Atlanta Writers Club - founded 1914, we are a social and educational club where local writers meet to discuss the craft and business of writing. We also sponsor contests for our members and host expert speakers from the worlds of writing, publishing, and entertainment.
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This month’s author was born in 1959. He became interested in fantasy after reading J. R. R. Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings*, given to him as a Christmas gift. He developed an interest in fantasy and other literature, and changed his college major from computer science to journalism. You’ll find his name hidden in plain sight—two places—in this newsletter. Neither the authors on the cover nor their books are intended as an endorsement by the AWC, its officers, or its members.

Gene Bowen, eQuill Publisher

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**Stay Connected to AWC**

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A Message from the President

“It’s perfect. Gut it.”

Story and Building

I’ve been editing a lot lately. Not the story kind of editing, but the house kind.

We bought our current home in 2016 knowing we wanted to renovate. Built in 1987 it had honey oak cabinets— including one that cut off the kitchen from the breakfast area – fluorescent lights, and Kermit green walls. In the last eight years we’ve moved from room to room, tweaking, reimagining, maintaining and repairing. I think of the process not as phases but a continuum, the home blooming into an expression of who we are and how we want to live.

Story is the same for me. Not so much stages of writing and editing, but building layer upon layer until a feeling of completion comes. What about you? Whether you’re a plotter or pantser, do you write distinct drafts? Or do you layer? I so admire people who can write day after day without reviewing the previous work and those who can put a whole draft aside for months and come back fresh.

Lately I think all writing is editing after the first idea comes. I walk around the story in my mind, coffee cup in hand or nearly asleep, dissecting and questioning everything. Thoughts make their way to the page in dribs and drabs, snippets of dialogue, conceptions of scenes or details of setting. Some writers practice the draft-by-draft method. Trial and error, rewriting scenes, finetuning sentences. I approach writing and editing as one iterative exercise. Like a reno project. I plan excessively in advance, building out the space in my mind. Construct a bit, stand back, overthink overnight, then attack again the next day. At some point the elements come together.

Home is about feeling – the space and light, special objects, and, most importantly, the people who surround you. We crave comfort, acceptance, and support. Stories are different. They need conflict and tension. We tear characters apart until we bring their lives to a satisfying resolution. One of my favorite jokes about someone looking at a potential house to buy is when they say, “It’s perfect. Gut it.”

It’s a cruel job we step into as writers. As with construction or renovation, the process is ugly and messy, but the finished product feels just right. Story payoff comes when I can stand back and say, “This is what it was supposed to have been like all along.”

AWC President Jill Evans is a computer nerd by trade, website designer, photographer and writer. Her work in progress is a novel that combines her love of art, intrigue and history. You can follow her on Instagram at @jillevanswriter and find out more at www.jillevans.com.
February Meeting Photos & Links

Photos Courtesy of Patrick Scullin

Complete set of photos here: [LINK]

Melissa Bourbon’s Presentation Slides: [LINK]
March 16 AWC In-person Meeting

March 16, 12:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m. at Georgia State University: Perimeter College - Dunwoody Campus, 2101 Womack Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338, Building N-C auditorium and café. (If you’re not on our mailing list, use the form here to add yourself so you will get any updates about this meeting.)

This meeting may be recorded; if so, the recording link will be shared in the following month’s eQuill newsletter.

12:45-1:30 p.m. Nosh and Networking Mixer for members and first-time visitors in the café

Please arrive for our March meeting by 12:45 so you can check in, and then join everyone at our genre tables for a meet and greet opportunity to build your network and make new friends.

1:30-1:45 p.m. AWC announcements and upcoming events with AWC President Jill Evans
1:45 p.m.-2:45 p.m. Speaker #1 - Brandon McNulty: Writing the Perfect Scene
2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Book signing for Brandon McNulty
3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Speaker #2 - Pamela Terry: What Is a Southern Writer?
4:15-5:00 p.m. Book signing for Pamela Terry

BRANDON MCNULTY grew up loving monsters, demons, and the thrill of a great scare. Now he writes suspense, horror, and other dark fiction. He is the author of Bad Parts and Entry Wounds, and his short fiction has appeared on the No Sleep Podcast. He runs a popular YouTube writing channel called Writer Brandon McNulty.

In “Writing the Perfect Scene,” Brandon will discuss the all-important building blocks of story: scenes. This talk will explore the different types of scenes, how to structure them, and how to deliver emotional impact through story events. He will also address some of the main mistakes writers make when writing scenes.

A lifelong southerner, PAMELA TERRY learned the power of storytelling at a very early age. For the past decade, Terry has been the author of the internationally popular blog From the House of Edward, which was named one of the top ten home blogs of the year by The Telegraph. She lives in Smyrna, Georgia, with her songwriter husband, Pat, and their two dogs, Andrew and George. She travels to the Scottish Highlands as frequently as possible.
The deadline for our annual writing contest—with awards for fiction, nonfiction, and poetry—is MARCH 20.

ELIGIBILITY:
The AWC 2024 Writing Contest is open to all current (through May 31, 2024), paid club members. Please check your membership status before submitting your entry. To join the AWC or renew your membership, please use this link. If you have a question about when your AWC membership expires, please contact the Membership VP, Yvonne Green.

Submissions must be original, unpublished, and previously un-awarded work.

Entrants may submit only one piece to only one category per contest year.

DEADLINE:
Midnight, March 20, 2024. Submissions received after this date will automatically be ineligible.

AWARDS:
Winners will be announced at our club meeting on May 18, 2024. Each award carries a $300 cash prize and a plaque as well as—new for 2024—dinner with the other award winners and finalists after the May 18th meeting.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:
- Terry Kay Prize for Fiction (Maximum, 3000 words) - can be a short story or book chapter(s)
- Rick Bragg Prize for Nonfiction (Maximum, 3000 words) - can be a short piece or book chapter(s)
- Natasha Trethewey Prize for Poetry (Maximum, 90 lines)

For complete submission instructions, please click HERE.
Two New AWC Quarterly Webinar Series

In 2024, we are offering two separate quarterly webinar series to AWC members. Each series is $50 total and will grant you live online access via Zoom on the date of each quarterly webinar as well as a link to the recording for each one, in case you're unable to attend the live presentation or want to watch it again. Each recording will be retained online, so if you register after one or more of the webinars are held, you will still be able to view the ones you missed. You will also receive any handout(s) created for each webinar in the series.

The $50 cost for each series will help to pay for the speaker's honorarium as well as contribute to the Atlanta Writers Club's reserve for scholarships, support of literary activities, and our building fund.

If you are not yet an Atlanta Writers Club member but want to register for one or both webinar series, you will have the option to add AWC membership to your total. You will then also be able to attend our monthly in-person meetings at no charge, participate in our critique groups, enter our contests, and register for periodic standalone online workshops offered free to members.

