



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. You can join national online or send your check to national to us, along with your check for our chapter.

If you have not already done so, please renew your Sisters in Crime membership today!



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UPCOMING MEETINGS

The first meeting of the year will be held on January 25, 2015. We're finalizing arrangements for Forensics Fest 2015, so please watch your email for meeting details.

Meetings for the remainder of the year will be held on Feb. 22, Mar. 22, Apr. 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, Aug. 23, Oct. 25, and Nov. 22. Our holiday meeting will be held at Mystery Ink on Dec. 13th. There will be no meeting in September; instead, we will host our second Ladies of Intrigue program on Oct. 3rd. Please mark your calendars.



2014 ROUNDUP

By Pat H. Broeske

As O.C. Sisters in Crime moves into 2015, we gotta do a shout-out to the past year's highlights – which included our first-ever Ladies of Intrigue, which boasted a roster of popular authors led by international favorites Rhys Bowen and Cara Black. The event drew more than 100 mystery lovers.

The year kicked off with Forensics Fest; January speakers were authors Jan Burke and D.P. "Doug" Lyle, who team for the authoritative internet radio show "Crime and Science Radio." Jan is well known as the Edgar Award-winning author of the Irene Kelly mysteries. Doug, a practicing cardiologist, authors non-fiction and fiction titles, including the Samantha Cody mystery series.

Forensics Fest continued in February, with court-qualified handwriting expert/author Sheila Lowe and Dennis Palumbo, a former Hollywood screenwriter-turned-licensed psychotherapist. Both utilize their specialties in their respective mystery series.

March was devoted to Ladies of Intrigue, held at the Hotel Huntington Beach. Along with the aforementioned Bowen and Black, author-participants were Jill Amadio, Aileen Baron, Terri Nolan and Patricia Wynn – all of OC SinC – Lisa Brackmann, Jan Burke, Kim Fay, Naomi Hirahara, Tammy Kaehler, Sheila Lowe, Jeanne Matthews, Jeri Westerson and Patricia Smiley.



The rest of the year's calendar looked like this:

April: OC SinC member Terry Ambrose talked scams and cons, how he uses them in his writing, and the traits of both con artist and victim. A former skip tracer, Terry's books include "License to Lie," "Photo Finish" and "Kauai Temptations."

May: Mary Marks, author of the cozy mysteries "Forget Me Knot" and "Knot in My Backyard," talked about how she stitched together her love of writing and quilting.

June: Gary Phillips and John Shannon delivered a lively discussion of noir, tough guys and Southern California settings, in conjunction with their respective writings. Phillips' many titles include the Ivan Monk P.I. series; Shannon authors the Jack Liffey mysteries.

July: Authors Jill Amadio, Anne Cleeland and Jenny Hilborn were on hand to explore "For Queen, Country and Crime" – about writing that crosses The Pond.

August: The annual joint meeting with SoCal Mystery Writers of America explored Asian Themes in Crime Fiction via guest authors Lisa Brackmann, Steph Cha, Kim Fay, Timothy Hallinan and Naomi Hirahara. An Asian-inspired buffet was served.

September: Tod Goldberg talked about his writing journey (his credits include tie-in books) and his latest title, the Las Vegas-set "Gangsterland," which received starred reviews from the Big Three – *Publisher's Weekly*, *Booklist* and *Kirkus* – the equivalent of hitting a jackpot.

October: The meeting was held at Mystery Ink, the Huntington Beach bookstore owned and operated by OC SinC co-founder Debbie Mitsch, where three-time Edgar winner T. Jefferson Parker talked about his latest venture, and why he moved from crime fiction to literary fiction with the new novel, "Full Measure."

November: Prolific Linda O. Johnston – author of 40 novels, including the Pet Sitter and Pet Rescue titles – discussed her latest work and the pros and cons of writing a series vs. standalones.

December: The year wrapped with a holiday party at Mystery Ink.

The OC SinC board members are already at work on the second Ladies of Intrigue, scheduled for October 3.

Editor's Note: A version of this article appeared in December in the online publication LitCentral O.C.



MEMBER NEWS

On January 13, 2015 – **Terri Nolan, Jeri Westerson, and Patricia Wynn** will be on a Mystery Writers panel at the Women Sage dinner on Tuesday, January 13, 5 p.m. Register on the website, by email, or leave a voicemail at [\(949\) 222-4210](tel:9492224210). Reservations will close at noon, Friday, January 9. Center Club, Orange County, 650 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.

On January 18, 2015 – **Terri Nolan** will appear at THE Bookstore at the San Juan Capistrano Library for their first Author Lecture Series event of 2015; a panel of mystery authors. Sunday, January 18, 2:30 p.m. Wine and cheese will be served. Free. SJC Friends of the Library, THE Bookstore, 31405-A El Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

Saturday, January 18th from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. – **Jill Amadio** is giving a talk and signing her mystery, "Digging Too Deep," at the San Juan Capistrano Friends of the Library Bookstore. Her post-mortem article on Bouchercon is in the current issue of www.mysterypeople.co.uk.

