

e Quill

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 writing, publishing, and entertainment.

Resources:

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- Officers & Board p.11
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- Schedule for 2007 p.11

Passion for Words
 by Marty Aftewicz, President

AWC Marquee is Glowing

When I joined The Atlanta Writers Club, I attended each monthly meeting, anxious to learn at least one item from each speaker. I was never disappointed.

Now as I have some of the responsibility for the future programs of our club, I am proud of the lineup that is coming to our monthly meetings, workshops and dinner with author events in the near future. Of course, George Weinstein is constantly working behind the scenes of events like the Decatur Book Festival to maintain a high caliber of speakers and we are all most appreciative.

Our monthly meetings will feature best selling southern author Cassandra King, renowned fantasy

writer Mitchell Graham, prolific author of grit lit Karen White, and Pulitzer Prize winner Natasha Trethewey. Toss those lightly with Tasha Alexander, Melinda Long, Patricia



Sprinkle, Karen Abbott, and many others.

How is our club attracting such top talent? Because our members demonstrate they care with their participation in our monthly meetings and workshops. Publicists work diligently to have an author appearance at a

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How is our club attracting such top talent?

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Next Meeting—Oct 20, 2007

Agenda – October 20, 2007

- 12:45 – 1:15 PM *Networking*: Make new friends and contacts.
- 1:15 – 1:30PM *Share your Writing*: Read a short work of two minutes or less
- 1:30 – 1:45 PM *Club Business*: Fall Contest, Preview of Upcoming Events
- 1:45 – 2:30 PM AWC alumnus *Carol O'Dell* on marketing your work
- 2:30 – 3:00 PM *Networking and Book Signing*
- 3:00 – 3:45 PM memoirist *Jackie K. Cooper* and novelist *Augusta Trobaugh* discuss becoming "accidental authors"

October Speakers

October Interviews

by George Weinstein,
Program Chair & 1st VP



Carol O'Dell, our 1:45 pm speaker on October 20, was a member of The Atlanta Writers Club before she moved to Florida and is the author of the nonfiction book *Mothering Mother*. This memoir

from a member of the “sandwich generation”—made up of boomers taking care of both their own children and their elderly parents—brings to life the experience of looking after a mother suffering from Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s, while taking care of her own three children, with honesty, humor, and grace.

According to O’Dell, “*Mothering Mother* is about the time in our lives when our roles reverse and we begin to parent our parents. Its strength is that I was a writer before I was a caregiver. I wrote it every day in vignettes as they were unfolding, which is how they appear in the book. The personal became universal and the humor, sarcasm, and wit in the book came from tapping my anger and frustration.”

At the October 20th meeting, she’ll talk about writing nonfiction as well as creating the entire marketing plan an author needs. In her words, “what you need to do before you even get an agent, establishing yourself as a writer well ahead of time. Otherwise, when you get a book contract, you’ll be a couple of years behind. I’ll talk about establishing your platform, which applies to nonfiction *and* fiction writers. Did you know that publishers now Google writers of the

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Carol O’Dell
Jackie Kershaw Cooper
Augusta Trobaugh

The Atlanta Writers Club Presents:

Dinner with Author:

Carol O’Dell

Monday, October 15, 2007

7:00 PM

Benedetti’s Restaurant

2064 N Decatur Rd.

Decatur, GA 30033

404-633-0408

Carol D. O’Dell’s gripping memoir MOTHERING MOTHER was published in April 2007 by Kunati Publishing. Her work has appeared in numerous publications including Southern Revival Anthology, MARGIN Magazine, Atlanta Magazine, The Pisgah Review and America’s Intercultural Magazine.

Carol teaches creative writing at community centers, schools and libraries She is an inspirational speaker on writing, caregiving and adoption issues.

Speak with Carol about her push to success by using every marketing tool at her disposal, including her viewpoints on how The Atlanta Writers Club has helped her career advancement.

Also – as a special bonus – Carol O’Dell will be accompanied by Esther Levine of Book Atlanta, Inc. Esther Levine is the premier author escort in Atlanta and an excellent media contact in our area.

This opportunity is open to AWC members only. To reserve your place at the table, please email George Weinstein at gweinst@bellsouth.net or call him at 770-552-5887.

This event is limited to 12 members, so be sure to register now!

From the Tip of My Pen



Fran Stewart

Author, Editor, & Speaker

Book Clubs – the Last Bastion of Literacy?

