



Fifteenth Annual Festival of Mystery

May 3 from 4 to 9 pm

The Fifteenth Annual MLB Festival of Mystery will be held on Monday, May 3 at the Greek Orthodox Church Social Hall at 12 Washington Avenue, five blocks from the store. Admission is \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door. Doors open at 4 pm. Author interviews will begin at 5 pm.

As in past years, we'll feature plenty of opportunity to meet and talk with your favorite writers as well as meeting new ones. Book clubs or libraries may reserve tables for at least eight people. Please call early as tables are limited.

Show up early to receive your Bag o' Books before supplies run out. Light meals will be available so you won't have to miss a single author.

Continuous drawings for an amazing variety of raffle prizes. Get a raffle ticket for every book you buy or for each donation of \$1 to Beginning With Books.

Make a purchase in the store on the day of the Festival and your Festival ticket will get you a free paperback.

The Author Lineup: interviews begin at 5 pm and continue in alphabetical order



Donna Andrews set the tone for her charming and humorous Meg Langslow series by winning the Agatha, Anthony, the Barry and the Romanic Times awards for the debut, *Murder with Peacocks*. For the Festival, Donna will be coming with the eleventh, *Swan for the Money*,

an Agatha nominee.

Lorna Barrett is the pen name of author Lorraine Bartlett. She honed her characterization and plotting skills as a frequent writer for romance magazines. *Murder Is Binding* is the first in the Booktown Mystery series and it introduces small-town



mystery bookstore owner Tricia Miles. The third, *Bookplate Special*, was published last year. She also writes the Jeff Resnick paranormal/psychological suspense series as L.L. Bartlett. The second book in the series is *Dead in Red*.

Carrie Bebris is an award-winning author best known for the Mr. and Mrs. Darcy Mystery series, a collection of novels set in Regency England and inspired by Jane Austen's beloved characters and novels with a dash of gothic atmosphere. She holds a master's degree in English literature and is a member of the Jane Austen Society of North America. A Wisconsin native, she now resides in Ohio.



Cordelia Biddle is well known to MLB fans as half of the husband and wife team behind Nero Blanc and the crossword puzzle mysteries featuring Roscoe Polycrates. Two years ago, under her own name, Cordelia launched a splendid



WDUQ is the media sponsor for this year's Festival which is raising funds for the Beginning With Books. This wonderful organization encourages literacy by pairing volunteers with children to read books together, books the children get to take home.

new historical mystery series featuring young Philadelphia heiress Martha Beale who investigates her own father's mysterious death in *The Conjurer*, set in 1842. A wealth of carefully researched detail, some based on Cordelia's own family history, made this series debut a treat for fans of historical mystery. The third in the series, *Without Fear*, was published in January.



Miranda Bliss, we now know, is also Casey Daniels. As Casey she writes the Pepper Martin series about a cemetery tour guide who finds she can communicate with the permanent residents. The fifth in the series is *Dead Man Talking*.

As Miranda Bliss, she is the author of five books that feature best friends Annie and Eve who give cooking classes. Most recent is *Murder Has a Sweet Tooth*.

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New York Times bestselling author **Kate Carlisle** spent twenty years working in television production before deciding to go to law school, where she turned to writing fiction as a lawful way to kill off her evil professors. She eventually left law school but the urge to write has never stopped. Kate makes her home by the beach in Southern California.

Elizabeth Lynn Casey is the national bestselling author of the new Southern Sewing Circle Mystery Series with Berkley Prime Crime. *Sew Deadly* kicked off the series in August. *Death Threads*, the second book in the series, debuts in May just in time for the Festival. In addition to her work as a mystery writer, Elizabeth also writes romance under the name Laura Bradford. She lives in New York State with her family.



Before becoming a full-time mystery writer, **Sheila Connolly** taught art history, structured and marketed municipal bonds for major cities, worked as a staff member on two statewide political campaigns, and served as a fundraiser for several non-profit organizations. She also managed her own consulting company providing genealogical research services. Her *Glassblowing Mystery Series*, written as Sarah Atwell, debuted with *Through a Glass, Deadly*, an Agatha nominee, followed by *Pane of Death*, and *Snake in the Glass*. Her Orchard Mystery Series

opened with *One Bad Apple* last year. The third, *Red Delicious Death*, was published in March.

Ellen Crosby launched her mystery writing career after working as a free-lance journalist, most recently with *The Washington Post*. After researching the wine-making business, she put her knowledge to excellent use in her Virginia wine country series which includes *The Merlot Murders* and *The Chardonnay Charade*. At the Festival you can pick up the fourth in the series, *The Riesling Retribution*.



