

July 2006 Issue

**Register Now for July 15
Writing Workshop**

Next Event: All-Day Writing Workshop on July 15

From 10:30 until 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 15, award-winning author Brian Jay Corrigan will lead a writing workshop at the Sandy Springs Library. Brian will discuss the craft and the business of writing, and will provide a written critique of your query letter if you register by July 8.

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.

**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 detailed directions,
view our website, or go to
<http://mapsonus.switchboard.com>**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.atlantawritersclub.org**

2006 Schedule of Saturday Club Meetings (1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.):

- **January 21, 2006** Peter Bowerman, freelance writer and motivational speaker
- **February 18, 2006** Laurie Abkemeier, nonfiction literary agent for DeFiore & Company
- **March 18, 2006** Spoken Magazine (members read their works) hosted by Kathleen Mainland
- **April 15, 2006** Cecil Murphey, former AWC President, best-selling author of over 100 books
- **May 20, 2006** Dana Wildsmith, poet, writing teacher, and essayist
- **June 10, 2006** Picnic at Polly & Henry Neal's home from 12 to 4 p.m.
- **July 15, 2006** All-day (10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.) writing workshop led by author Brian Corrigan
- **August 19, 2006** Half-day (10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.) publicity workshop led by Peter Bowerman
- **September 16, 2006** Booksellers Roundtable—advice on how to maximize your sales
- **October 21, 2006** Darnell Arnoult, critically acclaimed poet and novelist
- **November 18, 2006** JoAnne Pinder, Director of Gwinnett County Public Library
- **December 16, 2006** Joe Bathanti, novelist and poet

Deadline for August E-Quill submissions is July 25th

Contact E-Quill Editor: George Weinstein, gjweinstein@yahoo.com, 770-552-5887

WRITE IT AS YOU SEE IT: “Don’t Miss These Opportunities”
by George Weinstein, President

In rare instances, the statement “Have I got a deal for you” is absolutely true. Unfortunately, we have become so accustomed to looking that gift horse squarely in the mouth that we might not recognize the bargain standing before us. Or we decide that it’s too good to be true. Here’s one of my favorite stories about missed opportunities:

Pete, a friend of a friend of mine, can repair just about anything. He makes a nice living taking people’s discards and restoring them to good-as-new condition and reselling them. Early in his refurbishment career, Pete had a buddy working on an army base who told him that all of the stoves at the fort were going to be replaced—did Pete want to buy them for twenty bucks apiece? Pete did indeed, and managed to scrape together the \$10,000 needed to buy all five hundred of the used stoves. Most were in fair condition already, and soon he had all of them cleaned up and in working order. He put an ad in the nearest big-city paper, pricing the refurbished stoves at \$50 apiece. No takers replied. None. Pete feared that he was out ten grand. My friend advised him to wait a couple of months and then place a new ad with a new price: \$200 each. Pete did, and he sold every one of those stoves within a few weeks. \$50 was too good to be true, but \$200? Now there was a bargain!

I hope we don’t have the same situation with our upcoming summer classes. Please read the details about the July 15 workshop and the August 19 seminar on page 3 of this newsletter. These events are “priced to sell.” The July 15 class is an especially good bargain because the instructor, Brian Jay Corrigan, is donating his usual speaking fee to the club. For the August 19 seminar, Peter Bowerman reduced his fee greatly to encourage registration. In both cases, please don’t make the mistake of thinking “you get what you pay for.” I priced them to maximize participation—the club only needs to make a little profit, not a killing. Having paid almost two hundred dollars for a six-hour writers conference at BookExpo America, I know how expensive writing events can be.

Better register now before I change my mind and, just like Pete, raise the price on these wonderful opportunities!

