NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010

MARCH OF CRIME

MYSTERY WRITERS OF AMERICA-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

MUMBO GUMBO-THE PARTY THAT WAS



We came, we saw, we gumboed. We celebrated our annual summer chapter meeting at the Woodland Hills home of member Bill Fitzhugh on September 25. If there is anything our members know how to do—besides write killer books is party. We sated ourselves on savory shrimp, spicy sausage, and tasty rice. We indulged in homebrewed beer. We chatted. We were happy.

Here are some highlights.

The chef in his element: Bill Fitzhugh.



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Christa Faust.





The homebrew, supplied by Craig Westerson.

Former SoCal MWA president Bob Levinson with Sue Ann Jaffarian.



See Page 3 for more.

The President's Rap Sheet



Stayin' Alive

The disco beat of the Bee Gees blasted from the speakers as we mystery authors and readers contorted our bodies on the dance floor, proving that our best moves should indeed be banned from public view.

"Stayin' alive," mouthed a writer friend to the lyrics. "Yup, we're stayin' alive."

"Barely," I shouted back and we both laughed hilariously.

The mood at Bouchercon 2010 in San Francisco was joyous, at least on the surface. We were in one of the most beautiful cities in the nation, after all, and among friends who we sometimes only get to see once every couple of years.

Yet underneath it all was a general sense of worry and yes, sadness. There is no doubt that there are some revolutionary changes occurring in our industry during our nationwide economic downturn. And within our specific mystery world, there have been some recent profound losses.

Two types of electronic readers the Amazon Kindle and Barnes & Noble Nook—were raffled off at the closing brunch on Sunday. It was appropriate that the convention ended on that note. E-books are much on the mind of publishers and it's no wonder. According to the Association of American Publishers, 2009 e-book sales increased 176.6% over 2008. In an industry that only sees about a one digit rise per year (if even that), epublishing is one area where there has been consistent growth.

Naomi Hirahara 🔬

So what does this mean, gentle reader, aspiring writer, midlist author and bestselling celebrity? Many have mentioned the slow death of mass market books and now even trade paperbacks may be on the chopping block. Hard covers, which cost more than twenty-five dollars a pop, are naturally having a hard time in a recessionary climate. Publishers may now be looking to launch works by debut and niche authors exclusively as e-books.

And while millions of e-readers have been sold, not to mention the iPad and other related devices, many of us still have plenty of fans and readers who haven't joined the hightech bandwagon. Will recreational reading be reserved for those who earn more than \$100,000 a year, be college educated and Web savvy, the profile of the average e-book user?

It is disconcerting to consider what will happen in 2011. But on the other hand, we cannot remain idle, defeated and uninformed.

As a result, the SoCal MWA chapter will be offering a workshop, "The Brave New World of Publishing" on Saturday, November 6. The program will feature board member and author Pamela Samuels-Young; Paul Tayyer, publisher of Huntington Beach-based World Parade Books;

New President Message

and Tyler Dilts, whose debut novel is now part of the Amazon Encore program. Be prepared to learn as well as celebrate different options for writers today.

Also at Bouchercon were moments of great pause, in particular a salute to the late David Thompson, manager of Houston's Murder by the Book and founder of Busted Flush Press, who died suddenly at the age of 38. We as a chapter made a contribution towards an annual writing contest that will be held in his honor. Closer to home, we lost Stephen Cannell, a close friend to many and the man behind beloved television series such as The Rockford Files.

Our own board member Kathryn Lilley has been dealing with health issues, as well as former chapter president Gary Amo (please refrain from contacting him at this delicate time). We wish both of them well and a steady recovery.

These are uncertain times, but as I surveyed the dance floor at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, I spied Thompson's young widow, McKenna, literally buoyed by a sea of girlfriends, including Alafair Burke, who was sporting a plastic tiara and feather boa (I later learned that she was celebrating her birthday). Yes, we control very little, yet we can still strive to create good works while we are around and also extend each other friendship and care while we are on this journey.

P.S. Hope to see many of you at our Noir Holiday Party at the Glendale home of Barbara Cox-Winter. Please bring either new or gently used books for our MWA: Reads rural Mississippi library book drive.



MORE GUMBO PICKS All photos by Jackie Houchin



Thomas Sawyer and Darrell James.



