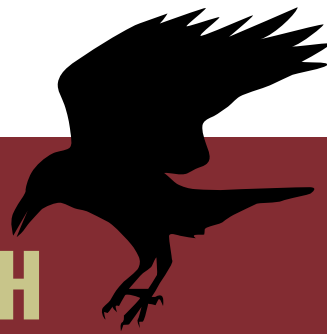


FEBRUARY 2022

THE MARCH OF CRIME

SoCalMWA's monthly newsletter.



CONGRATULATIONS

Rob Osler
Kwei Quartey
Naomi Hirahara

See p. 11

2022 Edgar Award Nominees

76th Annual Edgar® Awards
April 28, 2022
New York Marriott Marquis Times Square

BEST NOVEL

- THE VENICE SKETCHBOOK by Rhys Bowen (Lake Union)
- RAZORBLADE TEARS by S.A. Cosby (Flatiron Books)
- FIVE DECEMBERS by James Kestrel (Hard Case Crime)
- HOW LUCKY by Will Leitch (HarperCollins)
- NO ONE WILL MISS HER by Kat Rosenfeld (William Morrow)



BEST FIRST NOVEL BY AN AMERICAN AUTHOR

- DEER SEASON by Erin Flanagan (University of Nebraska Press)
- NEVER SAW ME COMING by Vera Kurian (Harlequin-Park Row)
- SUBURBAN DICKS by Fabian Nicieza (G.P. Putnum's Sons)
- WHAT COMES AFTER by JoAnne Tompkins (Riverhead Books)
- THE DAMAGE by Caitlin Wahrer (Viking Books/Pamela Dorman Books)



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PRESIDENT'S RAP SHEET



Time to Renew in '22

BY TRAVIS RICHARDSON



I'm happy to be serving as SoCalMWA's new president! With our incredibly talented board, I'm hoping to provide value for our members with multiple programs throughout the year.

It's 2022, which seems a lot like 2021 and most of 2020 thanks to the forever mutating Covid virus. The variants make it hard to know whether we will be able to meet in person this year, but we plan to provide many opportunities for growth. We are considering weekly workshops with members sharing their strategies, daily online writing sessions, author reading nights, accountability/critique partners, monthly meetings, and more.



As we stumble through the please-let's-get-off-this-insane-carousel-and-never-do-it-again 2020 (extended now to 2022), we are fortunate to have a community whose members share similar creative interests that can pull us out of our existential funk. Because nothing brings crime writers closer together than discussing all the ways you can successfully hide a body.

We've got a lot of ambitious ideas and I hope you can join us as we work to make this a productive year.

Travis

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Travis Richardson

VICE PRESIDENT
Jennifer Younger

TREASURER
Sarah M. Chen

SECRETARY
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Leslie S. Klinger
Terri Nolan
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Ona Russell
Nancy Cole Silverman

PRESIDENT EMERITUS
Jessica Kaye

Mystery Writers of America Southern California Chapter

c/o Jessica Kaye
8840 Wilshire Blvd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Contact: info@socalmwa.com
Website: <http://socalmwa.com>
Twitter: [@socalmwa](https://twitter.com/socalmwa)
Facebook: [Like us](#)



New Year, New Look

BY HOLLY WEST

Have you ever looked at yourself in the mirror and thought, "I could use a refresh?" SoCalMWA's *The March of Crime* has been feeling that for a while now, and for good reason. I mentioned in a previous issue that I'd been editing the SoCalMWA newsletter since 2013, and I've maintained (some might say clung to) that original design ever since.

That ends with this month's newsletter. Behold our new, updated look. This editor might be sporting quite a few gray hairs these days, but the new and improved *March of Crime* is all touched up at the roots and ready to rock.

There will no doubt be tweaks going forward. Settling on a template is one thing, figuring out the best way to organize our content is another. My hope is that you all have so much good news to report that these pages get filled to the brim every month. And with our new board in place, I'm looking forward to all the great things SoCalMWA has planned for 2022. They even let me sit in on their first meeting.



Here's a fun fact: I met our new president, **Travis Richardson**, when **Naomi Hirahara** introduced us at the first MWA meeting I ever attended, circa 2009. I was so scared and shy, but they both made my entry into MWA painless and, dare I say it? Fun.

I am, as ever, grateful to be here. Let's rock 2022 together.

