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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**Why Blog?**

A demonstration of the increasing laziness of humans is apparent within the definition of a blog. Quite simply, a blog is an abbreviation for a web log. With that background knowledge, the definition of a blog becomes much more understandable. A blog is an assembly of entries on the Internet that are filed in chronological order. That description sounds so boring.

But blogs can also be colorful, informative, interactive and one of the most useful tools for an author. The deterioration of printed book sales is not necessarily indicative of a reduction in the level of reading by the American consumer. We are all aware of the increasing importance of the various categories of electronic publications.

Almost every speaker at our monthly meetings in the past year has acclaimed the importance of blogs. Most recently, Deidre Knight of the Knight Agency stated she blogs every day.

So The Atlanta Writers Club has joined the pack of millions of blogs. Since our purpose as a club is to assist our members with the advancement of their writing careers, the creation of a blog for our membership must then be a necessity.

Our members should have access to know the usage of a blog, how to post on a blog, their advantages, and their weaknesses. Certainly the best method of

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**Passion for Words**

by Marty Aftewicz, President

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**Next Meeting—Sept 15, 2007**

- 12:30 – 1:00 PM Networking: Make new friends and contacts.
- 1:00 – 1:15 PM Share your Writing: Read a short work of two minutes or less
- 1:15 – 1:30 PM Club Business: Fall Contest, Virtual Book Tour, Georgia Literary Festival, Preview of Upcoming Events
- 1:30 – 1:45 PM Bill Starr, Director of Georgia Center for the Book
- 1:45 – 2:30 PM Sheri Joseph, novelist, essayist and educator speaks on the writing craft
- 2:30 – 3:00 PM Networking and Book Signing
- 3:00 – 3:45 PM Atlanta Magazine panel on freelance writing for commercial magazines
Our 1:45 pm speaker features Sheri Joseph, novelist, essayist, editor of *Five Points Magazine*, and Georgia State associate professor. She wrote a number of well-received short stories before turning to novels, and she’ll discuss the craft of novel writing on September 15. How does she decide which idea is appropriate for a short story versus a novel? “It’s usually an instinct. If the material feels big and complex, attached to a world I want to live in for a while, then it’s a novel. My first book, *Bear Me Safely Over*, was such a world, but it also came to me in discreet, story-sized units; therefore it was a story cycle. *Stray* was unusual in that it emerged as a novel in the first draft, but very, very slowly because I didn’t know anything about what was going to happen. Even when writing the last chapter, I didn’t know how the story would end.”

Of her roles as author, book promoter, editor, and educator, the teaching takes precedence. She says, “I’m still trying to figure out how to keep from feeling guilty if I’m not giving students all my available time. Revising is something I can do in the little space between teaching duties and book promotion. But drafting a novel requires serious time dreaming in another world. It’s hard to move back and forth between that and anything else. I’ve come rely on summer (Continued on page 15)

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Knight Agency “Pitch” is a Big Hit

The long awaited pitch-slam appointments conducted by Deidre Knight and Elaine Spencer of the Knight Literary Agency were an enormous success. Ms. Knight and Ms. Spencer attentively listened to their scheduled appointments for nearly two non-stop hours. Each then graciously accepted one stand-by attendee for an additional pitch. Their efforts will always be remembered by all of us at The Atlanta Writers Club.

As soon as the pair exited their pitch-slam appointments, Ms. Knight began her 90-minute workshop and discussion with our 108 members in attendance. This meeting marks the largest audience ever at an Atlanta Writers Club event, and we appreciate all of your participation. Deidre Knight provided insightful direction and comments regarding the agency submission process and more. This was truly a very meaningful event that was well received by all in attendance.

To further her legend, Ms. Knight stayed and chatted freely while she autographed her paranormal romances for interested members.

Thank you, Deidre and Elaine, for a most successful Saturday.

Members, your participation and excitement have been noted as well. We are already researching other opportunities of a similar nature for 2008.
Vision – Who Are You?

Did you ever wonder who writes those author bios on the book jackets? Did you ever wish you knew more about a particular writer? If you, like I, have been disappointed sometimes in the sparse information—Shelly Writer lives with her husband and two dogs in northern Oklahoma—you might look on Shelly Writer’s website. There you are likely to find a button that says About Me or FAQs. So go ahead and read all about Shelly.

