



Issue 3

March 31, 2008

The Quill

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I am happy to announce (and I'm sure many of you are happy to read) that The Quill will have

It's Carrie McCray Literary Competition time!

The submission guidelines are the same at last year's, but the prizes just got a lot bigger!

Prizes for each category of the Carrie McCray Literary Competition will be awarded as follows: First Place - \$500.00 and the winning entry will be professionally reviewed. Second Place - \$100.00 An Honorable Mention certificate in each category will also be presented.

Presentation of awards will take place at the October conference.

Eligibility: Work must be original and unpublished, except for works published in The Quill. First-place winners for 2007 are not eligible to submit in the category in which they won. Works submitted to the 2008 SCWW anthology and works by faculty members are also ineligible. Format: Short fiction, novel (first chapter), non-fiction and play and screenwriting (beginning scene) all have a maximum word count of 4,000 words. Poetry submissions have a maximum of 40 lines. There is no minimum for any category.

All entries must be typed. Prose must be double-spaced. The author's name, address, phone number, e-mail address and the title of the entry must appear on a separate cover sheet. Each page should include the title and page number. The author's name may appear only on the cover sheet. Entrants failing to comply with the above guidelines may have their work disqualified at the sole

an official publication date the 20th of each month, starting with the April edition.

In order for this to work, there will be a content deadline of the 15th of each month to be considered for that publication.

Is there something going on in your chapter? Did you have a really great tip you'd love to share? Do you have a question and you're hoping other SCWW members might have some insight? Send a submission to carriemccullough@bellsouth.net

And the conference folks will be sending lots of updates as the October conference approaches.

Until your questions start pouring in, I offer this as food for your self-publishing thoughts:

ShelfAwareness recently listed this tidbit from the Wall Street Journal:

Amazon has notified publishers who print books on demand that they will have to use Amazon's POD facilities if they want to sell their books directly on Amazon.com.

"The move signals that Amazon is intent on using its position as the premier online bookseller to strengthen its presence in other phases of bookselling and manufacturing," the Journal continued. Amazon "has evolved into a fully vertical book publishing and retail operation. Most recently, Amazon acquired audiobook seller Audible Inc. Amazon also sells its own ebook reader called the Kindle."

Publishers will have to use Amazon's BookSurge POD subsidiary.

discretion of the contest coordinator.

To enter: After you have completed the registration process, send four copies of each entry and a cover sheet to:
Carrie McCray Literary Awards
Kim Blum-Hyclak
1315 Treetop Drive
Lancaster, SC 29720
Deadline: September 1st, 2008

Conference 2008 Update

This just in from our conference fearless leader -- Susan Boyer:

It's only March, but planning for this year's conference is in high gear. I'm happy to report that we had enough volunteers to fully staff the conference within two days of last month's *Quill*, and have started a waiting list. Thank you so much, everyone, for your support and enthusiasm!

There is so much information to share about the conference that we can't possibly get it all into one issue of *The Quill*, so, much like last year, each month we'll feature one part of the conference.

Please don't read anything into the order in which we present the information. If we highlight Science Fiction and Fantasy the first month, it does not mean that the conference will have a Sci-Fi/Fantasy focus. In fact, we have gone to great lengths to make sure that the conference has something for as many areas of interest as possible. Our membership has a wide variety of writing interests, and we want to offer a full curriculum for all of our members!

Basic Info: As Carrie has previously reported, this year's conference will be held on October 24-26, with early arrivals on Thursday the 23rd for those attending the Friday intensive workshops. We're back at The Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort, and they have expanded their conference facilities, so we have even more room to spread out. Room rates are the same as last year's (\$97 for Hilton rooms). The Royale Palms rooms and condo rates will be going up. We were able to take advantage of our group discount on top of introductory rates last year. This year we will get a group discount, but the introductory rates are no longer in effect. Royale Palms rates for 2008 are: 1BR - \$109; 2-BR - \$199; 3-BR - \$249.

We'll profile individual faculty members throughout the year, starting this month with our keynote speaker, Michael Connelly, and toastmaster, Lee Goldberg.

All of the conference information will be posted on the Web site very soon. In the meantime, please call or email if you have questions. (864) 834-8164 / (864) 901-2378 susanmboyer@gmail.com or conference@myscww.org.

All about Michael and Lee

Michael Connelly
<http://www.michaelconnelly.com>

Happy reading and writing!

While he was attending the University of Florida, Michael Connelly decided to become a writer after discovering the books of Raymond Chandler. He chose a major in journalism and a minor in creative writing. Time would prove he'd major in and become a master of both.

After graduating in 1980, he worked at newspapers in Daytona Beach and Fort Lauderdale, primarily on the crime beat, during the height of the wave of murder and violence that rolled over South Florida during the so-called cocaine wars. Then, in 1986, he and two other reporters spent several months interviewing survivors of a major airline crash. Their story on the crash was short-listed for a Pulitzer Prize for feature writing, and it raised Connelly's profile as a first-rate journalist. Talent doesn't sit idle for long, and soon after, Connelly headed west to Los Angeles — to Raymond Chandler's Los Angeles — where he landed a prized job as a crime reporter at the Los Angeles Times.

There's no way he could have known then just how fateful a move this was. Just three years into the job covering crime in L.A., Connelly set to work on *The Black Echo*, the first of many novels to feature LAPD detective Hieronymus "Harry" Bosch. Published in 1992, the book won an Edgar Award for Best First Novel and raised Connelly's profile again, this time as a first-rate author. His debut novel was partly based on a crime that occurred in Los Angeles around the time of his early days at the Los Angeles Times.

