

The Purloined Newsletter



A CAPITAL CRIME WRITERS PUBLICATION

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Capital Crime Writers is an organization of writers and editors working in the mystery field, as well as readers who love the genre.

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month to discuss writing and crime. Meetings are suspended in July and August for the summer.

Membership fees are:
\$30 per year,
\$15 corresponding.

Meetings are held in Room 156 at the Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Volume 22, Issue 9—May 2010

Next CCW meeting is May 12, 2010 with Sgt. Jim Killeen of the Ottawa Police Services

We'll be finishing off our program year with a bang ... or a spatter, to be more accurate. Our guest for May is Sgt. Jim Killeen, Bloodstain Pattern Analyst for the Ottawa Police Services. He is currently the only analyst in the Ottawa Police Services, and he will be coming to talk to us about the kind of training required to become an analyst (arduous), the science behind bloodstain analysis, and some of the crime scenes he's been called to. He'll have slides, so this may not be for the faint of heart.

Hope to see you there,
Alex Brett,
Program Committee



The shortlist for the Audrey Jessup Award for best short story was announced April 22 at the Capital Crime Wave event. Maggie Taylor and Joe Italiano were on it, and are pictured here with Katherine Hobbs. Bill Newman, R.L. Brennan and Wynn Quon rounded out the shortlist. Congratulations to all of you! Check p. 6 for more photos of the evening.

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**"Writing is the only
thing that, when I do
it, I don't feel I
should be doing
something else."**

Gloria Steinem

Message from the President - Ken Gibson

April was a good month for CCW and its members.

At our regular monthly meeting, William Bartlett, Senior Counsel with the Criminal Law Policy Section of the Department of Justice, provided us with an energetic, non-stop presentation on the evolution of organized crime in Canada and current legal efforts to fight it.

His presentation was both informative and captivating. I'm sure the audience would have listened for another hour if given the chance. Who says the law is dull?

Capital Crime Wave, held at the Ottawa Public Library on April 22nd, was also a good night for our members. **Brenda Chapman** and **R.J. Harlick** were among four authors interviewed by **Kate Jaimet** from the Ottawa Citizen. The short-lists for Arthur Ellis awards and the Audrey Jessup award were also announced at this event. The Ellis list includes CCW members **Rick Mofina** (Best Short Story), **C.B. Forrest** (Best First Novel) and **R.J. Harlick** (Best Novel). The following are short-listed for the Audrey (alphabetical order by story title):

Fifth Target by **Bill Newman**
Five-Star Exploitation by **Joe Italiano**
Flushed by **Maggie Taylor**
Speedball by **R.L. Brennan**
That's Entertainment by **Wynn Quon**

The winners will be announced at our annual Pub Night on Wednesday, June 2nd at the Clocktower Brew Pub, 575 Bank Street in the Glebe. Thanks to



CCW President Ken Gibson and playwright Arthur Milner at the GCTC on April 24 for CCW's Write Night event, which included a performance of FACTS.

our judges **Melanie Fogel, Alex Brett** and **Sheyna Keces**. And thanks to everyone else who submitted a story.

On April 24th, CCW collaborated with the **Great Canadian Theatre Company** for a night at the theatre. About forty members and their friends attended the presentation of **FACTS** by playwright **Arthur Milner**. The play was preceded by a cocktail party and followed by a Q/A with Mr. Milner. By all accounts it was a successful event and, hopefully, we can arrange similar collaborations in the future.

Don't forget the **CCW Annual Meeting** prior to the next monthly meeting on **May 12th**. A separate email on this subject will be sent to you shortly. We will start with pizza at 6:30, followed by the meeting. Then Sgt. Jim Killeen, Bloodstain Pattern Analyst for the Ottawa Police Services will speak to us on the subject of blood spatter. A nice accompaniment to pizza, don't you think?

Thanks, Ken

From the Editor, Katherine Hobbs



How will we ever top April? Write Night at the GCTC was a highlight for CCW this year. It's fun to try new things in partnership with others in the arts community. Hats off to Kerry

Beckett, the Community Outreach Coordinator at the GCTC. She's a powerhouse — full of ideas and energy to engage people and get them involved with the theatre experience. Playwright Arthur Milner was a delight, and we were honoured as well to have General Manager Nancy Oakley at the reception.

Margaret Dunlop once again presented an incredible spread — you might remember her amazing food at the 20th Anniversary event in November. Well, this time we had sliced stuffed pork tenderloin on toast, salmon mousse on cucumber slices, bruschetta, desserts, fruits, and cheeses. What we didn't eat was sent backstage for the actors — so pretty much everyone in the place was happy that evening (with the exception of Sens fans!)

Ken Gibson was our guide for the evening, and Brenda Chapman delivered remarks, expressing her appreciation for, and the importance of the arts in our community. I asked if I could reprint her words here, and she generously agreed. (See page 4)

But thanks again to Kerry, Nancy, Arthur, Brenda and Ken for this fun evening. It would be wonderful to do it again next season. Kerry has already suggested [Strawberries in January!](#)

And Brenda Chapman had a busy month in April other than her appearance at Write Night. She was interviewed by Kate Jaimet at the Capital Crime Wave event on the 22nd. She did a reading from [Trail of Secrets](#), in her Young Adult series, and one from her new adult book [In Winter's Grip](#) (due out in the fall). We saw the dramatic difference in style involved in writing for different ages. Tom Henighan, author of [Doom Lake Holiday](#) also talked about writing for young adults.

R.J. Harlick took to the stage as well to be interviewed, as did historian Brian McKillop who most recently wrote a biography of Pierre Berton. Kate Jaimet was entertaining and knowledgeable, leading a thoughtful discussion with each author individually. Great format. Then she gathered all four authors on stage for a Q & A.

Finally (insert drum roll here) Sue Pike took to the stage to read out all the shortlisted names for the Arthur Ellis awards. We were able to congratulate Robin Harlick first hand with the announcement of [Arctic Blue Death](#) making the shortlist for Best Novel. And Chris Forrest might have been at home watching the Sens game (the one that seemed to never end) but there was a flurry of Facebook activity the next day congratulating the fact [The Weight of Stones](#) made the shortlist for Best First Novel. Rick Mofina rounded out the list of CCW authors on the shortlist for his short story that appeared in Ottawa Magazine.

Then it was time for CCW's short story contest shortlist announcements. Ken Gibson stood at the podium and revealed the Audrey Jessup award shortlist to cheers and vigorous applause for Bill Newman, Joe Italiano, Maggie Taylor, RL Brennan and Wynn Quon. CONGRATULATIONS. Can't wait to hear the readings from the stories at the June 2 Pub Night.

So how do we top April? Unfortunately it's not with a Sens victory, but we do have blood spatter, pizza and the AGM to give us a good start on May.

See you on the 12th!

Katherine



(l-r) Kerry Beckett, Community Outreach Coordinator, Nancy Oakley, General Manager of the GCTC and me!

CCW's Write Night at the GCTC—April 24, 2010

On April 24th CCW members and friends gathered for a performance of *FACTS* by Arthur Milner, former artistic director of the GCTC. Before the play there was a CCW hosted reception and Nancy Oakley, the General Manager of the GCTC



Author Brenda Chapman giving the opening remarks.

attended, as well as Kerry Beckett, the Community Outreach coordinator who originally contacted CCW about organizing an event around the play.

At the reception CCW author Brenda Chapman spoke, and her remarks follow:

"We are looking forward to a terrific play and chatting with Arthur afterwards. Arthur, you've managed to write about a subject dear to our hearts – cold blooded, senseless murder.

When Katherine asked me if I would say a few words about the importance of

the arts, I began to think about how blessed we are to have such a strong, vibrant arts community in Ottawa and specifically in this neighbourhood.

In addition to the GCTC, we have galleries, like Cube Art Gallery, springing up throughout Hintonburg and Westboro; Westfest; independent bookstores, like Collected Works and Shirley Leishman which consistently support local authors; the Carlingwood and Rosemount libraries; music festivals; bookclubs . . . and then there are our musicians, authors, actors, playwrights, artists . . .

