ellis award for best first crime novel in Canada.



**STEVE HAMILTON** was born and raised in the Detroit area and graduated from the University of Michigan. He currently works for IBM in upstate New York, where he lives with his wife and two children. *A COLD DAY IN PARADISE* won the Private Eye Writers of America/St. Martin's Press Award for Best First Private Eye Novel for 1997. It received an Edgar Award for Best First Mystery by an American Author, a Shamus Award for Best First Private Eye Novel, and was a finalist for the Anthony Award for Best First Novel. Hamilton's second Alex McKnight novel, *WINTER OF THE WOLF MOON*, was released in February.



**LEE HARRIS** is the author of the series featuring Christine Bennett, a thirty-year old ex-nun who is newly released from her vows in her first appearance. *The Good Friday Murder*, which launched the series, was nominated for an Edgar in 1993. Since then, ten books have followed, the most recent being *The Father's Day Murder*. Harris works almost constantly, taking periodic breatherers for meals, swimming, and occasional vacations, conferences and trips with her writer friends. And now to Arizona for Left Coast.



**GINI HARTZMARK** attended the law and business schools of the University of Chicago and was a business and economics writer. She has written articles on a variety of topics for the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and a number of national magazines. She is also the author of the Kate Millholland novels: *PRINCIPAL DEFENSE*, *FINAL OPTION*, *BITTER BUSINESS*, *FATAL REACTION*, and *ROUGH TRADE*. Hartzmark and her husband live in Arizona with their three children.



**PETE HAUTMAN** divides his time between Tucson, Arizona (most of the time) and the miniscule but ever-so-charming town of Stockholm, Wisconsin (in the summer). He lives with mystery writer and poet Mary Logue and an unmatched pair of rottweilers. His novels *DRAWING DEAD* and *THE MORTAL NUTS* were selected as New York Times Book Review Notable Books (1993 and 1996). *MR. WAS* was listed as an ALA Best Book (1996), named Young Adult Book of the Year by the Michigan Library Association, and nominated for an Edgar Award by the Mystery Writers of America. His most recent novel, *MRS. MILLION*, is about a lottery winner who uses her winnings to put a reward on her runaway husband.

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**STEVEN F. HAVILL** has been writing novels since 1981, when his first novel, **THE KILLER**, was published by Doubleday & Co. That novel was nominated for a Western Writer's Association Medicine Pipe Bearer's Award, and Havill went on to write three more "medical westerns", including **THE WORST ENEMY**, **LEADFIRE** and **TIMBER BLOOD**. Since 1991, Havill has been writing the Undersheriff Bill Gastner mystery series set in the fictitious New Mexican town of Posadas. The 8<sup>th</sup> book in this series, **DEAD WEIGHT**, is scheduled for a fall 2000 release. In addition to writing mysteries, Havill is a long-time instructor for the various novel writing workshops offered by *Writer's Digest* of Cincinnati, Ohio, and is a full-time 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher in Ruidoso. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Lincoln, New Mexico, where he is *not* working on a book about Billy the Kid.



**L.C. HAYDEN** has been publishing fiction, non-fiction, and poetry since 1975 in various magazines, periodicals and newspapers. To date, she has sold over four hundred pieces. She holds a Master's degree in Creative Writing from the University of Texas at El Paso. Besides writing, Hayden enjoys drawing, reading, traveling, and scuba diving. Hayden, a high school English teacher, lives with her husband and two sons in El Paso. Her next mystery/suspense novel, **WHEN COLETTE DIED**, is set in Las Vegas and should be released this summer. Hayden's third novel brings back Detective Harry Bronson who was introduced in **WHO'S SUSAN?**



**VICTORIA HECKMAN** was born and raised in San Diego, California. She obtained a B.A. in theatre at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and stayed in Hawaii for thirteen years. She has been involved in most aspects of performing from directing, acting, and choreography, to costuming and special effects make up. She began writing two years ago and has published three short stories and articles for various magazines and newsletters. She completed her first mystery novel, **K.O'D IN HONOLULU**, that features Katrina Ogden of the Honolulu Police Department. Heckman currently is working on a stand-alone mystery, **PEARL HARBOR BLUES**.



**WILLETTA L. HEISING** has been collecting awards and devoted fans since 1995 for her mystery series reader's guides—**DETECTING WOMEN**, now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, and **DETECTING MEN**. Before launching Purple Moon Press, Heising spent 18 years in bank marketing. Born in Coronado, California, she has lived in the Detroit area since graduate school.



**JULIE WRAY HERMAN** currently lives on a small farm outside Houston, Texas, with her long-suffering husband, three well-behaved children, one dog, three cats, two horses, and the creature that lurks in the pond. **THREE DIRTY WOMEN AND THE GARDEN OF DEATH** is her first novel.



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**EDWARD D. HOCH** is a past-president of Mystery Writers of America and winner of its Edgar Award for best short story in 1968. He has published over 800 short stories and nearly 50 novels, collections and anthologies, with stories appearing in every issue of *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine* since 1973. For twenty years he edited *The Year's Best Mystery and Suspense Stories* and is active in professional and fan organizations. In 1991 he was Guest of Honor at the annual Bouchercon convention of mystery writers and fans, and in 1998 he received the conventions Anthony Award for Best Short Story. Hoch was born in Rochester, New York, in 1930 and lives there with his wife, Patricia. He recently completed 16 years of service as a trustee of the Rochester Public Library.



**JOYCE HOLLAND** lives with her husband on a small barrier island off Florida's Emerald Coast, but they spend much of the year traveling the rivers of America on their houseboat, *MUSTANG BOAT DOLLIES* is the first in the Sally Malone mystery series. *BEYOND GULF BREEZE*, the second title in this series, will be released in Spring 2000.



**JONNIE JACOBS** is the author of six novels in two ongoing mystery series—one featuring attorney Kali O'Brien; the other, amateur sleuth Kate Austen. She also has written a number of short stories and essays. Jacobs was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley and a law degree from UC's Boalt Hall School of Law. In addition, she holds graduate degrees, in English from the University of Michigan, and in counseling from California State University. She is an active member of Sisters in Crime, Mystery Writers of America, Novelists, Inc., and has served on the Edgar Awards committee. A former practicing attorney, she lives near San Francisco with her husband and two sons and writes full time.



Called "one of the country's most popular mystery writers," by the *Portland Oregonian*, **J. A. JANCE**, winner of the American Mystery Award, is known for her Joanna Brady Mysteries, as well as her other recurring character, Seattle detective J. P. Beaumont. Several of Jance's novels have been national bestsellers, including *RATTLESNAKE CROSSING*, *SKELETON CANYON*, *DEAD TO RIGHTS*, and *NAME WITHHELD*. Born in South Dakota and brought up in Bisbee, Arizona, Jance lives with her husband in Seattle.



**STAN JONES** was born and lives in Anchorage, Alaska. An environmentalist and prize-winning journalist, he also is a bush pilot and has flown all over northwest Alaska. Jones introduced his protagonist Alaskan State Trooper Nathan Active in *WHITE SKY, BLACK ICE*.

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**CHRISTINE T. JORGENSEN** writes the humorous Stella the Stargazer series featuring Stella, the quirky, star-crossed author of an astrological columnist for the lovelorn in the Denver weekly paper, the Denver Daily Orion. The series includes *A LOVE TO DIE FOR*, *YOU BET YOUR LIFE*, *CURL UP AND DIE*, *DEATH OF A DUSTBUNNY* and *DEAD ON HER FEET*. A Denver resident for thirty years, Jorgensen hails from a small town in the mid-west. Jorgensen's day job for more than twenty-five years was as a social worker, primarily in the field of child protection and pediatric rehabilitation.



**LARRY KARP**, a long-time collector and amateur restorer of antique music boxes, drew on his experience in writing *THE MUSIC BOX MURDERS*, the first book in a series featuring amateur sleuth Thomas Purdue. The second Purdue adventure, *SCAMMING THE BIRDMAN*, is due out this March. Karp received the 1997 Bowers Literary Award for "outstanding literary contributions to the field of automatic music" from the Musical Box Society International. A former physician, Karp founded and directed the Prenatal Diagnosis Center at the University of Washington, and the Department of Perinatal Medicine at Swedish Medical Center, Seattle. He's presently at work on the third Purdue mystery, provisionally titled *THE MIDNIGHT SPECIAL*.



**CAROL MCGINNIS KAY** is a recovering administrator and currently Professor of English at the University of South Carolina. She credits detective novels with keeping her at least relatively sane during her administrative years—unlike her daily life, they demonstrated again and again that even the most impossible puzzles do have solutions if you just keep working at them, and that there is a world in which the good survive and the wicked are caught. She is the co-author of "G" IS FOR GRAFTON: *THE WORLD OF KINSEY MILLHONE*, which won an Edgar for best critical work in 1997. Along with co-author Natalie Hevener Kaufman, she currently is revising "G" to include "N" IS FOR NOOSE AND "O" IS FOR OUTLAW for release in paperback this year.



