



ORANGE HERRING

Sisters in Crime  Orange County



MISSION STATEMENT

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

MEETING PLACE

Irvine Ranch Water District
15500 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92618

We meet at the Irvine Ranch Water District in the Community Affairs meeting room on the northeast side of the parking lot. For directions, visit: www.ocsistersincrime.org. ([IRWD map](#))

“IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT NEITHER SUPPORTS NOR ENDORSES THE CAUSE NOR ACTIVITIES OF ORGANIZATIONS WHICH USE THE DISTRICT’S MEETING ROOMS THAT ARE MADE AVAILABLE AS A PUBLIC SERVICE”

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

To join or renew your membership in our Sisters in Crime Chapter, you must also be a member of National. To renew your national membership, go to: www.sistersincrime.org/. To renew for our chapter, go to: www.ocsistersincrime.org/membership.htm and download the form, or fill out the form at the end of this newsletter and mail it in with your check.

Please renew your Sisters in Crime membership today!



The meeting schedule for 2016 is as follows: June 26, July 24, Aug. 28, Sep. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 27, and Dec. 11. Please mark your calendars and check this newsletter and the website for updates.

Snack signups are as follows: June: Sharon Nelson, July: Gayle Carline, August: Donna Lear, September: Gita Fisher, October: Jill Amadio, November: Gita Fisher, December: potluck

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sunday, June 26th, 2:00 p.m. - Scams, Cons, and ID Thieves: What's New?

At 3:00 p.m., join us for a discussion with a representative of the Irvine Police Department to find out what's new in the world of criminals looking to steal our money and our identities.

During the Reader's Forum at two o'clock, we will discuss 'bad' good guys in mysteries and thrillers.

MEETING ROUNDUP

By Pat H. Broeske



Thirteen years ago Tammy Kaehler was earning her living as a technical writer. Today, she's doing technical writing by assignment, while concentrating on her Kate Reilly mystery series for Poisoned Pen Press, which debuted in 2011 with "Dead Man's Switch."

It's a journey that began when she "awakened one day with a scene in my head." She went on to take a course taught by writer-writing coach Leslie Keenan, at the popular Marin County bookstore, Book Passage. The topic: Is There a Book in You?

It turned out there was – to date, there've been four – but, it wasn't until Tammy's day job introduced her to the auto racing arena that she found the setting for her novels. It happened in 2004; she was working for a sub-prime mortgage company that sponsored a racing team. "And I got an inside look at the business," recalls Tammy, the featured guest at our May meeting.

Dressed in jeans and a polo shirt emblazoned with the names of sponsors for the fictional racing character she created, along with pink Converse sneakers from the Indy 500 team of (real-life) female racer Pippa Mann, who is partnered with Susan G. Komen (the non-profit involved in the fight against breast cancer), Tammy spoke to us on "Going for the Finish Line ... Writing, Racing, and Research."



In addition to charting her career, she offered writing advice, and brought cool props – including a racing helmet and fire suit.

Recalling her introduction to the racing domain, she says, “I discovered it embraced drama, money, competition, passion, speed and celebrity.” After all, adds Tammy, “Racers are like rock stars.” At the same time, racing is a close knit community. “It has glamour and glitz and show and violence – and a sense of dichotomy.”

Tammy, whose favorite mystery author is Dick Francis – famed for his books involving horse racing – set out to become the Dick Francis of auto racing. Her protagonist, Kate Reilly, deals with the business of racing while also dealing with the needs of family and friends, the latter involving mysteries. As Tammy likes to say of Kate, she’s a character who “rides the edge between control and chaos, speed and death.”

Kate doesn’t win her races, but she always achieves something. “I am a sucker for stories of personal achievement,” Tammy explains, adding, “I’ve always been drawn to stories of women who are making advances in atypical arenas. Also, I like stories where things go right, at the end. I like a sense of order.”

Cleverly, each of Kate’s books has been set at a different race. Her latest, “Red Flags,” takes place at the Long Beach Grand Prix, Tammy’s hometown. It’s a device that helps to determine structure, because of the location and duration (running time) of each respective race.

Her research consists of talking to everyone she can, especially drivers. She attends races, and watches a lot of racing on YouTube. And, though she readily admits that she’s not the world’s most aggressive driver, she took a three-day racing course in Atlanta, Georgia, so she could know, first-hand, what it’s like to be behind the wheel where the high stakes involve life or death.

“Racers have to have the focus and concentration of jet fighter pilots. If they have a lapse in concentration, they could go right into the wall.”

To ensure that her racing scenes are authentic, she sends those sections of her manuscripts to the pros – for their critiques.

That kind of attention to detail has led to three different awards in automotive journalism, including the 2014 Motorsports Book of the Year, from the American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association (AARWBA), for the book, “Avoidable Contact.”

It’s a passion that continues. Shortly after speaking to us, Tammy was planning to attend the 100th running of the Indy 500, where she was going to work in the pit. And while at the Long Beach Grand Prix, she got to take a spin in a car driven by legendary racer Mario Andretti.

Tammy’s talk was preceded by a Writer’s Forum, where we discussed the challenges of writing a book series. Among the issues raised:

--Should you have a sidekick?



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--How old is your protagonist, and how do you “age” them as the series progresses? Then again, maybe they don’t age.

--In referencing previous cases in books, how do you avoid spoilers for those who’ve yet to read a prior title? Guest speaker Tammy Kaehler had a ready response: She never names the murderer of a previous book. If she mentions the case, she doesn’t give away its resolution.

MEMBER NEWS

DP Lyle's DEEP SIX, the first in a new Jake Longly comedic thriller series will be available July 5th.

