

Thirteenth Annual FESTIVAL OF MYSTERY April 28 4 to 9 pm

The Thirteenth annual MLB Festival of Mystery will be held on Monday, April 28 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. Light meals and refreshments available so you don't have to miss a minute.

The Festival is the perfect opportunity to chat with favorite authors and discover new ones. Book clubs or libraries may reserve tables for at least eight people. Please call early as tables are limited.

1 Ticket, 2 Great Events

Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door.

Your ticket to the Festival is also good for the Little Night of Romance on April 17. See page 11 for details.

Bag o' Books

The first hundred or so folks to show up will receive our complimentary bag o' books. Show up early, doors open at 4, to get yours and start your shopping.

Raffle Drawings

All evening we'll have a series of drawings for amazing raffle prizes. Get a ticket for each book you buy or each \$1 contribution to Beginning with Books.

Author Line-up: Interviews begin at 5 pm 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 eighth, *The Penguin Who Knew Too Much*.



Deb Baker is author of the Dolls To Die For series and the "Yooper" mysteries, which are humorous romps through the Michigan Upper Peninsula's backwoods. The third in each series, *Dolly Departed* and *Murder Talks Turkey*, are hot off the press.

A retired Near Eastern archaeologist, Aileen G. Baron is the author of *A Fly Has a Hundred Eyes*, and *The Torch of Tangier*, both now available in paperback, and set in the Middle



East during WW II, featuring archeologist Lily Sampson. Her latest book, *The Gold of Thrace*, is a contemporary stand-alone about the intrigue and deceit in the antiquities trade.

Lorna Barrett is the pen name of author Lorraine Bartlett. She honed her characterization and plotting skills as a frequent writer for romance magazines. Her manuscript, *Murder in Morton Mills*, a traditional mystery, was a finalist in the St. Martin's/Malice Domestic



WDUQ is the media sponsor for this year's Festival which is raising funds for the Beginning With Books. This wonderful organization encourages early literacy through a variety of programs that books in the hands of kids who otherwise would have little or no exposure to them.

contest. *Murder Is Binding* is the first in the Booktown Mystery series and it introduces small-town mystery bookstore owner Tricia Miles. The sequel, *Bookmarked For Murder*, will be published in early 2009.



A former high school social studies teacher, Charles Benoit has spent the past several years living and working overseas. He currently lives in exotic Rochester, New York and works as a copywriter and storyboard artist, creating advertisements that drive consumers into a buying frenzy. His first novel, *Relative Danger*, is now in paperback and features the around-the-world adventures of an unemployed Pottsville, PA brewery worker. His new novel, set in Thailand, has a man helping a woman find her brother who went missing during the tsunami.

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Get a free paperback with your Festival Ticket when you make a purchase at the store on April 28

Festival Author Line-up continued from page 1

Miranda Bliss, it can now be revealed, is also Casey Daniels. As Casey, she once applied for a job as a tour guide at a historic cemetery. She didn't get the job, but she did get the idea for the Pepper Martin Mystery Series about a cemetery tour guide who finds she can communicate with the permanent residents. The third in the series, *Tombs of Endearment*, came out last year. As Miranda Bliss, she is the author of three books that feature best friends Annie and Eve who give cooking classes. Most recent is *Dead Men Don't Get the Munchies*.



The British born Rhys Bowen now lives in California where she has written seven wildly successful mysteries featuring the feisty Irish immigrant Molly Murphy, the latest being *Tell Me Pretty Maiden*. She has been nominated for every major mystery award: Agatha, Edgar, McCavity, Anthony and Barry and has won both the Agatha and Anthony Award. Not resting, she's started a new series with *Her Royal Spyness* featuring 1920's sleuth Lady Victoria, an aristocrat fallen on hard times. Bowen is also the author of the award-winning Evans Evans series.

Ellen Byerrum launched the Lacey Smithsonian series with *Killer Hair* which introduced the fashion columnist who still had time to track a killer of hair stylists while keeping tabs on the capitals fashion do's and don'ts. Four more books followed, most recently *Grave Apparel*.

Jane K. Cleland comes to the Festival with the third in her series with New Hampshire antiques appraiser Josie Prescott, *Antiques to Die For*. Her Agatha-nominated debut *Consigned to Death*, an Antiques Roadshow for mystery fans, was the first in this traditional mystery series. Set on the rugged New Hampshire coast, Josie uses her knowledge of antiques to solve the crimes. Formerly the owner of a rare book and antiques store, Jane now lives in New York City with her husband.

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 Atwood, debuted with *Through a Glass, Deadly*; her Orchard Mystery Series will open with *One*

Bad Apple in August.

C.R. Corwin writes the Morgue Mama Mysteries featuring cranky, crafty newspaper librarian Dolly Madison Sprowls—the Morgue Momma. The third in the series, *The Unraveling of Violetta Bell* will be here in time for the Festival. Corwin, a former newspaper man himself, lives in Akron, Ohio.

Ellen Crosby launched her mystery writing career after work as a journalist with the Washington Post. She's taken her knowledge of the Virginia wine-making business and put it to excellent use in her series debut, *The Merlot Murders*. At the Festival you can pick up the second, *The Chardonnay Charade*.

Barbara D'Amato has won the Carl Sandburg Award for Fiction, the first Mary Higgins Clark Award, the Agatha twice, the Anthony twice, the Macavity, and several Lovies. She is a past president of Mystery Writers of America and of Sisters in Crime International. Barbara lives in Chicago.



Shirley Damsgaard will arrive at the Festival with the fifth in her Ophelia Jensen series, *The Witch is Dead*. 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.

Local author C. William Davis III achieved his life-long dream of novel writing with publication last year of *The Forever Man*, set in a small Western Pennsylvania town and featuring Sheriff Clive Aliston. Look for the sequel, *Tail of the Scorpion*, at the Festival.

Vicki Delany's *In the Shadow of the Glacier* is the first in a traditional police procedural series featuring Constable Molly Smith and set in the mountains of British Columbia. She is also the author of two novels of psychological suspense, *Scare the Light Away* and *Burden of Memory*. She has taken early retirement from her job as a systems analyst, and this is her second trip to the Festival.



Novelist and critic Hallie Ephron serves up a delight for all Festival-goers with *1001 Books for Every Mood*, a comprehensive guide to finding worthwhile books

according to what you feel like reading. Hallie is also the author of *Writing and Selling Your Mystery Novel*.

Kate Flora hails from Maine but now lives in Concord where she shares local author billing with Thoreau and Emerson. Kate is the author of the Edgar-nominated *Finding Amy: A True Story of Murder in Maine*.

Pittsburgh author Kathleen George has authored three suspenseful and original mysteries, all with Pittsburgh settings: *Fallen*, *Taken* and, in December, *Afterimage*. When not keeping readers breathless, she's a mainstay of the University of Pittsburgh Drama Department. Kathleen will have a new novel out in the fall.

Jack Getze covered financial issues for several newspapers before switching professions and becoming a stock and bond salesman on the New Jersey Shore. He is the author of the Austin Carr Mystery Series, debuting with *Big Numbers*. He'll be here with the sequel, *Big Money*.

When it comes to community theatre, Susan Goodwill has done everything from sell popcorn to wield power tools. Susan joins the Festival with *Little Shop of Murders*, the second in this sexy, sassy series featuring amateur sleuth Kate London and a supporting cast of quirky community players. Born and raised in western Pennsylvania, Susan now lives in Michigan.

Pittsburgh playwright and actor Kathryn Miller Haines is coming to the festival with her debut mystery, *The War Against Miss Winter*. The World War II set series featuring actress/amateur sleuth Rosie Winter will have a sequel, *The Winter of Her Discontent*, in July.

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 third in the series, *The River Runs Orange*, will be available just in time for the Festival.



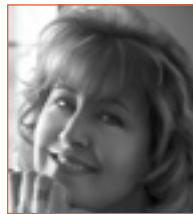
Rosemary Harris, a former bookstore manager and video producer, brings her debut *Pushing Up Daisies*, the story of Paula Holliday, a transplanted city girl who moves to the suburbs to start a gardening business and live a quieter lifestyle. It's anything but when she finds a mummified body the first day of her first big job. Rosemary splits her time between NYC and Fairfield County, Connecticut.



Mary Ellen Hughes hails from Maryland where she has also set her Craft Corner series set in an arts and crafts shop. She even shares step-by-step directions for a project at the end. Talk about a crafty sleuth! Latest in the series is *String of Lies*. Mary Ellen has two previous mysteries featuring a vacationing math teacher.

Linda O. Johnston has authored 15 novels, including romantic suspense. In her Kendra Ballantyne, Pet-Sitter mystery series starting with *Sit, Stay, Slay*, protagonist Kendra is a lawyer who lives in the Hollywood Hills with her Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Lexie; much like her creator who is a Duquesne Law grad.

Diana Killian is the author of the critically praised Poetic Death series featuring the adventures of an American teacher and her ex-jewel thief boyfriend in the English Lake District. *Corpse Pose*, the first book in the new yoga-themed Mantra for Murder series will debut at the Festival.



John J. Lamb is the author of the IMBA bestseller, *The Mournful Teddy*. He is a retired Southern California cop, with eighteen years of experience as a homicide detective, CSI, and hostage negotiator. John now lives in the Shenandoah Valley with his wife Joyce, a retired fingerprint expert and crime analyst.

Con Lehane's third bartender Brian McNulty mystery, *Death at the Old Hotel*, was published in 2007. Lehane grew up on private estates in Fairfield County, Connecticut, where his father worked as a gardener and his mother a cook and laundress. Over the years he has worked as a college professor, a union organizer, and tended bar at two dozen separate establishments.



Mary Jane Maffini comes to the Festival with the second in her professional organizer Charlotte Adams series. She is also the author of five books in the popular Ottawa-based Camilla MacPhee series and two featuring Fiona Silk. Mary Jane has twice won the Crime Writers of Canada Arthur Ellis award for best crime short story. She is a lapsed librarian and a former co-owner of a mystery book store.