Named by noted *L.A. Times* mystery reviewer Charles Champlin as one of ten women writing "superior crime fiction," **ROCHELLE KRICH** won the Anthony Award for her first suspense novel, *WHERE'S MOMMY NOW?*, which was filmed as "Perfect Alibi" with Teri Garr, Kathleen Quinlan, and Hector Elizondo. Her stand-alone mysteries include *TILL DEATH DO US PART*, *NOWHERE TO RUN*, *SPEAK NO EVIL*, and *FERTILE GROUND*. Her series character, LAPD Detective Jessica Drake, debuted in *FAIR GAME* and returned in *ANGEL OF DEATH*. Both novels were nominated for the Agatha. The fourth Jessie Drake mystery, *DEAD AIR*, will be published in March, 2000. Krich is working currently on another Jessie Drake mystery for Avon, tentatively titled *WAYWARD SON*.

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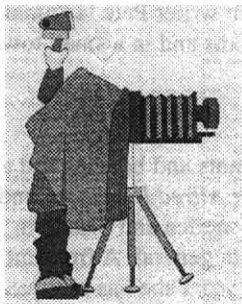
**KEN KUHLEN'S** first novel, *MIDHEAVEN*, was honored as a finalist for PEN's Ernest Hemingway Award for best first-published fiction book of the year. His second novel, *THE LOUD ADIOS*, the first of a series that begins in the 1940s, won the St. Martin's /PWA Best First Novel award. The next two books in the series are *THE VENUS DEAL* and *THE ANGEL GANG*, both from St. Martin's. Since earning a Master of Fine Arts degree in fiction from the University of Iowa in 1978, Kuhlken has taught creative writing and literature at San Diego State University, The University of Arizona, California State University at Chico, University of San Diego and Southwestern College. Currently he's with Christian Heritage College.



A mystery reader since 1943, **MARVIN LACHMAN** contributed an article to the first issue of *THE ARMCHAIR DETECTIVE* in 1967 and since then has written articles and reviews for virtually every mystery reference book and journal. He was co-author and co-editor of *DETECTIONARY* (1971) and the Edgar-winning *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MYSTERY AND DETECTION* (1976). He wrote *A READER'S GUIDE TO THE AMERICAN NOVEL OF DETECTION* (1993), that was nominated, for the Edgar, Agatha, Anthony, and Macavity awards. In 1997, Mystery Writers of America presented him with their Raven Award for his life-long activities in the mystery field. His next book, *THE AMERICAN REGIONAL MYSTERY*, is scheduled for publication later this year.



**JANET LAPIERRE** is a native Midwesterner by happenstance, born to a young, Florida-bound couple who ran out of money in Iowa and stayed for twenty years and three children. She attended college in Arizona, and moved to Northern California after graduation. LaPierre taught high school students before deciding to write mysteries. She has written six novels, including *BABY MINE*, *OLD ENEMIES* and *GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE*, and nine short stories. She still lives in Northern California, where she sets most of her books.



**CYNTHIA LAWRENCE** made her debut in 1993 with the publication of *TAKE-OUT CITY*. Her short stories have appeared in *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine* and in *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*. In addition to authoring six children's books, she is editing two books to be released this Spring: *A DEADLY DOZEN*, the new anthology from the Los Angeles Chapter of Sisters in Crime, and a Thai foods cookbook. Lawrence is a UCLA graduate and currently is a member of Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America.



**MARTHA C. LAWRENCE** grew up in a haunted house in Rancho Santa Fe, California, near the site that would eventually house the Heaven's Gate cult. Lawrence has worked as a book editor, a professional astrologer, and a business writer. Inspired by her own psychic experiences, she began her astrological mystery series featuring Dr. Elizabeth Chase, a licensed P.I. and parapsychologist. Her *MURDER IN SCORPIO* was nominated for the Edgar, Agatha and Anthony Awards in 1996 and was followed soon after by the critically acclaimed sequels *THE COLD HEART OF CAPRICORN* and *AQUARIUS DESCENDING*. Her newest novel is *PISCES RISING*.

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**ROBERT S. LEVINSON** has spent years as a newspaperman, public relations executive, and television writer-producer. He draws upon experience gained in these areas in his first novel, *THE ELVIS AND MARILYN AFFAIR*, that introduced Los Angeles newspaper columnist Neil Guilliver and his actress ex-wife Stevie Marriner. Levinson presently is at work on his third Neil and Stevie book, which he says has a working title of *THE HARRY POTTER AFFAIR*. ("It was either that or *THE 2001 AFFAIR: A SPACE ODYSSEY*," he says.) Levinson resides with his wife, Sandra, in Los Angeles.



**N. J. LINDQUIST** has published over 80 articles as well as a number of short stories. She has been a columnist for the *Markham Economist-Sun* and the editor of *Cell Life FORUM*, and she has written two fiction and two non-fiction books for teens. *SHADED LIGHT: A MANZIUK & RYAN MYSTERY*, is her first adult novel. Lindquist is a member of the Canadian Author's Association, Crime Writers of Canada, International Association of Crime Writers, Sisters in Crime, Christian Writers Fellowship International, and InScribe. She has taught various aspects of writing since 1992. Formerly from the Canadian prairies, Lindquist lives with her family in the Toronto, Ontario area, where she currently is working on her second Manziuk and Ryan mystery., where she currently is working on her second Manziuk and Ryan mystery.



Born in Minnesota, **MARY LOGUE** has also lived in New York City, Tucson, France, and Belgium. She has taught poetry and suspense fiction at The Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis, took part in "Writer-in-the-Schools", a statewide teaching program in Minnesota, and was an Adjunct Professor in the English Department and MALS Program at Hamline University in St. Paul. A former editor at Graywolf Press and manuscript consultant and copy editor at Simon & Schuster, Logue also has reviewed books for the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*, the *Hungry Mind Review*, and the *Village Voice*. She is currently a freelance manuscript consultant and a writer and editor at The Creative Company (a children's press located in Mankato, Minnesota). In addition to *BLOOD COUNTRY*, Logue is the author of two mysteries (*RED LAKE OF THE HEART*, 1987, and *STILL EXPLOSION*, 1993). She lives with writer Pete Hautman and two toy poodles in Tucson, Arizona during the winter months and in a small town in Wisconsin during the summer.



From artist to writer, **CAROL DAVIS LUCE** put aside her paints and brushes and took up pen and paper. In addition to five novels, she has written for *Alfred Hitchcock* and *Writer's Digest Magazine*. A member of Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime, Luce enjoys book signings, interviews, and promotion in general. A frequent speaker at writer's conferences and seminars, for the past four years she has critiqued the Mystery/Suspense category for the Southwest Writers Workshop annual contest. Luce lives in Sparks, Nevada and is a co-founder of the UNNAMED WRITERS GROUP.

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**WILLIAM MANCHEE**, a Dallas lawyer of some 22 years, received a B.A. from UCLA and J.D. from SMU. He began writing in 1995 and has four published novels. He recently started a publishing company, Top Publications, which has three authors and six titles. He and his wife, Janet, have been married 31 years and raised four children. Manchee's latest novel is *DEATH PACT*, a romantic mystery set in Dallas in the late 70's. Also in the works is a screenplay on his first novel, *TWICE TEMPTED*, which is under option to Golden Moon Films of Dallas.



**JAMES MARTIN** graduated with a bachelor's degree in English and history from Ohio State University. After teaching junior and high school English for a few years, he became a police officer. At the same time, he moonlighted as a reporter for the *Lorain Journal*. In 1983, he became a special investigator for the State of Ohio, until a heart attack and subsequent surgery ended his active law enforcement career. Martin then concentrated on writing, and he has published five novels and has several more in development. He has his wife now live in Tucson.



**MAGGIE MASON** has been a mystery reader since introduced to Nancy Drew when she was a child. She has been a mystery bookseller on a full-time basis since she retired from the "worst job in the world" working for the County of San Diego. She plans to retire from bookselling at the end of Y2K, if all goes well. She will then be able to adopt a couple of golden retrievers, which has been her life's goal made difficult by her severe allergies to dogs. Look for Mason at most mystery conventions (listen for the weird, award winning - really - laugh) and as a character in various mystery novels. Mason was the first ever Fan Guest of Honor at Left Coast Crime in Boulder) and was one of the 2 Fan Guests of Honor at Bouchercon in Milwaukee. She reviews articles for *Deadly Pleasures* magazine.



