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.

**Agenda for —Feb 21, 2009**

1:00 – 1:15 PM Networking

1:15 – 1:30PM *Fall Writing Contest Awards* — Tara Coyt will announce the winners and present the awards.

1:30 – 1:45 PM *Club Business*: Preview of Upcoming Events

1:45 – 2:30 PM *Hollis Gillespie*, on writing the memoir. Hollis will definitely make this a memorable presentation.

2:30 – 3:00 PM Networking and Book Signing

3:00 – 3:45 PM *Jack Riggs*, on the writers journey from first book to second, “The Fireman’s Wife.”

3:45 until conclusion - Networking and Book Signing

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Passion for Words  by Marty Aftewicz, President

What makes the AWC work so well?

The Atlanta Writers Club is riding a current wave of unprecedented growth and influence in our organization’s 95 years of existence. How do we prosper in this weak economy?

There is no simple answer, but the key is providing services and then making opportunities available for our members to advance their writing craft. To do that, we have an excellent Board of Directors who work well together and pitch in a little bit extra when needed. We also have an additional group of members that are not officially listed as members of the Board of Directors, but accept certain assignments. Those include Gene Bowen who puts the EQuill Newsletter together each month, and Lisa Heidle, who manages the AWC Lending Library. Our organization is a little bit better because of their contributions, and others like them.

As we continue to increase membership, our all-volunteer group likewise needs to expand to keep up with demands and trends. My role as the president will end in a few months and we will have a seamless transition to someone new. But we need a few posts to be assumed with enthusiasm so we may continue to be known as one of the most influential literary groups in the southeast.

Our critique groups were started by George Weinstein about four years ago, and have multiplied to a point that we could use someone to maintain the list and provide updates to the membership and web site. Critique Groups are a key benefit of membership.

We could also use some help with our newsletter. Gene Bowen does a fantastic job of taking my assortment of articles and creating a newsletter that flows well and appears professional. To enable our new president to focus on more urgent matters, a volunteer is needed to become the focal point and organizer of those article to send to Gene each month.

So if you are interested in doing more for the Atlanta Writers Club, both of these assignments would be appreciated by our members, and certainly our Board of Directors as well. So if you are just curious about details, or if you wish to accept a different area of responsibility, please let me know. I invite you to email me at Martyaga@gmail.com and title the message "volunteer". That will get my attention and I will respond as quickly as possible.

For now, we will continue on our current path and do our best to offer meaningful monthly programs, workshops, and special events. We thank all of our members for their participation.

Marty Aftewicz
President, The Atlanta Writers Club
www.atlantawritersclub.org
Mobile:404-925-4981
**Speaker Summaries** By Shyla Nambiar

At 1:45, Stephen Corey, poet, essayist, and editor of *The Georgia Review*, a University of Georgia publication, spoke on the benefits of publishing in a literary magazine. Speaking in particular of his magazine, he outlined the process of accepting submissions and reviewing them. He cited the content of some stories that had been published by *The Georgia Review* and mentioned what it was looking for: “new, distinctive, and undeniable” voices.

At 3:00, Steve Berry, lawyer and author of international suspense thrillers, hosted a question and answer session and fielded questions on writing and publishing. He explained how he writes and researches his works. He also gave advice on writing and revising. While Berry emphasized the business-driven nature of publishing, he stressed that writers need to focus on the craft of writing and be organized.

We are offering two seminars in conjunction with the Spring Book Show at the Cobb Galleria Centre in North Atlanta. The Spring Book Show will be held March 6-8, 2009, and seminar attendees are provided free admission, a $75 value.

For details on the seminars, click on the hyperlinks below.

**Looking to learn more about getting your book written and published? About marketing your book? About writing for the Christian market?**

**Spring Book Show 2009 Seminars in Atlanta**

might be just the ticket!

The *Southern Review of Books* has once again organized an outstanding faculty that will inspire and inform you. This year, we're offering a one-day comprehensive seminar featuring eight experts on the book business, and an in-depth one-day seminar focused on a specific topic, "Writing for the Christian Market." Both seminars will be held in classrooms at the Cobb Galleria Centre just off Interstate 285 in North Atlanta (Cobb County). Attend either, and you get free admission to the Spring Book Show, a $75 value.