Details: <http://www.dplylemd.com/books.html>

DEEP SIX Launch Party
Saturday, July 16, 2016, 2 p.m. PDT
Mystery Ink Bookstore
8907 Warner Avenue, #135
Huntington Beach
714-960-4000
<http://www.mysteryink.com>

Book Carnival
DEEP SIX signing
July 23, 2016, 2 p.m. PDT
348 S. Tustin Street
Orange, CA
[714-538-3210](tel:714-538-3210)
<http://www.annesbookcarnival.com>

Book Passage Bookstore
DEEP SIX Signing
Saturday, July 27, 2016, 7 p.m. PDT
51 Tamal Vista Blvd
Corte Madera, CA
[415-927-0960](tel:415-927-0960)
<http://www.bookpassage.com>

Greta Boris is the new director of O.C. Writers. We're a group of 600+ writers in the Orange County area. We meet online at OCWriters.org and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/OCWriters/>. We also have several around town write-ins and we're offering a workshop series in conjunction with the Katie Wheeler library in Irvine.



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The Katie Wheeler Library Presents: The Write Page “Plot-Plan-Polish-Publish”

A Writers’ Workshop and Support Group

Author-moderators *Valerie Davisson, Joe De Ladurantey & Greta Boris* will discuss how to take your book from concept to print in this four-part workshop series.

Second Session- Wednesday June 22nd-6:00-8:00



In the Library Community Room

Katie Wheeler Library
13109 Old Myford Rd.
Irvine, CA 92602
714-669-8753



Orange County, CA
Public Libraries
Orange County Public Library System
www.ocpl.org

Library Hours

Mon-Thurs: 10 am - 9 pm
Fri-Sat: 10 am - 5 pm
Sun: 12 pm - 5 pm



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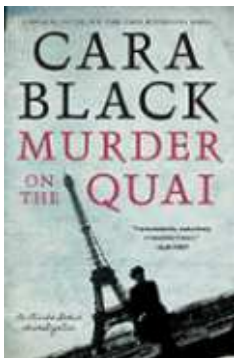


MYSTERY INK NEWS

Mystery Ink Bookstore, 8907 Warner Avenue, #135, Huntington Beach, (714) 960-4000
NEW HOURS – Wednesday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday - 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
www.mysteryink.com. Coffee & Wi-Fi available.

Store Events:

**Wednesday, June 15th, 4:00 p.m. – Cara Black – *Murder on the Quai*
Wine & Cheese!**



November 1989: Aimée Leduc is in her first year of Medical school in Paris. She lives in a 17th century apartment with her father, who runs a family detective agency. But the week the Berlin wall crumbles, so does Aimée's life. First, someone has sabotaged her lab work and then her father takes off on a mysterious errand and leaves her to run the detective agency. However, the case that Aimée is investigating-- a murder linked to a transport truck of Nazi gold-- has gotten under her skin. Her life may not be in medicine at all and maybe it's time to think harder about the family business. For more information about *Murder on the Quai*, visit: <http://carablack.com/>

June 23rd-26th – William Bernhardt's Writers Workshop Retreat

The bestselling author of more than forty books, including the blockbuster Ben Kincaid series and *Nemesis: The Final Case of Eliot Ness*, currently being adapted into an NBC miniseries has founded the Red Sneaker Writing Center. He has become one of the most in-demand writing instructors in the nation and will be hosting a writing workshop at the Mystery Ink Bookstore. willbern@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE, Sunday, October 2nd - Ladies of Intrigue with National Sisters in Crime past President, Carolyn Hart (in her career event finale) appearing as one of our speakers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 11-14, 2016 – Writer's Police Academy 2016

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
International Public Safety Training Academy, Green Bay, Wisconsin
For more information, visit: <http://www.sistersincrime.org/?page=WPA2016>



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Support your local SinC chapter. Buy a mug at the next meeting, and donate books for our raffle!

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

If you have events coming up or announcements you want to make, let me know. Please send your contributions and suggestions to: ocsinc.newsletter@gmail.com. **The deadline is the 7th of each month!**



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Print and complete this form. NOTE: YOU MUST ALSO JOIN SISTERS IN CRIME NATIONAL TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER.

To become a member of SinC National (\$40 **ACTIVE***, or \$50 **PROFESSIONAL****) go to: <http://www.sistersincrime.org>; See "Become a Member" at the top of the opening page.

To join SinC O.C., send the completed form, below, with a \$25 check, payable to Sisters in Crime, to: Membership, Sisters in Crime O.C., P.O. Box 53132, Irvine, CA 92619-3132.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Pls. print all information and list your name as you want it listed in the Membership Directory.

New **Renewal**

Name:

Address:

Day Phone:

Evening Phone:

Email:

I am a (check all that apply):

Mystery Writer Published Unpublished

Writer in other fields Published Unpublished

Screenwriter

--Produced: Features TV/Cable Other

Reviewer **Agent** **Bookseller** **Librarian** **Reader**

I would like to help with (check all that apply):

Publicity **Refreshments** **Speakers** **Raffle** **Other:**

*An **ACTIVE** member is a paid-up Sisters in Crime, Inc. member who does not have a business interest in promoting the purposes of Sisters in Crime, Inc. This includes, but is not limited to, fans and readers.

** A **PROFESSIONAL** member is a paid-up Sisters in Crime, Inc. member who is one of the following: an author pursuing a career in mystery writing, a bookseller, a publisher, a librarian, an editor or one who has a business interest in promoting the purposes of Sisters in Crime, Inc.