



The
MARCH

of CRIME

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SoCalMWA Luncheon

Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 11:30am

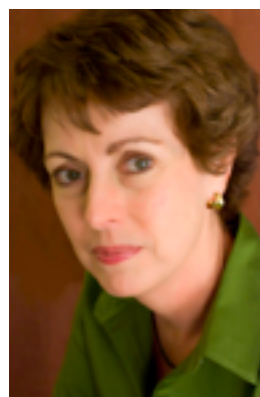
Dashiell Hammett:

True Stories of Ambition, Frustration and Inspiration

Featuring

Hammett's Granddaughter and advocate

Julie M. Rivett



The conversation will be, to quote Hammett, "as real as a dime."

The personal meets the professional when Julie M. Rivett shares her perspective on her grandfather's life and legacy. Hear about the forces that shaped his fiction, explore the diamond facets in his work and learn about his public and private struggles as a writer, a father and an activist. Discover the cautionary, complex saga that has shaped the afterlife of one of America's most influential writers.

Tam O'Shanter Restaurant
2980 Los Feliz Blvd, LA

[Click here for more info and to reserve your spot](#)

Mark Your Calendars!

10/1/16 Gumbo & Home-Brewed Ale Party

12/17/16 Holiday Bash

[Visit the 2016
Crime Calendar](#)



The President's Rap Sheet

Craig Faustus Buck

Happy New Year to all. May the new year bring you health, prosperity and wisdom, and may you meet or exceed the daily word-count quota that presumably topped your list of resolutions.

We've got some exciting programming in the works for this year, including our first Tam O'Shanter luncheon on January 10 with Dashiell Hammett scholar (and granddaughter) Julie M. Rivett. And while we're talking dates, mark your calendars on October 1 for Bill and Kendall Fitzhugh's world famous home-made gumbo party, also featuring Craig Westerson's fantastic home-brewed ales, assuming he hasn't been snapped up by Anheuser-Busch by then. Also save December 17 for our annual holiday bash in the secret speakeasy at Golden Road Brewery. Distant commuters take note: that's a Saturday night for your convenience.

This year's events will be organized by your board, as usual, but we've brought on some new blood, so there should be some exciting and innovative programs in the stew. Along with me, continuing officers Sue Ann Jaffarian (VP), Eric Beetner (Treasurer), Terri Nolan (Secretary), and continuing board members Matt Coyle, Jessica Kaye and Paul D. Marks, are pleased to welcome new board members Shannon Baker, Elizabeth Little, Travis Richardson and James Ziskin. I'm very excited about this roster and want to assure the new members that our chapter expects their volunteer duties to take no more than sixty hours a week from their writing schedules.

I'd like to thank departing board members Susan Goldstein, Susan Cummins Miller, Maxine Nunes and Charles Rosenberg for their hard work and dedication over the past term. And while we're on the subject of volunteering above and beyond the call of duty, I'd like to give huge props to our indefatigable TMOC editor Holly West for her continuing support and excellent work on this newsletter, despite the geographic anomalies that threaten to rip her from our bosom.

And finally, I'd like to report on our chapter finances, a policy just recently adopted by MWA to provide long overdue transparency. Thus, I am reporting here our chapter cash flow for the second half of last year, and will provide ongoing reports every six months:

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Chapter Officers

President: Craig Faustus Buck
VP: Sue Ann Jaffarian
Treasurer: Eric Beetner
Secretary: Terri Nolan

Board of Directors

Shannon Baker
 Matt Coyle
 Jessica Kaye
 Elizabeth Little
 Paul D. Marks
 Travis Richardson
 James Ziskin

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 Los Angeles, CA 90034

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<https://facebook.com/groups/72570009680>

Join our SoCalMWA Yahoo! Group

Email SoCalMWA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
 to join
 (members only)

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SoCalMWA Chapter

INFLOWS (7/1/2015 through 12/31/2015)

Chapter Share \$3,549.00

Dinners, Banquets, Luncheons \$3,110.00

Special Events - Receipts \$10,920.85 (CA Crime Writers Conference 2015 share)

