



BOOKSELLERS

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Hours

Monday - Wednesday:

10:30 am - 5:30 pm

Thursday & Friday:

10:30 am - 8 pm

Saturday:

10:30 am - 6 pm

Sunday:

Noon - 4 pm



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Independent Bookstores
for Independent Minds

First anniversary party Saturday, March 13 at 1 pm!

This has kind of snuck up on us. We've been so wrapped up in our day-to-day work that we almost missed the fact that we've hit our first birthday. What a year it's been! I hope that you can join us on Saturday, March 13 at 1 pm, when I'll talk (briefly) about our first year and about independent bookselling generally. Then I'll answer your questions, and we'll have birthday cake.

Thanks to all of you for making this first year so much fun. We've really enjoyed the opportunity to meet all of you, to learn more about what you like in a mystery, and the chance to share with you some of our favorites.

We'd also like to thank all of the authors who took a chance on a new bookstore and made the trip here to do an event with us:

Robert Wilson, Eileen Dreyer, Julia Spencer-Fleming, Stephen Booth, Danuta Reah, Don Hale, Libby Fischer Hellman, William Kent Krueger, John Billheimer, Sharon Short, Liza Cody, Michael Z. Lewin, Peter Lovesey, Garthia Anderson, Tom Cochrun, Susan Crandall, Beth Crawford, Jeanne Dams, Marlis Day, Kit Ehrman, Terence Faherty, Sara Hoskinson Frommer, William J. Palmer, Tony Perona, D.R. Schanker, S.D. Tooley, Sam Hill, Susan Wittig Albert, Chris Wright and Robert Barnard.

It's a pretty incredible list — did we really do all that? — and we look forward to even more in the coming year. (See our spring author event schedule, inside.)

Finally, Jennie and I would like to thank our wonderful staff: Edna, Moni, Sherry and Rebecca. It's been great to work with you!

Inside this newsletter:

- A review of our programs and services
- A preview of our spring author events

Calendar (Author events are listed inside)

Saturday, March 13, 1 pm

Our first anniversary party.

Wednesday, March 24, 7 pm

Discussion: *Bootlegger's Daughter* by Margaret Maron

Thursday, March 25, noon

Discussion: *Bootlegger's Daughter* by Margaret Maron

Thursday, April 15, 7 pm

Carmel Clay Reads discussion. We'll be hosting a discussion as part of Carmel's One City, One Book program. Stay tuned for the unveiling of the selected title, which will take place during a reception at the library on March 25 at 3 pm.

Wednesday, April 28, 7 pm

Discussion: *The Blue Edge of Midnight* by Jonathon King

Thursday, April 29, noon

Discussion: *Thus Was Adonis Murdered* by Sarah Caudwell

OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Join the company!

Mystery Company membership comes with many perks:

- A discount on your purchases that begins at 6% and goes up to 10% for the rest of the year after you spend \$300. Once you reach \$300, your next year's membership is free and your discount remains at 10%.
- While Company memberships are in an individual's name, each member of your immediate family can take advantage of the program. We keep track of memberships here on our computer — no card for you to carry around.
- We take used books only from Company members.
- We'll mail our store newsletter to Company members without charge.
- We keep track of Company member purchases on our computer, and will use this information to let you know when new books by your favorites arrive in the store.

The annual membership charge is just \$6.00. A new membership is free with a single purchase of \$100 or more.

Membership renewals

If you joined when we opened, it's time for you to renew your Mystery Company membership. We'll be mailing renewal notices out shortly. Renewal is always free if you spend at least \$300 each year. We'll let you know if you're close!

Author events

We plan author events to include time for our guests to introduce themselves and their work, for you to ask questions and, of course, for you to buy books and have them signed. While we may change format for special events, remember that our events are intended to be more than just plain signings.

Friends & Neighbors

Company Members can get an early look at forthcoming books through our Friends & Neighbors program. We'll offer a selection of advance reading copies of new mysteries. You may borrow one ARC at a time without charge. All we ask is that you return the ARC with your comments about the book — a sentence, a paragraph (positive or negative) — and that you allow us to use your comments in the store, on our website and in our newsletter. Express your opinions, find out what your friends and neighbors are recommending!

