

Denver, Colorado March 6-9, 2008

LCC 2008 Quick Updates

- **Registration for special programs is open! Register online or use the attached forms for snail mail.**
- **Auction items needed! Email or snail mail the attached form to Chris@christinegoff.com.**
- **LCC2008 Yahoo group added! Contact Pari Noskin Taichert at ptaichert@comcast.net for details.**

Registration: \$165 before 11/16/07, then \$185 until 2/1/07. After 2/1/07 - \$205

Hotel: Adam's Mark Denver \$139 single/double \$149 + www.adamsmark.com/denver

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The View from a Mile High

Greetings from Denver, where the high mountain peaks are capped with snow and the holiday lights twinkle in the city. It's hard to believe that winter is here, but if you're like me, you look forward to the days when you can sit inside on a cold day with a good book and a hot cup of tea. In preparation for those days, why not think about picking up a new book by one of our LCC 2008 authors? This month, we profile a few of those authors on page 3. Check them out!

Wondering what delicious fares you might be able to sample while in Denver? This month, we explore local restaurants, pubs, and clubs in search of the unique tastes Denver has to offer. See what we dish about on page 2.

In addition to the top ten this month, we've expanded our program and panel updates on page 5 to give you the full preliminary LCC schedule. Notice that registration for special programs is now open. Registration is limited for some of these events, so be sure to visit



<http://www.leftcoastcrime.org/2008> and get registered or mail in the attached forms!

LCC 2008 is now also accepting auction items. More info can be found on page 4.

And get ready... it's time to start compiling your top 5 picks for the LCC Lefty, Rocky, and Arty. See Kathy Brandt's message on page 1 and get ready to vote.

Until next month...
Happy Holidays!
Lori Lacefield

Get Ready to Vote!

LCC's Best of 2007

This month, Kathy Brandt, Awards Chair for LCC 2008, gives us the rundown on all things awards. So start getting those lists compiled. Voting begins next month!

It's time to begin thinking about all those fantastic mysteries that you've read this year. Watch for nomination forms coming in January. We'll be asking for your top five choices in the following three categories:

The Lefty: Most humorous mystery published in 2007

The Rocky: Best mystery set in the Left Coast Crime geographical region in 2007 (US: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HA, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, WA, WY, UT, and El Paso, TX. Canada: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon. Mexico.

The Arty: Best cover art for a mystery published in 2007.

The Dilys: Will be awarded by the Independent Mystery Booksellers Association for the mystery IMBA members most enjoyed selling in 2007.

Can't remember which mysteries came out in 2007? Check out the mystery list at: <http://www.mysterywriters.org/pages/awards/submissions.htm> (This list may not be all inclusive and books are not sorted by LCC categories.) For more about Left Coast Crime awards, visit: <http://www.leftcoastcrime.org/2008/awards.htm>.

Kathy Brandt
Awards Chair

Things to do in Denver when you're DEAD

(Dehydrated, Emaciated, an in need of Diversion!)

Greetings again from the Mile High City. This month, we're talking restaurants, pubs, and clubs. Essentials to any great writing convention!

First, let's start with food. For a true taste of the old west, you'll want to go to **The Buckhorn Exchange**, 1000 Osage St. The feature here is meat, including the eclectic, so for vegetarians or those who don't like hundreds of dead animal heads mounted on the wall, this place is not for you! True old west, and lots of fun. \$\$\$

If you're looking for a place to take a large group, **Duo** might be the place for you. With a delightful atmosphere and New American cuisine, they have something for everyone, and the food is fabulous. \$\$

For those of you who would like a touch of the British, try **The British Bulldog** on 2052 Stout St. Saturday and Sunday mornings are especially busy as local soccer fans gather to watch the clubs play and indulge in two eggs runny, rashers of bacon, bangers, a fat slice of fried tomato, baked beans, and black pudding.

Oh, and two free drafts of beer come with your meal.

For those of you who would like a bit of Denver history along with British tradition, be sure to participate in one of **The Brown Palace Hotel's** afternoon teas. For decades, the hotel, at 321 17th St, has been offering perfectly brewed Darjeeling, tea cakes, finger sandwiches, and scones with Devonshire cream. Yum!

