

October 2016



The
MARCH

of CRIME

Inside this issue

[President's Rap Sheet p. 2](#)

[Editor's Corner p. 3](#)

[Fresh Blood p. 3](#)

[Over the Transom p. 4](#)

[Member Appearances p. 6](#)

[CCWC Reg Open p. 8](#)

[Hollow Points p. 9](#)

[You Oughta Be in Pics p.11](#)

[Crime Calendar p.15](#)

[Last Word p.15](#)

DEMYSTIFYING WRITING SOFTWARE: WHAT'S OUT THERE & HOW TO USE IT

Saturday, October 22, 2pm
Studio City Public Library

Learn about various programs to help you with your writing: novel writing, screenwriting and creative organization software.



Featuring: **James Scott Bell**, **Sharon Goldstein** and **Tom Sawyer**

Speaker Intros by **Paul D. Marks**

Tech savvy? Hone your skills. Tech challenged? We'll help. Bring a charged-up laptop if you have one. Non-members welcome.

[For more details and to reserve your spot, click here.](#)

SoCalMWC Event:
Saturday, October 15

**Vegas Valley
Book Festival**

[More Info](#)



The President's Rap Sheet

Craig Faustus Buck

Bouchercon is always like a huge family reunion, seeing mystery community friends from all over the world and reliving so many memories. On returning, these memories started me thinking about the role of memory (partly because my memory is notoriously horrendous).

There's no doubt that a useful memory saves a writer time. Innumerable hours can be lost researching locations you've been to but can't picture in detail, or guns you've researched for your last book but have forgotten the specifics of, or the stages of rigor mortis that you've already looked up a dozen times on DP Lyle's blog.

These sorts of things waste time, but at least the uber-memory of the Internet can compensate for these types of memory lapses. When I was writing GO DOWN HARD, I spent an hour one day looking for the analog of "ambidextrous" in the context of legs rather than hands. When I succeeded in finding "ambicrural" (absent from most dictionaries), I was in heaven. But it was a word I'd once heard, and a good memory (or searchable note about it) might have saved me that hour for my writing.

The more critical value of memory involves the oddities you notice in people that you can use to flesh out a character. Memory can preserve a pattern of speech, a hitch in the gait, a nervous habit, a tic, an odor. Our senses vacuum up these human quirks all the time without any conscious registry. The Internet is generally useless for such essential trivia.

Or consider texture. You can't Google the patterns of the ebb tide in the sand on Malibu beach unless you luck upon the exact photo. You can't look up the difference between the hectic flight patterns of a house fly versus the lazy meanderings of a blowfly just hatched from a corpse. The trivial observances that bring a crime story to life are hard to come by without mining the veins of memory.

So if you're like me, and can't depend on clinging to that sweet observation you made in the train station, or that slice of conversation you picked up in the booth next door in the cafe, take a moment to make a mental note to yourself to remember. The conscious effort to file away a detail, or an idea, or a name--which I usually fail to do--can be a writer's godsend.

I swear there was a point to this rap when I began writing it, but I'll be damned if I can remember what it was.

Craig

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

Mystery Writers of America
 Southern California Chapter
 3520 Overland Avenue, #A-82
 Los Angeles, CA 90034

Contact: info@socalmwa.com
 Website: <http://socalmwa.com>

[Like us on Facebook](#)
<https://facebook.com/groups/72570009680>

Join our SoCalMWA
 Yahoo! group
 for chapter news & info

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

NATIONAL OFFICE

Mystery Writers of America
 1140 Broadway #1507
 New York, NY 10001
 t. 212.888.8171
 f. 212.888.8107

mwa@mysterywriters.org
<http://mysterywriters.org>



The EDITOR'S CORNER

Holly West

For years now, I've used Scrivener to write my novels and stories. I've got a pretty fair grasp of it at this point, but I'm one of those people who hates doing tutorials or reading manuals (much to my husband's dismay). I prefer to learn by doing, but this often means that I miss out on some of the fancy features a software program offers.

For this reason, I love that SoCalMWA has organized a "[Demystifying Writing Software](#)" workshop this month. Sure, you can write using any basic word processing program (or, if you're like me, with a favorite pen and a legal pad), but many of the software programs available today make structuring, formatting and compiling your work a whole lot easier than it used to be. October's workshop is a great opportunity to see what's out there and to get an introduction on how to use the various software programs available to us.

Yay, technology.

