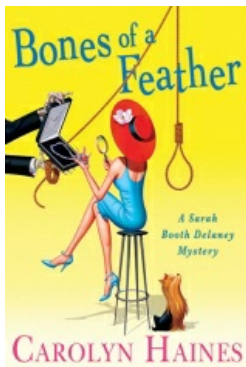


Updates from the **ANIMAL KINGDOM**

I am head over heels for this [book trailer](#) that Samantha Hebert created. Let me know what you think of it.



Want to read the first couple chapters? [Click me](#). Happy Reading!



Will you to come with a ghost story to share with us at the [Book Launch](#)? Mine will chill you to the Bones.



Dear Readers and Friends,

This has been a busy month—end of the school year, lots of travel, upper respiratory infection—just a lot going on. Most of it has been really good.

Samantha Hebert has created my first ever book trailer. Here's the link: [MY BOOK TRAILER](#). I love the music, which Libby Rae wrote and sings. Isn't it just terrific? A graduate of the USM film school, Samantha is majorly talented. You have to take a look at this trailer (it's very short!). I am just in love with it.

Samantha is the daughter of Curtis and Ann Hebert, old friends of the Haines clan. Our history goes back to my childhood. And the Heberts are still treating me like one of their family. Sometimes life is just the best.

The first two chapters of BONES OF A FEATHER are posted on the St. Martin's mystery web site. Here's the link: [Exclusive Sneak Peek](#). For all of you mystery readers and writers, this is a very cool site.

The big event coming up is the [Natchez, MS: Book Launch](#) for BONES OF A FEATHER at [Turning Pages Bookstore](#) on Franklin Street in Natchez. The signing is 5-8 p.m., June 25, followed by a ghost tour of Natchez. Seats are limited, and the cost of the tour is \$25 (it's a professional group). You can book the tour through the bookstore.

And don't forget, the amazing Dean James, (writing as Miranda James) a fellow Mississippian and mystery writer, will be part of the fun, signing copies of his latest NYT's BESTSELLING novel, [CLASSIFIED AS MURDER](#). Charlie Harris and Diesel, the Maine Coon cat, are back! I just love this series. And I adore Dean. He is our official "Big Daddy" and he has generously agreed to come to the launch in Natchez to party with all of us.

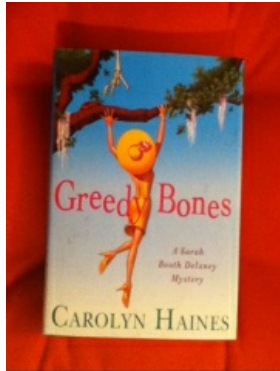
At the bookstore (with some wine and snacks), we'll have "open mic" for those who want to tell a ghost story. I have one my grandmother used to tell—it always scared us half to death. I'm working with a Natchez businessman to see if we can record the ghost stories and burn CDs. Wouldn't that be fun—to have our own CD of the stories we tell. I know my friend, DeWitt Lobrano, has been working on his story. I can't wait. So if you're coming to the signing, please polish off an old tale or make up a new one and let's have some fun.

I probably won't do another newsletter before the book launch, so mark your calendars and make your reservations. Natchez is a remarkable place. It's worth a trip even if I'm not there! There are tons of wonderful B&Bs and the Eola Hotel in downtown Natchez.

Sarah Bewley and I went scouting for locations for the 2012



I wrote an essay called *The Mockingbird's Call*. Check it out [Right Here](#).



It's not too late to win the Freebie-of-the-Month. Enter my [CONTEST](#) to win a signed, hardcover of *Greedy Bones*.



You love your pets, and I want to get to know them. I invite you to submit a photo and write a little bit about what makes your pet so special. Check out my [PET SITE](#) right now!

Daddy's Girl Weekend. We think we've found the perfect spot, but we're waiting for some information. We may move the weekend to April to get back a little bit from Mardi Gras and St. Patty's Day. It gets kind of jumbled when too many events run together. More details on this later, as soon as we firm things up. I don't believe we could ever improve on the Big Daddy candidates we had this year (Dean and Ben LeRoy and David Sheffield) but be thinking of anyone you think might make a superb Big Daddy. Of course, Dean may retain the title!

Don't forget to check the my website's [Fan Site](#) and my [Facebook Profile](#) and [Facebook Fan Page](#) regularly. We run contests all time and 10 lucky winners have already received Advance Reading Copies (ARCs) of [BONES OF A FEATHER](#). If you read one of my books and have time, I'd really appreciate it if you posted a review at Barnes and Noble and Amazon. I can't tell you how important these reader reviews are. (Yeah, yeah, I know—it's not enough that you BUY the book, now I want you to write about it.) But the partnership between reader and writer has never been more clearly defined. Remember that you have the power!

Over the past few months, my books have gotten some nice attention. BONE APPETIT was named [Best Amateur Sleuth](#) and won the RT Reviewer's Choice Award in that category. Both BONE APPETIT and DELTA BLUES were nominated for a Southern Independent Booksellers Association ([SIBA](#)) award.

Last year when I won the Harper Lee award, I wrote an essay for Long Leaf Magazine. The essay won the Gold Award at the GAMMA awards. If you'd like to read it, here's the link: [The Mockingbird's Call](#).

I did an interview with Mutual of Omaha—they were in Mobile filming "aha" moments. This is a moment when someone realizes something profound in his or her life. They'll send me a link when they post mine on their web site, and I will let you all know.

BONE APPETIT is now available in [paperback](#). DELTA BLUES is now an e-book for both the [Kindle](#) and [Nook](#). Also, I just got my copies of BONE APPETIT in audio format, read once again by the talented Kate Forbes for Recorded Books which will be available in December.

Remember, we have a [pet site](#) on my web site, so send in the photos of the creatures you love and your stories about them, and we'll post them.

And I hope to see some of you in Natchez. I know it's "too fer a piece" for some of you to travel, but you can be with us in spirit, and maybe we'll have a ghost story CD for you to share the experience.

At any rate, Priya will be snapping photos and posting videos. If Pursalain Hominy attends, maybe she'll bring her chicken and show us all how to hypnotize it. Or better yet, maybe she can work her magic on my brother! He definitely needs to be hypnotized and calmed down.

Until next time—

Carolyn

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