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Press Release

**Rex Stout Selected for
Induction to the New York State Writers Hall of Fame**

Induction Dinner to Take Place in New York on June 3, 2014

The New York Center for the Book has selected famed crime fiction author Rex Stout (1886-1975) for induction into the New York State Writers Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame induction will take place in New York City on Tuesday evening, June 3, 2014, at the Princeton Club on 43rd Street. The Wolfe Pack, the literary society dedicated to celebrating all things Nero Wolfe, Mr. Stout's legendary detective, wholeheartedly endorses this honor.

For cost and further details regarding the dinner, check the Wolfe Pack web site, www.nerowolfe.org or send an e-mail to the Wolfe Pack "Werowance" ("Indian Chief," as Archie addressed Mr. Wolfe in *Too Many Cooks*), Ira Brad Matetsky, at Werowance@nerowolfe.org.

Rex Todhunter Stout was born in Noblesville, Indiana, December 1, 1886. Mr. Stout published several novels and dozens of short stories before he turned to the mystery genre in the 1930s. *Fer-de-Lance*, Stout's first Nero Wolfe novel, appeared in 1934, and was an immediate best-seller. The Nero Wolfe books have been in print continuously since they were published, have been translated into dozens of languages, and have been the subject of numerous adaptations including motion pictures, radio, and television, most recently on the A&E Network.

Mr. Stout worked tirelessly throughout his career to help protect the rights of authors and other creators. In addition, he was associated with the Writers' Board for World Government, the American Civil Liberties Union, and Freedom House. During World War II, Mr. Stout waged a personal campaign against Nazism, serving as Chairman of the War Writers Board and writing and broadcasting the CBS radio program "Our Secret Weapon."

He also served as President of the Authors Guild and the Authors League of America, on whose behalf he testified before Congress several times in support of expanded copyright protection for writers. He also served as President of the Mystery Writers of America, which awarded him the Grand Master Award in 1959.

Ira Matetsky said, "The Wolfe Pack warmly congratulates this year's other inductees – current writers Russell Banks, Mary Higgins Clark, Alice Hoffman, and Maurice Kenny, as well as the late Nora Ephron and James Thurber."

The induction of Stout and the six other inductees will take place at a dinner on Tuesday evening, June 3, 2014, at the Princeton Club of New York in Manhattan. The induction dinner is open to the public and will include presentations about and acceptances by or on behalf of each of the honorees.

Further information on Rex Stout and the Wolfe Pack is available at www.nerowolfe.org or by e-mailing werowance@nerowolfe.org or calling Mr. Matetsky at (212) 922-9149. For additional information on the Empire State Center for the Book and the Writers Hall of Fame, please communicate with Rocco Staino, New York Library Association, at rocco.staino@gmail.com or 1-800-252-NYLA.