Since I suspect a number of our members are still recovering from Bouchercon, we've got a lean and mean issue this month. Gregory Von Dare discusses women and guns in [Hollow Points](#) and several people [submitted photos](#) from Bouchercon. As always, thank you for your contributions.

Holly

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

Editor: [Holly West](#)

October 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:

Joshua Corin
P. Moss
Matt Goldman
Frank Grady



Like us on Facebook

Join our **SoCalMWA**
Yahoo! group
for chapter news & info

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

OVER the TRANSOM

Member News

Stefanie Stolinsky's novel, *HOT SHOT*, a comedy/mystery about degenerate gambler, Tyler West, who finds himself in debt to the Russian mob for \$1.5 million when they--for some unknown reason to Tyler---lend him the money. The FBI recruits Tyler to help uncover the money-laundering scheme behind all this and in so doing, Tyler finds that "true love" is the antidote and in the end, must make the decision---do I continue out of control gambling, or do I run away with my true love. *HOT SHOT* is available Nov 1.

In **Ed Kovacs'** sixth thriller novel, *LOCKED DOWN*, a former NSA analyst is targeted for assassination by rogue elements of the Chinese and U.S. governments, forcing her to fight back using what she knows best—computers—to stay one step ahead of her pursuers and to extract the ultimate form of justice. A September release by Phoenix Group Press.

Craig Faustus Buck's short story, "Cuppa Joe," is featured in *Creepy Quarterly*, coming out October 20. His short story "Trump Towering" appears in Darkhouse Books' anthology, *WE'VE BEEN TRUMPED*, a light-hearted look at a Trump Presidency.

Rosemary and Larry Mild announce the release of *DEATH STEALS A HOLY BOOK*, their third Dan and Rivka Sherman Mystery. When booksellers Dan and Rivka acquire a rare volume, they find themselves embroiled in a firestorm of deceit, thievery and violence. The novel is based on a real-life work: the Sefer Menorat ha-maor, "The Candlestick of Light." Originally written in Hebrew in the 14th century, it flourished as a moral and religious household guide for Jewish families in the Middle Ages.

Gay Toltl Kinman's "Unscheduled Changeover in Hamburg 1974," a three-act play based on the mystery novel—*la DEATH IN HAMBURG 1974*, is available on Kindle from Mysterious Women. When a plane is suddenly diverted to Hamburg for an "unscheduled changeover," some of the Jewish passengers don't want to return to Germany, even though it has been almost thirty years since the Second World War—and the concentration camps. Additionally, Kinman and her book, *MURDER AND MAYHEM AT THE HUNTINGTON LIBRARY*, were featured on the front page of the San Marino Outlook on September 1 in an article titled "Huntington Library a House of Horrors for Local Author."



OVER the TRANSOM

GRIZZLY SEASON, **S.W. Lauden's** sequel to BAD CITIZEN CORPORATION, will be published by Rare Bird Books on Oct. 11. The book follows the further adventures of former Los Angeles police officer Greg Salem and his sidekick Marco as they fight their way out of a sophisticated marijuana growing operation in the Angeles National Forest. This high energy book features explosive scenes including high-speed motorcycle chases, violent porn shoots, high-altitude gun fights, Mexican drug smuggling and murder.

Joyce Laird has placed another mystery short story with *Woman's World* magazine. "The Lost Comstock Load" is the 13th mystery she has sold to *Woman's World* and will be published in issue #45, late October to early November 2016.

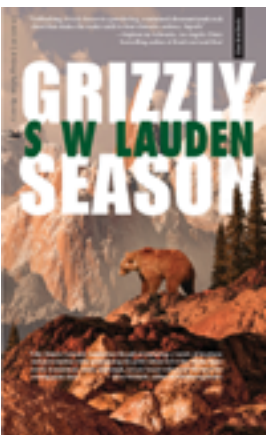
Elizabeth Gunn's sixteenth police-procedural novel, DENNY'S LAW, has just been published by Severn House. It features Detective Sarah Burke and her cobbled-together Tuscon family: mother, niece and boyfriend-with-privileges.

HOLD A SCORPION, **Melodie Johnson Howe's** second novel in the Diana Poole series, will be published October 25, 2016. *Booklist*: "...former actress Howe (CITY OF MIRRORS) spins a brisk story with sharp dialogue."

DEADLINES: MURDER & MAYHEM ON THE CALIFORNIA COAST, has been published on Amazon. It is an anthology of mystery stories from some of the finest mystery/suspense writers on the California coast. Traditional, small press and independent authors contributed to these two volumes that contain flash fiction and short stories of varying lengths. All relating to mystery, murder, and mayhem along the sunny, California coast.

Robert S. Levinson has a story, "Success Story," in the new Darkhouse Books anthology WE'VE BEEN TRUMPED, out this month and described by the publisher as a collection of "light-hearted, satirical stories envisioning life under President Trump." Another new Levinson short story, "An Elegy for Shelly Kushner," is included in the FORTY-FOUR CALIBER FUNK anthology edited by **Gary Phillips** and Robert Randisi, alongside work by **Dick Lochte**, Bill Crider, **John Sheppard**, Jerry Keanealy, **Holly West** and **Travis Richardson**, among others.

The offbeat crime tale "An October Afternoon" by **Peter DiChellis** is scheduled for publication in the Fall/October issue of *Flash Bang Mysteries*.



Member APPEARANCES

Craig Faustus Buck will be moderating his fourth annual Corona Friends of the Library Luncheon on October 22 with panelists Tod Goldberg, **Matt Coyle**, **Neal Griffin** and **Rachel Howzell Hall**. He also appeared in *Noir at the Bar* at Bouchercon and was on the panel *Dirty Boulevard - Hard Boiled* with Rob Hart, Lisa Turner, Barbara N.S. Nickless and Susan Alice Bickford (M). Todd Robinson was scheduled to participate, but was unable to attend.

Rosemary and Larry Mild will be selling their books during the 2016 holidays at Craft & Gift Fairs in Honolulu at: Blaisdell Exhibition Hall, October 21-23 and Dec. 16-18, Aliiolani Elementary School, Nov. 5 and 12 and Temple Emanue-El, Nov. 13.

Joel Fox is speaking at the Crowell Public Library San Marino at 7 pm on October 13 on his Zane Rigby mysteries and his supernatural suspense, *THE MARK ON EVE*. He's on a panel with **Jeri Westerson** at the Diamond Bar Library at 6:30 pm on October 26 dealing with mysteries set in the past.

Halloween Book Tour October 2016

Los Angeles • Orange County • San Diego

"Ghoulish" GIGI PANDIAN

"Devilish" DIANE VALLERE

"Ectoplasmic" ELLEN BYRON



A ghost story in Italy

(Gigi Pandian's *Michelangelo's Ghost*)

Halloween at a costume shop

(Diane Vallere's *Masking for Trouble*)

and Voo Doo country

(Ellen Byron's *Body on the Bayou*)

SPOOKY FUN FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY:

- ♦ Halloween treats
- ♦ Giveaways
- ♦ Book signing

Join the spooky Halloween-themed book events!

Redondo Beach Library **Saturday, Oct. 8 - 1pm**

Book Carnival in Orange **Saturday, Oct. 8 - 4pm**

Mysterious Galaxy in San Diego **Sunday, Oct. 9 - 2pm**

On October 11th, **Sheila Lowe** will address the education committee of the OK legislature via web cam to talk about the importance of cursive writing in a digital age. Research shows the learning cursive helps brain development in several areas, including reading. She'll also be addressing two Ventura chapters of PEO and the Women's Club at Camarillo Leisure Village, introducing them to her *Forensic Handwriting Mysteries*.

Nadine Nettmann will be reading from her debut novel, *DECANTING A MURDER*, at the Book'd Los Angeles Lit Event on Thursday, October 20 at 8pm at the Group Repertory/Lonny Chapman Theatre, 10900 Burbank Blvd, North Hollywood, CA 91601.

Gay Tolt Kinman will give an interactive "How to Write a Mystery" mini-workshop at the Woman's Club of South Pasadena on October 5th at their luncheon meeting.

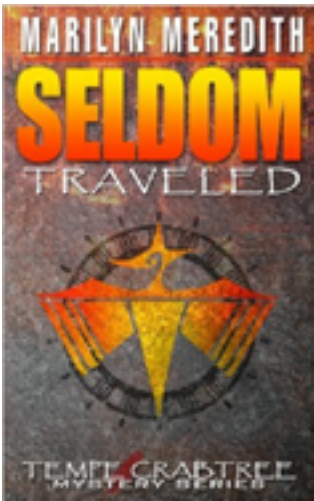
Do you have an upcoming appearance?

Email your announcement to
TheMarchofCrime@gmail.com
by October 20 for inclusion in
the November issue.

