

THE MYST-ERIE BLOTTER



January/February 2018
Volume 4, Issue 1

Letter from the Editor



Greetings Sisters, Misters, and Mystery Lovers:

On December 28th, 2017 we learned one of the greatest mystery writers of our time, Sue Grafton, had passed away. And, while I have always been a sentimental person, I don't recall a time when I've shed actual tears for someone famous...or someone I've never met. But, when I heard about Sue Grafton, I found myself crying at my computer. I questioned myself that day...wondering how could I cry for someone I've never even met. I sat and thought about it for a while and came to the conclusion that it was because I felt I had lost a friend...and a mentor of sorts.

I was never fortunate enough to meet Sue. I had one opportunity that I missed at a mystery conference I wasn't able to attend at the last minute. I thought to myself...next time...next time you will meet her and shake her hand. I would get to say thank you for the inspiration she had given and tell her what an impact she had on my own writing. That sometimes while I'm writing and get stumped, I'll ask myself, "What would Kinsey do right about now?"

I've often asked others if they've had the opportunity to meet her. Those who have, always referred to her as one of their favorite people. And frankly, I suspected as much.

Sue and Kinsey Millhone were first introduced to me while I was in college. Most of you who already know me have heard the story. For those who haven't, that class was pivotal to the path of mystery writing that I would begin shortly after. Our first assignment was to read *A is for Alibi*, and as for any book lover or writer, I happily accepted the task. Reading modern fiction for school? Sign me up twice!

Sitting down with one of her books is like meeting an old friend for coffee. There's a little bit of seriousness, a few laughs, and most importantly, you don't want it to end. I immediately fell in love with her writing style and her main character. Kinsey Millhone was amazing, rough around the edges and even though I had never been in her actual life position...she was relatable. I rushed to the bookstore to buy the next in line, *B is for Burglar*.

Through her amazing writing and story-telling, I felt she gave us a glimpse of herself. I also believe that she inspired a lot of women writers that they could belong. Not only was her character a woman, but SHE was a woman. A woman succeeding in a genre dominated by men and she continued to do so for the entirety of her career. Even in this day and age when women have come so far, I still find this something to applaud because as I often say..."the struggle is real."

So I would like to thank Sue Grafton for the following things: Thank you for helping pave the way and showing it can be done. Thank you for the hours upon hours of reading enjoyment. And, most of all, thank you for building my love of mystery. Over the years, I have cultivated a healthy list of favorite mystery authors, but you will always hold the number one spot.

Paula Corrao
And sometimes... Vivien Chien

Let's Get Together!

February Meeting

*Monday, February 5
7 p.m.*

Twinsburg Library

*Annual Business Meeting, Election of
Officers, Member Roundtable,
June Event Planning*



**Twinsburg
Library is food
friendly!**



**Brown bag it or
hit a drive
through for
take out and
bring your
meal to the
library.**



10050 Ravenna Rd., Twinsburg, OH 44087
Phone: (330) 425-4268

**Looking Ahead
"Killer Heat"
A Mystery Writers' Weekend
Getaway**

**June 9 & 10, 2018
(See page 4)**





"Killer Heat"

A Mystery Writers' Weekend Getaway

June 9 & 10. 2018



**Presented by NEOSinC
& Cuyahoga County Public Library**



Dates: Saturday, June 9, 9-5 and Sunday, June 10, 1-5

Place: Cuyahoga County Public Library's Skirball Writers' Center, South Euclid. *Same place we held Death March in 2016*

National Keynote Speaker & Workshop Leader: Laura DiSilverio

In addition to Laura's presentations, the weekend will include **Author Panels** (Traditional and Self-Published), **Author Signings** and **Presentations by Subject Matter Experts**. A complete program will be published closer to the event dates.

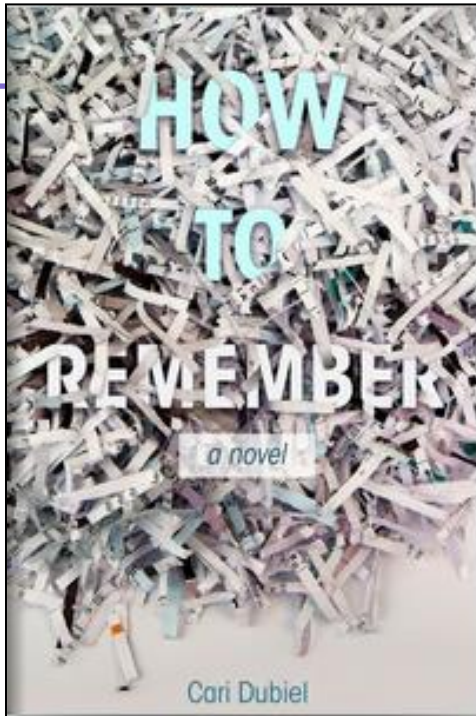
Cost: Because we are collaborating with the Cuyahoga County Public Library there is **no registration fee**. Laura's participation is provided by a grant from the SinC Speakers Bureau.



