

THE MYST-ERIE BLOTTER



September 2017
Volume 3, Issue 8

Let's Get Together

"Body Count"

Sunday, October 22

2-4 p.m.

Twinsburg Library

10050 Ravenna Rd., Twinsburg, OH 44087

Phone: (330) 425-4268



Great News!
National Sisters in Crime
has approved our grant request for an
event to celebrate SinC's 30th Anniversary!

Our event, which will be held at the Twinsburg Library on October 22, will be called "Body Count" and will include refreshments, a "Body Count" contest, research-based "scavenger hunt," information about SinC National and NEOSinC, and the opportunity to promote our member authors.

What's Everyone Up To?

Casey Daniels/Kylie Logan

Casey Daniels (writing as Kylie Logan) has signed a contract for a new series that features a cadaver dog trainer and handler. The first book is tentatively titled *The Scent of Murder*. The series is set in Cleveland's historic Tremont neighborhood and will be published in hardcover by St. Martin's Minotaur.



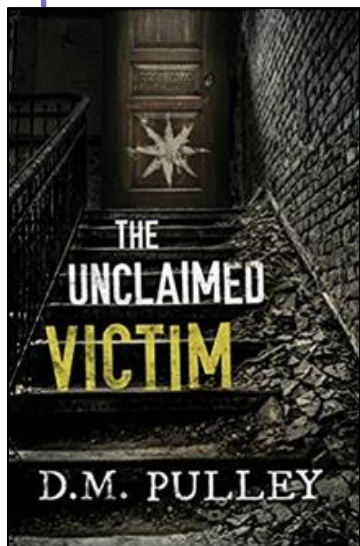
D.M. Pulley

D.M. Pulley's third novel, *The Unclaimed Victim*, will release on November 14 by publisher Thomas & Mercer. It is currently available for pre-order.

In 1938, at the height of the Great Depression, a madman hunts his victims through the hobo jungles of Cleveland, terrorizing the city. Ethel Harding, a prostitute struggling to survive both the cold streets and the Torso Killer, takes refuge with a devout missionary sect – only to find that its righteous facade conceals the darkest of secrets.

Sixty years later, the police find the butchered body of Alfred Wiley in the woods. But before his daughter, Kris, can even identify the remains, things he never told her begin to surface one by one – a mysterious private eye who'd been tracking him, an eerie website devoted to the unsolved "Torso" murders, missing archives, stolen books, and an abandoned Bible factory harboring vagrants. The more she learns about her father's obsession with the Torso Killer, the more Alfred's death appears to be related, pulling Kris further into Cleveland's hellish past.

Living decades apart, Ethel and Kris must unravel the truth behind the city's most notorious serial killer...or die trying."



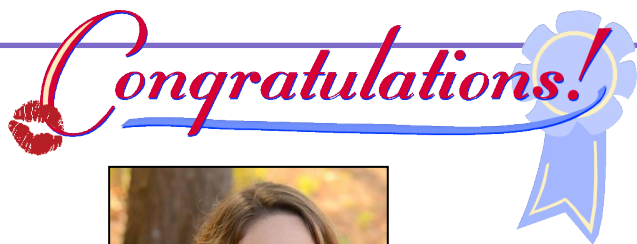
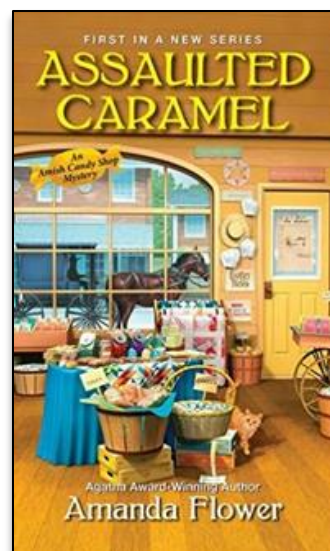
What's Everyone Up To?

Amanda Flower

The first book in Amanda Flower's new Amish Candy Shop series, *Assaulted Caramel*, released August 29.

Bailey King is living the sweet life as assistant chocolatier at world-famous JP Chocolates in New York City. But just when Bailey's up for a life-changing promotion, her grandmother calls with news that her grandfather's heart condition has worsened. Bailey rushes to Harvest, Ohio, where her grandparents still run Swissmen Sweets, the Amish candy shop where she was first introduced to delicious fudge, truffles, and other assorted delights.

She finds her grandfather is doing better than she feared. Unfortunately, the same can't be said for a local Englisch developer, whom Bailey finds dead in the candy shop kitchen – with Jebediah King's chocolate knife buried in his chest. Now the police are sweet on her grandfather as the prime suspect. Despite the sincere efforts of a yummy deputy with chocolate-brown eyes, Bailey takes it on herself to clear Jebediah. But as a cunning killer tries to fudge the truth, Bailey may be headed straight into a whole batch of trouble . . .



Julie Anne Lindsey



Julie Anne Lindsey has signed a contract with Harlequin Intrigue for four new romantic suspense books.

She has also signed a three-book deal with Sourcebooks! The new series will be a cozy mysteries set at a seaside iced tea shop.