The last time I was interviewed on the radio, this was one of the questions:

According to a report of the Independent Book Publishing Association, over five million American adults belong to reading groups. Why do Americans love books so much?

That sounds like an encouraging statistic, doesn't it? Luckily, I knew about the question ahead of time, so I could formulate an answer, or at least the idea of an answer. Even without an interviewer asking, this is something that we as writers should think about. Without readers, we would be nowhere.

This country was founded by people who believed that unless people could read, they couldn't vote intelligently. That still holds true today. The thought of five million Americans reading and discussing books is quite positive. I've seen statistics, though, that say that 30% of American adults are to some extent illit-

erate. That is not only shocking, but disturbing as well. When people vote based on sound bites put together by marketing companies, or speech-writers' blurbs, then we ultimately get the government we deserve.

It's good that there are five million people in book clubs. And there are many other people who love books but don't join a reading group. That still leaves a couple of hundred million people who depend on television for their information and entertainment. I encourage people to buy books, particularly through independent bookstores, since that is one way to ensure that freedom of information will continue in this country.

I'm going to keep buying books by writers whose work I enjoy. That's the way to be sure that quality books will always be available. I also threw out my TV set fourteen years ago. Try it, and then, if your heart leads you in that direction, perhaps you could consider volunteering with an adult literacy group.

Go on. I dare you. It's a good idea.

Why do Americans love books so much?



Accolades

Sara Martin has an article coming out in the November issue of the Georgia EMC magazine & one in the winter issue of Georgia Backroads magazine.

Scenes from September meeting



Sherri Joseph informs on her method of structuring a manuscript



Teresa Weaver & Candice Dyer answer questions about magazine submissions



Kim Foster reads at open mic



Starr gives preview of GA Literary Festival



AWC members eager for information

Hollis Gillespie *Writing Seminars*

On Saturday, October 27, *Writer's Digest* "Breakout Author of the Year" and syndicated *Creative Loafing* columnist Hollis Gillespie will present her hilarious and helpful Shocking Real-Life Memoir Writing Seminar, exclusively for The Atlanta Writers Club.



copyright 2004 Jesse Chamberlin

Here are the dramatic and disturbing details, courtesy of Ms. Gillespie:

Shocking Real-Life Memoir Writing Seminar

That's right, it's time to stop bitching about your life . . . for free, that is. Hollis Gillespie, syndicated humor columnist and author of the top-selling memoir, *Bleachy-Haired Honky Bitch; Tales from a Bad Neighborhood*, is offering this one-day seminar designed to help you unleash your inner memoir. Face it, you've been saying for years that your life story would be a best seller if you could just get it on paper; well now it's time to turn your dirt into

dough. Hollis will share her secrets to unclogging your creative arteries so you can tell the world what you've been telling your friends all this time—that your life was a riotous hell and now it's time to cash it in. She will offer her candid critiques, suggestions for selling your work, and answer all your questions about breaking into memoir writing. In the memoir seminar you will learn:

- How to turn your personal shame into a literary laugh-riot.
- How to pick an eye-grabbing title.
- Which genre best suits your idea (Memoir? Novel? Self-help? Humor?)
- When it's permissible to embroider, improvise, and reorder real-life events.
- How to kick writer's block.
- How to begin.
- How to describe your book in one sellable paragraph.
- How and when to contact agents.
- The difference between an illuminating essay and a journal entry.
- How not to lie about your drug addiction or the time you spent in solitary lockdown (or How to avoid falling into the James Frey foible).

What makes the Shocking Real-Life Writing Academy unique?

Her goal is to guide you to not only write but to publish your work, and each class is concluded by providing you with specific tools to accomplish publication, such as concise literary-agent, publisher and national magazine-editor contact information, plus proven advice for how to pitch your book or article ideas so that it separates your work from the rest in the slush pile and will get you a quick response. In the past few months alone, three Shocking Real-Lifers have procured book deals, and three others are negotiating representation with literary agents, and all with little to no publishing experience.

Also, these are not just classes, but events and experiences, with inappropriate conversation and ping-pong. Seminars are held in a renovated telephone factory in an atmosphere that is charged with challenging visuals at every glance – a place where many renowned artists got their start, including Hollis Gillespie, who started her syndicated column and wrote much of the material that would become her first two books there.

ALSO, the Shocking Real-Life Writing Academy is the

How to turn your personal shame into a literary laugh-riot.

