



Page Turners

Page Turners

This newsletter will also appear at: <http://www.joanuptonhall.com/pageturner.htm> with authors' photos

The authors' cooperative, Page Turners, welcomes you to this free, monthly newsletter. We encourage you to forward it to others you think would enjoy it, print it to share with friends, and invite them to subscribe by emailing us. You may unsubscribe at any time.

Contact: PageTurnerHome@aol.com Editor: Joan Upton Hall

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Need a speaker? Check websites below for a writer near you.

Meet our Staff: Authors whose pages you must turn!

M.D. Benoit	http://www.mdbenoit.com	Science Fiction Mystery, Alternate Reality
Mayra Calvani	http://www.mayracalvani.com	Horror Dark fantasy, Satire, YA, Children
David Ciambrone	http://www.davidciambrone.com	Mystery, Technical management, News column
Diane Fanning	http://www.dianefanning.com	Mystery, True Crime, Suspense
Jackie Griffey	http://www.jackiegriffey.com	Cozies, romantic suspense, horror, historical
J.C. Hall	http://www.jc-hall.com	Fantasy, Nonfiction
Joan Upton Hall	http://www.joanuptonhall.com	Fantasy, Paranormal, Travel/History, Editing advice
L.C. Hayden	http://lchayden.freesevers.com	Mystery, Inspirational, Horror, Children
Gloria Oliver	http://www.gloriaoliver.com	Spec Fic, Fantasy/SF/Horror, YA
Sylvia Dickey Smith	http://www.sylviadickeysmith.com	Mystery suspense
Cheryl Swanson	http://www.cherylswanson.net	Contemporary thriller, self-help nonfiction
George Wilhite	(website under construction)	Mystery/Detective, Western, Speculative, Noir, Nonfiction

MAIL BAG – READERS WRITE

Have questions you'd like to ask any of these authors? Comments about their books? Their favorite desserts? What pets they have?

Write to Page Turners at the email address shown in the masthead.

Be sure to state which author you are addressing.

Dear PT,

PageTurner seems like a very enjoyable publication—I loved the interview with **George Wilhite**. He sounds a bit like me—even down to opinions about teaching freshman writing!

—**Mark Adderley**

born in Crewe, England; now a professor of English at Missouri Valley College

Mark is also announcing the publication of his first novel, *The Hawk and the Wolf* (Marrero, LA: Westbank Publishing, 2008) as follows:

Britain, the Island of the Mighty, stands on the brink of war with the Roman Empire. But the King is without a sword—Excalibur, the sword forged by the gods in the dawn of days, which has been passed down through the generations, has been lost. And it is doubtful that the kingdom can stand, without the help of the gods. But the young prince Emrys, nicknamed Merlin, knows that it is his destiny to seek Excalibur. For the gods have given him a special gift—or a curse, as it sometimes seems—the Sight, the ability to see further into the heart of mysteries than other men. But he also knows that Morgana, the goddess who rebelled against the gods in the ancient days, will pursue and kill him in her attempt to take Excalibur for herself. With Excalibur in her possession, Morgana will become Queen of the Island of the Mighty, and the days will be dark and bloody. In this fast-moving and violent tale, the world seems poised upon the brink of two possibilities. Darkness and death; or the age of Arthur.

Find out more about *The Hawk and the Wolf*, the **Matter of Britain** series, and the **Matter of Britain Scholarship** at www.markadderley.net.

Editor's note: Dear readers, I'm currently reading this book, and if you like King Arthur subjects as I do, you'll find it enchanting!

Dear PT,

Check out this link: <http://journals.tdl.org/Jtexwomenwrit/>. It has my short story “Tented Amusements” about the first hanging in Stephenville, Texas, in it.

—**Donna Walker Nixon**

Editor's note: This is far from Donna's first published work, but she's also inviting other Texas women to submit stories to the next issue. Details are on the link she noted above.

Have a new publication to announce? Tell us about it. Here's all you need to do:

1. Mention PageTurners newsletter (something specific you like about it would be nice — but isn't required).
2. Announce the title of your book (or whatever), a short blurb about it, and where it can be purchased.
3. A short blurb about you as a writer and your website if you have one.

Con Report

(Been to a writers' conference recently? Tell us about it.)