Quarterly Webinar Series with Lorin Oberweger ($50)

**LORIN OBERWEGEGER** is a highly sought-after independent book editor and ghostwriter with almost thirty years’ experience in publishing. Her company, Free Expressions, offers intensive, deep craft workshops nationwide. She’s also known for her one-on-one story mastermind session for writers of all genres of fiction and creative nonfiction. In 2023, Lorin's webinars for the AWC were consistently the most popular online educational experiences we offered. Note that she will not be doing critiques this year.

Lorin's 2024 Webinars: (each one at 7 pm Eastern)
1. February 21, 2024: What the Heck Is Agency?
2. May 22, 2024: Emotional Storytelling and Deep Point of View
3. August 21, 2024: Keeping the Wind in Your Sails: How to Give, Get, and Work with Feedback
4. November 20, 2024: Reimagining Revision

Quarterly Webinar Series with Diane Callahan ($50)

**DIANE CALLAHAN** is the Fiction Editor for Consequence, an international literary journal that addresses the realities of war and geopolitical violence through literature and visual art. She is also the managing editor at Story Garden Publishing, a collaborative writing venture with fellow authors Jordan Riley Swan and Hero Bowen. Together, they plot, write, and edit novels in various genres, from comedies and romances to fantasy novels and fairy-tale retellings. She has been a full-time developmental editor for over six years, critiquing fantasy, science fiction, literary, middle grade, thriller, and romance novels. Prior to Story Garden, she worked for three years as a developmental editor and plot outline for a best-selling indie publisher under an NDA, overseeing the production of thirty novels across four series. She also wrote and edited interactive fiction games for Talented, an e-learning platform for universities and business leadership.

Diane's 2024 Webinars: (each one at 7 pm Eastern)
1. March 28, 2024: Crafting a Compelling Short Story
2. June 27, 2024: Finding Your Narrative Voice
3. September 26, 2024: Sharpening Your Prose on a Sentence Level
4. December 12, 2024: Blending Genres to Create Fresh Stories

For a complete description of each webinar and to register for either or both quarterly webinar series, click [HERE](#).
Be part of the Atlanta Self-Publishing Conference (ASPC) on Saturday, April 27, 2024! For $119, you get 5 in-person presentations, 3 virtual presentations, LUNCH, and more!

ASPC 2024 is for indie authors who want to grow their business, network with other authors, and talk with the experts.

At ASPC 2024, you don’t have to choose between presentations—you get to attend them all! Attendees will receive all of these benefits:

HOT LUNCH! This will not be a box lunch, and we’re including options for dietary needs.

8 presentations that you don’t have to choose between.

AUTHOR HORROR STORIES: WHAT NOT TO DO AS AN INDIE AUTHOR
Editors, scammers, and marketing disasters, oh my! If you type “self-publishing” into your browser, you’ll be inundated with information. All the free content, or businesses geared toward helping you, for a fee, will leave you exhausted and overwhelmed with options, marketing, ads, spreadsheets, and more. Too many of us in the industry have had to learn the hard way what to avoid. Hear Ben Meeks tell the true horror stories of indie authors and learn from their mistakes, so that you can save your time, money, and energy.

DIVERSIFYING YOUR CREATIVITY & INCOME
As creatives we often express our art in more aspects than the written word. What if you could use your other creative forms and diversify your income? Milton J. Davis, an award-winning self-published author, will share how he uses his passion for graphic novels and videos to express his art and maximize his profits. He’ll also teach us how to expand our own creativity into other markets and expand our publishing businesses.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT AI AS AN AUTHOR
AI brings as many possibilities as it does questions. So how do we, as authors, navigate what AI is, when it can be used, and the ethics around it? Bob McGough will break down the confusing mystery of Artificial Intelligence, explain the up-to-date
ethics around it, and share where AI can best support authors.

BUSINESS BASICS
As aspiring indie authors, we’ve heard a lot about where to click “publish.” But how do you start your own business? What is an FEIN? Why do you need a business plan? AWC treasurer Jerry Weiner will answer your questions about business basics and guide you through the steps necessary to get started. Jerry has decades of experience helping others in this area and will provide the critical information you need to form your own small business—and keep it going.

FINDING SUCCESS: WHERE NETWORKING & VOLUNTEERING MEET
Building a strong and supportive network is key to finding success as an indie author, but where do we start? How do we connect with industry professionals, including other authors, in a meaningful way? Join Brittany Dowdle and Linda Ruggeri, authors of the IBPA award–winning book Networking for Freelance Editors, to discover how to build the connections and network you need. In this session you’ll learn to redefine networking, position yourself for success, and discover how volunteering can supercharge your network.

USING TROPES TO ENHANCE YOUR READER’S JOURNEY (VIRTUAL OFFERING)
Do you want to hear from your fans that they couldn’t put your book down? That they had to stay up late into the night because they had to keep reading one more chapter? Tropes have been used by indie authors as a key tool to build a fan following, but they can also be tweaked to keep your readers gripped within your story. Join Danielle Kiowski to learn how to keep your readers captivated within your genre’s tropes.

BUILDING YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT (VIRTUAL OFFERING)
Social media looks easy when you’re scrolling through Instagram or the TikTok videos playing one after another. But when it comes to building your own personal brand, you can find yourself staring at your phone with a big question mark over your head. And what is a personal brand, anyway? J. M. Tompkins will help to demystify the intimidating social media world, help you build your own personal brand, and guide you through drawing a line between your personal and professional image.

- The pre-conference virtual networking event Networking Webinar & Genre Breakouts so you can meet others in your genre before you even show up.
- Coffee & Conversations, the first event of the in-person conference on April 27th, to get you pumped & ready to learn.
- The Editor Connection for a free sample edit of your current WIP.
- Perk Packs filled with information to help you build your publishing business.
- Early bird pricing ends with January, so grab your ticket today LINK

Atlanta Writers Club
Don't just learn about book marketing—develop your own marketing plan.

Authors Kim Conrey and Roger Johns have more than a decade of combined experience marketing and selling their fiction and nonfiction books. They want to help you to create your own marketing plan to give your book sales a jump-start or, if you're still working on your first book, getting ahead of the game so you can build your platform, and you can set in motion, as early as possible, the processes that will give you greater access to opportunities important to the success of your books.

Rather than just providing you with hours of lecture on various aspects of online marketing and in-person sales, Kim and Roger will guide you through the creation of your own plan with a template you'll complete as the workshop progresses. By the end, you'll have a path-forward for everything from platform building with newsletter and social media to online advertising, to writing a script for contacting bookstores and conducting your signings to maximize sales.

Kim and Roger will cover the following topics during their 3.5-hour workshop:
- Why email newsletters are more effective than social media posts.
- How to grow an actively engaged mailing list
- How to make the best use of your website.
- Bookbub, BookFunnel, and numerous other free marketing tools at your disposal.
- Tips about using Amazon and Facebook ads.
- Making the perfect pitch to get signings at bookstores and speaking gigs at book festivals.
- Conducting yourself at book signings and public speaking events.

