

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 1 – September 2009

CCW MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

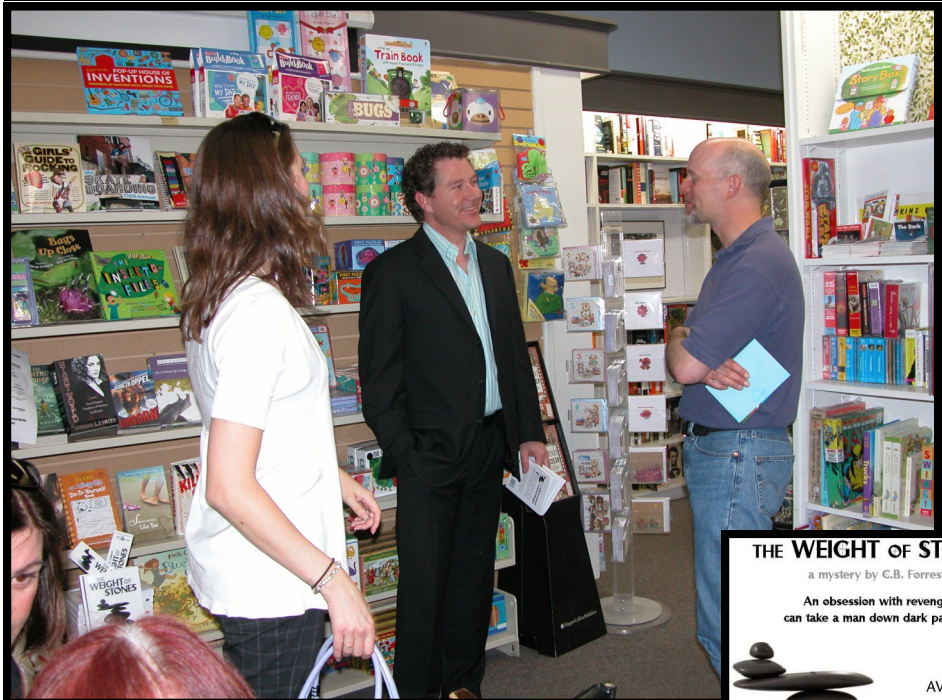
September 9, 2009 at 7 p.m.

Special Guest:

**Cpl. Yves Gravelle—RCMP
Senior Investigator - War Crimes**

The 2009/2010 season starts on September 9, with a visit from one of the senior investigators at the War Crimes unit of the RCMP. Cpl. Yves Gravelle has been working in the unit for more than two years and assigned mostly to African investigations. He has worked extensively on Rwandan genocide suspects.

**See you at the meeting,
Tom Curran,
Program Committee**



In June new CCW member CB Forrest read from his novel The Weight of Stones, published by Rendezvous Press.

THE WEIGHT OF STONES

a mystery by C.B. Forrest

An obsession with revenge
can take a man down dark paths...

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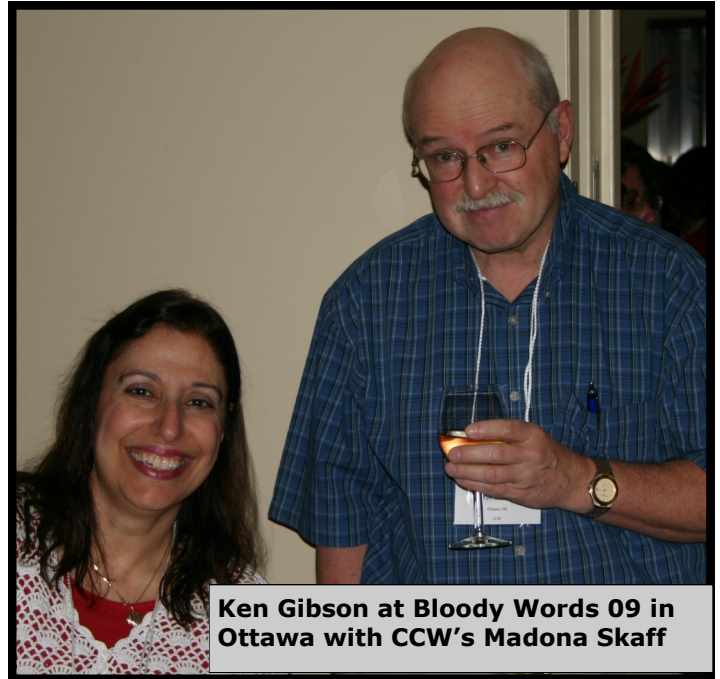
www.capitalcrimewriters.com

Message from the President - Ken Gibson

The 2008/09 CCW season came to an end with our last event, June 24 at the Foolish Chicken on Holland Avenue. A good time was had by all, especially the winners of the Audrey Jessup Short Story contest. As a special prize, Melanie Fogel, editor of the now departed Storyteller Magazine, gave the winners past issues of Storyteller, including two issues with stories by Audrey Jessup.

