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Hours

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Something old, Something new (perhaps more than one thing...)

You're starting to find us in our new location on Second Avenue SW in Carmel's Old Town. It's been a slow process, a little slower than we expected, but we're still feeling pretty positive about the move and about our new neighborhood. It may be a little tricky to find us on your first visit, especially right now with all the construction going on around us, but we hope you'll agree that it's worth the effort. It's true that this neighborhood is still in transition: you can already see lots of development underway, and the activity is truly exciting (if perhaps a little chaotic). We figure we're a little ahead of the curve here, but in real estate it's better to be ahead of the curve rather than behind it.

Our building doesn't look like much from the outside, because the weather hasn't yet been good enough for long enough to allow us to do any of the exterior work (soon, we hope!), but the inside is looking great (even as we continue to work on some finishing touches). We have everything that you already look for in our store — cool events, lively discussion groups, the area's widest selection of titles in the mystery genre with a special emphasis on books from small, independent press titles that you won't find elsewhere — in larger, more comfortable quarters.

(Note: there is a "for lease" sign on the front of the building right now, which has panicked several of you. We're not giving up yet! What's available is about 1800 square feet of storage/warehouse space in the back of the building, *not our retail space!*)

While we plan to continue to do everything that you already appreciate about The Mystery Company, including bringing back favorite writers like Tony Perona and Alan Gordon for events in the coming weeks, we're also looking to expand our programs and services, to provide you with more opportunities to learn about, get involved in, get more out of, and simply enjoy the genre we love. This newsletter has some more information about some of these new opportunities. There's more to come.

Throughout the renovation and the move, we've been running behind on getting renewal notices for memberships in our frequent buyer's discount program into the mail. We've been catching up on these over the past few days; there's a good chance that if you're receiving this newsletter by mail you've also recently received or are about to get your renewal letter. We hope that you'll re-up. We don't ask a lot — just \$6 per year. In return, we believe that Mystery Company membership is more than just a great value. It's your investment in an independent, locally-owned business that believes in the place of books in our hearts, our homes and our community.

Calendar

Saturday, April 14, 11 am

Bouchercon 2009 organizational meeting. (See above.)

Saturday, April 14, 2 pm

Award-winning producer **Zev Buffman** speaks. (See back.)

Sunday, April 22, 2 pm

Michael Black, **Julie Hyzy** and **Tony Perona** visit. They'll talk about and sign copies of their books, and about their *Mystery Muses* classics.

Wednesday, April 25, 7 pm

Discussion: *The Last Templar* by Michael Jecks

Thursday, April 26, noon

Discussion: *The Last Templar* by Michael Jecks

Monday, May 14, 7 pm

Alan Gordon returns to talk about and sign copies of his new — and long awaited — Fools' Guild mystery, *The Lark's Lament*.

More events for May and June are now posted on our website!

Saturday, April 14, 11 am: Bouchercon 2009

Mystery Mike Bursaw and I have agreed to host the Bouchercon — the World Mystery Convention — here in Indianapolis in October 2009. This is the mystery genre's largest annual meeting. We expect about 2000 attendees, including about 500 published writers, many booksellers, agents, publishers and — most importantly — fans of the genre.

Bouchercon is first and foremost a fan convention: an opportunity for readers to celebrate the mystery story and to deepen our appreciation for the books we love. This is an all-volunteer enterprise. All of us are donating our time and energy to making this event the best it can be, and to welcoming the entire mystery community to Indiana.

That's where you come in. Mike and I are going to need lots of help with every aspect of this convention — registration, publicity, programming, etc. This Saturday, we'll be holding our second organizational meeting, an open call for volunteers.

We'll talk a little about the history and purpose of the Bouchercon, describe our vision for our 2009 edition, and outline the basic organizational structure for our convention and start establishing committees to work on various areas such as programming, publicity, facilities, etc. We'll also begin accepting registrations. Everyone, including Mike and I, will be paying the convention registration fee; there will be a discount for early sign-ups.

You'll hear a lot more about Bouchercon in the coming months. If you can't make this meeting, there will still be plenty of opportunities for you to become involved. Let us know if you're interested in signing up for our volunteer list.

We're really looking forward to this opportunity to celebrate the genre and to showcase Indiana and our own great mystery community. We hope you'll join us in this exciting opportunity!

For general information about Bouchercon, visit www.bouchercon.info, then follow the links to other years.

Saturday, April 14, 1 pm: Mystery theater

Award-winning Broadway producer, Zev Buffman, will speak at on Saturday, April 14 at 1 pm. Buffman is the driving force behind a new International Mystery Writers' Festival, which will

take place in Kentucky in June. This visit is sponsored by Indiana's Mystery Writers of America sub-chapter, and is free and open to all, whether or not you're an MWA member.

Buffman's experiences incorporate a vast array of entertainment ranging from Hollywood acting experiences, to producing more than 40 Broadway shows and 100 national tours, to renovating famed historic theatres, to being a founding member of the Miami Heat basketball team.

Buffman presented Andrew Lloyd Weber's *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* for its first run on Broadway. He also introduced Elizabeth Taylor in her Broadway debut *The Little Foxes*, Dustin Hoffman in *Jimmy Shine*, and Muhammad Ali in the musical *Buck White*.

The topics of discussion will include the following:

1. How to cure the "mysterious" disappearance of whodunits from the theatrical scene on Broadway, London, Toronto, etc.... how to encourage writers to write new mystery plays, and what audiences are looking for.

2. How to discover 12 new mysteries every year... and present them live on stage. The nuts and bolts of looking for new mystery scripts, what authors need to know for transforming their books into audience-friendly scripts, and how to create the next "Stratford, Shaw, and Sundance" festival focused on mysteries.

We hope you'll join us for this unique opportunity to learn more about mysteries on stage and to hear from a man with an amazing background in theater.

We'll also have more information about our first road trip, a Mystery Company outing to Buffman's International Mystery Writers' Festival; we're working with Interlude Tours to put together what we think will be a fabulous weekend. This trip will leave Indianapolis on Saturday, June 16 and return on Sunday, June 17, and include three shows, a workshop with Sue Grafton and much more.

Visit Interlude's website at www.interludetours.com for more information, or pick up a flyer in the store.

Planning on attending both events on Saturday? We're planning to order in pizza between presentations, and you're welcome to go in with us if you're interested.



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