



The MARCH

of CRIME

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California Crime Writers CONFERENCE

Presents **FRIDAY JUNE 7 8PM**

Friday Night Live!

INTERVIEWS WITH:



RACHEL HOWZELL HALL



JOE IDE

A CRIME QUIZ WITH:



JAMES L'ETOILE



TERRY SHAMES



MATT COYLE

A LOOK AT UNSUNG AUTHORS WITH:



NADINE NETTMANN



WENDALL THOMAS



AARON PHILLIP CLARK



HOLLIE OVERTON



MARTIN JAY WEISS



HOLLY WEST

HOSTED BY:



ERIC BEETNER



S.W. LAUDEN

CO-HOSTS OF: **WRITER TYPES**



THE CULVER ROOM AT THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL

Join us on Friday, June 7 at 8 p.m. for an evening of writerly entertainment! Co-hosts **Eric Beetner** and **S.W. Lauden** have put together a terrific program to kick-off the California Crime Writers Conference. Note: You don't need to be registered for the conference to attend.

Culver Room, DoubleTree by Hilton, 6161 W. Centenela Ave., Culver City



The President's Rap Sheet

Glen Erik Hamilton

Is this month's Rap Sheet a little shorter than usual? You bet. One week to go until California Crime Writers Conference, and the to-do list rivals my last manuscript in length. But it's all coming together beautifully, thanks to the efforts of a score of volunteers headed by SoCalMWA's **Jennifer Younger** and Sisters in Crime/LA's **Laura Brennan**, our incredibly brave and hugely positive program leads. I'm gonna thank these amazing women here, 'cause Sunday evening might find me dead asleep in some conference room at the DoubleTree.

I say Jen is with MWA and Laura is with SinC, but the truth is that they are both members of both organizations, same as many of us. While the missions and rosters of our groups vary by small degrees, we are bound by our much larger shared values: love of the craft, respect for the genre, and support of one another. 2019 marks ten years since we combined our forces on the first CCWC. An exceedingly smart investment that pays dividends at every panel.

If geography or other variables don't allow you to attend CCWC, or even if they do and you'd like to hold SoCalMWA educational events closer to your home, let me know. One of the biggest challenges we have is the scale of our chapter. Our board can work with you, our agent at the scene of the crime, to host panels or workshops where MWA can reach new writers and readers.

And to end on a very high note: congratulations to **Ellen Byron** on her Agatha Award for MARDI GRAS MURDER! As if that weren't enough acclaim for our chapter, Bouchercon's Anthony Award nominations have been announced. Cheers to SoCal's nominees: **Naomi Hirahara** (HIROSHIMA BOY in Best Paperback Original), **Leslie S. Klinger** (CLASIC AMERICAN CRIME FICTION OF THE 1920s in Best Critical or Non-Fiction Work), and **Holly West** ("The Best Laid Plans" in Short Story). It's a long wait until October, but these three are well-versed in suspense...

All Best,

Glen

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Jennifer Younger

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The EDITOR'S CORNER

Holly West

We have a short issue this month. I like to think it's because we're all too busy writing to stop and think about the newsletter. Either that or everyone's in shock because the year is already half over and OMG where did the time go?

In addition to my own writing projects (I just started a new WIP!), I'm busy preparing for the California Crime Writers Conference next week. As its registration chair, that means turning in final meal counts (fun fact: chicken is the most requested lunch entree), printing up badges, and packing my suitcase for the quick plane trip down to Los Angeles. I'm really looking forward to this year's conference—our co-chairs, **Laura Brennan** and **Jennifer Younger**, have worked tremendously hard to plan an event that's as entertaining as it is educational.

Even if you're not registered, you can attend the Friday night festivities on [June 7](#). And if you are going to the conference, I'll be at the registration table. Don't be afraid to come say hi!

Holly

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

Editor: [Holly West](#)

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:
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Join our SoCalMWA Yahoo! Group

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

FRESHBLOOD

SoCalMWA welcomes its new members



Donald Joh

Donald Joh's television credits include *Covert Affairs*, *The Romanoffs*, *The Twilight Zone*, as well as the upcoming series *Snonpiercer* and *Raised By Wolves*. His drama pilot, *The North*, was an honoree for the 2016 Writers Guild of America West TV Writer Access Project and was also selected for the 2016 Sundance Episodic Story Lab. His episode of *The Romanoffs* recently won the 2019 Edgar Award for TV Episode Teleplay.

OVER the TRANSOM

Gay Tolt Kinman's non-fiction article **WRITING TIPS #1: PARTNERS IN WRITING/PARTNERS ON WRITING** from *Mysterious Women* is about suggestions on how to be a 'partner' in the best writers' group and your sleuth's partner in solving the mystery. Now available on Kindle.

Gary Phillips is pleased to have a tale in **YOURS TRULY, JOHNNY DOLLAR**, a new collection from Moonstone Books. For the first time ever, brand new stories of the "Man with the action-packed expense account!" One of classic old-time radio's most beloved investigators makes his way to prose in this anthology. In tradepaper and limited edition hardcover.

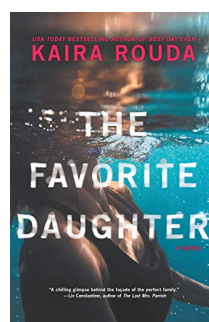
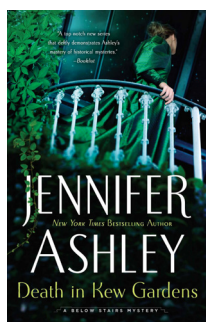
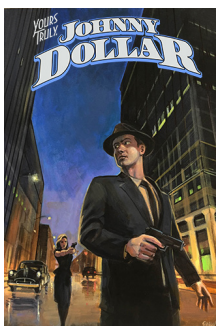
Craig Faustus Buck's short story "Race to Judgment," a noir tale of sibling rivalry, blind ambition, lust, betrayal, murder, and Mississippi delta politics, was voted by *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* readers as a top ten finalist for their Reader's Choice Award.