The fact that Bloody Words 2009 was held in Ottawa this year was a bit of icing on the cake. BW09 was a tremendous success; attended by about 230 registrants, including 40 of our members. It was impossible not to notice that the Bloody Gang who organized the event looked an awful lot like the CCW executive, with Katherine Hobbs at the helm. With a little luck and lot of hard work, Bloody Words may return to Ottawa in 2013.

According to the member survey, most of you felt it was an excellent year. Much of the credit for this belongs to our Program Committee of Bev Panasky, Deborah Gyang and Tom Curran. Bev and Deborah have done their duty after a number of years on the Committee and will be stepping down. We owe them a debt of gratitude. Tom will be taking the lead on the Program Committee and will be joined by Alex Brett and



Wynn Quon. I'm certain they will bring us an excellent program next year.

Speaking of the CCW Executive, the 2009/2010 team will be Brenda Chapman, Past President; Michael Murphy, Vice-President; Katherine Hobbs, Communications; Rachel Pitcher, Finance; Darlene Cole, Membership/Secretary; and myself as President. Tom Curran (Programs) and Michael Murphy will be the new guys on the block.

During this season we will celebrate CCW's 20th anniversary. Plans are in the works for a one-day conference on November 14 that will showcase CCW's published authors. The Ottawa Public Library has agreed to co-sponsor the event, which will be free of charge and open to the public. Planning is in the early stages but stay tuned for further news.

Hope you had a great summer and will be back looking for murder and mayhem starting with the first meeting September 9.

Ken Gibson

**"You can never get a
cup of tea large enough
or a book long enough
to suit me."**

C S Lewis

From the Editor - Katherine Hobbs

This past spring was super busy with the final planning for Bloody Words and, oops, I missed a few editions of The Purloined.



Katherine Hobbs with Denise Mina at Bloody Words 09 in Ottawa

So this issue holds the reports which will catch up the meetings in April, May and June as well as the multitude of events held over the summer — readings, launches, the Arthur Ellis Awards, Bloody Words and the Scene of the Crime mystery conference in Wolfe Island. There are many more events with CCW authors coming up in the fall. You'll find all the listings on page 12.

The CCW website is undergoing a facelift and will be revealed shortly. Thanks Guy Mercier! Don't forget to submit your profile if you want more exposure on the site. Just send a note to Guy. And as always your articles, announcements or stories are always welcome in The Purloined. Please send them to: newsletter@capitalcrimewriters.com. See you in September!

Katherine

From the Membership Secretary— Darlene Cole



Darlene Cole with Peter Robinson at Scene of the Crime Mystery Con, Wolfe Island August 2009

Hello Capital Crime Writer Member,
I hope you have enjoyed the benefits of your CCW membership during 2008/2009. This is a reminder to renew your membership for 2009/2010 (annual membership is from September 2009 to June 2010).

The membership has three classes as outlined in our Capital Crime Writers By-Laws:

Full members pay the full annual dues of the Association and are entitled to all of the privileges of Association, including the newsletter, member website and the opportunity to attend meetings.

Cost - \$30.00

Corresponding members pay fifty percent (50%) of the normal annual dues of the Association and are entitled the newsletter and access to the member website.

Cost - \$15.00

Honorary members do not pay dues but are entitled to the newsletter, access to the member website and have the opportunity to attend meetings. Honorary members may include members of the press or other persons whose membership, in the opinion of the Executive, benefits the Association. Honorary members may not vote or hold office in the Association.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries regarding your membership or to update your postal address or e-mail details. I look forward to hearing from you.