Debbie Mitsch of Mystery Ink Bookstore and Robert Bookout scoping out the desserts.

From left, Wes and Naomi Hirahara, Gary Phillips (background), Jeri Westerson, Craig Westerson, in line for chow.

Killer Quotes

"A pretty, spoiled and not very bright little girl who had gone very, very wrong, and nobody was doing anything about it." —**Raymond Chandler, The Big Sleep**

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The Crime Calendar

Noir Con - A conference dedicated to the celebration of Noir. Philadelphia, Pa, Nov. 4 - 7, 2010 http://noircon.com/

Murder and Mayhem in Muskego - Muskego, WI, Nov. 13, 2010 http://www.murderandmayheminmuskego.com/

Murder in the Grove--http://www.murderinthegrove.com/

New England Crime Bake-- http://crimebake.org/index.htm

MULHOLLAND BOOKS-NEW IN TOWN

By Dan Kelly

Mulholland Books is an exciting new outlet for mystery and suspense fiction that will make its bookstore debut next April with GUILT BY ASSOCIATION, the first novel by former L.A. County Prosecutor Marcia Clark.

With more than a dozen authors already signed, this new imprint of Little, Brown & Co. sees its mission as "finding the next James Patterson," according to Mulholland Marketing Director Miriam Parker. "We are devoted to printing great pageturners, unputdownable books. 'Unputdownable' is a word we love around here."

Mulholland's list will include both new and experienced authors. As editor John Schoenfelder explained during a rollicking panel discussion at the recent San Francisco Bouchercon, Daniel Woodrell will provide Mulholland's literary edge, while veteran Lawrence Block and such relative newcomers as Mark Billingham, Charlie Huston and Duane Swierczynski will provide edge-of-your-seat action. The company's goal is to publish one hardcover and one paperback per month by 2012.

Woodrell will start his Mulholland association with THE BAYOU TRILOGY, a reprint of his classic early novels UNDER THE BRIGHT LIGHTS (1986), MUSCLE FOR THE WING (1988) and THE ONES YOU DO (1992).

While admitting that his books are "about people it's not easy to care about," Woodrell said at Bouchercon that he refuses to see his work as all dark. "My books are about trying to create a family, not necessarily with relatives, but out of whatever's available."

Swierczynski (EXPIRATION DATE, SEVERANCE PACKAGE) will use Mulholland to launch a new series set in L.A. It kicks off with the titles FUN AND GAMES and HELL AND GONE. He confided to that Bouchercon panel that he often puts himself in his books: "I'm the guy who gets killed first."

Ms. Clark, who co-wrote the true-crime book

"Muhollan" Continued Page 6

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YOUR EDITOR SPEAKS JERI WESTERSON



I've recovered from Bouchercon but no sooner had I done that when I set off on the rollercoaster of promotion for the newly released third book in my medieval mystery series, THE DEMON'S PARCHMENT, with a launch and tour. How valuable is that face time with readers? Well, if you hope to turn browsers and readers into fans then it's important to cultivate that face time, no matter how time consuming it is. There are some who swear by Twitter and Facebook but I'd much rather be in front of a bunch of people, swinging my sword around (uh, that's not a euphemism. I actually do swing a sword around) and give my talks about the Middle Ages. There is an immediate, visceral response to being there in person with the author that

can't be duplicated with all the Friending and Twittering in the world. It's tough when it's on your own dime, to be sure, (Halloween weekend, I was driving through Arizona, hitting the bookstores), but it's the bread and butter of the business. After all, you have to connect with the bookstore owners as well. Those are the guys that will continue to sell your book after you are long gone and the next author plants his butt in your vacated seat.

themarchofcrime@gmail.com.

Save the Date

SoCal MWA Reception in Conjunction with the American Library Association's Midwinter Conference in San Diego

Friday, January 7, 2011, 5 to 8 PM Mysterious Galaxy 7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 9211-1040

858-268-4747

RSVP: contact@socalmwa.com

San Diego, South Orange County, and Inland Empire members especially encouraged to attend!

CHAPTER NEWS

SoCal MWA chapter will be offering a workshop, **"The Brave New World of Publishing"** on Saturday, November 6, from 2 to 5 p.m. The program will feature board member and author Pamela Samuels-Young; Paul Tayyer, publisher of Huntington Beach-based World Parade Books; and Tyler Dilts, whose debut novel is now part of the Amazon Encore program. The event will be held at 826 LA East, 1714 W. Sunset Blvd., in Echo Park. Be prepared to learn as well as celebrate different options for writers today.

