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melia Island Writers

MARCH 2024



Happy St. Patrick's Day

The four-leaf clover is a traditional symbol of good luck and fortune, with each leaf representing hope, faith, love, and luck.

Save the date: Tuesday, April 30, 3-5pm
Legal Issues for Writers

March Crime/Thriller Author Event

Join us for Happy Hour

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 4-6 PM HAPPY HOUR AUTHOR CHAT at the Amelia Island Museum of History, 233 S. 3rd. St., Fern. Bch.
Parking at the adjacent community theatre.

Panelists, Local Crime/Thriller Authors:

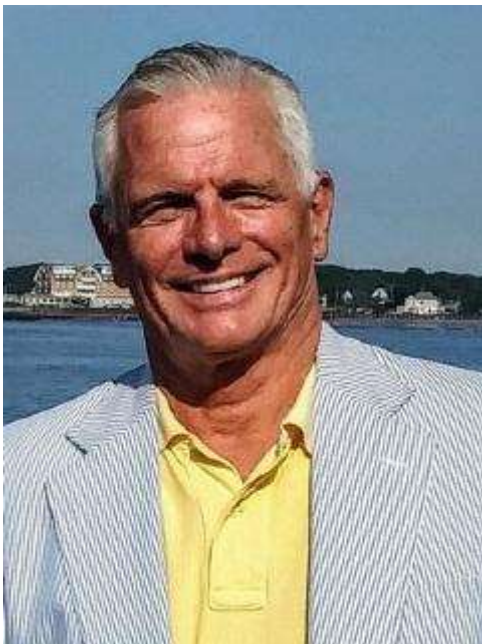
James Bruner, *The Bike Cop Series* <http://www.thebikecop.com>

Jerry Hester, *Mafia Miami FBI Politics and How an Investigation was Nearly Sabotaged* - just released!

Kevin Kozak, *New Blue, a Jerry Krone Novel*,
co-authored with John Drake.

Book sales after the author chat. Cash or check.
Donations appreciated for the museum and for refreshments.

RSVP by March 22 to LeeAnn Shobe at jmlee.shobe@gmail.com.





John Drake (left), and Kevin Kozak (right) at their book launch for *New Blue: A Jerry Krone Novel*.

Member Book Launches, Author Chats

Join award-winning author **Linda R. Sexton** on **Tuesday, March 5, 3-5 PM** for her book launch presentation followed by a book signing and reception. Story & Song Bookstore, Park Ave, Fernandina Beach.

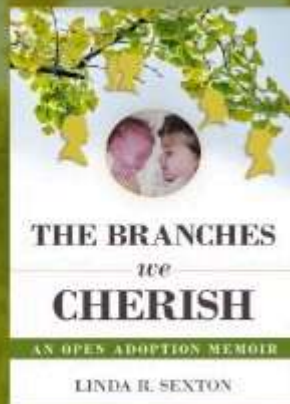
Her book will be available locally at The Book Loft and Story & Song, and online. Sign up for Linda's blog and news at her website:

<http://www.lindarsexton.com>

Open Hearts Open Minds

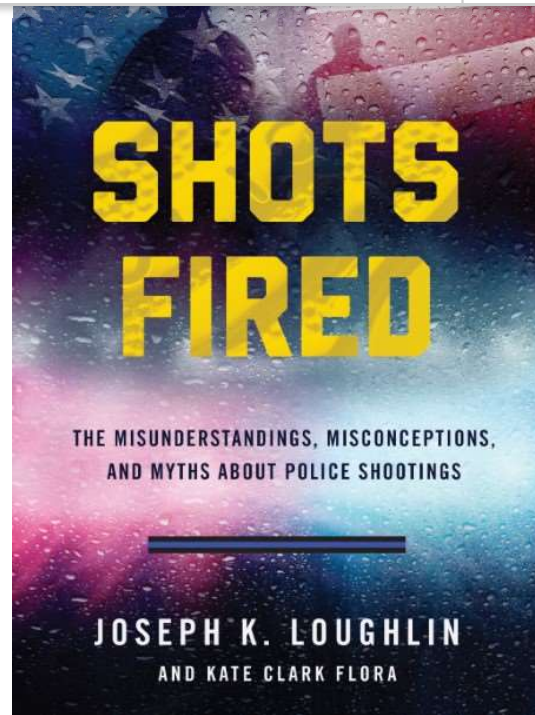
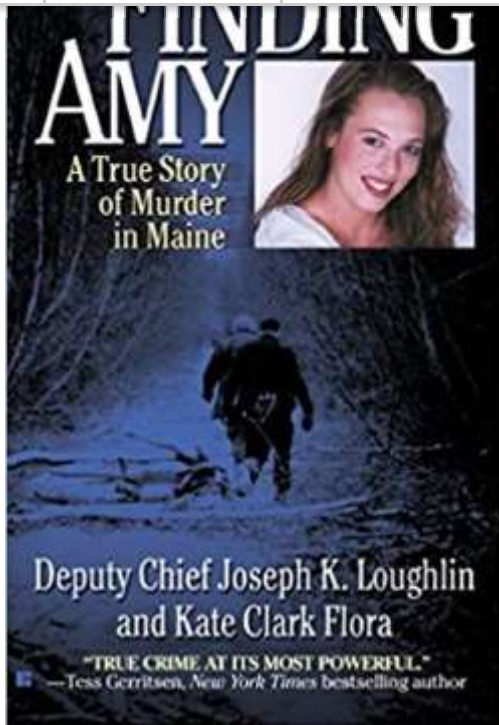
How adoptive and birth
parents build lifelong
relationships to benefit
the child and each other.

