



CRIME TIMES

Arizona Mystery Writers

October 2009

Promoting Mystery Writing in Southern Arizona
PO Box 35591, Tucson, AZ 85740



October's meeting has been changed to **October 17**, same time, same place - due to a scheduling conflict at Home Town Buffet. The program remains the same.

There will NOT be a meeting on October 10.

We hope you can all attend the meeting on **October 17** at HomeTown Buffet.

Different Date- Same place-Same line-up!

Home Town Buffet, Oracle and River, 10 am to 2 pm. \$12.50 AMW members, \$17.50 non-members, includes lunch. \$5.00 members and \$10.00 non-members per session (no lunch). RSVP Josker.04@comcast.net, or call 498-3990

October 17 Meeting

Business Meeting- (10:00 to 10:15 am)

Mary Ann Hutchison (Presiding Chair) will preside and present news about the progress of forming the Jim Martin Memorial Writing Contest and other Board Members' reports.

Speaker-(10:15 to 11:30 am)- Do You Know What Your Face reveals?

Come join us for an interactive and educational presentation with Fiona Klauss, who spent her earlier years working in both broadcast and the print media, teaching us the fine art of face reading. Interested in physiognomy, the science of physical appearances, she uses these tools to understand and define a person's character. She will clarify micro expressions, chemical responses, and autonomic reactions, and much more. Learn how to judge someone's intentions by facial expressions, a helpful tool in forming new characters for future mysteries

Lunch-(11:30 to 12:30)

Workshop-(12:30 to 2:00 pm)-Plots (not the garden variety) and Story Structure

Dewanne Hopson, accomplished actor, playwright, director and choreographer, will share her experiences and knowledge of plots and story structure by presenting the workshop at the October 17th Arizona Mystery Writers' Forum. Dewanne's workshop, which begins immediately after lunch, will include an instructive and entertaining exercise and handouts (valuable reference material for your sample project or your next mystery story).

THE WORKSHOP SCHEDULE FOR THE 09/10 SEASON IS HERE AT LAST. BRING YOUR NOTEBOOKS, PENS AND YOUR CREATIVITY AND GET READY TO WRITE. By Carol Dee O'Mahony

This year AMW is beginning a new and exciting format for their monthly workshops. Each month a different aspect of mystery writing will be explored; from story ideas through how to write an ending; it promises to be a stimulating group of programs. AMW is suggesting that members and attendees pull out an unfinished story, novel, screenplay or even a chapter that's been sitting in a drawer gathering dust and use the knowledge learned from each workshop to bring their projects to completion—ready for editing, or ready for publication.

AMW WORKSHOP SCHEDULE FOR 09/10 SEASON

MONTH	SUBJECT	FACILITATOR
September	<p>Ideas and Genre</p> <p>MIKE ALVAREZ PRESENTS SEPTEMBER WORKSHOP</p> <p>Our first workshop of the season was a resounding success. Mike Alvarez, Pima College writing instructor, author and long-standing member of AMW, presented <i>Round Up the</i></p>	Mike Alvarez

	<p><i>Usual Suspects! Finding Story Ideas & Exploring the Mystery.</i> Mike defined the traditional murder mystery story and explained the classic elements of a mystery, the genres and sub genres. He discussed finding story ideas: where to get them, deciding if they're worthy of a short story or a novel and, once you generate those ideas, making sure they are woven into a tale that's interesting to your reader audience. Attendees participated in an entertaining and edifying exercise on story ideas utilizing Mike's informative tips and discussion.</p> <p>Mike has written and published numerous short stories and articles on writing. He is also the author of five books: <i>The Last Place God Made</i>, <i>Deliver Us from Evil</i>, <i>Kino's Gold</i>, <i>The Treasure of the Santa Ritas (Young Adult)</i>, and <i>Mamas, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to be Writers</i>.</p>	
October	<p>Plots and Structure</p> <p>Dewanne Hopson, accomplished actor, playwright, director and choreographer, will share her experiences and knowledge of plots and story structure by presenting the workshop at the October 17th Arizona Mystery Writers' Forum. Dewanne's workshop, which begins immediately after lunch, will include an instructive and entertaining exercise and handouts (valuable reference material for your sample project or your next mystery story). Dewanne is a Society of Southwestern Authors Board Member and active in the Readers Theater group.</p>	Dewanne Hopson
November	<p>Viewpoint and voices</p> <p>Elizabeth Gunn, talented and prolific police procedure novelist will present a stimulating workshop on viewpoint and voices in November. Liz will also explore a couple of her pet subjects: grammar and punctuation. Liz is the author of the Jake Hines series set in Minnesota and <i>Cool in Tucson</i>, and <i>New River Blues</i>, her most recent series set in Tucson, and debuting her new heroine, Tucson Police Detective, Sarah Burke.</p>	Elizabeth Gunn
December	<p>3rd Annual Christmas Mystery Workshop</p> <p>In December, Karen McLeish will present her 3rd Annual Christmas Murder Mystery Workshop. Karen puts together an intriguing cast of characters in a unique setting for our participants to joyfully murder their way through diabolical plots schemed on the spot. Karen has published several short</p>	Karen McLeish