Other \$575.00 (Tucson Festival of Books refund for double-charge)

TOTAL INFLOWS \$ 18,154.85

OUTFLOWS (7/1/2015 through 12/31/2015)

Dinners, Banquets, Luncheons - expenses \$10,189.74

Special Events - expenses \$2,655.37

Office, Stationery & printing \$633.30

Telephone/Website & Utilities \$527.48

Misc. expenses \$264.26

TOTAL OUTFLOWS \$14,270.15

Starting Balance (7/1/15) \$28,631.60

Ending Balance (12/31/15) \$32,516.30

Hoping to see you at the Tam,

Craig Faustus Buck

The March of Crime is the newsletter of the Southern California Chapter of the Mystery Writers of America.

Editor: [Holly West](#)

January Contributors:
Gregory Von Dare

Opinions expressed herein are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Mystery Writers of America Southern California Chapter.

Contact us at:
themarchofcrime@gmail.com

FRESH BLOOD

SoCalMWA welcomes its new and returning members:

Joan Fry
Jennifer Berg Keller
Lawrence H. Levy
Jonathan Shapiro
Carole Sojka



Like us on Facebook

Join our **SoCalMWA**
Yahoo! Group

Email
SoCalMWA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

OVER the TRANSOM

Member News

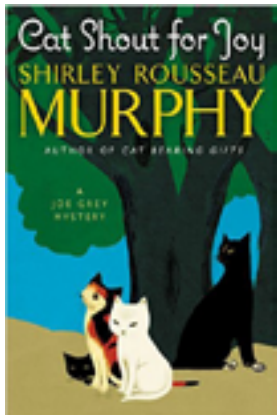


D.P. Lyle's updated 2nd Edition of *FORENSICS FOR DUMMIES* will be released by Wiley in February 2016.

Corey Lynn Fayman's third Rolly Water mystery novel, *DESERT CITY DIVA*, was published on January 1, 2016.

Gay Tolt Kinman's three short stories from *Mysterious Women* and on Kindle are:

“A Fiddle For Snicky,” about a con man who buys wood paneling that was used to make a famous musician’s Stradivarius-like violin, and plans to sell the wood for an enormous profit, “The Camp Counselors’ Convention,” narrated by a mystery writing instructor who plays fast and loose with the facts in her mind after two counselors have fatal accidents. As she starts to ask questions for her story, she learns that her fictional murders may not be fiction after all. And “The Head of a Cat,” in which the heroine of the story cannot understand why anyone would hurt a cat—until her good friend dies unexpectedly.



Shirley Rousseau Murphy's forthcoming book, *CAT SHOUT FOR JOY*, will be published by William Morrow in February. In this nineteenth book of the P.I. Joe Grey series, Joe and his lady Dulcie enrich, and encumber, their lives with a litter of kittens -- just as they bid goodbye to Misto, the elderly golden Tom who is about to become again a ghostly presence.

Jonathan Shapiro's novel, *DEADLY FORCE*, the first installment of the Lizzie Scott Trilogy, comes out January 23, 2016 (Ankerwycke Press). A former federal prosecutor, Shapiro has been writing and producing television for the 16 years (*The Blacklist*, *Life*, *Justice*, *Boston Legal*, *The Practice*). Along with David E. Kelley, he is the creator and executive producer of the new Amazon Prime series *Trial*, starring Billy Bob Thornton and William Hurt.



The movie based on **Joanne Fluke's** novel, *PEACH COBBLER MURDER*, will premiere on the Hallmark Movies and Mysteries channel on Sunday, January 10th at 9 PM Eastern. *Peach Cobbler Mystery* stars Alison Sweeney as Hannah, Cameron Mathison as Mike, Barbara Niven as Delores, and Gabriel Hogan as Norman. This is the 3rd movie in the Hannah Swensen “Murder She Baked” franchise.

Annette Mahon's latest mystery from Five Star/Gale/Cengage, *SLAY BELLS*, a St. Rose Quilting Bee Mystery, will be out on January 20, 2016.