Holly

The March of Crime

The March of Crime is the newsletter of the Southern 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:
themarchofcrime@gmail.com

Join the SoCalMWA
Discussion Group

groups.io/g/MWA-SOCAL
(members only)

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t. 212.888.8171
mwa@mysterywriters.org
<http://mysterywriters.org>



President



TRAVIS RICHARDSON

Travis Richardson has won a Derringer Award for flash fiction and has been a nominee for the Macavity and Anthony awards. He has a short story collection, BLOODSHOT AND BRUISED, and two published novellas, LOST IN CLOVER and KEEPING THE RECORD. A few years back, he reviewed Anton Chekhov short stories at chekhovshorts.com. He lives in Culver City with his wife and daughter. Find him online at tsrichardson.com.

Vice President

JENNIFER YOUNGER

Treasurer



SARAH M. CHEN

Sarah M. Chen has published a children's book and numerous short stories, one of which won a Derringer Award. Her noir novella, CLEANING UP FINN, was an Anthony finalist and IPPY Award winner. She was a co-editor for several anthologies, including the latest from Sisters in Crime/Los Angeles, AVENGING ANGELENOS. She's written for the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Hapa Mag*, and *Wellbeing*, among others. Follow her on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

Board of Directors



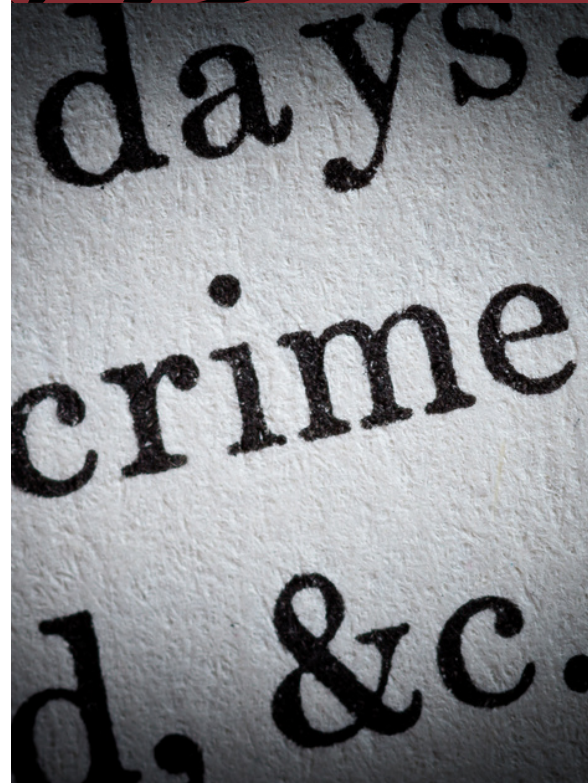
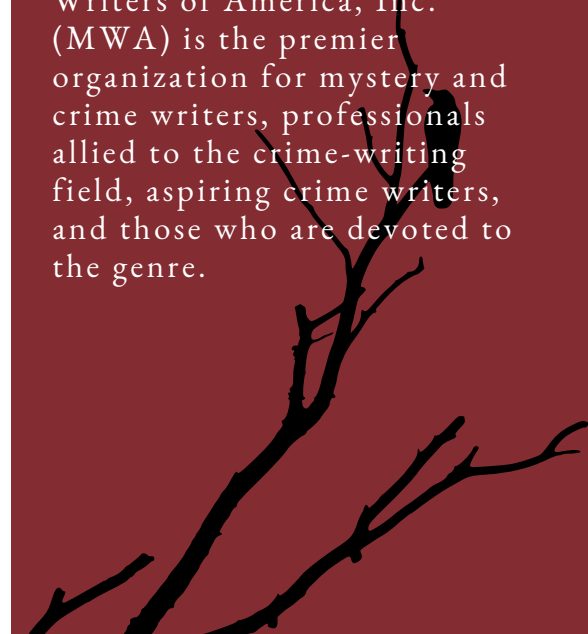
FRED ANDERSEN

Fred Andersen is a historian and fiction writer from Arizona. He is the author of two Classic Hollywood mysteries, LILY TORRENCE and PAMELA CARR, based on some of the characters and incidents that helped create the dark dramas we now call film noir. Also look for a new comics mystery, THE DEAD CARTOONIST, coming this spring.