**ALEX MATTHEWS'** recently published book, *WANTON'S WEB*, is the fourth in her mystery series featuring Cassidy McCabe, a psychotherapist-sleuth who sees clients and solves mysteries out of her Oak Park, Illinois, home. Matthews recently received the Reader's Choice Award for Best Series Character. A psychotherapist in private practice with his husband Allen, Matthews writes mysteries that reflect her interest in feminism, relationships and cats (her fictional cat is a character, not a pet!).



**SAM MCCARVER** is a life-long mystery and history buff. He drew upon these interests in writing his John Darnell mystery novels. The first in this series, *THE CASE OF CABIN 13*, is set aboard the Titanic. The second John Darnell mystery, *THE CASE OF OMPARTMENT 7*, is set aboard the Orient Express. McCarver lives in Southern California. When not writing himself, he also teaches an adult creative writing class.

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A writer and filmmaker, **LISE MCCLENDON** reviewed films and taught college-level broadcasting before turning to fiction writing. A life-long love of art led McClendon to a job in an art gallery and later to writing the Alix Thorssen series, focusing on an art dealer. **NORDIC NIGHTS**, the third in this series, follows **THE BLUEJAY SHAMAN** (1994) and **PAINTED TRUTH** (1995). Educated in Nebraska and Missouri, McClendon currently lives in Billings, Montana, with her husband and two sons.



**MICHAEL MCGARRITY**, a former police officer and psychotherapist, is the author of **TULAROSA**, which was nominated for an Anthony Award. He also has written **MEXICAN HAT**, **SERPENT GATE** and **HERMIT'S PEAK**. **THE JUDAS JUDGE** will be released this July. A former deputy sheriff with Sante Fe County, McGarrity established the sex crime unit, led it to award-winning status, and was recognized as officer of the year for his efforts. He has served as an instructor at the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy and as an investigator for several state agencies. Since the publication of **TULAROSA** in 1996, he has been writing full time in Sante Fe, New Mexico.



**DENNIS MCMILLAN** has published 60 hardback and 20 trade paperback mystery and outré special editions since 1983. He and his wife live in Tucson, where they run Dennis McMillan Publications.



**MARLYS MILLHISER** is the author of eleven published and two unpublished novels and numerous short stories in anthologies. Her latest mystery novel, **NOBODY DIES IN A CASINO**, is the fifth in the Charlie Greene series which features an unwed mother, Hollywood literary agent, natural psychic in denial, and reluctant sleuth—all the same person. Millhiser is perhaps best known for an earlier novel, **THE MIRROR**, which has been reissued in a trade paperback edition. She is a member of Sisters in Crime, Mystery Writers of America, the Authors' Guild, Western Writers of America, Women Writing the West, Colorado Authors' League, and the American Crime Writers League. Millhiser lives in Boulder, Colorado.



**JOAN MONTGOMERY** is the sole owner of an internet mystery bookstore, **Murder On The Net**, based in Denver, Colorado. A collector turned dealer, Montgomery began collecting mysteries in the early 90's. She is a Certified Public Accountant, with a background of many years of public accounting experience, conversions of computerized accounting systems, and controllerships of both public and private companies.

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**BILL MOODY** grew up in southern California but now lives near San Francisco. After four years in the Air Force, he studied at Berklee College of Music in Boston, where he was literally plucked from the classroom to join pianist Jr. Mance and legendary singer Jimmy Rushing. Moody went on to join singer Lou Rawls, and then later, pianist Earl Fatha Hines. *SOLO HAND*, the first in his series featuring jazz pianist-sleuth Evan Horne, was followed by *DEATH OF A TENON MAN*, *THE SOUND OF THE TRUMPET* and *BIRD LIVES!* A professional jazz drummer and noted critic, Moody also teaches creative writing at Sonoma State University.



**KRIS NERI** is the author of over forty mystery short stories, published in such notable publications as *Blue Murder Magazine*, *Mystery Time*, *Murderous Intent*, *TheCase.com*, and *Woman's World*, to name a few. She is a two-time recipient of the Coveted Derringer Award. She is a member of the Mystery Writers of America, the American Crime Writers League, as well as a member of Sisters In Crime and a past president of the Los Angeles Chapter. She lives in Southern California, where she is currently working on *DEM BONES' REVENGE*, the second in her Tracy Eaton mystery series that debuted with *REVENGE OF THE GYPSY QUEEN*.



**MICHAEL NEWTON** has published 146 books since 1977, with 15 more pending release from various publishers through the year 2001. Although most of his work has been fiction, with novels published under his own and various pen names, Newton is best known for his work in true-crime, specifically the subject areas of serial murder, cults, and terrorism. Recent titles include *THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SERIAL KILLERS*, *ROPE*, and *WASTE LAND*.



**GARY WARREN NIEBUHR** is the Library Director for the Village of Greendale in Wisconsin. He holds a Master of Arts Degree in Library Science from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. He is married to Denice Niebuhr, a kindergarten teacher, and they live in Milwaukee with their cat, Groucho. Besides his love for the mystery, Niebuhr is an avid motor racing fan and gardener. He currently is working on a guide to the mystery genre for librarians called *MYSTERYFLECTING* that will be published by Libraries Unlimited in the near future. He is the author of *A READER'S GUIDE TO THE PRIVATE EYE NOVEL*, published by G. K. Hall in 1993. This work was nominated for an Anthony Award as one of the best reference books of 1993 at the Bouchercon World Mystery Conference held in Seattle in 1994. Niebuhr operates P.I.E.S. (Private Investigator Entertainment Service), a mail order catalog of new and used private eye fiction, and a publishing effort under the My Books imprint.



**MAXINE O'CALLAGHAN** writes novels of mystery and dark suspense. Her Delilah West series has been credited by many critics as being the first of the new female private investigators. O'Callaghan began her writing career twenty-five years ago after her two children were in school, and she sold the first short story she submitted to *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*. Her last novel, *DOWN FOR THE COUNT*, was nominated for the Shamus Award. In 1999, O'Callaghan received The Eye, Lifetime Achievement Award from Private Eye Writers of America for her contribution to the field of private eye writing. O'Callaghan is a member of Mystery Writers of America, Private Eye Writers of America, Sisters in Crime, and the American Crime Writers League. She serves on the Creative Writing Advisory Board at California State University/Fullerton's University Extended Education writer's program.

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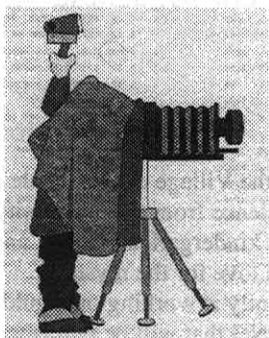
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**STEVE OLIVER** is a former journalist, technical writer and taxi driver. He taught electronics and stood guard duty for the U.S. Army in Saigon during the 1960s, and spent time in a mental hospital in the 1970s. He worked as a trainer and writer for Microsoft during the 1980s and 1990s. His first book, **MOODY GETS THE BLUES**, was published in 1996. The second mystery in the Moody series, **MOODY FOREFVER**, was published in 1998. Oliver is working on a third mystery, **MOODY IN WINTER**, which is due out in the fall of 2000.



**MARY PACIOS**, author of **CHILDHOOD SHADOWS: THE HIDDEN STORY OF THE BLACK DAHLIA MURDER**, brings a different perspective to the reconsideration of one of Hollywood's most infamous unsolved murders. Pacios knew the victim, Elizabeth Short, as a friend and neighbor for over ten years. Haunted by the unsolved murder, forty years later Pacios set out to discover the true circumstances surrounding her friend's death. What Pacios thought would take a few months of research turned into a ten-year odyssey. A producer of a documentary about the Black Dahlia murder (scheduled to air on the History Channel March 21 and 26), said, "**CHILDHOOD SHADOWS** is the best researched, most comprehensive book on the Black Dahlia ever written." Pacios is an artist and writer with a special interest in urban affairs, social change, and history. A lecturer on college campuses, she's written and edited essays, reports, and technical papers dealing with environmental issues, social change, and contemporary printmaking.



**T. JEFFERSON PARKER** has written **LAGUNA HEAT**, **RED LIGHT**, **THE BLUE HOUR**, **WHERE SERPENTS LIE**, and **THE TRIGGERMAN'S DANCE**.



With over 6 million copies of his work in print, **RIDLEY PEARSON** is the best-selling author of eleven novels, including **BEYOND RECOGNITION**, **CHAIN OF EVIDENCE**, **PROBABLE CAUSE** and **UNDERCURRENTS**. He was the first American to be awarded the Raymond Chandler/Fulbright Fellowship in detective fiction at Oxford University. He lives with his wife and daughter in the Northwest.