The comprehensive seminar, Authorship 101, is "How To Become a Successful Author." It will be held Saturday, March 7. For details a full schedule of the eight presentations and registration information, please click on Authorship 101 Seminar.

Friday, March 6, is the date for the one-day Authorship 201 seminar on "Writing for the Christian Market." Instructors are Cec Murphey, author of more than 100 books, including co-authorship of "90 Minutes in Heaven" (Revell, 2004, 500,000 copies in print with spinoffs). For details on curriculum and registration, please click on Authorship 201.
Steve Berry patiently answers questions

Brian Corrigan performs and instructs

Stephen Corey with Georgia Review

Steve meets his fans

Dr. Corrigan with students and friends

AWC members learn more
Speaker Profiles for February 21 Meeting
by George Weinstein, VP and Program Chair

A week after Valentine’s Day, prepare to be charmed and beguiled by a pair of terrific writers who are also dynamic, funny speakers and wonderful friends of the Atlanta Writers Club.

Hollis Gillespie at 1:45 p.m.

Hollis Gillespie is a syndicated columnist and top-selling author. Her column Moodswing" appeared for years in the alternative weekly Creative Loafing. She is now the back-page columnist for Atlanta Magazine and the travel columnist at Paste Magazine, and she writes a humorous financial column for BeE WOMAN magazine.

She has been profiled in Marie Claire, Writer's Digest and Entertainment Weekly. Her television appearances include The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, TBS Storyline, Monica Kaufman's Closeups, Good Day Atlanta, and TV Land. Her radio commentaries appear regularly on National Public Radio (NPR) and Georgia Public Broadcasting.

Hollis is the author of Bleachy-Haired Honky Bitch: Tales from a Bad Neighborhood, Confessions of a Recovering Slut: And Other Love Stories, and her latest, Trailer Trashed: My Dubious Efforts Toward Upward Mobility. In 2004, Writer's Digest named Hollis Gillespie a “Breakout Author of the Year.” Other accolades include "Best Columnist" (2001, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007) and "Best Local Author" (2004, 2005, 2006) honors in the Creative Loafing Best of Atlanta Readers Survey. If you want to learn about writing in general, and writing the memoir in particular—and/or want to hear an author so funny your sides will ache and your face will hurt from laughing—Hollis is the speaker for you!

For more information about Hollis and her work, visit http://www.hollisgillespie.com/.

Jack Riggs at 3:00 p.m.

Award-winning author Jack Riggs’ first novel, When the Finch Rises, earned Top Ten First Novel honors from Booklist, and was listed by the AJC as a Best of 2003. His new novel is The Fireman’s Wife, which Target and Borders already have listed as a breakout book for 2009. In his work, Jack explores the viewpoints of people from small mill towns, the mountains, and the coast, and the triumphs, tragedies, and transcendent moments that impact their lives and resonate with our own.

Jack is the reason we get to meet in the spacious auditorium at Georgia Perimeter College in Dunwoody. He took a shine to us when he first addressed the club in 2005, when we met at the library in Sandy Springs. Standing in the back of the packed meeting room, he said, “So this is where all the writers in Atlanta are.” When we looked for a larger venue, Jack used his influence as The Writer’s Institute writer-in-residence at GPC to move us on campus with incredibly favorable terms. So please thank him by attending his talk about the journey from first book to second book (and, along the way, seven editors, a shelved manuscript, and the snap decision that landed a book deal). Following his talk and a book signing at Eagle Eye book Shop, we’ll host a dinner in his honor at Petite Auberge in Decatur. For more on Jack, please visit his website: http://www.jack-riggs.com/.
January 15, 2009 Daren Wang 404-759-1615, daren@agneswrites.com

Launch of Agnes Writes

Agnes Scott College to Host New Writing Classes

Taught by Top Atlanta Authors, Open to All

On February 2, 2009, the freshly formed "Agnes Writes" program will debut a new series of writing classes taught by several of Atlanta's most accomplished authors. The series will be hosted by Agnes Scott College, which stepped forward to give these classes a home in these difficult economic times, ensuring that Atlanta area writers will continue to have rich opportunities to develop their craft.