SoCalMWA member and National board member **Lee Goldberg**, left, premiered his short film, "Remaindered," at Bouchercon in San Francisco in October. The film, made in conjunction with a special program in Owensboro, Kentucky, is based on one of Goldberg's short stories. In the film, **Doug Lyle's** books, FORENSICS FOR DUMMIES, features prominently.

Barbara DeMarco-Barrett is the new book critic at Orange Coast magazine. Authors who are somehow Orange County-connected, whether it be that their books are set there or they live there or were born there or whatever should send their books her way. <u>http://penonfire.blogspot.com</u>

Robert S. Levinson's short story, "Between Sins," is included in the BY HOOK OR BY CROOK "year's best" anthology set for November publication by Tyrus Books in trade paperback and a special hard cover edition signed by all the authors. The story originally appeared in Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine, which recently acquired Bob's new short story, "Any Similarity to Persons Living or Dead is Purely Coincidental."

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New West Hollywood Library

John Morgan Wilson will join Christopher Rice and other West Hollywood writers and literacy activists to co-host an invitation-only cocktail event on November 8 at Soho House in WeHo to support of West Hollywood's new library, which is already under construction. Details at <u>info@weholibraryfund.org</u>. The new library will be the cornerstone of the \$64 million Library Park project, complete with conference rooms, cafe, and more. It will transform West Hollywood Park and be used as part of the West Hollywood Book Fair each year. Artist's conception pictured right.



"Mulholland" continued from Page 4

WITHOUT A DOUBT about her experiences on the O.J. Simpson case, confided at Bouchercon that she had made several stabs at writing a novel before finding her voice with GUILT BY ASSOCIATION. "My novel is about what it's like in the prosecutor's office. Prosecutors live beautiful lives. My world is populated by criminals, but there's humanity everywhere, prosecution and defense. And of course normal people do bad things, too."

Mulholland is already showing a fresh approach to publishing by running a new essay or story every weekday on its website (www.MulhollandBooks.com). "We want the site to have something amazing every day," Ms. Parker said, "like an online magazine. We love the Mulholland name, we love L.A., and we want people to start their day with our site. We think it's a 21st century approach to publishing."

Parent company Little, Brown and Co. is already

home to such major names as Patterson, Michael Connelly and George Pelecanos, the latter via the Reagan Arthur Books imprint. "Little, Brown has enormous love for and success with the genre," Parker said. "But the current plan is for those authors to stay where they are."

Any Little, Brown editor can acquire for Mulholland, but Schoenfelder is the main editor.

The company is open to new writers, but all submissions must come through an agent.



I Just Love a Good Toxin

By Michael Grayston, Ph.D.



I recently met a mystery writer who asked me about a poison that she wanted to use in her next book. Now, I just love a good toxin, but things were just not going to go as easily as she had planned. If you want to poison someone, take great care with your killer, your victim, and your investigators. Remember, authenticity is a gold mine.

So, what kind of toxin?

Is it fast acting? Does it fit your story? Will your victim die alone before help can arrive? Could your victim make it to a hospital? Can they be kept alive until the danger passes? Or is their death inexorable? Is it is a slow acting poison and could one of Doug Lyle's hospital buddies save them? Or is it one of those sneaky cumulative toxins that you administer over a long time until it's just too late? Be creative.

Once you've picked your toxin, learn everything you can about it. Toxins exhibit characteristics and symptoms that can be detected. Find those things, learn as much about them as you can, and weld them effectively into your story. You don't have to gross out your reader with the details. Just make them shiver. They'll love it.

Make sure that the killer can't kill themselves off first. How does the killer get the toxin and without being found out? How they do they handle it? How do they poison your victim at just the right moment? Make sure your killer has all of the right kind of background to do this. Captivate your reader. So, now you've got an interesting toxin, a knowledgeable killer, and a nice dead person. Someone's gotta figure all this out. Right? You'll need good well-trained people – forensic chemists, forensic pathologists, physicians, whoever – to unravel your mystery. They'll need scientific and technical horsepower. They'll need any nature of medical, biological, and chemical tests to track down how your victim died and from what. Keep your reader hooked.

