



ORANGE HERRING
Sisters in Crime  Orange County



MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the professional development and advancement of women crime writers to achieve equality in the industry.

MEETING PLACE

Irvine Ranch Water District
15500 Sand Canyon Avenue
Irvine, CA 92618

We meet at the Irvine Ranch Water District in the Community Affairs meeting room on the northeast side of the parking lot. For directions, visit: www.ocsistersincrime.org. ([IRWD map](#))

"IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT NEITHER SUPPORTS NOR ENDORSES THE CAUSE NOR ACTIVITIES OF ORGANIZATIONS WHICH USE THE DISTRICT'S MEETING ROOMS THAT ARE MADE AVAILABLE AS A PUBLIC SERVICE"

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

To join or renew your membership in our Sisters in Crime Chapter, you must also be a member of National. To renew your national membership, go to: www.sistersincrime.org/. To renew for our chapter, go to: www.ocsistersincrime.org/membership.htm and download the form, or fill out the form at the end of this newsletter and mail it in with your check. You can join national online or send your check to national to us, along with your check for our chapter.

If you have not already done so, please renew your Sisters in Crime membership today!



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Meetings for the remainder of the year will be held on July 26, Aug. 23, Oct. 25, and Nov. 22. Our holiday meeting will be held at Mystery Ink on Dec. 13th. There will be no meeting in September; instead, we will host our second Ladies of Intrigue program on Oct. 3rd. Please mark your calendars.

Snack duty will be on a rotating basis. The following people have agreed to bring the snack for these meetings:

July: Sharon Nelson
Aug: Potluck – Joint meeting with MWA
Sept: NO MEETING (LOI the next weekend)
Oct: Gita Fisher
Nov: Theresa Schultz
Dec: Potluck

UPCOMING MEETINGS

July 26, 2015 -- Featured Speaker: Diane Vallere

At **2:00 p.m.**, our forum will be a Reader's Favorite: What's your favorite mystery book/series, and why? Also, we are bringing back our Sister Share program, so bring your favorite book to discuss and loan to another sister/mister to read.

At **3:00 p.m.**, our guest speaker will be **Diane Vallere**. Originally from Pennsylvania, Diane Vallere currently lives in Southern California, where her Material Witness Mystery Series is set. The first, *Suede to Rest*, came out in November 2014, and was nominated for the Lefty Award for Best Humorous Mystery at Left Coast Crime. Her new book, *Crushed Velvet* is the second book in her series.

Diane Vallere made the transition from self-publishing to traditional publishing, and will discuss that process, as her new book, *Crushed Velvet*. Diane is currently president of the L.A. Chapter of Sisters in Crime. She is also a member of Mystery Writer of America, International Thriller Writers, IBPA, and, the Guppies.



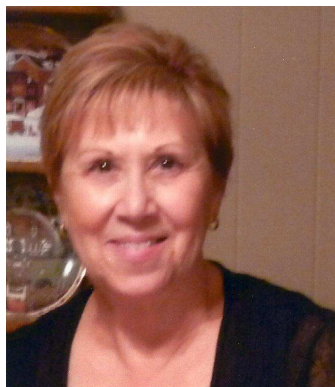
MEETING ROUNDUP

By Theresa Schultz

We had a great speaker in June. **Alexandra Sokoloff** joined us for our Writer's Forum, "Are you a Plotter or Pantser?" We shared our thoughts on the subject and then Alexandra gave us her winning formula, gleaned from many years writing screenplays. She explained the three-act, eight-sequence structure commonly used in films and TV. Just as viewers expect a climax every fifteen minutes or so, readers expect some sort of cliffhanger or climax spaced throughout the novel. A screenwriter for ten years, Alexandra has written three books on the subject. She also has many helpful posts on her blog, <http://www.screenwritingtricks.com/>, including a breakdown of the popular film *Silence of the Lambs*.

Alex mentioned her need to reinvent herself every few years in this changing climate of publishing. She discussed traditional vs. self-publishing and clued us in on audio books, ebooks, and how persistence and drive count more than talent when it comes to getting books published. She is the author of the Thriller Award-nominated *Huntress* series, which has been optioned for television. She enjoys turning serial killer and woman as victim tropes inside out.

MEET THE MEMBERS



Donna Kolling Lear's first book, *Crimson Gold*, a story of murder, greed and buried gold in 1939 Alaska, was published in 2013. She was born and raised in Southern California and currently lives in Santa Ana.

1. WHAT SUB-GENRE OF MYSTERY/SUSPENSE/THRILLER DO YOU PREFER TO READ?



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My favorite sub-genres depend on my mood. My favorites are a Classic Whodunit, Cozy and Psychological Suspense.

2. IF YOU COULD SHARE A MEAL WITH ANY AUTHOR (LIVING OR DEAD), WHO WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

I would love to share a meal with Agatha Christie.

3. WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE WEAPON OF CHOICE?

My favorite weapon is a handgun, but I do like a good knife.

4. BASEBALL CAP, DEERSTALKER, OR FEDORA?

Deerstalker.

