



Skullduggery

July 2010

The Official Newsletter of the Susquehanna Mysteries Alliance

- Mystery Books
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- Time Travel
- Necromancy
- Folklore
- Zombies
- Anomalous Zones
- And More ...

Get a Clue

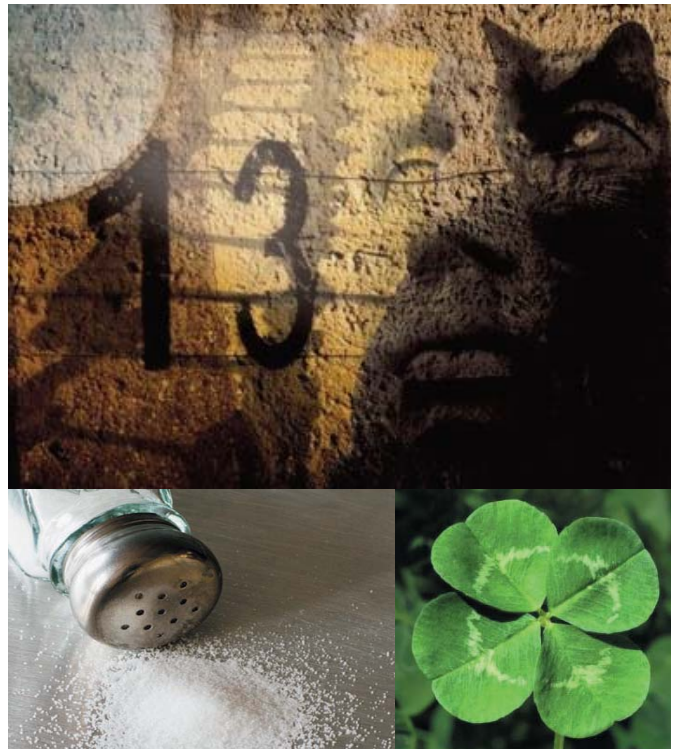
This month's meeting subject.

Superstitions, Curses & Hexes

Superstitions are part of our culture. We grew up avoiding black cats, searching for four-leaf clovers and lugging around rabbit's foot key chains. Where do superstitions get their origins and why do we, as level-headed adults, still believe in them?

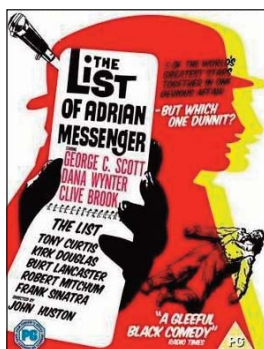
Are curses real? Can land be cursed? We will discuss some local areas that are said to be "cursed" and you can decide for yourself.

In 1929, the infamous York County Hex Case had turned into a media circus. Learn how--even in the modern era--we still accept the power in hexes and the supernatural.



If you dare to venture out on Friday the 13th ...

**Come to the FREE event at the Bookshop
Movie in the Meadow**



Friday, August 13th ♦ 8:30 p.m.

Outdoor Showing of Mystery Classic **The List of Adrian Messenger**

Features an All-Star Cast: George C. Scott, Kirk Douglas, Burt Lancaster, Robert Mitchum and Frank Sinatra.

Bring your lawn chairs, snacks and beverages and enjoy a **FREE** outdoor movie! Adults only, please.



FREE Movie in the Meadow

Friday, August 13th ♦ 8:30 p.m.

Are you brave enough to venture outdoors on Friday the 13th? The Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop will host a FREE outdoor movie! Bring your lawn chairs, snacks & beverages and ENJOY!!!

Showing the mystery classic:

The List of Adrian Messenger

George C. Scott, Kirk Douglas, Burt Lancaster,
Robert Mitchum & Frank Sinatra

Chickies Rock Haunted Hike

Saturday, August 21st ♦ 12:00 Noon

Bring a bagged lunch and some comfortable walking shoes and join SMA for a fascinating day at Chickies Rock Park hearing stories of its haunted past ... and present!

Our tour guide will be Rick Fisher, president of the Paranormal Society of Pennsylvania. \$2 per person

For more info, visit susquehannamysteriesalliance.com

SMA's Halloween Bash

Friday, October 29th ♦ 7:00 p.m.

You've been contributing to SMA all year--now you can come and have a ball at a FREE Halloween party at the Mechanicsburg Bookshop. Just bring a snack for everyone to share and enjoy the games, music, dancing & friendship. **Come in costume--there will be prizes!**



Don't Miss our Upcoming Special Guests



John Weaver



Tracey Roy



Rick Fisher

Register early for meetings--
Seating is limited!

September 22

November 24

Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) field investigators John Weaver & Tracey Roy will lecture about MUFON's role and duties, as well as area UFO sightings--including one in Mechanicsburg!