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**JOANNE PENCE** was born and raised in San Francisco, the setting for her Angie Amalfi mystery series. A graduate of U. C. Berkeley with a master's degree in journalism, Pence has taught school in Japan, written for magazines, and worked as an operations analysis manager. Pence's background, as well as her Italian and Spanish heritage, are reflected in her critically acclaimed, award-winning mystery series featuring an underemployed journalist/gourmet cook and a San Francisco homicide inspector. Pence now lives north of San Francisco with her husband, two sons, three cats and a golden retriever. She is *not* a gourmet cook.



**GARY PHILLIPS** was born in South-Central Los Angeles and started writing when he was in his teens. He is the author of the crime novels *VIOLENT SPRING*, *Perdition*, *U.S.A.*, and *BAD NIGHT IS FALLING*, which revolve around black detective Ivan Monk. He plans to introduce two new series characters, Martha Chainey and Marley, in separate books. Unlike Zelmont, the main character in 1999's *THE JOOK*, Phillips can't catch a football with a damn—that's why he was a lineman in school. These days Phillips occasionally loses money at the poker table, watches his kids play sports, and finds that walking the dog is a fine excuse to light up a stogie.



**BUZZ POVERMAN** was born in New Haven, Connecticut, and graduated from Yale University. The recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship to India, he traveled widely in Southeast Asia before working for his M.F.A. at the University of Iowa. He has published three novels, *SUSAN*, *SOLOMON'S DAUGHTER*, and *MY FATHER IN DREAMS*. He teaches English at The University of Arizona in Tucson, where he lives with his wife and two children.



**SUZANNE PROULX** was born in California, was educated mostly in Oklahoma, and now lives in Denver, where she passes as a native. She types fast, spells well, and thinks she may have set some sort of record for the number and variety of jobs she has held since college. (But then again, maybe not.)



**FATHER BRAD REYNOLDS**, a Jesuit priest, is author of the Father Mark Townsend mystery novels. Avon Books has published four in the series: *The Story Knife*; *A Ritual Death*; *Cruel Sanctuary*; and *Deadly Harvest*. Reynolds has worked as both a photographer and author, with over 500 photographs and 150 articles in print in such publications as *National Geographic*, *America*, *American Scholar*, *New Orleans Review*, *National Catholic Reporter*, *Pacific Northwest Magazine*, *Anchorage Daily News*, *Seattle Times*, and *The Critic*. Currently, Father Reynolds directs formation and training for the Jesuit order in the Pacific Northwest and is also the Executive Assistant at the Jesuit Provincial Office in Portland, Oregon.

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**RICK RIORDAN** is the author of the Tres Navarre mystery series, set in San Antonio. His first novel, *BIG RED TEQUILA*, won the Anthony Award for Best Paperback Original of 1997 and the Shamus Award for Best First Private Eye Novel. His second novel, *THE WIDOWER'S TWO-STEP*, won the Edgar Award for Best Paperback Original of 1998 and was nominated for the Shamus and Anthony Awards. Riordan's third Tres Navarre mystery, *THE LAST KING OF TEXAS* was released in January. In addition to writing, Riordan teaches middle school English. He lives in San Antonio with his wife and two sons.



**J. R. RIPLEY**, author of the Tony Kozol mystery series (*STIFF IN THE FREEZER* and *SKULLS OF SEDONA*), is also the author of the Big Deal series of chapter books for children, written as Glenn Meganck.



**LORA ROBERTS** has spent the last few years writing about Liz Sullivan, who also lives in Palo Alto, California and tries to make a living from writing. Liz's fictional life, however, is much more exciting than Lora's real life. Liz has a dog, an old VW bus, and the need to work at temp jobs every so often to replenish her coffers. In May, she appears in *MURDER FOLLOWS MONEY*, where Liz gets into trouble involving a famous life-style maven (mot, of course, Martha Stewart or anyone who in any way resembles her, according to Lora's attorneys). Previous books in this series include *MURDER IN A NICE NEIGHBORHOOD*, *MURDER IN THE MARKETPLACE*, *MURDER MILE-HIGH*, *MURDER BONE BY BONE*, and *MURDER CROPS UP*.



**PETER ROBINSON** was born in Yorkshire, England. He is the author of the Inspector Banks series, the first of which, *GALLOWS VIEW*, was nominated for the John Creasey Award by the Crime Writers Association and the Arthur Ellis Award by the Crime Writers of Canada. Three times recipient of the Ellis Award, Robinson has also been twice nominated for an Edgar (*WEDNESDAY'S CHILD*, 1994, and *IN A DRY SEASON*, 1999), and for the Hammett Award (*INNOCENT GRAVES*, 1996). His short story "The Two Ladies of Rose Cottage," which first appeared in the *MALICE 6* anthology, was nominated for both the Agatha and Anthony awards, and won the Macavity in 1998. The story also appeared in his Collection *NOT SAFE AFTER DARK AND OTHER STORIES*, published by Crippen & Landru in 1998. He has a short story called "Murder in Utopia" in *CRIME THROUGH TIME III*, and the eleventh Inspector Banks novel, *COLD IS THE GRAVE*, will be published by Avon/HarperCollins in September, 2000. Robinson now lives in Toronto, Canada.



**CHRIS ROGERS** has written nine novels plus numerous screenplays, short stories and non-fiction books. Her latest novel in the Dixie Flannigan mystery series, *CHILL FACTOR*, was just released in February. Other books in this series include *BITCH FACTOR* and *RAGE FACTOR*. Rogers lives in Houston, where she works full-time in the internal audit department at Bank United. She also teaches a popular course in mystery writing at the Rice University School of Continuing Studies.

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<http://www.murderonthemenu.com/mystery>

**JANET A. RUDOLPH** is the Director of Mystery Readers International, Editor of *The Mystery Readers Journal*, a teacher of mystery fiction, moderator of one of the longest running mystery book groups in California, and a columnist for *The Third Degree*. She received a Ph.D. in religion and literature specializing in mystery fiction. *The Mystery Readers Journal*, her brainchild, is the official publication of Mystery Readers International. *Murder on the Menu*,® however, is where Rudolph focuses most of her mystery energy. She writes all the customized “fair-play” mystery scripts for *Murder on the Menu*, California's #1 interactive mystery and teambuilding company. Rudolph finds writing theatrical mystery events a challenging and interesting twist on the mystery genre. She lives in the Berkeley Hills with a golden retriever and more than one feline companion.



After a severe head injury terminated her flying career, Alaskan aviator **MEGAN RUST** returned to the sky as air ambulance pilot Taylor Morgan, protagonist of her Alaska mediflight mystery series. She finds flying as her alter ego more fun than flying as a real-life human being because it allows her to have exciting, heart-pounding adventures without even getting out of her pajamas. The third book in this series, *COFFIN CORNER*, will appear in bookstores this spring, alongside *RED LINE* (Berkley, 1999) and *DEAD STICK* (1998).



**SARAH ST. PETER** is a professional standup comic who has traveled nationwide working with such comedy favorites as Ellen Degeneres, Margaret Smith, and Rich Hall. She has performed in comedy clubs with popular Denver improvisational comedy troupe, *Plastered in Paris*. She currently is working on a graduate degree in Clinical Psychology and her second novel, *TO DIE LAUGHING*. She shares time between Denver, Colorado, and her hometown in Kansas. She is an active member of Sisters in Crime, DorothyL, and Mystery Writers of America.



**MARY SAUMS** grew up in a small town in Alabama. After studying Voice and Piano in college, she worked as a recording engineer in the Muscle Shoals area on gold and platinum albums by Bob Dylan, Jimmy Buffett, and many other artists. An award-winning poet and short story writer, Saums has published works in *Red Herring Mystery Magazine*, *Future*, *Lonzie's Fried Chicken Literary Magazine*, and the anthology *SOUTHERN VOICES IN EVERY DIRECTION*. Her first novel, *MIDNIGHT HOUR*, was released in January.



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**BARBARA SERANELLA** was born in Santa Monica and grew up in Pacific Palisades. After a restless childhood that included running away from home at 14, joining a hippie commune in the Haight, and riding with outlaw motorcycle clubs, she decided to settle down and do something normal, so she became an auto mechanic for 17 years. In 1993 she retired from that to pursue the writing life. Seranella's first novel, *NO HUMAN INVOLVED*, made Amazon.com's list of best ten mysteries of 1997. The third book in this series, *UNWANTED COMPANY*, was published in December, 1999. Seranella divides her time between her homes in Laguna Beach and La Quinta, California, where she lives with her husband, Ron, and their three dogs.



