

SEPTEMBER 2023

From the President

The Perfect Pitch

Zooming with Girl Scout leaders.

Chinese wedding banquet with teachers from your husband's school.

Hot Hula.

It's hard enough mustering the courage to admit you're a writer to family, co-workers, Girl Scout moms and the ladies sweating beside you in the dance studio. But then comes the inevitable question:

What's your book about?

I was caught off guard the first several times people asked me about GHOST OF WAIKIKI, so I practiced enroute to my first Bouchercon as the plane circled LAX waiting for the San Diego fog to lift.

Pitching gets easier with practice, and Capitol Crimes can help.

[Members Marketplace](#), in good standing have the opportunity to give a two-minute elevator pitch to our entire Zoom audience.

If you've never pitched before, Members Marketplace is your chance to learn from pros like Claire Booth and James L'Etoile, who put together a helpful tip sheet. It's also a great place for published authors to grow their audience. Even if you're still working on your manuscript, you can practice before pitching agents and editors.

Readers be ready with pen and paper to jot down all the great new titles you'll have to buy.

Several brave authors have already signed up! So please Zoom with us on September 16th to support local authors and hear all about their latest books!

(Continued on next page)



What's Inside

Upcoming Events..... 2

Chapter News 4-7

- Crime Time at Ruby's Books
- Members Marketplace

In Other News 8



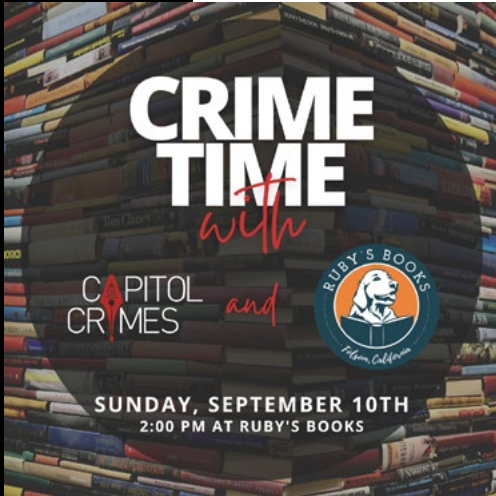
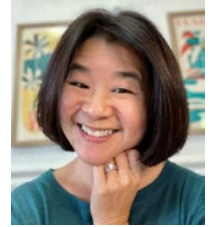


If you're a writer, take notes on how to deliver a polished, succinct pitch that tells readers about your richly-drawn characters and life-and-death stakes.

Sound impossible? Don't worry. By the time you've done Members Marketplace, you'll be a pro, too.

So when you go to Bouchercon for the first time and your friendly Lyft driver happens to love reading mysteries, you'll be ready with the perfect pitch.

—Jennifer Morita, President



CRIME TIME AT RUBY'S BOOKS

When: Sunday, September 10, 2023, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Location: Ruby's Books: 724 Sutter Street, Folsom, CA 95630

916-790-8760 www.rubysfolsom.com

Please join host Sarah Bresniker for our September Crime Time meet-up at Ruby's Books in Folsom as we discuss our experiences with the writing, publishing, and marketing processes.

Whether you're a seasoned pro or struggling through your first draft, it's a great chance to network with your tribe and maybe get a few questions answered. Come enjoy the company of others who can't resist the lure of (fictional) crime!

Ruby's Books has graciously offered to host our meeting, and we're sure you'll enjoy browsing their shelves, and finding a book (or two or three) that need to come home with you! We'll continue the conversation at a local restaurant for those who are able to join us.

Space is limited so please register if you plan on attending. [RSVP here.](#)

