



NEW MEXICO CHAPTER — SISTERS IN CRIME

THE NOOSELETTER

Volume XII, Number 3 — May/June 2018

†The President's Corner†

Hello, Mystery People!

It's May, it's May, the merry month of May! I hope all of you are fans of the Broadway musical *Camelot*, or that won't make a lot of sense to you. But be that as it may (please don't groan—I'm doing the best I can), I hope you are all ready to face warmer weather and all the many activities claiming your attention after the cold winter.

The first of those events is the Croak & Dagger conference, cleverly called "Evidently," with Jan Burke, on Saturday, May 19, 2018. It will be a full day of information and speakers talking of things mystery writers love to hear about—murder, evidence, trials, convictions, wrongly convicted people, forensics, and everything related thereto.

Depending on when you read this, you might still be able to get in on the fun. Official Croak & Dagger website registration through PayPal ends on Saturday, May 12. But you can still register at the door—if you get there early enough. Registration begins promptly at 8:00 am at First Unitarian Church at the corner of Carlisle and Comanche NE. Cost at the door will be \$60 cash or check.

Oh, and I must mention: There will be books for sale!! John Hoffsis from Treasure House Books has offered to be our bookseller for this event. If you have questions about that, please contact me at pwood73@comcast.net and I'll try to help you out.

I'm sure we'll have a full report of our event at the May 22, 2018, regular Croak & Dagger meeting. Be sure you attend to see how everything turned out. We will also be having a great panel discussion with C&D member-

authors Margaret Tessler, Linda Triegel, and Bryan Stoneburner (aka B.C. Stone). Each will give a short presentation on aspects of "cozy" mysteries, followed by a Q&A.

Typically during the summer months, we see a drop-off in attendance at our meetings. Gasp!!! Can this be true? Yes, unfortunately it is. Here's hoping all of you plan whatever you're doing so as not to conflict with our fourth Tuesday of each month Croak & Dagger meetings. We love it when we see all your smiling faces gathered together in our meeting room. So go grab your calendars right now and make sure to save the fourth Tuesday of each month to attend. We have a plethora of amazing and interesting speakers (and boy did you miss a good one last month! There was *food* involved!) I'm telling you, you can't afford to miss out on this stuff.

That's all folks. So until next issue, remember these wise words of advice: keep your head down and avoid eye contact when you're running from the scene of the crime. Never trust a lawyer named Stumpy, and for crying out loud—burn the evidence!

*Pat Wood
President & Membership Chair*

Don't Miss It! Tuesday, May 22, at 7 p.m.

Our May speakers will be a panel comprising C&D members Margaret Tessler, Bryan Stone (B.C. Stone), and Linda Triegel (Elly Kirsten), all writers of cozy mysteries. They will talk about their latest books and what makes a "cozy." Hint: Think Miss Marple, Jessica Fletcher, and small towns.

**Coming up:
Tuesday, June 26, at 7 p.m.**

Our June speaker will be Robert J. Tórrez, a native New Mexican who served as the New Mexico State Historian from 1987 until his retirement in December 2000.

For more than four decades he has mined the documentary treasures in our own Spanish, Mexican, and Territorial archives to find material for hundreds of columns published under his "Voices From the Past" byline.

He has a special interest in the judicial systems of Spanish and Territorial-era New Mexico and has published extensively on the topics. He is an award-winning author of six books, including the much-cited *Myth of the Hanging Tree: Stories of Crime and Punishment in Territorial New Mexico Rio Arriba*.



Sisters in Crime was founded in 1986.

The mission of Sisters in Crime shall be "to promote the ongoing advancement, recognition, and professional development of women crime writers."

And our motto is: "SinC up with great crime writing!"



Sisters in Crime **Guppies**

SinC Guppies is an online writer's support group. Guppies come from across the United States and Canada. They have different occupations and avocations, but they share a passion for writing mysteries and a common goal of getting published.

The Mystery Analysis Group is a book discussion group aimed at discussing the craft. For more information, go to www.sinc-guppies.org.

Check out the Croak & Dagger Website (www.croak-and-dagger.com) for all your Croak & Dagger information needs:

- Upcoming Programs
- Meeting Schedule
- Membership Form
- Speakers Bureau
- Links to Mystery Websites & Websites for Your Favorite Croak & Dagger Authors
- *The Nooseletter* Archive

REMEMBER: All the above provide opportunities for free publicity for members. Contact our website maven, Susan Zates (address below) for more information or with an idea for a blog article. Get your name out there wherever you can!

AND: All members are invited to join the Croak & Dagger Yahoo group, an online gathering place for mystery writers. Join in! Log on to C&D's web page (www.croak-and-dagger.com) and click on the link to moderator Nancy Varian for instructions. Exchange news and information about mystery books, movies, etc., as well as online courses.

The Line Up

President – Pat Wood
pwood73@comcast.net
Vice President – Gloria Casale
gloria.casale@gmail.com
Treasurer – Babs Langner
blangner@swcp.com
Secretary – Margaret Tessler
maggie.abq.nm@hotmail.com
Membership – Pat Wood
pwood73@comcast.net
Social Events – Janet Greger
JANET.GREGER@comcast.net
Programs/Publicity – Rita Herther
RMHerther@aol.com
Website Manager – Susan Zates
smzates@yahoo.com
Member-at-Large – Joan Saberhagen
jsabe@berserker.com
Nooseletter Editor – Linda Triegel
newsette@earthlink.net
Library Liaison – Ann Zeigler
annz1@centurylink.net

Noose News

C&D's Library Liaison, Ann Zeigler, reports that our traveling library circus rolled into the Los Griegos branch (just west of 4th/south of Montano) with our first-in-series/stand-alone books in the case (photo below) and the two cover posters of our latest on the walls. Branch manager Lily and her cohorts will also be putting up a display of our books that are available in the library's collection.

"As we left the Juan Tabo branch," Ann reports, "the interim manager thanked us for 'brightening up their branch' during March," as a patron came rushing up to scribble down more names—she had been reading her way through our posters. Sue Heitz, manager of the Rudolfo Anaya/North Valley branch, fretted that they were having trouble with their display of our books from the collection—people kept checking out the books from the display table.

Remember to send Ann a high-res .jpeg of your new covers, so we can update the cover banners as we head to East Mountain/Tijeras for May and then on to the infamous locked room at Moriarty for June with all 80+ books. Fingers crossed for Edgewood in July, then on to other adventures.

C&D Members!

Your *Nooseletter* wants to hear news of your latest releases, good news of any kind, and all about that terrific mystery you just read. Email news and reviews to the address on page 2.



The 2018 Albuquerque Museum Author Festival Writing Contests are open to all New Mexico residents. Fiction and Narrative Non-Fiction works must be **unpublished and must not have been submitted to an earlier Albuquerque Museum Author Festival contest**. Submit a piece you are currently working on or polish a finished piece. We look forward to reading your best work.

Albuquerque Museum Author Festival David Morrell Prize for Fiction:

This contest defines the term Fiction as a class of literature comprising works of imaginative narration in prose form. We are interested in novels and short stories that run the gamut from straight fiction to mysteries and thrillers, science fiction and fantasy.

Winner of the Fiction Prize Receives:

- A Winner's Certificate
- Lunch and conversation with a well-known, local, award winning, published fiction author
- Signed copy of the author's latest book

Albuquerque Museum Author Festival Anne Hillerman Prize for Non-Fiction:

This contest defines Non-Fiction as "Narrative Non-Fiction," a genre of non-fiction in which factual matter is presented in a narrative style using literary techniques. We want material told in a personal and richly detailed story.

Winner of the Non-Fiction Prize Receives:

- A Winner's Certificate
- Lunch and conversation with a well-known, local, award winning, published non-fiction author
- Signed copy of the author's latest book

Winners will be announced at the 2018 Albuquerque Museum Author Festival at 3:00 p.m. on November 3, 2018 at the Albuquerque Museum, 19th and Mountain Road NW in Historic Old Town

Winning entries will be read by David Morrell and Anne Hillerman at this awards ceremony
NOTE: Participants in the Author Festival are not eligible to enter the writing contest.



EVIDENTLY



AN ALL-DAY WRITERS' WORKSHOP WITH JAN BURKE

Croak and Dagger, the New Mexico chapter of Sisters in Crime, will host a writers' workshop on May 19 with a special focus on evidence. So many details of investigation, evidence collection, and lab work are wrong on television shows. We'll show you what's right.

Saturday, May 19, 2018 — 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

@ First Unitarian Church, Carlisle & Comanche

\$10 discount for Sisters in Crime members

\$5 discount if you do not want the box lunch

\$10 surcharge for registrations after May 14 (and at the door)

KEYNOTE/FEATURED SPEAKER – JAN BURKE

Planned Sessions Include:

Forensics and Physical Evidence	Reality Check: Evidence vs. Plot
Headed to the Courtroom	Poisons: Do it. Spot it.
Professional Protagonist	Exoneration & Rehabilitation
Amateur Protagonist	Master Criminal & Detective

Planned Speakers/Panelists also Include:

Anne Hillerman	Joe Badal
David Morrell	John Trestrail
Gloria Casale	ADA Jonathan Gardner
Katherine Rosoff, APD analyst	

For more information and to register, go to: www.Croak-and-Dagger.com

Or mail your name, address, phone and email contacts,
box lunch preference, and check to:

Croak and Dagger *by May 12*

P.O. Box 92483; Albuquerque, NM 87199-2483

*Box lunch sandwich choices: Roast Beef, Turkey, Vegan
(special requests will be considered)*

Once-endangered bookstores are booming again

(A CBS News report on April 23 featured a rosy outlook for readers of “real” books).

On a Thursday night in La Grange, Illinois, comedy fans were all but rolling in the aisles, which is good news if you’re selling what’s in those aisles. In this case: books.

So, what is the connection between a bookstore and a comedy show?

“We host a lot of different events,” said Becky Anderson, a co-owner of Anderson’s Bookshop. It’s good for business, but it’s also good for our community. A lot of times, people will say, ‘You know what? You’re my entertainment!’”

Anderson’s Books began as a pharmacy and has been in her family for five generations. It’s now a successful small chain in the Chicago area.

Between 2009 and 2015, more than 570 independent bookstores opened in the U.S., bringing the total to more than 2,200; that’s about a 35 percent jump after more than a decade of decline. The surprise recovery may hold lessons for other small retailers.

Stores like Anderson’s are helping Harvard Business School professor Ryan Raffaelli solve an economic mystery.

“I often say, these are stories of hope,” Raffaelli said.

He set out to explain why the number of independent bookstores has been growing every year since 2009, despite cheaper, more convenient ways to buy books online, in national chain stores, and with e-readers.

What he found is that successful bookstores, like Anderson’s, win with a local appeal, a curated selection, and as many as 500 events a year.

“So, buying a book becomes an act of community-building as opposed to just a consumer purchase?” Dokoupil asked.

“Yeah, for sure,” Anderson replied. “You talk to people, have someone treat you like a friend, and something they love, they’re going to share with you, too, and you’re going to love it, too. You can’t get that online.”

Porter Square Books, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is another success story, says co-owner David Sandberg. He once worked at Google, and bought the store five years ago.

“When I told my friends at Google, ‘I’m leaving ‘cause my wife and I are buying a bookstore,’ the universal reaction was, ‘That is so cool. Is that *really* a good idea?’” Sandberg laughed. “Because there is this narrative of we’re under fire, we’re getting killed.

“That’s not the narrative now.”

It helps that many bookstores sell more than just books. How about some novelty socks, or a cat massager?

“The margins are better on gift products, on toys, than they are on books,” Anderson said.

But books—real, physical books—are still the main attraction, which is perhaps the biggest surprise of all. “You can read on your phone, but we’re finding that so many people spend so much time on devices, that when it comes to reading for pleasure, they don’t want to read from a device,” Anderson said.

And by Professor Raffaelli’s calculations, today’s independent bookstores have evolved to something special through a kind of natural selection—the ones that have survived may be the fittest in a Darwinian sense.

“I think not only are they the fittest, but they’ve also been sensitive, and had the ability to adapt, and reactivate some of the values that were there that may have been muted in a race towards trying to have the cheapest and largest inventory,” Raffaelli said.

“But do you realize, if what you’re saying is true, that means we have the very best bookstores of all time today?” asked Dokoupil.

He replied, “I think that’s right.”

Stay Safe Out There!

by Gaillyne Ferguson

The best way to minimize your chances of becoming a victim of crime is to develop personal defensive strategies by increasing your awareness and developing corrective reactions to confrontation. No strategy will guarantee safety, and each carries an element of risk, but some easy-to-apply, common-sense tips (provided by the NYPD and the FBI) are listed below.

In the Home:

Have good, safe locks on all your doors. Use auxiliary deadbolt locks on all exterior doors. Lock doors when you go out, even if just for a minute.

Do not hide a key outside a door, under mats or flowerpots, etc. If you can hide it, a burglar can find it. If you want extra keys nearby, leave them with a trusted friend or neighbor.

Do not display your name on a mailbox or plaque. Many burglars phone ahead to make sure an apartment or house is empty by simply looking up the name of their intended victim in the phone book. Do put your house number on the front with large numerals so police and other emergency personnel can find you quickly.

Leave outdoor lights on when you go out for the evening. Darkness is a burglar's best friend. When you are away during the day, keep your window shades up and your drapes open to help your neighbors see any suspicious movement in your home.

Close your garage doors whether you are home or away. Open doors mean an empty home and provide intruders with easy access to cellars or entryways, unseen from the street. Don't advertise with a note on the door saying you are away.

Store ladders inside. Do not leave them loose outside. If you cannot put the ladder safely inside, lock it securely. Suggest to your neighbors that they do the same (or their ladders may be used to access your house).

Keep shrubbery trimmed back from your doorways and walks.

In your Car:

Look inside your car and around the garage, carport, driveway, and street or parking lot before entering your car.

Keep car doors locked and windows closed when driving. Lock your car when you leave it and always take your keys with you.

Intersections and stoplights are favorable places for would-be attackers. Keep the car in gear, and if threatened, blow your horn and drive away. Don't stop to help disabled drivers if you are alone. Report them to police or a service station.

If you have car trouble, raise your hood and stay inside the car with the doors locked. Be sure you are off the road far enough that you won't be hit by an oncoming car, even if it means driving on a flat tire. Turn on your emergency flashers, and if possible tie a cloth to the door or aerial. If a motorist stops to offer help, don't get out of your car to discuss the problem, and don't accept a ride with a stranger. If possible, carry a cell phone with you at all times to call police, AAA, or another known form of assistance.

Remember that all police uniforms, badges, lights, sirens, etc., can be purchased by civilians. No law enforcement official should be offended at your request for a marked patrol vehicle or to show credentials. Call *77 to check that a police car is genuine.

When you get home, let your headlights work for you to observe the garage or carport area before you get out of the car.

If you are being followed or harassed by another car, try not to let it pass you. Do not drive into your driveway or attempt to leave your car. Head for a well-lighted, well-populated area or the nearest police station, or write down the license number and description of the car and report it to the police.

Do not give your home keys on the same key chain as your car keys to a parking lot attendant or repair shop mechanic.

In Public:

If you are out alone, stay near other people in well-lit areas.

Be aware of people around you. Do not ignore behavior that is threatening to you or others. Report it and try to get away from it. Pay attention to your surroundings. Know exits and plan strategies. Do not read, sleep, or open your purse in public.

Know where your purse is at all times. In public, hold your purse close. Bags that dangle can be ripped off your shoulder from behind. Do not carry your bag in such a way that you can't let go if you have to. Many women have been hurt because their handbags acted as handcuffs when someone tried to snatch them. When wearing scarves, avoid wrapping it around your neck. That's an easy way for someone to grab you from behind and have full control of you while choking you with your own scarf.

When your arms are full of shopping bags, place your purse inside one of the bags.

On a bus, sit near the driver or on the aisle so you are not trapped if someone sits beside you. If you are being followed, don't get off at your normal stop unless it is busy and you know you will find help. Avoid taking shortcuts through parks, vacant lots, and other deserted places.

If you are being followed by someone in a car, turn around and walk in the other direction or go up a one-way street. If the driver persists, record the license number and call police. If the driver opens the car door, do the thing least wanted or expected—scream as loudly as you can or use your personal sounding device, and run.

At work:

If you don't know your co-workers well, don't discuss plans for the weekend, etc., that may give away too much information.

If you are working late at the office, be familiar with your company's emergency numbers, procedures, and exits. Let someone know that you will be working late and will be in the building.

If you are waiting with a stranger for an elevator, stand away from the door to avoid being pushed. Avoid entering an elevator occupied by a lone stranger. If you are alone in an elevator and a passenger gets on and you feel uneasy, get off immediately.

Make sure you are parked in a well-lighted area. If possible, have the company security guard escort you to your car. If no security is available, have a male co-worker escort you or go with a group.

(Gailynne Ferguson is a former security officer, safety trainer, undercover narcotics detective, police officer, and president of the Delaware Valley [PA] chapter of SinC. The above is excerpted from a longer presentation she has made in various venues.)

What is "Evidence"?

Everything that happens creates information. When information is useful in resolving a dispute (including deciding innocence/guilt), then it becomes evidence. Secondary evidence can be useful (but not admissible in court) in an investigation, if it leads to primary evidence (admissible). To be admissible, evidence must be both relevant (bearing directly on some issue in the dispute) and reliable (for instance, not hearsay/gossip/personal opinion/junk science, etc.). However, the giant puddle called hearsay (any statement made outside the courtroom and not under oath, plus many other things) is indisputably the amateur sleuth's best friend.

—From *Preserving Electronic Evidence for Trial* (Elsevier Syngress, 2016) by Ann Zeigler

Reviews

The Last Hand by Eric Wright. Worldwide, 2006, 266 pp (PB).
(11th and final book of the Charlie Salter mystery series set in late-20th-century Toronto)

Charlie, Staff Inspector with the Toronto police, has turned 60 and therefore is eligible for retirement. Even though he has not decided to retire, he is gradually being phased out; his assistance no longer requested on homicide cases.

He wants to prove to the rest of the department that he still has his sharp intellect and detective skills, so he takes over a cold case. He meticulously re-investigates, and soon comes to a quite different opinion about the murder than all the other detectives. He persists and proves himself right. Meanwhile big family changes are taking place in his household, which start off disruptive, but resolve well.♦

Series mysteries:

All reviews by Susan Zates

NOTE: Print publisher noted; most also available
(and/or read by the reviewer) in e-format.

Sugarplum Dead by Carolyn Hart. Harper Collins, 2009, 420 pp (PB)
(Book 12 of the Death on Demand mystery series set in contemporary Broward's Rock, South Carolina)

It's Christmastime and mystery bookstore owner Annie Darling is decorating with pleasure, when she meets her father—the man who abandoned her and her mother 25 years ago. Annie refuses to 'make friends'; she has tried all her life to get over the hurt.

Meanwhile Annie's mother-in-law Laurel seems to be about to cash in all her assets and give them away to a shady character, Dr. Emory Swanson. Annie is determined to stop Laurel from being cheated out of her wealth. To Annie's annoyance, her husband Max does not worry about it (he knows his mother is eccentric, but she can take care of herself). And Max wants Annie to reconcile with her father.

So Annie faces conflict all around, including a confrontation with her half-sister.

In a spooky mansion on the island, an aging movie star and all her descendants gather to celebrate her birthday. The group includes ex-spouses, such as Annie's dad; all are there for the money they hope to inherit, certainly not out of affection.

Homicides at the mansion point directly to Annie's dad. Annie feels no loyalty, but believes him to be innocent. So of course she must solve the crimes to clear his name.

Light entertainment. ♦

Sins Out of School by Jeanne M. Dams. Walker & Co., 2003, 224 pp (HC)
(Book 8 of the Dorothy Martin mystery series set in late 20th century England)

A friend asks Dorothy to substitute-teach one day when a teacher is missing. She accepts and enjoys the class, but it's more exhausting than she expected. When the absent teacher, Amanda's, husband John is found murdered, Amanda is the prime suspect.

Amanda's best friend, another teacher, begs Dorothy to use her sleuthing skills to clear Amanda. Dorothy soon learns John was a hateful man, not loved or missed by anyone, not even his young daughter. He was verbally abusive to them and kept them living in miserable conditions (not warranted by a lack of money).

Dorothy investigates the events of his last day to find clues to his killer. She visits their church and is horrified by their harsh critical judgments. They consider any physical weakness or disability to be a punishment for sins. Amanda's daughter Miriam has been attending the school run by the church. She clearly has been ruled by fear all her young life.

Both Amanda and Miriam had good reason to want John dead, but Dorothy believes them innocent. She must convince the police by finding valid evidence of another killer. Most of her investigation consists of talking with people to learn more about John and his activities. She eventually believes she knows what happened, but has no hard evidence.

She and husband Alan set up a meeting with the killer. When their plan hits a snag, they're suddenly in mortal danger. ♦

The Canterbury Papers by Judith Koll Healey.
William Morrow, 2005, 368 pp (PB)
(The first book of the Alais Capet mystery series set in 1200 France and England)

Historical facts revealed during the action of the story: Princess Alais Capet, daughter of King Louis VII of France, was raised in England by her stepmother Queen Eleanor, former wife of King Louis, later wife of King Henry II. Alais was once betrothed to Eleanor and Henry's son Richard (The Lion Heart). Her childhood dreams were forever disrupted when Henry imprisoned Eleanor.

Decades later, Alais lives in the Paris court with her brother, the King of France. She's resigned to a life with little interest or joy. All she has left from her past is a treasured jewel pendant from Richard that she wears always.

Alais receives a message from Eleanor (after all the years of estrangement), asking her to undertake a secret mission to England. Eleanor wants Alais to retrieve letters written by Eleanor to Thomas Becket, hidden at Becket's altar in Canterbury Cathedral. The letters pose a risk to her son John, King of England, who is fighting with the Templar Knights for control of abbey revenue. In return for the letters, Eleanor promises to reveal a secret that Alais desperately wants to know.

Wild adventure ensues! In a fast-paced and entertaining sequence of plot twists, Alais is drugged, captured, robbed, threatened, rescued, romanced. Hard to identify the 'good guys' vs. the 'bad guys'.

Sending Alais to recover hidden letters strikes me as an implausible plot device. A visit to England by a royal princess from France, and her actions during that visit would be noticed by many; in contrast, an English servant loyal to Eleanor could obtain them unobtrusively. It seemed obvious that Eleanor intended all along for Alais to be captured, so that Alais would have access to Eleanor's writing desk in Sarum

Tower. But Eleanor didn't confirm that in the end. Odd.

Through it all, however, Alais shows great spunk. She never stops demanding answers, until she finally learns what really happened in her past. The book's ending promises more adventures to come. ♦

Aunt Dimity's Good Deed by Nancy Atherton.
Penguin,
(3rd of the Aunt Dimity romantic mystery series set primarily in late-20th-century England)

Lori, the protagonist from the first book, joins Emma, from the second book, in a delightful sweet story with plot twists galore.

Lori longs for a second honeymoon in England, but her husband Bill is now a workaholic stranger. He's off on a business trip to Maine, so she goes on the planned trip with her father-in-law, Willis Sr. He promptly disappears.

Lori teams up with her best friend Emma and follows clues from Aunt Dimity's blue journal. Together they uncover generations of family secrets and sift deception from truth. As expected in an Aunt Dimity book, love conquers all in the end.

A sweet and ultimately happy tale. Includes a recipe for Uncle Tom's Butterscotch Brownies, which play a part as family history evidence. ♦

Novel Openings I've Liked Lately:

Around eleven that night, the hostess broke out the Johnny Mathis and the Frank Sinatra, and everyone quit talking about their kids and their jobs and their mortgages and their politics, and got down to some serious slow dancing out on the darkened patio in the warm prairie night of summer 1961.

—Ed Gorman, *Everybody's Somebody's Fool*

Ed note: what have you liked? Send samples to The Nooseletter.

2018 MEETING DATES

Saturday, May 19: Evidently!

Tuesday, May 22, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 26, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 24, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 28, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 25, 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are free to the public.

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held every fourth Tuesday of the month, at 7:00 p.m., at the North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center at 7521 Carmel Avenue NE, north of Paseo del Norte and west of Wyoming. Check our Web site, www.croak-and-dagger.com, for schedule changes and upcoming programs.

Summary of Findings

The *Nooseletter* is the internal organ of the Croak & Dagger (New Mexico) chapter of Sisters in Crime (SinC). Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and editors.

†Nooseletter Submissions†

Croak & Dagger friends are encouraged to contribute articles, reviews, and essays on aspects of mystery writing *and* reading for publication consideration. Especially let us know if you have published a new book or story, or have an upcoming local author event. (Unbridled enthusiasm for your own mystery book is encouraged here.)

Length: Articles should average 500 words, but short items and ideas for sources are also welcome.

Deadlines: Publication is every other month, starting in January. Submission deadlines are the last day of the month *prior* to publication: Feb 28, April 30, June 30, Aug 31, Oct 31, and Dec 31.

The Living and the Dead: As a general policy, articles and information should focus on living authors rather than dead ones, but that's not set in concrete shoes. Articles about specific historical development of the crime-mystery writing genre, for example, would be welcome.

Submissions: Please submit via e-mail to newsette@earthlink.net, with "Nooseletter" in the subject line. The *Nooseletter* is distributed to all members electronically.

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Still not a member of Sisters in Crime?

\$20/year brings mystery to your life! The New Mexico *Croak & Dagger* chapter welcomes mystery fans who want to enjoy felonious fun, absolutely criminal companionship, and sensational speakers.

Benefits of membership in the *Croak & Dagger* chapter include a subscription to our *Nooseletter*, close contact with local mystery writers, and fun events with other mystery fans. Come hear our next program speaker and meet the gang. We promise to bring mayhem and murder into your life!

Croak & Dagger members must also be members of the national organization of Sisters in Crime. For information on joining SinC, go to <http://www.sistersincrime.org>. For information about your local chapter, contact our membership chair at pwood73@comcast.net