OFFICER LIST FOR THE ATLANTA WRITERS CLUB—2006 Term:

President: George Weinstein, 770-552-5887 **First VP:** Ginger Collins, 770-424-0757
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, 770-830-6131 **Quill Editor:** George Weinstein, 770-552-5887

OTHER CONTACTS:

Historian/Photographer/By-Laws: Adrian Drost, 770-998-7015
Copy Editor: Richard Anderson, 770-830-6131 **Poetry Editor:** Dorothy Worth, 404-636-1316
Speaker Interviews: Ginger Collins, 770-424-0757 **Achievements:** Fran Stewart, 770-682-7483

SIZZLING SUMMER EVENTS!

July 15 – All-day Writing Workshop at the Sandy Springs Library

Brian Jay Corrigan, AWC member and author of the widely and highly acclaimed novel *The Poet of Loch Ness*, will lead a daylong seminar (10:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.) that embodies the goal of this club: to discuss the craft and business of writing, for both non-fiction and fiction (be it short story or novel). The morning discussion will focus on the magic of putting the right words together the right way, and he'll devote the afternoon to the ways and means of getting published. Brian has offered to review one query letter from each registrant in advance and will provide written feedback—you need to register by July 8 to take advantage of this bonus bargain. The workshop price is \$20. You can reserve your spot by going on-line to our website: <http://www.atlantawritersclub.org/events-summer.html> and then clicking the PayPal button, or you can write a \$20 check payable to The Atlanta Writers Club, and send it to George Weinstein, 1285 Willeo Creek Drive, Roswell, GA 30075. If you register by July 8, you'll receive instructions on how to submit your query letter for Brian's review.

August 19 – Half-day Publicity Workshop at the Sandy Springs Library

Back by popular demand, marketing guru Peter Bowerman will present a half-day workshop (10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.) on publicity and book promotion entitled **The Well-Fed Book Promoter: *Get Your Book on the Map & In the Money!***

Got a book in you—or one already out? Wondering if self-publishing makes sense for you? Struggling with the best ways to let the world know about your masterpiece? Join nationally renowned self-publishing and book marketing pro, Peter Bowerman for an information-packed half-day seminar. You'll follow the author's firsthand experience as you learn how to:

- Develop a “marketing mindset” – minus the anxiety!
- Create a book that turns heads and grabs eyeballs.
- Find tons of reviewers anxious to publicize your book.
- Get the bookstore chains to come looking for you.
- Build a cash-generating web site that works 24/7.
- Minimize your dependence on fickle mainstream media.
- Parlay one book into multiple income streams.
- Separate the “Print-on-Demand” hype from reality.

Most importantly, you'll learn a radical new approach to book promotion – one that keeps *you* in control. The result: less anxiety, higher profits, and more fun!

For more details and registration info visit <http://www.wellfedwriter.com/SeminarDates.shtml>.

You can also reserve your spot by going on-line to our website:

<http://www.atlantawritersclub.org/events-summer.html> and click the PayPal button, or you can write a \$67 check payable to The Atlanta Writers Club, and send it to George Weinstein, 1285 Willeo Creek Drive, Roswell, GA 30075.

IN MEMORIUM

An elderly writer-friend once said that every time an older person dies, a library of knowledge closes. For the second time in 2006, we have lost one of our own.

Those of you who attended Atlanta Writers Club meetings in previous years at the Rock Spring Presbyterian Church, Lenbrook, and Campbell-Stone will fondly recall our friend Alfred "Kirk" Kirkpatrick, who passed away on June 15. Kirk was a man who developed a variety of talents during his life: writing, public speaking, acting, sales consulting, and ballroom dancing. At the end of May, the last time I saw him, he still had big plans for his memoir-in-progress. I hope you had the privilege to know this man of intelligence, charisma, and wit.

TWO CLUB-SPONSORED CRITIQUE GROUPS NOW IN OPERATION!

Wednesdays, July 12 and 26: The Atlanta Writers Club sponsors a critique at **Nirvana Cafe and Grille in Roswell** on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. (*note these new times!*) All members and guests are welcome. This group focuses solely on critiquing one another's work. Please bring up to four pages of your work and six copies to share so we can give you written feedback. Nirvana Cafe and Grille (678-277-2626) is located at 10930B Crabapple Road, Suite 120, in Roswell, situated between Von Gogh's Restaurant and the BP gas station at the corner of Hwy. 92 (Crossville Road) and Crabapple Road. We meet in the semi-private room.