Upcoming Events

CRIME TIME at RUBY'S BOOKS

Sunday, September 10, 2023 • 2:00 PM (PT)
724 Sutter Street, Folsom, CA 95630

MEMBERS MARKETPLACE 2023

Saturday, September 16, 2023 • 1:00 PM (PT) • Zoom

CAPITOL CRIMES WRITERS WORKSHOP with YASMIN ANGOE

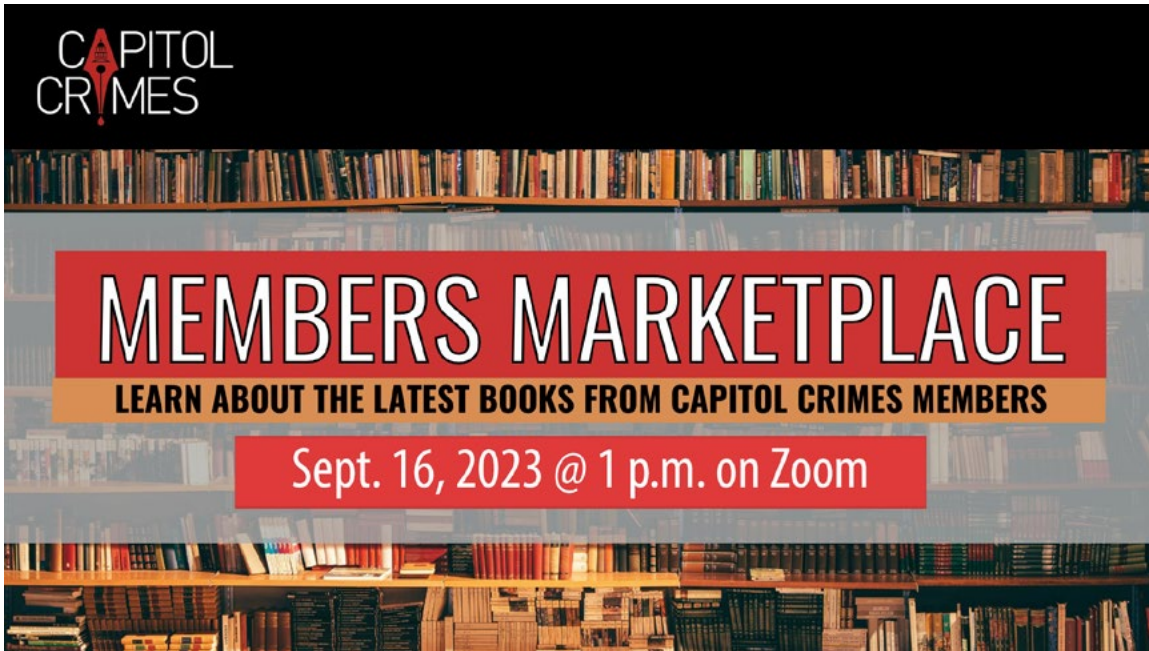
October 26-29, 2023

Mercy Center Auburn, 535 Sacramento Street, Auburn CA

Visit www.CapitolCrimes.org for details and to register.

SEPTEMBER
2023

Chapter News



MEMBERS MARKETPLACE 2023

When: Saturday, September 16, 2023

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Location: Zoom

Pitch Your Book to Fellow SinC Authors!

Our September Monthly Meeting will be our annual Members Marketplace. We all know that having a concise, enticing elevator pitch at the ready is the best way to get others interested in your book. This year, Capitol Crimes members will have two minutes each to pitch one of their books to the audience. It's fun, it's fast, and it's good practice!

If you didn't sign up to pitch, you can still check out James L'Etoile's helpful [Tip Sheet](#) on how to pitch your book because you never know when you'll run into an editor, literary agent or your newest fan!

Everyone is welcome to attend this event. Click on the "Register" button to get the Zoom link for the event. It will be a great opportunity to find our next great reads, and to learn from our members so that we're ready when it's our turn to make that elevator pitch!

[RSVP here.](#)



SEPTEMBER
2023



Member News

From Cindy Fazzi -

Local author [Cindy Fazzi](#) will be at the Folsom Public Library Sat. Sept 30 from 1 to 2 p.m. to talk about her journey writing *MULTO*, a thriller about a Filipino American bounty hunter chasing an undocumented Filipina who can disappear like a ghost. The novel will be available for purchase courtesy of Ruby's Books. The event will also include a Q&A and book signing.

Fazzi is a Filipino American writer and former Associated Press reporter. She has worked as a journalist in the Philippines, Taiwan, and the United States. She lives in the Sacramento area. *MULTO*, which releases Sept. 26, is her first thriller.

Visit [Folsom Public Library's Facebook Events Page](#) for more information.