**TAMMIE SCHMID-THOMPSON** is a freelance writer living in Dallas/Ft. Worth. Her publishing credits include fiction and non-fiction in *Futures*, *Grit*, *Inklings* and *EcoFlorida* magazines. She also works on web content and has written 100 music profiles for an online digital library. She has completed two books in a mystery series and is currently working on a thriller set in Ft. Worth. Schmid-Thompson can be reached at [cloakndagger@home.com](mailto:cloakndagger@home.com) and can generally be found stalking the hallways of most major mystery conventions.



**CONNIE SHELTON** is the author of the Charlie Parker mystery series, set in her hometown of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Since 1975 Shelton has been a commercial hot air balloon pilot and currently holds the women's world altitude record for size AX-4 balloons. Besides writing five Charlie Parker mysteries, Shelton is an award-winning essayist. She founded and operated her own publishing company for five years. Her work has been published in several anthologies, and her short stories have won several prizes. She lives in northern New Mexico with her husband.



**T. MACDONALD SKILLMAN** began plotting murder and mayhem at an early age. An only child, her childhood imagination laid the foundation for her suspense novels *SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER* and *BURIED SECRETS*. She raised a daughter and son, whose relatively uneventful childhoods added little to her knowledge of legal systems or prison procedures. Her supportive husband failed to provide research opportunities into domestic violence. Luckily, her twenty-five year banking career sparked enough murderous thoughts to lend some personal insight into the criminal mind. A native of Shelbyville, Indiana, Skillman and her husband now live in Wichita Falls, Texas.



Twenty-eight years in the Southwest gives **SUSAN SLATER** the credentials to write a believable Pueblo Indian series. *THE PUMPKIN SEED MASSACRE*, her first Ben Pecos mystery, sold out in 3 months. Her second novel, *YELLOW LIES*, will be out this fall. By day, Slater is a Human Resources manager for a venture capital firm located in Santa Fe; by night, she teaches technical and creative writing.

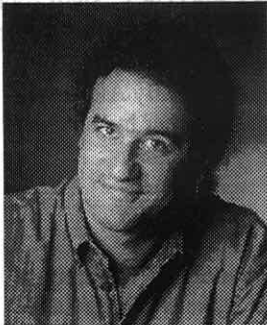
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**TAYLOR SMITH** is a southern California transplant from Canada. She spent twelve years as a diplomat, intelligence analyst, and Privy Council Officer. As a diplomat, she was a United Nations delegate specializing in human rights issues. Working the Eastern European desk at headquarters, she covered Soviet satellite nations and dodged surveillance during fact-finding trips to the area. As a Privy Council advisor to the Prime Minister and Cabinet, part of her duties included foreign intelligence liaison with the CIA and Britain's MI6. At the 1995 publication of her first novel, **GUILT BY SILENCE**, Smith resigned from the Privy Council to pursue full-time fiction writing. *THE INNOCENTS CLUB* will be in stores in August 2000. Smith is also the author of the best-selling novels **THE BEST OF ENEMIES**, **RANDOM ACTS**, and **COMMON PASSIONS**.



**KEITH SNYDER** is the author of the Jason Keltner series, currently published by Walker & Co. He is also a composer and multimedia producer. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife, Kathleen, and an annoying little black cat named Grover.



Considered the “Hart-to-Hart” of Southern California investigators, **JOYCE SPIZER** and her husband Harold have cases involving movie stars, mobsters and millionaires. Her career, spanning several decades of changes in law enforcement, the judicial system, and how citizens respond, has become bountiful fruit for her debut Harbour Pointe Mystery Series, *THE COP WAS WHITE AS SNOW*. This death of a police officer is a fictionalized story taken from one of her actual case files. *I'M OKAY, YOU'RE DEAD* is the second in her Harbour Pointe Mystery Series.



**DANA STABENOW** wrote *A COLD DAY FOR MURDER* in 1987, stored it on disk and packed it away in her father's garage for two years. Resurrected in 1990, sold to Berkley in 1991, and published in 1992, it won an Edgar Award in 1993. The ninth in the Kate Shugak series, *HUNTER'S MOON*, was released in May 1999. The second Liam Campbell mystery, *SO SURE OF DEATH*, came out in October 1999. Dana's First Rule of Writing? Never throw anything out.

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**JANICE STEINBERG** is the author of five mystery novels featuring public radio reporter Margo Simon, including the Shamus Award-nominated *DEATH IN A CITY OF MYSTICS*. Steinberg owes her mystery writing career to her mother, who introduced her to Nancy Drew and led her into a life of crime. A Wisconsin native, she received a B.A. and M.A. from the University of California-Irvine. She has worked in urban planning, public relations, and freelance writing. Three years as promotion director for KPBS-Fm inspired her to create her NRP reporter-sleuth. Steinberg founded the San Diego chapter of Sisters in Crime and has served on the Sisters in Crime national board.



**VIRGINIA SWIFT** is the nom de plume of historian Virginia Scharff, who has published books including *TAKING THE WHEEL: WOMEN AND THE COMING OF THE MOTOR AGE*; *PRESENT TENSE: THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1945*; and *COMING OF AGE: AMERICA IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY*. Swift soon will be seen on the nationally broadcast *Biography of America*, a television course in United States history produced by WGBH in Boston, the flagship PBS station. *BROWN-EYED GIRL* is her first novel; a second novel featuring Sally Alder and Hawk Green will be coming soon. Swift lives in Albuquerque with her husband and children and teaches at the University of New Mexico.



**HEATHER TAYLOR** grew up in Ft. Collins, Colorado and attended Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, where she received her B.A. in Biology and Anthropology. She recently moved to Tucson and joined The BIOTECH Project in December, 1999. She is excited to be teaching biotechnology techniques to middle and high school classes as part of The BIOTECH Project's educational outreach program.



**KATHY HOGAN TROCHECK** has written eight Callahan Garrity mysteries, including *IRISH EYES*, *MIDNIGHT CLEAR* and *STRANGE BREW*. A former reporter for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, she lives in Georgia with her husband and two children.

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**MARI ULMER** was born in Kansas City, Missouri where at the tender age of 5 she learned the art of storytelling to keep the neighborhood children from fighting. After entering as a National Scholar and attending the honors program at Smith College, she was a daily television performer before going on to graduate from the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Law. Mari spent the next 25 years specializing first in criminal trial work and then estate planning. She then gave up her law career to become a full-time author and writer. She has lived in Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon, Georgia and California before making Taos, New Mexico her home in 1979. The City of Taos has since honored her for "Taos feeds Taos," an organization founded by her late husband, Jim, to help feed the needy. As Mayordoma at the Talpa Capilla, Mari kept the chapel, helped serve Mass, took communion to the homebound, and assisted at such rituals as those described in *MIDNIGHT AT THE CAMPOSANTO*.



**JUDITH VAN GIESON** was born in New York City and is a descendant of the early Dutch settlers. She now lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is the author of a children's book, a collection of poetry and short stories, and eight award-winning mysteries featuring Albuquerque lawyer Neil Hamel. Judith has started a new series introducing Claire Reynier, an archivist who also buys rare books for the Center for Southwest Research at the University of New Mexico. Claire's work takes her all over the Southwest. UNM Press and Signet will publish *THE STOLEN BLUE*, the first book in the series, in the spring of 2000. *VANISHING POINT*, the second book in the series, is scheduled for February, 2001.



**DAVID J. WALKER** is the author of *A BEER AT A BAWDY HOUSE*, the second book in his "Wild Onion, Ltd." Series that features Kirsten and Dugan, a wife-husband private detective team. The first novel in this series is *A TICKET TO DIE FOR*. Walker's other series stars Chicago PI Mal Foley, an ex-lawyer who lost his license for keeping his word, the Edgar-nominated *FIXED IN HIS FOLLY*, and *APPLAUD THE HOLLOW GHOST*. Walker has been a parish priest, an investigator with the Chicago Police Department, and a lawyer. Now he mostly writes and tries to pay attention to stuff. He lives with his wife, Ellen, just north of Chicago, where he is at work on the fourth in the Mal Foley series.



**NATHAN WALPOW** was born and raised in New York City, but ended up in Los Angeles in 1979, where he began his acting career. His fifteen minutes of fame came in 1985, when he was a five-times-undefeated champion on *Jeopardy!* After taking a short story class at UCLA Extension, he began writing his own stories and managed to sell a few. Walpow combines his knowledge of cacti and other succulents (he had to find some plants his cats wouldn't eat!) with his writing talents to produce the Joe Portugal Botanical mystery series, the first of which is *DEATH OF AN ORCHID LOVER*. Walpow is a member of Mystery Writers of America, Sisters in Crime, the Garden Writers Association of America, the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, and the America Orchid Society.

