

# The Police Writer



## The Voice of The Police Writers Association

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## ***FROM THE EDITOR***

### **WE'RE BACK!!!!**

Having survived illness and surgery, computer viruses and downtime, summer drought, hurricanes, flooding and anything else you can imagine, we are now up and running again. We would like to thank ALL of you for being so very patient with us for the new members and renewal packages. I know that we lost some of the information about the members that I usually run in the newsletter, so please accept my apology now for anything about anyone that I do not print. Just e-mail me at [leslye@policewriter.com](mailto:leslye@policewriter.com) with any information, and I will run it in the next newsletter that will be out in January 2004.

## ***2004 CONFERENCE INFO***

In October, we will be traveling to Newport, Rhode Island, to check out hotels, restaurants, and things to do for the 2004 conference. Exact dates are not set yet, but it will be sometime in September or October of 2004. As soon as we have a date set we will notify everyone by e-mail and run the information in the next newsletter.

Hopefully, we will see many new faces, as well as the old familiar ones in 2004, since we have so many members in the New York/New Jersey/New England area.

## ***LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD***

We would like to reinstate the Police Writers Association Lifetime

Achievement Award. This award is given to the person who our members believe has done the most in promoting the Police Writers Association. All active members can vote. Please email me at [leslye@policewriter.com](mailto:leslye@policewriter.com) to cast your vote. Votes must be received by June 1, 2004. The award will be presented on Saturday at the conference luncheon.

## **MEMBERS NEWS**

-  A.J. Farrar, member from California, wrote "Congratulations to Tim Dees, Jim Weiss and Mickey Davis for their contributions to the August issue of L&O. The issue contained 4 features and about 9 pages of print for Tim. Jim and Mickey had 2 features and about 8 pages of print. What would L&O do without our PWA authors?? You guys are awesome!!" We concur.
-  Texas member Sarah Cortez taught "Cops and Memoir" at the annual International Association of Women Police Conference in San Francisco in September. Her second book is also almost ready to go to print. She has also been involved in the Visiting Scholars Program at the University of Houston that eased her transition from full-time policing to full-time writing/teaching and part-time policing.
-  Arthur Sharp, member from Connecticut (hope to meet you at the next conference), wrote that we can read two of his most recent articles in the July 2003 issue of Law and Order. He also had one scheduled for the August 2003 issue and two more for the September 2003 issue. (He has written close to 200 articles for Law and Order since 1987.)
-  A.J. Farrar, a wealth of info for this editor, also wrote to congratulate Dr. Armand Mulder on the publication of a feature article in The Journal of California Law Enforcement (Volume 37 No.1, 2003). The topic of "Reestablishing the Lieutenant's Role and Authority" which he co-authored with Chief Joseph Samuels, Jr., the Chief of Richmond PD and the current president of the IACP, is both thought provoking and timely.
-  Arizona member L. Burke Files sent the following link to us. It contains a brief quote from an interview that he gave.  
<http://www.chiefexecutive.net/depts/management/190.htm>
-  Victoria Heckman, member from California, wrote that her second novel, "*K.O.'d in the Volcano*" will be out soon. You can find out more about Victoria and this book at [www.writers-exchange.com/epublishing/victoria-book1.htm](http://www.writers-exchange.com/epublishing/victoria-book1.htm)
-  Jane Alvarez, member from California, wrote that lots has been happening to her lately...not a whole lot of sales on her book, *BLINDERS*, however, she was contacted by a filmmaker in Santa Barbara who has won six Emmys for his documentaries. He stated that he found her website ([www.janealvarez.com](http://www.janealvarez.com)) and wants to make a documentary on her. His last one was Homecoming and over 12 million viewed it on PBS. He thinks hers will be more powerful. Filming was scheduled to start in August of

