

*Sisters
in
Crime*™

HOTSHOTS!

HEART OF TEXAS Chapter
www.hotxsinc.org



HoTxSinC 2014 Nominated Slate of Officers and Job Descriptions

The Heart of Texas Chapter of Sisters in Crime will have our election at the HoTxSinC December 8, 2013, meeting and all winning candidates will officially start, or continue, as of January 1, 2014.

President: (The Vice-President for Programs is also President-Elect and automatically moves up to this position.)

- * Contact person and spokesperson for HoTxSinC
 - * Presides at meetings
 - * Supports officers and committee chairs
- Nominated: Sue Vertrees

Vice-President for Programs/President-Elect:

- * Plans, implements and provides follow-up for programs for the year
 - * Supports the President as needed
 - * Moves up to the Presidency the next year
- Nominated: Kathy Waller

Treasurer/Membership:

- * Maintains checking account and pays bills
 - * Maintains Membership Directory
 - * Maintains inventory of cups/t-shirts/totebags
 - * Acts as Contact with webmaven Angel Laughlin
- Nominated: Sarah Ann Robertson

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UPCOMING EVENTS

December 8, 2013 – *Holiday Party and Book Exchange* - Join us for lunch at 1:00 p.m. with some of HoTxSinC's Founders and Former Presidents. The Holiday Party and Book Exchange will begin at 2:00 p.m. We will gather to celebrate our past and get to know each other better along with friends who may attend. Please bring a book to share and a dessert – so long as it doesn't smell like almonds... We will look forward to seeing our members as well as non-members who may want to attend.

Sisters in Crime Heart of Texas Chapter, meets monthly on the second Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. at **Mangia Pizza** at 8012 Mesa Drive, Austin. Mangia is located in the Mesa Plaza Shopping Center at the northwest corner of Mesa Drive and Spicewood Springs Road, between Mopac/Loop 1 and 360/Capital of Texas Highway.

Sisters in Crime is an international organization of women and men whose mission is to promote the professional development and advancement of women crime writers to achieve equality in the industry. Speakers include published mystery authors and technical experts who help writers craft better mysteries and readers enjoy what they read. Meetings are free and open to all. For more information, check out the Sisters in Crime website at www.hotxsinc.org.

Coming in 2014...

January 12 - Adrienne DeWoolfe - Publicist

February 9 - TBA

March 9 - TBA

April 13 - Joan Upton Hall and Russ Hall 'How to Write a Mystery'

May 18 - Barbara Burnett Smith
Aspiring Writers Event

The 2014 HoTxSinC dues are due
January 1, 2014

Nominated (con't.)

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Publicity:

- * Maintains publicity contact lists for monthly meetings and special events
 - * Issues News Releases for monthly meetings and special events
 - * Distributes HOTSHOTS! and other information of interest to members
- Nominated: Joyce Arquette

Newsletter Editor of HOTSHOTS!

- * Solicits articles and items of interest for members
 - * Works with officers to include announcements
 - * Produces monthly newsletter
- Nominated: Bill Williams

Historian

- * Maintains collection of items showing the history of HoTxSinC
 - * Accepts new items
 - * Presents reports as requested
- Nominated: Anna Castle

Library Coordinator

- * Houses and maintains the book collection and accepts new books as offered
 - * Keeps the website updated as to contents of the collection
 - * Provides reviews of the books for the membership
- Nominated: Pamela Jennifer Farley

Barbara Burnett Smith Aspiring Writers Project Coordinator:

- * Coordinates Call for Aspiring Writers, Call for Mentors, Aspiring Writer/Mentor Matches, Barbara Burnett Smith Aspiring Writers Event, Publicity
 - * Provides reports as requested
- Nominated: Sarah Ann Robertson 

November Meeting Recap

At our November meeting, Kathy and Bob Wernly led us in a real-time demonstration of 'Self-Publishing' on Amazon, uploading Joyce Arquette's novel THE SUNDOWNER.

Kathy and Bob discussed the preparation work that had to be performed in advance which included:

- The book must be:
 - Single-spaced
 - No spaces between paragraphs
 - No tabs
 - Use Control/Enter to create page breaks.
 - The most common font is Garamond 14 or 16.
- Photos and tables must be saved as JPEGs and inserted into text.
- The book must include a cover page, publishing note and Table of Contents.
- The cover must:
 - Look good both full-size and as a thumbnail.
 - Have good color.
 - Represent the novel.
 - Have legible font size.
 - Include spine decoration with book title and author name.
 - Leave a white square for ISBN/International Standard Book Number and pricing.
- Be professional looking with:
 - Correct spelling and punctuation.
 - Multiple proof-readings.
 - Have competitive pricing.