Darlene Cole, Membership, CCW



Pizza dinner prior to the Annual General Meeting, May 2009

Bloody Words 2009—Ottawa



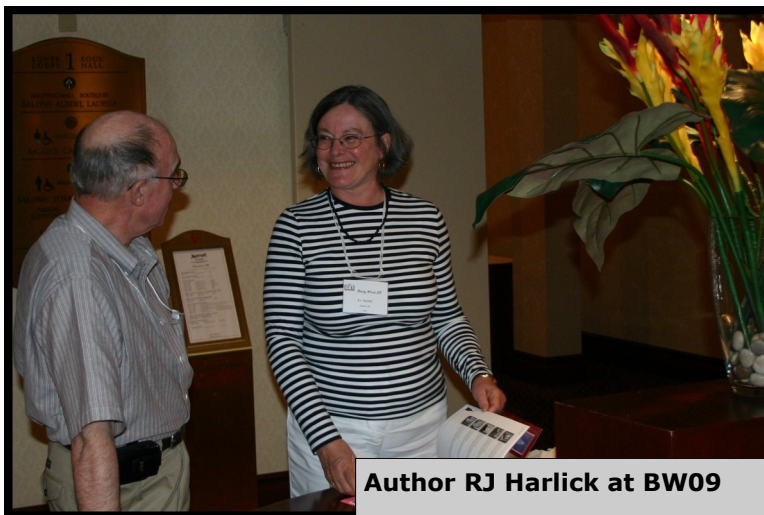
BW MC Mary Jane Maffini with Author David Cole from Syracuse New York. In the background is the tall Deputy Mayor of Ottawa, Doug Thompson, who opened the event.



From l-r: Moderator Sue Pike with panellists CB Forrest, Brenda Chapman, JD Carpenter and GOH Barbara Fradkin at BW09



Authors Rich Blechta and Vicky Cameron at the Arthur Ellis Awards held at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa on June 4.



Author RJ Harlick at BW09



Linda Wiken at BW09

Check out more photos on the Facebook fan page for the "Bloody Words 2009 Mystery Conference." Simply type that string in the search string on Facebook & while there why not sign up as a FAN!



At the Bloody Words Registration desk

Alex Brett at Words & Pages Book Club

By Miranda Dyck

Every summer, the women of the Words & Pages Book Club read a mystery novel from an Ottawa author and invite the author to attend their monthly meeting.

This year we had the pleasure of reading *Cold Dark Matter* by Alex Brett. Ms. Brett, the CCW member, graciously ac-

cepted the invitation to join us one sunny evening in July to talk about her book.

We found Alex's passion for science contagious and had not only an enjoyable, but a very educational evening.

We loved reading *Cold Dark Matter* and cannot wait for her next novel. This evening with Alex was so enjoyable that we can't help but recommend her novels to all of our friends!

We were fascinated to learn not only about the process of writing and about how Alex came to writing novels, but also to learn about the mysterious nature of science.

Within her book, Alex easily explains complex scientific notions, such as dark matter, in simple language that all of us can understand.

In person, Alex spoke of myste-

Scene of the Crime Mystery Conference

It was a hot and steamy day, but overall a fine one to spend in church. Well, two churches actually. Such beautiful venues they were, and the meals (the pie!) fantastic.

Between entertaining and informative sessions with CCW members Barbara Fradkin, Vicki Delany, and Therese Greenwood interviewing Peter Robinson there was even a bit of time to visit the Wolfe Museum.

Winners of the SOTC Short Story contest included three CCW members:

1st Prize: Marianne Miller, "The As-sizes"

2nd Prize: Lucinda Dopson, "Apple Wood"

3rd Prize: **Jane Watson**, "The Trout"

Honourable Mentions:

Ken McBeath, "Gas Chamber"

Bill Newman, "Not to be Trifled With"



On the ferry to SOTC - Bill Newman, Darlene Cole and Brenda Chapman.

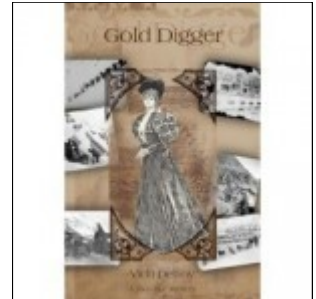
Vicki Delany & Mary Jane Maffini launch new novels

A multitude of fans turned out June 17th for an evening of mystery and mingling as Vicki Delany and Mary Jane Maffini launched their latest novels at the National Archives in Ottawa.