From Lorie Lewis Ham -

Since Mysteryrat's Maze Podcast is on hiatus for the month of August, we just republished an episode from 2021 that was originally released in 2 parts-now it is all together as one! It features the mystery short story "Harvey and the Redhead" written by Debra H. Goldstein and read by local actors Ariel Linn and Sean Hopper <https://mysteryratsmaze.podbean.com/e/harvey-and-the-redhead-by-debra-h-goldstein/>



From Donna Del Oro -

The 2023 International Latino Book Awards headquartered in Los Angeles has just announced their Finalist Books. My Silver Falchion-winning novel, **SAVING LA FAMILIA**, is a Finalist in the Best Romance Novel category of 2023!

From Karen A Phillips -

I had the pleasure of being interviewed by David Girard and Nick Cowger for "Somewhat About Wine - The Podcast." Give a listen at: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/after-hours-episode-12-an-interview-with-author/id1684554839?i=1000625724598>

Facebook: KarenAPhillips/Author

Instagram: kannphillips

Twitter/X: @Phillips_writes

SEPTEMBER
2023

Member News

From James L'Etoile -

On September 16th, James L'Etoile will participate in the **Capitol Crimes Members Marketplace** where chapter members discuss their latest book. James will feature *Devil Within*, the newly released sequel to the Lefty, Anthony, and Silver Falchion Award-nominated *Dead Drop*.

The event is open to the public. <https://www.capitolcrimes.org/event-5374791>

James L'Etoile's *Dead Drop* was awarded the Silver Falchion Award for Best Investigator Novel at Killer Nashville.



From Paula Gail Benson -

Anthology acceptance

My story, "**Crossfire in the Crosshairs**," is published in the anthology [A DEATH IN THE NIGHT](#) by Dragon Soul Press. The anthology features stories about assassins. My story is about a single mother who supports her pre-school aged daughter by contract killings. Her problem with this assignment is that her ex-husband is trying to make the same hit.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/paula.benson.161>

Instagram: pollygail

Twitter/X: @PaulaGBenson

From Jessica Cline -

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Tarot for Writers workshop in August. I mentioned at the workshop that I'm working on a book on the topic called **Tarot for Fiction Writers**. If you're interested in updates and tarot prompt tips, please join my Tarot for Fiction Writers newsletter here: <https://jessicaarden.eo.page/7q7gb>



**SEPTEMBER
2023**



Member News

From Tori Eldridge –

VIRTUAL AUTHOR EVENT

Read **THE NINJA'S OATH** early and join Tori Eldridge and host Terry Shepherd on Wednesday, September 20 at 5pm PT for a Virtual Book Club Zoom. Bring your questions, comments, and reactions. Once you finish Lily Wong's explosive Shanghai adventure, you will definitely want to discuss. Spoilers guaranteed!

Registrants receive a recording of an exclusive author reading. Discussion topics and fun extras are provided at <https://torieldridge.com/book-clubs>.

Receive signed and ninja-stamped bookplates when you preorder from Face in a Book.

Save your spot today! <https://bit.ly/SaveYourSpotTNO>

Order from Face in a Book: <https://www.getyourfaceinabook.com/book/9781957957319>

Facebook: @getyourfaceinabook • Instagram and Twitter: @faceinbooks



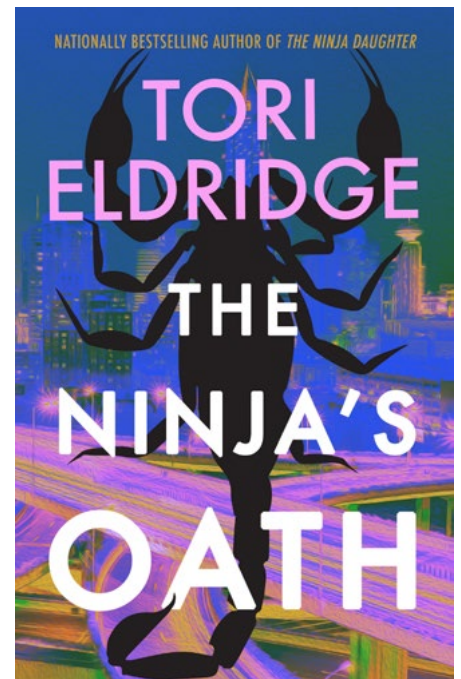
BOOK RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENT

THE NINJA'S OATH takes Chinese-Norwegian modern-day ninja, Lily Wong, to Shanghai in an explosive joint mission with her father's former-triad cook and the assassin J Tran. As this uneasy trio hunts for Chang's kidnapped twelve-year-old niece, back home in Los Angeles, Lily's father is hospitalized with an unknown disease. While Lily faces potentially insurmountable odds and worries about her father's waning health, she is shocked by the true identity of her ninja teacher—known only Sensei—and the truth behind why he left Japan.