Then, plan what you’ll say on your own website. I’ve been working with a business coach. Yes—writing is a business. He didn’t like my About Me button. He suggested that I write a vision statement in the form of what he called a corporate culture position paper. Sounds a bit intimidating, doesn’t it? And why on earth would something like that be necessary for writers when all we want to do is write?

This turned out to be one of the most worthwhile tasks I’ve approached lately, and I thoroughly recommend it to you. I chose to take my name—I know, you don’t have to say it; it’s a schoolgirl approach—and turn the first letters into my statement. When you read this, you will know who I am, much more than anything that says Fran Stewart lives with various rescued cats by a creek on the backside of Hog Mountain, Georgia.

Because of space restraints, I can’t put the whole statement here. For now, let’s look only at the letters that spell FRAN: Far-seeing: I have developed a sense of perspective in my life, and I understand that while all things change, always, there is a more basic way in which we are all one; we are all connected; we are all the same.

Responsible: Since I believe that thought is creative, I am 100% responsible for my thoughts, my actions, and my responses at all times. I am someone who lights a candle to dispel darkness. If I find darkness around me, I know it is time to light another candle.

Accountable: What I promise to do, I do to the best of my ability, using all the resources at my disposal.

Nurturing: I choose to be kind, to encourage others, to lend a helping hand when one is wanted. In all circumstances, I speak well of people. In all my actions, I look for the highest good that I can offer, and I act from compassion, knowing that other people do not need me to fix them, as they are not broken.

In my work as a writer, an editor, a speaker, I hold to these principles. If you ask me to meet with your writers group or your book club, or if you want me to speak to your organization or teach a writing seminar, this is what you will get. Naturally, I’d like you to visit my website www.franstewart.com and check out the rest of my name as well. And then email me with your culture statement. Who are you? What do you believe in? What does your writing reflect?

If you haven’t thought about it, chances are good that all we’ll ever know about you is that you live with a spouse and two dogs in northern Oklahoma.

"Fran’s column is also available on our blog, www.awcblog.com, where you can make comments. You may also learn more about Fran Stewart at www.Franstewart.com"
Photos from August meeting

Elaine Spencer and member Barbara O’Brien at pitch-slam

Deidre and Etta Malcolm

Thomas Bell - Thomas Bell, co-founder of Decatur Book Festival

Deidre’s presentation

Members - 104 AWC members participated in August workshop

Deidre signing books for members
Critique Group Panel Wows Decatur Book Festival
by George Weinstein

Many of our critique groups will celebrate their first anniversaries in the next month or two, populated in large part by members who discovered the club at the 2006 Decatur Book Festival (DBF). So it seemed fitting that we sponsor a panel of published authors at this year’s DBF who could discuss why and how their own critique group works.

Fiction writers Darnell Arnoult, Virginia Boyd, Pamela Duncan, and Lynn York couldn’t have conceived of a better scenario for 2007 if they’d made it up in one of their books: one critique group, four women and four published novels all in one year. For a decade they’ve shared their work, supported each other, produced a combined seven books and a poetry collection, and created lasting friendships. This year, their dedication to their craft and one another has paid off big time.

Pamela Duncan had a last-minute family emergency that kept her from joining the other three as they held court in the Old Courthouse in Decatur on Sunday, September 2. Darnell, Virginia, and Lynn discussed how they met in North Carolina and stuck together after discovering they held similar views about writing and learned how each one’s strengths complemented the others’ weaknesses. As they came to trust one another, they saw their output and the quality of their writing grow.

Their ears became tuned to each author’s cadence and style, so that hearing each one’s writing became more important than reading it. Soon, they discovered what style of critiquing worked best for their group: no homework and no hardcopies to review while each one read her work aloud, the others pointing out character inconsistencies and un-focused narratives, but also those moments that rang true.

Then came their triumph of 2007.

Lynn York’s second novel The Sweet Life got the group off to a great start in February. Already in its third printing, The Sweet Life has been named by independent booksellers as a Book Sense Notable (Continued on page 14)

Decatur Book Festival – Fun, Success & Education

The Atlanta Writers Club was pleased to participate for the second consecutive year in the Decatur Book Festival (DBF). This event provides the most exposure for our club and we were pleased to record over 225 visitors to our booth in just 2 days. We owe much appreciation to our dedicated volunteers for educating our guests with information about the AWC. We anticipate many of those 225 will visit our meeting on September 15, and look forward to greeting our guests and sharing our hospitality once again.