- this year. She and her partner have another book coming out called, "*American Child...The Injustice Files*." They are profiling an abused child from each state to raise the awareness level of child abuse and each book will have the stats, who to contact, what to do if you suspect child abuse, etc. They are really excited about it...they already have a contract with a publisher to print it.
- North Carolina and Florida member Marshall Frank wrote to let us know that "*Frankly Speaking*" his third book, and his first collection of short stories and essays is now in print. Signed copies can be ordered direct from him on e-mail. For more info, see his web site: [www.booktalk.com/mfrank](http://www.booktalk.com/mfrank)
  - New York and Arizona member John Briant discussed and signed his newest book, *Adirondack Detective Returns* at the Old Forge Library in June.
  - Gina Gallo, member from Chicago, had an article, *in memory of a Chicago policewoman*, appear on the website. <http://www.thecolumnists.com/gallo/gallo50.html>
  - California member John Bellah wrote that CARLISLE PRODUCTIONS, a Chrysler auto show that takes place in Carlisle, PA in mid-July, will focus on police cars this year. He went back there to give a presentation on police cars and to autograph copies of the book he co-authored (with Ed Sanow): *DODGE, PLYMOUTH, & CHRYSLER POLICE CARS 1956--1978*, along with the sequel covering the years 1979--1994.
  - He will also be on a local cable TV channel soon, which will feature a segment on police cars.
  - Scott Fielden, member from Tennessee wrote he recently had an article printed in *American Police Beat* titled "An Ode To Lady Justice." He's also begun work on a second book relating to law enforcement, and he's asking that our law enforcement members consider submitting some of their more memorable patrol incidents for possible publication. Domestic/DUI's/Traffic Stops/Prostitution are some of the categories they're interested in (but not limited to). Several members have already passed along some stories that they'll be using, and these individuals are much appreciated. He'll be happy to provide further information to contributors if needed. He can be reached at: [sfielden@chartertn.net](mailto:sfielden@chartertn.net)
  - Dennis Griffin, member from New York and Nevada, was involved in a book signing in May in New Hartford.
  - New York member Wayne Beyea (another new face we hope to see at the 2004 conference), wrote to tell us that his third book, "*Reflections From The Shield-The Final Years*", has been published. For complete details see <http://www.capital.net/com/web2108/>
  - Arkansas member Linda Card wrote that she has started a statewide newspaper for the law enforcement community in Arkansas, and boy has it been an experience! Any member who has written a non-fiction police related or procedural please forward info to her if you want to be considered for inclusion in a feature called "The Investigator's Bookshelf". She has already

used a couple of books written by PWA President Emeritus Roger Fulton member from New York and Florida. Linda can be reached at [imawildcard@hotmail.com](mailto:imawildcard@hotmail.com)

- Tom Schulte, member from Missouri had a poem published in the September 2003 copy of American Police Beat magazine. Tom is recovering from injuries sustained recently on the job.
- Richard Kavanaugh, member from Pennsylvania, has a new book in print, entitled *The Diary of a Wilderness Mantracker*. Find out more about Rick at his website, <http://members.tripod.com/chinookbloodhounds/index.html>
- Michigan member Jack Allen, who's first book, *Change Of Heart* was a very enjoyable read, writes that his second book, *An Innocent Among Them*, will be out soon.
- New York and Florida member Roger Fulton, President Emeritus of the PWA, has just finished two new books. They are part of his new Common Man's Exploration Series. The first is *25 Short Hikes and Interesting Walks in Central Florida* and the second is *25 Short Hikes and Interesting Walks in the Thousand Islands and St. Lawrence Seaway Region in New York*. Both of these books were edited by New York PWA member Michael Carpenter and are being published by PTR Books.
- California member Richard Sacchetti has forwarded his articles on The Unabomber to PTR Books and we hope to get them into print form in the near future.
- Nevada member Jeff Kaye wrote to tell us that his book, *Two Faces Have I*, is coming out. You can read a summary of the book at the [Xlibris.com](http://Xlibris.com) website.

## **TIMELY INFORMATION**

Bob Herrmann, member from New York, passes this on to us. We believe that it is important enough to pass along to all of you.

The following advisory has been passed on from the local RCMP Detachment.