The winter series of classes will be taught by four accomplished Atlanta authors:

David Fulmer, the Shamus Award winning author of six novels including "Chasing the Devil's Tale" and the forthcoming "Lost River." Fulmer will teach his very popular "Fiction Shop," an intense study of the art and craft of storytelling. (davidfulmer.com)

Hollis Gillespie, longtime syndicated humor columnist and author of three memoirs including "Bleachy-Haired Honky Bitch: Tales from a Bad Neighborhood" and, most recently, "Trailer Trashed: My Dubious Efforts Toward Upward Mobility." Gillespie will teach "The Shocking Real-Life Personal Essay Clinic – Your Crazy Family," a class on how to turn your family lore into a boffo personal essay. (hollisgillespie.com)

Chelsea Rathburn, recipient of a 2009 NEA Fellowship in Poetry, one of only 42 recipients in the nation and the only one in Georgia. Her first full-length collection of poems, "The Shifting Line," won the 2005 Richard Wilbur Award. Rathburn will teach a poetry workshop aimed at developing poets' voices and guiding them toward creating compelling poems. (chelsearathburn.com)

Terra Elan McVoy, author of "Pure," a young adult novel due out in April from Simon & Schuster. McVoy is the manager of Little Shop of Stories, a children's bookstore in downtown Decatur that has garnered glowing national attention. She earned an MA in Creative Writing from Florida State University's prestigious creative writing program. McVoy will teach "Writing Like a Grown-Up, But Thinking Like a Kid," a class on the craft of writing chapter books for children.

Going forward, Agnes Writes will offer classes and workshops taught by many more of Atlanta's top authors, several of whom have already expressed their interest in teaching in the program. Later series will also include a wider selection of classes. This summer, Agnes Writes plans to offer summer writing camps for children and young adults. The camps will be directed by Julie Bookman, who previously ran the writing programs at the Margaret Mitchell House and Museum.

Agnes Writes was conceived of and is led by Daren Wang, with the collaboration of Tom Bell and David Fulmer. Wang is co-founder and executive director of the Decatur Book Festival (decaturbookfestival.com), the publisher of "Verb: An Audioquarterly" (verb.org) -- a literary magazine in audio format -- and former producer of "The Spoken Word," a nationally syndicated public radio show. Bell is co-founder and program director of the Decatur Book Festival, production editor of The Duck & Herring Co.'s "Pocket Field Guide" (duckandherring.com), and the former book editor at Creative Loafing. Says Fulmer, "I'm excited to be a part of this exceptional new series of writing classes. It's run by professionals who have track records of supporting the writing craft and who will bring in a slate of classes taught by first-rate instructors. I'm happy to be a part of it."

Wang, Bell and Fulmer first discussed Agnes Writes during a casual conversation at Decatur's Brick

(Continued on page 7)
Store Pub just over a week ago, a conversation that quickly turned into a plan to launch the new series. Wang and Bell had worked closely with Agnes Scott College, a founding gold sponsor of the Decatur Book Festival, and knew the college would be a superb partner for the effort.

"Agnes Scott College has a tremendous literary history," says Wang. "The college's annual Writers' Festival is nationally admired and has brought the likes of Julia Alvarez, John Updike and Joyce Carol Oates to speak to metropolitan Atlanta's writers. I also knew, through working with Agnes Scott as a partner to the Decatur Book Festival, that the college moved nimbly and was quick to embrace new opportunities."

Agnes Scott College moved swiftly to provide a college-owned house to host the classes. The intimate setting will provide students with a comfortable and inspiring retreat in which to focus completely on their writing. Most classes will meet weekly, 6-8 p.m., for eight weeks. Author bios, schedule details, full class descriptions, and registration are all available at www.agneswrites.com.

www.agneswrites.com

A Radio Show by our own Fran Stewart

AWC’s own Fran Stewart, author of the Biscuit McKee mystery series and the popular From the Tip of My Pen column for the EQuill, has launched a new endeavor this year. Every Friday morning at 10:00 eastern time, she hosts the internet radio show Mystery Matters—Where Murder is an Open Book. “I’ve always wanted to be the one asking the questions,” she said recently when we asked her about her show. “Every jump into it.” Now, in a dream-come writers each week. “The show lasty says, “to delve into the story behind public persona of the author.”