Read **L.C. Hayden's** article about conferences - located before “Author Sightings” in this issue.

AUTHOR OF THE MONTH: **J.C. Hall**

Lives in: North York, mid-town of Toronto, Canada

Writing genres: fantasy & nonfiction

J.C. is forfeiting this space about herself to give us an overview of her trilogy, so please read on.

Book of the Month: The Silver Lakes trilogy by **J.C. Hall**

The *Silver Lakes* trilogy (*Lady of the Lakes*; *The Reclining Dragon*; *One to Break and One to Mend*) is a set of fantasy novels featuring Lady Jess Lochlen, a 'Traveler' who 'passes' through a series of lakes in the land of Rogrovia. Jess is on a double mission—the major one is to ascertain if treachery is stalking the Rogrovia throne; the minor one is to deliver her infant cousin safely to their home world of the Argentene. When her minor mission goes drastically wrong, she crosses paths with a young outcast and fugitive, Corryn. The two unlikely companions are bound by circumstances which slowly reveal hidden strengths and vulnerabilities in both of them, and lead her ultimately to question her long-held beliefs in duty and honour while making him realize the power of love and devotion.

Part fast-paced fantasy adventure filled with exotic creatures, part tender love story, the *Silver Lakes* trilogy follow Jess and Corryn through political intrigue, treachery and betrayal, and lead ultimately to some serious questions: how we define ourselves, why we do so, and who's to say we cannot change—not just the world, but ourselves in the process.

LADY OF THE LAKES (Book 1)

She knew only the importance of duty and honour. He understood that devotion could transcend time, space and worlds.

Corryn is an outcast, a fugitive hunted by his own people. Hiding in the wilds of Lake Silvermist, he happens on a battle between a knight and a priest. When the battle ends badly for the knight, Corryn is moved to tend to his injuries. But when the knight is revealed to be a lady, Corryn's dreams of becoming a squire vanishes like so much mist from the lake.

For her part, Jess Lochlen has no wish to be burdened with a liegeman. She has tasks aplenty—to recover her captured infant cousin for a start, and to determine if treachery is stalking the Rogrovia throne. But her cousins and comrades-in-arms all prove unable or unwilling to help, and she must now accept help in the least likely of places.

But as Corryn's feelings for Jess turn from loyalty and devotion to love and desire, and their journey across his homeland becomes a race against time—to save not just her infant cousin but the Rogrovia King—she finds herself wondering if he's any help at all.

THE RECLINING DRAGON (Book 2)

“Fortune abides upon the Reclining Dragon, but beware all who tread these parts. For the lord may grant you wisdom, but his man will steal your heart.”—inscribed upon a boulder at the foot of the Reclining Dragon

Treachery, intrigue, high treason—a traveler rises to the occasion.

When a passage to the Argentene goes very wrong, Jess Lochlen finds herself where she's not supposed to be, much the worse for wear, and attracting the attention of the Lord of Caerne Manor. Then the missing heir to the Rogrovia throne turns up. But that's no place for the prince to be, not when the Choosing of the Highest of the High-Priests is imminent and the contenders are swarming ever closer.

In the capital, the King lies ailing and Markov, the self-styled Arch-Duke, is about to wrest power—not just to the Griffin Throne, but via a 'key' smuggled into Rogrovia by a Karenyan prince, to the very worlds beyond. Can Jess and Corryn stop Markov before he usurps a throne or worse?

Surrounded by treachery and confounded by intrigue, Jess needs all the help she can get, but how can she trust Corryn when he acquires uncanny powers that baffle them both?

ONE TO BREAK AND ONE TO MEND (Book 3)

“Twice blessed. Twice cursed. A mirror with two sides. One to break and one to mend. Be wary of the mismatched eyes.”—a saying found within the Old Scrolls

While escorting Prince Roric to Karenya to take a bride, Corryn is mistaken for a revolutionary leader out to destroy the noble Karenyan court. With a prize on his head and two sets of star-crossed lovers muddling his way, Corryn must help Prince Roric capture his reluctant princess bride, even if means entering a complex underground cave system rumoured to harbour grouchy gnomes and desperate dragons.