Speaker Profiles

KIM CONREY is the Georgia Author of the Year recipient in the romance category for Stealing Ares, traditionally published by Black Rose Writing and Losing Ares, the follow up. Her urban fantasy Nicholas Eternal was published in June 2023, and her memoir You’re Not a Murderer: You Just Have Harm OCD, which she co-wrote with her adult child, was released in October of 2023. Her work has also been published by numerous magazines and literary journals and received awards. She serves as VP of Operations for the Atlanta Writers Club and podcasts about writing with the Wild Women Who Write. She gives book marketing talks and speaks on various topics relating to writing at local and regional writing conferences and literary festivals. She is the co-author, with Roger Johns, of the quarterly column “If You Only Have an Hour: Time-Saving Tips & Tricks for Managing Your Writing Career,” which appears in Page Turner, the
ROGER JOHNS is the author of Dark River Rising and River of Secrets, from St. Martin’s Press, as well as numerous short stories published by, among others, Saturday Evening Post, Alfred Hitchcock’s Mystery Magazine, Mystery Weekly Magazine, and Black Beacon Books. He is the 2018 Georgia Author of the Year for mystery, and a two-time finalist for the Killer Nashville Silver Falchion Award. Since 2016, Roger has made over 140 live appearances across the country, at conferences, conventions, bookstores, libraries, book clubs, corporate events, writing clubs, continuing education classes and other writing-oriented venues, as well as on podcasts, web radio, and broadcast radio. He has also made, and continues to make, frequent invited presentations on writing and career management for new authors, and his articles and essays on these topics have appeared in, among other publications, Southern Writers Magazine, Career Authors, and Southern Literary Review. He is the co-author, with Kim Conrey, of the quarterly column “If You Only Have an Hour: Time-Saving Tips & Tricks for Managing Your Writing Career”, which appears in Page Turner, the magazine of the Georgia Writers Museum and the Atlanta Writers Club.

Register Today for “Develop Your Marketing Plan” Workshop

Pricing for AWC Members ($50.00)
You must be an Atlanta Writers Club member through March 23, 2024 to receive this pricing.

Nonmember Pricing ($110.00)
This price includes 365-day membership in the Atlanta Writers Club, enabling you to participate in this workshop and upcoming online workshops and meetings at no charge for an entire year.

To register, click HERE

Refund Policy

If you cancel by March 9, 2024, you will receive a $40 refund; no refund will be given after that date. The purchase of an AWC membership is nonrefundable; you will continue to receive membership benefits for the remainder of the 365 days.

Questions? Contact AWC Executive Director George Weinstein.
Our 30th Atlanta Writers Conference will be held in-person (with an option to participate virtually for agent/editor meetings only) at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel on May 3-4, 2024 with agent/editor critique and pitch meetings, a two-hour workshop on building your author platform, two Q&A panels, emailed pre-conference edits, a Friday night mixer with music, two days of educational talks, and our book fair!

Location:
WESTIN ATLANTA AIRPORT HOTEL 4736 Best Road, Atlanta, GA 30337

Whether you are...
- In search of an agent or a publisher
- Working on a manuscript and in need of feedback
- Seeking to learn more about the writing craft and/or publishing business
- Building your network of industry professionals and writing colleagues
...this is your opportunity to take the next big step toward your writing goals.

Want to get published?

- The May 3-4, 2024 Atlanta Writers Conference offers you meetings with literary agents and publishing acquisitions editors—with an option to participate virtually if you are unable to travel to Atlanta—along with a host of other in-person activities:
  - Access to 18 acquisitions editors and literary agents seeking every major fiction genre and nonfiction topic, as well as graphic novels, picture books, and short story collections.
  - Critiques of manuscript samples by the editors and agents, with work submitted a month in advance.
  - Pitches to the editors and agents with query letters you will bring for their review.
  - Query letter critique by a pair of editors/agents to improve your pitch (at past conferences, nearly 50% of Best Pitch awards by an agent or publisher went to those who participated in the Query Letter Critique).
  - Two-hour workshop with bestselling author, speaker, and coach Tama Kieves on “The Unstoppable Writer: The Infallible Way to Build Your Writing Power, Practice and Platform” and two free bonus talks by Tama beforehand.
• A publisher Q&A panel with all participating acquisitions editors and a separate Q&A panel with all participating literary agents to address your questions about the business of writing.

• Free bonus educational talks by award-winning and bestselling crime novelist and memoirist Jeff Shaw, Southern women’s fiction author Love Hudson, and Jennifer Moorman, bestselling author of the magical realism *Mystic Water* series.

• Friday-night mixer with musical entertainment by pianist/singer and AWC member Mike Shaw and his accompanist.

• Award ceremony, where each of the agents and editors will select participants for Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitches, with certificates to be given to the awardees—or sent after the conference for those not in attendance.

• And our book fair offers opportunities to participants who want to sign and sell their traditionally and self-published books on Friday, May 3.

More than 50 of our members have signed with agents or editors they met at our Conferences, and a number of those have scored major book deals (and one, so far, has hit the big-time with a movie and TV deal). You could be next!

We’re now accepting registrations. As past Conference participants will tell you, the spots fill up fast, so don’t delay!

The Atlanta Writers Conference is presented exclusively for members of the Atlanta Writers Club. If you are not a current member through May 4, 2024, you can join/renew as part of your Conference registration—you do not need to do this as a two-step process.

To read all the details for the May 3-4, 2024 Atlanta Writers Conference, click link to start: [LINK](#)
The AWC Merch Store is now open on Café Press.

Cups, caps, hoodies, shirts, and more items with AWC logos are now available for sale on CafePress.com. All purchases help us add more in-person and online content and offer even more through our conferences.

Start shopping here: [LINK](#)
AWC MEMBER DAWN CAMP contributed four entries to 100 Days of Strength in Any Struggle: A Devotional Journal, published on February 4. Dawn’s stories deal with pregnancy and finances (Indescribable Relief), pride and forgiveness (A Forgiveness Beyond Comprehension), everyday blessings (The Gift of Daily Graces), and lessons in empathy from a wary black cat (Jesus Speaks Your Language). This devotional journal features authentic stories, empowering Scriptures, and thought-provoking prompts, providing the guidance needed to harness strength and resilience regardless of changing circumstances.

Purchase Link

Now graduated from her role as a homeschooling mom of eight, Dawn Camp devotes her time and love of stories to writing her first novel. She contributes to DaySpring’s (in)courage website and writes about family, faith, Photoshop, and life in an ever-emptying nest on Substack. Dawn has authored It All Began in a Garden and five other nonfiction titles, and been featured on Adobe’s website for Adobe Photoshop Lightroom software. She enjoys movie date nights, steaming cups of Earl Grey, and cheering on the Braves.
In Memorium

AWC MEMBER BILL OTTINGER passed away on February 14, 2024. He was the author of five novels and one non-fiction work.