The Wernlys provided the following price information from a New York Times June, 2013, survey:

80,000 words
26% - \$4.99
19% - \$5.99
13% - \$7.99
12% - \$6.99

Kathy & Bob discussed several online venues
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November Recap (con't.)

from page two

that offer self-publishing to authors, and then led HoTxSinC members through Amazon's steps which include::

Go to www.authorcentral.amazon.com and join.

Create your Author Profile

Create Space

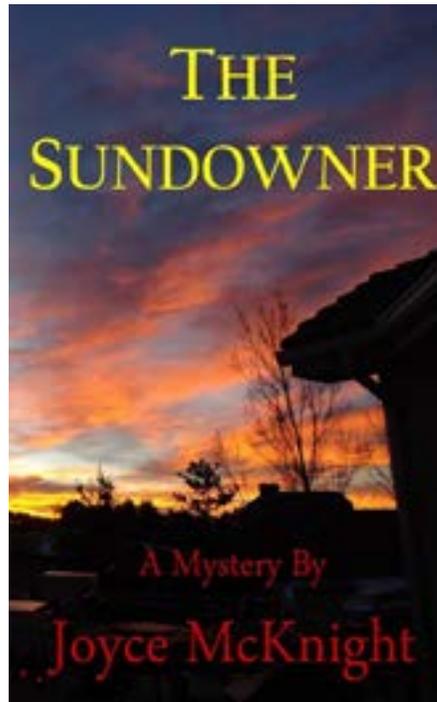
By the end of the meeting THE SUNDOWNER was published on Amazon in e-format, and Joyce had ordered the paperback edition. It was posted for sale in the Kindle Store. The book is live and getting rave reviews.

THE SUNDOWNER by Joyce Arquette

In 1963, Kerrville was a quiet country town where anyone who had lived there for more than a few years knew everyone and was known by everyone. Gossip floated freely and there was very little

crime... at least until a vibrant young woman was found murdered at the bottom of the lake. There were many viable suspects although none really had a motive. The two deputies from the Kerr County Sheriff's office who were assigned to the case

were long-time residents. It was assumed that they would quickly solve the case so Kerrville could continue to be the quiet, crime-free, retirement town it had been for so many years. ❤️



Also at our November meeting, Kathy & Bob Wernly provided a list of some of the websites useful to indie publishers. Here is that list.

www.authorcentral.com

to put your book on Amazon Kindle

www.createspace.com

for print-on-demand books

www.kboards.com

everything Kindle and Indie Author hangout

www.goodreads.com

alternate publishing source and reader support site

www.smashwords.com

alternate publishing source

www.naturalreaders.com

for a free text to speech Auto Reader

www.bowker.com

for ISBN numbers

www.dreamstime.com

for royalty-free photos to be used on covers

www.godaddy.com

website hosting and creation service

www.dmicpub.com

conversion from print to e-book if you don't have the files



"The most important things are the hardest to say. They are the things you get ashamed of, because words diminish them -- words shrink things that seemed limitless when they were in your head to no more than living size when they're brought out. But it's more than that, isn't it? The most important things lie too close to wherever your secret heart is buried, like landmarks to a treasure your enemies would love to steal away. And you may make revelations that cost you dearly only to have people look at you in a funny way, not understanding what you've said at all, or why you thought it was so important that you almost cried while you were saying it. That's the worst, I think. When the secret stays locked within not for want of a teller but for want of an understanding ear."

--Stephen King, *Different Seasons*

Wernlys Honored At Miami Book Fair

Bob and Kathy Wernly were awarded two Readers' Favorite Awards at the Miami Book Fair on November 24th. Kathy won a Bronze Medal for her adult suspense novel *After Midnight* (under the pen name of Kathy Clark). *After Midnight* is book #1 of her popular Denver After Dark series and has also been named as the



Best Indie Suspense Book of 2013. Bob and Kathy, writing under the pen name Bob Kat, also won a Silver Medal for *BRB*

(*Be Right Back*), which is book #2 of their young adult time travel mystery series. The first book of that series *OMG (Oh My God)* was named as the Best Indie Young Adult Book of 2013. They are currently working on the next books in both of these series as well as having just published *Baby Daddy*, the first book in their new adult romantic suspense series Scandals. ❤️



The Barbara Jordan Media Awards

The annual Barbara Jordan Media Awards program from the Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities is presented in several different categories, including TV or Print Feature, Internet, Book, Photojournalism, etc. There is NO FEE for entries.

The Barbara Jordan Media Awards seek to spotlight writers who portray people with disabilities in a respectful, positive manner. It is our belief that journalists and authors help shape our culture and our perceptions; well-produced, creative stories showing a person with a disability as a person first benefits us all.

Deadline for submissions is January 15, 2014 for stories produced, published and/or distributed in Texas in 2013. For more information and Submission Guidelines and Entry Forms, please visit- http://governor.state.tx.us/disabilities/awards/barbara_jordan_media_awards ❤️



NEWSLETTER DESIGN BY
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