[continued on p. 5](#)

Mystery Writers of America

Established in 1945, Mystery Writers of America, Inc. (MWA) is the premier organization for mystery and crime writers, professionals allied to the crime-writing field, aspiring crime writers, and those who are devoted to the genre.





Board of Directors



EDWARD ARNO

Edward Arno was born in a field in Frankley Beeches, Birmingham, England. His father was a milkman and his mother was a house parlor maid. They met during a bombing raid at the end of the Second World War. Growing up on a council estate, he attended the local public schools. The Issigonis Mini auto plant at Longbridge was the symphonic sound of his childhood. After attending the Royal Radar Establishment College of Electronic he joined the entertainment industry, performing as Brinarno the Clown in theatres around Britain. He directed many music videos before writing and directing the film *Murder Story*, starring Christopher Lee. He has five books published, the latest is *THE ARTIST WITHIN*.

GAY TOLTL KINMAN



LESLIE S. KLINGER

Leslie S. Klinger is the two-time Edgar® winning editor of *NEW ANNOTATED SHERLOCK HOLMES* and *CLASSIC AMERICAN CRIME FICTION OF THE 1920s*. He has also edited two anthologies of classic mysteries and, with Laurie R. King, five anthologies of stories inspired by the Sherlock Holmes Canon. Klinger is the series editor of *LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CRIME CLASSICS*, a partnership of the Library of Congress and Poisoned Pen Press/Sourcebooks. He is a former Chapter President of the Southern California Chapter of the Mystery Writers of America and lives in Malibu, California.

TERRI NOLAN

[continued on p. 6](#)

MWA National Board of Directors

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Board of Directors



GARY PHILLIPS

Gary Phillips has been a community activist, labor organizer and delivered dog cages. He's published various novels, comics, short stories, and edited several anthologies including *ORANGE COUNTY NOIR* and *THE OBAMA INHERITANCE: FIFTEEN STORIES OF CONSPIRACY AND NOIR*. *VIOLENT SPRING*, first published in 1994 was named in 2020 one of the essential crime novels of Los Angeles. His upcoming novel *ONE-SHOT HARRY* is set in a changing 1963 L.A., and he was a staff writer on FX's *Snowfall*, about crack and the CIA in 1980s South Central where he grew up.

ONA RUSSELL

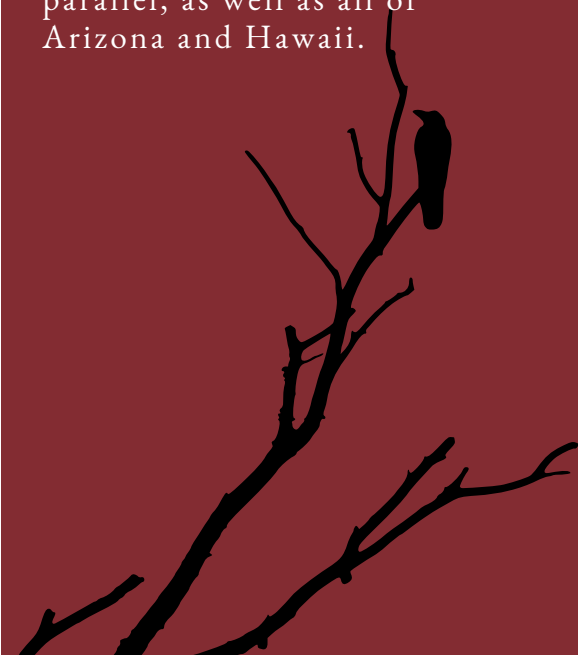


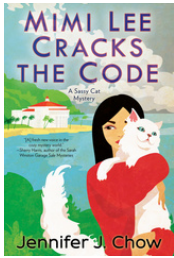
NANCY COLE SILVERMAN

Nancy Cole Silverman spent nearly twenty-five in Los Angeles Talk Radio, beginning her career as one of the first female voices on the air. Later, she retired as one of two female general managers in the nation's second-largest radio market before turning to fiction writing. Her Carol Childs Mysteries feature a single mom whose day job as a reporter at a busy Los Angeles radio station often leads to long nights as a crime-solver, while her Misty Dawn series is centered on an aging Hollywood Psychic to the Stars, who supplements her day-to-day activities as a consultant to LAPD and the FBI. Silverman's newest work, *THE NAVIGATOR'S DAUGHTER*, is scheduled for release in June 2022. Silverman lives in Los Angeles with her husband and a thoroughly pampered standard poodle.

