



**June 2005 Issue**  
**Kick Off Summer**  
**the Write Way!**

**Next Event: June 11, 2005**

➤ **1 p.m. – ? Potluck Picnic at Polly's: See page 3 for details. Bring something yummy, and share any work you would like to read.**

The Atlanta Writers Club was founded in 1914.

We are a social and educational club where local writers meet to discuss the craft and business of writing.

We also sponsor judged contests for our members and host expert speakers from the worlds of writing, publishing, and entertainment.

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
**Our next official meeting is on Saturday, September 17 at 1 p.m. at the Sandy Springs Library.**

AWC now meets the **third Saturday of each month, September through May.**

**NEW MEETING LOCATION: Sandy Springs Regional Library Meeting Room: 395 Mount Vernon Highway, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. (404) 303-6130. The library is one mile north of I-285 and west of GA 400. For a detailed map, see our website or <http://mapsonus.switchboard.com>**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.atlantawritersclub.org](http://www.atlantawritersclub.org)**

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**Deadline for the July E-Quill is June 25th!**  
Contact E-Quill Editor: George Weinstein, [gjweinstein@yahoo.com](mailto:gjweinstein@yahoo.com), 770-552-5887

**WRITE IT AS YOU SEE IT: “My Cup Runneth Over”**  
by George Weinstein

At our May meeting, I received a tremendous compliment. More than thirty individuals cast votes for Member of the Year, and they named me as the unanimous choice. Kathleen Craft Boehmig and Angie Harvey, two of our wonderful officers, conspired to create a beautiful framed certificate and graced me with a crystal candleholder. It was a lovely and touching occasion. I thank you all very much.

Kathleen explained to me that my gift was a representation of the light I've provided to the club. However, it is you—the perennial dues-paying participants and the guests, invitees, and other potential new members—who each month chooses whether to look where that light shines and judge what it illuminates. And I am not alone in providing a lucent vision. Each of our officers made a vital aspect of the club brighter, from informative, entertaining speakers to much-needed publicity.

The bylaws dictate that a president can only serve two terms. This prevents The Atlanta Writers Club from becoming a cult of personality. Now I am a lame duck leader who will endeavor to be worthy of the award you've given to me. I will also encourage other members to carry us through 2006 and beyond.

I realize that the Member of the Year award acknowledges past performance, but I feel that I need to do more to merit your acclaim. Put me to the test!

See you at our June 11 picnic.

**OFFICER LIST FOR THE ATLANTA WRITERS CLUB—2005-2006 Term:**

**President:** George Weinstein, 770-552-5887      **First VP:** Joan Harmon, 404-351-5691  
**Membership VP:** Kathleen Craft Boehmig, 678-393-9324      **Treasurer:** Adrian Drost, 770-998-7015  
**Publicity VP:** Lu Ann Sodano, 770-739-4749      **Secretary:** Angela Harvey, 404-578-2002  
**Contests VP:** Richard Anderson, 770-992-8332      **Quill Editor:** George Weinstein, 770-552-5887

**OTHER CONTACTS:**

**Historian/Photographer/By-Laws:** Adrian Drost, 770-998-7015  
**Copy Editor:** Richard Anderson, 770-992-8332      **Poetry Editor:** Dorothy Worth, 404-636-1316  
**Speaker Interviews:** Joan Harmon, 404-351-5691      **Achievements:** Fran Stewart, 770-682-7483

## JUNE COOKOUT – SATURDAY, JUNE 11 AT 1 P.M.

Polly Neal had opened her house to our club! *Please join us on Saturday, June 11 at 1 p.m.*  
**Family members are welcome.** George will contact you with the quantity of refreshment items to bring once a headcount is established. Directions are below:

### Directions to Polly Neal's house:

- From I-85, take North Druid Hills Exit Northbound. Thus, heading on I-85 North, you'll go under the bridge, come around the loop to the top, and turn right at the light.
- Cross over Buford Highway and get into the left lane.
- At fork, continue straight on E. Roxboro Rd. (North Druid Hills veers off to the right).
- At next light (only about 50 feet from the fork), turn left onto Goodwin Rd.
- Polly's is the second house on the right: 1242 Goodwin Rd.
- Park in the street or her driveway and proceed into the backyard.
- If you get lost, please call Polly at 404-233-5174

## 2005 SPRING CONTEST AWARDS

### Humor

1 <sup>st</sup>	Buzz Bernard	The Great Skin-So-Soft Soapy-Butt Caper
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Edna Hawkins	Saturday At Our Home
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sara Hines Martin	Grandmamma On The Prowl
Hm	Richard Anderson	The New Hearing Aid

### Flash Fiction

1 <sup>st</sup>	Buzz Bernard	Too Late
2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Witkowski	A Close Call
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Edna Hawkins	The End Of A Journey
Hm	David Beale	Gladiolus And Jonquils