E-mail newsletter

In addition to this paper newsletter, we send out newsy (and opinionated) email updates. The email and this paper newsletter share some contents, but they're not identical. We hope that you'll choose to get both.

If you're not already getting our email newsletters, send an email to news@themysterycompany.com

Discussion groups

We host two monthly discussion groups for mystery lovers. Our evening group normally meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. Our daytime group normally meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at noon.

More often than not, the two groups read the same book and more often than not, we pick books from the Mystery Booksellers Association's 100 Favorite Mysteries list.

Whatever we're reading, we always have fun. Discussions are informal, engaging and entertaining. We always welcome newcomers and we hope you'll join us.

Deadly Destinations

Our Deadly Destinations "travel" service will help you find mysteries set anywhere in the world, and match them up with maps and guidebooks. Tell us where you want to go, and we'll research books and find them for you.

Special orders

We are also an independent bookshop with access to tens of thousands of books and movies in all categories. We are happy to try to special order **anything** for you. In most cases, your Company discount will apply to special orders too.

How we handle used books

We accept used books only from Mystery Company members, who are welcome to drop off one bag or box of used paperbacks or hardcovers at any time. If you have more than one bag or box of books, please call ahead.

We price books individually. Our pricing is based on the book's condition, how common it is and how desirable it is. We offer more for hard-to-find books in excellent condition that many readers are looking for. We will turn down anything that's excessively worn, that we already have in multiple copies or that we deem unsellable.

Generally, we sell used paperbacks at about half of the original cover price — but this varies a lot. Once we determine our selling price, we offer you 40% of it in store credit. You can use the credit to buy anything in the store — new or used.

Because we price books one at a time (and because only Jim does the pricing), we normally can't make you an offer right away. After you drop off your books, we'll get to them within a few days to let you know whether we can take them and how much we can offer for them. You'll then be able to use your credit on your next visit.

Privacy policy

Our privacy policy is strict: we will never sell, rent or otherwise share your information with others. We will use the information only to tell you about new books, and about special store offers (by phone, email and mail)— and nothing else.

SPRING AUTHOR EVENT PREVIEWS

Sunday, April 18, 1:30 pm

The Minnesota Crime Wave hits! Three Minnesota writers who travel together – **William Kent Krueger, Ellen Hart and Carl Brookins** – visit to talk about and sign copies of their books. Krueger has been nominated for the Dilys Award three times for his series about Cork O'Connor. Hart is the author of two series, one featuring restaurateur Jane Lawless and the other featuring food critic Sophie Greenway. Brookins is the author of two novels featuring PR executive Michael Tanner.

Wednesday, April 21, 7 pm

Jonathon King, winner of the Edgar Award for best first novel of 2002 for his book *The Blue Edge of Midnight*, visits to talk about and sign copies of his books, including his new novel, *Shadow Men*, third in his series about Max Freeman, whom Booklist says “may be the most thoughtful, well-read, and multilayered private-eye hero since Spenser.”



Saturday, April 24, 7 pm

Lawrence Block visits to talk about and sign copies of the long-awaited return of Bernie Rhodenbarr, *The Burglar on the Prowl*. (We may move this event to a different location; stay tuned for details.)

Monday, April 26, 7 pm

Julia Spencer-Fleming, winner of the Agatha and Anthony Awards for best first novel of 2002 plus the Dilys Award for her book *In the Bleak Midwinter*, visits to talk about and sign copies of her “novels of faith and murder for readers of literary suspense,” including her latest, *Out of the Deep I Cry*.

Tuesday, May 4, 7 pm

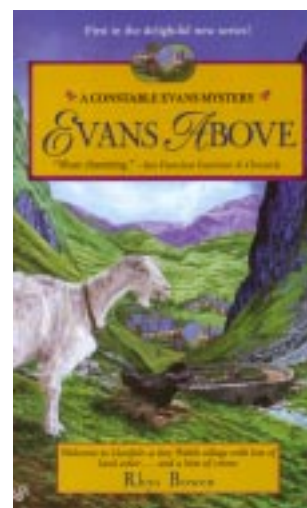
Alan Gordon visits to talk about and sign copies of his medieval mysteries about the Guild of Fools. In his new novel, *An Antic Disposition*, we hear about one of the Guild’s greatest stories: in Denmark, three men lay claim to the throne while a fourth watches and bides his time.