	mystery stories and is the author of <i>Criminal Justice</i> , a novel set in a maximum security prison.	
January	<p>Character development</p> <p>January brings our Board of Directors Presiding Chair, Mary Ann Hutchison, to the podium to share her experience and knowledge of character development. Mary Ann's workshop will help us find the balance of goodness and badness in our characters to make them believable and unforgettable. Mary Ann is a Society of Southwestern Authors, Executive Board Member and 2009 Conference Committee Member. She writes short stories, memoirs, middle-grade and suspense stories.</p>	Mary Ann Hutchison
February	<p>Seminar by Harvey Stanbrough. Morning and Afternoon Sessions. Harvey Stanbrough, freelance editor, instructor, author, and poet will present both "Writing Dialect" and "Show, Don't Tell' & 'Passive Voice' Explained." Cost is \$22.50 for members \$27.50 for non-members and includes lunch. Please RSVP to Carol Dee O'Mahony at cdomahony@aol.com.</p> <p>Writing Dialect -- The old wisdom on writing dialect is a paradox: "Until you know how to write it well, don't write it at all." In this class you'll learn to write dialect like a master, which is to say you'll learn to think your way through it. Includes a comprehensive list of suggested words and spellings to use when writing dialect as well as rationale for and against using phonetic spelling, how much is too much, etc. Point of View & Narrative Voice -- We will define Point of View once and for all and clarify Narrative Voice. A lot of strong narrative tips in this one, including the natural tense for narrative, what other instructors really mean when they say "Show, don't tell," and how to immediately recognize (and repair) "passive" constructions.</p>	Harvey Stanbrough
March	Tucson Festival of Books, March 13 & 14 – no meeting	
April	<p>Writing Witches- An Introduction to Neo-Paganism.</p> <p>Fantasy and magic is a popular genre in today's market. Making up stories about magic and witchcraft is fun, but what about the real world? Ashleen O'Gaea, Third Degree Wiccan</p>	Ashleen O'Gaea

	Priestess, presents a fascinating program for authors writing about pagan characters and rites. Learn about pagan rites of passage, what Wiccans' believe, what magic looks like, myths and controversies and much more. Ashleen is the author of <i>Raising Witches, The Green Boy, Teaching the Wiccan faith to Children</i> and several other books on the Wiccan faith. Ashleen is a Board member of Society of Southwestern Authors. She lives in Tucson with her husband, Canyondancer.	
May	Presentation of member projects Carol Dee O'Mahony, Workshop Chair, will emcee this presentation by AMW members who used the knowledge gained from the season's workshop presentations to enhance or complete a writing project. Can you just hardly wait???	Carol Dee O'Mahony

Note from AMW Board of Directors- Cost of Meeting

We have simplified dues and attendance for non-members who want to attend a few meetings but not become members. These individuals will be charged an extra \$5.00 for each meeting they attend as non-members. There is no limit to the number of meetings a non-member can attend. Those who decide to become members after a meeting can apply the \$5 surcharge to their annual \$25 membership fee, but must remit the \$20 balance prior to the next membership meeting they attend.

Annual membership dues of \$25.00 are due at the January 2010 meeting, but no later than the February meeting, and will be effective through December 2010. Those individuals who join AMW in September thru December will have their memberships expire that same month in the following year.

Speakers present in the mornings. Workshops will be presented after lunch.

Review of September 2009- Meeting

Speaker- Stan Lehman

If you have never heard of the Canyon Diablo Train Robbery -which occurred in 1889 and led to an early test of the death penalty in Arizona - you missed September's meeting. Stan Lehman, AMW member, and well-known lawyer with many years of service in both private and public practice, presented his fascinating account of this notorious chapter in our State's history. For the 100 year anniversary of Arizona's statehood, Stan was asked to

review the case from a defense attorney's prospective. He presented an accounting of the relentless hunt to capture the robbers, frontier justice, and the politics of trying a case. Stan did a terrific job, but left us wondering if over the last 120 years only the names are different, but the politics of special interests in the justice system are still the same.

Workshop- MIKE ALVAREZ

Our first workshop of the season was a resounding success. Mike Alvarez, Pima College writing instructor, author and long-standing member of AMW, presented *Round Up the Usual Suspects! Finding Story Ideas & Exploring the Mystery*. Mike defined the traditional murder mystery story and explained the classic elements of a mystery, the genres and sub genres. He discussed finding story ideas: where to get them, deciding if they're worthy of a short story or a novel and, once you generate those ideas, making sure they are woven into a tale that's interesting to your reader audience. Attendees participated in an entertaining and edifying exercise on story ideas utilizing Mike's informative tips and discussion.

Mike has written and published numerous short stories and articles on writing. He is also the author of five books: *The Last Place God Made*, *Deliver Us from Evil*, *Kino's Gold*, *The Treasure of the Santa Ritas (Young Adult)*, and *Mamas, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to be Writers*.

Meet Members of AMW-

Sandra Farris-

My name is Sandra Farris and I write mysteries. I do try other genres, but mysteries are my favorite. I have published four books. The first, *Wind Dancers*, was written with my sister. It is a collection of short stories and poems (she wrote the poems and I contributed the short stories). *Can You Hear the Music?* is the adventures of a hobo and young runaway as they ride the rails together in the 1920's. *Lady Ace* and *Obituary Column* are both mysteries.

A good book that moves me and sudden inspirations are among the things that motivate me to write. When I have difficulty getting to the computer, or putting something on that blank screen, I write fan letters. Writing to someone you don't know personally always gets the juices flowing, at least for me.

Carol Dee O'Mahony

Carol Dee O'Mahony, author of the Dee Dee and Clark DeLay Magical Mystery books

announces the debut of her first three books on the iTunes App Store™. Access the books directly through the distributor via www.ABHelvetica.com. or through the iTunes App Store via the ReadSmart app. The ReadSmart® high-definition typography, which enhances text without changing the wording and—unlike other e-book formats—also preserves the fonts and typefaces to create text that is better understood and more enjoyable to read.

O'Mahony's series features ten-year-old orphaned twins who become entangled in a series of dangerous magical mysteries in the quest to learn the fate of their missing parents. In *Book One: The Wizards of Beldam Bluff*, the twins discover their magical powers, have an unfortunate accident with a fire-breathing dragon and are banished to Mondragon's School of Sorcery to begin the greatest adventure of their lives. *Book Two: Pirates of the Mysterious Desert*, find the twins getting closer to discovering the fate of their parents when they fall in the hands of bloodthirsty pirates. Will they escape? – or will they walk the plank? *Book Three: The Labyrinths of Fire*, send the twins into the fearful catacombs searching for clues to their parents' disappearance. Trolls, fiery pits and spiders are a few of the obstacles facing the twins in their quest. Will they solve the mystery? – Or will they become the latest victims of the Labyrinths of Fire?

Saguaro Romance Writers invites you to join us for ...

Women with Dangerous Jobs

If you've ever wondered what it would be like to fly jets, solve crime or write heroines that do, come listen to our October panel discussion on women with dangerous jobs. Speaking about their own work experience will be a Senior Criminalist with the Tucson Police Department, an A-10 pilot, and a detective with the child sex assault unit.

For the morning, "nuts & bolts" session, Saguaro Romance Writers' published authors will host table talks on areas of special interest. Talks include: GEORGINA DEVON: Historical Accuracy--why it's important; SHERRILL QUINN: Making the Romantic Hero Real--Understanding The Male Psyche; DENISE AGNEW: Voice--How Do You Keep It Despite Critiques and Editing; JILL KNOWLES: When Do You Quit Your Job and Write Full Time/Staying Organized Without The Structure Of A Day Job; KATHLEEN KIRKWOOD: Spider Spin Me A Web 102/Weaving Your Story and Untangling Troublesome Knots; and PATRICIA FORSYTHE: Pacing Your Novel/The Ebb and Flow of The Story.

October is also our special fundraising raffle, with exceptional prizes! Come prepared to have fun and win!

Join us Saturday, October 24, from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m, at El Parador Tropical Restaurant, 2744 E Broadway Blvd, Tucson. To reserve a spot, send an email to

membership@tucsonrwa.org no later than 10:00 AM Wednesday before the meeting. Cost of \$20 for SRW members, \$25 for non-members, includes lunch.

Circle of Book Clubs

Circle of Book Clubs upcoming literary salon is featuring Pulitzer Prize winning fiction writer - Robert Olen Butler. Of special interest will be his discussion of the craft of writing. All monies received go directly to the Pima Library Foundation.

For information-

Rona S. Rosenberg
Adult Services Librarian
Kirk-Bear Canyon Library
8959 E Tanque Verde Rd
Tucson, AZ 85749
(520) 594-5277
rona.rosenberg@pima.gov