Available on Amazon with signed copies from Vroman's Bookstore.

Facebook: @torimeldridge or @torieldridgeauthor

Instagram: @writer.toriTwitter/X: @torieldridge



SEPTEMBER
2023



Elk Grove Writers Guild
Writers Helping Writers

PRESENTS

OUR SPEAKERS:



JUDITH STARKSTON
SPEAKER

Show Emotion in the Details



KAKWASI SOMADHI
SPEAKER

Let the Scenes Move the Story



CHRIS HENNESY
SPEAKER

How to Build a Media Platform



KRISTEN TATE
SPEAKER

Get Your Book Edited



JOEY GARCIA
SPEAKER

How to Write a Blurb



KAREN PHILLIPS
SPEAKER

What About the Cover Design
of Your Book?



GREGORY RANDALL
KEYNOTE

On What's New in Writing



September 23, 2023

ELK GROVE WRITERS CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION OPENS:

May 1, 2023

at egweg.org/23conf



On September 23, 2023, join us at
the Elk Grove District 56 Campus
8230 Civic Center Drive
Elk Grove, CA 95757

Check in at 7:00AM
Admission is \$75 and includes
Continental Breakfast and Lunch



In Other News

Grand Canyon Writers – September 9, 2023 – “Forging a Path to Getting Published and Beyond” with authors Yasmin Angoe and Christina Estes. Yasmin is the Anthony-nominated author of the critically acclaimed Nena Knight series. Christina is an Emmy award-winning reporter. Her debut novel, OFF THE AIR, received the Tony Hillerman Prize for Best First Mystery Set in the Southwest. [Click here for details.](#)

SinC NorCal – September 9, 2023, 10am - 12pm. “What to Do Until the Editor Arrives: A Primer on Self-Editing.” Lourdes Venard is an editor with more than 35 years of writing and editing experience. She will talk about tips and techniques to improve your writing. [Register here for this Zoom event.](#)

Coastal Cruisers – September 9, 2023 – The southern and coastal Bay Area chapters of SinC will have an author reading 1:30 pm at Books Inc., 1875 South Bascom Avenue, Campbell, CA. [Click here for event listing.](#)

Write Now! – September 22-23, 2023 – Arizona. Desert Sleuths annual workshop and conference. [Click here for more details.](#)

Elk Grove Writers Conference – September 23, 2023 • 7am - 5pm in Elk Gove, CA. A comprehensive program on the craft of writing. [Click here for more info.](#)

Great Valley Book Fest 2023 – October 14, 2023 – Manteca, CA. Capitol Crimes will have a booth at the Great Valley Book Fest. We'll post a sign-up soon for people to work a shift and sell some books so keep an eye out for more information. [Click here for more information about the event.](#)

San Diego SinC – October 15, 2023 @ 2pm – Come to a talk by Gigi Pandian, author of locked room mysteries and more. Gigi is an *USA Today* bestselling and award-winning mystery author, breast cancer survivor, and accidental almost-vegan. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

MWA NorCal – October 21, 2023, 1-2pm at the [Folsom Public Library](#), 411 Stafford Street, Folsom, CA. Join MWA NorCal members Catriona McPherson, Claire Booth, Pat Canterbury, Faye Snowden, and Eileen Rendahl, with James L'Etoile moderating this event. Panelists will have books to sell and sign.

FOLLOW US, LIKE US - JOIN US!



Visit www.CapitolCrimes.org for details.

GOT CONTENT?

Send your press-ready article to: CapitolCrimes@gmail.com
Put “Newsletter” in the subject line. Due by the third week of the month.
We will publish the first Monday of the following month.

SEPTEMBER
2023