Author Events



Mystery Fiction Evening

Appletree Books

September 28 | 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

12419 Cedar Rd, Cleveland Heights, OH 44106

(216) 791-2665

<http://appletree-books.com/>

Julie Anne Lindsey



Bouchercon – Toronto

October 12 - 15

Attendee

Books by the Banks – Cincinnati

Duke Energy Convention Center

October 28 | 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

525 Elm St, Cincinnati, OH 45202

<http://booksbythebanks.org/>

Buckeye Book Fair – Wooster

Fisher Auditorium

November 4

527 N. Market St, Ste 2, Wooster OH 44691

(330) 262-2103

<http://www.buckeyebookfair.com/>

Local Author Fair – New Philadelphia

November 11 | 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Author Chat – Bolivar

November 14 | 6:30 p.m.

Tuscarawas County Public Library

455 West Water Street

Bolivar, Ohio 44612

(330) 874-2720



A community of writers and readers

Motives, Means, and Opportunity: Building a Mystery

free class with Shelley Costa and Casey Daniels!

Session I: Sat. 9/9, 9/16, & 9/23, 10:30a-12:30p

Session II: Sat. 9/30, 10/7, & 10/21

CPL Memorial-Nottingham Branch
17109 Lakeshore Blvd
Cleveland, OH 44110

Learn how to write compelling mysteries with published authors Shelley Costa and Casey Daniels! Develop your work and get feedback in a supportive group environment. This workshop is recommended for beginning and intermediate writers that have completed a draft of at least one short story. Participants will study the craft, complete writing exercises, and read each other's work.

Note: Registrants can sign up for one or both sessions, as there will be some repetition but different material will be covered in each one.

Link to register:

<http://www.litcleveland.org/motive-means-and-opportunity-building-a-mystery.html>



A 2004 Edgar nominee for Best Short Story, **Shelley Costa** is the author of *You Cannoli Die Once* (Agatha nominee for Best First Novel) and *Basil Instinct*. *Practical Sins for Cold Climates* is the first book in her exciting new mystery series. Shelley's stories have appeared in *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*, *Blood on Their Hands*, *The World's Finest Mystery and Crime Stories*, and *Crimewave* (UK). She teaches fiction writing at the Cleveland Institute of Art.

Casey Daniels has published nearly 60 novels including the wildly popular *Pepper Martin* mysteries. Pepper works at a historic cemetery in Cleveland and solves mysteries for the ghosts there. The newest book of the series is *Graveyard Shift*, out last month from Severn House. As Kylie Logan, she also writes the *League of Literary Ladies* mysteries.



The 34th Annual Western Reserve Writers Conference

Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017
Cuyahoga County Public Library
William N. Skirball Writers Center
South Euclid-Lyndhurst Branch
1876 South Green Road / South Euclid, Ohio 44121

*The William N. Skirball Writers Center proudly hosts the Western Reserve Writers Conference for a second year, making it **free of charge for writers**. New this year, community writing organizations will have information tables at the conference.*

NEOSinC Featured Presenters...



Shelley Costa
**"Point of View:
It's Not Just Who Tells the Story"**



Amanda Flower
**"Let's Get Cozy:
Writing the Popular Who-Done-It"**

For Details, see next page.

To Register: Go to the Events page on Cuyahoga County Public Library Web site
<http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org/Events/Event-Results.aspx?kw=category-writing&page=2>

The 34th Annual Western Reserve Writers Conference

PROGRAM

Note: Sessions with an asterisk () include a writing exercise.*

9:00-9:30 AM REGISTRATION, LIGHT BREAKFAST, COFFEE

9:30 AM WELCOME & CONFERENCE OVERVIEW:

Deanna R. Adams, Conference Coordinator

Laurie Kincer, William N. Skirball Writers' Center

9:40-10:20 AM KEYNOTE SPEAKER: BRIAN A. KLEMS, GETTING PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S WORLD: 10 TIPS TO MAKE YOU A WRITER AGENTS AND PUBLISHERS WANT

Brian A. Klems, a graduate of the Ohio University E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, is the senior online editor of WritersDigest.com and author of the bestselling book, *Oh Boy, You're Having a Girl: A Dad's Guide to Raising Daughters* (Adams Media). His blog, *The Writer's Dig*, which covers everything writing and publishing, is one of the fastest growing blogs in the writing community. Brian has been a part of the *Writer's Digest* family since 2003 and has overseen the launch of all the *Writer's Digest* blogs as well as helped *Writer's Digest* become a vibrant member of the social media community.

10:30-11:30 AM BREAKOUT SESSIONS, choose one:

- 1. *Political Writing without Politics / Erin O'Brien.** Social media and journalism are filled with political hot potatoes. Learn how to keep a tactful balance with in-class exercises that demonstrate these delicate techniques.
- 2. Let's Get Cozy: Writing the Popular Who-Done-It / Amanda Flower.** Learn what it takes to make your cozy stand out from the rest and get the attention it deserves.
- 3. *Public Speaking for Writers / Ray McNiece.** Learn simple techniques for reading your work to a live audience from a master performance poet. Practice reading your work and get feedback.