Shirley Damsgaard will arrive at the Festival with the seventh in her Ophelia Jensen series, *The Seventh Witch*. Her Agatha Nominated debut *Witch Way to Murder* kicked off this series with a paranormal twist that pairs librarian Ophelia with her Aunt Abby with entertaining results.



Author of the Southern Beauty Shop mysteries, **Lila Dare** was born in Georgia and has lived in Alabama, Mississippi, and Virginia. Although she has never worked in a beauty shop, she frequents salons and likes to tell her stylist: "Surprise me." Maybe that's why she looks nervous in her photo. She currently lives west of the Mississippi with her husband, two daughters and dog, and misses Southern cooking and friendliness, but not the humidity.

Local author **C. William Davis III** achieved his life-long dream of novel writing with publication of *The Forever Man*, set in a small western Pennsylvania town and featuring Sheriff Clive Aliston. The sequel, *Tail of the Scorpion*, came out last year. The third, *The Ticket Master*, will be here for the Festival.

Vicki Delany's *Winter of Secrets* is the third in a traditional police procedural series featuring Constable Molly Smith and set in the mountains of British Columbia. A second series debuted with *Gold Digger* set in the Klondike gold rush of 1898 now followed by *Gold Fever*. She is also the author of two novels of psychological suspense, *Scare the Light Away* and *Burden of Memory*.



Hannah Dennison was born in England and moved to Los Angeles in 1993 to pursue a writing career. Along the road to publication she has served as an obituary reporter, private jet flight attendant and Hollywood story analyst. She began writing the Vicky Hill mysteries six years ago. Her third book, *Expose!* was published in December. Hannah is a board member of the Los Angeles chapter of Sisters in Crime.



New Jersey writer **Irene Fleming's** work has been described by Publishers Weekly as "delightful." *The Edge of Ruin* is the first in her series about the early days of silent film and the struggles of Emily Daggett Weiss to make it in the business, while dealing with the occasional corpse. Festival regulars will recognize Irene as Kate Gallison.



Beth Groundwater comes to the Festival with the second in her gift basket designer series, *To Hell in a Handbasket*. The first, *A Real Basket Case*, was nominated for an Agatha Award. Beth also writes the Rocky Mountain Adventure mystery series which will debut in March, 2011 with *Deadly Currents*. Her science fiction novella, *The Epsilon Eridani Alternative*, was published in December, and she has published eight short stories. Beth lives in Colorado.

Pittsburgh playwright and actor **Kathryn Miller Haines** is coming to the festival with *When Winter Returns*, the fourth in her WW II-set series featuring actress and would-be PI Rosie Winters.

R.J. Harlick writes the Meg Harris Mystery series. In this unique series, she interweaves the seductive allure of the Quebec wilderness with the tensions between the people that share it, English Canadians, Quebecois and the Algonquin First Nation. The fourth in the series, *Arctic Blue Death*, takes Meg to Canada's far north in search of her father whose plane went missing over 30 years ago.



Anthony and Agatha-nominated **Rosemary Harris** writes traditional mysteries that have been compared to Diane Mott Davidson's and Earlene Fowler's. In *Dead Head*, Rosemary's third novel, amateur sleuth Paula Holliday learns that a new friend is actually a fugitive who's been on the run for decades and she's hired to find out who outed the woman and who is still seeking revenge. *The Big Dirt Nap* and *Pushing Up Daisies* are now available in paperback.



L.C. Hayden's fifth mystery, *Why Casey Had to Die*, was the Agatha Nominee for Best Novel and her previous release, *What Others Know*, was nominated for Left Coast Crime's best mystery award. L.C. will be at the Festival with the second Harry Bronson book, *When Death Intervenes*.



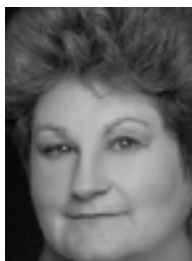
Sue Ann Jaffarian is the author of the Odelia Grey mystery series which features a plus-sized, middle-aged paralegal as a humorous amateur sleuth. In addition to writing, she is a paralegal like her character. The first book in the Odelia Grey mystery series, *Too Big To Miss*, has been optioned for TV. The fifth, *Corpse on the Cob*, was just published. Sue Ann lives in Los Angeles.

Laurie R. King lives in the hills above Monterey Bay in northern California. Her background includes such diverse interests as Old Testament theology and construction work, and she has been writing crime fiction since 1987. The winner of the Edgar, the Nero, the Macavity and the John Creasey Awards, she is the author of highly-praised stand-alone suspense novels and a contemporary mystery series featuring San Francisco Police detective Kate Martinelli, and the author of nine mysteries in the Mary Russell/Sherlock Holmes series, including the New York Times bestseller *The Game* and *The Language of Bees*.