Member APPEARANCES

Jeri Westerson will be at the following locations: Saturday, October 15, Noon to 4 pm — Pomona Reads, a literary festival. Jeri will be moderating a panel of SoCalMWA mystery writers: **Matt Coyle, Ellen Byron, Gay Kinman** and **Mike Beffeler**. Pomona Civic Center at 505 South Garey Avenue, Pomona / Saturday, October 22, 11:00–2:30 pm Friends of Acton Agua Dulce Library Spirited Author Luncheon. A Halloween luncheon of horror and mystery authors. 33792 Crown Valley Rd, Acton, CA 93510. \$20 RSVP Lee Jennings 669-713-5128, Kat Fandino 669-209-2014 / Wednesday, October 26, 6:30 to 7:30 pm. — Diamond Bar Library, panel of mystery authors sponsored by SinC-LA. Books available for sale. 21800 Copley Dr, Diamond Bar, CA 91765 / Saturday, October 29, — “Lattes and Literature” Sierra Madre Woman’s Club, Essick House, the Club’s historic clubhouse located at 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA. Fabulous refreshments will be served. Tickets reserved in advance are \$20 each with proceeds supporting club philanthropies (walk-ins the day of event will pay \$25). For reservations or more information, please contact Reservation Chair Alma Mays at (626) 355-8977. Books available for sale. Jeri will talk about her books, along with **Denise Hamilton** and **Naomi Hirahara**.

Shannon Baker and William Kent Krueger will be signing their latest releases, *Stripped Bare* and *Manitou Canyon* on October 3rd at 7:00 at Mysterious Galaxy, and October 4 at 7:30 at Book Carnival. We’d love for you to stop by.



Marilyn Meredith just completed a successful blog tour for her latest in the Deputy Tempe Crabtree series, *SELDOM TRAVELED*. On October 8th, she’ll be at the Great Valley Bookfest in Manteca and on October 15th, at the Taste of the Arts in Visalia.

Patricia Smiley will talk about her new novel, *PACIFIC HOMICIDE* (November 8, 2016) at the American Association of University Women’s Authors Luncheon on Saturday, October 22, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Four Points Sheridan, 1050 Schooner Drive, Ventura CA, (805) 658-1212, tickets required.

Connie di Marco will be speaking at the Orange County Sisters in Crime meeting on October 23.

Authors **Paul D. Marks, Connie di Marco, Laurie Stevens** and Dr. Elizabeth Harris will be reading scary stories, fact and fiction, for a Halloween Party at the Platt Branch Library on October 29th from 2-4. Some tricks and lots of treats!

Laurie Stevens will speak about her company FYD Media and its publishing of Joy Ruth Mickelson’s “Facing the Shards” at the Palm Desert Jewish Federation’s annual event Oct. 23.”

THE COUNTDOWN TO

2017

CALIFORNIA CRIME WRITERS CONFERENCE
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Saturday & Sunday, June 10-11, 2017

www.ccwconference.org



[Click here for more info and to register](http://www.ccwconference.org)



Hollow Points

Gregory Von Dore

“Girly” Guns

Guns don't play favorites. You just pick one up and pull the trigger. The gun doesn't care if you are rich or poor, young or old, male or female. Anyone can shoot their toes off. The relationship between women and guns is not a new one, but lately it has become serious.

Over most of human history, men have done the hunting and women have done everything else. So, it's not surprising that guns are linked with men and masculinity. Hemingway stuff. Most gun attributes don't play well with the majority of women anyway. Guns are heavy, they're mechanical, they're terribly loud, they stink, they're ugly, they smoke, they're obscure and confusing, it hurts to shoot them and you might break a nail! At least that's the stereotype. The reality is that more women own guns and participate in shooting sports today than ever.



This plucky woman confronts a jaguar with her trusty Colt pistol.

The same goes for military service. Making war (Amazons excepted) was male turf for all those centuries. But not anymore. Women have now proven beyond debate that they are capable of functioning as combat troops. In Israel, women have served as regular army soldiers for years, and seen a lot of action. The recent graduation of several women into our own Delta Force is a stunning testament to the concept of women warriors. For them, handling guns is the easy part. Many women in the Old West were comfortable with, and skilled in using, guns. Some were outstanding. Remember Annie Oakley? Calamity Jane?

Similarly, the growing ranks of women police officers and other law enforcement roles means that a much larger number of women have become familiar with guns and shooting in the 21st century. For the most part, women view and handle guns the same way that men do—but there are some exceptions.