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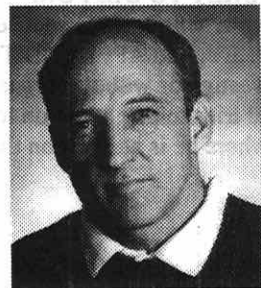
**ROBERT WEIBEZAHL** worked in publishing in New York before succumbing to the lure of Los Angeles and the “glamorous” world of film production (where he met his co-author, Jo Grossman). After seven years spending more time “between projects” than actually working, Weibezahl traded one form of financial insecurity for another and returned to his first love, the world of books. As a jack-of-all-literary-trades, he has managed to cobble together a career as a publicist, copywriter, book reviewer, essayist, and with the publication of his first book, *A TASTE OF MURDER*, an author.



**MARY V. WELK** has published *A DEADLY LITTLE CHRISTMAS*, *SOMETHING WICKED IN THE AIR*, and *TO KILL A KING* will be released this spring.



**MARY ANNE WILSON** was born in Canada but has lived in California since high school, when she began a life-long love for writing. Since selling her first book to Silhouette Intimate Moments in 1987, she has published over 30 more romances with Harlequin and Silhouette. She won the *Romantic Times* Career Achievement Award for Romantic Suspense, and has been a finalist for the Golden Heart Award, the RITA, and for the reviewer’s choice award from *Romantic Times*. Wilson currently is working on a single title mystery.



**DARRYL WIMBERLEY** grew up in Florida. He graduated from the U. S. Air Force Academy, and completed his graduate work at St. Mary’s University in San Antonio, Texas while on active duty. He went on to complete his Ph.D. at the University of Texas at Austin in the Radio-Television-Film Department, where he spent ten years sharing his love of writing for the large and small screens by teaching graduate/advanced screen writing. Wimberley now writes full time in Austin, when he’s not busy with his family or power lifting. *DEAD MAN’S BAY*, his second in the Barrett Raines series set in northwestern Florida that began with *A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE*, will be released in Summer/Fall 2000.



**LINDA WISDOM** was born and raised in Huntington Beach, California. She majored in Journalism in college, then switched her major to Fashion Merchandising when she was told there was no future for her in fiction writing. Not letting that stop her, she sold two novels to Silhouette Romance (on her wedding anniversary), and since then she has sold almost sixty novels. She has been nominated for a number of *Romantic Times* awards and Romance Writers of America RITAs. She lives with her husband, two dogs, four parrots, and one desert tortoise in Murrieta, California.



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**MATT WITTEN** writes for the television show *Law & Order*. He also has written for *Homicide*, and his award-winning plays have been produced from New York City to Sydney, Australia. He is a frequent contributor to such magazines as *Parents and Family Life*. *BREAKFAST AT MADELINE'S*, his first novel, was awarded a Malice Domestic grant for best debut novel. His second novel, *GRAND DELUSION*, was published recently. He lives in Pacific Palisades with his wife and two sons.



The idea for **VALERIE WOLZIEN'S** first mystery novel came to her in the middle of a PTA meeting when her son was in third grade. That book, *MURDER AT THE PTA LUNCHEON*, is still in print and was made into a Movie of the Week for CBS television. Wolzien now has fifteen books in print. Twelve feature Susan Henshaw as a housewife/amateur sleuth. Her second series features Josie Pigeon, a young carpenter who runs a contracting company. Wolzien was born in Ohio and grew up in New Jersey. She attended college in Denver and Fairbanks, Alaska. These days, when not writing, she is busy remodeling an old Victorian home overlooking the Hudson River where she lives with her family, three cats, two birds, and a mixed breed puppy.

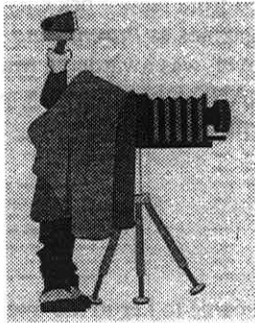


A native of Los Angeles, **PAULA L. WOODS** is the editor of the acclaimed anthologies *I HEAR A SYMPHONY: AFRICAN AMERICANS CELEBRATE LOVE; MERRY CHRISTMAS, BABY: A CHRISTMAS AND KWANZAA TREASURE*; and *SPOOKS, SPIES AND PRIVATE EYES: BLACK MYSTERY, CRIME AND SUSPENSE FICTION OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY*. She reviews books for *Dallas Morning News*, *Emerge* magazine, *Los Angeles Times* and other publications.

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**CHRIS ACEVEDO** is co-owner of Clues Unlimited mystery bookstore. She has been an avid mystery reader since the age of seven, when she discovered Nancy Drew.



**JOHN CHEEK** is a native Arizonan, having grown up in Cochise County in close proximity to the US/Mexico border. He graduated from Cochise College and the University of Arizona, receiving law enforcement-related degrees at both institutions. From 1975 through mid-1988, Cheek was a criminal investigator for the Pima County Attorney's Office in Tucson, where he worked in the areas of consumer fraud, economic crime, felony trial preparation, and civil liability investigation. From mid 1988 through mid-1997, he was a patrol officer for the city of Tucson. During this time he served in the areas of patrol, investigation, academy instruction, instruction in continuing training, administrative staff support, hostage negotiation, and peer counseling. Cheek is co-author of **PLAINCLOTHES AND OFF-DUTY OFFICER SURVIVAL**, published in 1988 by Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, and the author of an as-yet-unpublished mystery novel. He also owns Cops 'n Writers, a consulting practice offering insights on police procedures and police culture to fiction writers.



Ed Mitchell - Author, Gold Rush 2000  
Web Site: <http://www.goldrush2000.net>  
(Easily located via webcrawler.com or all.com browser)

**ED MITCHELL**, a retired Army officer, rocket scientist, and amateur prospector, writes in Monterey County, California. He spent over fourteen years crafting the Gold Trilogy. **GOLD RUSH 2000**, the first of three mystery adventures, recently was released. This year his debut mystery thriller won the National Publishers Freedom Award for Best New Fiction.

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# *Left Coast Crime 12*

*Slugs and Roses*

March 21-24, 2002

**Portland, Oregon**

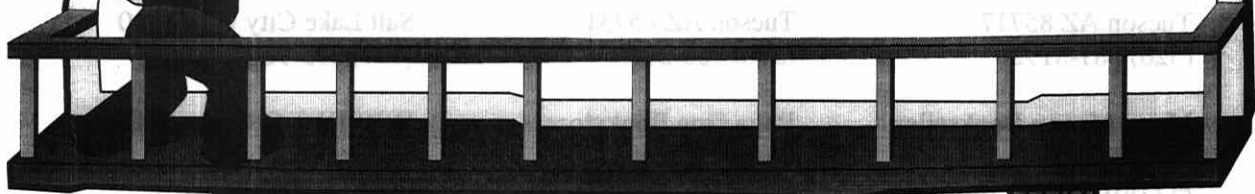
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# Literacy Volunteers of Tucson

Literacy Volunteers of Tucson (LVT) trains volunteer tutors to teach people to read, write and speak English. Their mission is to provide this free service so those at the lowest levels of literacy can achieve their goals in life. LVT was founded in 1961 and is an affiliate of two parent organizations, Literacy Volunteers of America and Laubach Literacy Action.

## How LVT Works

LVT tutors complete training workshops and teach at 60 locations in and around Tucson. Supervised literacy centers and other tutoring locations are in schools, churches, libraries and service agencies. Volunteers tutor in basic literacy and teach English to speakers of other languages, pre-GED subjects, and for citizenship preparation. This is done one-on-one and in small groups. LVT served 900 adult learners last year with 290 trained volunteers, involving 19,000 volunteer hours. LVT also provides tutors for the Head Start program, so that parents get tutoring during their children's class time.

LVT receives funding in part from an Arizona Department of Adult Education grant, but most of their funding comes from individual contributions, corporate and service organization support, special events, and other fundraising efforts.

## Illiteracy is Our Problem

With LTV's help, many adult learners have made great strides, but the need for literacy help is overwhelming. In Pima County, nearly 20% of adults who are native English speakers are functionally illiterate. In Tucson, 27% of the population 5 years and older cannot speak English. Illiteracy is a problem we cannot see, but it's at the root of societal conditions we do see: unemployment, underemployment, crime, and poverty. Literacy empowers people to better their lives and the lives of their families.

You will be able to contribute to LVT by buying raffle tickets for both the Honky-Tonk Night Raffle Drawing (to be held Friday at 5 pm) and for the Quilt Raffle (drawing to be held Saturday evening during the Lefty Award Reception). Also, the proceeds from any auction items you buy, either through the silent or live auction, will benefit LVT.

Literacy Volunteers of Tucson thanks all the Left Coast Crime participants for their generous support.