Pittsburgh writer Nancy Martin had a long and successful career writing romance titles before she turned her hand to mystery with outstanding results in the first of the Blackbird Sisters series: *How to Murder a Millionaire*. The seventh, *Murder Melts in Your Mouth*, has just been published in hardcover.

Beverle Graves Myers enjoys mixing murder, music and intrigue in her Baroque Mystery series set in dazzling, decadent 18th-century Venice, her novels feature Tito Amato, an opera singer with a stellar talent for sleuthing. *The Iron Tongue of Midnight* is the latest title.



Jason Pinter moved from editing books to writing them with his debut novel, *The Mark*, featuring reporter Henry Parker. A second in the series followed and the third, *The Stolen*, is due in August. He's a founding member of Killer Year, an organization of 13 authors whose debut crime novels were published in 2007. Jason lives in New York City with his wife, Susan, and their dog, Wilson.



Please see Festival Author Line-up, page 4

Use your Festival ticket for a free paperback when you buy a book at MLB on April 28.

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A freelance writer for more than ten years, **T. Lynn Ocean's** work regularly appears in magazines nationwide. Her novels include *Sweet Home Carolina*. *Southern Fatality* is the first in a fun mystery

series featuring the security specialist character of Jersey Barnes. Next comes *Southern Poison*, which will be released this fall.

After a childhood spent abroad, **Julia Pomeroy** came to the US where, after stints at Georgetown and NYU, she worked as an actress and freelance interpreter. Seven years ago she and her husband moved to



Chatham, New York where they opened The Blue Plate restaurant. Her two mysteries, *The Dark End of Town* and *Cold Moon Home*, both feature waitress Abby Silvernale. Julia is at work on a third novel,

a standalone.

Born and raised in Amarillo, Texas, **Sara Rosett** has always loved to curl up with a good book. Her life as a military spouse gave her plenty of expertise to write the Mom Zone mysteries, which feature the adventures of new mom Ellie Avery, a professional organizer, military spouse, and occasional sleuth.



Sharon Short is the author of the humorous Stain-Busting Mystery Series featuring Josie Toadfern, stain expert and laundromat owner. *Tie Dyed and Dead* is the sixth and most recent novel in her series. Short also writes a humor column for the Dayton Daily News.

George D Shuman writes an exciting police procedural series with a twist, his character Sherry Moore is blind and a psychic. The debut, the Shamus-nominated *18 Seconds*, was followed

by *Last Breath*. A native of southwest Pennsylvania, Shuman served twenty years with the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington DC. He now lives in the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania and writes full time.



Andy Straka returns to the Festival with a fascinating thriller, *Record of Wrongs*, in which a man is given the chance to solve the crime that DNA evidence exonerated him from. Andy is also the Shamus-winning author of an earlier PI series set in Virginia, where he lives.



Pari Noskin Taichert is a two-time Agatha Award finalist whose mysteries celebrate New Mexico's quirkiness through Sasha Solomon, a prickly, reality-challenged, PR consultant who helps small towns promote tourism. Taichert's newest book, *The Socorro Blast*, maintains Sasha's irreverent sense of humor while it tackles the difficult issue of contemporary intolerance. Taichert is also working on a new series.

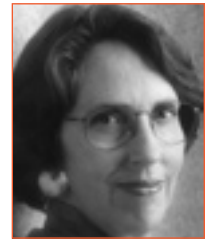


Marcia Talley returns to Pittsburgh to sign copies of her latest Hanna Ives book: *Through the Darkness*. She is also the editor of two collaborative novels; most recently *I'd Kill For That* a fascinating project involving 13 writers. This award-winning author lives on the Chesapeake Bay.

Pittsburgh attorney turned novelist **Heather Terrell** will be at the Festival with the paperback of her debut novel *The Chrysalis*, an engaging thriller about artworks looted by the Nazis. Moving back and forth in time she combines art and history into a compelling tale.

Elaine Viets continues working her series of dead-end jobs with the seventh: *Clubbed to Death*, where Helen finds work in a fancy country club. Elaine has a second series featuring mystery shopper Josie Marcus. Latest is *Accessory to Murder*. Elaine lives in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Sally Wright was nominated for an Edgar Allen Poe award for the third ex-commando/archivist Ben Reese mystery set in the 60s, *Pursuit And Persuasion*. The latest in the series is *Watches Of The Night*, in which a US technical team Ben took behind-the-lines in WWII to uncover Nazi scientific secrets leads to murder in 1962, making Ben track a traitor he should've stopped in 1945.



Elizabeth Zelvin is a New York City psychotherapist whose debut mystery, *Death Will Get You Sober*, takes readers from the Bowery to Park Avenue, from



the corporate towers of Wall Street to the church basements of AA as recovering alcoholic Bruce investigates a murder and gets a second chance with two old friends. Liz has

directed an alcohol treatment program on the Bowery and now does online therapy via chat and email.

Mark Richard Zubro has published twenty books in two different series. The Tom and Scott series, the most recent of which is *Everyone's Dead But Us*. In the Paul Turner series, the most recent is *Hook Line and Homicide*. Mark recently retired after thirty-four years of teaching and lives in suburban Chicago.