Like your food by category instead? Ok, if you're in the market for Italian, head to



Venice Ristorante, 1700 Wynkoop St. Italian food staples include pastas, lobster-stuffed ravioli, and multi-course tastings. \$\$

Prefer Asian fare? Get a cab and head to **New Saigon**, 630 S. Federal Blvd. After Vietnam, Vietnamese immigrants flooded this area and luckily for us, brought the flavors from their old home here. \$

Ah, so you like the palate of the French instead? Then head to **Z Cuisine**, 2239 W. 30th Ave. The dish many go after here is the cassoulet maison, but there is plenty of other delicacies as well.

A bonus? They have the best wine list in town too. Just say "Je voudrais du vin."

Which leads us right into the next important topic – pubs! No writer's conference or convention is ever complete without them so here you go... looking for an intimate bar with the best beer list in town? Head to **Falling Rock Tap House**, 1919 Blake St. There are more than 70 brews on tap here, and they're all craft brewed. Enough said.

Another great beer place is the **Wynkoop Brewing Co.**, 1634 18th St. Around for more than 20 years, it was a pioneer in the microbrew industry, and

existed long before LoDo (Lower Downtown) was ever on the map.

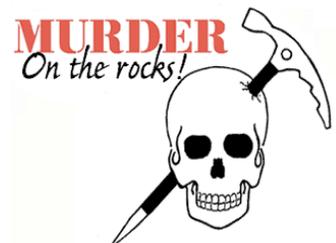
Like your alcohol a bit harder than wine and beer? Then think about heading to **Mezcal**, 3230 E. Colfax Ave, which as the name implies, features every kind of tequila and Mezcal you could imagine. Our only request is that you take extra pictures once the shots begin.

Ready to go clubbing? Consistently hailed as one of the 100 best jazz clubs in the world, **Dazzle**, 930 Lincoln St, is a great place to gather friends for happy hour or a late night outing.

If you like rock music, and an intimate bar where the sound is fantastic, check out the **Hi-Dive** on 7 S. Broadway. In just a few short years, the Hi-Dive has become known as Denver's place to discover future rock sensations.

Ok, you're in Denver, and you're thinking – what's with

this jazz and rock thing? I want to go country dancing with my LCC friends! Then hail a taxi and head to **The Grizzly Rose**, 5450 N. Valley Hwy. This is the true shit-kickin' saloon, complete with mechanical bull and old western photo shoot. So line up those LCC friends for a promising memorable experience!



Spotlight on LCC 2008 Authors

Ok, so you already have seen our interviews with Guest of Honor **Stephen White**, Toastmaster **Elaine Viets**, and Celebrity Chef **Joanne Pence** (and if you haven't, you can always retrieve past newsletters from the LCC 2008 website), but what about those other authors who will be attending LCC 2008? This month we profile just a few to give you a sample of the treats in store for you!

C.J. Box – The author of 8 novels including the award winning Joe Pickett series, C.J.'s latest, *BLUE HEAVEN* will be in stores 1-8-08. C.J. is a Wyoming native and has worked as a ranch hand, surveyor, fishing guide, and small town newspaper reporter, among others. C.J.'s works have won The Anthony, Gumshoe, Barry, and Edgar awards. His latest, *FREE FALL*, was a *NY Times* Bestseller.

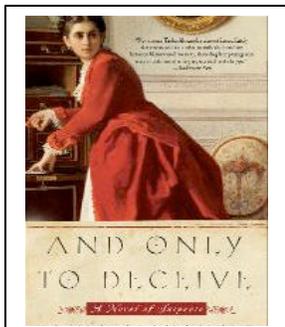


Margaret Coel - Margaret is the *NY Times* bestselling author of the Wind River Mystery series set among the Arapahos on Wyoming's Wind River Reservation. Her latest, *THE GIRL WITH BRAIDED HAIR*, was a Sept 07 release. Featuring Jesuit priest Father John O'Malley and Arapaho attorney Vicky Holden, her novels have won both the Colorado Book Award and the Willa Cather Award for Best Novel of the West. Margaret is a native of Colorado who hails from a pioneer Colorado family.