OVER the TRANSOM



Barry Wiley had a Christmas story, “A Second Sight Christmas,” on the December home page of *Kings River Life* magazine. A second story, “Tall Paul,” is scheduled for the January 9 issue. Both stories feature Kyame Piddington, the young heroine of his Adventures in Second Sight series. Also scheduled on *Kings River Life* in January will be a review of Wiley’s new thriller, BEYOND THE TEMPEST: A SORCEROUS TALE OF BERMUDA. The second of Wiley’s new novels, TALES OF A THOUGHT READER, sold out at Men of Mystery.

David Knop’s ANIMAL PARTS will be published in January 2016. For more information visit <http://davideknopbooks.com>.

Kensington Publishing will be running a Goodreads giveaway during the month of January for an ARC of journalist and former crime reporter **Jane Haseldine’s** debut suspense novel, THE LAST TIME SHE SAW HIM (check out more here: <http://bit.ly/1NCX6K0>). The book launches in July 2016.



Craig Faustus Buck sold a locked-room mystery story, “The Corpulent Corpse,” to *Mystery Weekly Magazine* for publication for this month’s edition. He also sold two more stories told as text conversations to Hooked0_0, the short story app.

John Morgan Wilson has joined MWA’s new manuscript critique program, which gives members the opportunity to get detailed feedback on 25 pages of their fiction or nonfiction from a professional writer for \$100. John, an Edgar winner for Best First, with ten published mystery novels and numerous short stories to his credit, has already filled two critique requests. For details on the program, [see page 9](#) or go to the [national MWA website](#).

Lawrence H. Levy’s new novel, BROOKLYN ON FIRE (Random House), will be published on January 19, 2016. In his debut novel, SECOND STREET STATION, which was named one of the five best mysteries of 2015 by Library Journal, Mr. Levy introduced readers to Mary Handley, a brilliant young woman from Brooklyn who defied societal norms of the late nineteenth century to become a detective. In BROOKLYN ON FIRE, Mary’s new case leads her to multiple murders and thrusts her into the middle of a bitter, political fight over New York City’s attempt to annex Brooklyn.



Robert S. Levinson has entered the New Year on a pair of happy notes. His thirteenth crime novel, THE STARDOM AFFAIR, is set for late April publication, while *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* has acquired another of his short stories, “Rosalie Marx is Missing;” pub date pending. THE STARDOM AFFAIR reunites Neil Gulliver and Stephanie Marriner, the happily-divorced couple who starred in Bob’s first four hardcovers.

OVER the TRANSOM



Travis Richardson's short story, "Being Fred," is in the new issue of Thuglit, available from Amazon and other booksellers. Travis Richardson's flash fiction story, "Tim's Mother Lied," will be on Shotgun Honey on January 18 at <http://shotgunhoney.net>.

Gary Phillips contributed a story, "Ride from Three Devils," to the just out anthology, BASS REEVES: FRONTIER MARSHAL. Born a slave, Reeves would go on to be one of the fiercest, most resourceful lawman-bountyman in the Indian Territories of the Wild West. His real life serves as the basis for these four stories, each 15,000 words. The marshal is also slated to be an HBO miniseries, but you can enjoy the excitement of his adventures that makes the Hateful 8 look tame now! In paper and e-book from Airship 27, and soon on audio from Radio Archives.

Do you have writing news to share with our chapter?
Email it to TheMarchofCrime@gmail.com
by January 20 for inclusion in the February issue.

February 21, 2016 ~ 8pm

FEATURING:

Eric Beetner, S.W. Lauden, Owen Laukkenen,
Johnny Shaw, Rob Hart, Tom Pitts, S.G. Redling,

NOIR AT THE BAR

Mandrake ~ 2692 La Cienega



Member
APPEARANCES

Sisters in Crime Orange County will kick off 2016 with its annual Forensics Fest meeting on Sunday, January 24 at 2 p.m. in Irvine. The topic: “What Makes The Bad Guys Tick? Three Experts Discuss Dark Motivations and Heinous Acts.”