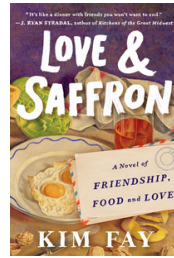
Did you know?

The SoCal Chapter of MWA covers members in California and Nevada below the 36th parallel, as well as all of Arizona and Hawaii.





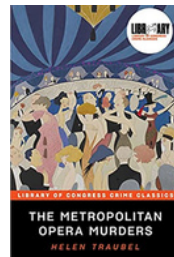
MIMI LEE CRACKS THE CODE, Jennifer J. Chow's third Sassy Cat Mystery, has been nominated for Left Coast Crime's Best Humorous Mystery Lefty Award. It was also chosen as one of *Kings River Life's* Favorite Books of 2021.



LOVE AND SAFFRON (Putnam) by Kim Fay comes out on February 8. In the vein of the classic 84 CHARING CROSS ROAD, this witty and tender novel follows two women in 1960s America as they discover that food really does connect us all and that friendship and laughter are the best medicine. #1 Indie Next Pick.



The first book in Mike Befeler's Omnipodge Trilogy, OLD DETECTIVE'S AGENCY, will be published in April by Encircle Publications. In this light-hearted spoof of the mystery genre, the top detectives of all time reunite to solve their most difficult whodunit.

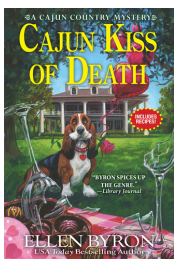


THE METROPOLITAN OPERA MURDERS, originally published in 1951 by Helen Traubel, was re-issued on February 1 as part of the Library of Congress Crime Classics, a partnership between the Library of Congress and Sourcebooks. Leslie S. Klinger is the editor of this series.



The fifth book in the Kate Fox series by Shannon Baker, BROKEN TIES, launches February 22 from Severn River Publishers. Shannon recently signed a contract taking the series through book ten. The series is also released in audio.

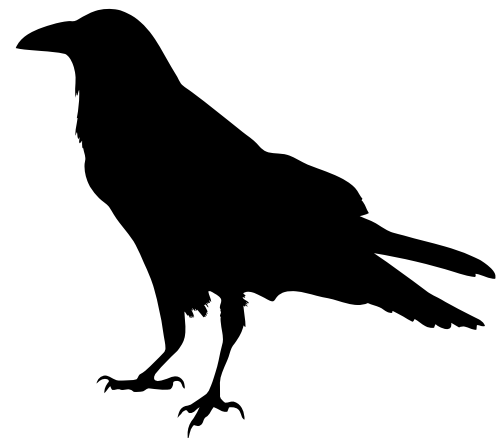
Fonda St. Paul's fourth novel, SAMUEL, will be available on Amazon in March. In the city that never sleeps, New York's Broadway is premiering a new play and a new young star, Ms. Allison Gennero. But Samuel has other ideas—Ted Bundy is no match for this killer who hides in plain sight.



CAJUN KISS OF DEATH, Ellen Byron's seventh Cajun Country Mystery, is nominated for a Lefty Award in the category of Best Humorous Mystery.



Shea E. Butler has explored a new genre in her 5th published short story, the science fiction "The Awakening." *MacroMicroCosm Science Fiction Journal*, a quarterly print, and digital magazine has published "The Awakening" in their January 2022 issue.



APPEARANCES & EVENTS



To celebrate the February 8 launch date of his "quozzy" mystery, **DEVIL'S CHEW TOY**, **Rob Osler** will be appearing at Mysterious Galaxy in San Diego at 7 p.m. on February 9 and at The Book Jewel in Los Angeles on February 12 (TBD).



Karen Odden had the national book launch of her fourth Victorian Mystery, **DOWN A DARK RIVER**, at the Poisoned Pen Bookstore in Scottsdale. She and owner Barbara chatted about poison, murder, Scotland Yard, revenge, empathy, Victorian England, and the Thames. [View on the Pen's Facebook page](#). To obtain a signed copy of the book with the fancy plastic library sleeve, [visit the Pen's online bookstore](#). To connect with Karen, visit karenodden.com.