*Thieves are putting a thin clear, rigid plastic "sleeve" into the ATM card slot. When you insert your card, the machine cannot read the strip, so it keeps asking you to re-enter your pin number. Meanwhile, someone behind you watches as you enter and re-enter your number. Eventually you give up, thinking the machine has captured your card and walk away. The thieves then remove the plastic sleeve complete with card, and empty your account.*

*The way to avoid this is to run your finger along the card slot before you put your card in. The sleeve has a couple of tiny prongs that the thieves need to get it out of the slot, and you will be able to feel them. Law enforcement would like as many people as possible to be aware of this scam, so please pass this information on to your friends and family and associates.*

## **MARKETPLACE CONTACTS**

The following people/companies have contacted us in the past few months. We are passing them along to you just as a service, not endorsing any of them.

BRIEN JONES  
 Author Consultant  
 BOOKMAN MARKETING  
 (800) 342-6068 Phone  
 (765) 342-7217 Fax  
 brien@bookmanmarketing.com  
 www.bookmanmarketing.com

TED WEINSTEIN LITERARY MANAGEMENT  
 287 Duncan Street  
 San Francisco, CA 94131  
 415.826.3872  
 ted@twliterary.com  
 http://www.twliterary.com/

The website for The Gila Queen's Guide to Markets newsletter is now located at <http://GilaQueen.us>

Jas Lonquist, new member from California, has sent the following to us.

The California Writers Club can be found at [www.calwriters.org](http://www.calwriters.org) CWC was started by none other than Jack London and his friends poet George Sterling and short story writer Herman Whitaker. Today there are 14 branches in California. An inspiring story from her local branch: one of their members was recently published for the fourth time - at age 94! Way to go!!! There's hope for all of us yet.

## FIRE TO FLY CONTEST FOR 2003

Deadline October 31, 2003

**FMAM - Futures Mysterious Anthology Magazine** (available at Borders, Barnes and Noble, Books a Million, and independent bookstores, as well as online at [www.fmam.biz](http://www.fmam.biz)) is pleased to bring you its sixth annual "FIRE TO FLY" short story contest. The stakes are higher; the topics more varied. There will also be more winners than in past years. Information can be obtained at the above mentioned website.

*The Journal* is a quarterly publication directed to the law enforcement and policing professionals. We are always looking for contributors with the perspective and experience to cover and/or comment on the policing profession. They are now taking submissions for the Fall 2003 issue on: current issues and trends, thoughtful commentary, expert opinion, training information, investigative experience, and detailed accounts of the application of technology to effective policing.

For any further questions or to submit manuscripts, mail to:

*The Journal*  
 Atten: C.Inmon  
 P.O.Box 926108  
 Houston, TX 77292-6108

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Krista Barrett, Editor-in-Chief  
Writer Gazette, Writers Manual, EbooksCafe

## ***WANTED...BY EDITOR***

We are looking for submissions for future editions of *The Police Writer*. We would like to add a book review section to the newsletter, as well as any other sections you, the members would like to see. This is your newsletter. We are looking for informational articles... anything from contract information to help in getting your book/article published, to how to take the best photos for your article. If you have had a good experience with a certain company, let us know. If you have had a bad experience, we also need to know that too. You get the picture. I can't do this alone folks...I need your input.

## ***BOOK REVIEWS***

I have received several new books in the mail for review and consideration.

### *Lost Wings: The True Story of A Disgraced NYPD Cop*

by Robbin Christopher Ramos

Former police officer Robbin Christopher Ramos, who only wanted one thing more than any other...to be a NY police officer, has written a heart-wrenching story of his fight with the Police Department over a scheduled drug test that he failed...one that he knows he should have passed.

My opinion...the book, though interesting in nature, tended to jump around a lot. All in all, it was a decent read.

### *Adirondack Detective Returns*

By John Briant New York and Arizona PWA member

Once again, John Briant takes the reader into the life of Private Detective Jason Black and a cast of very enjoyable characters.