Charged by the Argentene to find a crystal of surpassing power, Jess passages to an underground lake deep within sacred nomadic land. Her instincts lead her to the crystal, but the dragon guarding it proves unwilling to part with his treasure. Added to which, Corryn has somehow managed to bond with the dragon. To free the dragon and obtain the crystal, she may well have to kill Corryn first.

Read an eBook Week, March 8-14, 2009

What is it about?

by M. D. Benoit

Every year for the past five years, around the beginning of March, eBooks are celebrated and promoted through **Read an eBook Week**. This year it is from March 8th to 14th. But what is it about?

Read an eBook week was first registered with Chase’s Calendar of events in 2004. “Read an eBook Week is a not-for-profit week set aside to inform the public about the pleasures and advantages of reading electronically. Authors, publishers, vendors, the media and readers world-wide [...] join in the effort.” (<http://ebookweek.com>). During that week, publishers and authors offer specials (such as free eBooks) to entice the readers to try them. If you’ve never tried an eBook and have been intrigued by them, be sure to check the Read an eBook Week partners' page (<http://ebookweek.com/partners.html>) for some good deals.

EBooks have been around for a long time but readers have been slow in accepting this medium, especially in North America. “There’s nothing like a feel of a book in my hand,” readers say. What proponents of eBooks reply to that is that the eBook is not meant to replace paper books; it is another medium for books, in the same way as audio books are. eBooks are cheaper, they reduce our carbon footprint by minimizing the use of paper, glues, etc., and take very little space. [Greg Kozak](#) “found that a paper book created 4 times the greenhouse gas emissions of an e-book reader and several times more ozone-depleting substances and chemicals associated with acid rain. Print books needed 3 times more raw materials and 78 times more water consumption than e-books.”

(<http://ebookweek.com/environment.html>). One of the most important features of eBooks is that, because they are in electronic format, they never go out of print. And now with the new reading devices available on the market, the reading experience is as satisfying as reading on paper.

In great part because of those improved reading devices, big publishers have begun offering their new titles as eBooks at the same time as the paper book, and in some cases, before the print version comes out.

The Read an eBook Week website (<http://ebookweek.com>) also contains information about the history of eBooks, descriptions and reviews of various reading devices, as well as links to various eBook sellers. Even if eBooks are not for you, don’t you want to know what all the buzz is about?

The eBook readers: what's new?

by M. D. Benoit

You're going on a two-week holiday near the lake. You're flying to Watertown for a three day business trip. You're going to the park with the kids for the entire afternoon and are loaded down with their stuff. You'll go out of your mind if you don't have books, but you don't have the room or they're too heavy to carry.

No need to fret. All you have to do is buy ebooks and download them in you handy-dandy ebook reader. An ebook reader, as a rule, can contain hundreds of books, and they weigh only a fraction of a paperback.

Nowadays you can read ebooks on a variety of multi-purpose devices like the iPhone, the Mobile Pocket PC, Treo, or Smartphone. The sharpness of the image compensates adequately for the size of the screen.

There are also dedicated readers, such as the Sony Reader or the Kindle (http://www.ebookweek.com/ebook_gallery.html#8). Most of these readers use electronic ink, or e-ink, which basically uses very small charged particles sandwiched between two films. A current passing through changes them from white, black or grey, providing an image as sharp as high-end printed paper. Once charged, they don't require power until you "turn the page," so battery life is extended considerably. These readers are relatively expensive at the outset, but if you're an avid reader, you'll eventually save since eBooks are a lot cheaper than print books—and they take considerably less space on your shelf!

As I mentioned above, the two best known readers are the Sony Reader and the Kindle. The latter was lauded by Oprah, which resulted in a phenomenal amount of sales: the original Kindle sold well over a million units (it was sold out in the first week). They are now selling an estimated 48,000 units a month. Between 2006 and 2008, Sony reported it sold over 300,000 readers.

Clearly, eBook readers are no passing fad. While they're not for everyone or every wallet, they serve a useful function for those who lack space, who travel, who read everywhere. And while eBooks may never replace print, they're definitely here to stay.