Finally, I'd like to give you a real world but very lousy choice of toxin. Botulinum toxin. I have worked enough of that stuff to kill several tens of millions of people and am still here to talk about it. How? The most potent neurotoxin known to man is also exquisitely delicate. So, it's a pretty pathetic choice because it's so easily inactivated. Your killer would have to have some pretty specialized training on how to handle it and get it into your victim. Even if you could manage to get hold of one of the most tightly controlled toxins known to man, odds are that your killer would kill themselves before they could kill their victim without that very specialized training. Choose your toxin wisely.

Take home message? Choose your toxin carefully. Make sure it works well in your murder. Make sure that your killer can get it and handle it without killing themselves first. Make sure that your victim dies in the way that you want. Make sure your investigators can find, identify it, and eventually track it back to your killer. Pay critical attention to detail. Learn everything that you can and weld it into your story. Make your readers' skin crawl. Enjoy!

Mike Grayston is a Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry with 27 years of pharmaceutical R&D experience. Mike specializes in medical murder mysteries. The first in a series of manuscripts goes out to agents in January.

Noir Holiday Party



Home of member Barbara Cox-Winter 1114 Rossmoyne Ave., Glendale, CA 91207 818-244-2888

Sunday, December 5, 2010 4 PM to 8 PM Dress festively in black! Food, non-alcoholic beverages and wine provided.

Free, but MWA member can only bring one guest.

RSVP by November 29 to <u>contact@socalmwa.com</u> Bring new or gently used books for our rural Mississippi library book drive.

Small Press, E-Publishing to be Discussed at Publishing Workshop

SoCal MWA will be presenting a half-day workshop, "The Brave New World of Publishing," on Saturday, November 6, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the 826LA East in Echo Park.

The workshop will begin with a session on the mechanics and options of e-publishing, led by chapter board member Pamela Samuels Young, an attorney and author of legal thrillers who was featured earlier this year on "The Mo'Nique Show."

Young, whose series has been published by Harlequin, has also self-published and created her own e-books. She will be directed participants to resources for creating their e-books as well as demonstrating how individuals can upload to the Kindle themselves.

Young's workshop will be followed by a reception to celebrate a local small press, Huntington Beach-based World Parade Books, which originally published Tyler Dilts's THE KING OF INFINITE SPACE. Dilts, a SoCal MWA member whose short story was sellected by guest editor Michael Connelly in *The Best American Mystery Stories* (2003), is a writing instructor at Cal State Long Beach and is the son of a Los Angeles deputy sheriff. His novel, part of an ongoing series, features Long Beach police detective Danny Beckett.

After initially being released by World Parade Books, THE KING OF INFINITE SPACE was picked up by Amazon's fledgling program, AmazonEncore, and re-released as a trade paperback as well as Kindle book. J.A. Konrath, a well-known proponent of e-publishing, will have the next installment of his Jacqueline "Jack" Daniels mystery series released by AmazonEncore next year.

From 4 to 5 p.m. chapter president Naomi Hirahara will be leading a discussion with both the publisher of World Parade Books, Paul Tayyar, and Dilts regarding the role of the small press in the changing world of publishing, as well as new opportunities through electronic publishing and specifically AmazonEncore. World Parade Books itself will be releasing another crime novel, Dave Newman's PLEASE DON'T SHOOT ANYONE TONIGHT.

826LA East, a nonprofit tutoring center spearheaded by a movement by author Dave Eggers, is located at 1714 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026. Telephone is 213-413-3388. Look for the sign, "Echo Park Time Travel Mart."

Ample parking is available in metered lots just south of Sunset Boulevard.

Admission is free and open to everyone but preregistration is requested. RSVP to contact@socalmwa.com.

826LA Needs Volunteer Tutors

826LA is dedicated to supporting students ages 6 to 18 with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write. Its services are structured around the understanding that great leaps in learning can happen with one-on-one attention, and that strong writing skills are fundamental to future success.

 $\ensuremath{\texttt{826LA}}\xspace$ has two locations – $\ensuremath{\texttt{826LA}}\xspace$ East in Echo Park and $\ensuremath{\texttt{826LA}}\xspace$ West in Venice.