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## Silent & Live Auction Items

The following items have been pledged for the LCC10 auction. However, if we didn't receive all the items, some may be withdrawn. Also, additional items not included in this listing may be available for auctioning. The Silent Auction begins Friday, March 17 at 10 am in the Empire Ballroom Foyer, and it will close at 4 pm on Saturday. Silent auction winners will be posted at that time. Please pick up your Silent Auction items between 4-6:30 pm Saturday in the Empire Foyer. **All items not picked up by the start of the Live Auction at 6:30 pm Saturday will be auctioned off during the Live Auction.**

- Dorothy pins from 1996 (the white scroll with magnifying glass), 1997 (the black cat) and 1998 (shelf of books), donated by Ellie Warder.
- Four signed 1st editions of TRIPLE PLAY and PAR FOUR by Elizabeth Gunn, donated by the author.
- Signed 1st editions by Alex Matthews, donated by the author.
- ARC of THE FINAL DETAIL by Harlan Corben plus other books, donated by Maggie Mason.
- Signed 1st editions of MUSIC BOX MURDERS and SCAMMING THE BIRDMAN by Larry Karp, donated by the author.
- Original (copyedited) manuscript of WASTE LAND by Michael Newton, donated by the author.
- Breakfast at the Arizona Inn with J.A. Jance and her husband, Will Schilb.
- A Caribbean Surprise Package, including a signed ARC (or a mail-to-the-author coupon for a signed copy) of DEATH DANCES TO A REGGAE BEAT by Kate Grilley, donated by the author.
- Signed 1st edition of GRAND DELUSION by Matt Witten, donated by the author.
- Character in an upcoming Jacob Burns novel by Matt Witten to be named after the high bidder.
- Signed 1st edition of REVENGE OF THE GYPSY QUEEN by Kris Neri, donated by the author.
- Character in the 3rd book in the Tracy Eaton series by Kris Neri after the high bidder.
- Signed copy of WHERE'S MOMMY NOW? by Rochelle Krich, donated by the author.
- Character in an upcoming book by Rochelle Krich to be named after the high bidder.
- Signed 1st edition of FOOL'S PUZZLE (currently out of print in hardback) by Earlene Fowler, donated by the author.
- Bottle of 1993 Cabernet Sauvignon, donated by Earlene Fowler.
- Pair of cursed (but not a really terrible curse) gold earrings, donated by Helen Rhine.

- Signed 1st edition of WHO'S SUSAN? by L.C. Hayden, donated by the author.
- Character in an upcoming book by L.C. Hayden to be named after the high bidder.
- A laminated, poster-size mounted cover poster of MURDER.COM by Sarah St. Peter.
- A signed copy of MURDER.COM by Sarah St. Peter, donated by the author.
- Signed 1st editions of Valerie Wolzien's first two books, donated by the author.
- A Nuns, Mothers and Others East/West basket, donated by Valerie Wolzien, Lee Harris, Jonnie Jacobs and Lora Roberts.
- Signed 1st edition copies of the first four Charlie Plato mysteries by Margaret Chittenden, donated by the author.
- 4 CHAPS "koozies" (latex holders for pop bottles or cans), donated by Margaret Chittenden.
- Signed 1st edition of MURDER AMONG NEIGHBORS and SHADOW OF DOUBT by Jonnie Jacobs, donated by the author.
- Character in an upcoming book by Martha C. Lawrence to be named after the high bidder.
- Signed 1st edition copy of MIDNIGHT HOUR by Mary Saums, donated by the author.
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- Signed 1st edition of one of her books, donated by Jan Burke.
- Signed 1st editions of his books, donated by Lee Child.
- Signed copies of LOVER UNKNOWN and SECRET LOVER (Harlequin Intrigue series) by Sharon Dennison, donated by the author.

- Signed copy of the research paper "Telomerase Expression in Precancerous Oral Verrucous Hyperplasia, " from the International Journal of Oral Biology, June 1999, donated by Robert Greer. This research paper proves the telomerase cancer premise, the foundation for the plot of Greer's "LIMITED TIME".
- Signed copies of DOUBLE JEOPARDY by Linda Wisdom, donated by the author.
- Signed copies of MISSION TO SONORA and THE VIEW FROM FROG MOUNTAIN by Rebecca Cramer, donated by the author.
- 1st edition copies of SKULLS OF SEDONA and STIFF IN THE FREEZER by J. R. Ripley, donated by the author.
- Signed 1st edition of GO TO HELL AND MAKE A U-TURN by Marci Martin, donated by the author.
- Signed bound galley of DEATH OF AN ORCHID LOVER by Nathan Walpov, donated by the author.
- Signed 1st edition of SONS OF THE CITY by Scott Flander, donated by the author.
- A \$40 gift certificate to Waldenbooks/Brentano's or a signed copy of YEAR OF THE MONKEY (in Japanese) by Ron Argo, donated by the author.
- Elderly saddlebags filled with Arizona stuff including Sinclair Browning's two Trade Ellis novels (set in Tucson), donated by the author. Guaranteed no live animals or body parts.
- Signed copy of A TASTE OF MURDER signed by Robert Weibezahl, Jo Grossman and some of the contributors, donated by Robert Weibezahl.
- Signed 1st edition of LAST KING OF TEXAS by Rick Riordan, donated by the author.
- Signed ARC of IN A DRY SEASON by Peter Robinson, donated by the author.
- Signed 1st edition of MURDER WITH PEACOCKS by Donna Andrews, donated by the author.
- ARC of MURDER WITH PUFFINS by Donna Andrews (if available), donated by the author.
- Character in an upcoming book by David J. Walker to be named after the high bidder.
- Signed 1st edition paperback of THE LAW OF REVENGE and THE LAW OF THE DEAD by Tess Collins, donated by the author.
- Copies of books by Michael Allen Dymmoch, donated by the author.
- Character in an upcoming book by Michael Allen Dymmoch to be named after the high bidder.



- Character in Delilah West #7 by Maxine O'Callaghan to be named after the high bidder.
- 1st edition of FOOTPRINTS IN THE BUTTER by Denise Dietz, donated by the author.
- FOOTPRINTS IN THE BUTTER t-shirt, donated by Denise Dietz.
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- Signed 1st edition hardcover of MURDER AT MOOT POINT by Marlys Millhiser, donated by the author.
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- Two signed copies of paperback edition of LONELY STREET by Steve Brewer, donated by the author.
- A set (including 2 1st editions) of the Montana trilogy, Lee Squires series, by Christine Andreae, donated by the author.
- Signed 1st edition of MIDNIGHT AT THE CAMPO-SANTO by Mari Ulmer, donated by the author.
- Character in an upcoming book by Mari Ulmer to be named after the high bidder.
- Signed book(s) by Chris Rogers, donated by the author.
- Small original abstract painting by Chris Rogers, donated by the artist.

- Signed 1st edition of BROWN-EYED GIRL by Virginia Swift, donated by the author.
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- Signed 1st editions by Connie Shelton, donated by the author.
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- 1st edition of DEATH IN LITTLE TOKYO by Dale Furutani, donated by the author.
- Signed ARC and edited manuscript of GUNS AND ROSES by Taffy Cannon, donated by Perseverance Press.
- Signed copies of BABY MINE by Janet LaPierre and ROYAL FLUSH by Shelley Singer, donated by Perseverance Press.
- A Purple Moon Press tote bag, donated by Willetta Heising.
- Character in upcoming book by Stan Jones to be named after the high bidder.
- Copy of WHITE SKY, BLACK ICE by Stan Jones, donated by Soho Press.
- Copy of SHADED LIGHT by N. J. Lindquist, donated by the author.
- Character in upcoming book by N. J. Lindquist to be named after the high bidder.
- 1st edition of 'G' IS FOR GRAFTON: THE WORLD OF KINSEY MILLHONE signed by both the authors and Sue Grafton, donated by Carol McGinnis Kay.
- Registration for Bouchercon 2001, donated by the Bouchercon 2001 Organizing Committee.
- Copy of BOAT DOLLIES by Joyce Holland, donated by the author.
- Character in upcoming book by Joyce Holland to be named after the high bidder.
- Registration for Left Coast Crime 11, donated by the Left Coast Crime 11 Organizing Committee.
- Registration for Left Coast Crime 12, donated by the Left Coast Crime 12 Organizing Committee.
- Detecting Women t-shirt and sweatshirt, donated by Willetta Heising.
- Pair of drumsticks, donated by Bill Moody.