GET 'EM WHILE THEY'RE HOT

(Other Releases & Successes)

My Publisher, Ginnie Bivona, Makes the Movies!

by: Joan Upton Hall

Ginnie Siena Bivona (Atriad Press of Dallas, Texas), who published two of my books about Texas & the Paranormal) announces the screening of the movie **Bound by a Secret** on the **Hallmark channel March 7**. The movie is based on a novel by Bivona. There will be a gala premier on March 5 at the **Angelika Theater in Dallas**. If you're in Dallas and want to go, admission is \$10. For more about Ginnie, go to: <http://www.ginniebivona.com/>

But let's go back to the time when the movie was being made. Ginnie was a guest on the set, with her name on the door of her very own trailer and everything. And get this cast: **Meredith Baxter, Leslie Ann Warren, and Timothy Bottom**. Even the house used on the set is famous as the one from the TV series "**Little House on the Prairie**." Ginnie says that she might even appear as an extra in a kitchen scene of the movie.

A friend of hers in Hollywood also sent her a photo of a huge billboard advertising the movie. It's on Ventura Boulevard in front of the Hallmark Channel building.

All this couldn't happen to a nicer person.

Ready, Set, Release—on April 1st
by: **Sylvia Dickey Smith**

Sylvia Dickey Smith announces that her third book in the **Sidra Smart** series, *Dead Wreckoning*, launches April 1, 2009. More info coming later.

Along with the launch, **Sylvia** is excited to announce a new recipe contest. You can email either a recipe for southern or Cajun/Creole cooking by emailing her at sylvia@sylviadickeysmith.com. The winning recipe will be published in the next **Sidra Smart** mystery novel coming out later in 2009.

Fiction Book's Ahead of Schedule, March 24
by: **Diane Fanning**

Homicide Detective **Lucinda Pierce** is back! In **PUNISH THE DEED** (fiction) by **Diane Fanning**. Someone is killing the directors of non-profit agencies up and down the east coast. You can read the first chapter on my website at: <http://tinyurl.com/d6lfmv>. **PUNISH THE DEED**—because no good deed goes unpunished.

The official release date is March 24, but **Murder by the Book** (store), in Houston has already received copies and they're waiting for you. Diane will be visiting Murder by the Book on April 4 at 4:30—get a copy now and come back then to get it signed.

As for the Real-life Notorious Women...

On Wednesday, February 11, I spent a little more than an hour in a room at The **Stephen F. Austin Intercontinental Hotel in Austin** being interviewed by **E!** cable network for a countdown show about fifteen notorious women. I answered questions about **Casey Anthony, Mary Winkler, Betty Broderick, Susan Smith, Diane Zamora** and **Karla Homolka**. With all the lights, the room heated up very quickly. It was sweltering by the time I escaped. The show is scheduled to air sometime in May but no precise date has been set at this time. (Watch for updates)

Editor's note: Don't miss what else **Diane** and other PT authors are doing on **AUTHOR SIGHTINGS** at the end of this newsletter. (Media interviews for Diane!)

Casey Paperback Release
by: **L. C. Hayden**

Harlequin/Wordwide Mystery is proud to announce the release of the paperback edition of *Why Casey Had to Die*, an **Agatha Finalist** for Best Novel and a Pennsylvania Top 40 Pick. Books at a discount can be purchased through the author's website at <http://lchayden.com> Scroll down past the paragraph and click on the cover. That will take you to Harlequin. Book normally sells for \$5.99, but the special price is only \$4.79.

Reprint? How Sweet it Is!
by **Joan Upton Hall**

Reprinting an article you've published before is particularly sweet for an author. Obviously, it's nice to be paid twice, but that's not all. The fact that not just one, but two, editors consider your work valuable makes a nice affirmation, while spreading your work and name more than you originally hoped

for. And if the article is a chapter from one of your books, it may even sell the book. (Just be sure that Publisher #1 gives Publisher #2 permission and is acknowledged.)

In my most recent case, this is how it worked:

The Round Top Register, a quarterly magazine distributed in the counties directly between Austin and Houston, Texas, focuses on people, activities and places in that region. Editor **Kurt Wilson** has accepted three chapters about that area from my historical-travel book, ***Just Visitin' Old Texas Jails***. He plans to run the articles as a series beginning with the March 1st issue along with photos of the building and the author.

For the Love of Libraries

If you have a local library project to announce that promotes reading and/or writing, let us know.

Book Sellin', Searchin' & Signin' Shenanigans

(Or: A funny thing happened on the way...)

A Writer's Life: Not All about New Releases

by: George Wilhite

I am in the middle of the publishing process for my developmental writing textbook. I'll be using a pre-publication copy of it for my summer writing classes at TSTC. With luck, I'll be using the newly-published textbook for my fall classes at both TSTC and Baylor. The textbook will also be available to other schools through TSTC Publishing in Waco.

I spoke recently at an SPJST monthly meeting in Marlin, TX, on "Non-traditional Authors." SPJST is a fraternal order founded by Slavic immigrants to Texas which provided insurance for the mostly agricultural Czechs, Poles, and Germans in the 1800s. Unable to get insurance from other sources, they banded together to provide their own. Almost every Czech, Polish, or German community in rural Texas had an SPJST hall, built for the community, that held dances, picnics, and other community events. It's an interesting regional historical footnote.

One of my students suggested me as a speaker to his parents. His mom has a whole notebook full of stories about her grandparents and their lives as farmers who moved from the Midwest down to Texas in the late 1800s to early 1900s.

I've had a couple of queries about speaking engagements in the summer and will post news of those as they firm up.

Dog Demands Equal Rights for Pets on Blog

by: Mayra Calvani

My dog, **Amigo**, has a new blog, **Pets and Their Authors**, in which pets interview their authors, while also getting a picture of itself online—including **Amigo**, as the host. Among the authors whose pets

have signed up to dish the dirt on their “owners” so far are my PT pals, **M.D. Benoit**, **Gloria Oliver**, and **Joan Upton Hall**.

Amigo invites you to stop in to visit him and his (4-legged, no-legged, etc.) friends at: <http://petsandauthors.blogspot.com> for the ongoing lowdown on authors from those who know them best, their pets.

Editors' note: Don't miss this. It's a hoot!

Summons from Prison by **Joan Upton Hall**

When I opened my email the other day, I'll admit the coffee in my cup seemed like a snoozer in comparison to the email I got from **Ohio State Reformatory**. (You may have seen this eerie place explored on TV's *Ghost Hunters* or *America's Most Haunted Places*.)

Fortunately my message from the prison proved benign, and the only summons was a request for information.

The old prison which no longer holds prisoners, at least not the live-and-kicking kind, now holds a museum. Since my book has a chapter on OSR, the manager wanted to stock my book, *Ghostly Tales from America's Jails*, in their gift shop, called “Convictions,” and they needed to know how to contact the best distributor for retailers.

The editor of that book happens to be the “Hollywood writer” featured in the article, “My Publisher, **Ginnie Bivona**, Makes the Movies,” in this issue

FUN STUFF, CONTESTS & OFFERS

Win a FREE 7-day Caribbean Cruise for Two!

(ongoing contest good until June)

Register with each purchase of a book by either **Sylvia Dickey Smith** or **Joan Upton Hall**.

Simply send proof of purchase (such as an Amazon.com invoice or book store receipt) stating the book title, and we'll fill out an entry card with: Your name, Address, City/State/Zip, and Phone and Email address.

Email either author: jmuHall@aol.com or sds@suddenlink.net

Please state: “Caribbean Cruise Sweepstakes” in subject line of email.

Drawings done on: **June 1 & December 1 (Winner for last June was Marion Stwalley)**

Choices of Sylvia's books at: <http://www.sylviadickeysmith.com>

Choices of Joan's books at: <http://www.joanuptonhall.com/books.htm>. To order from this site, click either the **Amazon link** or **Barnes&Noble link** to pull up Joan's books at the online store.

*Notice: This is a promotional offer advertised only by various hometown businesses, which cuts down the competition for you.

Novel Spin-Off - Short Story Contest

Promote yourself. Show your talent!

Offered by: **Joan Upton Hall**

Write a short-short story (up to 800 words). The story must include:

- (a) any setting used in my **EXCALIBUR REGAINED** series
- (b) one or more of my characters (even minor ones)
- (c) some relation to the situations, places, and characters' personalities

Hint: Even if you don't have the books yet, you can read FREE the first chapters of both books published so far: **Arturo el Rey** and **Shadow of Excalibur** by visiting the web page: <http://www.joanuptonhall.com/books.htm> . Just click the cover image of either book to open a beginning chapter. Who knows? You just might want to read all the rest and get to know all the locations and characters.