Those experts are **D.P. Lyle**, **Dennis Palumbo** and **David Putnam** -- authors all, and noted experts within their respective arenas.

A board-certified MD, “Doug” Lyle has been a consultant to countless novelists as well as writers of popular television shows, among them *Law & Order* and *CSI: Miami*, to help ensure forensic authenticity. A prolific author of both crime fiction and non-fiction, he is the co-host, along with best-selling mystery novelist **Jan Burke**, of CRIME AND SCIENCE RADIO, a twice-monthly program on SUSPENSE RADIO.

Dennis Palumbo, M.A., MFT, is a writer and licensed psychotherapist who applies his private practice expertise to his mysteries featuring crime-solving psychologist and trauma expert Daniel Rinaldie. The fourth in the series, PHANTOM LIMB, is now on sale from Poisoned Pen Press.

David Putnam spent more than 30 years in law enforcement prior to becoming an author. His latest book, due in February 2016, is THE SQUANDERED (Oceanview), the third in his series featuring Bruno Johnson, ex-cop turned parolee.

The meeting will be held in the Community Room of the Irvine Ranch Water District. Located on the northeast side of the parking lot, the address is: 15500 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine. The public is cordially invited. Visit OCSistersinCrime.org for more information.

Corey Lynn Fayman will present the “Make it a Mystery” Workshop at the Southern California Writers’ Conference in San Diego, February 12-14.

Gay Toltl Kinman for fiction and Elizabeth Pomeroy, a local history writer, for non-fiction, will talk about how they each use research in their work, at the Alhambra Historical Society meeting on January 27 at 7pm at the Masonic Center in Alhambra.

Jeri Westerson will be at Cerritos Library Murder on the Menu Saturday, January 30 from 11 am to 4 pm along with many fellow SoCalMWA authors. Luncheon. Books for sale. Call (562) 924-2474 and talk to Janice. Skyline Room, Cerritos Library 18025 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703.

Jeri will also be launching her 8th Crispin Guest Medieval Noir THE SILENCE OF STONES on Saturday, February 6 first at 1 pm at Mystery Ink in Huntington Beach 8907 Warner Ave #135, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 (714) 960-4000 <http://www.mysteryink.com/> and then at 5 pm where the party gets bigger at Vroman’s in Pasadena. Mead! Medieval food! A bagpiper! Presentation! and Prizes! Please Pre-order if you can! 695 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91101 626-449-5320. Go to <http://www.jerwesterson.com/appearance> for more of her launch schedule.

Member APPEARANCES

Award-winning TV writer **Lawrence H. Levy** will be doing a reading and book signing of his new novel, *BROOKLYN ON FIRE*, at Barnes and Noble in Burbank (731 N. San Fernando Blvd, Burbank) at 2pm on January 23.

Jan Burke and **DP Lyle**: Upcoming shows for Crime & Science Radio
More details: <http://www.dplylemd.com>

1-16-16: Crime and Science Radio: Tracking Down the Bad Guys: A Conversation with Retired US Marshal and Novelist Marc Cameron

1-30-16: Crime and Science Radio: Working Stiff: An Interview with Forensic Pathologist Judy Melinek and co-author/husband TJ Mitchell

2-13-16: Crime and Science Radio: Crime and Science in the OC: an Interview with Bruce Houlihan, Director of the Orange County Crime Lab

Mike Befeler will be moderating a panel at Mystery on the Menu at the Cerritos Library 18025 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA, on Saturday January 30, 2016 starting at 11 AM.

Laurie Stevens will also be participating in Mystery on the Menu on January 30 at the Cerritos Library.

Bonnie MacBird began a three-country tour in London this past fall for her novel, *ART IN THE BLOOD*, A Sherlock Holmes Adventure.





Mystery Writers of America

The MWA National Manuscript Critique Program

Not sure if Chapter 1 gets your novel off to a rip-roaring start? Wonder if you have too many characters crammed into your short story? Worried the opening to your true crime novel falls flat? Now you can have an expert answer your writing questions with MWA's new National Manuscript Critique Program.

