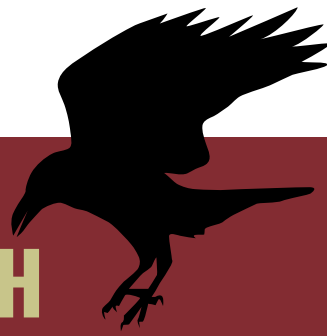


SEPTEMBER 2023

# THE MARCH OF CRIME

SoCalMWA's monthly newsletter.



## Save the Date

ANNUAL GUMBO PARTY

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SOCALMWA**  
**GUMBO PARTY**

10      21      23

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# PRESIDENT'S RAP SHEET



## September Notes

BY TRAVIS RICHARDSON



Dear Members,

I hope you survived Hurricane Hilary. I did my part to overprepare – took down string lights, covered furniture, brought in umbrellas, filled and placed sandbags—all to fend off a day and night’s worth of moderate to light rain. But honestly, I am grateful that the storm’s effects were not as bad as they could have been and that most people took the threat seriously. If you were in areas hit a little harder, I hope you were safe and did not lose anything.



Also, for those of you who went to Bouchercon in San Diego, I hope you had a wonderful time and were able to join us for drinks with NorCalMWA. I’m writing this before the event occurs, but I’m sure it was awesome. I’m also proud of our Anthony nominees **Rob Osler**, **Ellen Byron**, **Jennifer Chow**, and **James T. Bartlett**. I’m hoping that we got a few wins.

Mark your calendars for the **Gumbo Party on October 21** at **Bill Fitzhugh’s** house. You don’t want to miss this legendary party. We may have something in September. Our first idea didn’t pan out, so we are looking at something else. Watch your email in case something comes up.

Wishing you a happy Labor Day,

Travis

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## I'm Freaking Out

BY HOLLY WEST

You've caught me at a bad time. Actually, it's a good time, just busy. So you'll please forgive me for keeping this Editor's Corner short.

I've spent much of my adult life trying to make sense of my mind. The one thing I should know best—myself—is often the thing I understand least.

But every time I think I have something handled, I get near the end and find I neglected some aspect of it. Didn't prepare enough. Forgot to order that one essential thing. This is usually when it's too late to do anything about any of it, otherwise known as time to 'let it go.'



Folks, that's where I'm at this very moment. The question is, will I be able to let it go?

Probably not. And therein lies the problem.

I hope to see many of you at Bouchercon, which, as I write this, is six days away.

Holly

## The March of Crime

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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[groups.io/g/MWA-SOCAL](https://groups.io/g/MWA-SOCAL)  
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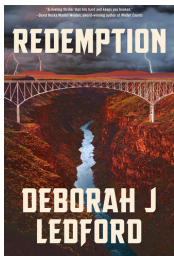
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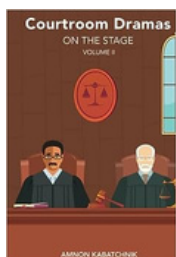
*Guilt Strikes at Granger's Store*, the tenth novel in **Terry Shames's** Samuel Craddock series releases October 3 from Severn House.



In October, **Andrew Neiderman** will publish his 97th V.C. Andrews novel, *Losing Spring*, book one of the Sutherland series. This past July, Lifetime ran the four-book Cutler series, opening with *Dawn*.



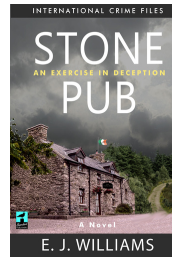
**Deborah J. Ledford's** *Redemption*, the debut of the Eva "Lightning Dance" Duran Native American suspense thriller series, will be released for trade paperback, ebook and audiobook versions from Thomas & Mercer September 1.



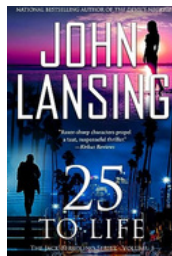
**Amnon Kabatchnik** has had three books published in the last three months. *Courtroom Dramas on the Stage Volume 1* (May 2023). *Horror on the Stage* (June 2023), and *Courtroom Dramas on the Stage Volume 2* (August 2023). The courtroom drama books analyze trial plays throughout history, and the horror volume discusses stage productions about monsters and hauntings.



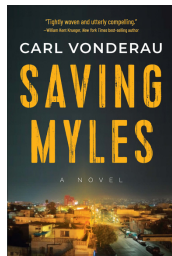
**Topper Jones'** debut mystery *All that Glitters* will be released on September 20 (Wild Rose Press). Now available for pre-order, *Kirkus Reviews* calls it: "A tension-fueled mystery with plenty of twists and two appealing sleuths." Visit [TopperJones.com](http://TopperJones.com) to read the book jacket summary and a sample.



Writing as E.J. WILLIAMS, **Janet Elizabeth Lynn** and **Will Zeilinger** are debuting *Stone Pub* in mid-September. This fast-paced adventure thriller transports the reader to Ireland in 1962. It is the first in the International Crime Files series.



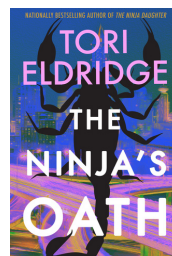
Jack's back in *25 To Life*, the 5th volume in **John Lansing's** Jack Bertolino series. The book drops on September 5, but is available for pre-order at a discounted price: [www.johnlansing.com](http://www.johnlansing.com). *Kirkus* wrote: "Razor-sharp characters propel a taut, suspenseful thriller."