He published his first novel, A Season for Ravens, in 2014, which was named by Reader Favorites as a major work of historical fiction in 2014-2015. His second novel, The Savannah Betrayals, was published by Pocol Press in March 2018. His third novel, The Last Van Gogh, was released in March 2019 by Black Rose Writing and won the 2019 Maxy Award for Best Mystery-Detective Novel. It was the first in a trilogy of Adam Barrows mysteries. The second in the series, Shadows of Leonardo, was published by Black Rose Writing in December 2020. The final novel in this mystery series, Hidden, was published by Black Rose Writing in December 2022.

In 1997, Windrow and Greene Publishers in Great Britain released his non-fiction work on historical miniatures, Napoleonic Plastic Figure Modelling, an art form in which he gained international recognition as a Grand Master painter. He formerly authored a column for Trust & Investments magazine for seven years. He has trained and lectured extensively in the financial field in addition to writing articles for numerous publications. He has spoken to audiences of all sizes and served as president of Scribbler’s Ink, a Houston writers group.

He spent his early life in Savannah, Georgia and graduated from Emory University with a BA in history. He is also a graduate of Northwestern Graduate Trust School in Chicago. Former founder and owner of a wealth management training/consulting firm, he and his wife owned an art gallery of contemporary realism in downtown Chicago.

AWC MEMBER JULIUS JE THOMPSON passed away on December 20, 2023. He was the author of five novels and one non-fiction work.

Julius JE Thompson grew up in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, New York and attended Bushwick High School. The sixties in Brooklyn was an era that had a personality, a feel, and a life-force that changed a generation. Mr. Thompson felt this energy and experienced these fires of social change.

Mr. Thompson’s journey to compose a trilogy began in 1995. The fictional journey of character Andy Michael Pilgrim from Brooklyn, to Philadelphia and finally Atlanta is now complete. In this pilgrimage, readers experience places that are filled with hopes, dreams, challenges and fears that make us human.

The novels that make up the trilogy are A Brownstone in Brooklyn, which won the 2022 Literary Titan Book Prize, Philly Style and Philly Profile and The Ghost of Atlanta. Mr. Thompson won the 2011 Readers Favorite National Gold Medal Award in General Fiction for The Ghost of Atlanta. Mr. Thompson also received the Georgia Author of the Year nomination for Philly Style and Philly Profile and The Ghost of Atlanta from the Georgia Writers Association.

In 2016, he published his non-fiction writing guide, Jumpstarting Your Inner Novelist.

Mr. Thompson’s fourth novel, Purple Phantoms, was published in 2021.

The award-winning author’s fifth novel, Killer Kudzu, was published in hardcover, paperback, eBook, and on Audible.com in January 2022.
As authors, we wear different hats. Besides the writing one, there’s “publicist/promoter,” “social media boss,” “critique partner,” and more. It’s usually easy to shift between roles. But what if one hat is a Prada and the other is a faded, beer-stained ball cap?

For me, the conflict stems from being both writer and editor. I recently spent two days proofreading a manuscript for a client, scouring every line for typos, missing formatting, and bad grammar. So it’s no wonder that when I turn to my novel in progress, and my writer’s voice cries, “I want to create and let words pour out and fly free!” the editor replies, “Not so fast there, Sparky.” I know that first drafts, at least, aren’t meant to be perfect. Anne Lamott, who devotes a chapter of her book Bird by Bird to this subject, says, “Almost all good writing begins with terrible first efforts. You need to start somewhere.”

Where and how? I try to put a distance of at least a few hours between editing and creating, and to write new pages when my energy is highest. I close my browser so I won’t be tempted to look up something to get it exactly right. I start with what comes easiest: when writing dialogue I’ll do, “She said ‘X,’” “They replied ‘Y,’” waiting until later to flesh out the conversation with raised eyebrows, a pounding pulse, etc. I let my characters babble too, because that loosens up my own brain and they often say things I don’t expect.

Finally, if my inner editor won’t stay quiet, I remind him, “Take a break. We’ll get there. This part is kind of fun.” I hope you’ve gotten some enjoyment out of this article. Remember to put on your most important hat (the one above).

Bio: Dave Swan is a former journalist and a lifelong writer. You can find his short stories and blog at his website.
Scribes Writing Classes for Kids

A creative writing camp for students in grades 5-8 that explores the craft of writing with author H.D. Hunter!

SPRING & SUMMER

SPRING WRITING WORKSHOPS
MARCH 9, APRIL 13, AND MAY 11

From comics and poetry to heroic stories, imaginations take flight at the Nest!

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A creative writing camp for students in grades 5-8 that explores the craft of writing with author H.D. Hunter!

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Melisa Cahnmann-Taylor
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Author of
Boy Erased
& All the World Beside

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Non-Fiction

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Georgia Highlands College
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Learn More
And
Register!

Saturday,
March 2nd, 2024
9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
GCSU’s CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

VISITING WRITERS SERIES

Dr. and Mrs. Barry Darugar
Distinguished Visiting Lecturer

BILLY COLLINS


MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024

Q & A, 4:00 - 4:45, Arts & Sciences 140
Reading: 7:30 - 8:30 A & S Auditorium
285 W Montgomery St., Milledgeville, GA 31061
New Short Story Contest for Women Writers

Stories of Transformation, Healing, and Inspiration

Enchanted Moon Press contest closes on March 20, 2024

Have you ever felt like there’s a story within you that’s ready to come out? But maybe the thought of writing an entire book is daunting. Maybe you’ve thought you could share it in just a few pages. Now is your time.

Enter for a chance to win to be published in an upcoming collection of inspirational stories. All the important details can be found here.

If you have any further questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to Laura Coy at her EMAIL.
Adult Services
Upcoming Author Talks

Author Amanda Barratt
March 5 | 12 pm | Virtual
Amanda Barrat shares the true stories that inspired her new historical fiction novel, *The Warsaw Sisters*.

Author Kyla Zhao
March 8 | 3 pm | Virtual
Kyla Zhao discusses her new romance novel, *Valley Verified*, about a fashion writer who dives headfirst into the cutthroat Silicon Valley tech world as her future unravels.

Author ReShonda Tate
March 14 | 7 pm | Duluth Branch
In *The Queen of Sugar Hill*, bestselling author ReShonda Tate presents a fascinating fictional portrait of Hattie McDaniel, one of Hollywood's most prolific but woefully underappreciated stars and the first Black person ever to win an Oscar for her role as Mammy in the critically acclaimed film classic *Gone With the Wind*. Books will be available for sale and signing.