Fran draws from all the mystery gen-viewed p.m. terrell from North Caro-She’s even booked Dirk Robertson, who October when he’ll visit the USA. Georgia Julia Spencer-Fleming, Lynda Fitzgerald, Miles. “I approached Steve Berry after the with a delighted grin, “and he said he’d be my show. Now I just have to con-

"The great thing about internet the live show at 10 a.m., it’s re-will be available on the archives for 24/7 access or MP3 downloads." You can’t get more convenient than that. To listen to an archived show, go to her host web page at http://www.tinyurl.com/a2f3s6 and scroll down the list of shows on the left. Or click on the link at 10:00 on a Friday morning, and listen live.

radio,” Fran adds, “is that if you miss broadcast twelve hours later and then
The pursuit of a publishing contract requires you to first submit query letters to agents and/or publishers to introduce them to you and your story. Thus, your query letter has to be as good as—or even better than—your manuscript (for fiction) or book proposal (for non-fiction).

The Atlanta Writers Club wants to help you produce the best query letter you can, so we’re bringing in best-selling fiction author Joshilyn Jackson and best-selling nonfiction author Karen Abbott to teach a query letter workshop on Saturday, February 7 at the Dunwoody Library. According to Joshilyn, “This workshop is about getting the best response for your query, which means reworking it and fine tuning the HELL out of it.”

Each registrant will have a chance to submit work beforehand and meet one-on-one with either Joshilyn or Karen during the workshop to discuss their suggestions.

THE WORKSHOP:
The focus of the workshop is the one-on-one time with Joshilyn or Karen, but they will also do an hour-long group session and provide an in-class project to further assist you. The authors each will meet with 12 participants, six in the morning and six in the afternoon.

THE SCHEDULE: Saturday, February 7, 2009
- 10:00 am: Arrival and start of one-on-one meetings.
- 10:15 am – 12:15 pm: Joshilyn and Karen each will meet one-on-one with six participants (approximately 20 minutes per meeting).
- 12:15 pm – 2:00 pm: Group session with all workshop participants (morning and afternoon groups), followed by lunch.
- 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm: One-on-one meetings with six more participants.

WORK TO BE CRITIQUED:
If you’re a fiction writer, Joshilyn wants you to submit the following work ahead of time:
- Query letter
- Synopsis (2 pages)
- First 5-7 pages of first chapter/prologue

If you’re a nonfiction writer, Karen wants you to submit the following work ahead of time:
- Query letter
  - One of the following: (a) overview from your book proposal, or (b) first 5-7 pages from the sample chapter you will include in your book proposal

You will need to submit your work for critique no later than January 3, 2009.

THE INSTRUCTORS:

Karen Abbott is the NY Times best-selling nonfiction author of Sin in the Second City. She worked as a journalist for six years and has written for Salon.com and other publications. Her website is www.sininthesecondcity.com.

THE LOCATION:
The workshop will be held at the Dunwoody Library meeting room, 5339 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road, Dunwoody, GA 30338 (only a couple of miles from our meeting location at GPC-Dunwoody). For directions, go to http://www.dekalblibrary.org/branches/dunwoody.html

THE COST & WORK SUBMISSION:
The cost is $110 per person. You must be a 2009 member of the Atlanta Writers Club to participate. Registration is on a first-come basis, with only 12 spots available per author.

To RSVP, send an e-mail to VP George Weinstein at gjweinstein@yahoo.com and tell him which author you want to critique your work. He will reply with payment instructions. Upon receipt of payment, he will give you details on when and how to submit your work for your author’s critique.

Class size is limited to the first 24 club members who register—12 for fiction, 12 for nonfiction—so be sure to reserve your spot now!
As The Atlanta Writers Club continues to grow, we are in need of someone to coordinate our critique groups. Minimal time is required, and involves maintaining the active list for the newsletter and web site, and expanding that involvement to the extent of your interest. If you wish to do more for the AWC and may be something you wish to do, please email Marty at Martyaga@gmail.com or call him at 404-925-4981.

