

MINNESOTA CRIME WAVE BIO

There's almost no truth to the rumor that the members of the Minnesota Crime Wave met because they have the same parole officer. Established in the fall of 2000, the Crime Wave consists of mystery writers Ellen Hart, Carl Brookins, and William Kent Krueger. Between them they have published more than thirty novels and have received nearly two dozen local, regional, and national awards for their writing. They have toured the country several times, presenting over a hundred events and workshops at libraries, bookstores, conferences, and book festivals.

Ellen Hart, a trained chef, is author of the Jane Lawless mystery series, which features a culinary detective. Hart has also written novels featuring food critic Sophie Greenway. Both series are set in Minnesota's Twin Cities.

Carl Brookins, a former academic and an avid sailor, is the author of three mystery series. The Tanner-Whitney series features a married pair of sailing sleuths. The Sean Sean series features a very short, very funny, and sometimes very dark private detective with an identical first and last name. And his most recent offering, *Bloody Halls*, which will debut in early 2008, introduces a series with an academic setting.

William Kent Krueger writes the Cork O'Connor mystery series, which is set in the great northwoods of Minnesota and features a protagonist who is part Irish and part Ojibwe. His stories often deal with the clash of cultures.