DISCOVER MORE & REGISTER FOR ONLINE ACCESS:
WWW.GWINNETTPL.ORG/ADULTSERVICES
CELEBRATING DISTINCTIVE
LITERARY VOICES!

Cristian Carstoiu

What if the man next to you perfectly hummed a
song that aired today for the first time, as if he’d
heard it countless times?

Laura Elizabeth

From her years of family experiences on the island
(Daufuskie), Laura imagined Mongin Island as the
home for her cozy series The Island Mysteries.

Tuesday
March 19, 2024
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Brimstone Restaurant & Tavern
10595 Old Alabama Rd Con
Alpharetta, GA 20022

Cristian, Laura and Kendrick will be happy
to sign books purchased at the event.

Kendrick Smith

The book is inspired by Smith’s youthful
lore, tales and experiences related to a
1930s lake house his grandfather built on
Burnt Mountain in north Georgia.
ATLANTA AUTHORS
a program of Friends of the Roswell Library, in partnership with the City of Roswell and Bookmiser
presents

Piper Huguley

Saturday, March 23, at 2 p.m.
Hear Clark-Atlanta University literature professor Piper G. Huguley talk about her biographical historical fiction novel, telling the inspiring story of the Black fashion designer of Jackie Kennedy’s wedding dress. *By Her Own Design* was a 2022 Booklist top 100 Editor’s Choice selection and the 2022 American Library Association’s Reading Council historical fiction winner. And get a sneak peek into her new historical novel, *American Daughters*, about a remarkable interracial friendship.

Join us for a free In-person OR online/Zoom presentation with

Piper Huguley
discussing her book

*By Her Own Design - A Novel of Ann Lowe, Fashion Designer to the Social Register*

For autographed copies, contact Bookmiser @ 770-509-5611. Bookmiser.net

See the virtual event on Zoom or attend live at the Roswell Library, 115 Norcross Street, Roswell

RSVP

LIVE- https://AtlantaAuthorsPresentsPiperHuguleyLIVE.eventbrite.com

VIRTUAL- https://AtlantaAuthorsPresentsPiperHuguleyONLINE.eventbrite.com

FOLLOW us - Facebook.com/AtlantaAuthors
Southeastern Writers Association Conference

June 7-11, 2024
Epworth by The Sea
St. Simons Island, Georgia

Register at our brand new website:
https://www.southeasternwritersassociation.org/
“I am the fourth-generation CEO of our family’s agricultural services business. I want to write a book about our history, the people who have been at the helm for over 100 years and show our business community just how dedicated to their needs we have always been, so there is a PR benefit I’m trying to achieve. Candidly, I don’t know a thing about what’s involved. Have you some suggestions on how to get started and how to not get taken advantage of by the internet ads I see about giving them two hours of my time and they will create a best-seller? Thanks, ‘Scott.’”

Advice from a book collaborator
I ran Scott’s question by Caroline Lambert, who is an internationally recognized ghostwriter and book collaborator. She provided down-to-earth recommendations for anyone who is thinking of writing a non-fiction book. Lambert began our interview with these cautionary statistics and highly focused questions an author must not fail to answer:

“Only 10% of all books sell 10,000 copies in the first year, which pays for the publishing costs. Below that, a publisher does not make back its money. Statistically, few books even sell 1,000 copies. Very few sell a million copies. If someone goes into it thinking to sell millions of copies and become famous and rich, their odds would be better in Las Vegas!”

Still, she points out, there are valid reasons to write a book that may only sell just a few copies — such as family memoirs. Whatever your motivation, it is critical that you do not fail to ask these questions:

To read the complete article, click HERE.
Sometimes people ask me, “What was it like, having a fiction writer as a mom?”

Sometimes people ask, “Is that why you write fiction, too?”

Let me answer with a snapshot from 2009:

I am twenty-three. I am waitressing at a Chinese restaurant in a suburb of New Orleans. I have no idea what I want to do in life, but I love to read, and once in a while, I write down a scene of something that happened at the restaurant. Then I either forget about it, or send it to Mom with an email that says something like: Well, I was bored today, so I took some notes. Here they are.

One day, Mom calls me.

“I liked your story,” she says.

“Oh, it’s not a story. I was just—”

“I think you’re a writer,” she says, her tone insistent and amused. She is teasing me. Because she’s said this before and I’ve denied it.

“I was just bored at work, Mom,” I say with mock exasperation.

“But you know,” she adds, “you might want to buckle down. It’s a looooooooong apprenticeship.”

I change the subject. In my infinite wisdom, I wait another decade before taking her advice.

I encountered the phrase “long apprenticeship” again recently, while reading Charles Baxter’s fantastic craft book Wonderlands. He describes how, as a young man, he wrote three novels which, according to him, absolutely no one liked, until finally getting his first book accepted for publication.

To read the complete essay, click HERE

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Who doesn’t love a superbly executed plot twist? One that completely takes you by surprise and turns the story on its head. One that makes you gasp out loud because you truly did not see it coming. There have been times when I have been totally blindsided by a twist and every time that happens I absolutely love it. I am particularly thinking of Greer Hendricks’ The Wife Between Us here, which will always stay with me for the fact that it was so superbly done and I don’t believe I have ever seen it executed quite like this novel does anywhere else. (I won’t add any spoilers here.) But the latter point in itself is important. Because as soon as a twist is replicated, it becomes easier for a reader to guess. The secret is to come up with a cracking new way of incorporating a twist into your novel. Easier said than done, right?

Plot twists are expected in the crime and thriller genre. No one wants to read a book, or watch a TV series that unfurls in exactly the way the reader believes it will. Many books are now marketed on the strengths of their twists with straplines and quotes on the covers marvel at, “a twist you won’t see coming.”

And yet this in itself causes a problem for me both as a reader and a writer. As a reader I often find myself second guessing that twist I now know is coming, even when I don’t want to do so. And as a writer it means the pressure of feeling like I have to constantly up my game because readers are not easy to trick! But maybe that’s no bad thing.

To read the rest of the article, click HERE
How to Get Your Book Written This Year (Even When You Don’t Have Time)
by Julie Broad for Forbes

Writing a book for your business and career can be a game changer. It can propel you to the position of thought leader and have a profound impact on the lives of others.

However, one of the greatest challenges in taking on a creative endeavor like writing a book is the age-old question, “When will I find the time?” You’re probably juggling a lot in your life—a demanding career, a bustling home life and possibly a hobby or two. Adding something else seems unattainable.

Yet 2024 could be your year. These strategies will help you create a consistent writing routine and get your book written:

To read the complete article, click HERE

How to Promote Your Book Through Podcast Interviews and Guest Posts
BY Vikrant Shaurya

Podcast interviews and guest blog posts offer effective book promotion opportunities by allowing authors to connect with niche, invested audiences.