Laura DiSilverio

A retired Air Force intelligence officer, Laura DiSilverio is the national bestselling and award-winning author of 21 mystery, suspense and youngadult sci-fi novels. She has written four cozy series for various Penguin imprints, and the Swift Investigations books, a humorous private investigator series, for St. Martin's Minotaur. *Library Journal* named her most recent book, *Close Call*, one of the Top Five mysteries of 2016, and *The Reckoning Stones* (2015) won the Colorado Book Award for Mystery in 2016. *Incubation*, the first book of her self-pubbed young adult dystopian trilogy, is an Amazon bestseller and will be published in France (and other French speaking countries) by City Editions later this year. Her upcoming release is the suspense novel *That Last Weekend* (Sep 2017). A Past President of Sisters in Crime, she taught for Mystery Writers of America's Mystery University, and teaches writing at Writer's Digest conferences and in other venues. Some of her popular workshops include "No Pain, No Gain: Increasing Conflict in Your Novels"; "Revealing Character through Setting"; "Getting Serious about Series Writing"; "Plot and Conflict: A Match Made for Murder"; "Antagonists: Six Ways to Make the Bad Better" For more information about Laura, visit: <http://lauradisilverio.com/>

What's Everyone Up To?



Cari Dubiel

Cari is working with Inkshares to have her book published! Once she reaches 250 copies, Inkshares will publish and distribute her book to bookstores.

You may purchase the book by following this link:

https://www.inkshares.com/books/how-to-remember?referral_code=fc1d5532

Miranda Underwood has lost a year's worth of memories, and she's certain her employer is behind it. MindTech uses imaging and electrical therapy to influence patients' thoughts and feelings. Until now, Miranda has been on the other side of things, using her doctorate in neurology to help clients come to terms with mental and emotional trauma. But now that her own mind has been compromised, she won't rest until she knows exactly what MindTech did to her and why.

One year in the past, grieving computer programmer Ben Baker can't seem to get his life back together following his mother's death. MindTech promises to help him heal. He's intrigued, but unsure. It's only after he meets Miranda in the bar next door that he becomes a client. As Miranda and Ben grow closer, they discover that Ben has a deeper connection to MindTech than he realizes.



Author Events



Casey Daniels

Casey Daniels and D.M. Pulley
Lit Cleveland
Death Warmed Over:
Writing Historical Murder Mysteries

February 21 | Noon until 5 p.m.
Happy Dog at the Euclid Tavern
11625 Euclid Ave
Cleveland, OH 44106
(216) 231-5400



D.M. Pulley



D.M. Pulley
Book Signing – Visible Voice Books

February 23 | 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
2258 Professor Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
216-961-0084

D.M. Pulley
Meet the Author – Morley Library

February 24 | 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
184 Phelps Street
Painesville, Ohio 44077
440 352-3383

Check It
Out!

Did you
know...?



Reminder!

Don't forget to pay your dues for 2018!
The membership fee is \$20. Make check
payable to: Kim Hammond
You may bring your payment to the next
meeting or contact a member of the board for
more information.

Also, if you haven't renewed your
membership in SinC National, it's time.

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

Birthdays:

February 5 – Stephen J Cannell
February 8 – John Grisham
February 12 – Judy Blume
February 17 – Margaret Truman
February 19 – Amy Tan
February 23 – John Sanford



February is:

Black History Month,
American Heart Month,
Chocolate Lover's Month,
National Bird Feeding Month,
and National Dental Month

"Writing is really hard to master.
You learn by failing over and
over, but a lot of people don't
care for that, thanks. I always
wish new writers the greatest
good fortune. It's a helluva
journey – I'll tell you that."

— Sue Grafton
Author of A is for Alibi

Who's Who and What's Where

President – Irma Baker
Vice President – Jane Turzillo
Treasurer – Kim Hammond
Secretary – Kim Weuscher
Library Liaison – Cari Dubiel
Newsletter Editor – Paula Corrao
Membership Chair – Wendy Campbell
Program Chair – Donna Feldman
Members-at-Large - Lisa Kaplan



<https://www.facebook.com/NEOSinC>



<https://www.pinterest.com/NEOSinC>

Check out our website!
<https://neosinc.org/wordpress/>



Chapter Business

Open Offices... The office of **Secretary** is open. We also need a **Publicity Chair**. Currently the board is handling these offices as needed but we want to hear from any members interested in taking on these roles. *We promise it won't take over your life.*

*We Need
You!*

*When Do
We Meet?*

Meeting Dates/Flexible Scheduling... Generally our meetings are held once a month on a weekday evening. This year we are trying to schedule meetings on Monday evenings, since that evening seems to work for more members, but we adjust the date, time and place based on the focus of the meeting, availability of speakers and opportunity for special events.

Meeting Locations... Meetings are often held at the Twinsburg library or local eateries. Meeting details are announced via email and the newsletter. *We're open to suggestions for off-site meetings or events for third and fourth quarter. Would you like to host a meeting at your local library or another location or do you have a suggestion for an event or field trip? Let us know!*

*Where
Do We
Meet?*

*What's
Our
Focus?*

Meeting Topics... Presentations generally focus on the theme of "Getting It Right" with speakers professionally involved in crime detection/prevention, or others whose expertise can help us get our mystery writing right. We also cover craft-related issues and offer opportunities to get together to share experiences and learn from each other. Meeting presentations, such as those on paranormal investigation and lock-picking, and special events expand our knowledge to enhance our writing.