11:30-11:45 AM BREAK & PREARRANGED EDITING SESSIONS

Judy Allen edits manuscripts for suspense, coming-of-age, short stories, children's, romance, sports, self-help and social commentary titles. Claudia Taller edits poetry, literary fiction, and nonfiction works such as memoir.

11:45 AM-12:45 PM BREAKOUT SESSIONS, choose one:

- 1. *Getting Rid of Your Internal Censor / Barbara Snow.** If you still hear that self-doubting voice questioning your talent as a writer, Barbara will help hush that voice and make you realize that Yes, you are a writer!
- 2. *Agents: When You Need One, When You Don't / Deanna R. Adams.** Deanna will take you through the steps of pitching your book to an agent and also how to get published without one. Query letter writing included.
- 3. Writing for the Young Adult Market / JT Dutton.** Explore what it means to "sound fifteen" and develop a coming-of-age voice that readers will love and remember.

Continued on next page...

The 34th Annual Western Reserve Writers Conference

PROGRAM *continued*

Note: Sessions with an asterisk () include a writing exercise.*

12:45-1:45 PM LUNCH BREAK PLUS BOOK SALE & AUTHOR SIGNINGS

Brown bag or go out. Restaurant map available at registration table.

1:30-1:45 PM PREARRANGED EDITING SESSIONS

1:45-2:45 PM FIRST PAGE CRITIQUE with panelists Brian A. Klems, Deanna R. Adams and Erin O'Brien.

Submit the first page of your work-in-progress at the registration table upon check in. Your page must be double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point, with a title and genre indicated at the top. DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME. Each panelist will raise a hand at the point where they would stop reading and then comment on what stopped them. Submissions will be randomly selected.

2:45-3:00 PM BREAK & PREARRANGED EDITING SESSIONS

3:00-4:00 PM BREAKOUT SESSIONS, choose one:

- 1. Don't Get Fooled Again / Steve Grant.** Learn how to deal with the traditional publishing world and protect yourself from unscrupulous companies in the self-publishing world from an intellectual property attorney.
- 2. *Point of View: It's Not Just Who Tells the Story / Shelley Costa.** Explore the special features of the most common points of view and, aside from the nuts and bolts of narration, consider each point of view and its meaning.
- 3. Dialogue Do's / Claire McMillan.** With CCPL's new Writer in Residence, Simon & Schuster author Claire McMillan, take a close look at how best to use dialogue to deepen character and serve plot.



4:00-4:15 PM PREARRANGED EDITING SESSIONS

4:00-4:30 PM DOOR PRIZES, BOOK SALE & AUTHOR SIGNINGS, MEET-UP FOR WRITERS LOOKING FOR A WRITING GROUP

2017 Writing to Publish Series at Hudson Public Library



Jennifer Fisher, Editing Your Own Work

Monday, 9/25, 7pm

Registration open:

[https://engagedpatrons.org/EventsExtended.cfm?SiteID= 3850&EventID=311929&PK=](https://engagedpatrons.org/EventsExtended.cfm?SiteID=3850&EventID=311929&PK=)

Literary Agent Jennifer Wills from the Seymour Agency, Your Social Media Platform

Tuesday, 11/21, 7pm

Registration open:

[https://engagedpatrons.org/EventsExtended.cfm?SiteID= 3850&EventID=311932&PK=](https://engagedpatrons.org/EventsExtended.cfm?SiteID=3850&EventID=311932&PK=)

Tricia Springstubb, Writing for Children

Wednesday, 12/6, 7pm

Registration open:

[https://engagedpatrons.org/EventsExtended.cfm?SiteID= 3850&EventID=311933&PK=](https://engagedpatrons.org/EventsExtended.cfm?SiteID=3850&EventID=311933&PK=)

Check It
Out!

Did you
know...?

Birthdays:

September 9 – Phyllis A. Whitney
September 15 – Agatha Christie
September 17 – Robert B. Parker
September 17 – John Creasy
September 21 – Stephen King
September 28 – Marcia Muller

At the Bouchercon World Mystery Convention in May 2000, Agatha Christie was named *Mystery Writer of the Century* and the Poirot books *Mystery Series of the Century*.

For 74 more interesting facts about Agatha Christie, check out:
<http://www.agathachristie.com/about-christie/christie-experts/john-curran-75-facts-about-christie>

September is:

National Potato Month, National Chicken Month, National Piano Month, and National Biscuit Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month
September 15 – October 15

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

“An opening line should invite the reader to begin the story. It should say: Listen. Come here. You want to know about this.”

– Stephen King
American Horror & Suspense Author

Who's Who and What's Where

President – Irma Baker
Vice President – Jane Turzillo
Treasurer – Kim Hammond
Secretary – Open
Library Liaison – Cari Dubiel
Newsletter Editor – Paula Corrao
Program Chair – Donna Feldman
Members-at-Large - Shelley Bloomfield,
Lisa Kaplan



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



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

Check out our website!
<http://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.