**Decatur**
A fiction group meets every other Sunday, 3 pm - 5:45, currently at the Indie Bookstore on W. Ponce de Leon, near the Decatur Post Office. This group is presently full. E-mail Ricky Jacobs at rickyjacobs@mac.com to get on his standby list. You will be asked to submit (as an attachment) about five pages of your writing plus a brief bio.

A fiction group (all kinds) meets Saturday mornings 9:30 - 12 at the Atlanta Bread Company, corner of Ponce de Leon and Church streets. This group is presently full. E-mail Ricky Jacobs at rickyjacobs@mac.com to get on his standby list. You will be asked to submit (as an attachment) about five pages of your writing plus a brief bio.

An adult/YA fiction group meets every other Sunday, 3 pm - 5:45 at the Indie Bookstore on W. Ponce de Leon, near the Decatur Post Office. This group is presently full. E-mail Ricky Jacobs at rickyjacobs@mac.com to get on his standby list. You will be asked to submit (as an attachment) about five pages of your writing plus a brief bio.

An adult fiction group meets every other Wednesday, 7 pm – 9:30 in Decatur. This group is presently full. E-mail Ricky Jacobs at rickyjacobs@mac.com to get on his standby list. You will be asked to submit (as an attachment) about five pages of your writing plus a brief bio.

A children's and YA fiction group meets every other Tuesday, 10 am - 12:15, currently at the Java Monkey on Church Street, almost opposite the Decatur MARTA station. This group is presently full. E-mail Ricky Jacobs at rickyjacobs@mac.com to get on his standby list. You will be asked to submit (as an attachment) about five pages of your writing plus a brief bio.

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**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 1-3 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](http://www.gpc.edu/~duniss/WritersCircle.htm).

Contact: Nancy McDaniel at 770-274-5243 or facilitator Gelia Dolcimascolo
JordanCon is the first convention dedicated to exploring the late Robert Jordan's The Wheel of Time series and his rich, literary legacy. JordanCon will feature appearances this spring by Harriet McDougal, Jordan's wife and editor of his novels, as well as Brandon Sanderson, the New York Times bestselling author chosen to complete the final novel in Jordan's epic saga. Sanderson has been twice nominated for the John W. Campbell award.

Of especial note to Atlanta area writers, Sanderson will be holding two Writer's workshops on creating setting and characterization at JordanCon. In addition to writing full time, Sanderson teaches Creative Writing with a special emphasis on fantasy and science fiction at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

JordanCon will be held April 17-19, 2009 at the Alpharetta Embassy Suites. Registration is $60 and includes all panels, workshops, discussions and a host of other activities. For more information, please see our website http://www.ageoflegends.net/

The AWC has a large membership with many published authors. Through those authors’ generosity, we are establishing the new AWC Lending Library. AWC members will now be able to read donated works free of charge. Before each AWC meeting, a volunteer member will staff a table on which will be displayed the novels available to our "readers". These books can be checked out for a period of one month—from one meeting to the next.

It’s easy to see what’s in it for the member: an opportunity to read this diverse body of work without spending a dime. What’s in it for the contributing author? A chance to connect with a broader readership from among our members. So if you’re a published author, please consider donating one copy of each of your published works to our new lending library. If you’re a member, please feel free to stop by and check out the books available. And if you like what you read, spread the word. There’s no better publicity than word of mouth.

To donate a book to the AWC lending library, please contact Lisa Heidle at Lheidle@yahoo.com. Of course, since this is a new concept for the club, we need books. Please contribute.

Note: Lynda Fitzgerald and Dee Gardner founded this idea for the club, but are currently on a leave of absence. We thank them both for this idea and implementing the concept, and appreciate Lisa Heidle temporarily assisting us with this administration.
I just finished watching a video about illuminated manuscripts on National Public Radio’s Speaking of Faith website. A monastic order in Wales commissioned a twentieth-century illuminated Bible, and this video followed the artist as he mixed his paints (starting with a fresh egg yolk) and cut his quill (starting with a fresh feather).

Although we don’t produce illuminated manuscripts nowadays, I do hope that our manuscripts help to illuminate the mind, to bring puddles of light where murky misinformation once lurked. Illumination, after all, is not only the art of decorating a printed page, but is also the process of bringing light and clarity.