Thursdays, July 13 and 27: Our midtown critique group meets at the **Chapter 11 in Ansley Mall** from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All members and guests are welcome. Please bring up to five pages of your work and six copies to share so we can give you written feedback. Directions: from Buckhead, take Piedmont Road south. Cross over Monroe and the mall will be on your right.

ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOLADES

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

Sara Hines Martin was invited to a book signing at the Margaret Mitchell House in Atlanta on the 70th anniversary of the publication of *Gone with the Wind*. Her books: *Walking Atlanta* and *More Than Petticoats: Remarkable Georgia Women* are now on sale in the gift shop.

Brian Jay Corrigan won the Georgia Writers Association's Georgia Author of the Year award for his novel *The Poet of Loch Ness*.

Patrice Dickey and her book *Back to the Garden: Getting from Shadow to Joy* will be featured on WSB Radio ("Perspectives" will air on 7/2 and "Bob Lancer's Solutions" will be broadcast sometime in August). The Atlanta/Fulton Co. cable channel's "Writers In Focus" will air an interview in July. Also, *Southern Seasons Magazine* is doing a profile in its fall issue.

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

“What an Editor Isn’t” by Fran Stewart

1. An editor isn’t your mother. When Joyce Carole Oates spoke at Vermont’s Trinity College in the 1990’s, she told us that every time her mother read a manuscript she would say, “Joyce, this is the best thing you’ve ever written.” We may enjoy such gushing indiscriminate approval from someone, but that someone should not be our editor.
2. An editor isn’t your best friend who was an English major and who can tell you when your commas are misplaced. Punctuation and grammar need to be checked. We need to know if we tend to start sentences with the word *And* or *But*. Proofreading, however, is not the same as editing.
3. An editor isn’t a psychopath who kills your manuscript regularly and viciously. There is a difference between someone who is brutally frank and someone who is frankly brutal. A good editor can ask you to delete a character or re-write an entire chapter without attacking your value as a writer or your status as a functional human being.

For a pre-published (read *eternally hopeful*) writer, finding an editor before submitting to an agent is a wise step on the writing career path. We are so sure of that polished manuscript of ours—until we place it in the hands of a good editor. We may have to cry a bit (I certainly have occasionally) before we recognize the value of the editor’s feedback, but our manuscript then goes to the agent in its best possible form. Of course, once it’s sold to a major publishing house, *that* editor will ask you to refine it further. By then, though, you will be an old hand at this business of turning your baby over to the professionals and trusting their judgment.

First, give it to your mother. Then let your English-major friend read it. Avoid the psychopath. Find an editor.

ST. GEORGE ISLAND WRITERS’ RETREAT FOR WOMEN

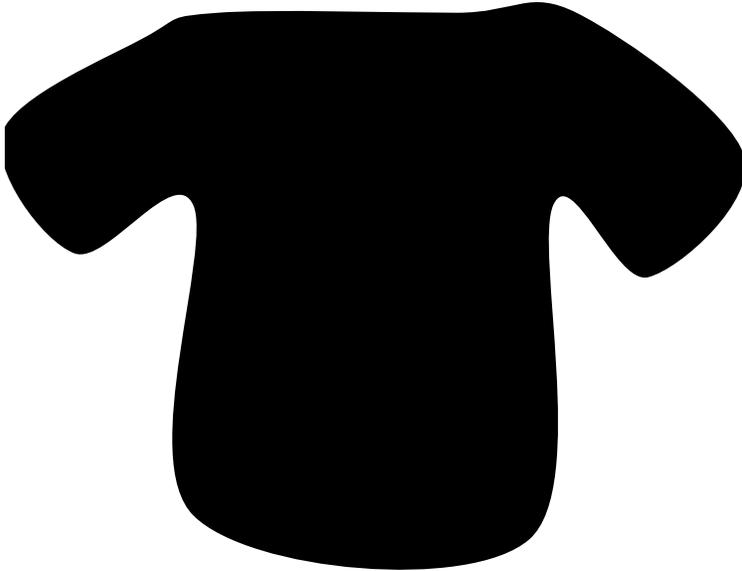
The retreat, called “Fiction Among Friends: Polishing Works in Progress,” is designed for women writers who have begun a full-length work of fiction and need guidance, support, inspiration and/or quiet space to help them push through to completion. The retreat will be held November 6-10 on St. George Island, Florida, with artist-in-residence Adrian Fogelin. For more information, go to www.PersisGranger.com.