Key Takeaways
Promote episodes through social media and your website after recording.
Podcast and guest posting placements provide several benefits: expanding your platform, driving book sales through links, improving SEO and relationships with promoters.

Getting the word out about your new book requires creativity and persistence. While you'll surely leverage social media and run targeted ads, don't overlook the power of strategic guest posting and podcast interviews to expand your book's reach.

Securing exposure on relevant shows and sites taps into built-in audiences already passionate about your topic. Just one podcast or blog appearance can introduce thousands of ardent fans to your work. Podcasts have exploded in popularity, with over 100 million Americans tuning into podcasts monthly. For authors, this presents immense yet often untapped promotional potential.

To read the complete article, click HERE
Outrageous Voices Spring Writers Retreat

Spring Writers’ Retreat
Thursday, May 16–Sunday, May 19, 2024
Location: Near Atlanta, GA

An inclusive lesbian writers' retreat welcoming self-identified lesbians, bisexual women, trans, and nonbinary folks. To learn more, visit outrageousvoices.com or email outrageousvoices@yahoo.com.
Roswell Reads, a program of Friends of the Roswell Library, in partnership with the City of Roswell and Bookmiser, presents a Special Edition featuring

the National Book Award-winning author of Cold Mountain

Charles Frazier

speaking about his latest novel, The Trackers

Sunday, April 7, 2024, at 4 p.m.
Roswell Cultural Arts Center
950 Forrest Street, Roswell, GA

A portrait of life in the Great Depression, The Trackers conjures up the lives of everyday people during an extraordinary period of history.

Frazier’s discussion will be moderated by Dr. Gina Caison, an author and Georgia State University associate professor specializing in Southern and Native American literature.

Tickets are $20 for the presentation or $40 for an autographed large paperback copy plus reserved seating in the first six rows for the event. To order, go to roswellcac.shower.com/RoswellReadspresentsCharlesFrazier, call 770-594-6232, or go to the Roswell Cultural Arts Center’s box office.

Roswell Reads is sponsored by Friends of the Roswell Library and supported by the City of Roswell, Friends of the East Roswell Library, Fulton County Library System and Roswell Rotary Club.
2nd Annual Carrollton BookFest
April 5th and 6th, 2024

Join us for writers workshops all day Friday including Master Class Workshop by acclaimed author Bren McClain.

Saturday hosts presentations by national bestselling authors Rick Bragg, Hank Phillippi Ryan and Deborah Goodrich Royce along with Georgia Author of the Year Robert Gwaltney, celebrated chef, Johnathon Barrett, members of Sisters in Crime Atlanta and Wild Women Who Writer, and Atlanta Writers Club including George Weinstein and Kim Conrey. (Tickets required)

Browse the books and meet the authors during the Book Fair 9-4 Saturday. Free and open to the public

Readers and Writers alike will have a great day on Saturday.

For more information and registration, visit Carrolltonbookfest.com

Rick Bragg will speak Saturday evening at 6:30 Tickets through the Carrollton Center for the Arts. Admission $25

carrolltonbookfest.com
carrolltonbookfest@gmail.com
The AWC maintains this directory in an effort to assist AWC members with editor options for consideration; however, the AWC does not endorse the individuals in this directory and is not liable for any member’s experiences with these editors.

For the editors listed below, please consider selecting a few and getting a quote for how much some of them would charge to edit a sample (e.g., 20-50 pages)--some charge by the page (e.g., $3-$5/page), others by the word (e.g., $.01-$0.05/word)--and define what kind of edit you want (developmental versus line-editing, or both). Then make your selection (consider picking two, for comparison purposes) and see if you like the job either editor did on that small portion of your manuscript before committing to having your whole book edited by that person.

**C O V E R W R I T E R R A S A L V A T O R E**

**MJ BIGGS**

Email  Website

Content editing, line editing, copy editing, proofreading, and book coaching for all fiction genres.

I’ve worked as a copywriter and editor in corporate settings for over 10 years and have won numerous regional and national awards for my marketing content. In 2022, shortly after publishing my literary fiction novel, *A Wonderful Place to Die*, I started my own book editing business, Night Owl Fiction. I’m open to all fiction genres and do not shy away from heavy or difficult topics. Email me for more details on services and pricing.

**BOBBIE CHRISTMAS**

Zebra Communications: Excellent editing for maximum marketability

Email  Website

Fiction: Mainstream, science fiction, paranormal, romance, action adventure, fantasy, suspense/thriller, mystery, young adult, biographical novel, historical fiction, and more. Nonfiction: Memoir, biography, autobiography, self-help, travelogue, essays, and more.

When you hire me, you hire a professional with more than 50 years of experience. After 27 years of editing and writing newspapers, magazines, and corporate communications, I founded Zebra Communications in 1992 to specialize in editing fiction and nonfiction. You and your manuscript will be treated with kindness yet honesty. I’ve edited books for seven publishing houses, so I know what publishers and readers want. My services and pricing are listed on my website.

**KAY HUNT**

Email

Available for editing: Adventure, women’s fiction, fantasy, historical fiction

I have over 20 years in print production and graphics, proofreading annual reports, business brochures and related materials, catalogs, and advertising copy. I have six years of freelance experience proofreading/copy editing website pages and blogs for service industry businesses. Additionally, as a freelancer, I have copy-edited two novels as well as made some structural edits.

**JUDITH KOLBERG**

Email  Website

404-226-1381

Nonfiction Genres: lifestyle, health, business, personal growth, self-help, memoir, spiritual, inspiration, and narrative non-fiction.

I am an experienced developmental editor with fifteen years of experience bringing multiple authors to publication. I specialize in content editing which includes structure, clarity, interest, flow, segue, overall readability and other writing elements that make for a fantastic reader’s experience. Perfect for writers in need of a rigorous, honest, and compassionate first-reader or for authors at any level seeking a collaborative, effective editing process designed to fit their schedule and budget. Confidential ghost-writing services available.
Available for editing: query letters, science fiction, memoir, Southern fiction, YA fantasy, sports fiction, apocalyptic, detective/crime fiction, soft erotica

I have a master's degree in English (Creative Writing) and have been a full-time editor for three years. I believe in understanding an author's voice and putting in the work to get it right. I am blessed with my editing talent and am pleased to offer affordable, yet professional, editing services.

CHRIS NEGRON

Available for query letter consults, developmental editing

Author of the middle grade novels Dan Unmasked (July 2020) and The Last Super Chef (July 2021), both from HarperCollins, available for editing novels of all genres, but with a particular focus on middle grade and contemporary fiction for adults and teens as well. Novel editing price proposed after review of sample chapter(s). Single-page query letter feedback available for $50 / query.

STEPHANIE SIEGEL

Final editing available for nonfiction (especially health for general audiences).

I read literature and am trying to write it. But most of my career was spent writing newspaper articles (12 years) or editing them (12 years). My eagle eye for details such as unanswered questions, unsupported statements, and inconsistencies made me a valued copy editor at CNN.com, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, WebMD, and the CDC.