Gold Digger is a Klondike Mystery set in the Yukon by Vicki Delaney, and published by Rendezvous Press. Vicki was resplendent in period-piece millinery which would have been the envy of her protagonist, the ambitious, resourceful, unscrupulous, and (as she says so herself) the most beautiful woman in Dawson, Miss Fiona MacGillvray.



Author Thomas Rendell Curran, pictured above with fellow CCW'ers Brenda Chapman and Ken Gibson, was the gracious moderator for the evening.



Award winning Mary Jane Maffini's latest Charlotte Adams mystery, Death Loves a Messy Desk published by Berkley, treats us not only to a clever mystery to curl up with, but one that boasts an organizing tip in every chapter. These tips will serve to remind us how to make our lives more organized and therefore giving us more time to read!



April Meeting Report: with Trish Dyer and Andrew Seymour of the Ottawa Citizen by Katherine Hobbs

On April 8, 2009 CCW's Trish Dyer had a discussion with Crime Reporter Andrew Seymour which focussed on the experiences of reporters and journalists who cover criminal cases and court proceedings. This was a fascinating discussion, and a real insight into the issues journalists face.

The following is but a small part of what was discussed.

What kind of person becomes a reporter?

Trish and Andrew agreed a reporter must have a certain type of personality to do the job. The attributes of a good reporter are to be:

- fearless,
- smart, and
- adaptable.

Background:

Andrew Seymour is originally from Winnipeg. He did 4 years at Carleton but wanted to do sports, not be a journalist. He always maintained he would not be a reporter and not cover crime, and he would never work for the Ottawa Sun. Initially he wrote for Centertown news. His first published story was seven lines long. It was about a contest to name the RCMP horses. He agonized over it.

The established police reporter left The Ottawa Sun and he became full time in May 2000 till 2007 before switching to the Citizen to be a crime reporter. In September 08 he became the justice reporter for the Ottawa Citizen.

Trish went to Carleton and took a minor in journalism and a major in sociology. A professor told her to switch to journalism. She switched to English lit and dropped out in her 2nd year when she met her husband. In 1981 she wrote about her child on spec and sent it to the Toronto Star. They bought it and offered her a job but she didn't want to move.

"If the prosecutor or defense attorney say they like my story then I wonder what I've done wrong..."

Andrew Seymour

Trish then started covering court cases as a freelancer in Ottawa. She wrote for the Toronto Star as an Ottawa correspondent from 1983 - 1990. Then worked at CBC as investigative producer of investigative documentaries in the 90's.

What Andrew Seymour does:

Andrew is an every day reporter and thus he is expected to have something new everyday. It is mainly self assigned work. He wants to cover everything -- and doesn't like to let anything slip.

Maybe there is no why to a

crime story, but is there is always some interesting back story. "Listen to everything going on in the court," he advises.

Journalists and the police:

Trish: Relating to the police is difficult, but reporters have a responsibility not to impede justice. So they try to not obstruct police but won't be pushed around either.

Andrew: He will leave things out of his story to garner goodwill with police. However he smiled as he said, "If the prosecutor or defense attorney say they like the story I've written then I wonder what I've done wrong."

But one thing a reporter doesn't want to do is be called as a witness in a court case. If you get too involved in the police case you run the risk of turning up evidence that might land you as a witness in court. However police can miss questions and people are more open with reporters. And Andrew always identifies himself as a reporter on phone calls.

However a reporter figuring out elements of a case may cause an officer more legwork. "You just made a lot more work for me today," an officer once told Andrew after reading an interview he'd written up in the paper.

And they run the risk of notifying people that their loved one has died -- and Andrew for one doesn't want to be in that position.

May Meeting Report: Human Trafficking with RCMP Corporal Pierre McLauchlan

RCMP Cpl. Pierre McLauchlan from the Immigration & Passport investigative section in Ottawa, along with a fellow officer, Cpl. Lucien talked about human trafficking; a modern form of slavery that nets billions a year to the perpetrators of the crimes. The extent to which it's happening in Canada as well as other Western developed countries was an eye-opener for all of us in attendance, and the videos shown truly slammed the ugliness and cruelty of this crime home.

Human trafficking differs from human smuggling, which is the clandestine foray across an international border through legal or illegal means. But in smuggling there is an understanding between the two parties.