My opinion...John's sequel to *Adirondack Detective* is an enjoyable

read. John has the ability to make you think that he is telling you the story face to face. This reader looks forward to hopefully another Adirondack Detective sequel.

*Off The Cuffs: Poetry by and about the police*

Edited by Jackie Sheeler

This book is a selection of poetry by civilians, cops and observers. The language is gritty, some of the topics grim, a down-to-earth look at what makes our society sick...and tick.

PWA member Sarah Cortez is a contributing writer to this book.

My opinion...some poems were a bit too bizarre for my liking, but if you enjoy off the wall reads then you might like this book.

*Sojourn: The Epic*

By new PWA member from New York Thomas Coghlan

This is the story, in poetic form, of Laren Timothson, the chosen one of Thor, the God of Storm and Thunder.

My opinion...I have tried to read this book four times, and I just can't get into it. If you enjoy legends, written in rhyme, then try this book.

*TAILSPIN: THE STRANGE CASE OF MAJOR CALL*

By Bernard F. Connors

This is the story of James Call, Air Force major, career criminal, a Jekyll and Hyde charmer, and possibly the perpetrator of one of the most celebrated murders in the United States in the last century.

My opinion...I LOVED this book. It kept me spellbound. Mr. Connors has a real hit on his hands. I think it would make a wonderful movie too.

Sarah Cortez, member from Texas sent the following. Just wanted to mention the great review of an anthology of Texas Poetry edited by Billy Bob Hill. His book garnered a rave review in the April 20 Sunday's Dallas Times Herald. I was thrilled to see it mention several "newcomers" as notable including me!! If anyone is interested in purchasing his anthology, the title is "Texas in Poetry 2", editor Billy Bob Hill, publisher Texas Christian University Press.

Sorry - I don't have the ISBN.

Terry O'Neill, member from New York, sent the following to us. Over the past year, I have cooperated with Professor Ron Chepesiuk on his

forthcoming book on the rise and fall of Colombia's Cali Cartel. Beginning in 1985 with the discovery of the Minden drug lab on an upstate farm, the New York State Police played a leading role in uncovering the domestic operations of the organization. Ten years later, NYSP alumnus Tom Constantine, as head of the DEA, presided over the dismantling of the cartel's leadership. All of this is recounted in Professor Chepesiuk's book, which I have read in manuscript. The book will be appearing on October 30, and to call attention to it and to the achievements of the NYSP, I'd like to bring it to the attention of any organizations that award prizes for literary productions of this nature. If you or any of your colleagues in the PWA know of any, I'd appreciate knowing about them. Terry can be reached at [TerryOneillEsq@aol.com](mailto:TerryOneillEsq@aol.com)

The first chapter of the professor's book has been posted on the Web at <http://www.crimemagazine.com/CrimeBooks/snowlabsprologue.htm>

## ***WE HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE***

Someone informed us that New York member Marlene Loos was getting or has gotten married. If this is true, congratulations Marlene!!

Hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season, and we'll see you in 2004.

### **CORPORATE SPONSORS**

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A group of our members has put together a subsidy publishing firm to help get our members' works published. .38Special Press can provide critiquing, editing and layout services, but they don't finance your work. You or your backer(s) do that.

**ROGER FULTON.com**

Roger Fulton, on this "police leadership" web page, provides resources for present and future police leaders, from recommended reading lists for promotions to leadership training courses.

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Mike Carpenter offers a wide variety of police management services including manpower studies and evaluations as well as expert testimony for police departments and their municipalities.

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 Marietta GA 30063-8115  
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 (770) 321-5019 fax

The PSA was formed to help its members be informed of pertinent news, information and resources they need to effectively perform their duties and keep themselves and their departments out of trouble in today's litigious environment.

**BITS-N-BYTES TECHNICAL SERVICES**  
 Lee & Michelle Lahti

2836 Sombrero Lane  
Fort Collins CO 80525  
(970) 206-1085  
[info@bnbts.com](mailto:info@bnbts.com)

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