MARI ANN STEFANELLI

The Writer’s High, LLC: Take your writing to a higher level with experienced, professional editing.

Specialty areas: memoir and narrative nonfiction; mystery, thriller, romance, fantasy, women’s fiction, and commercial fiction; book proposals and query letters.

A former public relations professional, I’ve specialized in developmental and line editing since 2014. Editorial assessments honor your voice and vision; all communication is shared in a respectful, encouraging manner. I’m a coordinator for the Georgia chapter, Editorial Freelancers Association, and founded the Writer’s High Retreat, an inspiring weekend retreat featuring literary luminaries such as Winston Groom, Cassandra King, and Patti Callahan Henry. Read more about me and my services HERE.

DAVE SWAN

Nonfiction topics: Politics, defense, foreign affairs, crime and legal issues, education, taxes, music, film, humor, relationships, and writing about writing.

My experience: As a journalist and all-around communicator, I've edited news and information on a wide range of issues for audiences all over the world. One of my specialties is presenting complex subjects in plain, hard-hitting language. I can help you shape your story from the beginning or proofread your final draft. My goal is to make YOUR voice as powerful and compelling as it can be.

A.E. WILLIAMS

Genres I edit: fantasy, sci-fi, horror, thriller, screenplays, comic book scripts, memoir, and various nonfiction topics

Bio: My name is A.E. Williams. I run an editorial firm, A.E. Williams Editorial. My clients are oftentimes independent authors for which I perform copy editing, developmental editing, and line editing. I am also a freelance copyeditor with Hachette Book Group. If interested in working with me, please email a 1,000-word sample and I will complete it for free. In my response I will provide your edited sample, testimonials, rates, resume, and a list of recent projects.

If you are an AWC member, offer editing services, and want to add your information to this directory, please send an email to AWC Executive Director and Acting President George Weinstein with the following information: Your name, Your email address, Your website (if available), The fiction genres and/or nonfiction topics you have experience editing, & a brief statement detailing your editing experience of 75 words or less.
What makes the AWC such a successful networking resource for our members is our willingness to assist others. Many of our members have stories and lessons to share from their writing journeys. Put those experiences in an article and submit them for consideration in an upcoming issue of the eQuill. Not only will you be helping your fellow members learn from your triumphs and mistakes, but you also will get a publishing credit.

A caution: this is NOT a chance to tout your book(s) and say, “Buy this!” We’re not offering billboard space here. Rather, this is an opportunity for you to help other writers avoid pitfalls and apply successful strategies that pertain to the craft and business of writing. Naturally, you will cite examples from your work. That’s a fine way to let people know you have books for sale; we’ll also include a brief bio with links, a head-shot and book cover(s) at the end of your article. The point is to be respectful of your readers, who want knowledge—not product placement.

If you submit, expect to get a reply with edits and comments and be willing to rewrite accordingly. Abide by the word counts given below; one reason publishers and contests reject work is that the writer can’t/won’t follow the rules. While we want to publish articles by as many of our members as possible, we also need these pieces to be uniformly high-quality and beneficial so the 6,200+ recipients will look forward to reading them month after month.

Can you submit multiple articles over time? Absolutely! We’d love to have regular contributors.

If you want to submit an article for consideration, please email the following to AWC Executive Director George Weinstein.

- Your article, with a catchy/provocative/thought-provoking title, that addresses your personal lessons about aspects of the craft and/or business of writing, in 300 words or less (can be in a Word doc attachment or in the body of your email)
- A profile of you and your book(s) in 50 words or less, as well as your website and social media links (can be in the same Word doc attachment or in the body of your email)
- Your head-shot and book cover image(s) in JPG or PNG format, the higher the resolution, the better

Get a Publishing Credit
MAKE A READ-YOUR-BOOK CLIP

1. Make a video (SIXTY SECONDS MAX!) of you reading a sample of your work. Videos can be created with a phone, tablet, or computer.

2. Upload your video to **AWC VIDEO** This may take a few minutes.

3. Once uploaded, send an email to **awc.member.services@gmail.com** with "AWC VIDEO" in the subject line. Let him know you have uploaded your video and include info about where your book can be purchased. Include the title and author name.

PHOTOGRAPH YOUR WORKPLACE

1. Take a picture of where you write. Don't clean it up, show us the natural environment where you make the magic. You can be in the shot, or not.

2. Send the picture to **awc.member.services@gmail.com** with "My Creative Space" in the subject line.

3. Keep watching the Atlanta Writers Club Facebook page and Instagram page and when you are featured, share it with the world.
The Atlanta Writers Club website offers Free Promotion. We're now featuring a page where AWC members can promote their latest publication: **SEE IT HERE**

Current Atlanta Writers Club members are invited to add/update their listing: please email your head-shot, book (or other publication) cover, and website URL to AWC Executive Director **George Weinstein**.
GREEN groups are OPEN; RED groups are FULL

Online #1 WAIT LIST
Fiction: Short Stories & Novels Meets on 2nd & 4th Friday of the month via Zoom, 1pm.
Kelley Cody-Grimm EMAIL

Online #2 OPEN
Fiction only. Ongoing. Please submit 100 pages for vetting.
Linh Pham EMAIL

Online #4 WAIT LIST
All Genres 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, at 7:00pm
Gail Lash EMAIL

Online #5 WAIT LIST
Short Stories Every 2nd Thursday at 1pm
Pat Bowen EMAIL

Online #6 WAIT LIST
Young Adult & Middle Grade Fiction Work shared by email
Brad Scott EMAIL

Online #7 WAIT LIST
Screenwriting (email for details) 1st & 3rd Friday of every month at 7pm via ZOOM. Liz Irland EMAIL

Online #8 OPEN
We study books about the craft of writing together. Each member is expected to: 1) read the portion of the book assigned each week and 2) Come prepared with whatever exercise we agree to each week. We meet every Tuesday from 9 to 11 a.m. EST.
April Love-Fordham EMAIL

Online #9 WAIT LIST
Romance 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7-8pm using Google Meets
Olga Jackson EMAIL

Online #10 OPEN
All Genres Meeting online every other Tues.
Nancy Fletcher EMAIL

Online #11 OPEN
Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, & Memoir Meeting online, Tuesdays, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm Quinn Eastman

Online #12 OPEN
Sci-Fi and Fantasy Online using Google Meet, 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 7pm. Abigail Biles EMAIL

Online #13 WAIT LIST
All Genres Meeting online every other Tues.
Liz Irland EMAIL

Online #14 WAIT LIST
Adult Fiction Online, every other Thursday, 7-9 pm
Susanne Fincher EMAIL

Online #15 WAIT LIST
Fiction 1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM
Perry Powell EMAIL