MEMBER NEWS

Terry Ambrose's thriller, *Con Game*, won the 2014 San Diego Book Awards for Best Action/Thriller. *Con Game* is the second installment in the License to Lie series featuring con artist Roxy Tanner and criminologist Skip Cosgrove.

"Ambrose touches on high-finance malfeasance, adultery and drug dealing with the kind of snark that will remind readers of Elmore Leonard."—Kirkus Reviews on Con Game

Get snarky scam tips and more at terryambrose.com

On July 19, **Cynthia Weitz** will be on an author panel to discuss her mystery, *Feisty Old Ladies*. The event will take place at the SJC Library Bookstore, 31495-A El Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Jack Martin is pleased to announce that his latest mystery, *Brother Can You Spare a Dime?* is being released by Blank Slate Press on August 25th. It is the first in a series of Harry Bierce mysteries. Bierce is Depression-era F.B.I. agent, who in this debut outing finds himself involved with the attempted assassination of FDR, the vicious Bonnie and Clyde and John Dillinger, and the sinister political machine of the Louisiana demagogue Huey Long. Here is a link to it on Amazon: http://www.amazon.com/Brother-Can-You-Spare-Dime/dp/1943075085/ref=sr_1_4?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1433193406&sr=1-4&keywords=brother+can+you+spare+a+dime.



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MYSTERY INK NEWS

Mystery Ink Bookstore, 8907 Warner Avenue, #135, Huntington Beach, (714) 960-4000

New hours: Wed. – Fri., 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Sat., 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

www.mysteryink.com. Coffee & Wi-Fi available.

Saturday, August 1st, 2:00 p.m. - Launch Party!

Avery Aames (*As Gouda As Dead*) and Diane Vallere (*Crushed Velvet*)

In the latest Cheese Shop Mystery by Agatha Award winning author Avery Aames (aka Daryl Woods Gerber), a beloved bar owner is discovered murdered on her fiancé's farm, Charlotte Bessette's betrothed, Jordan Pace, believes they should reschedule their upcoming wedding, given the grim turn of events. Charlotte is heartsick over the postponement—and more determined than ever to contain the killer.

In Diane Vallere's second book *Crushed Velvet*, opening day of her Material Girl Shop is approaching, Poly is stocking up on lush fabrics, colorful notions and a proprietary weave of velvet. But upon delivery, she discovers the body of her good friend Genevieve's husband, crushed under a dozen bolts of fabric. When Genevieve confesses to killing her husband, Poly is torn between a friendship pulling apart at the seams—and finding a smooth killer with a velvet touch.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sisters in Crime  Orange County

&



Mystery
Writers
of
America

Southern
California
Chapter



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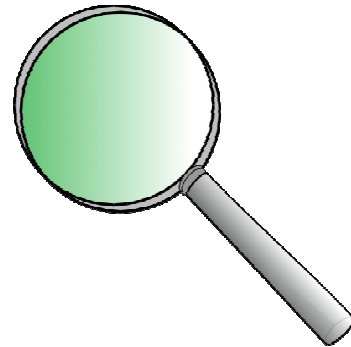


PRESENT

WOMEN OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Come meet the other sisters in crime, including

Debra Stark, Detective (retired) at Brea P.D.



Sunday, August 23 @ 1 p.m. in Irvine*
--Includes a no-cost buffet luncheon --

***For more info/to RSVP contact us at:
secretary@ocsistersincrime.org**

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED



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Sisters in Crime  **Orange County**

Presents

Ladies of Intrigue

A day-long event featuring Remarkable Women Mystery Writers

Saturday, October 3, Hotel Huntington Beach

*With special guest speaker Catriona McPherson, SinC National President
And other soon to be announced authors **

* Interested authors are invited to contact OC SinC president Gayle Carline @ gaylecarline@sbcglobal.net

Details Available Soon @ ocsistersincrime.org



Support your local SinC chapter. Buy a mug at the next meeting, and donate books for our raffle!

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

If you have events coming up or announcements you want to make, let me know. Please send your contributions and suggestions to: ocsinc.newsletter@gmail.com. **The deadline is the 7th of each month!**



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SISTERS IN CRIME ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

Print and complete this form. NOTE: YOU MUST ALSO JOIN SISTERS IN CRIME NATIONAL TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER.

Send the completed form with both checks, \$40 payable to Sisters in Crime (National) and \$25 payable to Sisters in Crime, OC to:

Membership

Sisters in Crime, Orange County

P.O. Box 53132

Irvine, CA 92619-3132

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please print all information and list your name as you want it listed in the Membership Directory.

New Renewal Name: Address:

Day Phone:

Evening Phone:

Email: I am a (check all that apply):

Mystery Writer Published Unpublished

Writer in other fields Published Unpublished

Screenwriter

--Produced: Features TV/Cable Other

Reviewer Agent Bookseller Librarian Reader

I would like to help with (check all that apply):

Publicity Refreshments Speakers Raffle Other: