

THE MYST-ERIE BLOTTER



October 2015
Volume 1, Issue 8

Letter from the Editor

Greetings Sisters, Misters, and Mystery Lovers:

Normally, each month I stare at the computer screen and think about what's going on this page. For me, this is the hardest page to complete. And this month...well, I'm trying to figure out how to fit it all on one page.

September was an eventful month and sparked a lot of inspiration which naturally makes me chatty. There was dinner with Nancy Pickard, the Getaway Day (which was a huge success!), and an evening spent listening to Jenny Milchman speak at Mac's Backs Books in Cleveland Heights. Each event left me brimming with excitement, motivation, and pride.

The majority of my excitement was from listening to amazing people speak about the thing I love most (other than donuts). I thoroughly enjoyed listening to all of the speakers at the Getaway Day and to Jenny Milchman at her writer's workshop, Killing for a Living. I learned so much in a span of a week, my head is still reeling.

The rest of my excitement came from getting to meet Nancy and being lucky enough to have dinner with her while she was in town.

AND, reserve some of that excitement for getting to meet Jenny Milchman. Originally, when I decided to attend the workshop, I thought maybe I would have a chance to say a quick hello and have her sign a copy of her book for me. I didn't expect to have an actual conversation with her. Which is a great story of one woman's kindness and another woman's silliness. Previous to the event, I had dropped off a few flyers for the workshop at a couple local libraries. One of the librarians was so excited that Jenny was going to be in town and proceeded to tell me how much she loved her books and wished she could come to the event. She went on to say that after reading one of Jenny's books, you want to sleep with the lights on. Immediately, I thought two things: #1...I gotta get one of her books! And, #2, what suspense writer doesn't want to hear that? So, when I got the opportunity to talk with Jenny, I made sure to tell her that story. And, here's where the kindness comes in...Jenny purchased one of her own books for the librarian and asked me to deliver it for her. She signed it and inserted a little note for me to pass along.

Now, I bet you're wondering where the silliness takes place? That would be with yours truly. I went back to that library, not knowing the librarian's name OR remembering what she looked like and marched right up to that information desk. Three women stood behind the counter, I looked at all three of them and said, "Do I look familiar to any of you?"

Best. Day. Ever.

No joke, the one woman said to me, "Good lord, I thought I was going to have to call the police station or an ambulance because you had amnesia."



Letter from the Editor



I thank her eternally for being a good sport.

And, just so you know, the right librarian did get her book...and the look on her face was priceless. She was one happy librarian. I hope that one of my books can do that for someone one day.

But, I digress...

My motivation was sparked from the same stem as my excitement. Listening to Nancy Pickard made me want to come home and work on my book. Did I? The answer to that my friends is, no...I passed out. It was a long day! But, you better believe that whole next day I sat highly caffeinated in front of my laptop with a trusty notebook and planned out my attack route for finishing my manuscript. I feel re-energized and hope has been restored. This is do-able...I just have to keep forward movement.

Pride. Oh wonderful and joyous pride. There was a moment (or a few) at the Getaway Day where I looked around the room...observing everyone. There we were...all of us in that room with the same general purpose...to write, to succeed...to follow a dream. It's amazing to share that with other people. And I felt proud. What a wonderful little world to be a part of...

And that is the condensed version! If only you could have seen the countless numbers of times I pressed the backspace key!

As for my closing topic, I wanted to touch a bit on the issue you're about to read. This month we've included some pages dedicated to Halloween and thank you to everyone who contributed! I love getting your emails and the next few months are going to be a lot of fun for me as I do Thanksgiving and Christmas themes, so keep it coming!

Normally, I am not a Halloween person. But, in the past few years it's grown on me and a tradition has miraculously sprouted. Because it's when my best friend comes home for her annual visit! With Halloween being one of my bestie's favorite holidays, she gets really excited for it and has somehow motivated me to dress up for it despite my lack of holiday spirit. Each year, I grumble or whine about the effort of finding a costume and she puts up with my shenanigans and shuffles me along until I stop being stubborn and realize I enjoy it as much as she does. Halloween has become a time of re-connecting with old friends, sharing memories and just plain silliness.

So this issue, with it's dabble of Halloween spirit, I dedicate to her. Here's to many more years of finding the right costume!

Until next time...Happy Writing!...and Reading!



Paula Corrao

If you have suggestions for articles you'd like to see in the newsletter, email paula.corrao@yahoo.com!

Mystery Writers One-Day Getaway

A Great Day For Mystery Writers!

Caption It was a full house on September 12 for NEOSinC's Mystery Writers One-Day Getaway at the Twinsburg Library. The sold-out event brought together mystery writers and aspiring mystery writers from northeast Ohio and from SinC chapters from Pittsburgh, Columbus and Indianapolis.



After her presentation on "Composing the Query Letter," literary agent Victoria Selvaggio of the Jennifer De Chiara Literary Agency joined author Amanda Flower/Isabella Alan in the first of three "Ask Me Anything" author sessions. Authors Casey Daniels/Kylie Logan and Shelley Costa hosted "Ask Me Anything" sessions two and three.

SinC National Library Liaison and NEOSinC board member Cari Dubiel (far right) presents SinC's "We Love Bookstores" award to Kate Schlademan, owner of The Learned Owl bookstore in Hudson.



Mystery Writers One-Day Getaway

A Great Day For Mystery Writers



National best-selling author and a SinC founder Nancy Pickard was our keynote speaker on "Mystery Writing: A Most Mysterious Occupation." Nancy followed her presentation with a one-hour writing workshop, "First Sentence, First Paragraph, First Page." NEOSinC was honored to be the first chapter to have a national speaker through the newly launched SinC Speakers Bureau Roadshow.

*Photos on pages 4 and 5
by Kim Hammond and
Gloria Alden.*



Forensic psychiatrist Dr. Megan Testa wrapped up the day with her presentation "Crime and the Mind" describing personality traits she's encountered working with individuals with mental illness and criminal histories.

Mark Your Calendar

2015 Meeting Schedule

When is that meeting?

Flexible scheduling in progress

Please note that specific dates, times and locations for future meetings are tentative until confirmed closer to the date.

We've moved to a scheduling system based on availability of space, speakers and demonstrations. Our intent is to have a meeting each month, generally around the second week of the month, though the date, time and location may vary. We hope the flexible scheduling will give us more options for interesting and helpful presentations and enable more members to take advantage of these opportunities and resources.

October 13 – 7:00 p.m. at Twinsburg Public Library

CRIME SCENE - DO NOT

• FBI Evidence Response

As the Evidence Response Team Leader for the Cleveland Division of the FBI, Special Agent Chris Garnett has responded to innumerable crime scenes in his long career. Many of the requests have come from local law enforcement involving homicides, serial murders, kidnappings, missing persons, and cold cases. His team has even responded to “out of division” requests when necessary. SA Garnett has a wealth of experience, insight and expertise garnered over years in the field. He also has an interesting story or two and loves to share his knowledge with others.

November 10 – 7:00 p.m. at Twinsburg Public Library





Where Do You Think You're Going?

Our Authors at Community Events Coming Soon!

October 10

Jane Turzillo - Book Signing
20th Annual Lakeside-Marblehead
Lighthouse Festival
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 a.m.
located at Lakeside Chautauqua and
throughout the Marblehead
Peninsula
236 Walnut Avenue
Lakeside, OH 43440
419-798-4461

October 21

Amanda Flower - Author Talk and Book
Signing
2:00 p.m.
Northwest Akron Library Branch
1720 Shatto Avenue
Akron, OH 44313
330-836-1081
northwestakronbranch.akronlibrary.org/

October 24

Casey Daniels/Kylie Logan, D.M.
Pulley, Jane Turzillo, Shelley Costa,
Amanda Flower, Mary Ellis
Willoughby Library Author Expo
12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Willoughby Hills Community Center
35400 Chardon Rd.
Willoughby, OH

October 17

Jane Turzillo - Book Signing and
Panel Speaker
Books by the Banks
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Duke Energy Convention Center
525 Elm Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
www.booksbythebanks.org

October 22

D.M. Pulley - Featured Author
11th Annual Friends of the Amherst Public
Library Author Luncheon
12:00 p.m.
Heritage Presbyterian Church
Miraldi Hall
515 Leavitt Rd
Amherst, OH 44001
Tickets: \$15.00
Can be purchased at the library or from a
Friends member
Attendees are asked to bring non-perishable
foods to support the Heritage Food Bank
<http://amherst.lib.oh.us/?p=7861>



Where Do You Think You're Going?

Mystery Community Events Coming Soon!

October 25

Jane Turzillo - Book Signing
Medina Train Show
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Medina County Community Center
735 Lafayette Rd
Medina, OH 44256
\$6 Admission

www.10times.com/medina-railroad-toy-show

October 27

D.M. Pulley
Meet the Author
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Hudson Library & Historical Society
96 Library Street
Hudson, OH 44236
www.hudsonlibrary.org

October 29

Jane Turzillo - Presentation
John Carroll University
Women's Studies

October 31

Jane Turzillo - Book Signing
Lakeland Train Show
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Lakeland Community College
7700 Clocktower Dr
Kirtland, OH 44094
1-800-589-8520

Mystery Community Events for 2015

- Bouchercon 2015 - Oct 8 - Oct 11 in Raleigh, NC
- Magna Cum Murder - Oct 30 - Nov 1 in Indianapolis, IN, at The Columbia Club

Where Do You Think You're Going?

Grand Opening!!!

October 18

Cuyahoga County Public Library would like to invite our friends at Sisters in Crime to visit the Library's brand new William N. Skirball Writers' Center at the new South Euclid-Lyndhurst Branch, set to open October 18. It's the only public library-based writers' center in Ohio and one of a handful in the nation. It will have quiet rooms for writers to work, a comfortable living room-type area with a fireplace for writers to meet, books for writers, magazines for writers, a meeting room for writing workshops, and a robust schedule of free writing programs and author visits.

The new Writers' Center Coordinator is librarian Laurie Kincer. Stop by and tell her you're a SinC member and she'll give you the grand tour!

Address: 1876 S. Green Rd., South Euclid.



Buckeye Book Fair – November 7

The annual Buckeye Book Fair will be held Saturday, Nov. 7, in Fisher Auditorium, 1680 Madison Avenue, Wooster, Ohio. This full day event features nearly 100 Ohio authors and illustrators who meet with readers and autograph copies of their latest works. Thousands of attendees from all over Ohio come to mingle, shop for books, and celebrate the joys of reading and writing.

Participating NEOSinC authors include: Casey Daniels/Kylie Logan, Mary Ellis, Amanda Flower/Isabella Alan, Sam Thomas and Jane Ann Turzillo.

Buckeye Authors' Book Fair Committee Inc. was created as a nonprofit entity in 1987 in Wooster, Ohio. The mission of the Book Fair is to showcase Ohio's influence in literature and to promote literacy efforts in Ohio by providing grants to schools, public libraries, and literacy programs.

Go to www.buckeyebook.com for a complete list of authors and directions.

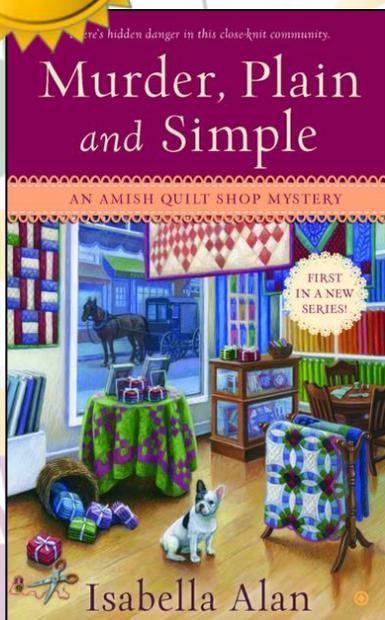
What's Everyone Up To?

Amanda Flower/Isabella Alan

A big congratulations to Amanda for her recent achievement on making the USA Today Bestseller's List!

Murder, Plain and Simple is book #1 of her Amish Quilt Shop mysteries.

**BEST
SELLER**



When Angela Braddock inherits her late aunt's beautiful Amish quilt shop, she leaves behind her career and broken engagement for a fresh start in Holmes County, Ohio.

With her snazzy cowboy boots and her ornithophobic French bulldog, Angie doesn't exactly fit in with the predominantly Amish community in Rolling Brook, but her aunt's quilting circle tries to make her feel welcome as she prepares for the reopening of Running Stitch.

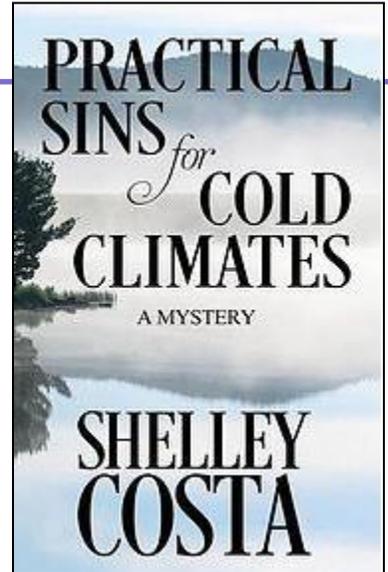
On the big day, Angie gets a taste of success as the locals and English tourists browse the store's wares while the quilters stitch away. But when Angie finds the body of ornery Amish woodworker Joseph in her storeroom the next morning, everything starts falling apart.

With evidence mounting against her, Angie is determined to find the culprit before the local sheriff can arrest her. Rolling Brook always appeared to be a simple place, but the closer Angie gets to the killer, the more she realizes that nothing in the small Amish community is as plain as it seems...

What's Everyone Up To?

Shelley Costa

Shelley Costa announces the start-up of "The Evidence Locker," her monthly newsletter featuring pieces on mystery writing, mystery fiction, writing tips, updates, announcements of releases and events, and *giveaways*! Sign up on her homepage at www.shelleycosta.com. Pre-orders for her new mystery novel, *Practical Sins for Cold Climates* (Henery Press) go live on November 2 on Amazon. Release date is January 26, 2016. Look for an invitation to the official book launch!



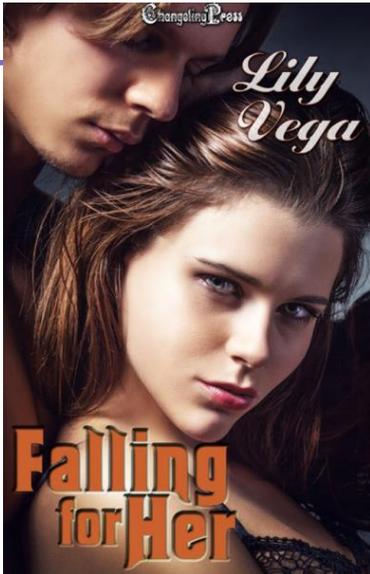
Kathryn Long

Kathryn Long is happy to announce!....



"I've finally snagged an agent (it's ONLY been 7 or 8 years of trying!). Giving a shout out to Jessica Schmeidler and Golden Wheat Literary. We found each other through an #adpfit Twitter party contest back in February when she requested a partial of my current submission, *Grave Maker Blues*. However, it was in July during another contest where we reconnected and Jessica asked to read the full manuscript. Then there was the call, and we clicked! Now, we wait :-). On another note, I recommend participating in Twitter contests -- and there are plenty of them! -- if only for the camaraderie and support you'll find from other authors as well as editors and agents. It's a great community!"

What's Everyone Up To?



Lily Vega

Lily Vega brings us, Falling For Her, the fourth novel in her Devil May Care series.

A millennia ago a woman's betrayal resulted in the loss of Kristoff's wings and his banishment from heaven. Forever lonely, he seeks a companion to spend eternity within his own personal hell dimension.

Xanthe, a matchmaking lust demon, has the perfect cure - a blind date with a witch. But when Chandra offers Kristoff sexual healing, will he go through with his plan to keep her forever, or will falling for the beautiful witch be his undoing?

Donna Feldman, Ph.D.

Donna Feldman was recently published in *Principal Navigator*. She co-authored and edited the article, "Preparing for a Move: Transitioning Buildings at Cleveland Heights High School."



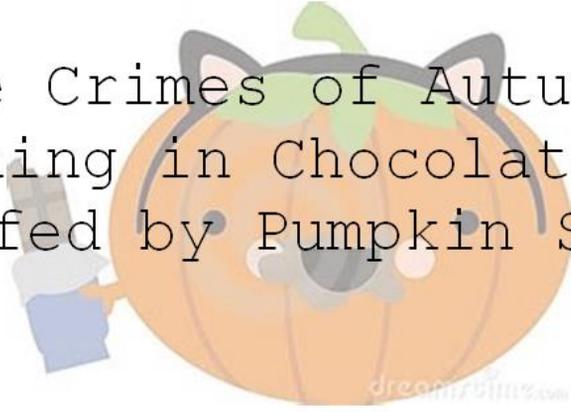
Do you have a book coming out? Won an award recently? Have exciting news to share with other writers and fans? Email paula.corrao@yahoo.com today!

Like Whatever

A monthly column on Anything Mystery Writing or Crime Related or, you know, whatever...

By T.K. Starr

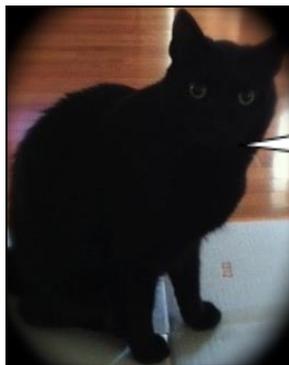
The Crimes of Autumn: Drowning in Chocolate and Snuffed by Pumpkin Spice



Ah, Fall. Time to haul out the ceramic pumpkins and moldy scarecrows, hang the cornstalks and dunk the apples. Time to squeeze into the 80's Elvira costume and dance around the Festivus Pole of the Autumnal Equinox with some hard cider. I originally thought a "Whatever" piece about psychopaths, criminal behavior, and other neurostuff would be a great lead-in for Halloween. But , meh, next month. Autumn is here.

The annual parade of pumpkin pie spice in all its rapturous glory is finally again upon us. Oh wondrous spice, you get such a bad rap. They call you washed up, overused. Soooo last year. But don't mind those naysayers. You are perfection itself.

The falling leaves and temps prove I can now freely add your cinnamony, clovey, gingery, nutmeggy goodness to everything from caramel pumpkin cheesecake and pumpkin custard pancakes to pumpkin cookies with browned butter and chocolate chip pumpkin cupcakes. Every room can be a different scentuous blend: Vanilla Pumpkin Spice, Cinnamon Pumpkin Spice, Caramel Pumpkin Spice and Gingerbread pumpkin spice. From Peeps to pasta and lip balm to body soap, who can resist such nostalgic temptation? Not me for sure. But apparently the cat can . He didn't really appreciate my attempts to bring him into the season. He tore off the autumn leaf bowtie and chewed the fall leaf décor on his litter box. Ungrateful feline. Don't worry though, I've got other plans for him. It may involve a pumpkin costume.



**Who put the
Pumpkin Spice
in my Litter box?**

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Besides being the “death by pumpkin spice” season, it’s also the time for the ritual stockpiling of the chocolate. It rivals the biblical flood in epic, or at least Costco-sized, proportions in my household. It should at least get its own episode of “Hoarders” (although my house *is* a bit cleaner than those...just saying). You see, the beloved hubby is the biggest chocoholic this side of Cleveland (or any side for that matter). He once devoured an entire 3 foot “Christmas Story” leg I gave him from the local chocolatier in like 10 days, if that.



And that solid five pound Hershey’s Bar from Christmas? Gone by February.



I certainly wish I had his metabolism. Sigh. When he wants to lose weight, he just cuts back on the chocolate and drops a few pounds in days while it takes me weeks to scrape off a few ounces. That’s the real crime of Autumn. But I digress. Anyway, every year around this time, Sam’s Club size boxes of Hershey’s chocolate bars, Reese’s, Peanut M&Ms, Twix and KitKats begin to invade the garage refrigerator, pushing aside my Almond milk, cottage cheese, and sparkling water. They multiply week by week appearing alongside vendor boxes of Twizzlers, Starbursts and Skittles. First one shelf, then another. If I didn’t know better, I’d say they were breeding. But no. All were bought and justified in the name of “Halloween.” To echo Charlie Brown, “Good Grief.”

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Now, I know from experience that little, if any, of the chocolate ambrosia will ever make it into the Treat Bag of some poor kid in a Snow White or Spiderman costume. Oh no. We'd have to hand out over 150 Twizzlers, Skittles, and Starbursts before that might occur. It has happened before and it wasn't pretty. There were tears. So, except for the neighborhood kids, all that chocolate will sit in the refrigerator and be slowly devoured, piece by piece, chunk by chunk over the next 6 months. The stash usually lasts until Easter or so, just about the time my baking pantry starts getting raided again. Did I mention that? But that's a whole nother story. For various reasons, I thought I might, just might, avoid the chocolate mania this year. End of September and not a box in sight. Then I opened the fridge after I got home from work yesterday:



Well, at least he's consistent. I guess the bottom line is that some things you just have to learn to live with. He puts up with my Autumn obsession and I have learned to live with (and not enable too much) his chocolate one. For better or worse, right? But, well, whatever.

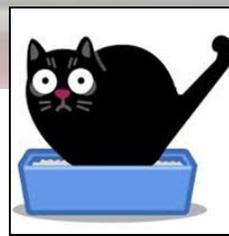
Fun recipe on the next page!

For more interesting recipes and maybe even some mind probing articles, please visit TKStarr at tkstarmysteries.com or on FB at [tkstarmysteries](https://www.facebook.com/tkstarmysteries). TKStarr is also on Pinterest under TKStarr... Happy Haunting!!!

Like Whatever

A monthly column on Anything Mystery Writing or Crime Related or, you know, whatever...

By T.K. Starr



Cat Litter Box Cake

(Pumpkin Pie Spice Optional)

For your Halloween Dining and Visual Gross Out Pleasure, I present the completely edible and very tasty **Cat Litter Box Cake**. I've made this multiple times to lots of "yucky" and "gross" and "disgusting but tastes surprisingly good" reviews....just keep it away from the cat...

NEED:

- 1 NEW and cleaned Cat Litter Box
- 1 NEW and cleaned Cat Litter Scooper
- 1 Litter Box Liner (optional)

Recipe

- 1 box German Chocolate or Spice or Yellow or other similar cake mix
- 1 box white cake mix
- 1 package white sandwich cookies (and/or Oreos or Nutter Butter, etc)
- 1 large size package vanilla instant pudding
- Few drops green food coloring
- 12 -18 small tootsie rolls or similar



1. Prepare and Bake cake mixes per directions, any pan size, let cool
2. Prepare Pudding and chill
3. Crumble Cookies in small batches in blender. Add a few green food coloring to one cup of the cookie crumbs. Mix with fork, shake in a jar or Ziploc bag. Set aside.
4. When cakes are cooled (room temperature), crumble them together into a large bowl. Toss the cakes with half of the remaining non-green cookie crumbs and enough pudding to make the mixture moist, but not soggy. Place liner in litter box (if you are using one—it's optional). Pour mixture in litter box.
5. Unwrap 3 or 4 tootsie rolls and heat in microwave until soft and pliable. Shape the blunt end into slightly curved points. Repeat with 3 or more tootsie rolls. Bury the rolls decoratively in the cake mixture. Sprinkle remaining non-green cookie crumbs over mixture, then scatter green crumbs lightly on top.
6. Heat 5 or 6 more tootsie rolls until almost melted. Scrape them on top of cake and sprinkle crumbs from litter box over to partially cover. Heat the remaining tootsie rolls and drape decoratively over litter box edge.
7. Place litter box cake on a sheet of newspaper and serve with scooper. Enjoy!!!
8. Play with flavors and candies and cookies. Make as colorful as you wish.

Once Upon a Halloween Time

by Gloria Alden

In the essay below, Gloria shares with us her memories of Halloween and how the holiday has changed over the years.

Once upon a long, long time ago when I was a child, Halloween went on for several days. I lived in the country next to my grandparents' rather large farm which was on both sides of the road, and although I lived on Mahoning Ave., a main highway into Warren, Ohio, the traffic was light in those days so my brother, my cousins across the street, some neighbor kids and I went on our own in small groups. No one worried about anything happening to us.

In those days no one bought Halloween costumes. We made our own which meant a lot of kids went as hobos wearing their dad's few people decorated their houses then that I remember. We made Jack-o-lanterns and oldest clothes. Witches were popular, too, because it was easy to make a witch's costume. Very d maybe added a few corn shocks, but certainly nothing as elaborate as many people do today.

On the first night we went trick or treating, we usually went north. We visited the houses on our road for a little less than a mile. We carried pillowcases to collect our candy and apples. On the next night we headed south hitting all the houses on Mahoning Avenue as well as Glendola Ave.

When we got too old to go trick or treating, several of us played pranks like throwing corn at windows and then running to hide behind the bushes or a garage nearby. Once, but only once, the group I was in soaped someone's window. We were found out and my parents sent me to apologize and clean their window. I was so embarrassed! When I became a teenager, there were a few Halloween parties I went to. They were always fun. When bobbing for apples, I usually ended up with a wet face. At one party, they played spin the bottle, and that was my first kiss from a boy. I think I was fourteen then, and too young to date.

As an adult. I liked creating cool costumes for my four children. Sometimes I'd buy one if it was something one of them really wanted. For quite a few years my husband and I had Halloween parties at our house where our guests came in the most creative and funny costumes. Two "out houses" arrived one night, and they had difficulty getting down steps to our basement rec room. Once two couples split up in advance and each wife came with the other woman's husband, which made it very difficult to figure out who they were because of size differences.

Once Upon a Halloween Time

by Gloria Alden



*"Yo-ho-ho and an arrrgh!" from
Pirate Gloria.*

When teaching third grade, I loved our Halloween parties, and always wore a costume. I enjoyed the parade around the school and the excitement and pure joy of the children in their costumes. Then it ended because a few people objected to the whole idea of Halloween as evil, so it became an autumn party with no costumes. So sad.

Now my Halloweens are quiet – no trick or treaters because I live on a busy road with a lot of land between my house and neighbors. The closest neighbors have no children, and those a little further away with children tend to go to allotments where they don't have to deal with walking on a busy road. I don't even bother to buy candy anymore because no one comes.

Happy Halloween!

If you need a good recommendation for a Halloween movie, check out some of D.M. Pulley's favorite movies:

Shaun of the Dead
The Exorcist
Evil Dead 2
The Others
28 Days Later
Prince of Darkness
The People Under the Stairs
Nightmare on Elm Street
In the Mouth of Madness



Karen Larry-Moyer is a Halloween baby and has many favorite memories because of it. However, she recalls a recent favorite:

"One of my more recent faves is going on the ghost walk in Zoar, Ohio on a spooky fall evening in 2013. We even encountered a couple of black cats along the way and the town really gets into the spirit. Townsfolks do things like pass in front of windows in homes in ghostly garb and frighten folks as you walk into the cellars of the historic houses."

Susan Jessen recommends:

"Army of Darkness is a great movie to watch on Halloween. Bruce Campbell keeps the viewer in stitches as he takes on the big bad with a chainsaw."
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0106308/>

Looking for a fun activity? Susan shares her favorite:

"One of my favorite Halloween traditions is heading to Kennywood in the suburbs of Pittsburgh for Phantom Fright Nights. For the price of admission, you can ride rollercoasters, visit a number of haunted houses, and watch Friday the 13th in 4-D."
<https://www.kennywood.com/pfn?keyword=Phantom%20Fright%20Nights>



Kathryn Long prefers a more light-hearted route in her film selections. Coming in at #1 is:

Hocus Pocus

And her #2 is:

It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown



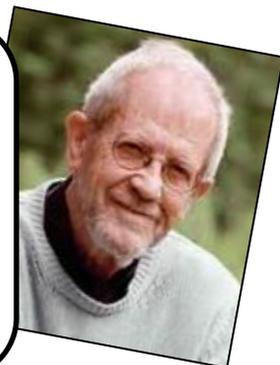
October

Birthdays:

October 11 - Elmore Leonard
October 15 - Mario Puzo
October 19 - John Le Carre
October 22 - Anne Rule
October 27 - J.A. Jance

While working as a copywriter for an advertising agency, Elmore Leonard, would write every morning between 5:00 a.m - 7:00 a.m.

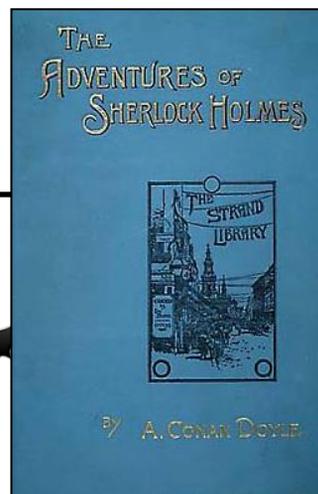
His first mystery, *The Big Bounce* was rejected by 84 publishers before it was finally published in 1969.



October 14th, 1892

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes is published. The book consists of 12 short stories that previously debuted in *The Strand Magazine*.