### Dialogue

1 <sup>st</sup>	Buzz Bernard	The Astor Column
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bill Black	And You're Calling Me Because?
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Edna Hawkins	Little Boy Lost
Hm	Nina Turner	The True Queen

### Inspirational

1 <sup>st</sup>	Steve Bellio	Janna's Rocket
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Buzz Bernard	The Nurse
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sara Hines Martin	A Wasted Hour
Hm	Barbara Collins	When Just Enough Isn't

**Congratulations Everyone!**

## **MORE SIZZLING SUMMER EVENTS!**

### **July Writing Workshop**

**Saturday, July 23, 2005**

Write In Style: A Crash Course in Creative Writing - \$65

Sandy Springs Regional Library, 395 Mt. Vernon Hwy, Sandy Springs, GA

Only one percent of all books written get sold to traditional publishers. The odds of selling a short story or magazine article are better, but still dismal. Increase your chances of selling whatever you write by picking the brains of an editor with more than 30 years of book, magazine and newspaper experience. Bobbie Christmas has condensed her six-week creative writing course into a one-day seminar, and you do not have to be a member of The Atlanta Writers Club to take the course.

You may submit up to five manuscript pages (double-spaced, 12-pt. font, Times New Roman or Courier New, 1-inch margins) to Bobbie for critiquing prior to the workshop. **Bobbie must receive your pages for evaluation no later than July 9.** When you register for the workshop (see payment instructions below), you may send the pages by e-mail to [Bobbie@zebraeditor.com](mailto:Bobbie@zebraeditor.com) (Microsoft Word or Word Perfect files only) or via regular mail to Zebra Communications, 230 Deerchase Drive, Ste. B, Woodstock, GA 30188-4438.

To register and pay for the course, you have two choices:

- 1) Log on to [www.PayPal.com](http://www.PayPal.com), register your name, and specify that you want to send a payment against your credit card to [Bobbie@zebraeditor.com](mailto:Bobbie@zebraeditor.com) in the amount of \$65. You will get confirmation of your payment.
- 2) Alternatively, send a check for \$65 made out to Bobbie Christmas at the address above. Specify in the memo section that this payment is for the July 23 workshop.

For more information, contact George Weinstein at [gjweinstein@yahoo.com](mailto:gjweinstein@yahoo.com) (or 770-552-5887) or Bobbie Christmas at [Bobbie@ZebraEditor.com](mailto:Bobbie@ZebraEditor.com).

### **August Publishing Seminar**

**Saturday, August 13, 2005**

How to Get Published - \$65

Sandy Springs Regional Library, 395 Mt. Vernon Hwy, Sandy Springs, GA

Professional writer, instructor, and former AWC president Cecil Murphey will present a six-hour seminar on getting published. This acclaimed author of 100 books and speaker at 100 writers conferences will address writing fiction queries to agents and editors, submitting articles for publication, nonfiction book proposals, and even promoting your book once you've struck gold.

To register and pay for the course, write a check in the amount of \$65 to The Atlanta Writers Club and mail it to George Weinstein, 1285 Willeo Creek Drive, Roswell, GA 30075. Specify in the memo section that this payment is for the August 13 seminar. For more information, contact George Weinstein at [gjweinstein@yahoo.com](mailto:gjweinstein@yahoo.com) or (770) 552-5887.

## FROM THE TIP OF MY PEN – A Writer’s Tip of the Month:

### “Oklahoma” by Fran Stewart

The reviews of the new musical were atrocious. They predicted it would fold early. I seem to remember having read somewhere that one well-known reviewer wrote: *no legs, no jokes, no chance*. He was talking about *Oklahoma*. Think about that title song. Wouldn’t we all love to write something as memorable? Something that would capture the imagination of our readers. The perfect novel, short story, screenplay, poem that would have folks quoting it for generations to come.

With that thought in mind, think again about the song. Is it the words you remember or the melody? I’d be willing to bet it’s the melody you recall. In a song, it’s the music that lasts. The words may be delightful or poignant or simply exuberant, but unless the music itself works its way into our hearts, the song won’t last. Since this column is about words, though, how do we as writers come up with the equivalent of a melody?

We use the cadence of words, varying the rhythm to change the tone. June is a good time to think about sunshine, so let’s look at some examples of how the subtle shifting of rhythms in a basic informational sentence can convey different shades of meaning. Here we have a person in a rowboat. She is looking at water dripping from the oars.

1. The sparkling sun as it dripped from the oars transported Lynne to a space of deep contentment.
2. Sunlight, cutting through the water, bounced off every droplet. Lynne was blinded for a moment.
3. “Sunshine?” Lynn quipped. “You think I’m impressed with *sunshine*?”
4. Lynne wanted to say to him, “The funny thing about water is that it’s so . . . so liquid. See how the sun shimmers right through it? See how each droplet glows?” A shadow struck his eyes. She couldn’t speak. The moment passed.

Okay, let’s think about these. I’ll re-write them with the stressed syllables in all caps.

1. The first example trips along with a three-syllable rhythm:

the SPARK-ling SUN as it DRIPPED from the OARS - - TRANS-port-ed LYNNE to a . . .

At the very end, though, we are forced to slow down as the rhythm changes so that we can join Lynn in her

SPACE of DEEP con-TENT-ment.

2. The second example is completely unforgiving in its stark one-two, one-two rhythm.

SUN-light, CUT-ting THROUGH the WA-ter, BOUNCED off EV-ery DROP-let. LYNNE was BLIND-ed FOR a MO-ment.

3. Number three starts with a number of stressed syllables in a row. This rhythm lends credence to sarcasm.

SUN-SHINE? LYNNE QUIPPED. YOU think I’M im-PRESSED with SUN\_SHINE?

4. The first half of the fourth example has multiple shifting rhythms, that seem to reflect Lynne’s feelings about the water.

Lynne WANT-ed to SAY to him, “The FUN-ny thing about WA-ter is that it’s SO . . . SO LI-  
quid. SEE how the SUN SHIM-mers right THROUGH it? SEE how each DROP-let GLOWS?”

The second half of that section, though, reverts to a one-two rhythm that stalks along and helps us to understand, at a subliminal level, why Lynne is unable to voice her thoughts.

A SHA-dow STRUCK his EYES. She COULD-n’t SPEAK. The MO-ment PASSED.

In singing, it is the melody that lingers. In writing, it is also the melody, the rhythm that carries our readers along and makes our writing memorable. Of course, little things like plot and characterization help, too. But without those distinctive rhythms, our writing just won’t sing.

## ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOLADES

(Submit all Achievements & Accolades to Fran Stewart, [myownship@earthlink.net](mailto:myownship@earthlink.net), 770-682-7483)

**Jean Osborne Shaw** won the "Formal Poetry Prize" of the Poetry Society of Georgia for her villanelle "The Purple Suit." It will be published in Society's yearbook due out this fall. Jean also read some of her poems recently during Arts Week at the Oakland Cemetery.

**Fran Stewart's** second mystery novel, *Yellow as Legal Pads*, won the 2005 Independent Publisher (IPPY) Book Award, to be presented on June 4 at the Robert Ferst Center for the Arts during the Georgia Author of the Year program. Fran is now a regular columnist for the monthly newspaper, the *North Georgia Star*, which is distributed throughout the northern part of the state.

## MAY MEETING RECAP

by Kathleen Craft Boehmig

"Be bold in your writing!"

Veteran award-winning author and AJC environmental writer Charles Seabrook, speaking to twenty-two attendees at our May meeting, offered this and many other nuggets of wisdom. Mr. Seabrook peppered writerly advice into entertaining anecdotes from his experiences in journalism.

During the "Our Turn" segment, Adrian Drost regaled us with his own formula for writing children's stories. Adrian draws from conversations with his grandchildren for inspiration.

The evening culminated in awards to the Spring Contest winners and to George Weinstein as AWC Member of the Year, elected by unanimous decision.

Congratulations to our winners, and thanks to our speakers!

## CLUB-SPONSORED CRITIQUE GROUP CONTINUES

The Atlanta Writers Club sponsors a critique group at the Village Veranda coffee shop in Alpharetta on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m. The next meetings are June 8 and 22. All members and guests are welcome. This group focuses solely on critiquing one another's work. The only rules are as follows:

- 1) Limit of 500 words for the piece to be critiqued
- 2) Bring at least ten copies so others can read along and provide written comments

The Village Veranda (678-240-9202) is located at 52-B North Main St. (Hwy. 9) in Alpharetta, on the same block as the Welcome Center. Heading north on N. Main St., turn left onto Church St. and then make an immediate left to access the Village Veranda parking lot. We meet upstairs.

## \*\*\*DUES DUE, DUDE\*\*\*

Please go to page 7, complete the membership form, and send in your check for the 2005-2006 term. The membership dues include a discount until September, so you will save \$5 if you join now. Donations to offset the costs of contests, our website maintenance, and special events are also appreciated. Don't delay!

## Membership Dues, Donations and Information Update

Please make checks payable to The Atlanta Writers Club:

**2005-2006 Membership Dues:** \$25 per member until \_\_\_\_\_  
September 17, 2005 (after which dues increase to \$30)

Donation in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

**Total**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail with checks payable to *The Atlanta Writers Club* to  
**Adrian Drost, 500 Periwinkle Drive, Roswell, GA 30075**

- Non-active members will be removed from *The E-Quill* mailing list.
- Membership year runs from 9/1/05 through 8/31/06

**Member Information:**      (Please complete this section in full to update our files.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Tell us about yourself:**

1. Please circle your three primary interests      novel/ poetry/ short-story / humor/  
nonfiction/ fiction/ juvenile/ travel/  
drama/ screen-writing/ other

2. Please identify you experience level      published      submitted      none

3. Please tell us how long you have been writing      <5 yrs    <10    <20    or    >20

4. Please tell us what you expect from the club \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_