One of the best ways to do this—besides starting with a clear concept of what we want to write about—is to use language the way an artist uses a brush (or a quill). It means selecting our words with care, layering the nuances in plotlines, and fleshing out our characters with subtle descriptions and believable dialogue.

How do we do these things? We study the work of other authors, gleaning ideas from each of them. We read how-to books and pay attention to the lessons therein. We attend classes that help us with areas where we need improvement. We listen to editors.

I’d like to recommend a book that lumps all four of these techniques into one easy-to-read reference. Chris Roerden wrote Don’t Murder Your Mystery. She has collected hundreds of examples of fine writing that avoid the various no-no’s such as shifty eyes, dying dialogue, toxic transcripts, and fatal flashbacks. She teaches us how to correct what she calls wordiarea, how to break the description-first habit, how to prevent the slow death of a scene. Whether you write mysteries, historical novels, short stories, or chick lit, you need Chris Roerden’s book.

Then cut your quill, mix your ink, and write with true illumination.

Fran Stewart interviews mystery writers on her weekly internet radio show, Mystery Matters. To listen live or to access archived shows, go to http://www.tinyurl.com/a2f3s6.
Monthly Writing Contest (Not an AWC managed event)

- **Scratch**, the monthly writing contest itching to discover new talent.
- This contest seeks new short fiction and offers rotating guest judges who are authors, agents, editors and publishers.
- Help them discover new writing talent. Let them help you build publication credits.
- Small fee to enter, cash prizes and publication every month, plus annual anthology.

For more information and links to ENTER this month, go to [http://www.scratchcontest.net/](http://www.scratchcontest.net/)

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**Don Swann**
I led Deloitte Consulting’s Manufacturing practice in the Southeast for 25 years, and had 25 articles published in professional magazines and journals, and contributed a couple of text chapters. After retirement from Deloitte, I self-published two novels (see donswann.com, and my blog.) Despite some nice reviews from my friends, I still do not know if my writing is any good. I have two more completed novels that I would like some help in reviewing. Ultimately, I would like to find an agent and a publisher through my association with the Atlanta Writers’ Club.

**Gloria Donaldson**

*Basic Profile for Gloria Donaldson*

Gloria Donaldson is a woman of faith and a business graduate of Florida A and M University. She is a writer, public speaker and teacher of uncompromised, Christian doctrine. Gloria lives in Atlanta, GA where she directs the WordPower Christian Education Outreach Ministry, operates The Travel Cupboard and The Pill Box Alternative – online entities. Through WordPower, Gloria publishes a free, monthly newsletter called *The Lighthouse*. Her interests include freelance writing, short story compositions, ghostwriting and the launching of an online magazine publication. Gloria expects her membership in *The Atlanta Writers Club* to provide ample support for launching these activities via learning, writing and publishing opportunities, professional interface with successful writers, and club participation.
Membership Information – The Atlanta Writers Club

Membership dues are $40 for 2009. Also, we now have our family memberships, where each additional family member can join for $20 and earn full membership benefits. We will gladly accept your cash or checks at any AWC event, or you can mail your payment to the address on the membership form on the last page of this newsletter. You may also renew via PayPal at www.atlantawritersclub.org.

We are one of the best literary bargains in town. The Atlanta Writers Club is simply a group of writers that work together to help each other improve their skills and attain their writing goals. Anyone can join, with no prior publication requirements. Here are a just a few membership benefits:

- Monthly meetings. On the third Saturday of each month, approximately 100 of our members gather to listen and learn from two guest speakers from varied areas of the literary world. Please refer to our list of upcoming guest speakers in this newsletter.
- Workshops. Your membership provides access to outstanding writing workshops, and some are free with membership. Watch for announcements for upcoming workshops.
- Critique Groups. We now have approximately twenty (20) different critique groups available to members. Scattered about the Atlanta metro area, these critique groups meet regularly to work with each other to read each other’s writings and recommend modifications.
- Dinner with Authors. I routinely attend many author book signings so I wondered how I could spend just a few minutes with some of these authors to ask them an impromptu question, or just learn more of their successful habits. In the past several months, our members have had that experience, with authors Nathan McCall, Jedwin Smith, Carol O’Dell, James O. Born and others. We are currently working to schedule others, and there is no admission fee to these special dinners. Members are only required to pay for their own consumption at the restaurant. The Atlanta Writers Club pays for the author and their guests.

I could continue with additional benefits, but alas, this is only a newsletter. You may join The Atlanta Writers Club at any of our events or meetings. Or pay on line at our website, using PayPal at http://www.atlantawritersclub.org/membership.html.

If you have additional questions, contact AWC president Marty Aftewicz at Marty@atlantawritersclub.org or our Membership Vice President David McCoy at David@atlantawritersclub.org.
SHOW ME THE MONEY (NOTHING TO DO WITH JERRY MAGUIRE):
PHILIP NUTMAN’S SCREENWRITING WORKSHOP 101

Where?
Eagle Eye Books, 2076 N. Decatur Road, Decatur GA 30033. (404) 486-0307

When?
Classes begin Wednesday, February 11, 2009. 7:30 – 9PM. This is an eight-week course.

Who?
Philip Nutman is a multiple award-nominated novelist (WET WORK) and award-winning screenwriter (JACK KETCHUM’S THE GIRL NEXT DOOR). He has 25 years experience working in TV and film (independent and the Hollywood studio system). He has written and produced two independent features and has developed projects at Walt Disney Productions, Showtime and for many production companies. (For further details go to www.PhilipNutman.com)

What Is It?
This is a hands-on, eight-week workshop designed to guide those who want to write a screenplay or have written screenplays and are yet to make a sale (screenwriters who have sold a script are also welcome). The course is based on personal, practical experience and will cut through the misinformation of theory, explain the stages of dealing with the demands of physical production, provide legal advice, and ultimately guide participants through the process of writing a screenplay.

The Course?
Is an extended version of the workshop given at the 2008 Decatur Book Festival – and will take students to a practical level in which during the eight weeks they will develop and write the first act of a feature-length screenplay. (The course is based around practical examples from the screenplay and film, JACK KETCHUM’S THE GIRL NEXT DOOR.)

Okay...so how much is this going to cost me?
It’s a great deal: $300.00 for an eight-week course. (Are you kidding me?) No. Most self-described “screenwriting gurus” and screenwriting programs charge over $1,000 for material you can read in a $24.95 book – and the majority of the “authors” are just repeating material derived from other books/classes. This is an opportunity to work with a filmed screenwriter/producer. Payment plans available ($100.00 deposit required). 15% discount for students (valid student ID required).

The workshop is limited to 10 participants. First come, first served. To reserve a place, please e-mail Philip-Nutman@gmail.com before February 5.
How can you tell a real Atlanta Writers Club fan?

The Atlanta Writers Club meets each month, a mile north of I-285 (northern arc) in the small auditorium of Building C 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 the first meeting 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.

For GPC’s street and campus maps, click: [http://www.gpc.edu/Campus_Maps/Dunwoody.html](http://www.gpc.edu/Campus_Maps/Dunwoody.html)
The Atlanta Writers Club Board

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Upcoming Schedule of Saturday Club Meetings

3:00-3:45 Jacqueline Hackett, literary agent, on how to get an agent.

April 18, 2009—
12:00 - 1:00 David Fulmer presents his long-awaited Sex and Violence Workshop, free to all AWC members
1:45-2:30 Robyn Freedman Spizman, author of numerous nonfiction books ranging from writing to gift-giving, will talk about options for getting published and promoting yourself.
3:00-3:45 Daniel Black, author and educator, on the Revival of Southern Rural Literature

May 16, 2009—
12:00 - 1:00 Lauretta Hannon, Cracker Queen author, free workshop: “Marketing: Will It Make You or Break You?”
1:45 –2:30 Philip Lee Williams, novelist, poet, essayist, composer, and UGA creative writing professor, on writing about people on the fringes of society.
3:00-3:45 Marc Fitten, first-time novelist, editor of Chattahoochee Review, on the 2009 Atlanta Writers Conference and lessons in perseverance.
Club-Sponsored Critique Groups

Conyers - This group is currently not functioning, and we are in search of a leader to reorganize. Interested parties should contact Marty at Martyaga@gmail.com

Decatur: A fiction group (all kinds) meets Saturday mornings 9:30 - 12 at the Atlanta Bread Company, corner of Ponce de Leon and Church streets. There are presently two openings. If interested, e-mail Ricky Jacobs at rjacobs@townesquare.net or call him at 404-378-7365. You will be asked to submit (as an attachment) about five pages of your writing plus a brief bio.