Mary Jane Maffini will be coming to the Festival with the sixth in her Camilla McPhee series, *Law and Disorder*. Lawyers take cover! *Closet Confidential*, the fourth book featuring upstate New York professional organizer Charlotte Adams will be available from Mystery Lovers in July. She is a lapsed librarian, a former mystery bookseller, and a past president of Crime Writers of Canada. Although she is a member of the Ladies Killing Circle, in reality, she has never bumped off anyone.

Nancy Martin, author of nearly 50 popular fiction novels, departs from her bestselling Blackbird Sisters Mystery Series with the 2010 publication of *Our Lady of Immaculate Deception*, which features tough Pittsburgh girl Roxy Abruzzo. Nancy lives in Pittsburgh, serves on the board of Sisters in Crime and received the 2009 Romantic Times award for Lifetime Achievement for mystery writing.



Judi McCoy has published fifteen romances. *Hounding the Pavement* is the first book in her new romantic mystery series. All royalties from the book will be donated to Best Friends, the largest no-kill animal shelter in the U.S. Judi currently resides on Virginia's peaceful eastern shore. A retired women's gymnastic judge, she raises orchids and continues to write the next book in her unique series. Judi will join us with the second book, *Heir of the Dog*.

Beverle Graves Myers made a mid-life career switch from psychiatry to fiction writing. An avid traveler and opera lover, she sets her Tito Amato mystery series in the musical world of 18th-century Venice. *Her Deadly Mischief* is fifth in the series. Bev's novels and short stories have earned nominations for the Macavity, Derringer, and Kentucky Literary awards. She lives in Louisville, Kentucky with husband, Lawrence.



Before his thrillers landed him on The New York Times Bestseller list, Kevin O'Brien was a railroad inspector, who wrote novels at night. His first thriller, *The Next to Die* jumped up the bestseller charts. He's been writing about murder and mayhem full-time ever since. His 2005 thriller, *The Last Victim* won the Spotted Owl Award for Best Pacific Northwest Mystery. His last four thrillers—the most recent, *Final Breath*—have all been New York Times Bestsellers. His new thriller, *Vicious*, will make its debut at The Festival of Mystery. Kevin O'Brien lives in Seattle, loves Hitchcock movies and is hard at work on his twelfth novel.

Karen E. Olson won the Sara Ann Freed Memorial Award and is a Shamus Award and Gumshoe Award finalist. She writes the Annie Seymour and Tattoo Shop mystery series. Her second Tattoo Shop Mystery, *Pretty in Ink*, came out in March, and the third, *Driven to Ink*, will be out in September.



Diana Orgain holds an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University with a minor in acting. Diana's plays have been produced at San Francisco State University, GreenHouse Productions, and PlayGround in San Francisco. She is the author of *Bundle of Trouble* and *Motherhood Is Murder*. She lives in San Francisco with her husband and their three children.

Alan Orloff is the author of the just-released debut mystery, *Diamonds for the Dead*. The first book in his new series, *Killer Routine*, featuring Channing Hayes, a stand-up comic with a tragic past, will be released next year. A former engineer, marketing manager, and newsletter editor, he lives in Northern Virginia with his wife and two children.

Brad Parks' first novel, *Faces of the Gone*, landed on several prominent critics' lists as being among the top debuts of 2009 and was lauded by Library Journal as "the most hilariously funny and deadly serious mystery debut since Janet Evanovich's *One for the Money*." An escaped journalist, Brad spent a dozen years as a staff writer at The Washington Post and The (Newark, N.J.) Star-Ledger. The Dartmouth College graduate is now a full time author living in Virginia with his wife and two young children.



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Complete author bibliographies are available online at www.mysterylovers.com

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Sandra Parshall returns to the Festival with *Broken Places*, third in her series featuring veterinarian Rachel Goddard. Her debut book, *The Heat of the Moon*, won the Agatha Award for Best First Novel, and was followed by *Disturbing the Dead*. Sandra lives in the Washington, DC, area with her journalist husband and two cats. She serves on the national board of Sisters in Crime.



Leann Sweeney is the author of five Yellow Rose Mysteries featuring adoption PI Abby Rose. She also writes a new series, the Cats in Trouble Mysteries with amateur sleuth Jillian Hart solving the cat problems in Mercy, South Carolina, problems that always seem to involve murder. The second, *The Cat, the Professor and The Poison*, will be out just in time for the Festival. Leann lives in Texas with her three inspiring cats, the ADHD labradoodle Rosie and her husband Mike.