How to pick an eye-grabbing title.

And more

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Upcoming Events –Atlanta



25TH Anniversary

“In the Tradition...”

National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference. “Our Roots, Our Story, Our Dreams, Our Glory!”

The Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel

Atlanta, Georgia November 14-18, 2007

Sponsored by National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc. Hosted by Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia

Festival Director Vanora Legaux

Festival Co-Director Akbar Imhotep

25TH Anniversary

“In the Tradition...”

National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference

(Continued from page 1)

book store and are most pleased with fifty attendees. As our club has grown, our Saturday meetings routinely produce a crowd of twice that size, and we are still increasing our attendance. And we tell others about the speaker presentations far more frequently than someone that visited this same person at a book store signing.

Plus our speakers will routinely visit and network with our members. That’s a rare occurrence at a book signing. And now the club has introduced Dinner with Author events – at no cost to our members.

We have two such events scheduled in the next few weeks, with Sonny Brewer and Carol O’Dell. Our members have the opportunity to speak with our guest authors on a variety of topics in a very congenial gathering of no more than twelve. Our members just need to pay

their own tab, and that’s a great deal. We are currently scheduling other Dinner with Author events in 2008, including a special evening with Mitchell Graham.

Workshops anyone? David Fulmer, Hollis Gillespie and Robyn Spizman are all in the coming soon category. And we are currently working to get commitments from others that have an expressed an interest in workshops for the AWC.

So members we need you –

- to attend our monthly meetings and spread the word about the speaker programs,
- to increase your knowledge by participating in our workshops,
- and to break bread and share good times with some of the literary elite who are willing to speak informally with us.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Marty

In their own words

Sharon Gerber

As a Medical Intuitive/ Psychic/Healer for over 27 years, Sharon's gifts have been written about, as well as profiled on CBS news in NYC. She has been a guest on various talk shows and was a facilitator and group leader, in association with H.H. The Dalai Lama, at the Harmonia Mundi Conference. Her career includes extensive work in the entertainment world, including recording studios, on Broadway, and major concert halls around the country—from Carnegie Hall to The Hollywood Bowl. Her A-list artists often called upon her to override laryngitis, viruses, nervous breakdowns, and other physical and emotional issues that interfere with performance. She moved to Atlanta three years ago to be close to her 89-year-old father. Her work continues in the realm of alleviating diseases, removing creative blocks, and restoring physical and emotional health. While residing in NYC, she penned a column, "Psychic Persuasions," in *The Westside Gazette*. Her debut novel, the first of a series, is a book of healing in the guise of a psychic thriller.



Her association with AWC has not only provided her with the tools and information needed to promote her writing career, but has also introduced her to a warm and wonderful crowd that she is honored to have met.

Reginald Beal

Reginald Beal is a lover of life, an avid reader of fiction and non-fiction, amateur astrologer, retired university professor of strategic management, author of several scholarly articles, participant in the civil-rights movement, Army veteran, former entrepreneur and general manager, sports and fitness enthusiast, husband, father of three adult children, and grandfather of three cherubs. He was born in St. Louis, MO, raised in St. Louis County, and earned a B.A. in Chemistry from the University of Missouri, an MBA from Washington University, and a Ph.D. in Management Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In short, he's lived a full and varied life. Much of what he has experienced and learned is captured in his debut novel, *Zeus*.

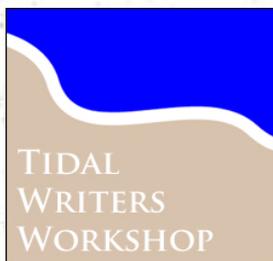
Katie Ryle

I am a 46 year old native of Marietta Georgia but have enjoyed living in places as diverse as New York City,

the US Virgin Islands and California. I come from a long line of accomplished writers. A graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, with a degree in drama, I enjoyed acting in several plays, screenplays and directing. The need for more consistent employment led me to Kennesaw State College where I received a degree in nursing. I am currently employed as a Registered Nurse. I started writing in High School but did not catch the bug until my mid thirties. I enjoy writing screenplays utilizing two plot point paradigms. I pitched one screenplay, Blessed Are the Meek, to an audience of 200 and received 3rd prize, along with several interested Hollywood agents. I do not lack 'connections', however, I lack discipline. Discipline to do all kinds of things. Namely, putting the finito into a project and/ or not abandoning an idea or project altogether. For the most part, writers work solo. Networking with others who know the ups and downs of frustration and success, daunting tasks and silent dreams will be a thrill. Some of the greatest artists arose from pubs, coffee houses. My interests range from Dickens, Melville, Tennessee Williams, Tolstoy to Kevin Smith, Woody Allen and Spike Lee.