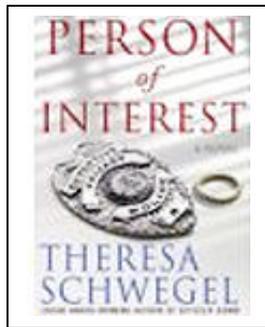
Tasha Alexander

If you like a good mystery set among the people and places of Victorian England, then Tasha Alexander's books are just your cup of tea. Her books, featuring Lady Emily Ashton, have garnered critical praise, both for her writing and her authentic detail of Victorian England. So impressed was the literary community, that Tasha was asked to write the sequel to the film *ELIZABETH*. *ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE*, debuted on 9-25-07. She also has two books set for release in 2008, *A POISONED SEASON*, due in January, and *A FATAL WALTZ*, due in May. Go Tasha!



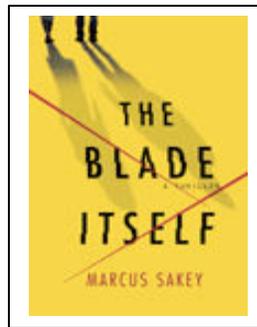
Teresa Schwegel

Teresa Schwegel was pursuing life as a producer, director, actor, and screenwriter in Hollywood when her mentor/teacher suggested she rewrite her thesis screenplay, *OFFICER DOWN*, as a novel. Three years later, in 2005, *OFFICER DOWN* was published by St. Martin's Minotaur and won the prestigious Edgar award. *PROBABLE CAUSE*, her second novel, was a *NY Times* Editor's choice in January, 2007. Her third novel, *PERSON OF INTEREST*, about an undercover cop whose disintegrating home life could send him over the edge, came out on 11-27-08.



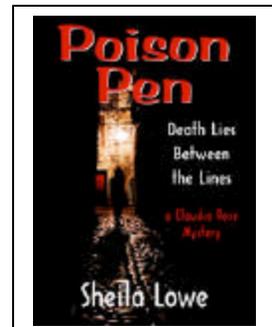
Marcus Sakey

In several reviews, Marcus Sakey's first novel, *THE BLADE ITSELF*, draws comparisons to Dennis Lehane's *MYSTIC RIVER* on more than a few occasions. Those are pretty big shoes to fill, but Marcus appears to have what it takes. *THE BLADE ITSELF* was featured on *CBS Sunday Morning* and *NPR*, and was both *ANY Times* Editor's pick and one of *Esquire Magazine's* top 5 picks of 2007. It has sold in 8 countries, and Ben Affleck and Matt Damon's production company purchased the movie rights for *Miramax*. His second novel, *AT THE CITY'S EDGE*, comes out on 1-22-08.



Sheila Lowe

A court qualified handwriting expert with more than 30 years of forensic handwriting experience, Sheila Lowe recently tapped into her knowledge of integrity screening and personality identification to create the Claudia Rose mystery series. Her debut, *POISON PEN*, was a March 2007 release from Capital Crime Press. The series was quickly picked up by Penguin, and the second, *WRITTEN IN BLOOD*, will be a September 2008 release. Watch for Sheila to do a panel or two at LCC. And who knows? Maybe Sheila will be around to analyze your penmanship when you scrawl your name across that next cocktail napkin!



Top Ten Places to See and Be Seen



ELWAY'S, 2500 E. 1st Ave. Best known as the "Temple of Meat", this is the restaurant founded by Denver's all-time favorite quarterback.

THE CHOPHOUSE, 1735 19th St. The place that hosts the Broncos and Avalanche parties regularly boasts sports celebs.

PALACE ARMS, 321 17th St. The pretentious and well-loaded, with money that is. Dinner will run you \$2K – for one.

CLUB LEVEL, at any sporting event. Buy a new car or a new sport's team.

THE PALM, 1672 Lawrence St. Denver's most well recognized faces are on the walls and seated at the tables.

COLORADO STATE CAPITOL BUILDING, 200 E. Colfax. All the state politicians gathered under one roof. What IS that smell?

LCC 2008, Adam's Mark Hotel. Crazy fans and crazy authors all come together in the name of crime. Did you really think I'd leave it off the list?

SPUTNIKS, 7 S. Broadway. Where all the bohemians are. Don't inhale.

THE DIAMOND CABARET, 1222 Glenarm. Strippers, celebrities, politicians, executives, drugs, alcohol, and sex.