Trafficking on the other hand is the recruitment and movement or harbouring of a person by means of deception, coercion or force in order to exploit that person through various forms of sexual exploitation or forces labour. They are not free to go upon arrival at their destination. It's a modern day form of slavery. These people are just a material benefit to the traffickers. According to the UN 700,000 women a year are exploited for sexual reason worldwide.

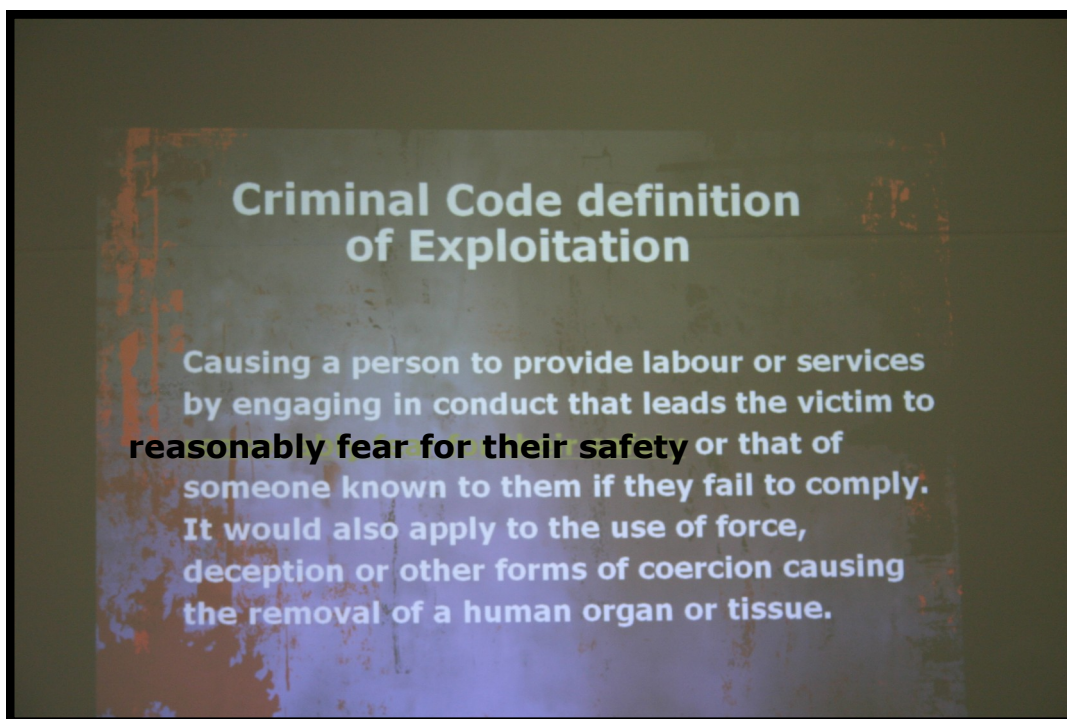
Human smuggling = Voluntary Transaction

Human Trafficking = Exploitation

The victims of human trafficking victims are men, women and children. It's widespread. How much of it is going on? Well, it's tied with illegal arm and falls just behind illegal drugs in popularity.

Circumstances leading to victimization:

- Poverty
- Gender
- Domestic violence
- Low status in family
- Ill formed parents selling their children
- A desire for something better



Process: Recruitment, Transportation or Isolation, Exploitation.

Forms of Control:

- Passports taken
- Threats / Violence
- Physical, sexual and emotional abuse
- Fear of police is exploited

Indicators of slavery:

- Being escorted/watched
- Evidence of control
- Not speaking on their own behalf
- No passport
- Limited knowledge about getting around the community
- Live on or near the work premises
- Lack of private space

May Meeting Report: Human Trafficking with RCMP Corporal Pierre McLauchlan (cont'd)

Lack of personal possessions
Lack of financial records
Frequently moved by traffickers

Physical Indicators:

Injuries / bruises
Brands of scarring to indicate ownership
Signs of torture, i.e. cigarette burns
Malnourishment
Body language = fear

Where are the victims?

Sexual Exploitation victims are in night clubs, strip clubs, modeling studios, and with escort services.