**A compelling account
based on three decades
of true life experience**



*An award-winning
memoir by open adoption
pioneer, Linda R. Sexton*

You are invited to join **Joe Loughlin** for his author chat at the
[Fernandina Beach](#)
[Public Library, Thursday, March 7, 6 pm.](#)

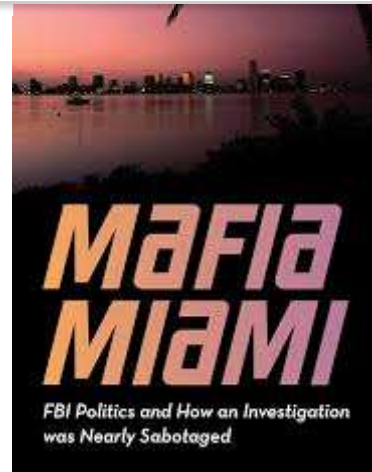


Maggie's Brood
with Elizabeth Osta
Friday, March 15, 3 pm, Story & Song Bookstore, Park Avenue

Inspired by a family secret discovered by the author whose early childhood visits to her grandmother's idyllic farm in Lima, New York started her journey, *Maggie's Brood* is an Irish Immigrant's tale of tragedy, trauma, and triumph.

[Song Bookstore, Park Avenue.](#)

No other investigation across Jerry Hester's entire FBI career would ever match the level of intensity, excitement, suspense, and drama of operation "Paesan Blues." *Mafia Miami* is the inside look at that undercover investigation centered on an Italian mafioso and his associates in Miami and Italy.



Amelia Island Book Festival Activities

Amelia Island Book Festival was in full swing the last weekend of February with the Celebrity Author Gala held at The Ritz on Friday. The event continued Saturday with the Author Expo and Breakout Sessions held at the Fernandina Beach Middle School.



AIW represented at the Amelia Island Book Festival

Thank you to our panelists for your expertise at the Inspiration to Motivation Breakout Session and also a shout out to Linda Sexton for managing our table, LeeAnn Shobe for assisting in set-up and take-down, and to our authors who participated. Thank you for our members who came out in support.

James Bruner. Left: AIW Table and Authors: Donna O, Linda S, Barbara Flor, Rachel Glover, and Kristine Ochu. Unavailable for photo: Suzanne Schiffman, Jane Buyers, and Julia McDermott; Right: David Baldacci and John Grisham (conversation at AIBF Gala).

ATTENTION AUTHORS-- SHORT STORY CONTEST

MEMBER REQUEST FOR ROMANCE SUBMISSIONS

The contest is free to enter. There are no cash prizes; however selected stories will be published in an anthology entitled "Here Come the Brides." The ending date for submissions is midnight, EST, June 1, 2024.

The topic is flexible and can include any era, and any romance (see [Heat Level Requirements](#)), as long as there's a bride or wedding in it. We're looking for an edited and polished romance short story from 6,000 to 10,000 words. This should be a work that is brand new, not a section of a project that has been published. If you are an author who writes in the romance genre, please consider joining us. For details is contest.janerohde.com



a safe, learning, environment.

Pictured above are Suzanne Schiffman (mock literary agent), Rachel Glover (pitch workshop coordinator and facilitator), and Kristine Ochu (mock literary agent).



Amelia Island Writers is a chapter of the Florida Writers Association

<http://www.floridawriters.org>

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