2008 Democratic National Convention, August 2008.
Ditto the above.



Auction News

To all participants – LCC 2008 needs your help!! We're looking for auction items for this year's LCC auction!

This year's auction proceeds will go to benefit the Rocky Mountain Unit of Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D), a nonprofit volunteer organization. RFB&D is the nation's educational library serving people who cannot effectively read standard print because of visual impairment, dyslexia or other physical disability. Their mission is to create opportunities for individual success by providing and promoting the effective use of accessible educational materials. Nationally

the organization was founded in 1948 with headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey. The Denver branch opened in 1951 and today is home to over 350 volunteers who come in Monday through Friday and read all kinds of books for students in need of audio support. These books truly change lives by giving these students the tools they need to succeed.

To donate an item, please complete the attached LCC2008Auction.doc form and either email it to chris@christinegoff.com or snail mail it to LCC 2008, c/o Christine Goff, 573 Williams St, Denver, Co. 80218.

LCC Program Updates – Preliminary 2008 Program

Registration is now open for all LCC 2008 special programs and events. To register, either use the personal link provided in Christine Goff's email, or print out the forms and mail them in. See you at LCC 2008!

Wednesday, March 5th

Ski Trip to Breckenridge

Time: 7am-6pm

What: A round trip visit to the mountains for skiing, snowboarding, or shopping. Cost includes bus trip, equipment rental and lift ticket. Snowboarding: Adults \$170. Skiing: Adults \$155. Shopping: All \$40.

Special Registration Required

Thursday, March 6th

Time: 1:00-4:45 pm Panels

The Mile High Murder Machine

Time: 6:00-9:00 pm

What: A prison bus tour of Denver's most notorious crime sites, emceed by Colorado author Mario Acevedo (X-Rated Bloodsuckers) and fueled by 3 donated bottles of tequila. Cost includes transportation, tequila drinks, other free beverages, and lots of fun. \$25. **Special**

Registration Required.

Friday, March 7th

Time: 7:30-8:30 am New Author Breakfast

Time: 8:30-5:00 pm Panels including: MWA Track panels, ITW Track panels, SinC Track panels

Mystery Trivia

Time: 8:30-5:30

What: Team members test their knowledge of the mystery genre in a Jeopardy-style game. Win prizes! Preliminary rounds will be held on

Thursday and Friday with the final on Saturday. **Registration required to be on a team.**

You Cougar, Me Rabbit

Time: 2:00-5:00 pm

What: Surveillance workshop and exercise where fans track celebrity authors around the 16th St. Mall. Celebrity authors include Marcus Sakey and Margaret Coel among others. Cost is free. **Special**

Registration Required – Limited to first 40 people.

Trivia Buffs: Don't miss the Mystery Trivia sessions beginning Friday!

Saturday, March 8th

Time: 7:30-8:30 pm

Continental Breakfast

Time: 8:30-5:00 pm Panels including Forensic Track, more MWA Track panels, more ITW Track panels, more SinC Track panels, and Mystery Trivia Semi-Final and Final Rounds.

Hawaiian Fashion Contest

Time: 6:00-7:00 pm

What: LCC attendees will be showing off their finest tropical outfits in an effort to win the coveted prize – a comped membership to Left Coast Crime 2009 in Hawaii. We want to see your coconuts! Cost: Free.

Special Registration Required

Alfred E. Packer Banquet, Awards Presentation and Live Auction

Time: 7:00-9:00 pm

What: Celebrity Chef Joanne Pence will oversee this banquet dedicated to Colorado's most notable cannibal. Then stay for the auction to benefit Rocky Mountain Unit of Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic. Cost is free.

Sunday, March 9th

Time: 8:00-9:00 pm

Continental Breakfast

Time: 9:00-11:30 pm Panels

Time: 11:30-12:30 pm

Special Closing Event (TBA)

Monday, March 10th

Time: 9am-3:30 pm

What: Join your LCC friends for a trip to historical Estes Park, the gateway to Rocky Mountain National Park. Enjoy the scenery as we wind our way into the high country, eat lunch, and tour the Stanley Hotel (Stephen King's inspiration for *The Shining*). A minimum of 15 adventurers are needed to schedule the bus. Cost includes the bus trip and lunch. \$52 **Special Registration Required.**