And we are just one community among many throughout the city that are supporting the arts and artists, and creating an environment that fosters creativity in all its forms.

Speaking as a local mystery author, I've been fortunate to have joined Capital Crime Writers about six years ago just before my first book was published. This organization has been so generous in its support of all fledgling Ottawa mystery authors that it hosts events just to gain us a wider audience in the local community. But perhaps the biggest gift they give to members is acceptance. No matter who you are or your level of writ-

ing success, the group accepts and fosters your talent and potential – even if that means plotting new and mysterious ways of killing people.

So if you are like me and skip right to the arts section of the newspaper or rush home from work to finish reading a good book, you understand how the arts enrich our lives daily. In fact, I couldn't imagine a day without music, books, paintings, movies or plays – I mean, what would be the point?

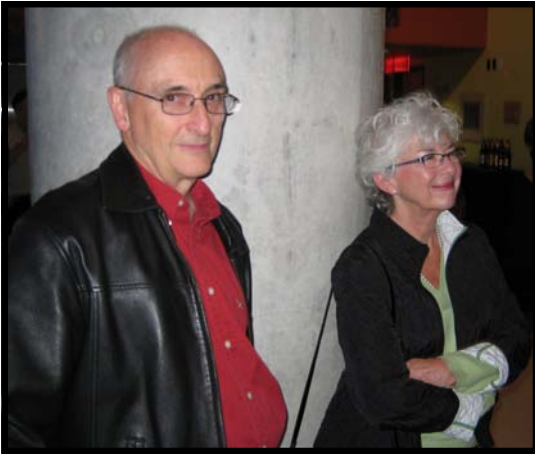
Thanks to all of you who are supporting the arts by your presence here this evening."



(Above) Ken Gibson and Margaret Dunlop (who catered the reception). (Below) Ken and Arthur Milner.



CCW's Write Night at the GCTC, (cont'd)



(L)
Tom Curran
and Suzanne

(R)
Eric Darwin,
Janet
Claridge, and
Darlene Cole.



Following Brenda's remarks playwright Arthur Milner spoke. He talked about his start in theatre — as an actor. Someone had dropped out of a play at the last minute and Milner was drafted to replace him. But as the GCTC evolved and the calibre of acting rose — "I could no longer get parts, and turned to writing," he said, smiling. Since that time not only has he written, but he has directed, and was the former Artistic Director of the GCTC.

FACTS is very clever, with a surprising amount of humour in dealing with the complex subject of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The writing is handled so deftly, you come away with a better, but perhaps different understanding of the conflict. Based on the true story of a murder of an American archeologist, Milner goes on to spin a tale of what is important in solving a crime. Is it the facts? Or are other issues, like culture, history or beliefs, more important?

Milner held a talkback session following the play. He spent time talking about the setting, the ending, and plenty more. This is a play worth seeing, and Milner is giving a number of other talkbacks during its run. If you haven't seen it, check the GCTC site for information.



(Above) Brenda Chapman and Ted, (Right) Deirdre Hart Jaimet and Kate Jaimet, (Below) CCW members and friends listening to the presentations.



Capital Crime Wave Event—April 22, 2010



(Left) Sue Pike announcing the Arthur Ellis shortlist.



(Right) Ken Gibson, R.J. Harlick (shortlisted for Best Novel) and Katherine Hobbs



Ken Gibson provided the Audrey Jessup shortlist on Page 2.

He has also listed the CCW members who are shortlisted for Arthur Ellis awards in his President's message.

(Above:) R.J. Harlick, Brian McKillop, Brenda Chapman and Tom Henighan were interviewed by Kate Jaimet at the OPL April 22.
(Below left:) Michael Murphy of OPL (Centre) Kate Jaimet with Brenda Chapman (Right) Ken Gibson announcing the Audrey Jessup shortlist



The Changing Face of Organized Crime—April Meeting Report

by Brenda Chapman

So you still think organized crime is a swarthy godfather ordering hits and sending horse-head threats to the competition? Well, think again. Department of Justice senior lawyer William (Bill) Bartlett, who works as a senior policy lawyer in the Criminal Law Policy section, enlightened a captivated crowd about the changing face of organized crime during our April meeting.