A CUP OF COMFORT FOR WRITERS—CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

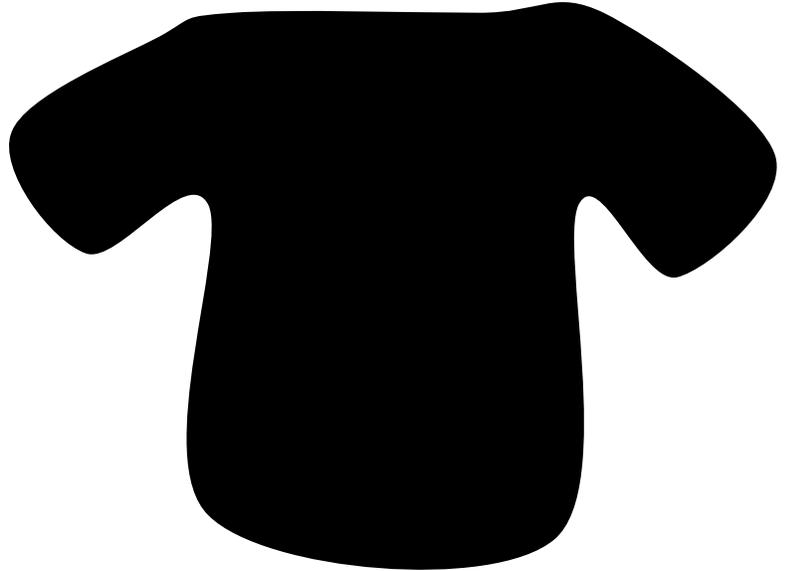
A Cup of Comfort is a best-selling anthology (book) series featuring inspiring true stories about the extraordinary experiences of ordinary people. They’re now seeking submissions for *A Cup of Comfort for Writers*. Please review writers’ guidelines and submission instructions at www.cupofcomfort.com. Submission Deadline: August 31, 2006.

THE ATLANTA WRITERS CLUB T-SHIRTS—2 STYLES ON SALE NOW

FRONT



BACK



FRONT



BACK



Each shirt is a bargain at \$10 apiece, or buy two for \$18 (or three for \$27, four for \$36, etc.). There's a bonus discount if you order them on-line at www.atlantawritersclub.org/merchandise, or order by check, payable to *The Atlanta Writers Club*, by contacting George Weinstein at gjweinstein@yahoo.com or (770) 552-5887. Tell him:

- 1) Whether you want black, white, or both styles of T-shirt
- 2) Which size(s) for each color: Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL, XXXXL; and/or Child L
- 3) What quantity of each size
- 4) Whether you want the shirt(s) mailed to you or you will pick it up. They will be available for pickup and for sale at every meeting. If you want mail delivery, add \$7 for the first shirt and \$3 for additional ones for packaging and shipping charges.

Membership Dues, Donations and Information Update

Please make checks payable to The Atlanta Writers Club:

2006 Membership Dues: \$30 per member \$ _____

Note: Students, ages 25 and under, pay only \$20 year-round

Donation in the amount of \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please mail with checks payable to *The Atlanta Writers Club* to
Adrian Drost, 500 Periwinkle Drive, Roswell, GA 30075-4328

- Unpaid members will be removed from *The E-Quill* mailing list.
- 2006 Membership Year runs from 1/1/06 through 12/31/06

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: ____/____/____