In addition to our booth visitors that stopped to gather information, we were thrilled to receive visits from many authors, including some that have become very good friends of our club. We were further pleased by encounters with new authors that were part of the DBF program, who just stopped by to hear about the club that is becoming so suc-

...few made-up stories can match the truth about how these four authors found themselves with Sufficient Grace living The Sweet Life with all their Big Beautiful dreams coming true in One Fell Swoop.

...over 225 visitors to our booth in just 2 days.
Anna DeStefano and Karen White

Virginia Boyd, Lynn York, and Darnell Arnoult

Cynthia Graubart and Nathalie DuPree

AWC Booth visitors

Volunteer Barbara Connor with AWC display
Patti Callahan Henry and Hollis Gillespie

Virginia Boyd, Lynn York, and Darnell Arnoult

Kathy Reichs signs

Roy Blount Jr

Man Martin
We wish to notify our readers of three key literary events happening in our state of Georgia over the next few months. Two events will occur on the same weekend at the end of September. This certainly demonstrates the support and interest level of the Georgia literary community.

The Atlanta Writers Club is proud to be a part of providing information regarding these events.

1. In Blue Ridge, the Georgia Center for the Book will host the Georgia Literary Festival, September 29-30. The Atlanta Writers Club will participate as a sponsor at this event. If you are interested in assisting the AWC at our booth for this event, please contact Clay Ramsey.

2. In Columbus on that same weekend, the Inaugural Chattahoochee Valley Writers’ Conference will feature Shay Youngblood as the Keynote Speaker.

3. About six weeks later, Atlanta will be the scene for the National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference, November 14-18.
The Georgia Literary Festival is a "moveable feast" that celebrates the rich literary heritage of the state in a different location each year. We are pleased to announce that the eighth annual Georgia Literary Festival will be hosted in 2007 by the town of Blue Ridge in Fannin County in the beautiful North Georgia mountains. The festival observance will be Friday September 28 - Sunday September 30.

The honored writer at this year's festival will be the late Appalachian poet and novelist Byron Herbert Reece, whose 90th birthday falls in the month of the literary festival. More information on Reece, his life and his work is available from the Byron Herbert Reece Society.

Among the featured Georgia authors with speaking roles at the 2007 event are Bettie Sellers, former Poet Laureate of Georgia and author of nearly a dozen books of poetry and essays; Philip Lee Williams, prize-winning author of A Distant Flame, Blue Crystal, and The Heart of a Distant Forest; Amy Blackburn, award-winning author of Going to Ground, Above the Fall Line and Dahlonega Haunts; Joe Dabney, author of Smokehouse Ham, Spoon Bread and Scuppernong Wine: The Folklore and Art of Southern Appalachian Cooking; Dr. Helen Lewis, Appalachian scholar and activist and author of a number of books; poet Dana Wildsmith; and Ethelene Jones, a poet, editor, newspaper columnist and author of Facets of Fanin: A History of Fannin County, Ga. Programming details will be announced soon.

The Festival is sponsored by the Georgia Center for the Book with funding assistance and support provided by the Georgia Humanities Council.

For more detailed information, please visit: www.georgialiteraryfestival.org.

Inaugural Chattahoochee Valley Writers’ Conference Announced - Shay Youngblood to be Keynote Speaker The Chattahoochee Valley Writers’ Conference Steering Committee, in conjunction with the Muscogee County Friends of Libraries announces the inaugural Chattahoochee Valley Writers’ Conference that will be held Saturday, September 29, 2007, at the Columbus Public Library, 3000 Macon Road, Columbus, Georgia.

Following Shay Youngblood’s keynote presentation, one dozen workshops will be presented by nationally-recognized authorities including the Poets Laureate of Alabama and Tennessee, Sue Brannon Walker & Maggi Vaughn. The registration fee for the conference, which includes lunch, is $45.

Prior to the conference, at 7 pm Thursday evening, September 27, the Georgia Poetry Society will sponsor a free public poetry reading by the two Poets Laureate in the library auditorium.

