

*Sisters
in
Crime*



Heart of Texas
Chapter
www.HoTXSinC.org

HOTSHOTS!
August 2008

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Sisters in Crime is an international organization of women and men whose purpose is to promote mysteries written by women and to combat discrimination against them. 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

Please join us on
Sunday, August 10, 2008
beginning at **2:00 PM**
for our
Annual Indoor Picnic/Potluck
at the home of Dave and Kathy Ciambrone*

Featuring a presentation by
George Wilhite
Author of the *Texas Rodeo Murder*
Motivation: What It is, What it Isn't,
How We Lose it, and How We Get It Back



George Wilhite, author of *The Texas Rodeo Murder*, teaches writing classes at Texas State Technical College, McLennan Community College, and Baylor University in Waco. His short stories have appeared in two anthologies, *Fedora III*, an anthology of private eye stories, and *INSIGHTS*, an international anthology. Others have appeared in *American Western Magazine*, *ShadowKeep*, and *Rio Grande Review*. Another is under consideration for a TCU anthology of West Texas fiction.

A journalist for more than 20 years, he was also editor of *Rodeo News* magazine and publisher of *Texas Rodeo* magazine.

George is a former rodeo contestant (bareback broncs and bulls), a rodeo clown and bullfighter, and was one of the 43 rodeo clowns inducted en masse into the **Cowboy Capital Walk of Fame** at the 2004 Rodeo Clown Reunion in Stephenville, TX.

*For directions to the Ciambrones' house and the day code for the security gate, please contact Micqui Miller at micquim@earthlink.net

Upcoming Chapter Programs

(For more program previews, please turn to Page 2)

September 14 - Mike Cox will speak on *The Texas Rangers: Wearing the CincoPeso, 1821-1900*

October 12 - HoTxSinC Member Marcia Spillers, will present a program on screenwriting.

November 9 - Gary Payne will present a program about the Capitol City Mystery Players

December 14 - Author Woody Falgoux will present a program on *The Book Marketing Pyramid: Product, Publicity & Distribution*

January 11, 2009 - Orange, TX Chief of Police Sam Kittrell will present *CSI Mayberry: Big city policing in small town America*.

September Spotlight Member

Author **Diane Fanning** will be spotlighted in the September edition of **HOTSHOTS!**



News and Announcements

Our thanks to Kimberly Elcess and Jennifer Old

We're sad to report that our **Library Coordinator Kimberley Elcess** has moved. We will miss her and want to thank her for her exemplary service to the chapter, and send our best wishes for happiness in her new home.

As difficult as it is to say goodbye to Kimberley, we are delighted to announce that **Jennifer Old** has graciously agreed to serve as our new Library Coordinator.

In her new position, Jennifer will house and maintain the 25 book collection and accept new books as offered; notify our fabulous **Webmaven, Linda Bingham**, of updates to contents of the collection, and lastly, provide reviews of the books for the membership.

Thank you, Jennifer, for volunteering to take over this very important benefit of chapter membership.

Upcoming Chapter Programs

(Continued from Page 1)

February 8 - Renowned Forensic Artist

Lois Gibson, named in the Guinness Book of Records as the World's Most Successful Forensic Artist.

March 8 - Author **Vallie Fletcher Taylor** will present *Putting the Paranormal in Your Mysteries*.

April 12 - Author **Micqui Miller** will lead a panel discussion on e-books, entitled, *Go Green! Read (or Write) an e-Mystery and Save a Tree!*

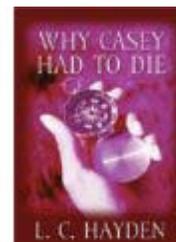
2009 Texas Mystery Month

May 10 - T.B.D.

May 17 - **Barbara Burnett Smith** **Aspiring Writers Event**

Applause, please!

Lillian Cauldwell, Passionate Internet Voices Talk Radio says, "Look out Nora Roberts, here comes L.C. Hayden. **Why Casey Had to Die** is a twisted, roller coaster murder mystery ride that will take you over the river and through the woods before the reader ever understands who's going down and why. Five stars."



Is it any wonder why Agatha Finalist for Best Novel, **Why Casey Had to Die**, was selected by Pennsylvania as one of their Top 40 Picks? The large print edition will be released Sept. 17.

Visit L. C. Hayden at <http://lchayden.com> for more information, and be sure to look for the October 2008 edition of **HOTSHOTS!** when L. C. Hayden is our Spotlight Member.

Out and About with Our Members

Diane Fanning Signings



Diane Fanning, author of *The Trophy Exchange*, will sign copies of her books on **Saturday, August 9**, at 2 pm, at Barnes & Noble Hill Country Galleria, 12701 Hill Country Boulevard in Bee Cave, and on **Saturday, August 16**, at 2 pm, at Barnes & Noble La Frontera Village, 2701

Parker Road in Round Rock at the intersection of IH 35 and SH-45.

The Trophy Exchange: A Lucinda Pierce Mystery (Severn House Publishers, 2008) is a fast-paced thriller introducing an unforgettable heroine- Homicide Investigator Lucinda Pierce is physically and emotionally scarred by her job. She is angry and bitter, but her life is her work. Lucinda gets sent to investigate the brutal killing of Dr. Kathleen Spencer. There seem to be links with other dead women: could it be the work of a serial killer? And will Lucinda be able to solve it or has she become too emotionally involved this time?