Bill began by admitting that he'd had some trepidation about speaking to a group "whose members knew many ways to kill people" especially after his long time friend and CCW program chair Tom Curran told him to be "scintillating or else". Not unlike Superman and his red and blue-caped outfit, Bill professed to wearing his lawyer suit to establish that he wasn't to be messed with . . . but by the twinkle in his eye, we quickly knew that he was delighted to be speaking to us about a subject he had dedicated a good part of his career to understanding.

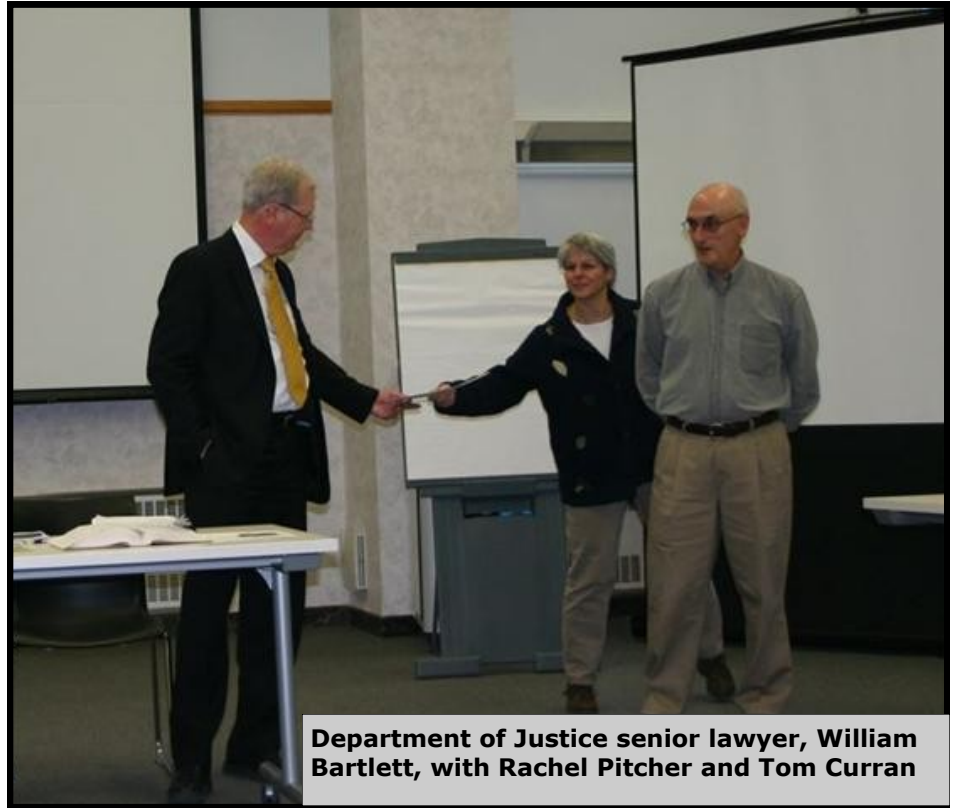
Bill explained that he is not a lawyer who argues cases in court but rather one who meets with police, Crowns and academics to develop policy that ultimately results in changes to Canada's *Criminal Code*. Until 1997 and the passing of Bill C-95, there was no specific law in Canada to address organized crime. This bill was a result of public pressure after a turf battle in Montreal between the Hell's Angels and Rock Machine that resulted in an innocent boy's death in a car bombing. It defined criminal organizations and penalties and was to be a

tool to add to law enforcement's arsenal. Bill C-95 clarified that to be part of a criminal organization, there had to be a pattern of indictable offences by the group within the past five years. Being involved in a criminal organization would be a separate offence from the actual crime but sentences would be served concurrently (i.e., at the same time). The maximum sentence would be 14 years.