(Continued on page 10)
The opening plenary session will cover the accomplishments of Honorary Chairman F. Clason Kyle and Chattahoochee Valley Authors Nunnally Johnson and Carson McCullers will be recognized prior to Ms. Youngblood’s keynote address “You Got to Move Your Feet When You Pray.” Workshops following the plenary session will include:

- Sue Brannan Walker, Poet Laureate of Alabama: “Lives Like Lines or Life Lines of the Serial Killer Poem (not Poetry) (Writing the Poem to die for)”;
- Michael Bishop: “Interstitial Dreams: Fantasy, Magic, Realism, Science Fiction and Other Fruitfully Mutating Categories”;
- Peter Bowerman: “The Well-Fed Self-Publisher: How to Turn One Book into a Full-Time Living”;
- Dusty Nix and Allison Kennedy: “Writing for the Newspaper”;
- Niles Reddick: “Creative Nonfiction: Wrestling with an Oxymoron”;
- Brian Jay Corrigan: “Crafting Character Through Dialog and Description”;
- Esther Luttrell: “Screenwriting – Selling Scripts to Today’s Hollywood”;
- Michael Smith: “Short Stories for the Age of Electronic Entertainment”;
- Patricia Sprinkle: “The Town That Isn’t There: Creating Believable Protagonists and Settings Good for Story After Story”; and,
- David Muschell: “No Compromise: Heightening Conflict in Your Writing”.

For additional information, or to register, please contact
John Frandsen, CVWC Coordinator at 334-821-2036 (or email chatt-writer@charter.net) or
Linda Ames at 706-323-4014 or visit http://www.chattwriters.org.
(Note: email is singular; website is plural.)
The message below is sent at the request of Jennifer Taylor, an AWC member who is leading a series of workshops this fall. Please contact Jennifer Taylor directly with any questions at jrtaylor1@mac.com or visit the website listed below for the Tidal Writers Workshops.

Jennifer Taylor, AWC member, has partnered with mediabistro.com to provide workshop participants with discounts on Avant Guild memberships. Tidal Writers Workshop is designed for women of all ages with either previous or little writing experience. The workshop leaders are published writers Jennifer Taylor, MFA, and Lesley Dame, MFA. They will lead writers through a day and a half of Poetry and Nonfiction workshops held in scenic Saint Simons Island, Georgia, an hour from Jacksonville, Florida and a five-hour drive from Atlanta.

- The October senses workshop will be held October 6th and 7th. We spend every day housed in our bodies yet we ignore our senses and all of the writing possibilities that can come from them. This workshop will focus on highlighting each of the senses and include a trip to the salt marsh.
- The November mother-daughter workshop will be held November 3rd and 4th. There aren’t many creative possibilities for mothers and daughters to enjoy together, but this is certainly an exception. This workshop will focus on themes of gratitude for the women in our lives, which will extend beyond this time of year. This workshop will include a walk on the beach.
- The December seasons transitional workshop will be held December 1st and 2nd. As the year draws to a close, we are often immersed in seasonal activities, and tend to neglect our writing and the possibilities for creativity and growth this time of year aside from baking and shopping. Take the time to welcome this transition before festivities begin, and rejuvenate your inner being. This workshop will include a nature hike.

For more information, please visit their website at:

http://www.tidalwritersworkshop.com

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Accolades

Emily Lupita Plum Guclu has won the 2008 Marble Faun Prize for the Poem from the William Faulkner – William Wisdom CW Competition out of New Orleans. Emily will attend the Words and Music Festival in New Orleans, November 14-18, 2007 and is invited to read her winning poem. Congratulations, Emily. Learn more about Emily, a new AWC member at http://www.emilyplum.com/.

The contrast made the event even more noteworthy for our volunteers and other guests. We also thank our featured authors, members of our club that were able to market their work at a table adjacent to our guest receiving area. The AWC was most fortunate this year as we received an excellent placement of our booth, which certainly assisted us even more.

We cannot possibly list all the events that were so well attended, but have included a few photos to jolt fond memories if you were an attendee, or attract you to next year’s event if you could not participate in 2007.
Emily Lupita Plum works to forge a multicultural perspective in her writing discovered from her own mixed Anglo-Hispanic heritage, childhood in rural Iowa, immersion in the Mexican and Japanese experiences, and the many places, mythological and natural, in-between. She works in poetry, fiction, memoir, glass, and watercolor mediums. Her first book of poetry, Water and Stone, (Koumyakusya Press), combines Emily’s love for writing and art with the Japanese Zen aesthetic. Emily’s awards include the Marble Faun Prize for the Poem, The William Faulkner – William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition; The John Allen Writing Award; the Phyllis J. Lepke Award; and the Pearl Hogrefe Recognition Award for Creative Writing.