Sheila Lowe will be traveling south to her old stomping grounds (Anaheim) to speak to the California's Writers Club, Orange County chapter, on February 5. "[Reading between the lines on your path to publication](#)" is the title of her talk. All are welcome, 9–11:30 a.m.

Loren Latker's Raymond Chandler's Mystery Map of Los Angeles is part of the "Mapping Fiction" exhibit at the Huntington Library, Museum, and Botanical Gardens in San Marino: West Hall. The exhibit is open until May 2.



Kim Fay will appear at the following locations in February (all events are PST):

–February 9, 6 p.m.: Vroman's, Pasadena, CA, in conversation with J. Ryan Stradal (**KITCHENS OF THE GREAT MIDWEST**). Virtual event: [register here](#).

–February 10, 6 p.m.: Elliott Bay Book Company, Seattle, WA, In conversation with Meg Waite Clayton (**THE POST MISTRESS OF PARIS**). Virtual event: [register here](#).

–February 15, 6 p.m.: Rediscovered Bookshop, Caldwell, ID, Instagram Live conversation with bookseller Sheryce Davis. [More info](#).

–February 17, 6 p.m.: Edmonds Bookshop, Edmonds, WA, Facebook Live Reading and Q&A. [More info](#).

–February 27, 1 p.m.: Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA In-person reading & signing. [More info](#).

2022 EDGAR NOMINEES

BEST PAPERBACK ORIGINAL

- KILL ALL YOUR DARLINGS by David Bell (Berkley)
THE LIGHTHOUSE WITCHES by C.J. Cooke (Berkley)
THE ALBUM OF DR. MOREAU by Daryl Gregory (Tordotcom)
STARR SIGN by C.S. O'Conneide (Dundurn Press)
BOBBY MARCH WILL LIVE FOREVER by Alan Parks (Europa Editions-World Noir)
THE SHAPE OF DARKNESS Laura Purcell (Penguin Books)

BEST FACT CRIME

- THE CONFIDENCE MEN: HOW TWO PRISONERS OF WAR ENGINEERED THE MOST REMARKABLE ESCAPE IN HISTORY by Margalit Fox (Random House)
LAST CALL: A TRUE STORY OF LOVE, LUST, AND MURDER IN QUEER NEW YORK by Elon Green (Celadon Books)
SLEEPER AGENT: THE ATOMIC SPY IN AMERICA WHO GOT AWAY by Ann Hagedorn (Simon & Schuster)
TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE: A MURDER, A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR, AND HER SEARCH FOR JUSTICE (Random House)
THE DOPE: THE REAL HISTORY OF THE MEXICAN DRUG TRADE by Benjamin T. Smith (W.W. Norton & Company)
WHEN EVIL LIVED IN LAUREL: THE "WHITE NIGHTS" AND THE MURDER OF VERNON DAHMER by Curtis Wilkie (W.W. Norton & Company)

BEST CRITICAL/BIOGRAPHICAL

- AGATHA CHRISTIE'S POIROT: THE GREATEST DETECTIVE IN THE WORLD by Mark Aldridge (Harper360)
THE UNQUIET ENGLISHMAN: A LIFE OF GRAHAM GREENE by Richard Greene (W.W. Norton & Company)
TONY HILLERMAN: A LIFE by James McGrath Morris (University of Oklahoma Press)
THE REASON FOR THE DARKNESS OF THE NIGHT: EDGAR ALLAN POE AND THE FORGING OF AMERICAN SCIENCE by John Tresch (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
THE TWELVE LIVES OF ALFRED HITCHCOCK: AN ANATOMY OF THE MASTER OF SUSPENSE by Edward White (W.W. Norton & Company)



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2022 EDGAR NOMINEES

BEST SHORT STORY

- "Blindsided," ALFRED HITCHCOCK MYSTERY MAGAZINE by Michael Bracken & James A. Hearn (Dell Magazines)
"The Vermeer Conspiracy," MIDNIGHT HOUR by V.M. Burns (Crooked Lane Books)
"Lucky Thirteen," MIDNIGHT HOUR by Tracy Clark (Crooked Lane Books)
"The Road to Hana," ALFRED HITCHCOCK MYSTERY MAGAZINE by R.T. Lawton (Dell Magazines)
"The Locked Room Library," ELLERY QUEEN MYSTERY MAGAZINE by Gigi Pandian (Dell Magazines)
"The Dark Oblivion," ELLERY QUEEN MYSTERY MAGAZINE by Cornell Woolrich (Dell Magazines)