Thursday, May 6, 7 pm

Rhys Bowen and Lyn Hamilton. Bowen is the author of the Evan Evans series, set in “a Welsh village that time forgot,” and the

Molly Murphy series, set in turn of the century New York. First in this series, *Murphy’s Law*, won the Agatha Award for best novel of 2002. Hamilton’s series featuring Toronto antiques dealer Lara McClintoch takes us all over the world, most recently to Bangkok in *The Thai Amulet*, seventh in the series.



Saturday, May 15, 2 pm

Dick Cady, a former Pulitzer-Prize winning reporter for the Indianapolis Star, visits to talk about and sign copies of his first novel, *The Executioner’s Mask*. The book is set here in Indianapolis.

Thursday, May 20, 7 pm

Jeff Marks visits to talk about *Atomic Renaissance*, which is up for this year’s Agatha Award for best nonfiction. The book offers portraits of six women mystery writers of the 1940s and 1950s. Marks is also the author of a series of historical mysteries featuring General Ulysses S. Grant.



Thursday, June 10, 7 pm

Patricia Sprinkle and Julie Wray Herman. Sprinkle’s current series featuring magistrate MacLaren Yarbrough is described as “thoroughly Southern” mysteries; her first series featuring Sheila Travis was also set in Georgia. Herman’s “Three Dirty Women” series is centered around a landscaping company of that name. First in the series, *Three Dirty Women and the Garden of Death*, was an Agatha Award nominee for best first novel.

Saturday, June 19, 1 pm

The Poisoned Pen Posse rides into town! **Kit Ehrman, Judy Clemens and Beverle Graves Myers** – three writers published by the Poisoned Pen Press – visit to talk about and sign copies of their books.

We’re really pleased with this schedule, and we’ll have more details about these events in upcoming newsletters.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Our publishing program

In addition to offering you thousands of titles from publishers large and small, why are we also in the business of publishing mysteries? Because books we admire have fallen out of print, sometimes before readers had a chance to find them. Because we know that you want to be able to read a series beginning with book one. And, most of all, because we want to be able to share these favorites with you. Our first three Mystery Company titles are available now, and more are on the way.



Kill Me Again by Terence Faherty

How do you top your best work? In Hollywood, you make a sequel. That's the plan in 1947 when filming begins on *Love Me Again*, a follow-up to a beloved wartime romance. But the plan is threatened when the screenwriter is accused of being a Communist. Enter Scott Elliott, a former actor and soldier who is struggling to find a place in a changing Hollywood.

First paperback publication of the 1996 novel that introduced the Shamus Award-winning Scott Elliott series.

ISBN: 1-932325-02-6 • 2003 • \$14.00

Hardball by Barbara D'Amato

A bomb explodes, taking the life of Louise Sugarman and injuring reporter Cat Marsala. As a controversial advocate for the decriminalization of drugs and for treating addiction as a medical problem, Sugarman has many enemies. Outraged by

the attack, Cat resolves to find the killer. The investigation forces Cat to confront the issues and the people on both sides of the debate.

This Mystery Company edition restores to print the 1990 novel that marked the debut of the Cat Marsala series.

ISBN: 1-932325-01-8 • 2003 • \$13.00

Chosen for Death by Kate Flora

Her little sister is dead, murdered in a picturesque Maine town. The police have no leads. Her family wants to put it behind them, but Thea Kozak can't let it drop. She's always been a second mother to the child her parents adopted when she was eight. Now there is one last thing Thea can do for her sister: make sure her killer doesn't go unpunished.

Our edition restores to print the 1994 novel that marked the debut of Kate Flora and her Thea Kozak series.

ISBN: 1-932325-00-X • 2003 • \$13.00