Emily currently teaches poetry and memoir workshops at The Workspace, Iowa State University, is an independent glass bead and watercolor artist, and works at the Iowa State Study Abroad Center. She relocated to Atlanta full-time in December after graduating with her M.F.A. in Creative Writing and Environment. http://www.emilyplum.com

Jamila Edwards

I am just beginning to pursue my interest in fiction writing. I always thought the task of writing a novel was daunting, but I recently decided to take the leap and begin a fiction project. I graduated from the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Georgia in 2003 with a degree in magazines and a minor in English. I have always been passionate about literature, having written my first short story (Continued on page 13)

FALL WRITING CONTEST 2007

The Atlanta Writer’s Club hosts two writing contests each year in order to recognize the outstanding works of our members. The contests are also an opportunity for members to enhance their writing credentials by receiving an award from Atlanta’s oldest writing organization.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. The AWC Fall Writing Contest is open to all current, paid club members. (To join AWC, please contact the Membership VP, Kate Copsey at ktcpsey@aol.com or President Marty Aftewicz at Marty@atlantawritersclub.org. You may also join or renew online at www.atlantawritersclub.org or enroll in membership at any meeting.

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

DEADLINE:

November 18, 2007. (Submissions received after this date will automatically be disqualified.)

$1600 in cash and prizes!

Three award levels in each category.

FIRST PLACE $50
SECOND PLACE $30
THIRD PLACE $20

See AWC website for details
when I was six years old. (It was a piece based on characters from a Disney cartoon). I spent a couple of years as an assistant editor at Atlanta Homes & lifestyles Magazine before moving on to a career in the legal field. I love to read, everything from the classics to O magazine. I recently married and am now looking forward to immersing myself in writing again.

Mary Willis
I cannot remember a time when I didn’t ardently want to write. But there is a season for all things and, as my life’s path would have it, I have spent the last 20 years in the role of commercial banker, wife and mother. I have started several works. I have yet to finish one. Now that I am “retired” I will work to perfect my writing skills; find my particular voice; actively engage my imagination. I have enrolled in a fiction writing course, and I have secured a place at David Fulmer’s fiction workshop in October. Additionally, I joined a fiction critique group. I am ready to learn to write well. I joined AWC because I have so much to learn, and I am very interested in the writing tips and networking opportunities offered through this organization. I am the proud mother of two sons: 13 year old, Aaron and 2 year old, Ethan. My wonderful husband allows me time to write by engaging the boys while I sequester myself to the home office. I plan to thoroughly enjoy this journey. I hope to produce works I can be proud of.

Do you know what a Virtual Book Tour is? Do you think this knowledge would be a potential benefit to you in the future?
There are many other applications for a blog. Visit The Atlanta Writers Club blog at www.awcblog.com. If you don’t have a user name and password yet, request one with Marty@awcblog.com. See you soon at the blog water cooler.

Marty
The club has purchased a membership plan with the Margaret Mitchell House (http://www.gwtw.org/), enabling up to four club members to attend events (free unless otherwise noted) hosted by the Center for Southern Literature.

Please contact George Weinstein at 770-552-5887 or gjweinstein@yahoo.com if you would like to attend any of the following appearances, author talks, and book signings:

6:00 Reception, 7:00 Author’s Lecture

Through September 10th Adult Creative Writing Class - Fiction Shop

- September 19th Laurel Thatcher Ulrich - Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History
- September 20th Terry Kay - The Book of Marie
- September 25th Robert Fulghum - What on Earth Have I Done?
- September 26th Tess Gerritsen - The Bone Garden

(Continued from page 5)

Book.

Darnell Arnoult, who is also an award-winning poet and former AWC guest speaker, saw the trade paperback edition of her novel Sufficient Grace published in March. It has been chosen as a Book Sense Reading Group pick.

Pamela Duncan’s third novel The Big Beautiful was also released in March. And then she received the James Still Award for Writing about the Appalachian South, given by the Fellowship of Southern Writers.

