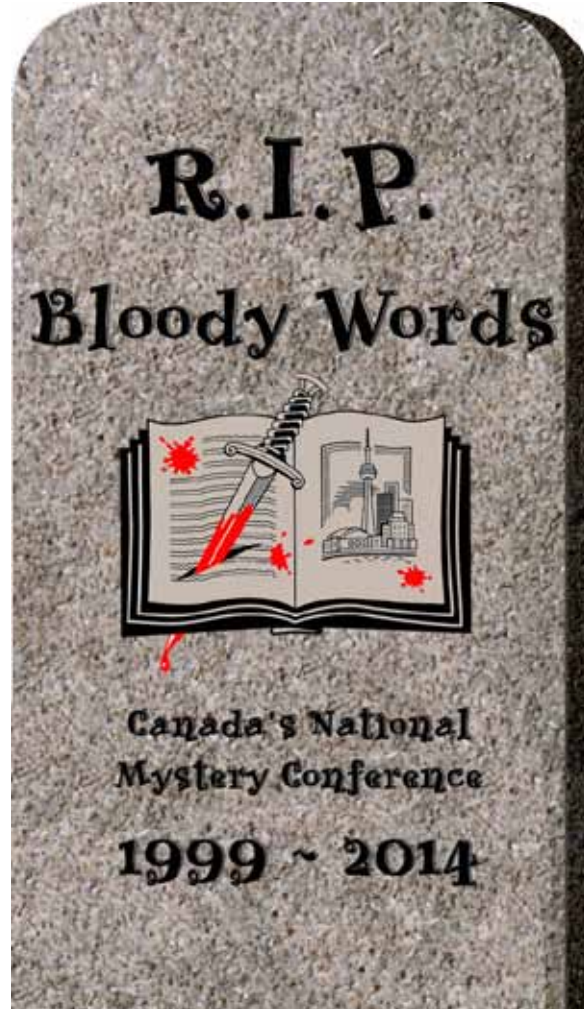


Progress Report 2 April 2014



R.I.P. Bloody Words 1999 – 2014

Yes, friends, this year's conference – Bloody Words XIII – is the last one. We're retiring the name; closing the book (after pulling out the dagger, of course); putting Bony Pete and his big brother, Bucky, back into the closet; and wishing you all a bloody sad farewell.

Thank you, everyone – past and present Bloody Gangsters, guests of honour, authors, readers, presenters, agents, publishers, sponsors; you've all made Bloody Words the grand adventure it's been over the years.

But all good things must come to an end, and it's appropriate, we think, to end on this year's historical note. So on behalf of Caro Soles (Bloody Words founder and Da Bloody Boss Emerita), the 2014 Bloody Gang, and myself (Cheryl Freedman, Da Current Bloody Boss), *ave atque vale!*

Doff those mourning rags

Don't mourn for us yet, though. Now's the time to celebrate our life – **your last chance to experience the grand adventure that is Bloody Words!**

If you haven't registered yet for this year's conference (June 6 – 8), no better time than now to do so. Go to <http://2014.bloodywords.com/register/>. Cost: \$190/US\$205 (same as before).

Read on...

Bloody Words XIII presents...



**DANSE MACABRE:
HISTORICAL MYSTERIES
& THE DANCE OF DEATH**

June 6 - 8, 2014
Toronto, ON

Guest of Honour: Vicki Delany
International Guest of Honour: Michael Jecks
M.C.: Melodie Campbell

Authors, wanna be on a panel?

If you do and haven't registered yet, you'd better get cracking, folks. We're starting to work on panel assignments on May 4. We do our best to accommodate all the authors we can, but once we decide on our panel topics and assign authors to them, late registrants may find themselves, well, SOL.

Remember to fill in the author-info section at the bottom of the registration form (in the online form, this section drops down when you check "published mystery/crime author").

Still room at the inn...

...but not for too much longer. Our room block at the Hyatt Regency on King, the conference hotel, is almost sold out, and while we'll try to get more at the conference rate, there's no guarantee that we can. Rooms are \$199 a night, single or double occupancy, and that price includes in-room wifi.

For more info and a direct link to book a hotel room, visit <http://2014.bloodywords.com/hotel/>. The room block discounted rate disappears on May 6.

Who are you?

Thank you to all you authors who've already sent me (yes, I, Cheryl, am publications chair as well as conference chair) your bio and pic for the program book. As for the rest of you, this is one of the least expensive ways to keep your name and face in the minds of your ardent readers.

Send your 40- to 50-word (maximum!) bio and hi-res pic to publications@bloodywords.com ASAP. If you have a blog or Website, include the URL, which doesn't count against the word maximum.

Things that go bumpf in the night

Another way to reach your readers is through bookmarks, pens, little notepads, magnets, stuffed animals (we're still hoping), etc., so send us 300 pieces of your promotional item to insert in our book bags. Please do not send any sheets of regular paper because we'll probably consider those ads and won't put them in the bags (but you can take out an ad in the program book <http://2014.bloodywords.com/advertising/>).

Send your bumpf to **Karin Hill, 64 Shaver Ave. S., Toronto ON, M9B 3T5**. Our deadline for receiving your stuff is May 23.

Two caveats: (1) Make sure that the package doesn't require a signature, and (2) if you're sending stuff from the US, put "\$0 (promotional items)" on the customs declaration and don't send the package by UPS.

Tit for tat

If you have a blog or Website, how about mentioning you're coming to BW. Linking to us at <http://2014.bloodywords.com/> would be even better. Thanks.

Have I got a story for you!

If you want to pitch your book to an agent or editor this year and haven't sent in your pitch request, you'd better do that ASAP. You can find info about our BW 2014 agents and editors, along with instructions on how to book an appointment, at <http://2014.bloodywords.com/agents/>. Appointments are first come, first served. Please note that you must mail in (yes, via snail-mail) your pitch request form.

If you mailed in your form before the agent/editor info was posted, our agent wrangler will be in touch to ask you whom you want to pitch to.

Bony Pete's running out of stuff to read

It's not too late to enter the short story competition (and perhaps win the last Bony Pete ever). We've extended the deadline for submissions to April 20, so hit that keyboard. Info on submitting is at <http://2014.bloodywords.com/bony-pete-contest/>.

What's wrong with my story?

We've extended the deadline to April 20 for submitting the first 30 pages of your manuscript or your short story for expert evaluation by a published author or an editor.

For more info, go to <http://2014.bloodywords.com/manuscript-evaluations/>.

See Bloody Words run

Better yet, help Bloody Words run – become an on-site volunteer. We need people for the registration desk on Friday and Saturday. Plus we need timekeepers for the agent/editor pitches and for the programming sessions. If you didn't check the volunteer box on the registration form or otherwise volunteer, email volunteers@bloodywords.com to offer your services.

After the programming schedule goes up on our Website in mid-May, you can decide what you want to do and when you're free.

What's a mystery without a cat(walk)?

Authors, if you have a book that was/will be published between December 2013 and the beginning of June 2014, we're inviting you to sashay down the catwalk as part of Books with Legs, our fashionable book launch/Friday night special event.

Send a brief description of your book and a hi-res image of the cover to carsoles@rogers.com. The deadline is May 1.

Fashionable crime

Like dressing up? Wish you lived during another period in history? Well, the Saturday night banquet is your chance to satisfy both desires, so come dressed as your favourite mystery character. And yes, we'll let you into the banquet even if you're not in costume <g>.

For more information on any of these items (well, except the R.I.P. one), read Progress Report 1+

<http://2014.bloodywords.com/documents/pr1a.pdf>.