Early bird advantage: Freelance editor, Joan Hall, will give a full professional edit to the first 15 story entries that follow the rules.

- **Finalists:** The best 5 stories will be published on my website along with the authors' bios (further chance for readers to know you!). The link to these stories & bios will be published for an international audience in **PageTurner** newsletter, as well as other places to be determined, and authors will be encouraged to send friends and relatives to that link. (Author photos optional)

- **The Winner:** The winning author's name will be used for a character in my next book (or winner may name a character) and will be noted in the book's Acknowledgement page.

- **Deadline:** May 1, 2009, but selection will start early, so please enter soon. After finalists are chosen, winner will be selected in part by reader email votes.

- **Submission requirements:**

1. Email your story to JmuHall@aol.com either as an attached Word document OR pasted into the body of the email.
2. Type "Story Contest" in the subject line of the email.
3. Include a bio about yourself (up to 50-words).

Readers Ask Authors

George Wilhite on the **HOT SEAT**

(as last issue's Featured Author)

Readers ask: Are your students impressed that you are a published author?

George Wilhite answers: Actually, most of my students at Texas State Technical College are very hands-on kind of people, so those students would be much more impressed if told them how I rebuilt the brakes on my new drag racer that does the quarter mile in 7.8 seconds. Unfortunately, I don't have a drag racer, and if I did work on it myself, it probably would not even make a quarter mile, in 7.8 seconds or 7.8 years!

However, my students at Baylor University and many of those I had at McLennan Community College (where I started the **Waco Writers Workshop** a few years back) think it is impressive. We talk a lot about what it takes to get published, realities and fantasies of writing for a living, importance of networking, importance of sitting down in front of the computer (or with a legal pad) and getting words on paper with no excuses, dividing the creative process of idea generating and organizing from the "accounting" process of grammar and punctuation, and a whole lot of the "nuts and bolts" of the writing process.

HOT SEAT

People are always asking us, "Where did you come up with (such-and-such character, idea, place, etc.)?" Okay, so here's YOUR chance to find out. Each month, we'll put the previous month's Author of the Month on the hot seat to come up with a short answer.

J.C. Hall is our Featured Author for this month, so check out one of her books and ask away. **Of all questions received, we'll draw one. Please send your questions by the middle of next month.**

Send your question (**and a sentence or two about yourself if you desire**) to:

PageTurnerHome@aol.com or to the author directly through her website shown on Page 1.

If your question is chosen, we'll credit you.

FOR YOU READERS WHO ALSO WRITE

http://www.blogtalkradio.com/League_of_Extraordinary_Paranormal_Women

would like to hear from more women writers, editors and artists who are working in the paranormal. —

From: **Pauline Baird Jones**, <http://www.paulinebjones.com>

The Importance of Attending Conferences

by L.C. Hayden

We've all heard of networking and most realize how important that is. This is especially true when our economy is in trouble and most have a hard time making ends meet. However, we, as authors, still need to sell our books, a task which at one time was hard, but now seems almost impossible.

This is where networking comes in. When *Why Casey Had to Die* was first released, Five Star issued it as a hardcover with a steep price. I am forever grateful to all those who purchased the hardcover edition. The book sold well enough or at least as well as it could for a book with a price of \$25.95.

Then I attended a conference where I met **Maria, a representative of Harlequin**. We had lunch together and chatted about this and that. I did mention to her that I was looking for the paperback rights to that title.

Maria bought a copy of my book, returned to Canada, and personally handed it to the editor in charge of their mystery line. After reading it, he sent me a contract. The book has just been released. This would not have happened if I hadn't attended that conference.

The same thing happened with the large print edition. I met the folks at **Wheeler**, the largest large print edition publishers in the United States. We talked about my book being available for large print, then switched off to other things. About a year later, Wheeler released the large print edition.

You never know who you are going to meet at a conference. Some of my dearest friends are folks that I met at conferences. They've supported my career and have helped me through the troubles and tribulations of this thing called life.