Sharon Gerber
Reginald Beal
Katie Ryle

Tidal Writers Workshop



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 jrta-

lor1@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>

A day and a half of Poetry and Nonfiction workshops held in scenic Saint Simons Island.

Oct-Nov-Dec

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

2007 is not over just yet, but The Atlanta Writers Club offers an Earl-Bird Renewal special for those that wish to save \$5.00. Our annual dues are normally \$40.00 but you can renew for 2008 for just \$35.00.

This offer is valid through our October meeting date of Saturday, October 20. Payment is available via PayPal, mail, or in-person at our October meeting. The early-bird membership form is available on our website and is also attached to the last page of this newsletter.

Remember all those discounts to workshops, author events, monthly programs, dinner with author events, and whatever surprises await us in 2008.

So don't procrastinate. You're going to renew anyhow, so just save the \$5.00.

If you have questions regarding AWC membership, please contact Marty Afte-wicz at Marty@atlantawritersclub.org or membership chair Kate Copsey at ktcopsey@aol.com

Save \$5 on renewal.

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RESTORED BY DAIMLER-BENZ

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

October 4th Lorna Landvik - The View from Mount Joy

October 9th Sandra Brown - Play Dirty

October 17th Natasha Trethewey & Stephen Dunn

October 22nd Tom Perrotta - The Abstinence Teacher

October 23rd Paula Bernstein & Elyse Schein—Identical Strangers

October 24th Susan Faludi - The Terror Dream

November 3rd Donald McCaig - Rhett Butler's People

*Loran Landvik
Sandra Brown
Natasha Trethewey
Tom Perrotta
Paula Bernstein
Elyse Schein
Susan Faludi
Donald McCaig*

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only academy that serves COMPLIMENTARY cocktails and finger food, which are considered basic essentials for unlocking buried memories. Enrollees are also encouraged to bring potluck if they want.

Sign up today and learn to turn your dirt into dough!

For testimonials, more FAQs, and sheer entertainment, go to:

<http://www.shockingreallife.com/class-schedule/shocking-real-life-memoir-writing-seminar>

LOCATION:

This dynamic course is conducted at the notorious Sister Louisa's Art Gallery in the Church of the Living Room and Ping-Pong Emporium...Located in the historic Telephone Factory Artists Lofts at 828 Ralph

McGill Blvd. #106, Atlanta, GA 30306.

(Click

<http://www.shockingreallife.com/location/> for a map.)

THE COST:

Cost is \$100 for AWC members or \$135 for non-AWC members (this includes club membership through December 31, 2008). To register, send your check, payable to *The Atlanta Writers Club*, to George Weinstein at 1285 Willeo Creek Drive, Roswell, GA 30075.

Class size is limited to the first 20 who register, so be sure to reserve your spot now!



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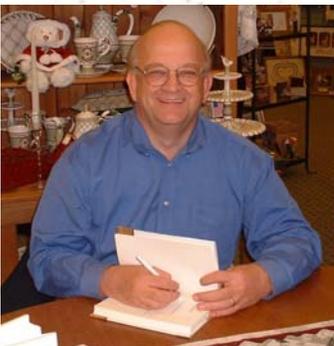
(Continued from page 2)

manuscripts they're considering to see what footprint they've already established?"

O'Dell will talk about looking at the subjects and themes of your book, to see what websites and audiences you can contact, in their forums, discussion boards, and blogs. One aspect of such marketing is the virtual book tour, which O'Dell will explain in detail. She says it is a way "to expose thousands of those who'd never know about the book otherwise. I've seen the effect on my sales within minutes of a virtual appearance."

For the aspiring memoirist, O'Dell advises, "First, learn to write. You have to learn how to tell a good story. Also, it's important to learn what to take out of the story. Memoir is based on one thing that happened, in my case the effect of caregiving on a woman's life and how it affected the way she related to her spouse, parent, and children. Everything in my book had to trace directly back to this idea, otherwise I took it out. The elements of good stories—conflict, tension, and so on—must all stem from the central concept. Memoir is not autobiography, which can note every detail of one's life. My advice to memoirists is to write down everything and then decide what to get rid of."

