



SinC UP with Great Crime Writing!

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February meeting – Sunday, February 23

2:00 p.m. Writers/Readers Forum

3:00 p.m. Guest Speaker Dr. Colleen Fitzpatrick

<https://dnadoeproject.org>

<https://dnadoeproject.org/about-us/founders/>

DNA Doe Project, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit humanitarian initiative created to help identify Jane and John Does and return them to their families. The aim and process is similar to adoptees looking for birth-families, hoping to learn who they are. The difference is that the Does can't speak for themselves – so we must speak for them. Their families are not looking for reunions, but for closure.

Dr. Colleen Fitzpatrick, Co-Executive Director since 2017, is a multilingual, well-traveled Forensic Genealogist specializing in international searches for individuals to serve as family references for DNA testing, for legal purposes, or as owners of unclaimed property; accomplished author and lecturer.

She is known for:

Innovative DNA analysis and interpretation

Book publishing and editing

Scientific analysis of old photographs

High resolution optical measurement techniques

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS (Send news of your events to secretary@ocsistersincrime.org)

Feb. 9, 7 pm Barbara DeMarco-Barrett's short stories will be performed at the New Short Fiction Series, The Federal, 5303 Lankershim Blvd, North Hollywood CA 91601. Tickets and program info at www.newshortfictionseries.com or call 866-811-4111. For more information about Barbara, visit the website at barbarademarcobarrett.com

OC Sisters in Crime members Barbara DeMarco-Barrett and Greta Boris were chosen by Partners in Crime -the San Diego Chapter of Sisters In Crime, as short story authors for the chapter's first anthology titled **CROSSING BORDERS**. The stories explore the ways everyday people cross many types of borders - between countries, life and death, normal and paranormal, and more. This will be an official Sisters in Crime Anthology and will premier at the Left Coast Crime Conference, March 12 -15, in San Diego (see Other Events for details)

Mystery Ink Bookstore Events - Proprietor: Debbie Mitsch, OC Sisters in Crime Member & Events Chair

Saturday, February 1st at 2 p.m. Thomas Perry & Jo Perry, *A Small Town*, and *Dead is Beautiful, Everything Happens*

Saturday, February 8th at 2:00 p.m. - Chris Hauty - *Deep State*

Saturday, February 15th at 2 p.m. David Putnam, *The Heartless*: Talk/signing

Sunday, March 1st at 2 p.m. Kensington Cozy Mystery Event with Christine E Blum (*Clarets of Fire* #4), Maria DiRico (aka Ellen Byron), *Here Comes the Body* (A Catering Hall Mystery #1) , and Mary Marks (*Knot On Her Life* #7)

Saturday & Sunday, April 17 -18 - Los Angeles Times Festival of Books

USC CAMPUS - OC Sisters In Crime / Mystery Ink Bookstore will have a booth

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Email Debbie Mitsch at mysteryink@hotmail.com or call 714-743-6127

Friday April 17

10:00 - 1:00 - Set Up

Saturday April 18

10:00 - 12:00

12:00 - 2:00

2:00 - 4:00

4:00 - 6:00

Sunday April 19

10:00 - 2:00

2:00 - 4:00

5:00 - 7:00 (booth break down)

Visit **Mystery Ink** Bookstore www.mysteryink.com to sign up for the newsletter. Located at 8907 Warner Ave #235, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 714-960-4000

2020 Meeting Schedule – Sunday's at 2:00 p.m.

- February 23 - Dr. Christine Fitzpatrick - DNA Doe Project
- March 22
- April 26 - Laurie Stevens - Author of Gabriel McRay psychological suspense series
- May 24
- June 28
- July 26
- August 23

- September 27
- **Sunday, October 11, 2020- 7th Annual Ladies of Intrigue**
- October 25
- November 29
- December Holiday Party – date to be announced

LADIES OF INTRIGUE 2020

Save the Date

Sunday, October 11, 2020

7TH Annual Ladies of Intrigue – Featuring Remarkable Women in Mystery

AWARDS

Left Coast Crime 2020 announces the Lefty Award Nominees

Fellow Ladies of Intrigue Alumni Ellen Byron, Steph Cha, Rachel Howzell Hall, Catriona McPherson and Wendall Thomas are all nominated. In addition, two Misters who spoke at the November Sisters in Crime meeting are also nominated: Matt Coyle and Carl Vonderau. Visit the link at www.leftcoastcrime.org/LeftyArchives.html to see more.

