

DEAD TO WRITES

A MALICE IN MEMPHIS NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2015 ISSUE

From the President:

Happy Spring everyone.

I want to let everyone know that, yes I am still around but have had to take off work for short term disability due to my back issues. Since I missed last month's and most likely will miss this month's meeting (since I don't think climbing stairs would be a good idea). I wanted to address the topic of what I do for the getting to know you topic. I am a wife, a mother of 3, and a grandmother of 3 boys. Currently I am a Billing Specialist for several major financial lenders through United Auto Recovery (aka the repo man). Before working here, I worked in the medical billing profession and that gave me lots of medical terminology and knowledge and I use that to help with research in my writing. If you need to know about how to repo vehicles just send me an email. Happy Writing.

Missy

PLEASE REMEMBER FOR THIS MONTH ONLY:

WE WILL BE MEETING AT 11:00 A.M. at EL PATRON MEXICAN RESTAURANT. LOCATED AT 5811 STAGE ROAD IN THE UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM. This is located around the corner from Brad's BBQ on Stage.

All,

"A short story must have a single mood and every sentence must build towards it." -Edgar Allen Poe

We've had great turnout of submissions to our second anthology call. Carolyn mentioned some of the stories in our Dropbox folder do not have headers or author name attached. If you are a culprit, please add a header with your story title and your name. It makes it difficult for her to move forward without this info. (Story Title/Your Last Name on the left with page numbers on the right) Headers drive me insane, too, but they are necessary when editing and contacting the author.

Book Stock is next Saturday, April 18th from 10:30 to 3:30. Juanita and I will be there for setup, but we both have to leave by 1 pm due to prior commitments. Jim and Susan have offered to help man the booth. Anyone else interested in helping that afternoon, please let me know Saturday. We will put together a schedule to make sure we have coverage. If you are a Malice member and have your own books you would like to sell at the event, please bring them along. We will have Bluff City Mysteries available for sale as well.

And don't forget about our next signing at Trustmark National Bank on April 30th from 5 to 7 pm. Please spread the word on your blogs, Facebook page, etc.

Hope to see everyone Saturday, 11 am at El Patron, 5811 Stage Road in the upstairs meeting room.

Kristi Bradley
VP Malice in Memphis

WRITING TIP:

It is important to know your character's history. How they are raised, the extent of their education, and favorite hobbies all play a part in how your character reacts to different situations. An only child raised by two loving parents will not have the same reaction to certain situations as an only child who was a ward of the state and brought up in various foster homes. That is why it is important to do character sketches. They help learn your characters inside and out. You won't use everything, but what you do use will be developed out of his/her personal history.

Keep writing
Barbara Christopher

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LIST OF LOCATIONS CHOSEN FOR THE GHOST STORIES

Missy	Bemis Mill, in Bemis TN
Kristi	Rainbow Lake in Overton Park
Barbara	Russwood Park and St. Columba Episcopal Center, Eads Elementary School ***
Juanita	Old Maley Yarbrough Funeral home Covington, TN, Small Tipton county town
Carolyn	Somerville, TN, Memphis Zoo
Elaine	Ivy, MS and Collierville, TN
Angelyn	Collierville, TN, Rhodes College area
Phyllis	Summer Avenue Drive in
Vicki	Raleigh, TN
Steve	Harahan Bridge, Tunnels under Memphis
Seth	Reelfoot Lake, Fort Pillow State Park
Jim	Fontaine House/ Midtown
Geoff	Shiloh, TN
Dee Evitt	Ames Plantation in Grand Junction, TN
Pat	Carousel at Mid South Coliseum
Richard	Mississippi River
Susan	set in Arkansas

***Eads Elementary School is the same as Eads clinic
If I wrote down the wrong thing I apologize in advance. Please let me know the correct location you have chosen or if there is an additional location for you. There are many places around the Mid-South area so let's write some ghost stories.