At 3 pm on October 20th, we will welcome a panel of "accidental authors," two individuals who did not intend to become writers with many books to their name. They serve as an inspiration to those of us who do strive toward publishing success: it can happen to anyone, as long as you are *writing* and not just *talking* about doing it.



Jackie Kershaw Cooper is the author of four books of essays and can be heard on Georgia Public Ra-

dio's "Fridays with Jackie." For many years, he kept a journal. As he tells it, "I wanted to bundle these personal stories together for my children and go to a vanity press, but a friend suggested I try to get them published." What followed was a happy accident, where doing everything wrong still netted him a book contract. Now he has four books published and a fifth one coming out next year.

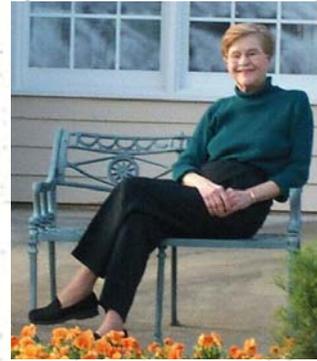
Augusta Trobaugh also wrote for herself, not for others, over many years. "I got started when I was telling my younger son about a story that would make a good book. He told me, 'Mom, you're always talking about what would make a good book instead of actually writing one. Just do it.' He made me so mad, I took two weeks of vacation and wrote my first novel, a dark, misshapen little thing that I will never show to anyone. But once I wrote one, I just couldn't stop. Anger is a wonderful motivator, and living in another world is addictive." The intervention of one of her friends—see a pattern here?—resulted in the publication of a short piece that got the attention of a publisher and soon she had a novel to her credit, and then five more.

Though they've experienced very different journeys, these two writers give sometimes similar, always frank answers to the following questions:

What do you know now about the writing process and the world of publishing that you wish you knew starting out?

Jackie K. Cooper [JKC]: "I'm glad I didn't know. I didn't have any idea about the odds, otherwise I would've crawled back into my hole and never come out. I have learned that the world of writers is the most generous world there is; everyone wants to help everybody because it's such a tough business."

Augusta Trobaugh [AT]: "My ignorance was beautiful—I wish I had it back. Understanding how stories work and that publishing is a business has shut me down at times. I wish I could go back and just have fun, but you can't unlearn something." Since you didn't intend to be a multi-book



published author, what kept you motivated after the first book was picked up?

JKC: "Recording five of my stories for Georgia Pub-

lic Broadcasting got me an amazing amount of publicity—it was the key to enter this wondrous world of writers and I didn't want to give it up. I continued to journal, so I had materials ready when another publisher came calling. I still keep a journal and I probably always will. Some publishers have said I should try to write a novel, but there's no novel in me—I've looked everywhere!"

AT: "I like the money. I was a single mother for a long time; driving a car without a reverse gear and offering to paint my dentist's office in return for dental care for my three kids."

What can up-and-coming authors take away from your experiences?

JKC: "Be the right person at the right time, which means you have to have something ready if someone asks for it. If you believe in yourself, persevere. Also, don't forget about the regional publishers and university presses."

AT: "Write that first novel and set it aside. Write your second novel and set it aside. Write your third novel and start sending out query letters. I know this is very discouraging, but learning to write is a process. Few of us get it right the first time or two. Of course, I'm glad I didn't know this at the time!"

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.

The Atlanta Writers Club Board

President	Marty Aftewicz	eQuill Editor	Gene Bowen
First VP	George Weinstein		
Membership VP	Kate Copsey	Other Volunteers	
Treasurer	John Sheffield	Historian/By-Laws	Adrian Drost
Publicity VP	Jim Stevens	Photographer	Gene Bowen
Operations VP	Clay Ramsey	PR/Open Mic	Patricia Patterson
Contests VP	Tara Coyt	E-Quill Copy Editor	Gene Bowen
Marketing VP	Bill Black	Achievements	Gene Bowen
Social Director	Janean Brown		

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

- 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 Augusta Trobaugh 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.