New episodes of Crime and Science Radio with **DP Lyle** and **Jan Burke** include:

1-17-15: What You Did Here Told Me Who You Are: An Interview with former FBI Criminal Profiler Mark Safarik

1-31-15: Watching the Detectives: Investigative Journalism and Forensic Science — An Interview with Douglas Starr

For further info and links to past shows, go to:

http://www.dplylemd.com/DPLyleMD/CRIME_%26_SCIENCE_RADIO.html

Former SinC member **Dr. Sherry L. Meinberg** is looking for contributors for her latest non fiction book, *Seizing the Teachable Moment*.

Calling all teachers, coaches, trainers, family members, neighbors, business leaders, writers, or anyone who has taken advantage of a teachable moment. I am requesting such stories for my next book, *Seizing the Teachable Moment*.



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The teachable moment is any *unplanned, out-of-the-blue* comment or event that can be used as a learning opportunity. It is a spontaneous response that addresses whatever sparked the enthusiastic interest of an individual or group. It is a fleeting opportunity to address a sudden interest or burning questions in the here and now, when listeners are most open, engaged, and receptive.

Sometimes the teachable moment causes only a brief digression from the subject at hand. Other times, the teachable moment can evolve into a lengthy lesson, or a full-blown unit of instruction, a lifelong interest, or a new hobby. Such teachable moments are unusual, and unlikely to occur again; a time when everyday occurrences can turn into something extraordinary. (Consider my 11th nonfiction book, *The Cockroach Invasion*, in which ka-jillions of cockroaches took over my third grade classroom.)

For more information, contact: Dr. Sherry L. Meinberg [\(562\) 425-1596](tel:5624251596) sherrymeinberg@verizon.net



MYSTERY INK NEWS

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

Sunday, January 17th, 3:00 p.m. – Sue Ann Jaffarian – Talk and signing for GHOST IN THE GUACAMOLE

In the 5th book of the Ghost of Granny Apples series, Sisters Lucinda and Ricarda Ricardo—better known as Lucy and Rikki—are at each other's throats over the family business, Roble Foods. Lucy wants to sell and Rikki is against it. Rikki asks medium Emma Whitecastle to contact their deceased father, Felix, to help her convince Lucy not to sell, but the ghost of Felix Ricardo has his own bombshell to drop. Now it's up to Emma and the ghost of Granny Apples to chip away at the mystery and stop a killer from double dipping in death.

HELL ON WHEELS, the ninth book in Sue Ann's Odelia Grey Mysteries, will also be available.

Friday, January 23rd, 3:00 p.m. – Mark S. Bacon – Talk and signing for his debut book, DEATH IN NOSTALGIA CITY

Uptight has-been ex-cop Lyle Deming hopes his new job, driving a cab in a theme park, will cure his chronic anxieties. Nostalgia City is a meticulous recreation of an entire small town from the early 1970s. The relaxed theme-park atmosphere is just what Lyle needs-until rides are sabotaged and tourists killed. Then park founder, billionaire "Max" Maxwell, drafts Lyle into investigating-unofficially. As the violence escalates and employees



get rattled, Kate Sorensen, the park's PR director-and former basketball player-becomes another incognito investigator. Together they have to unravel a conspiracy of corporate greed and murder.

Mark has a BA in journalism and a MA in mass communication/media criticism. He and his wife, Anne, and their golden retriever, Willow, live in Reno, Nevada.



UPCOMING EVENTS

San Clemente Friends of the Library

Presents

The Fifteenth Annual Meet the Authors Luncheon

Saturday, February 14, 2015

Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort & Spa

25135 Park Lantern Dana Point, CA 92629

\$60.00 p/p ... Reservations, contact Alma Savage: (949) 493-5504

Tables of 10, 11 or 12 people available.

Vallet Parking - \$13.00 p/car plus tip. Carpool suggested.

Participating Authors: Tod Goldberg, Michelle Latiolais, and Eduardo Santiago

For all you lovers of books...Do we have a Valentine's Day planned for you filled with Mystery, Relationships & Love with Award Winning Authors who will take you on a journey you won't forget all while indulging your taste buds with Laguna Cliffs Marriott's delicious Valentine's Day cuisine prepared especially for you. Discussions with Goldberg, Latiolais' and Santiago take place in the beautiful setting of the Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort & Spa overlooking the Dana Point Harbor. Plan a special day for your Mother or Father or surprise the



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Writer-To-Be in your family with this rare up close and intimate opportunity with three widely acclaimed authors.



Support your local SinC chapter. Buy a mug at the next meeting, and donate novels for our Sister Share!



PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

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



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SISTERS IN CRIME ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

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

Send the completed form with both checks, \$40 payable to Sisters in Crime (National) and \$25 payable to Sisters in Crime, OC to:

Membership

Sisters in Crime, Orange County

P.O. Box 53132

Irvine, CA 92619-3132

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

New Renewal Name: Address:

Day Phone:

Evening Phone:

Email: I am a (check all that apply):

Mystery Writer Published Unpublished

Writer in other fields Published Unpublished

Screenwriter

--Produced: Features TV/Cable Other

Reviewer Agent Bookseller Librarian Reader

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

Publicity Refreshments Speakers Raffle Other: