Atlantic 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 1948. Her diverse talents span teaching, writing, art, poetry, playwriting, filmmaking, composition, and journalism. She is perhaps most renowned for her 1992 influential book which has inspired countless individuals to unlock their creativity and embrace their artistic paths.

You’ll find her 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**

[Links to various social media platforms]

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A Message from the President

“Making an investment in ourselves is sometimes the hardest choice.”

Personal Investment

Writing is a courageous act. To give form to thought and then commit it to the page. To thrash it about until it’s coherent and expressive. And to gather all those bits into a cohesive whole that not only tells a story but says it in a way that could only come from you. Bravo on your endeavors to write.

What next then? Well, after you’ve had the work critiqued and edited, it’s on to publication, right? These days there are so many choices for how to get your book out there. The two primary avenues are self-publishing and traditional. Here’s where it’s tempting to think, I’ll

1. Push publish on Kindle and humanity will flock to recognize my greatness, or
2. I’ll query an agent who will sell my book for an unprecedented advance and humanity will flock to recognize my greatness. If only.

Just as in any other pursuit, engagement is the key to success, and education is the key to learning where to place our efforts.

Spring is here, and it’s conference season at AWC HQ. Our 3rd annual Atlanta Self-Publishing Conference is Saturday, April 27th with a full day geared toward making you a better business person and writer in the self-publishing world. Then our 30th Atlanta Writers Conference, focused on the traditional publishing market, is May 3rd and 4th. J.M and George are hard at work to make these events the best they can be. Will you be joining us for one or both events?

Making an investment in ourselves is sometimes the hardest choice. We’ll do for others, but shortchange our own work. If you put your best into the written page, then you should give it the best chance at success in the greater world. I can say with confidence you won’t be disappointed in either of our events. We educate, network, have fun and make friends. Clear a weekend, register today and join us for the next step in your writing journey.

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 & March Meeting Photos & Links

February 17, 2024 Meeting Recording Courtesy of Jorge Barboza: [LINK]

Melissa Bourbon's February 17 presentation slides: [LINK]

March 16, 2024 Meeting Photos Courtesy of Patrick Scullin:

Complete set of photos here: [LINK]

Brandon McNulty’s March 16 presentation slides: [LINK]

March 23, 2024 Marketing Workshop Photos Courtesy of Patrick Scullin:

Complete set of photos here: [LINK]
AGENDA for AWC Members and First-Time Guests

April 20, 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 and Poetry Presentation by the AWC's poetry critique group

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 - Parul Kapur: Journalistic Strategies to Research Your Novel

2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Book signing for Parul Kapur

3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Speaker #2 - Samira Shakib-Bregeth: The Winding Road to Setting: How Location Writes Your Story

4:00-4:15 p.m. Meet and greet with Samira Shakib-Bregeth

PLEASE ARRIVE FOR OUR MEETING BY 12:45 so you can check in, and then you have a choice of activities:
- Join everyone at our genre tables for a meet and greet opportunity to build your network and make new friends.
- A Poetry Reading by AWC Members: Inaugurated by the Academy of American Poets in 1996, National Poetry Month is now held every April, when schools, publishers, libraries, booksellers, and poets throughout the United States band together to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture. Thousands of organizations participate through readings, festivals, book displays, workshops, and other events. Consider subscribing to Poem-A-Day for some daily inspiration. At the April 20th meeting, from 12:45 to 1:30, members of AWC’s poetry critique group will be reading their poems. They are Jennifer Kahnweiler, Perry Powell, Marianne Celano, Linda Sands, LizBeth Jones, Scott Ellington, Briana Campbell and Rick Rohdenburg.

Parul Kapur has worked as a journalist, literary critic, and fiction writer for over thirty years. She is the author of the novel Inside the Mirror, which won the AWP Prize for the Novel, and was recently published by the University of Nebraska Press. Set in 1950s Bombay, India, the story centers on twin sisters who aspire to become artists—a painter and a classical Bharata Natyam dancer—and discover the cost of their dreams is shattering every expectation of a loving family and reckoning with a society inclined to destroy young women who dare to pursue their ambitions and power. Inside the Mirror received a starred review from Publisher’s
Weekly, which called it a “stunning debut novel...Kapur perfectly conveys the twins’ attempts to find their purpose while defying the expectations of a turbulent post-partition Indian society. This is a beautiful exploration of the hardships endured by women artists.”

Parul’s short story Geronimo!, set in Atlanta, appeared in the Fall 2023 longform prose edition of Ploughshares. Her short fiction also appears in Pleiades, Midway Journal, the anthology {Ex}tinguished & {Ex}tinct and elsewhere. She has contributed articles and reviews to The New Yorker, The Wall Street Journal Europe, Esquire, Art in America, Slate, Los Angeles Review of Books, and The Paris Review. The Hambidge Center, Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and Jentel have awarded her writing fellowships. She holds an MFA from Columbia University and founded the Books page at ArtsATL, Atlanta’s leading online arts review.

On April 20, Parul will speak on “Using Journalistic Tactics to Enrich Fiction”

If the truth is stranger than fiction, then reality offers a fiction writer a wealth of material. The question is how to mine it to strengthen a narrative, spark the imagination, harvest the inimitable detail, and attain a sense of authority over fictional terrain. Parul will discuss using the old gumshoe tactics of a reporter to arrive at the heart and soul of a story.

On April 17, Samira will discuss setting. Though setting is the backdrop of a story, identifying where your novel will unfold is one of the most important, overlooked devices a writer has in his back pocket. To value setting as the forefront, a writer’s imagination can find foundation in what already exists. By using setting as the focal instrument, Samira will reveal how your story’s location will enrich characterization and conflict. Samira will lead a conversation about setting, revealing her unique experiences with establishing setting as the birthplace of plot, not the other way around.

Samira Shakib-Bregeth

is an Iranian-American writer from Chicago who lives and teaches in suburban Atlanta. Samira was the recipient of the Teacher of the Year award. She earned an English M.A. in Literary Studies and is the communications manager at Chestnut Review. Some of her publications can be found at Literary Mama, Hawai‘i Pacific Review, Wild Roof Journal, Heartwood, Parhelion, Fig & Quince, and Hungry Chimera. Currently on submission, Samira’s #ownvoices novel with a feminist bent is about a struggling artist and her Iranian mother. Her manuscript was a finalist in 2021 for UCLA’s Allegra Johnson’s Writing Prize. Samira has a soft heart for creatives and dreamers and was once awarded the Best Pitch Award at our very own Atlanta Writers Conference.
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 OBERWEGERT 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 bestselling 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!

**SELF-PUBLISHED AUTHORS:** Join us on April 9th for the ASPC virtual offering: Using Tropes to Enhance Your Reader’s Journey. All ASPC attendees will have access to the webinar and the recording.

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.

**HERE’S THE PACKAGE**

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.
- Grab your ticket today LINK
April 17 at 7 p.m.

JANICE HARDY is the award-winning author and founder of the popular writing site Fiction University, where she helps writers improve their craft and navigate the crazy world of publishing. Her blog has been recognized as a Top Writing Blog by both Writer’s Digest and The Write Life. When she’s not writing about writing, she spins tales of fantasy and adventure and does terrible things to her characters (which makes them much more interesting).

Join Janice virtually for an engaging workshop on crafting stronger conflicts in novels. Discover how to inject tension, drama, and depth into your stories from the comfort of your own home. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to sharpen your storytelling skills and captivate readers worldwide.

This webinar is free to AWC members. To register, email AWC Executive Director George Weinstein.

Save 10% on Michael Lucker Screenwriters School

AWC speaker and webinar presenter Michael Lucker is starting to enroll attendees for his six-week Screenwriter School this summer (May 25 – June 29, Saturdays 12 – 2pm EST on Zoom).