*Carol O'Dell
Jackie Cooper
Augusta Trobaugh
Diane Thomas
Ann Fisher
Cassandra King
Annabelle Robertson*

Club-Sponsored Critique Groups

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 rjacobs@townesquare.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 cdblakeley@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: an **all-genre**, non-AWC-affiliated group meets **Fridays, 10 am – 12:30 pm** at the Crafty Confection Sweet Shop on Crogan Street on the historic village square. E-mail AWC member Barbara Connor at imayaya@charter.net or call her at 678-226-1483 to get on her distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Lawrenceville/Snellville: An **all-genre** group meets on the first Saturday of every month at **10 am - noon** at a member's home. E-mail Ken Schmanski at kschmanski@yahoo.com or call him at 770-377-1771 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.

Marietta: - Katie Ryles will host and facilitate an **all genre** group at Cool Beans on the NW side of the square in Marietta, next to the Welcome Center. We ask you contact Katie via e-mail with questions and information regarding your level of interest. Katie anticipates meeting once per month, perhaps on the third Monday. Details have not yet been finalized so please contact Katie at katieryle@yahoo.com.

Midtown: a fiction group meets every other Wednesday. For additional information, please email Jennifer Taylor at jrtaylor1@mac.com.

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 p.e.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.

Snellville: Angie Cush is interested in hosting and facilitating a critique group at Barnes & Noble in Snellville. This will also be an all genre group and plan to meet weekly on Sunday evenings. Please contact Angie for more information at angcush@aol.com.

Poetry: Meets on the first Saturday of the month, 1-3 PM at Nirvana Cafe 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.

Directions to Our Monthly Meeting Location

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 meet-

ings are FREE.

Visit

<http://www.gpc.edu/~duniss/WritersCircle.htm>.

Contact: Nancy McDaniel at 770-274-5243 or facilitator Gelia Dolcimascolo

Fall Contest Rules

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 ktcopsey@aol.com or President Marty Aftewicz at Marty@atlantawritersclub.org. You may also join or renew online at www.atlantawritersclub.org.)

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

DEADLINE:

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

AWARDS:

\$1600 in cash and prizes! (Awarded at January, 2008 meeting.) Three award levels in each category.

FIRST PLACE \$50 CASH PRIZE

SECOND PLACE \$30 CASH PRIZE

THIRD PLACE \$20 CASH PRIZE

ALL WINNERS RECEIVE: A one-year membership in the GET IT WRITE Author's Circle (\$100 value; includes expanded list of writing contests, group coaching and an online resource library for writers)

CONTEST CATEGORIES:

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Specifications</u>
Nonfiction	3000 words	Any subject
Article	1500 words	Any Nonfiction
Short Story	3000 words	Any subject, any genre
Juvenile Story	1500 words	Fiction or Nonfiction
Serious Poetry	60 lines	Any form, any subject
Light Verse	20 lines	Rhyming, metered (e.g. limerick)

ENTRY FEE:

There is no fee to enter.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Failure to adhere to any of the guidelines will lead to disqualification.

1. You may enter all 5 categories if you choose however only one entry per category
2. Adhere to the word count maximum established for each category
3. Use the AWC Standard Submission Form (SSF) for each entry (see below)
4. Submit one manuscript and one SSF per entry.

Electronic file or CD entries may be submitted via e-mail, postal mail or in person

Manuscript Format

- ✦ DO NOT place your name anywhere on the manuscript entry
- ✦ Only Word files (no PDF, Power Point, Publisher, etc.) will be accepted
- ✦ Use 12 pt, Black, Times New Roman font; 1 inch margins; double spaced lines
- ✦ White background (no colors, photos, graphics or images); 8-1/2 x 11, Portrait layout
- ✦ First page: Place full Title and Category in upper left corner

Subsequent pages: title in upper left corner; page number in upper right corner

Standard Submission Form (SSF):

The SSF **MUST** be submitted as a separate file, document or attachment. **DO NOT** include the SSF on the same document as your fiction or nonfiction entry. SSF should include:

Author's Name

Contest Category

Title of Entry

Word Count or Line Count

Entries will be accepted as an electronic file or on a CD:

1. E-mail Word files to: Contact@TaraYCoyt.com
 2. Postal Mail your CD to: Tara Y. Coyt, P.O. Box 79426, Atlanta, GA 30357
- Hand-deliver your CD to: Tara Y. Coyt during an AWC member meeting

ABSOLUTELY NO PAPER ENTRIES. Manuscripts will not be returned. Be sure to retain a copy of your work.

SAMPLE MANUSCRIPT

Title: My Short Story

Category: Short Story

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SAMPLE SSF

Jane Doe

Short Story

My Short Story

Word Count: 2,997

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 Phone _____ Work/Cell 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: ____/____/____