**Carl Vonderau's** domestic thriller, *Saving Myles*, centers Wade, a banker forced to borrow his kidnapped son's ransom only to discover he is now indebted to a cartel. Widely available.



Women Writing the West has selected **Susan Cummins Miller's** *Making Silent Stones Sing* as a Finalist for the 2023 WILLA Literary Award in Poetry.



**Tori Eldridge's** fourth Lily Wong thriller, *The Ninja's Oath*, will be released on September 12 (Agora Books). Lily joins forces with her father's former-triad cook and the assassin J Tran in Shanghai while her father is hospitalized in Los Angeles, and the truth behind her ninja teacher's identity and why he left Japan are revealed.



# APPEARANCES & EVENTS

On Sunday, October 8, **Terry Shames** will have a launch party to celebrate the release of *Death Strikes at Granger's Store* at Village Well Books and Coffee, 9900 Culver Blvd., Culver City.

On Sunday, September 3, 2–4 p.m. PT, **Terri Maue** will discuss her debut mystery, *Knife Edge*, on Dime Grinds. Zoom link [here](#) or Zoom ID 365 243 4388.

The book launch for **Deborah J Ledford's** *Redemption* will be held at The Poisoned Pen Bookstore September 16, 2 p.m. MT.

**Janet Elizabeth Lynn** will appear on "You Can't Kill Me—Why the PI Novel Won't Die" on Thursday, August 31, 10:20–11:10 a.m. at Bouchercon.

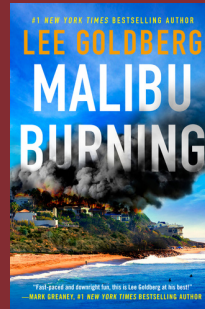
**Will Zeilinger** will appear on "Modern Historicals: When the Past Isn't That Far Back (20th Century)" on Sunday, September 3, 11:30 a.m.–12:20 p.m. at Bouchercon.



**Carl Vonderau**, author of *Saving Miles*, will be talking about money laundering for the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Mystery Writers of America on September 14.

**Laurie Stevens** will speak on seamlessly switching genres to the Long Beach California Writers' Club at 3 p.m. on September 9. Guests are welcome (and encouraged) to join the Zoom call. Email [info@calwriterslongbeach.org](mailto:info@calwriterslongbeach.org) by Sept 8 with the subject line 'Zoom request' to get the link.

**Tori Eldridge** will launch her fourth Lily Wong thriller, *The Ninja's Oath*, [online at Mysterious Galaxy](#) Tuesday, September 12, 5 p.m., in conversation with Tracy Clark and [in-person at Vroman's Bookstore](#) Wednesday, September 13, 7 p.m. in conversation with **Naomi Hirahara**. The Vroman's launch party will include refreshments, giveaways, and fun! Check [ToriEldridge.com](http://ToriEldridge.com) for all upcoming events.



**Lee Goldberg** and **Todd Goldberg** will be discussing their new books, *Malibu Burning* and *Gangster's Don't Die* at The Poisoned Pen Bookstore in Scottsdale, AZ on September 20, 7 p.m. The event will also be live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube. Signed books are available for pre-purchase from the Poisoned Pen website.

Free tickets are available for "An Evening with **Lee Goldberg** in Conversation with **Michael Connelly**" at the Agoura Hills Community Center on September 21, 6 p.m. Michael will be interviewing Lee about his new novel, *Malibu Burning*. Books by both authors will be available for purchase and signing, courtesy of Mystery Ink. Get your tickets [here](#).

**Donis Casey's** "Tell Me Your Story" guest for September is **Deborah J. Ledford**, author of the upcoming Eva "Lightning Dance" Duran thriller *Redemption*. An Edgar Award winner and three-time nominee for the Pushcart Prize, Deb is a former adjunct professor for Arizona State University's Piper Writer Center for Creative Writing and past-president of Sisters in Crime Desert Sleuths (AZ chapter). Deb's story will appear on September 20 at [DonisCasey.com](http://DonisCasey.com).

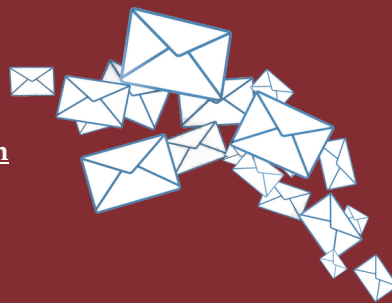
**Connie di Marco** will appear on the "Let's Twist Again Like We Did Last Summer: When Plots Take a Surprising Turn" at Bouchercon on Saturday, September 2, 2:20 p.m. with authors **Chris Hauty**, **Marco Carocari**, **Valerie J. Brooks**, and **William Baer**.

**Georgia Jeffries** will join fellow panelists **Megan Abbott**, **Craig Faustus Buck**, **Marjorie McCown**, **Dete Maserve**, and **John Shepphird** to discuss "Hollywood and Writers: Working for TV/Publishing Stories" on Friday, September 1, at Bouchercon.



August 30–September 3: Bouchercon, San Diego, CA

If you know of an event that belongs on the Crime Calendar, email [themarchofcrime@gmail.com](mailto:themarchofcrime@gmail.com) with the info.



## THE LAST WORD



"Wade Bosworth turned on the front lights of his house for the men who would take away his son."

*Saving Miles*  
by Carl Vonderau