Forced labour victims are in restaurants, agriculture, fishing, and construction. Often these victims consider themselves better off than they would have been in their home countries. So even though they may be

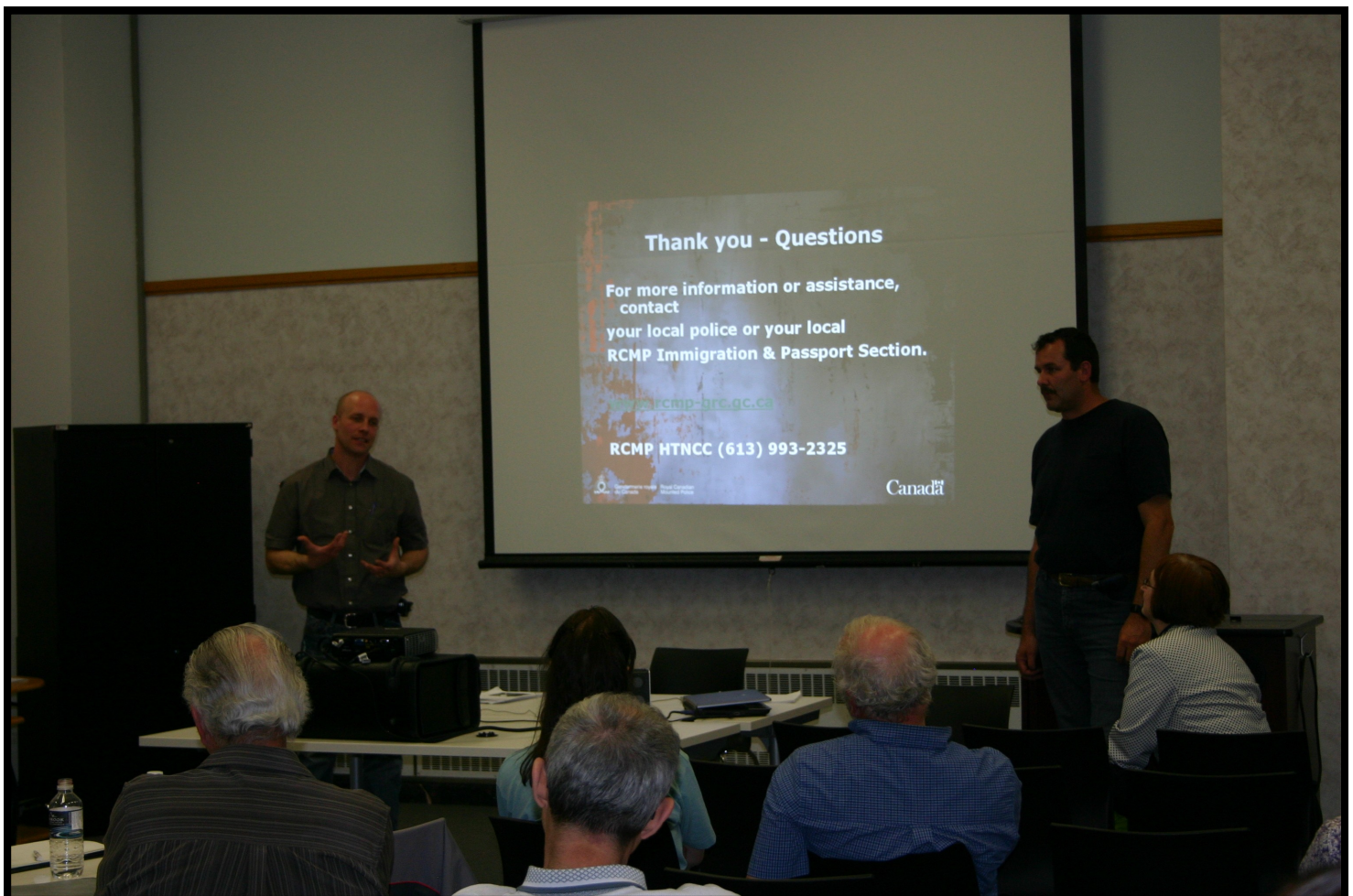
locked in at night, and are not free to go anywhere, they still are happy to have a roof over their heads and be fed.

This crime isn't just perpetuated against those coming in to the country from elsewhere. Local pimps can also perform this crime domestically, forcing a young girl into prostitution and selling her to another pimp.

And then there is the organ removal aspect of the crime...

All in all Human Trafficking is a very nasty business — certainly not a joyful subject to hear about, let alone be an investigator looking into crimes such as these everyday.

And how do the RCMP officers that work on this crime deal with it? "I go home everyday and hug my wife and child," says McLaughlan.