The release of Virginia Boyd’s first novel One Fell Swoop this October will complete the circle, making her not only the final member of the group to achieve publication but also the fourth to have a book published in this single, remarkable year.

Forty audience members at DBF, some from the club and some hopefully new members responded with enthusiasm. After all, few made-up stories can match the truth about how these four authors found themselves with Sufficient Grace living The Sweet Life with all their Big Beautiful dreams coming true in One Fell Swoop.
residencies at colonies, where I’m fed three times a day and otherwise closed up in a garret with my work.”

Currently, Sheri is completing a final revision of a novel presently called Watermarks, of which she says, “I’ve been writing and rewriting it for 15 years, no kidding…I needed to get it done and off my desk before I’d be ready to start the new book.” Research for the new novel then took her to Costa Rica for a month. After drafting 150 pages of the backstory, though, even that could change: “The whole thing is really too new and unformed to talk about, but I’m excited about it and starting to feel confident of its characters, its tone, its world. And my agent now has Watermarks, so any day I’m expecting to hear some response on that, and probably to be sent back into yet another revision, if I can stand it. It’s endless, in a good way.” She’ll show us the landmarks on that journey on September 15 at 1:45 pm, with a book signing to follow.

Like Sheri Joseph, Rebecca Burns manages multiple roles and responsibilities, including editor-in-chief of Atlanta magazine, author of Rage in the Gate City, about the 1906 Atlanta race riots, and a part-time teacher of magazine writing at UGA. As she once told a writer for Creative Loafing, “I have a wonderful husband. I never cook and never go to the grocery store. So I don’t have to worry about practical things.”

After joining Atlanta magazine in 2002, she turned it into a general-interest publication, filling the ever-widening gaps being left by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution with stories about politics and news as well as culture. She will be talking to the club about what kinds of stories she’s now looking for as editor-in-chief and the dos and don’ts of pitching story ideas.

Candice Dyer is a Writer at Large for Atlanta magazine, which means she’s under contract to write articles for them, but she can also pursue freelance assignments. Her recent additional publication credits include Men’s Journal, Paste, Georgia Music Magazine, and Macon Magazine, but people still ask her about the first piece she published in Atlanta Magazine: “I did a tribute to the mountain men and boys I grew up with in White County, and I guess it struck a nerve.”

She owes the start of her writing ca-
reer to her grandmother, who wrote a gossip column under a pseudonym for the White County, GA, weekly and, upon her retirement, forced the paper to give the column to Candice. Thus, Candice gained a platform at age 15 that she called “Candy’s Corner,” and soon followed that with the edgier “Dyer Straights.” She’s been a journalist and essayist ever since.

She’ll tell us about how to generate ideas, sort the newspaper story concepts from those better suited to magazines, develop the ideas into pitches, and then turn each successful pitch into a finished piece.

Teresa Weaver, late of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, now writes the book column for Atlanta magazine. She joined them in June as their chief book wrangler. Her column will focus on three new books each month, and she’ll post additional work at www.atlantamagazine.com: Q&As with authors, occasional audio and video clips, and a literary blog. She’ll also flag upcoming titles that lend themselves to excerpts, author profiles, and feature stories.

Contrasting her move from a daily newspaper to a monthly magazine, she states, “The DEADLINES for a monthly magazine have been both a joy and a challenge! It’s a relief not to have to worry about publishing something TOMORROW, but it’s been kind of tough training myself to think three months out! The greatest joy of all has been being around so many other great people who are so excited about books.”

Regarding the trends she’s seen in the last ten years: “The greatest change, of course, is the sheer volume. New authors have a much more difficult time getting noticed—and getting a contract for a second book—than they used to. Self-publishing also has changed the literary landscape, and not for the better. And celebrity books take up far too much publishing space now. In an ideal world, great literary fiction would be revered here like it is in other countries. And great writers would make enough money without teaching or screenwriting or any of the other things they do to survive.”

Among the current Georgia authors who deserve a wider audience, she lists: “[2005 AWC speaker] Tony Grooms and Greg Johnson at Kennesaw State University; [Sept. 15 AWC speaker] Sheri Joseph, Josh Russell and John Holman at Georgia State University; [Jan. 19, 2008 AWC Speaker] Philip Lee Williams; Judson Mitcham; Jim Grimsley at Emory; and the great Mary Hood.” She concludes with “Charles McNair, Kathy Trocheck, Phyllis Perry, [May 2007 AWC Speaker] Joshilyn Jackson…And that’s just the fiction writers!”