Weslynn McCallister Writing as Jamie Cortland

Thursday, August 21,
7:15 AM EDT/6:15 AM CDT

Weslynn will be interviewed on the **Frank Truatt Morning Show** WTBC, Warwick, NY



Beat the Heat with Mystery and Comedy at Spaghetti Warehouse!

We warmly invite you to join the Capital City Mystery Players at Spaghetti Warehouse for a BRAND NEW comedy whodunit with dinner. The show is *How to Murder a Millionaire*, a hilarious show within a show in which a wealthy bachelor goes on a cheesy game show to find a bride. You'll laugh yourself silly while enjoying a delicious three course Italian meal.

Show dates are August 2, 9, 16 and September 6, 13, 20. The evening starts at 7 and the price for dinner AND show is still only \$29.95 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Call 404-9123 for reservations.

(Note: on November 9, Gary Payne will present a program to our chapter about the Capitol City Mystery Players.)

**Bookshop
HOTSPOTS!**



**In September, we will spotlight
Margarite Holt
Owner
Hill Country Bookstore
Georgetown**



THE UN-COMFORT ZONE with Robert Wilson

What's Pushing Your Buttons?

What motivates you? That's the question I'd like to ask in this inaugural column on motivation. Are you motivated by fame, fortune or fear? Or is it something deeper that fans the flames inside of you.

Perhaps you are like Jeanne Louise Calment whose burning desire enabled her to do something that no other human being has done before, a feat so spectacular that it generated headlines around the globe, got her a role in a motion picture, and landed her in the *Guinness Book of World Records*. A record that has yet to be beaten.

Jeanne Louise, however, did not initially motivate herself. It was someone else who drew the line in the sand. But, it became a line she was determined to cross.

In motivation we talk about getting outside of one's comfort zone. It is only when we are uncomfortable that we begin to get motivated. Usually to get back into our comfort zone as quickly as possible.

Born into the family of a middle-class store owner, Calment was firmly entrenched in her comfort zone. At age 21 she married a wealthy store owner and lived a life of leisure. She pursued her hobbies of tennis, the opera, and sampling France's famous wines.

Over the years she met Impressionist painter Van Gogh; watched the erection of the Eiffel Tower, and attended the funeral of Hunchback of Notre Dame, author, Victor Hugo.

Twenty years after her husband passed away, she had reached a stage in life where she had pretty much achieved everything that she was going to achieve. Then along came a lawyer. The lawyer made Jeanne Louise a proposition. She accepted it. He thought he was simply making a smart business deal. Inadvertently he gave her a goal. It took her 30 years to achieve it, but achieve it she did.

(See The Un-Comfort Zone - Continued on Page 4)

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Are you willing to keep your goals alive for 30 years? At what point do you give up? Thomas Edison never gave up, instead he said, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."

Winston Churchill during the bleakest hours of World War II kept an entire country motivated with this die-hard conviction: "We shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches... in the fields and in the streets... we shall never surrender."

Many of us give up too soon because we set limits on our goals. Achieving a goal begins with determination. Then it's just a matter of our giving it attention and energy.

When Jeanne Louise was 92 years old, attorney François Raffray, age 47, offered to pay her \$500 per month (a fortune in 1967) for the rest of her life, if she would leave her house to him in her will.

According to the actuarial tables it was a great deal. Here was an heir-less woman who had survived her husband, children, and grandchildren. A woman who was just biding her time with nothing to live for. That is until Raffray came along and offered up the "sucker-bet" that she would soon die. It was motivation enough for Jeanne, who was determined to beat the lawyer. Thirty years later, Raffray became the "sucker" when he passed away first at age 77.

When asked about this by the press, Calment simply said, "In life, one sometimes makes bad deals." Having met her goal, Jeanne passed away five months later. But on her way to this end, she achieved something else: at 122 years old, she became the oldest person to have ever lived.

In future articles we'll examine further the ways in which motivation works. How to motivate ourselves, our employees, customers, volunteers, friends, loved ones and children. I would like your feedback on which of these areas of motivation are of most interest to you. I'd also like to hear your stories of how you may have overcome adversity and what pushed you to go the distance. Please email me with your suggestions and stories at robert@jumpstartyourmeeting.com.

Robert Evans Wilson, Jr. is a motivational speaker and humorist. He works with companies that want to be more competitive and with people who want to think like innovators. For more information on Robert's programs please visit www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com.

REMINDER: The Ciambrones have graciously agreed to host this year's Indoor Picnic Potluck/August Chapter Meeting on August 13.

Directons to the Ciambrone residence and the day code for the gate is available upon request. Please contact Micqui Miller at micquim@earthlink.net.



**FRIDAY,
AUGUST 22, 2008**
is the deadline for News,
Announcements and Submissions
for the
SEPTEMBER 2008 edition of
HOTSHOTS!

Send all information, including digital copies of book covers and photos, to Micqui Miller at micquim@yahoo.com. Your comments and suggestion are always welcome.