Jennifer Ashley releases **DEATH IN KEW GARDENS**, Book 3 of the *Below Stairs Mysteries* (Berkley Prime Crime), on June 4.

The new domestic suspense thriller from **Kaira Rouda**, **THE FAVORITE DAUGHTER**, is now on-sale. **THE FAVORITE DAUGHTER** has already been named by *O, The Oprah Magazine* as one of the buzziest books being released this May and was named by PopSugar as a best book of Spring. Called "delightfully wicked fun" by *Kirkus Reviews* and celebrated as "an exceptional psychological thriller" by *Publishers Weekly*, this is one of this summer's hottest reads. Dubbed "the new mistress of suspense" by Bookstr, Kaira takes us beneath the surface of seemingly perfect lives in **THE FAVORITE DAUGHTER**.

Holly West's "The Best Laid Plans," has been nominated for a 2019 Anthony Award in the short story category. "The Best Laid Plans" appears in **FLORIDA HAPPENS**, the 2018 Bouchercon anthology edited by Greg Herren.

Two stories by **Peter DiChellis** were Finalists in the 2019 Derringer Awards for short mystery and crime fiction, one in the flash fiction category and one in the short story category.



Member APPEARANCES

Jeri Westerson will be hosting a virtual book launch for her third paranormal Booke of the Hidden novel, SHADOWS IN THE MIST, exclusively on Facebook on Sunday, June 2, at 3 p.m. Fun, conversation, and giveaways! Must be on Facebook to participate. Go to [Shadows in the Mist Virtual Launch](#).

Christina Hoag will be on the panel “Killer Dialogue” at the California Crime Writers Conference on Saturday, June 8, at 11:15 a.m. at the DoubleTree Hotel in Culver City, CA.

Tony Piazza will be doing a book signing on June 15 from noon–3 p.m. at the Bookworm Bookstore in Santa Maria, CA.

Jennifer Ashley will sign copies of DEATH IN KEW GARDENS at Poisoned Pen Mystery Bookstore in Scottsdale, AZ, on Saturday, June 8 at 2 p.m.

Sheila Lowe will appear on “Built to Last: Creating Your Series” moderated by **Rachel Howzell Hall** at the California Crime Writers Conference on June 9 at 2:55 p.m.



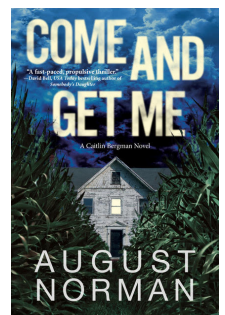
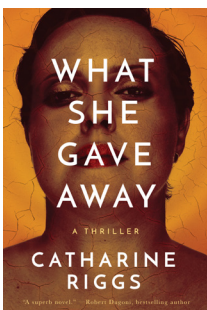
Sheila Lowe signed PROOF OF LIFE at Barnes & Noble in Ventura in May.

Retreat to Palm Springs. **Barbara DeMarco-Barrett** holds three five-night writers retreats and getaways throughout June in Palm Springs. Meals included. All you have to do is write. Discounts for MWA members. [Email Barbara](#) for more info.

Catharine Riggs will participate on the panel “Chapter One: Your Debut Novel” at the California Crime Writers Conference at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 9 at the Hilton DoubleTree in Culver City. She will be sharing her ‘excitement, mistakes, successes, and what-I-wish-I’d-known’ for her debut thriller, WHAT SHE GAVE AWAY. Moderated by author **Michael Robertson**, other panelists include **Tori Eldridge**, **Eva Montealegre**, and **Sheila Sobel**.

August Norman will discuss his debut thriller, COME AND GET ME: A Caitlin Bergman novel, as part of the Santa Barbara Writers Conference’s New Books Panel on Monday, June 17 at 4 p.m. For more info: [augustnorman.com](#).

June 17, 6 p.m.: **Susan Cummins Miller** will be the featured reader at the National Writers Union meeting, 877 S Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ. The event is free and open to the public. June 19, 1 p.m.: Susan will moderate the panel “Literature, Latigo, and Lonesome Landscapes: Southwest Books of the Year” to open the Western Writers of America Convention. June 22, 1 p.m.: Susan will host the “Craft of Writing Roundtable: Mystery” at the WWA Convention. The convention will be held at Hilton Tucson East, 7600 E Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ. More info at [westernwriters.org](#).



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

Crime
CALENDAR

June 7 – [Friday Night Live, Culver City, CA](#)
June 8–9 – [California Crime Writers Conference, Culver City, CA](#)
July 9–13 – [ThrillerFest XIV, New York, NY](#)
July 18–21 – [Theakston Old Peculier Crime Writing Festival, Harrogate, UK](#)
August 1–4 – [The Writers Police Academy, Raleigh, NC](#)
August 22–25 – [Book Passage Mystery Writers Conference, Corte Madera, CA](#)
October 30 – [SinC Into Great Writing! Workshop 2019, Dallas, TX](#)
October 31–Nov 3 – [Bouchercon, Dallas, TX](#)
November 8–10 – [New England Crime Bake, Boston, MA](#)

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

The
LAST WORD

“The lights were off and Grace’s Prius still wasn’t in its spot. A hint of anxiety feathered its way into his abdomen. For the first time that day, he began to think something might really be wrong.”

—Tyler Dilts, MERCY DOGS