Decatur: An adult fiction group meets Sundays, 3 pm - 5:45 at the Indie Bookstore on W. Ponce de Leon, near the Decatur Post Office. There are presently two openings. If interested, e-mail Ricky Jacobs at rjacobs@townesquare.net or call him at 404-378-7365. You will be asked to submit (as an attachment) about five pages of your writing plus a brief bio.

Decatur: A children's and YA fiction group meets every other Tuesday, 10 am - 12:15, currently at the Java Monkey on Church Street, almost opposite the Decatur MARTA station. This group is now full. If you are interested in being considered for future openings, e-mail Ricky Jacobs at rjacobs@townesquare.net or call him at 404-378-7365.

Decatur: A fiction group (all kinds) meets Thursday evenings 7:15 - 9:45 at the Atlanta Bread Company, corner of Ponce de Leon and Church streets. This group is now full. If you are interested in being considered for future openings, e-mail Ricky Jacobs at rjacobs@townesquare.net or call him at 404-378-7365.

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.

Emory - We are a fiction group, and we meet at Panera’s in the shopping area on North Decatur Road across from the main entrance to Emory University. Our meetings are every other Wednesday at 6:15 pm. Ruth Gresh hrgresh@bellsouth.net.

Lawrenceville: an all-genre, non-AWC-affiliated group meets Fridays, 10 am – 12:30 pm at the First Baptist Church on Crogan on the Square in downtown Lawrenceville. 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 kschnamski@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:"We are currently seeking a moderator for the Marietta Critique Group. Interested members should contact Marty Aftewicz at Martyaga@gmail.com."

Roswell: An all-genre group meets on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 6-8 pm at The Atlanta Bread Company near corner of Hwy 92 and Woodstock Rd. E-mail George Weinstein at giweinstein@yahoo.com or call him at 770-552-5887 to get on his distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Roswell
A poetry group meets twice a month, typically on Saturday afternoons, at the Roswell Regional Library on Norcross St., near Hwy. 9. All styles of poetry welcomed. Interested members should contact Serena Tome at serenatome@yahoo.com.

Sandy Springs: An all-genre group meets on Mondays, 10:30 am - 12:30 at the Roswell Library. E-mail Lynn Wesch at lwwesch@bellsouth.net. Please e-mail her to get on her distribution list and find out the date of the next meeting.

Snellville : Angie Kush hosts an all genre group at Barnes & Noble in Snellville that meet each Sunday evening, 6-8pm. Contact Angie for more details at angcush@aol.com.

Woodstock : An all-genre group meets every other Wednesday evening from 7-9 PM at the Foxtale Books just off Main St near the Gazebo. Interested participants should contact Cindy Morrow at cindy.morrow@gmail.com.

Poetry: Poetry Group – Meets on the first Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM at the Atlanta Bread Company on Highway 92/Crossville Rd at Woodstock Rd. intersection (Kohl’s shopping center). Interested members should contact Jill Jennings at magistra_jennings@yahoo.com or call her at 770-516-2482.
THE ATLANTA WRITERS CLUB

Membership Dues, Donations and Contact Information

Please make checks payable to “The Atlanta Writers Club”:  □ NEW  □ RENEWAL

2009 Membership Dues (also covers remainder of 2008 for new members):
- $40 - Membership is valid through 12/31/2009  $___________
- Add any family member for $20 each  $___________
  (Please supply their contact information using the form below or a separate form)
- 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

• 2009 Membership Year runs from payment date through 12/31/09
If you are renewing, please indicate only your name below unless other contact info has changed

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

Name ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Address _____________________________________________________________________________________________

City ___________________________ Zip ___________________________

Home ___________________________ Work/Cell ___________________________

Phone ___________________________ Phone ___________________________

E-mail address _____________________________________________________________________________________________

Today’s Date: _____/_____/_____