Mystery Writers of America announce Edgar Awards Nominees for 2020

Each spring, Mystery Writers of America present the Edgar® Awards, widely acknowledged to be the most prestigious awards in the genre.

April 29-30 – Edgars Symposium and Banquet

Grand Hyatt Hotel, New York City

<http://www.theedgars.com/nominees.html>

Fellow Ladies of Intrigue Alumni Hank Phillipi Ryan and Catriona McPherson are nominated for The Simon & Shuster Mary Higgins Clark Award

Strangers at the Gate by Catriona McPherson (Minotaur Books)

The Murder List by Hank Phillippi Ryan (Tom Doherty Associates – Forge Books)

Malice Domestic #32 announces Agatha Award Nominees for

2020 <http://malicedomestic.org/agathas.html>

The Agatha Awards are presented annually at Malice Domestic for books and stories first published in the United States during the previous calendar year (January 1-December 31), either in hardcover, as a paperback original, or as an e-book by an e-publishing firm.

The Agatha Awards honor the Traditional Mystery, books typified by the works of Agatha Christie. For our purposes, the genre is loosely defined as mysteries that contain no explicit sex, excessive gore or gratuitous violence, and are not classified as "hard-boiled."

Sisters in Crime nominees include

Best Contemporary Novel

Fatal Cajun Festival by Ellen Byron (Crooked Lane Books)

The Murder List by Hank Phillippi Ryan (Forge)

Best First Mystery Novel

Murder Once Removed by S. C. Perkins (Minotaur)

Best Historical Mystery

Love and Death Among the Cheetahs by Rhys Bowen (Penguin)

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day is traditionally associated with red hearts, romance, flowers, candy or other sweet things, and the exchange of cards, called valentines, that express love. For crime writers, it can also mean the love of mystery, mayhem, and even murder. <https://mysterysequels.com/valentines-day-themed-mystery-books.html>,

Sister in Crime author Valentine's mystery novels include:

Deadly Valentine by Carolyn G. Hart – book #6 in the Death on Demand cozy mystery series, published 1990

As Gouda as Dead by Avery Aames – book #6 in the Cheese Shop cozy mystery series, published 2015

Join a trio of mystery authors for a special Valentine tea, lecture, and book signing at the Huntington Beach Central Library. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mystery-authors-valentine-tea-tickets-91244281101>

About this Event

Wed, February 12, 2020 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM PST

Celebrate Valentine's Day with a hint of mystery -- and a cup of tea! Our trio of talented mystery novelists will keep you entertained with behind-the-scenes stories about their latest mystery novels and their road to publication.

Ellen Byron is the author of the Cajun Country Mysteries and Catering Hall Mysteries. Her latest novel is *Fatal Cajun Festival*.

Anne Louise Bannon is a prolific author and journalist. Her latest novel is *Death of the City Marshal*.

Naomi Hirahara is the Edgar award-winning author of the Mas Arai Mysteries and Leilani Santiago Mysteries. Her latest book is *Iced in Paradise*.

All proceeds from this event support local libraries in Huntington Beach.

PRESIDENT'S DAY – FEBRUARY 17, 2020

President's Day is a federal holiday held on the third Monday of February. The day honors presidents of the United States, including George Washington, the USA's first president.

Washington's Birthday was first celebrated as a holiday in the District of Columbia in 1880. It was made a federal holiday in 1885. The holiday was originally held on the anniversary of George Washington's birth, on February 22. In 1971, this holiday was moved to the third Monday in February. Some states pay particular attention to Abraham Lincoln, as his birthday was also in mid-February.

Yes, just as with Valentine's Day, there are mystery novels written by women involving the office of the President.