Connelly followed up his first novel with three more Harry Bosch books, *The Black Ice*, *The Concrete Blonde*, and *The Last Coyote*, before going on to write *The Poet* in 1996 — a thriller with a newspaper reporter as a protagonist. In 1997, he returned to Bosch with *Trunk Music*, and in 1998, he offered fans another nonseries thriller, *Blood Work*. It was inspired in part by a friend's heart transplant and the attendant survivor's guilt he experienced, knowing that someone had to die in order that he could live. Connelly had witnessed this response before in the survivors of the plane crash he had written about years before. *Blood Work* was released in 2002 as a major motion picture directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. Even though Eastwood made significant changes to the plot, it still made Connelly's day to have worked with one of his longtime idols.

He then went on to write *Angels Flight* (1999), the nonseries novel *Void Moon* (2000), about a high-stakes Las Vegas thief, and *A Darkness More Than Night* (2001), which united Harry Bosch with Terry McCaleb from *Blood Work* and was named one of the Best Books of the Year by the Los Angeles Times. And then there were two in one year: *City of Bones* (2002) and the stand-alone thriller *Chasing the Dime*, which was also named one of the Best Books of the Year by the Los Angeles Times. *Lost Light* (2003) followed and was the first Bosch book written from the first-person perspective. *The Narrows* (2004), which revealed Connelly's unfinished business with the villain in *The Poet*, was his tenth Bosch novel.

In 2005, Connelly brought out two #1 bestsellers: his eleventh Bosch novel, *The Closers* (May 2005), and *The Lincoln Lawyer* (October 2005), his first-ever legal thriller, both debuting at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list.

In 2006, Michael Connelly had three offerings: His first nonfiction book, *Crime Beat: A Decade of Covering Cops & Killers*, was published in May 2006. Connelly's twelfth Harry Bosch novel, *Echo Park*, was released in October 2006, and recently won a Los Angeles Times Book Prize in the Mystery/Thriller category. And the serialization of *The Overlook*, an original Harry Bosch novella, was published in the New York Times Magazine's "Funny Pages," and ran every Sunday for 16 weeks. Michael rewrote *The Overlook* as a novel (May 2007) with new, never-before published material. His next novel, *The Brass Verdict*, will be published in October 2008, and features both Harry Bosch and Mickey Haller from *The Lincoln Lawyer*.

Connelly's books continue to win numerous awards. While Harry Bosch continues to live in and solve cases in L.A., Connelly now resides with his family in Florida.

Lee Goldberg

<http://www.leegoldberg.com/>

Lee Goldberg is a two-time Edgar Award nominee whose many TV writing and/or producing credits include *Martial Law*, *SeaQuest*, *Diagnosis Murder*, *The Cosby Mysteries*, *Hunter*, *Spenser: For Hire*, *Nero Wolfe*, *Missing* and *Monk*.

He's also the author of *My Gun Has Bullets*, *Beyond the Beyond*, *Successful Television Writing*, *The Man With the Iron-On Badge* and the *Diagnosis Murder* and *Monk* series of original mystery novels.

He has led TV writing seminars all over the United States, as well as Edmonton, Madrid, Cologne, Frankfurt, and Stockholm, consulted for studios and broadcasters in Germany, Sweden, and the Netherlands, and has taught at UCLA Extension.

He currently serves on the board of directors of the Mystery Writers of America and is the co-founder of the International Association of Media Tie-in Writers.

Beaufort member to lead poetry workshop

Partnering with the South Carolina Poetry Initiative's Poets on the Job series, which has placed poets in over twenty-five sites throughout the state of South Carolina, Magnolia Plantation and Gardens is proud to announce the appointment of Karen M. Peluso as its inaugural Poet-In-Residence. Be it presenting writing seminars for adults, poetry field trips for children, or gleaning information for a forthcoming collection of poems that will include stunning photographs that highlight one season passing into another, Karen will constantly be drawing upon the Garden's rich history and visual beauty. Karen Peluso's photographs and poetry have won multiple awards, and her chapbook, *The Mother-Face in the Mirror*, was selected for the 2006 South Carolina Poetry Initiative's Chapbook Series.

Karen will lead a poetry workshop for adults from 2 to 3:30 p.m. this Saturday.

The gardens' beauty and history that have inspired artists for over 300 years will be the stimulus for students' poetry. Poems by Mary Oliver, Pablo Neruda and others will be discussed. Karen will then lead participants to write their own poetry. Students are encouraged to arrive early, if possible, to explore the gardens before class, or to take the Nature Train or boat tour (additional fees: \$7 each tour) or to listen to the Slave Talk at 1 p.m. For lovers of nature and the written word, ages 18 and older. Workshop Free with Basic Gardens Admission of \$15.

(Questions? Call the PR office at 843-571-1266.)

A member's portfolio expands

Betty Beamguard of the Rock Hill chapter recently experienced a flurry of publications (first three) and acceptances (last five):

- * "Never Waste a Rattlesnake" (creative nonfiction), Tombigbee Country Magazine, February issue
- * "Featherbed Nights" (memoir), USA Deep South, Spring edition Featherbed Nights
- * "Big Old Ugly Cottonmouth" (creative nonfiction), Oxford So & So, March/April
- * "No Pay—No Write" (anecdote), Bylines Writer's Desk Calendar 2009
- * "Never Too Late" (essay), Sasee, May issue, 2008
- * "Me and Buff" (fict.), Teacakes and Afternoon Tales: New Stories from Mississippi (anthology)
- * Three anecdotes on writing, Writers' Journal
- * Excerpts from Rescuing Maria (novel) and a story in Chris Roerden's new book on writing.

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