Bill C-95 was widely criticized, but it had a positive effect. The biker gangs in Montreal did not like to draw attention to themselves and they came together to make a peace agreement that led to the end of the biker war. All remained calm until September 2000, when lower level gang members shot investigative journalist Michel Auger six times in the back, wrongly believing this would be the way to get on their bosses' good side. Auger

survived, but the higher up gang members were not at all happy that attention had been drawn to their organizations. They ruthlessly disciplined the shooters, but it was too late to quell public concern. As a result of a renewed public outcry, new legislation was drafted and came into effect in 2002.

Bill C-24 is multi-faceted. It deals with intimidation of justice system participants, proceeds of crime and includes new criminal organization provisions as well as a new definition of what constitutes gang activity, including removal of the requirement to show a pattern of activity. Now three or more people can be labelled a criminal organization if they are involved in crime for profit. Three offences are included with the objective of making an offence easier to prove: participating in a



Department of Justice senior lawyer, William Bartlett, with Rachel Pitcher and Tom Curran

The changing face of organized crime—April Meeting Report, (Cont'd) by Brenda Chapman

criminal organization; committing a crime; and, instructing someone to commit an offence that would enhance the ability of the group to function as a criminal organization. While the offences achieve differing levels of success, law enforcement uses them as plea bargaining tools as they pursue the actual crime or attempt to keep people out of criminal activity.

The face of organized crime has changed over time with drug trafficking the driver behind the bulk of criminal organizations. These organizations tend to fall into two widely divergent categories.

Sophisticated gangs operate like businesses with one foot in legal enterprises and the other in illegal activities, such as extortion, money laundering, fraud and smuggling. They are extremely well organized and have access to the best legal and accounting advice available. They are less involved in violence than the gangs of old. There is also a strong international component to these organizations with sophisticated supply routes for activities, such as counterfeiting and trafficking in drugs, humans, guns and tobacco. Different criminal organizations will work together on supply routes, making it extremely difficult for law enforcement, which is bound by rules, to make arrests as goods travel across international borders.

Street gangs are the other end of the criminal spectrum, a growing phenomenon since 2006. These gangs have spontaneous violence and anger at their core. They are not strictly



ethnic- or family-based organizations as in the past. They are becoming more diverse in their make-up, loosely structured and cell-based. They often form around a personality, dissolve and reform. Turf wars erupt as opposing gangs fight for control, sometimes spilling over into the public domain. For example, Edmonton and Calgary have two street gangs: FOB (Fresh off the boat gang) and a splinter gang FOK (Fresh off the boat killers). These typify the often marginalized nature of the members and the search for family and a way out of poverty that draws them into the gang life.

Criminal organizations in Canada remain mainly male bastions. Bill estimated that 800 to 900 separate criminal groups are operating in Canada although the number is difficult to predict with certainty. In any event, thousands are involved in carrying out the criminal activity, which harms the public either directly through violence or indirectly through the tax base and economic loss.

Most interestingly, while crime is on the decrease in Canada, the

public perception is that it is on the rise. For information on the face of organized crime at different points in time, Bill recommended the RCMP's Criminal Intelligence Service's annual public report, which can be found online at:

http://cisc.gc.ca/products_services/products_services_e.html

In addition, numerous RCMP reports on different types of organized crime can be found at:

www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/pubs/index-eng.html

Bill pointed out that for writers, the old style crime syndicates might prove more interesting fodder than today's street gangs or business-based organizations - he definitely provided some intriguing avenues that can be pursued for stories and manuscripts.

We were fortunate to benefit from Bill's extensive knowledge and the glimpse he gave us into this fascinating field.

THE WRITERS' UNION OF CANADA

The Writers' Union of Canada invites you to join us at our Annual General Meeting in Ottawa at 435 Albert Street. Friday June 4 is your chance to listen to and engage in informed discussion on a range of vital and fascinating topics ranging from new media for writers and digital books vs. ink on paper to the role of small presses and can creative writing be taught.

Attendees are welcome to choose four of seven workshops for a one-day registration fee of \$100. You can find a complete line-up of panellists and discussion topics, as well as a registration form on the Union's website at www.writersunion.ca/ww_agm.asp.

Come mingle, network, discuss, and learn with writers from across Canada. Deadline for registration is May 3.