A professional mystery writer will critique the first 25 pages of your writing. This includes mystery novels, novellas, nonfiction, short stories, or any work where crime is the central element. The critique will be about 1,000 words and cost \$100, a bargain for professional critiques. This benefit is for all members.

How the Manuscript Critique Program works:

(1) E-mail mwa@mysterywriters.org that you want a manuscript critique. Administrative director Margery Flax will e-mail you a list of MWA critiquers, with their biographies and specialties. E-mail Margery your top three choices.

(2) Send a check for \$100 made out to Mystery Writers of America to Margery Flax, Administrative Director, Mystery Writers of America, 1140 Broadway, Suite 1507, New York, NY 10001.

Margery has volunteered to administer this program, keep track of payments and who is assigned to whom. The entire \$100 fee will go to the critiquer upon completion and approval of the critique.

(3) Once MWA has received your payment, Margery will ask you to e-mail your 25-page manuscript to mwa@mysterywriters.org. You may mail less than 25 pages, but the fee is still \$100.

(4) Manuscript formatting: Please send the manuscripts by e-mail only, as a Microsoft Word attachment. The work should be Times New Roman, 14-point, double-spaced, with one-inch margins. Indent each paragraph by using the MS Word paragraphing or formatting tools. Do not press the space bar repeatedly to indent.

Please note: Incorrectly formatted manuscripts will be returned.

(5) MWA will contact your top three critique choices. If these writers are not available, you may choose another three, or, if you prefer, your money will be refunded.

(6) The critiquer will have 30 days to read and write a 1,000 word critique of your manuscript.

(7) The 1,000 word critique will be read and approved by the critique committee before its release. MWA wants our writers to receive a critique that is helpful but not crushing. If the critique committee believes a critique is too harsh, it will be returned to the critiquer with a request to rephrase it.



Hollow Points

Gregory Von Dore

On Safari

The term *safari* is a Swahili word meaning travel. Our classic understanding of a safari is a month-long trek into the African bush with a large party of hunters and native “bearers.” You would seek to bring down smaller animals for food and larger animals for trophies, or in an extreme case, to shoot large animals who have gone rogue and have preyed on local villagers or settlements.

For most of human history, hunting big animals was a necessity to feed the tribe and a source of positive male fellowship and camaraderie. No one brings down a mastodon alone (except in fiction). Sociologists have speculated that the need for communication and team efforts in hunting formed the basis for cooperation in other parts of society which eventually lead to government, sports and global trade.



A double rifle meant for the biggest game in Africa.

Which is not to say that hunting is inherently good. The slaughter of the American Buffalo was a disgrace that presaged many other abominations wrought on the natural world. By and large, buffalo hunters in the Old West used the 1874

Shiloh Sharps rifle, made for the .50-90, black powder cartridge, as big as your index finger. The Sharps could kill from long range and hunters took advantage of the fact that bison tended to gather around a fallen individual in a kind of death watch. This grouping behavior made further kills extremely easy.

In the 19th and most of the 20th Centuries, a so-called big game safari was an adventure to be remembered for a lifetime. Wealthy individuals from all over the world aspired to bag tigers, water buffalo and elephants in India, or the African “Big Five” of lion, elephant, rhino, cape buffalo and leopard. Trophy heads were proudly displayed from the Midwest to the Far East.

Most African safaris included a “white hunter” (often a Brit), a native guide, many native “bearers” and outdoor equipment such as tents, cots, cook-stoves, water bags, awnings and a truck or two. Contrary to the movies, safaris rarely went into the dense jungle. It’s almost impossible to get a clear shot in there and leopards usually attack from above—a big tree limb, for instance. The Serengeti and other open savannah lands were considered the best hunting country. The ideal was to get close to your game by stealth and then kill it cleanly with a single shot, two at most. Those who kill from a great distance are considered unsporting at best. And to run away from a charging animal marked you for life. Hemingway’s story “The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber” gives a remarkable look at this culture.