[Note from George Weinstein: Please do not bring your book(s) to the meeting and/or ask Teresa to review your work. She will address the procedure for submitting books to Atlanta magazine for consideration.]
Book Swappin’ with AWC Social Director, Janean Brown

Book swap in next meeting.

Lookin’ for a good book? Don’t waste time buying a book you may not like. Take a book for a spin with the Atlanta Writers Club Book Swap. Trade in one of your favorites at our monthly meeting for a brand new book—well not brand new, but nearly new. If you’re interested, simply check-in your book with Janean Brown at our next meeting and she’ll make sure your book finds a good home. Peruse any books collected for a taste of something different!

Is there a book you’re looking for? Let me know & I’ll post the request in the newsletter.

President: Marty Aftewicz
First VP: George Weinstein
Membership VP: Kate Copsey
Treasurer: John Sheffield
Publicity VP: Jim Stevens
Operations VP: Clay Ramsey
Contests VP: Tara Coyt
Marketing VP: Bill Black
Social Director: Janean Brown

eQuill Editor: Gene Bowen

Other Volunteers
Historian/By-Laws: Adrian Drost
Photographer: Gene Bowen
PR/Open Mic: Patricia Patterson
E-Quill Copy Editor: Gene Bowen
Achievements: Gene Bowen

The Atlanta Writers Club Board

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2007 Schedule of Saturday Club Meetings (12:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

- September 15, 2007 --
  1:45-2:30 novelist, essayist, and educator Sheri Joseph on writing craft
  3:00-3:45 the Atlanta Magazine panel on freelance writing for commercial magazines

- October 20, 2007 --
  1:45-2:30 AWC alumnus Carol O’Dell on finding publishing success
  3:00-3:45 memoirist Jackie K. Cooper and novelist Susan Colegrove discuss becoming "accidental authors"

- November 17, 2007 --
  1:45-2:30 Diane Coulter Thomas, novelist, on using business writing to build authorial skills
  3:00-3:45 professional editor and screenplay doctor Ann Kempner Fisher on effective manuscript editing

- December 15, 2007 --
  1:45-2:45 Best-selling novelist Cassandra King will speak about her success using first person narration and how her strong characters capture the interests of her readers.
  3:00-3:45 non-fiction author Annabelle Robertson on creating your platform.
Conyers: An all-genre group meets Sundays, 6-8 pm at Bernie Blanton's home. E-mail Ms. Blanton at brblanton@earthlink.net or call her at 770-602-1567 to get on her distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Decatur: a fiction group meets Saturdays, 10 am – noon, currently at the Atlanta Bread Company on Ponce de Leon, near the Decatur Library. E-mail Ricky Jacobs at rjacobsttownesquare.net or call him at 404-378-7365 to get on his standby list; this group is full, but if there’s an opening, please let Ricky know you want to be considered.

Decatur: a non-fiction group meets Tuesdays, 7-9 pm at Decatur Renaissance Condos on east Ponce de Leon. E-mail Cynthia Blakeley at edblakeley@aol.com or call her at 404-377-1170 to get on her distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Lawrenceville/Snellville: an all-genre group meets Saturdays, 10 am - noon at Barnes & Noble on Scenic Highway in Snellville. E-mail Ken Schmanski at kschmanski@yahoo.com or call him at 770-338-8602 to get on his distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Marietta/Austell: an all-genre group meets Tuesdays, 7-9 pm at Borders on the East-West Connector in Austell. E-mail Janean Brown at shauntebrown@bellsouth.net or call her at 678-627-9979 to get on her distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Midtown: a fiction group is in need of new leadership and participants. E-mail George Weinstein at gjweinstein@yahoo.com or call him at 770-552-5887 if you are interested.