AGM events taking place at the National Library and Archives on Thursday and Friday evening are free and open to the public. Should you wish to attend Hal Wake's lecture The Flowering of CanLit: Can We Keep the Bloom on the Rose? Or Marie-Claire Blais' Margaret Laurence Memorial lecture on The Writer's Life please RSVP at info@writersunion.ca. Descriptions of these events are also on the Union website.

Writing for the Young Adult Market

PRESENTER: Tim Wynne-Jones, Author
DATE: Saturday, May 29, 2010
TIME: 09:00 to 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Algonquin, Bldg. P, Room P-201
COST: \$75.00; CAA members \$45.00
REGISTRATION: Arlene Smith
<somertonsmith@yahoo.com>

Interesting and original characters, lively dialogue, a persuasive narrative voice, a well-turned story. Sounds like a suitable checklist for any kind of fiction writing. But writing for young adults does present really interesting challenges, not the least of which is what exactly is a "young adult" these days? In a daylong, craft-centered workshop, we'll address that question and look at what makes for wonderful in the world of writing for youth. There'll be writing exercises and plenty of time for discussion.

BOOKCROSSING.COM

For any of you who have books piling up and want to provide some publicity for your favourite authors, why not register with Bookcrossing? It's a book sharing program.

You register the books online, write a brief review, get a Bookcrossing number. Put the number on the book with a note about Bookcrossing (They have printable labels on the site or you can hand write them), and then "release them" to the wild. Make an online note as to where you left them, and hope someone finds them, reads them, logs them in, and shares them with someone else.

There's NO charge for any of this, except if you print out the labels. And although you are giving away one book for free, it's good advertising for the author, and the reader may well seek out other books by the same author. Plus you are sharing your delight of reading with the world at large.

The program has been going on for years, with keen followers all over the world. You can even sign up to get a notice of any releases in your area, which lets you go hunting yourself!

AuthorCloud, a web-based publisher singularly focused on four genres -- crime, fantasy, romance, and science fiction is launching this summer.

They've just put up an introductory website www.authorcloud.com designed to convey who and what they are, while providing an easy way for interested authors to share thoughts and suggestions. This is in place as the "real" AuthorCloud site is being developed.

Randy Morse has been a publisher for over 30 years, serves on the national council of the Association of Canadian Publishers, while presiding over the Book Publishers of Alberta. He says "this is the most fun I've had since I waved goodbye to Mel Hurtig in 1979 and started my own house!"

Randy would be delighted to hear from you.
Office: (250) 353-2011
Mobile: (503) 545-8930

Plotting and Scene & Sequel with Sherry Lewis

(<http://www.ottawaromancewriters.com/events/workshops/index.html#LEWIS>)

Sponsored by the Ottawa Romance Writers' Association

DATE: May 2 10am-4pm (lunch not provided)

LOCATION: Ottawa Citizen Building, 1101 Baxter Rd

COST: \$25 guest fee at door. No advance sales. First come, first served.

Two interactive workshops with brainstorming exercises:

Morning: Plotting – teaching authors to start from nothing and end up with a fully plotted book.

Afternoon: Scene and Sequel – GMC, conflict and disaster, and how to use scenes to pace your novel.

An award-winning career writer with more than 25 published books to her credit, Sherry Lewis has taught writing classes both on-line and in person for more than a decade.

www.capitalcrimewriters.com

In May, **Collected Works** is expanding! Help them clear out the old to make room for the new. Until April 30:

20% off paperbacks
30% off hardcovers
40% off gift items
50% off clearance stock

Pre-pay for a special order and pay the sale price (Some restrictions apply)

All are welcome for the following free event: **Jeff Miller Ghost Pine Launch Tour 2010**

Ottawa Launch at Raw Sugar Café with Jennifer Whiteford and Adam Thomlison

May 6, 7:00 p.m. - 692 Somerset St. West rawsugarcafe.com <http://rawsugarcafe.com>

Collected Works Bookstore and Coffeebar

1242 Wellington St. West (at Holland)

Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 3A4

(613) 722-1265

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