June Meeting Report: PUB NIGHT & the Audrey Jessup Short Story Award



Douglas Shone won a gift bag of books at the June pub night! **The Foolish Chicken** on Holland was our host for the steamy event. The ribs were hot and the room was hotter!



Kate Jaimet won first price for her short story Swisha, presented here (upper right) to her mother, **Deirdre Hart Jaimet** by sponsor **Linda Wiken** of **Prime Crime**. **Mike Strong**, (lower left) won 2nd prize for The Scoreboard. **The Book Stop** sponsored and presented his award.

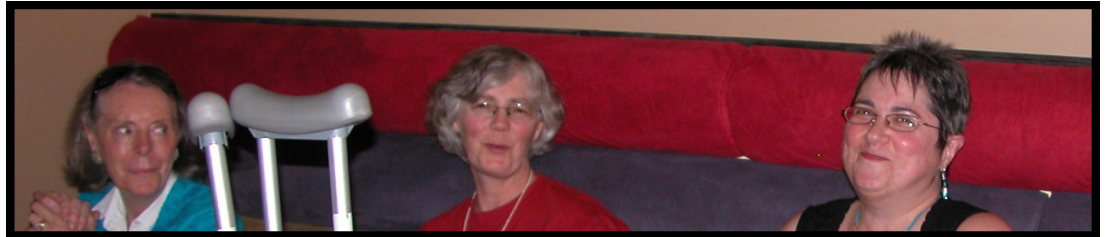
Third place was presented to **Caroline Wissing** (lower right) by **Ken Gibson**, CCW president for her story, Gemini.



June Meeting Report: (cont'd)



Honourable Mentions went to: Nancy Pawelek (Top) for The Incident in Bytown and **Sylvia Braithwaite** (lower right) for Prose and Potions. **Trish Dyer** (upper right) won a gift bag — presented by Darlene Cole.



Capital Crime Writers wishes to extend its thanks to the judges, **Michael Murphy** of OPL and authors **R.J. Harlick** and **Sue Pike**, as well as its generous supporters and sponsors, **Prime Crime Books** and **The Book Stop**.



CCW member **Joe Italiano** (above) doing a reading.



CCW EVENTS!

Friday, September 11th @ 7:00 p.m. - **C.B. Forrest** and **Brenda Chapman** will be reading from their novels at The Lighthouse Bookstore, 349 Main Street, Shawville, Quebec. A signing will follow.

The Kingston WritersFest is featuring Howard Engel and Louise Penny in an onstage conversation moderated by Capital Crime Writer member **Therese Greenwood**. 'It's A Mystery' takes place on **Thursday, September 24** in Kingston ON. The schedule for the four-day festival, which also includes readings, panels and master classes with Margaret Atwood, Michael Crummy, and some of the best writers working in Canada today is online at www.kingstonwritersfest.ca

The Deadly Dames, **Barbara Fradkin** and **R.J. Harlick** invite you to the launch of their latest crime novels, **THIS THING OF DARKNESS** and **ARCTIC BLUE DEATH** on **Thursday, October 8, 2009, 7:00 pm** to 9:00 pm at Library and Archives Canada in the sunken lobby, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa.

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Writing wrongs since 1988

CCW 20th Anniversary Event — Saturday, November 14, 2009

Capital Crime Writers, in partnership with the **Ottawa Public Library**, is hosting a mystery writer event **Saturday, November 14, 2009**, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Main Branch of the Ottawa Public Library, 120 Metcalfe Street as part of its 20th anniversary celebrations.

Local celebrities will read from works by Ottawa mystery writers, including Rick Mofina, Mary Jane Maffini, Barbara Fradkin, C.B. Forrest, Brenda Chapman, R.J. Harlick and Vicki Delany.

A morning workshop for new writers will be led by author Alex Brett while author panels and activities take place in the main auditorium.

Free admission! Door Prizes! FREE LUNCH! And morning coffee break is included too!

Books will be available for purchase from Prime Crime with author signing opportunities.

Registrations will open up to the general public as of September 3. Space is limited and registration is required by e-mailing **secretary@capitalcrimewriters.com** (Note: Please indicate if you wish to participate in the writing workshop.)

For additional information contact **Michael Murphy**, Ottawa Public Library, at 613-580-2424, ext. 32115 or michael.murphy@bibliooottawalibrary.ca