As a volunteer, you have the opportunity to help during after-school tutoring, evening and weekend workshops, inschool support for teachers, and field trips. If you're interested in volunteering, please email <u>iwanttohelp@826la.org</u>. For more general information, see <u>www.826la.org</u> or call 213-413-3388 (Echo Park) or 310-305-8418 (Venice)

Transom Notes

Kate Carlisle's third Bibliophile Mystery, THE LIES THAT BIND, will be available November 2. Everyone's invited to help celebrate the book launch with good wine and hearty munchies on Saturday, November 6 at 3:00 pm at the Mystery Book Store in Westwood, 1036-C Broxton.

KISSING ARIZONA, **Elizabetrh Gunn's** latest Tucson mystery featuring homicide detective Sarah Burke, will be published in the UK at the end of October, and is due in US bookstores in early February.

THE MIDNIGHT SHOW MURDERS, the second book in the series **Dick Lochte** is writing with Al Roker, arrives in November.

Fred Andersen had two stories e-published: "The Nighty Knight," which appeared in The Nautilus Engine vol. 3 no. 3., and "Writer's Chat Room," in Issue 6 of Imitation Fruit.

Debra Ginsberg's novel THE NEIGHBORS ARE WATCHING, will pub from Crown Books on November 16.

THE PARAMOUR'S DAUGHTER, the seventh Maggie MacGowen mystery by **Wendy Hornsby**, has just been released by Perseverance Press.

Edward Wright's latest novel, FROM BLOOD, was published by Orion Books, and his first two, CLEA'S MOON and WHILE I DISAPPEAR, appeared in ebook format.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010

Snap Shots

Weight Loss for Writers, or How I Trim Ugly Fat from My Manuscripts

By Jackie Houchin

Okay, I've followed up on those cool ideas for articles (Part I). I've conducted my interviews, checked my facts and written my piece (Part II). Now I'm ready to submit my story (along with the invoice, of course) and wait for my check to arrive, right?

Wrong!

There's one more step to take before I hit that "SEND" button. I must get out the scale and weigh my chubby little darling. What I usually discover is not pretty. My manuscript is not the lean, fit article I thought it was. There are double chins, love handles, and soft, flabby appendages. Eek! Now what?

Editing, like dieting and exercise, is not fun, but if I want a story tough enough to make it to publication, I must be ruthless.

Portion Control

The first thing I check is the Word Count. Whether it's a magazine guideline or an editor stipulation, I usually know the approximate number of words I can use. *Mystery Scene Magazine* limits reviews to 250 words. Some newsletters want no more than 400. The local newspapers I write for stipulate 600-700 words for articles with an occasional "feature" story at 1,000-1,500.

Microsoft Word 2007 keeps a running count at the bottom of the document window. It also gives an accurate character/word/sentence count in its "grammar check" feature. I have no excuse for word count bulge.

If I'm only slightly over, I do a quick scan for superfluous words ("tiny little" to "tiny"). If I've switched words, I make sure I've eliminated the previous one (I drove <u>the</u> my car). Of the 15 times I use the word "just" I take out all but one.

Hyphenations change two words into one, so do contractions if the tone of the piece allows it. (This is not *exactly* cheating.)

Sentences *average* about 10 words, so if I can cut one word from each sentence I've reduced my count by 10 percent. (I usually shoot for 20 percent.)

If I'm way over count, major surgery is required. I view the piece as a whole and consider where I can condense or even cut entire paragraphs. I'm always surprised when this makes my article stronger. (Imagine how great you would feel if you could lose 15 pounds of fat overnight!)

Good Carbs vs. Bad Carbs

Okay, my article is now comfortably within the allowed word count. Is it ready to submit? Not quite. While I have my red pencil out (finger hovering over the DELETE key) I review it once more, this time checking the "nutritional" value of my words.

I look for clichés ("pretty as a picture"), delaying words ("It seems that..."), redundancies ("I thought *to myself*," "large *in size*,") and grand phrases ("institute of higher learning" instead of "college")

I change empty calories into powerhouse protein. "A dead body" is upgraded to "a corpse;" "he said in a loud voice" to "he shouted;" "dark yellow horse" to "Palomino;" and "really very funny" to "hilarious."

I exchange fat for fiber (the passive "was meeting" becomes an active "met"), and I remove bloated descriptive words (several adjectives, most adverbs). Away with those unhealthy words and phrases! I want fatburning, muscle-building prose!

Lean at last!