BEST JUVENILE

- COLD BLOODED MYRTLE by Elizabeth C. Bunce (Workman Publishing–Algonquin)
CONCEALED by Christina Diaz Gonzalez (Scholastic Press)
AGGIE MORTON MYSTERY QUEEN: THE DEAD MAN IN THE GARDEN by Marthe Jocelyn (Tundra Books)
KIDNAP ON THE CALIFORNIA COMET: ADVENTURES ON TRAINS #2 by M.G. Leonard & Sam Sedgman (Feiwel & Friends)
RESCUE by Jennifer A. Nielsen (Scholastic Press)

BEST YOUNG ADULT

- ACE OF SPADES by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé (Feiwel & Friends)
FIREKEEPER'S DAUGHTER by Angeline Boulley (Henry Holt and Company)
WHEN YOU LOOK LIKE US by Pamela N. Harris (Quill Tree Books)
THE FOREST OF STOLEN GIRLS by June Hur (Feiwel & Friends)
THE GIRLS I'VE BEEN by Tess Sharpe (G.P. Putnam's Sons)

BEST TELEVISION EPISODE TELEPLAY

- "Dog Day Morning"—The Brokenwood Mysteries, Written by Tim Balme (Acorn TV)
"Episode 1"—The Beast Must Die, Written by Gaby Chiappe (AMC+)
"The Men are Wretched Things"—The North Water, Written by Andrew Haigh (AMC+)
"Happy Families"—Midsomer Murders, Written by Nicholas Hicks-Beach (Acorn TV)
"Boots on the Ground"—Narcos: Mexico, Written by Iturri Sosa (Netflix)



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2022 EDGAR NOMINEES



continued from p.

ROBERT L. FISH MEMORIAL AWARD

"Analogue," ELLERY QUEEN MYSTERY MAGAZINE BY Rob Osler (Dell Magazines)



SIMON & SCHUSTER MARY HIGGINS CLARK AWARD

THE SECRET LIFE OF MISS MARY BENNET by Katherine Cowley (Tuley Mystery)

RUBY RED HERRING by Tracy Gardner (Crooked Lane Books)

CLARK AND DIVISION by Naomi Hirahara (Soho Crime)

THE SIGN OF DEATH by Callie Hutton (Crooked Lane Books)

CHAPTER AND CURSE by Elizabeth Penney (St. Martin's Paperbacks)



G.P. PUTNAM'S SONS SUE GRAFTON MEMORIAL AWARD

DOUBLE TAKE by Elizabeth Breck (Crooked Lane)

RUNNER by Tracy Clark (Kensington Books)

SHADOW HILL by Thomas Kies (Poisoned Pen Press)

SLEEP WELL, MY LADY by Kwei Quartey (Soho Crime)

FAMILY BUSINESS by S.J. Rozan (Pegasus Crime)



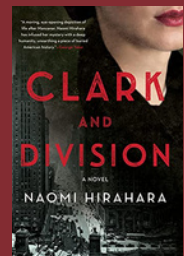
CONGRATULATIONS

to fellow
SoCalMWA Members for
their awards & nominations

ROB OSLER
Robert L. Fish
Memorial Award
"Analogue"



NAOMI HIRAHARA
Simon & Schuster Mary
Higgins Clark Award
CLARK AND DIVISION



KWEI QUARTEY
G.P. Putnam's Sons Sue
Grafton Memorial Award
SLEEP WELL, MY LADY



CRIME CALENDER



More dates will be added as info becomes available.

MARCH 12–13: Tucson Festival of Books, Tucson, AZ

APRIL 7–10: Left Coast Crime, Albuquerque, NM

APRIL 22–24: Malice Domestic, Bethesda, MD

APRIL 23–24: LA Times Festival of Books, Los Angeles, CA

APRIL 28: Edgar® Awards Ceremony, New York, NY

MAY 31–JUNE 4: Thrillerfest, New York, NY

SEPTEMBER 8–11: Bouchercon, Minneapolis, MN

If you know of an event that belongs on the Crime Calendar, email themarchofcrime@gmail.com with the info.

THE LAST WORD



"December 7, 1941, wasn't a typical Sunday for us Itos, starting at dawn, long before we knew what was going to happen."

CLARK AND DIVISION by Naomi Hirahara