First, there's the physical thing. Yes, statistically, women are smaller and shorter than men. Delicate hands. Women tend to have less arm strength than men do. However, a major innovation in gun tech happened just as large numbers of women went into law enforcement and it was a perfect match. The new generation of semi-auto pistols are made with many plastic parts and they are remarkably lightweight.

Now, “plastic” doesn't mean like a child's squirt gun. These are super-strength polycarbonates that came out of the space program. They don't rust, are as strong as steel and can be



Women have served in the Israeli military for decades.

Ladies of Intrigue

Featuring Remarkable Women Mystery Writers

Sunday, October 2, 2016

Hotel Huntington Beach

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Registration: www.mysteryink.com

Our 2016 Headliners

Carolyn Hart



Carolyn Hart received the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Amelia Award from Malice Domestic. Past national president of Sisters in Crime, she was named the Grand Master by the Mystery Writers of America in 2014. In this, her career event finale, she will be interviewed by N.Y. Times Best-Selling author, Rhys Bowen.

Rhys Bowen has been nominated for every major award in mystery writing, including the Edgar, and has won seven, including both the Agatha and the Anthony.



Robin Burcell



Robin Burcell spent nearly three decades working in law enforcement as a police officer, hostage negotiator and as a FBI Academy-trained forensic artist. She is an award-winning author and is currently co-writing the Fargo series with best-selling author, Clive Cussler.

Panelists:

Kathy Aarons, Lisa Brackmann, Ellen Byron, Kate Carlisle, Donis Casey, Hannah Dennison, Kate Dyer-Seeley, Earlene Fowler, Daryl Wood Gerber, Naomi Hirahara, Linda O. Johnston, Carlene O'Neil, Laurie Stevens, and Pamela Samuels Young

**REGISTRATION FORM: At Hotel Huntington Beach on Center Avenue
Lunch Included/Free Parking - Early Bird Specials!**

Tickets before August 15th, \$55 SinC members, \$60 for non-members

Tickets after August 15th, \$60 SinC members, \$65 for non-members

Please send check and registration information to:

Mystery Ink, 8907 Warner Avenue, #135, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

or pay by PayPal at www.mysteryink.com



You Oughta Be in Pictures

BOUCHERCON - New Orleans, September 15-18, 2016

“The Co-Authors”

Successful authors in their own right, these writers also co-write with other authors. Photos submitted by **Lee Goldberg**.



L-R: James O. Born (James Patterson), **Lee Goldberg** (Janet Evanovich), Brendan DuBois (James Patterson) and Robin Burcell (Clive Cussler).



L-R: J.T. Ellison (Catherine Coulter), **Phoebe Sutton** (Janet Evanovich), **Lee Goldberg** (Janet Evanovich) and Parnell Hall (Stuart Woods).



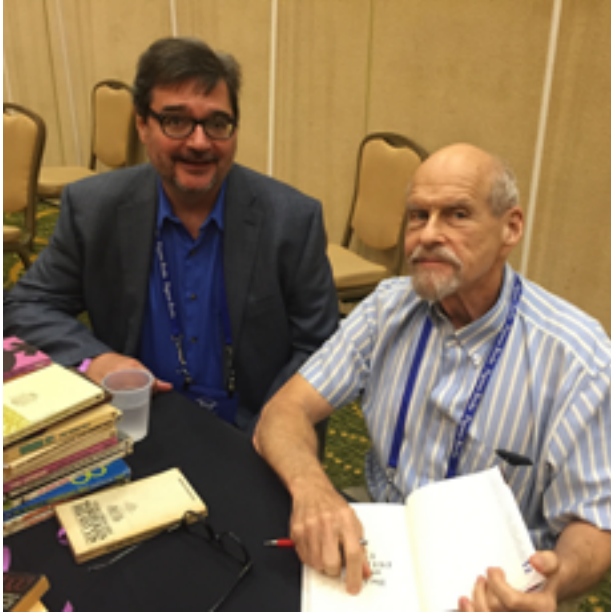
L-R: **Lee Goldberg** (Janet Evanovich) and Ace Atkins (Robert B. Parker).



Lee Goldberg (Janet Evanovich), Mark Greany (Tom Clancy) and Reed Farrel Coleman (Robert B. Parker).

You Oughta Be in Pictures

BOUCHERCON - New Orleans, September 15-18, 2016



L-R: **Phoef Sutton** and **Lawrence Block**. Photo by **Lee Goldberg**.



L-R: **Patricia Smiley** and **Josh Stallings** talk on the gritty urban settings panel.