Editing is not easy. It hurts to cut away words and phrases (or paragraphs) that I thought at first were brilliant. I do it because I want my articles to be published. If I want clips, creds, and checks, I have to work (and rework) at it. As they say, "No pain, no gain."

Wait, was that a cliché? Darn!

Did You Hear the News?

Bouchercon Comes to Long Beach in 2014

The world's largest mystery book convention, Bouchercon, will be in our own backyard in 2014. Bouchercon will be held at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach, right next to the convention center.

More information will be available on how the chapter and individuals can volunteer and make this event a success!

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Southern California Mystery Writers of America presents

The Brave New World of Publishing

Saturday, November 6, 2010 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 826 LA East (Echo Park Time Travel Mart) 1714 W. Sunset Blvd., Echo Park, CA 90026 213-413-3388 (Ample metered parking available just south of Sunset Boulevard.)

2 p.m. to 3 p.m. The Mechanics of E-Books

Mystery writer Pamela Samuels Young will discuss the basics of e-books and provide the resources you need to turn your short story or novel into an e-book.

3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Reception for Local Small Press Publisher World Parade Books

Meet Paul Tayyar, Publisher of World Parade Books.



3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. A Debut Novelist's Adventure with Small Press Publishing and Amazon Encore

Amazon Encore Author Tyler Dilts and Paul Tayyar of World Parade Books will share their publishing experiences. Moderated by SoCal MWA Chapter President Naomi Hirahara.



826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students ages 6 to 18 with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write. Volunteers needed: e-mail iwanttohelp@826la.org.

Free but reservations required at contact@socalmwa.com.





June 11-12, 2011

At The Hilton Pasadena, 168 S. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA



Come Join Us for a Weekend of Crime Writers, Forensic Specialists, Editors, and Agents!

The conference attracts attendees and presenters from across the country and offers four tracks of classes geared to writers from the beginner to the multi-published. Come meet your future agent!



Special Guest Saturday Keynote T. Jefferson Parker

Special Guest Sunday Keynote S. J. Rozan

Registration Rates are:
\$265 now until Feb 28 \$300 from Mar 1 - May 31
\$350 June 1 to day of event (on-site registration only)
Name
Address
Phone
E-mail (required to confirm registration)
Pen name (if applicable)
MWA Member SinC Member Non Member
Food choices: Saturday: Chicken Beef Vegetarian
Sunday: Chicken Fish Vegetarian
Conference fee
Manuscript critique\$50 Total enclosed
To register and pay by check: Make check payable to "Sisters in Crime/LA" and mail with completed form to Sisters in Crime/LA, 1107 Fair Oaks Avenue, PMB 338, South Pasadena, CA 91030 To register online, pay via PayPal, and for more information visit www.ccwconference.org



MYSTERY WRITERS OF AMERICA Southern California Chapter 12021 Wilshire Blvd. #506 Los Angeles, CA 90025

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Editor: Jeri Westerson

To submit material for *The March of Crime*, email the editor at <u>TheMarchofCrime@gmail.com</u>

To advertise in TMOC, visit our website at www.SoCalMWA.com for information.

Any opinions expressed herein are those of each author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Mystery Writers of America or the local chapter.

Next Meeting:

"The Brave New World of Publishing"

Saturday, Nov 6

2 pm to 5 pm

826 LA East (Echo Park Time Travel Mart)

1714 W. Sunset Blvd., Echo Park, CA 213-413-3388

Speakers: Author Pamela Samuels-Young, Publisher Paul Tayyar, and Author Tyler Dilts

Free, but reservations required. contact@socalmwa.com



Mystery Writers of America Southern California Chapter

12021 Wilshire Blvd., #506, Los Angeles, CA 90025 323-319-6MWA (6692)

Email: info@socalmwa.com

The Web of Crime: www.socalmwa.com

President Naomi Hirahara Board of Directors

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Ex-officio: Leslie Klinger



Mystery Writers of America 1140 Broadway, Suite 1507, New York, NY 10001 Phone: 212.888.8171 / Fax: 212.888.8107

Email: <u>mwa@mysterywriters.org</u>

Website: www.mysterywriters.org

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LAST WORD



TV Legend William Link signing his short story collection of Columbo tales at Bouchercon in San Francisco, for MWA newsletter editor and fan, Jeri Westerson. Photo by Bob Levinson.