- Signed hardcover and paperback copies of *Detecting Women*, 3rd edition, donated by Willetta Heising.
- Signed 1st edition of *MURDER SHOOTS THE BULL* by Anne George, donated by the author.
- Character in upcoming book by Bill Moody to be named after high bidder.
- Signed, bound manuscript of *HOT SIX* by Janet Evanovich, donated by the author. Only 150 bound manuscripts will be produced (no ARCs). The manuscript will be sent directly to the high bidder June 1, 2000. The high bidder agrees not to print/post the prologue anywhere and will refrain from giving away who is at the door (and any other *HOT SIX* secrets) until *HOT SIX* is released on June 20.
- Signed, 1st edition copy of *INNER CITY BLUES* by Paula L. Woods, donated by the author.
- A beautiful work of art by a Minneapolis artist that incorporates some text of *INNER CITY BLUES* by Paula L. Woods, signed by both the author and the artist.
- Signed, 1st edition of *HUNTING BADGER* by Tony Hillerman, donated by Bookman's Used Books.
- 1st edition copy of *HOUR OF THE HUNTER* by J. A. Jance, donated by Bertrand's Books.
- Character in Julie Wray Herman's second book to be named after the high bidder.
- A signed copy of *THE FIRST VICTIM* by Ridley Pearson, donated by the author.

The Silent Auction begins Friday, March 17 at 10 am in the Empire Ballroom Foyer, and it will close at 4 pm on Saturday. Silent auction winners will be posted at that time. Please pick up your Silent Auction items between 4-6:30 pm Saturday in the Empire Foyer. **All items not picked up by the start of the Live Auction at 6:30 pm Saturday will be auctioned off during the Live Auction.**

All proceeds from both the Live and Silent Auction will benefit Literacy Volunteers of Tucson.

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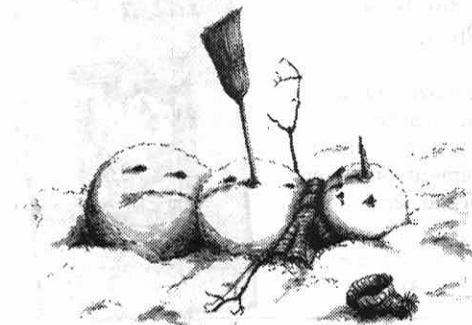
Registration is \$145 till October 31, 2000. Starting November 1, 2000, registration is \$165. Registration will not be complete until full payment is received. For more information, please visit our web site at [www.LCC2001.com](http://www.LCC2001.com)

## Hotel:

The location is the Anchorage Hilton. Room rates for the weekend of the conference are confirmed at \$80 a night for single or double occupancy. For reservations call 1-800-HILTONS and mention the LCC 2001 conference for these great rates.

## Hosted By:

Alaska Sisters in Crime  
P.O. Box 100382  
Anchorage, AK 99510  
(907) 566-7500  
E-mail: [chair@LCC2001.com](mailto:chair@LCC2001.com)



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## Myths about Alaska

### It's too expensive.

It costs on average only \$100 more to fly to Anchorage than it does anywhere else in the United States.

There is no sales tax so you'll earn that \$100 back on meals alone, never mind all that shopping you'll be doing.

### Alaska is too far to go.

It's only two hours and fifty minutes from Seattle to Anchorage, less with a tail wind. Non-stop flights arrive daily from Seattle, Salt Lake City, Minneapolis, Chicago, and now Portland.

### There's nothing to do in Alaska in the winter.

LCC 2001 is scheduled during the last weekend of the Fur Rendezvous and just two short weeks before the world-famous Iditarod Sled Dog Race. Come early, stay late. Stay late enough, and you'll be able to attend the 2001 Special Olympics, scheduled for Anchorage that year.

### It's too cold.

Okay, it will be cold. The average high for February is 26°F. The average low is -3°F. Why do you think we're calling it Death Below Zero?

But the conference will take place downtown where most of the Fur Rendezvous and Iditarod activities are, just a few steps from your hotel where all conference sessions will take place. Bring a heavy coat and a warm pair of boots, and you'll be fine.

### It's too dark.

By February Anchorage is gaining daylight at 5 minutes and 44 seconds a day, a half-hour each week. We'll be up to 10 ½ hours of daylight while you're here, and believe us, what that amount of light reveals is worth seeing.

Visit the Anchorage Convention and Visitor's Bureau web site for more information on Anchorage:

[www.anchorage.net](http://www.anchorage.net)

**Kevin Kerney returns  
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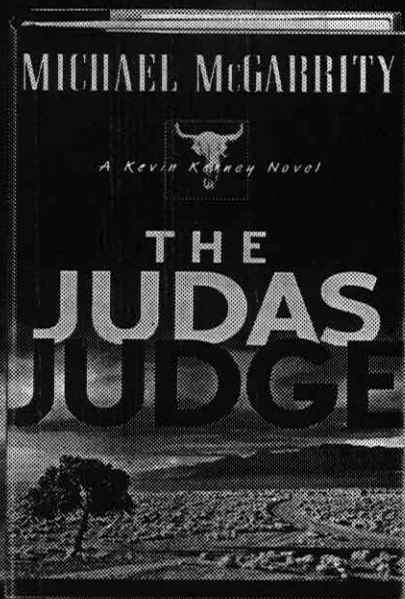


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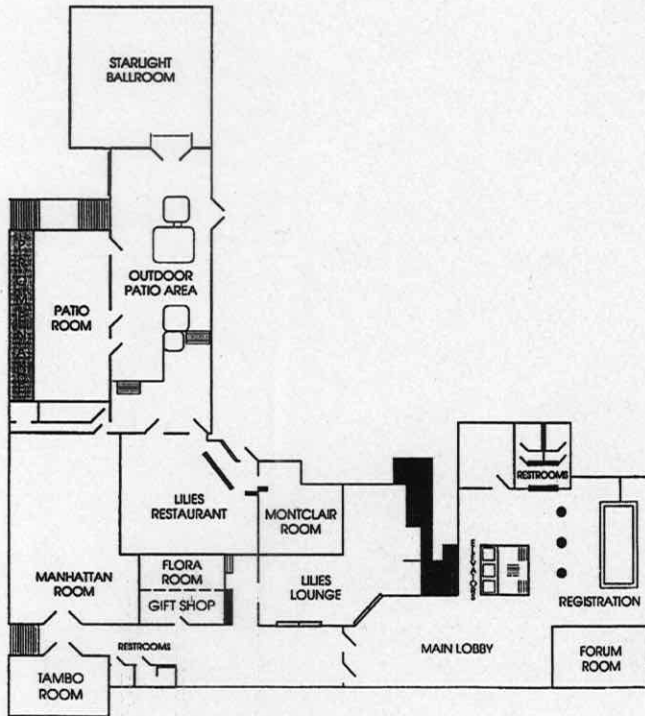
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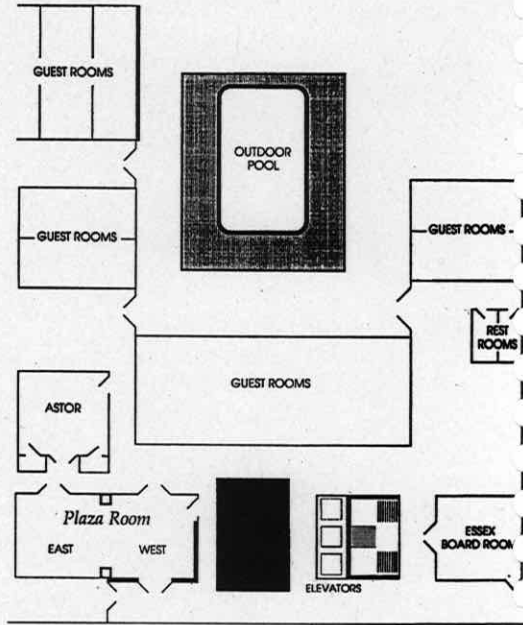
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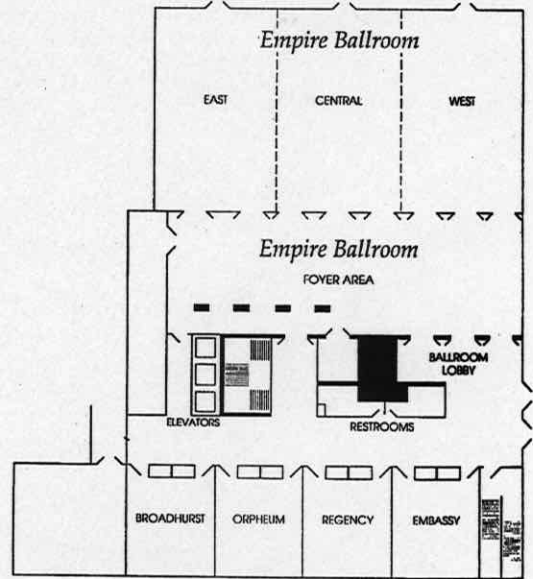
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