The Whitehouse Chef series by Julie Hyzy

A Lincoln's White House Mystery series by C.M. Gleason

A Capitol Crime series by Margaret Truman

OTHER EVENTS

Saturday, February 22 11:30 a.m. San Clemente Friends of the Library Author Luncheon at Talega Golf Club

Speakers **Kat Quinn** and **Christopher Reich** (<https://sanclementefotl.org/>)

Saturday, February 29 – 11 am – 3:00 pm Literary Guild of Orange County Spring Literary Salon,
Mesa Verde Country Club, Costa Mesa

Speakers **Sue Cameron, Heather Chavez, Deb Spera**

Saturday, March 7 Placentia Friends of the Library Annual Luncheon at the Alta Vista Country
Club www.placentialibraryfriends.com

Author Talk, Q & A session, Silent Auction

Speaker **Judy A. Bernstein**

March 12 – 15 Left Coast Crime 2020 San Diego, CA *Murder's A Beach* www.leftcoastcrime.org

Guest of Honor **Rachel Howzell Hall**

Guest of Honor **T. Jefferson Parker**

Toast Master **Matt Coyle**

Ghost of Honor **Raymond Chandler**

Saturday & Sunday, April 17 -18 Saturday & Sunday, – Los Angeles Times Festival of Books –
USC CAMPUS OC Sisters In Crime / Mystery Ink Bookstore will have a booth

May 1-3 Malice Domestic 32 – The Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, North
Bethesda, MD

Guest of Honor: **Julia-Spencer Fleming**

Toast Master: **Jeff Cohen**

Lifetime Achievement **Ellen Hart**

Malice Remembers **Ruth Cavin**

June 4-7 CrimeFest, Bristol, UK

www.crimifest.com

Robert Goddard 2019 CWA Diamond Dagger recipient

Laura Lippman US Guest of Honour

Zoe Sharp Gala Dinner Toastrix

July 7 – 11 ThrillerFest XV – Grand Hyatt, New York City

Diana Gabaldon 2020 ThrillerMaster

John Sanford 2019 ThrillerMaster

Michael Connelly 2020 Silver Bullet Recipient

Joseph Finer 2020 Spotlight Guest

Veronica Roth 2020 Spotlight Guest

July 18-19 The South Hampton Writers Conference, New York

www.stonybrook.edu

September 24-26 36th Annual Cuesta College Central Coast Writers Conference

www.cuesta.edu

October 15-18 Bouchercon 2020, Sacramento CA *Where Murder is a Capitol Crime*

www.bouchercon2020.org

Scott Turow Special Guest of Honor

Walter Mosley Lifetime Achievement

Anne Perry Distinguished Guest of Honor

Anthony Horowitz International Guest of Honor

Cara Black Local Guest of Honor

Catriona McPherson Toastmaster

October 23-25

La Jolla Writers Conference *Celebrating the Art, Craft, and Business of Writing*

<http://lajollawritersconference.com>

Mission Statement

To promote the ongoing advancement, recognition and professional development of women crime writers. We welcome both Sisters and Misterys to our meetings

Meeting Place

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

We meet in the Community Affairs meeting room on the northeast side of the parking lot, for directions, visit www.ocsistersincrime.org

*Disclaimer - Irvine Ranch Water District neither supports nor endorses the cause nor activities of organizations that use the district's meeting rooms, which are made available as a public service.

Membership Information

As a guest, you may attend up to 3 meetings of OC Sisters in Crime, after which time membership is required. There is a \$3.00 suggested donation per meeting to fund the sips and nibbles.

Sisters in Crime is a national organization of mystery writers who are dedicated to making sure that women writers receive the same recognition and support as their male counterparts. The Orange County chapter of Sisters In Crime holds monthly meetings for its members, their guests, and visitors. We support member authors by attending and sponsoring book signings at local bookstores

Visit <http://ocsistersincrime.org/membership/> for more information.

Sisters in Crime – National Organization

As part of your membership with OC Sisters in Crime, you also pay dues and join Sisters in Crime National. You can follow them on Instagram @sincnational and on Facebook at Sisters In Crime.

