

# Sixth THE GREAT MANHATTAN MYSTERY CONCLAVE

A Celebration of "Small Town Mysteries" held in Manhattan, Kansas  
at the Holiday Inn at the Campus, 1641 Anderson Ave., October 30—November 1, 2009



Our Guest Speaker this year is the prize-winning author Earlene Fowler, whose quilt-titled series starring Benni Harper is eagerly snapped up not only by mystery-lovers, but by quilters across the continent. Earlene is a native Californian who wrote short fiction for ten years, but didn't find a publisher until she penned her first mystery novel, *Fool's Puzzle*. That and two sequels were sold within weeks of submission. Earlene won an Agatha for Best Mystery with the sixth Benni book, *Mariner's Compass*, and the rest is history. She has just finished the fourteenth Benni book, has written a book of short fiction with quilt patterns based on her Benni Harper characters, and has added two mainstream books to her library list—*The Saddlemaker's Wife* and *Love Mercy*. She lives in Orange County, California.

Toastmaster J.M. "Mike" Hayes was a town kid in Hutchinson, KS until his grandfather died when Mike was seven. His family moved to a farm to live with his grandmother and school was suddenly ten miles away. Books and their authors became his best friends. He tries now to repay the gifts authors gave him in his youth—wonderful companions who filled many lonely hours. Mike hopes his Arizona WWII historical novel, *The Grey Pilgrim*, and his fictional Benteen County, KS, Mad Dog & Englishman series, have done the same for others. Mike lives in Tucson with his wife Barbara and a house full of German Shepherds.



## Seminars



Mark Bouton, author  
Former Special Agent FBI

### Friday Sessions

Detective Alan Riniker,  
Crime Scene Investigator  
Riley Co Police Dept.



Dr. Mike Finnegan,  
Forensic Anthropologist  
K-State



Dr. Jim Shanteau,  
Forensic Psychologist  
K-State

### Sunday Sessions

Nancy Pickard  
Prize-winning author  
on Good Writing!

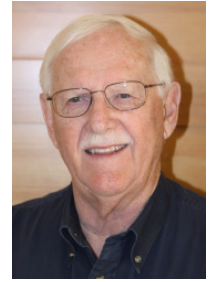
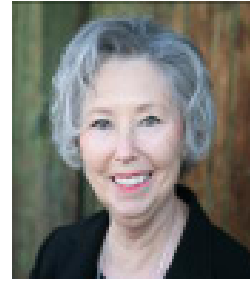


Philip Nel,  
Prof., Dept. of English, K-State  
on "Harry Potter"



Sherlock

## *Presenters: Writers*



In addition to our wonderfully helpful ex-officio board member, Nancy Pickard, and lawman Mark Bouton, other old friends and new will be with us this year to speak about the professionalism of our craft. Radine Trees-Nehring and her husband John have been to every GMMC but one. That was the year Radine was receiving an award in her native Arkansas for her gripping regional tales. Warren Bull is a writer whose short story credits are building as rapidly as he pens them. He has attended every Conclave, as has Lisa Harkrader, who has winning ways of her own (the 2008 William Allen White award for children's literature). Charlotte Hinger, an historian and novelist from Western Kansas, was an attendee several years ago and we are delighted to welcome her back. Newcomer and writing teacher John Burgess, Wamego-born (though now located in Oregon and Arizona), has writing techniques to share.

## *Presenters: the Legal Element*

Our Law Enforcement seminars and panels have proved to be so popular we don't schedule anything opposite them. CSI Detective Al Riniker, Dr. Mike Finnegan and Dr. Jim Shanteau will once again tell writers and readers why "CSI: Whatever" is more like science-fiction than fact. We're asking our lawyer types, Steve Osburn, who is the Public Defender in Wichita (some hard cases there!) and former District Judge Jerry Mershon, to tell us which of their cases they would novelize, if they were so inclined. Our panel of four will be fully filled out by Conclave time. Stay tuned. And we are adding to the mix this year with a bit of legal advice for writers, given by prominent Manhattan attorney, Dick Seaton, who has put in many years as counsel to Kansas State University.



## *Presenters: Quilters, Artists, Teachers*



The next time you see Ken Garwick, the guy on the left, he will probably be passing coins through the tabletop you thought was solid! No one would suspect that this mild-mannered retired sixth-grade teacher is a master magician. He will be on hand at the Reception on Friday night. You'll be scratching your head in wonder! Richard Pitts, director of Manhattan's Wonder Workshop for kids of all ages, will give us another side of Manhattan history, one not necessarily recorded in the history books, as it has been passed by word of mouth. Manhattan was settled by Abolitionists. His story reflects the reason why that was so important. And if you see quilts liberally displayed throughout the Conclave, it is largely through the efforts of Harriette Janke, master quilter, and member of the Konza Prairie Quilter's Guild and the Kansas Art Quilters. She has located quilts that reflect every one of Earlene Fowler's mytery titles, and she will be speaking about the mysteries of quilting on Saturday afternoon.

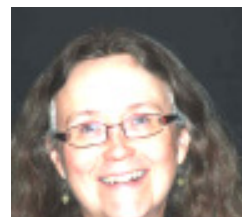


## *Presenters: Our K-State Connection*



Kathrine Schlageck is the senior educator at Kansas State University's Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art. She has just received the Governor's Arts Award for arts in education. She VOLUNTEERED to present a program for kids during the Conclave. And it's FREE! Come meet Kathrine and see the quilting art projects she is offering for children on Halloween day, Saturday, October 31. The place is the Holiday Inn at the Campus, the times are from 8:30-11:45 in the morning, and from 1:30-2:45 in the afternoon. She will be introduced to Conclave participants and friends at 2:45 and the children's quilting efforts will be rewarded with small prizes.

We do request that children be Kindergarten age and older. In addition, Deborah Murray, Director of the Writing Center at K-State, will interview our William Allen White winner, Lisa Harkrader, at 10:45 Saturday morning about writing for kids. Hopefully mysteries! Add Philip Nel to the mix, presenter of a terrific program on how the Harry Potter tales have been put on screen, and we realize we have a lively representation of K-Staters on this year's program. It is, after all, right across the street from our hotel. STUDENTS: come join us. The price is right. See the Registration Form inside, or you can find it on our website: [www.manhattanmysteries.com](http://www.manhattanmysteries.com).



**Important information for published writers:** Please send promotional items to: GMMC c/o UFM, 1221 Thurston St., Manhattan, KS 66502 c/o **Felisa Osburn**.

**Clafin Books** is again handling book sales for participants. Contact Dan Hochman directly (preferably by email—[clafin@interkan.net](mailto:clafin@interkan.net)) to get an early start on ordering books and sorting out problems. Information needed: ISBN, Publisher, and whether the title is P.O.D. While it's too late to be on a panel, if you are a published writer with books to autograph and sell, please contact **Clafin Books**. You are most welcome to join us!

**The Great Manhattan Mystery Conclave** is a convention of mystery readers and writers, to be held this year October 30-November 1, 2009, at the Holiday Inn at the Campus in Manhattan, Kansas (corner of 17th & Anderson Streets). Our office address is GMMC, 1221 Thurston Street, Manhattan, KS 66502. Send letters to P.O. Box 782, Manhattan, KS 66505-0782. Please send packages to our office address. The Conclave website is [www.manhattanmysteries.com](http://www.manhattanmysteries.com). The Great Manhattan Mystery Conclave is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, organized to promote the reading and writing of mystery fiction, with an emphasis on "small-town" mysteries. If you want to talk with a real person, call GMMC Chair Marolyn Caldwell at (785) 776-4862.

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