Online #16 OPEN
All genres Meetings are virtual via Zoom every other Monday at 10:30am.
Members exchange drafts twice monthly for critiquing.
Toni Bellon EMAIL

Online #17 WAIT LIST
Sci-Fi and Fantasy Online using Google Meet, 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 7pm. Abigail Biles EMAIL
**Online #18 WAIT LIST**

Fantasy and Science Fiction  
Meetings are on Sunday, 9-11 a.m. every other week, with work sent to Nathaniel ahead of time.  
Nathaniel Chaney  [EMAIL](mailto:nathaniel.chaney@atlantawritersclub.org)

**Online #19 OPEN**

Memoir. Meets on 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 7 p.m. Contact Chetan Sanker at [EMAIL](mailto:chetan.sanker@atlantawritersclub.org)

**Online #20 WAIT LIST**

Horror of any style. Virtual meetings are every other Tuesday, 7-8 pm. Contact Daniel Cozart's [EMAIL](mailto:daniel.cozart@atlantawritersclub.org)

**Online #21 WAIT LIST**

Poetry group for six experienced poets, published/seeking publication. Meets weekly via Zoom on Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Poems to be shared on Google Drive & reviewed before each session. Send 3 poems to Jennifer Kahnweiler

**Online #22 WAIT LIST**

Horror of any style. Virtual meetings are every other Tuesday, 7-8 pm. Contact Daniel Cozart’s [EMAIL](mailto:daniel.cozart@atlantawritersclub.org)

**Online #23 WAIT LIST**

Study/Critique Group open to all levels of writers and all genres. The Storywrighters group meets online every other Thursday at 5 PM ET to explore well-regarded writing craft books and support each other as we apply what we learn to our work. Our current study is *The Emotional Craft of Fiction: How to Write the Story Beneath the Surface* by Donald Maass. Contact: Mary Thornton

**Online #24 WAIT LIST**

Science Fiction and Fantasy. Meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. Eastern  
Contact: Xander Jon Dijk

**Online #24 OPEN**

Nonfiction (except memoirs/biographies). Twice monthly Zoom meetings, dates and times TBD. Participants will share files in advance via Google Drive (10 pages per person). Contact Vic Darling

**Online #25 OPEN**

All genres but with focus on self-publishing authors. Meets virtually on 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 12pm to 12:45.  
Contact J.M. Tompkins

**Atlanta Northside OPEN**

SciFi but open to other types of speculative fiction. Meetings every second Saturday of the month at the Fellini’s Pizza in Buckhead @ 11 AM.  
Joe Lamb [EMAIL](mailto:joelamb@email.com)

**Atlanta/South Brookhaven OPEN**

Literary fiction. Meets in person at pre-selected location, 7-9pm every other Tuesday. We’ll discuss preshared excerpts and pre-meeting critiques.  
Jim Trueblood, [EMAIL](mailto:jimtrueblood@email.com) (LIMITED TO 10)

**Atlanta/Virginia Highlands OPEN**

Fiction writers with a creative writing degree or history of publication. Meets once a month usually from 1 to 3 pm at a coffee shop. Contact: Dawn Abeita

**Conyers/Lithonia OPEN**

Picture books to middle grade, no sci-fi or graphic novels. Meets 4th Saturday of each month at Panera Bread, 10 am - 12 pm. Contact Carla Walter

**Decatur/Emory OPEN**

Fantasy, Sci-Fi, Horror. Meet every two weeks, time and location TBD. To discuss pre-shared excerpts of around 5000 words, for constructive feedback. Contact: Eric Reinders

**Dunwoody/Sandy Springs OPEN**

Advanced Writers in Thriller/Mystery/Suspense Meet on the Meeting on 2nd and 4th Thursday each month at 7pm. Must have completed MS. To apply, send Bill a short bio & first chapter.  
Bill Robbins [EMAIL](mailto:billrobbins@atlantawritersclub.org)

**Dunwoody/Sandy Springs WAIT LIST**

Speculative fiction (novels and short stories). Meets every other Wednesday, 6:30pm. Usually at a
Membership in the Atlanta Writers Club entitles members to participate in or start their own AWC-sponsored writing and critique groups, where you and your colleagues can help each other improve your writing craft.

Above is the current list of active AWC writing/critique groups. If you have any questions about any of these groups, or if you would like to start your own group, please contact Officer Emeritus George Weinstein.
Membership Renewal

The AWC has an automated system for tracking memberships and alerting members when it's time to renew. Without your continued support of the Atlanta Writers Club we would not be able to bring fabulous speakers to our meetings nor provide generous cash awards for our annual writing contest.

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY A MEMBER...

• You will receive an e-mail from the system (showing Executive Director George Weinstein’s [e-mail address]) one month before your membership expiration date.

• If you haven't renewed within a week, you will receive another e-mail every seven days, with a final e-mail one week from expiration.

• If the expiration date for your membership passes without renewal, the system will mark your membership as expired.

• It is a good e-mail practice to check your spam/junk folder to see if any legitimate e-mail has been misfiled there, possibly including the email you'll receive from George prior to the expiration of your membership.
Membership Benefits

• Monthly Meetings.
• Periodic Workshops.
• Twice-Yearly Atlanta Writers Conference.
• Critique Groups.
• Writing Contest With Cash Prizes And Publication.
• Opportunities To Sell Your Books.
• Free Tickets To Author Events.
• Free Monthly Newsletter
• Free Book Promotions

WE ARE ONE OF THE BEST literary bargains in town. The Atlanta Writers Club is simply a group of writers that work together to help each other improve their skills and attain their writing goals. Anyone can join, with no prior publication requirements. Potential members are invited to attend a first meeting as our guest. After that, we’re sure you will want to become a member and take advantage of all the benefits that come with it.

You may join The Atlanta Writers Club at any of our events or meetings, or pay online at our website using PayPal at OUR WEBSITE.

Regular membership dues are $60 per year per person. Students can join for $10 per year. Family members of active AWC members can join for $30 per year. Our Membership Form is on the last page of this newsletter. If you have additional questions, contact AWC Executive Director George Weinstein.
### Membership Form

Name ________________________________

Email Address _________________________ Phone _________________________

Street Address _________________________

City, State, ZIP _________________________

### AWC MEMBERSHIP DUES

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<th>Membership Type</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Five-Year Membership</td>
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### TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION

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<td>AWC Scholarship Fund</td>
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**TOTAL** Make checks payable to **Atlanta Writers Club**

Mail your check and this form to: Atlanta Writers Club

c/o Jerry Weiner, Treasurer

8080 Jett Ferry Road

Atlanta, GA 30350

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Yes! I would like to become an AWC Volunteer

- [ ] Monthly Meetings
- [ ] Conferences
- [ ] Book Festivals
- [ ] Other

### Family Members

Name ________________________________

Email Address _________________________ Phone _________________________

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