There is a wealth of information on the www.sistersincrime.org website. Sign in with your user name and password, and browse the various pages. They report over 4,000 members and 50+ Chapters in the US and Canada – at last count, there were 65 Chapters, including 2 in Canada, and one web chapter called The Guppy Chapter (for those without a Chapter in their area). California tops the list with 8 Chapters.

ABOUT gives the history of the organization and the names of past presidents.

CONNECT provides information about other Sisters in Crime chapters; it also provides an opportunity to volunteer at the Public Library Association Conference 2020 in Nashville, TN

LEARN lets you sign up for Live Webinars or view Webinar archives

ADVOCATE talks about the WE LOVE LIBRARIES program where libraries can enter to win an award of \$1,000 to use for the purchase of books. The WE LOVE BOOKSTORES program offers bookstores the opportunity to enter to win an award of \$500 to use for promotion, marketing, or hosting book signing events. The WE LOVE SHORT STORIES program has arranged subscription discounts for members to 9 different publications that feature short stories.

RESOURCES has a list of Mystery Bookstores throughout the United States – there are 3 listed in California – have you been to them? It also has Mystery Pub Discounts, offering Member Discounts on Mystery Publications:

Alfred Hitchcock or Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine
Black Cat Mystery Magazine and Sherlock Holmes Mystery Magazine
The Hot Sheet
Mystery Weekly Magazine
Mystery Scene Magazine
The Strand Mystery Magazine
Suspense Magazine

Sisters in Crime Orange County

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.

Bookish Bits

Posting a positive review of your favorite author's book(s) is one of the nicest things you can do. A few sentences highlighting your opinion of the book also helps other readers make decisions about what books to read. Today, there are many options to do this – Amazon, GoodReads, Litsy ,Instagram (#Bookstagram)., etc.

Amazon – find the book title or author on Amazon; click on the stars to see other reviews; on the left side of the screen, click on review this product /write a customer review

Goodreads – rate and review books. As defined by Wikipedia, Goodreads is a social cataloging website that allows people to search its database of books and reviews, register books to generate library catalogs and reading lists, create groups of book suggestions, surveys, polls, blogs and discussions.

Using your phone's camera, you can scan the barcode of books and add them to your TBR – To Be Read list.

Litsy – is described as an iOS and Android social media application and website that is based around reading books. Some book releasers have used it for their marketing. You can make three types of posts: a quick blurb, a quote, or a review, and all posts can have a maximum of 300 characters.

Instagram – a photo and video sharing social networking service. It uses # (hashtag) as a search resource. Type in #bookstagram to see this sub-genre and all the bookish goodness.

More Bookish Bits

Audio Books

Are you and audio book “reader”? You can find audio books at a variety of places include Libro.FM, Audible, your local library with the Libby app, Amazon, and more. Search “best audio book app” and you'll find information on Audible, OverDrive, Scribd, LibriVox Audio Books, Free Audiobooks HQ, Kobo Books, Audio Books, AudioBook – Free Audio books Player and Streamer, English Audio Books – Librivox, and Multi-Path Audio.

Podcasts

Do you enjoy choosing your next read by getting recommendations from others? Just type BOOKS into the search bar of your favorite podcast app, and you'll have a variety of options. Here are a few related to the mystery genre:

Mystery Books Podcast

Speaking of Mysteries

All Things Cozy

All About Agatha

Classic Mysteries

Weapons of Mystery

Mystery on the Air

2020 Board Members

President	Barbara DeMarco-Barrett
Vice President	Maddie Margarita
Treasurer	Diana Dallape
Corresponding Secretary	Jill Amadio
Newsletter, Social Network	Carolyn Miller
Website	Sharon Nelson
Membership Chairperson	Diana Dallape
Events Coordinator	Debbie Mitsch
Greeter	Gita Fischer
Members-at-Large	Nancy Churchill, Dianne Larson, Donna Lear, Jack Martin, Sharmyn McGraw, Debbie Mitsch, Kami Snyder
Past President:	Nanette Heiser

Email Me!



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