Midtown/Buckhead: an all-genre group meets Mondays, 6:30-8:30 pm at Chapter 11 at the Ansley Mall. E-mail Patricia Patterson at pe.patterson@att.net or call her at 404-842-0824 to get on her distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Roswell: an all-genre group meets on Wednesdays, 6-8 pm at Nirvana Café on Hwy 92. E-mail George Weinstein at gjweinstein@yahoo.com or call him at 770-552-5887 to get on his distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Sandy Springs: an all-genre group meets on Mondays, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm at the Sandy Springs Library. E-mail Pat Wells at pat.wells@comcast.net or call her at 678-731-9797 to get on her distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Poetry: Meets on the first Saturday of the month, 1-3 PM at Nirvana Café in Roswell. Contact Jill Jennings at magistra_jennings@yahoo.com or call Jill at 770-516-2482 to get on the distribution list for the meeting and learn more details.

New Critique Group – Fiction
We are researching the possibility of a new fiction critique group in the Midtown Atlanta area. Jennifer Taylor has volunteered to organize and direct this group. Interested members should contact Jennifer via email at jrtaylor1@mac.com Jennifer will then contact you to determine the feasibility with the number of responses, and scheduling availability.
The Atlanta Writers Club has a huge new conference space in which to meet each month, a mile north of I-285 (northern arc) on the second floor of the Student Building on the Dunwoody campus of Georgia Perimeter College, 2101 Womack Road, Dunwoody, GA 30338.

Detailed directions also on our website: or on http://mapsonus.switchboard.com

Non-members are always welcome to visit meeting for free; to promote membership, we charge visitors $10 each time thereafter.

Directions to the Dunwoody Campus of Georgia Perimeter College:

From I-285 (Northern Arc), take Exit 30 (N. Peachtree Rd./N. Shallowford Rd./Chamblee Dunwoody Rd.) and go north on N. Peachtree Rd. Turn left on Tilly Mill Rd. and then left on Womack Rd. Turn left into GPC.

From GA-400 South, take Exit 6, Northridge Rd., turn right at top of ramp, and turn right on Roberts Dr. (If heading north on GA-400, take Exit 6 and go straight through the light onto Roberts Dr.). From Roberts Dr., stay on it as it turns into Chamblee Dunwoody Rd and then take a left on Womack Rd. GPC will be about two miles down, on the right.

From Highway 9/Roswell Rd. in Sandy Springs, go east on Mount Vernon Rd. Turn right on Chamblee Dunwoody Rd and left on Womack Rd. GPC will be about two miles down, on the right.

Park in the large student lot (Lot #10) on the left. You do NOT need to stop at Security to get a visitor sticker. We meet on the 2nd floor of the Student Building (labeled “NB”), which is located at the top of the circular drive. Walk around the left side of the building and up the ramp to the side entrance.

For GPC’s street and campus maps, click: http://www.gpc.edu/Campus_Maps/Dunwoody.html

Critique Group Opportunity at GPC

The Writers’ Circle critique group has met at Georgia Perimeter College’s Dunwoody Campus for 18 years. They meet on the first and third Friday of each month from 2-4 in room NLRC 3100 on the second floor of the library.

Participants may read up to 3 pages, (12 pts., double-spaced, 8 copies) or may simply discuss a writing project. All levels and genres are welcome, and meetings are FREE.

Visit http://www.gpc.edu/~duniss/WritersCircle.htm.

Contact: Nancy McDaniel at 770-274-5243 or facilitator Gelia Dolcimascolo
THE ATLANTA WRITERS CLUB

Membership Dues, Donations and Information Update

Please make checks payable to The Atlanta Writers Club:

☐ NEW
☐ RENEWAL

2008 Membership Dues:
- $35 Early Bird Special – valid through October 20, 2007
- Students, ages 25 and under, pay only $30 year-round

Donation in the amount of

$___________

Total $___________

Please mail with checks payable to The Atlanta Writers Club to
John Sheffield, 1070 Rome Drive, Roswell, GA 30075

• 2008 Membership Year runs from 1/1/08 through 12/31/08
• Sponsor someone who joins the club & receive $5 off your renewal.

Renewing members who have not paid by March 1 will be removed from The E-Quill mailing list.

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

Name __________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________ City & Zip_________

Home __________________________ Work/Cell ______________________

Phone __________________________ Phone _________________________

E-mail address __________________________________________________

Sponsor (if any) _________________________________________________

Tell us about yourself:

1. Please circle your primary interests fiction nonfiction poetry freelancing

2. Have you published? Yes No

3. How long you have been writing? less than 5 years 5 or more years

4. Would you like to join a local critique group? Yes No

Date: _____/_____/______