I've met many readers who belong to reading clubs, some of which suggested their group read *Why Casey Had to Die*. Book club sales do wonders for book sales. Many others requested that their libraries order the book. Library sales help a lot too.

Added benefits of attending conferences are that you learn so many new things, meet new and wonderful authors, agents, editors, and readers. As an attendee, you'll create many fond memories and friendships that promise to blossom.

If you're a reader—and we all love readers!—this is your chance to meet your favorite authors and have them sign their books. You'll learn the ins-and-outs of publishing and that will increase your reading enjoyment and astonish you as to what goes on behind the scenes.

My advice is run and sign up for those conferences. You won't regret it.

With that in mind, do I have a conference I'd like to recommend? As a matter of fact, yes. What a surprise, eh? Try the **Southwest Chapter of Mystery Writers Conference in Dallas**, June 20, 2009. The pre-conference is June 19 and speakers include **Doug Lyle**, the guest of honor, who will speak about forensics; **Dick Schewin**, FBI Special Agent, retired, who will speak about proper FBI procedures; **Jordan Hensen**, who opened a literary agency in January 2009 and is actively looking for clients; and **me**. My topic will be "Everything You Want to Know About Publishing But Were Afraid to Ask." The

SW MWA chapter website has a registration form. If the form hasn't made it to the website, check back in a couple of days. It'll be there. Reserve those two days for a great conference and hope to see you there.

Yay, L.C.! You will have company there from three other PT authors! **David Ciambrone, Sylvia Dickey Smith, and Joan Upton Hall** will also be making presentations and serving on a panel. The name of the conference is: **Hardboiled Heroes and Cozy Cats**. Schedule with workshops, etc. was not up at this writing, but check later: <http://www.mwasw.org/conf.html>

Have an article about writing or book groups? If it would interest our readers, we'll be happy to print it. We can't pay at this time, but it will serve as a published clip with your byline. Reprints accepted with notice of first publication. Submission guidelines:

1. Send as an attached Word document.
2. Up to 800 words (If editor condenses it, you will have a chance to approve before printing)
3. A short blurb about you as a writer and your website if you have one.
4. Email to: PageTurnerHome@aol.com or jmuHall@aol.com with subject line: "PT submission"

How-to Advice a Couple of Clicks Away

ONGOING COLUMNS for WRITERS:

Ask the Book Doctor: Freelance editor, **Joan Upton Hall**, answers writers' questions. Past issues, first published in various newsletters, also appear on her own: <http://www.joanuptonhall.com/bb.htm> (scroll down and click the link for "Ask Doc" Q&A's).

HEADS UP FOR AUTHOR SIGHTINGS

March through early April- If you're in the area, stop and see us!
(For private appearances, such as small book clubs, check with author)

Diane Fanning

March 24, 9:30 AM: discussing *Punish the Deed* at the Fourth Tuesday Book Review at the Comal County Senior Center, 655 Landa Street, in New Braunfels, TX. The event is free and the public is invited.

March 24, 8PM eastern/7PM central: Diane discusses *Punish the Deed* and other books on **Denny Griffin's** internet radio show. If you'd like to listen or call in to the interview, go to <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/dennisngriffin>. The show will be archived on that site shortly after its completion and can be played back as a podcast.

March 25, Wed.:Diane will be a guest on **Viewpoint** with **Jean Dean**, WRVC 930 radio in Huntington, West Virginia, discussing *Punish the Deed*, as well as the first **Lucinda Pierce book** and the two additional books in the series now under contract.

L.C. Hayden

Mar. 24, 6-9 PM, El Paso, TX: workshop: Publishing, at **University of Texas at El Paso**

Apr. 24, 6-8 PM, El Paso, TX: workshop: Character Development, at **University of Texas at El Paso**

Sylvia Dickey Smith

Mar. 26, 4-6 p.m.: Bayou Trading Company, Bridge City, Texas

Mar. 27, 11:00-2:00: Jumping Bean Coffee and Gifts, Orange, Texas 3

Mar. 28, all day: Art in the Park, Orange, Texas

Mar. 30-31, 10-2:00 both days: Bread Box Restaurant, Orange, Texas

April 4, 2009: Jubilee Jambalaya Writers Conference, Houma, LA,