Rick Fisher, president of the Paranormal Society of PA has been investigating the haunted, mysterious and bizarre for decades. Join us as he tell tales of strange creatures that lurk in South Central Pennsylvania!

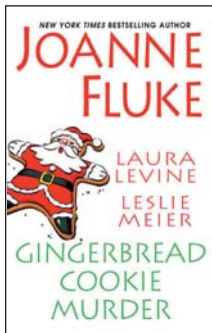


Christmas in July

Have a culinary mystery lover on your Christmas list?



Coming in October 2010
GINGERBREAD COOKIE
MURDER



By Joanne Fluke

Nothing's better on Christmas Eve than waiting for the stroke of midnight with a cup of eggnog and a plate of warm gingerbread cookies. But in this merry collection of holiday mysteries, murder is making its own special delivery...

Other Hannah

Swensen Mysteries:

Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder

Strawberry Shortcake Murder

Blueberry Muffin Murder

Lemon Meringue Pie Murder

Fudge Cupcake Murder

Sugar Cookie Murder

Peach Cobbler Murder

Cherry Cheesecake Murder

Key Lime Pie Murder

Carrot Cake Murder

Cream Puff Murder

Plum Pudding Murder

Apple Turnover Murder

Keep this on your radar for next year:

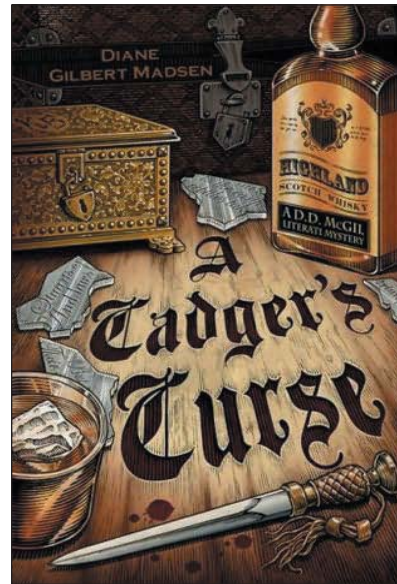
Joanna Fluke, who writes the Hannah Swensen culinary cozy mystery series, will be writing a cookbook with all of Hannah's published recipes, plus a generous sprinkling of new never-before-published recipes. Kensington plans to release it next year, in **October 2011**, just in time for holiday baking and gift-giving.



It's a Mystery to Me



Book of the Month



A Cadger's Curse

Diane Gilbert Madsen

From Publishers Weekly

Madsen's promising debut, the first in a new cozy series set in Chicago, introduces DD McGill, a 38-year-

old freelance insurance investigator and former English professor who's a whiz at breaking and entering.

Two days before Christmas, a case takes DD to a computer company, HI-Data, where she stumbles on the corpse of Ken Gordon, a partner at HI-Data who happens to be the half brother of DD's late fiancé, who apparently jumped to his death from a high balcony. Since DD despised Ken, she fears the police will suspect her of murder.

Meanwhile, DD's Aunt Elizabeth (aka the Scottish Dragon) arrives for the holidays with what she claims is a rare Robert Burns manuscript. Tom Joyce, DD's antiquarian bookseller friend, offers to help with research into the manuscript. Well-drawn characters and a suspenseful plot will leave readers looking forward to the next installment.



2010 Meetings

- August 25** **You Don't Know Jack!
Crimes of Jack the Ripper**
- September 22** **UFOs & Aliens w/ Guest Speakers
Tracey Roy & John Weaver**
- October 27** **Area Haunted Locations
History of Halloween**
- November 24** **Strange Creatures in Pennsylvania
Guest Speaker: Rick Fisher**
- December 22** **Holiday Gathering
Showing of "A Christmas Carol"**

2011 Schedule & Topics Coming Soon!

Visit us on the Web
susquehannamysteriesalliance.com



A very special thank you to our hosts at:

The Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop

6 Clouser Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Phone: (717) 795-7470
E-mail: mysterybooks@comcast.net
Web: mysterybooksonline.com



Black Magic Cake

- 2 cups sugar
- 1-3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup HERSHEY'S Cocoa
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup sour milk
(To sour milk: Use 1 tablespoon white vinegar plus milk to equal 1 cup)
- 1 cup strong black coffee **OR** 2 teaspoons powdered instant coffee plus 1 cup boiling water
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Heat oven to 350°F. Grease and flour two 9-inch round baking pans or one 13x9x2-inch baking pan.

Stir together sugar, flour, cocoa, baking soda, baking powder and salt in large bowl. Add eggs, buttermilk, coffee, oil and vanilla; beat on medium speed of mixer 2 minutes (Batter will be thin). Pour batter evenly into prepared pans.

Bake 30 to 35 minutes for round pans, 35 to 40 minutes for rectangular pan or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes; remove from pans to wire racks. Cool completely. Frost as desired. Yields 10 to 12 servings.

So rich and moist, it's spooooky!