Sherlock Holmes was originally going to be named Sherrinford. However, the name was thought to be changed due to a cricketer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle ran across while playing the sport. Doyle was a huge fan of cricket and spent a lot of time playing.



The tradition of making jack-o'-lanterns originated from an Irish myth about a man named "Stingy Jack." The scary faces began as carvings made from beets, turnips and potatoes, and is made from these vegetables in European countries to this day.

For more history on the jack-o'-lantern, visit:

<http://www.history.com/topics/halloween/jack-olantern-history>



October is:

Italian-American Heritage Month,
National Breast Cancer Awareness
Month, National Pizza Month, National
Dessert Month, Country Music Month,
and National Book Fair Month

OMG, Have You Read This Book?!

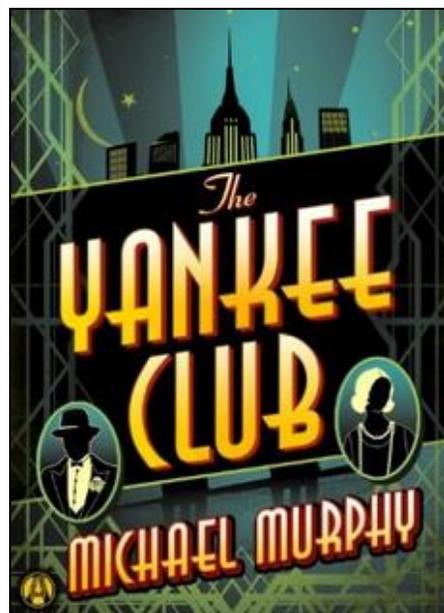
Submitted by:
**Kathryn
Long**

"I have to recommend fellow author, Michael Murphy and his Jake and Laura Mysteries. They take place during the depression, so they have plenty of history and culture from that era. He also includes historical figures such as Amelia Earhart and so many others, weaving fictional tales peppered with true facts. His dialog is spot on, including many of the colloquialisms of the time. Reading his work is like watching one of those thirties gangster movies. I love it! Anyway, he has three out so far (Random House - Alibi imprint), all equally entertaining."

In Michael Murphy's action-packed Prohibition-era novel of suspense, a mystery writer returns to the bright lights and dark alleys of New York City – uncovering a criminal conspiracy of terrifying proportions.

In 1933, America is at a crossroads: Prohibition will soon be history, organized crime is rampant, and President Roosevelt promises to combat the Great Depression with a New Deal. In these uncertain times, former-Pinkerton-detective-turned-bestselling-author Jake Donovan is beckoned home to Manhattan. He has made good money as the creator of dashing gumshoe Blackie Doyle, but the price of success was Laura Wilson, the woman he left behind. Now a Broadway star, Laura is engaged to a millionaire banker – and waltzing into a dangerous trap.

Before Jake can win Laura back, he's nearly killed – and his former partner is shot dead – after a visit to the Yankee Club, a speakeasy dive in their old Queens neighborhood. Suddenly Jake and Laura are plunged into a conspiracy that runs afoul of gangsters, sweeping from New York's private clubs to the halls of corporate power and to the White House itself. Brushing shoulders with the likes of Dashiell Hammett, Cole Porter, and Babe Ruth, Jake struggles to expose an inconspicuous organization hidden in plain sight, one determined to undermine the president and change the country forever.



#1 in the Jake and Laura mysteries

Check It
Out!!!

Did you
know...?

The pagan Celts believed that after death, all souls went into the crone's cauldron, which symbolized the Earth mother's womb. There, the souls awaited reincarnation, as the goddess' stirring allowed for new souls to enter the cauldron and old souls to be reborn.



Paula's Top 5 Scary Movies
Guaranteed to Scare the POOP out
of you!

1. Session #9
2. Hellraiser
3. The Omen
4. The Grudge
5. Amityville Horror (the original)

For more Halloween superstitions
and their origins, check out:
<http://www.livescience.com/16677-halloween-superstitions-traditions.html>

"Words
have no
power to
impress
the mind
without
the
exquisite
horror of
their
reality."

~Edgar Allan Poe

Submitted by Christina Hartmann-Benchoff

Want to share your blog or
website? Send an email to
the editor!
paula.corrao@yahoo.com

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