Jason Pinter, a former book editor, is the bestselling author of five critically acclaimed Henry Parker thrillers beginning with *The Darkness*. Jason has been nominated for the Thriller award, Shamus award, Barry award, Strand Critics award, Romantic Times Reviewers Choice award and CrimeSpree award and there are over one million copies of his books in print worldwide. He lives in New York City with his wife, Susan, and their dog, Wilson.

After surviving ten moves as a military spouse, Sara Rosett decided to put those experiences to good use as background for a mystery series. The latest release, *Mint Juleps, Mayhem and Murder*, has a Southern flare. The first book in the series, *Moving is Murder*, was a Reader's Choice Award Nominee in 2007 at the Salt Lake County Library and received a Distinguished Honor Award from the Military Writers Society of America. Sara's essays have also appeared in *Chicken Soup for the Military Wife's Soul*. Until her next move, Sara resides in Florida with her family.



Marcia Talley returns to Pittsburgh to sign copies of her eighth Hannah Ives mystery *Without a Grave*, just out in trade paper. Marcia's short stories appear in more than a dozen collections, including "Can You Hear Me Now?" from *Two of the Deadliest: New Tales of Lust, Greed and Murder by Outstanding Women of Mystery* edited by Elizabeth George. This Agatha and Anthony award-winning author divides her time between Annapolis, Maryland and living aboard an antique sailboat in the Bahamas.

Pittsburgh attorney turned novelist Heather Terrell joins us with her latest, splendid historical thriller, *Brigid of Kildare*. This tale of an early female bishop in the Irish Church and her conflicts with the orthodoxy of Rome makes for riveting reading. Heather, an attorney, lives with her husband and two children in Sewickley, Pennsylvania.

Elaine Viets continues her national bestselling series of dead-end jobs with *Half-Price Homicide*. Helen Hawthorne works at a designer consignment shop for this ninth novel. Helen finally marries -- after she deals with secondhand clothes and first-degree murder. Elaine, who really does work all these jobs, also has a second series featuring mystery shopper Josie Marcus. Latest is *The Fashion Hound Murders*. Elaine lives in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.



Hank Ryan has won 26 Emmy awards for investigative reporting—and the Agatha for her first mystery *Prime Time*. Her 2009 mystery *Air Time* (continuing her series starring smart and savvy reporter Charlotte McNally) was just nominated for the Agatha for Best Novel, and her short story "On the House" for Best Short Story. Hank, who is on the air at Boston's NBC affiliate, and her husband live in Newton, Massachusetts.

Deborah Sharp reported for USA Today for 20 years, before leaving the news behind to write fiction. Her Mace Bauer mysteries, set in her native Florida, are funny with a Southern-fried edge: Imagine Janet Evanovich, with some cousins named Bubba. On the Today Show, Deborah chatted with Al Roker about spending a week in the saddle to research *Mama Rides Shotgun*. The third book, *Mama Gets Hitched*, comes out in July.



Wendy Lyn Watson writes deliciously funny cozy mysteries with a dollop of romance. Her Mysteries a la Mode, *I Scream, You Scream* and *Scoop to Kill* (September 2010) feature amateur sleuth Tallulah Jones, who solves murders in between scooping sundaes. While she does not commit--or solve--murders in real life, Wendy can kill a pint of ice cream in nothing flat. She's also passionately devoted to 80s music, Asian horror films, and reality TV.

Heather Webber is the author of the Nina Quinn cozy mystery series and a brand new romantic mystery series featuring psychic Lucy Valentine. Lucy's first adventure, *Truly, Madly*, debuted in February from St. Martin's Press, and its follow-up, *Deeply, Desperately*, will be released in August.



Joanna Campbell Slan is the author of *Paper, Scissors, Death*, the first in a series featuring Kiki Lowenstein, an expert scrapbooker who plays amateur sleuth when her husband dies under suspicious circumstances. *Paper, Scissors, Death* has been called "an engaging cozy" with "an enjoyable mix of humor, suspense (and) a touch of romance." *Photo, Snap, Shot*, the third book in her Kiki Lowenstein mystery series, will be released just in time for the Festival.

Jenny White is the author of the Kamil Pasha mystery series, set in nineteenth-century Istanbul in the dying days of the Ottoman Empire. *The Sultan's Seal* has appeared in fifteen languages. Booklist named it one of the top ten first novels of 2006, and it was shortlisted for the Ellis Peters Historical Crime Award. The third book in the series, *The Winter Thief*, will appear just in time for the Festival. Jenny White also teaches social anthropology at Boston University and has published two scholarly books on contemporary Turkey. She lives in the Boston area and wavers between being exhausted and exhilarated.