He is offering a 10% discount to Atlanta Writers Club members. To register, click this LINK and use the promo code TAKE10SS.
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
Member Book Launches & Accolades

AWC VP of Operations Kim Conrey and Executive Director George Weinstein will be signing their books and greeting readers on Saturday, April 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at

Posman Books at The Avalon:
4105 Avalon Blvd,
Alpharetta, GA 30009

To include your book launch, signing, publication, and award announcements in a future edition of the eQuill, please send an email to Executive Director George Weinstein.

Headlight Review Short Fiction Contest

ON THE COVER
JULIA CAMERON

ANTHONY GROOMS
SHORT FICTION CONTEST

A literary award honoring the work and writing of former Kennesaw State MAPW Director, Anthony Grooms. 2024 Judge TBD. Winner receives $250 and 25 saddle-stitched chapbook copies of their story.

SUBMISSION PERIOD
FEB 01 to APR 15
ENTRY FEE
$10 (via Submittable, payable by debit/credit)
FOR MORE INFORMATION
NOVEL WRITING 101
Discover the nuts and bolts of crafting compelling stories and embark on a journey toward writing your very own novel. Working at your own pace, you will build a virtual toolbox equipped with everything you need to bring your literary aspirations to life.

HOW TO WRITE A COZY MYSTERY
Discover all the steps to craft a captivating cozy mystery. From developing a hook and setting that will transport readers to a charming and mysterious world, to creating a lovable sleuth who will keep readers hooked until the very end, this course covers it all.

HOW TO WRITE YOUR MEMOIR
Discover how to unlock memories, brainstorm, organize your ideas, delve into writing in the first person, and so much more. This course will guide you through the process as you turn your life experiences, into a memoir, because everyone has a story to tell.

Use code ATL24 at checkout for 25% off through April 15th!

Nacho Says ‘Hi’ and thanks for having me!
Authors Denny S. Bryce & Eliza Knight
April 9 | 7 pm | Snellville Branch
Bestselling authors Denny S. Bryce and Eliza Knight discuss their new book, *Can't We Be Friends*, a novel that uncovers a friendship between Ella Fitzgerald and Marilyn Monroe.

Author Laura Elizabeth
April 16 | 7 pm | Lawrenceville Branch
Laura Elizabeth discusses her debut cozy mystery book, *All is Now Lost*, rooted in the South Carolina Lowcountry home of Carr Jepson and her Books & Brew bookstore - where teas are not the only things brewing.

Author Bijal Shah
April 25 | 11 am | Virtual
Author and counselor Bijal Shal will discuss her transformational guide, *Bibliotherapy: The Healing Power of Reading*, and explore the restorative power of reading.

Author Piper Huguley
April 25 | 7 pm | Norcross Branch

DISCOVER MORE & REGISTER FOR ONLINE ACCESS:
WWW.GWINNETTPL.ORG/ADULTSERVICES
Scribes
SPRING & SUMMER
Writing Classes
FOR GRADES 5-8

SPRING WRITING WORKSHOPS
MARCH 9, APRIL 13, AND MAY 11
From comics and poetry to heroic stories, imaginations take flight at the Nest!

SUMMER CAMP
JULY 8-12
A creative writing camp for students in grades 5-8 that explores the craft of writing with author H.D. Hunter!

wrensnest.org | 404.753.7735
1050 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd SW | Atlanta, GA 30310
Bloodletter is a feminist horror magazine showcasing personal and analytical perspectives on the horrific by women, trans, and non-binary writers. At Bloodletter, the definition of horror is expansive, cooperative, and inclusive. We offer an exploratory space for writers to share their lived experiences of horror and the theoretical implications of the genre through fiction, non-fiction, film criticism, and poetry. A featured artist is selected to illustrate each issue of the biannual magazine, resulting in an unconventional and truly unique multidisciplinary digital platform.