Ernest Hemingway on safari in the 1950s.

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Hollow Points - [continued from pg 10](#)

Safari rifles come in two basic flavors: bolt action or double rifle. Both kinds have a very large bore and load a humongous cartridge. The recoil or kick of a safari rifle is not for the faint of heart or the weak of body. The bolt action guns are perhaps more accurate but the double rifle, closely resembling a double-barrel shotgun, has one key advantage: you can take a second shot a few tenths of a second after the first, without cranking a bolt through its cycle. If a large, angry animal such as a cape buffalo or bull elephant is charging right at you, this could mean the difference between life and death for the hunter—literally. Most shotgun manufacturers who make side-by-side double barrel shotguns also provide large-bore double rifles in the same pattern.

Calibers can get crazy in Africa, with bullet widths over .400 being common and necessary. Most popular are the .370 caliber, the .400, .454, .458 Winchester, .500 and the massive .600 Nitro Express. Going on safari was especially popular with the British upper classes and British gun manufacturers such as Holland & Holland, Purdey, Westly Richards and John Rigby all made powerful double rifles for safari use. In Germany, Merkel and Steinkamp made double rifles too, although the bolt action Mauser was the first choice of most German, Dutch and Boer hunters.

Back when it was not considered a sin against the planet to hunt elephant, an “elephant gun” was usually around .500 caliber, double barreled, and with relatively short barrels. Bull elephants, especially violent when in heat, often charged a hunter unprovoked and there was a real need to bring down this huge angry animal quickly and definitively at short range.



One of the “Big Five” still considered hutable is the massive cape buffalo. Africans call them the “Black Death” and fear them more than lions, rhinos or elephants. The “buff” has never been tamed and will charge unpredictably. Think of it as a cross between a rodeo bull and an express train. Its horns form a large bony mass on top of the skull and then sweep downward and outward, finally curving back up toward the head and ending in sharp points. The buff’s typical strategy is to trample you and then gore you with side to side strokes while pinning you to the ground. There is no surviving this attack. Cape Buffalo kill adult male lions all the time.

Cape Buffalo bulls weigh over a ton and can outrun a truck.

Next time we’ll consider bolt-action safari rifles such as the Mauser and Winchester, and hunting rifles for other game such as big-horn sheep, antelope, wild boar, moose and elk.

All images used in this article are courtesy of [Wikimedia Commons](#).

Gregory Von Dare comes from Chicago and was raised on crime, corruption and clout in the big city. He has written non-fiction books, magazine articles and radio scripts, as well as stories, plays and screenplays. He once worked as a pyro detonator and talent manager for Universal Studios Hollywood.

A decorative banner with a light olive green background and a darker olive green ribbon-like border. The word "Crime" is written in a cursive font, and "CALENDAR" is in a bold, sans-serif font.

Crime
CALENDAR

Criminal Happenings in 2016

January 10 - [Luncheon with Julie M. Rivett, Dashiell Hammett's granddaughter, Los Angeles, CA](#)
February 21 - [Noir at the Bar, Culver City, CA](#)
February 25 - 28 - [Left Coast Crime, Phoenix, AZ](#)
March 13 - [Tucson Festival of Books, Tucson, AZ](#)
April 29 - May 1 - [Malice Domestic, Bethesda, MD](#)
July 28 - 31 - [Book Passage Mystery Writers Conference, Corte Madera, CA](#)
September 15 - 18 - [Bouchercon, New Orleans, LA](#)
October 1 - [Gumbo & Homebrewed Ale Party, Los Angeles, CA](#)
December 17- [SoCalMWA Holiday Party, Los Angeles, CA](#)

A decorative banner with a light olive green background and a darker olive green ribbon-like border. The word "The" is written in a cursive font, and "LAST WORD" is in a bold, sans-serif font.

The
LAST WORD

“When a Frenchwoman is not a beauty, she is yet a work of art.
And when she is beautiful there are none of her sex to surpass her.”

--Bonnie MacBird, ART IN THE BLOOD