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Malice in Memphis Minutes –March 2015

Meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by Kristi. Missy was out sick. Members present were, Juanita, Kristi, Barbara, Cindy, Seth, Steve, Jim, Carolyn, Richard, Angelyn, Susan and Vicki. Carolyn gave an update of the stories submitted thus far. She is working on them and hopes to have all those that she has received back to the authors with her notes within a couple of weeks.

Also A few things that need to be pointed out in regards to submitting stories for the next anthology:

#1: Format needs to be left justified,

#2: no extra spaces between paragraphs or added to the indention at the beginning of the paragraph.

#3: 1 space after a period, try not to use semi colons, if at all possible.

A few keyboard shortcuts

Ctrl+Alt+. will give you ...

Headers:

Last name-Title of story-Chapter#	Page
#	

Steve asked if we could move the tables into a square, at the next meeting, so that everybody could see everybody else, without having to constantly having to turn this way and that and so we decided to try it this month to see how it goes. It was much easier and this will be the set up for future meetings at the library.

We have a scheduled book signing at Trustmark Bank on April 30, at 5-7pm. Location of the branch is at Houston Levee Rd @ Macon.

April Meeting is will be at the El Patron upstairs in their meeting room at 11a as the library is using our regular meeting for another event.

Carolyn wanted everybody to tell what they do for a job or what did they excel in so that in case someone needed to ask questions about a particular occupation.

Each person told about their jobs and what other things they know that might help someone else's story.

Meeting was called at 11:55a.m and Lunch at Brad's BBQ.

Check out our new Anthology:

Malice in Memphis:Bluff City Mysteries. You can get it at

<http://www.darkoakpress.com/malice.html> or on Amazon.

BOOK NEWS

From Patricia Potter:

NEWS! My three Scottish trilogies, published in print by Bantam and Berkley, are now available in e-book format on most platforms, including Amazon and Barnes and Noble. The first one is the Card series: The "Black Knave," "Heart Queen" and "Diamond King," all taking place in the aftermath of the Battle of Culloden. "The Black Knave," my Scottish Scarlet Pimpernel story, won wave reviews from RT and the Library Journal and other reviewers. For those who like both Scotland and the wild west, there's "The Marshal and the Heiress," and "The Scotsman Wore Spurs." There's also the Scottish Highland series ("Beloved Imposter", "Beloved Stranger" and "Beloved Warrior" which received a starred review in Publisher's Weekly.) The Beloved series is set in the 16th Century, and the Star series ("StarCatcher", "StarKeeper," and "StarFinder") sweeps from the Scottish Highlands to Colonial America and the American Revolution. More on these series later.

Here is the link to Killer Nashville magazine:

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

Lots of great articles in it again this month.

Disclaimer: I signed up for a newsletter called Creative Writing Newsletter back in July 2010 and it is a great newsletter. I recommend that every writer check it out. You get prompts, and help with just about any issue you might have. I hope that you check it out and that Nancy from Creative Writing doesn't mind me posting this in our newsletter. She does an awesome job. I am hoping this will get her many more followers.

Story Idea Kit

Choose one element from each column to come up with a story idea. Mix and match.

Setting	Trait	Character	Situation
On a ski trip,	a shy	librarian	accidentally reveals a secret.
In a stuck elevator,	a deceitful	babysitter	falls in love with the wrong person.
At a costume party,	an incredibly attractive	novelist	discovers evidence of a crime.
In a moonlit graveyard,	a sarcastic	ballet dancer	is visited by a ghost.
In a natural history museum,	a jealous	psychiatrist	seeks revenge.
Backstage at the theater,	a gullible	tattoo artist	succumbs to temptation.
On a rooftop,	a misunderstood	burglar	receives shocking news.
In an orphanage,	a famous	taxi driver	loses something or someone.

In a hair salon, a paranoid police officer tells a dangerous lie.

On a private jet, an obsessive-compulsive bodyguard is kidnapped.

In a maze, a spoiled animal trainer makes a sacrifice.

At a police station, a clever actor realizes that things are not as they seem.

(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)
(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)
(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)
(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)
(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)	(add your own)

Happy writing!

Creative Writing Now

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