Submission Window: March 19th - May 7th

Submit online via our website: www.bloodlettermag.com
A Novel Idea, Bookmiser, and the Milton Library present
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
MEGAN MIRANDA

Celebrating the New Release of
DAUGHTER OF MINE

Tuesday
April 16th
6:00-7:30 p.m.
Milton Library
855 Mayfield Rd
Milton, GA 30009

MEGAN MIRANDA is an American author of mystery and suspense novels for young adult and adult readers.

Moderated By
TERRI PARLATO

Terri Parlato was born and raised in upstate New York. She currently lives in a small north Georgia town with her husband and their dog, Lucy.

MEGAN & TERRI will be happy to sign books purchased at the Milton Library Event
Keynote Speaker: Chantel Acevedo

RED CLAY
WRITERS CONFERENCE

- Romance
- Screenwriting
- Poetry
- Game Writing
- Creative Non-Fiction
- Fiction
- YA
- Children
- Memoir
- Publishing

April 20th, 2024
Kennesaw State University

Use code: GWAPARTNER for 35% off
Red Dog Writers Retreat

Presenter Lineup

T. M. “Mike” Brown
Author, *The Last Laird of Sapelo*

Chellie Phillips
Speaker, Coach, Trainer & Author, *Culture Secrets*

Angela McRae
Freelance Editor & Author, *Emeralds and Envy*

C. Matthew Smith
Author, *Twenty Mile*

Estelle Ford-Williamson
Author, *Rising Fawn*

Topics Include:
Editing, Branding, Book Launches, Publishing

Red Dog Farm Hosts

May McDaniel
Author, *Destination 100, Rest Stop Mount Katahdin*

Laura Stokes
Blogger, *Messpot Diaries*

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BEGIN REGISTRATION
OR SEARCH “RED DOG WRITERS RETREAT” ON EVENT BRITE.
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/
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.showare.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.

**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**

**Email**  
**Website**

Zebra Communications: Excellent editing for maximum marketability

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**

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.
JANIE MILLS
Email  Website
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
Email  Website
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
Email  Website
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. Email  Website

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.

A.E. WILLIAMS
Email  Website
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 copyediting, 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
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 #3 WAIT LIST
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 #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 WAIT LIST
Online fiction only. Ongoing. Please submit 100 pages for vetting.
Jennifer Martinez EMAIL

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

Online #10 WAIT LIST
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 #11 WAIT LIST
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 #12 OPEN
Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, & Memoir Meeting online, Tuesdays, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Quinn Eastman

Online #13 WAIT LIST
All Genres Meeting online every other Tues.
Nancy Fletcher 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

Online #19 OPEN
Memoir. Meets on 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 7 p.m. Contact Chetan Sanker at EMAIL

Online #20 WAIT LIST
Horror of any style. Virtual meetings are every other Tuesday, 7-8 pm. Contact Daniel Cozart’s EMAIL

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

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 OPEN
Nonfiction (except children’s, memoirs/biographies, erotica). Email critiques twice monthly on nonfiction book content or anything else related to the “business” of being an author. 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

Online #26 OPEN
Science Fiction and Fantasy. Meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. Eastern. Contact: Xander Jon Dijk

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

Atlanta/South Brookhaven OPEN
Literary fiction. Meets in person at pre-selected location, 7-9pm every other Tues. We’ll discuss preshared excerpts and pre-meeting critiques. Jim Trueblood, EMAIL (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

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 on line 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  
Street Address  
City, State, ZIP  

AWC MEMBERSHIP DUES  
- One-Year Membership: $60.00  
- One-Year Student: $10.00  
- Five-Year Membership: $250.00  
- Lifetime Membership: $499.00  

FAMILY MEMBERS (Enter names below)  
- Family Members - One Year: $30.00  
- Family Members - One-Year Student: $10.00  
- Family Members - Five Year: $125.00  
- Family Members - Lifetime: $250.00  

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION  
- AWC General Fund: $  
- AWC Scholarship Fund: $  

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  
Name  
Email Address  
Phone  

The Atlanta Writers Club  
Est. 1914