L-R: **Patricia Smiley** and **Bonnie MacBird** at a dinner honoring **Laurie King**.



L-R: **Patricia Smiley** and **Kim Fay** in the bar at **Bouchercon 2016, New Orleans**.

You Oughta Be in Pictures

BOUCHERCON - New Orleans, September 15-18, 2016



L-R: **DP Lyle**, **Matt Coyle** and **David Putnam** at a Bouchercon book signing.



L-R: **Kim Fay** and **James Ziskin**



Look Through Any Window Hollywood Panel. L-R: **Melodie Johnson Howe**, **Diana Chambers**, **Vince Keenan**, **Rosemarie Keenan** (writing as **Renee Patrick**), **Kathryn Leigh Scott** and **Holly West** (moderator).



Holly West and **Jeri Westerson** sign books after their panels.

Hollow Points - [continued from pg 9](#)

textured to have a high-grip surface. These lighter weight guns are more woman-friendly. So is the 9x19mm Parabellum ammunition that many of these guns fire. Most adult women can handle the shock of 9mm recoil, especially with a two-handed grip.

Feedback from women agents is a big part of why the FBI may be returning to a 9mm sidearm, rather than the larger .40 caliber they have used for two decades. The .40 caliber has a harsh recoil and can be deafening in a small room. A commitment to 9mm by the FBI would be a bonus for female agents, especially those working the streets or undercover.



Specialized clothing helps female undercover officers conceal their guns.

High-top boots offer some promise for stowing a small gun, and a secret compartment in a purse is a natural hideaway. It may not be a Hermès bag, but what better place for a pink gun?

Another development of recent technology are guns manufactured expressly for women. Thanks to the plastic guns mentioned earlier, all sorts of intense, ‘lipstick’ colors are now possible. However, a pink gun will kill you just as dead as one in traditional blue-black. Women civilians buying guns tend to prefer colors to the traditional “gunmetal.” Chromed guns with mother of pearl grips are also popular, as is elegant engraving. Hey, why not. Women are also more likely to take firearm safety courses than men—who feel that shooting a gun, like building a fire, is somehow an exclusive male province and they are born with the required knowledge.

Pulling a gun out of a holster—almost anyone can do that. But firing at and killing another human being, well, that’s something else. And it has nothing to do with sex.

Next time we’ll look at one of the most important and challenging security issues of today and tomorrow: 3D printed guns.

Photos are courtesy of Wikipedia, used with permission.

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.

Women FBI agents in the field wear their guns on a hip, just as the men do. However, in undercover assignments women often face special challenges concealing a weapon. The tighter, revealing, body-hugging clothes that go with some cover stories don’t allow much room for hidden firearms. It’s accurate to say that some female officers are actually carrying guns in their bras and undies. While it sounds like a joke in the making, these women risk their lives for us and deserve plenty of respect.

However, given that this is the US of A, some pretty remarkable concealed carry options are available for women. These include bra holsters, garter holsters, tank-top holsters, and hip huggers in spandex that could be slimming. SPANX with a bang. A major concern in all these garments is accessibility. A woman agent who needs her gun right now can’t be expected to dig through layers of clothing to reach it.

Garter holsters on the thigh have a long, colorful history. I believe a garter is where fictional Australian detective Phryne Fisher carried her

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

Crime
CALENDAR



Vegas Valley Book Festival

Saturday, October 15
Historic 5th Street School
401 S. 4th Street
Las Vegas, NV

The [Vegas Valley Book Festival](#) is a one-day affair in Downtown Las Vegas that attracts more than 10,000 visitors.

[Contact Fred Andersen](#) for more information about SoCalMWA's booth and how you can participate.

Criminal Happenings in 2016

October 1 - [SoCalMWA Homemade Gumbo & Home-Brewed Ale Party, Woodland Hills, CA](#)
October 2 - [Ladies of Intrigue, Huntington Beach, CA](#)
October 15 - [Vegas Valley Book Festival \(SoCalMWA Booth\), Las Vegas, NV](#)
October 22 - [SoCalMWA Workshop: Demystifying Writing Software, Studio City, CA](#)
November 6 - [SoCalMWA Nonfiction Crimewriting Luncheon, Los Angeles, CA](#)
December 17- [SoCalMWA Holiday Party, Los Angeles, CA](#)

A large, light green banner with a 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

“He might have simply passed out again if it weren’t for the putrid smell suffocating him.”

--S.W. Lauden, GRIZZLY SEASON