May 14, 2011
Introduction to Fiction Writing with Creative Writing Fellow in Fiction at Emory University, Oindrila Mukherjee. 1 - 4 p.m. Georgia Perimeter College Dunwoody, Room NA-2200.

May 14, 2011
Part II of Technology Workshop for Writers at Booklogix Publishing Services. Details to be announced.

May 21, 2011
Atlanta Writers Conference at Westin Atlanta Airport - no regular meeting this month.
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...founded in 1914  
We are a social and educational club where local writers meet to discuss the craft and business of writing. We also sponsor contests for our members and host expert speakers from the worlds of writing, publishing, and entertainment.

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http://www.facebook.com/people/Atlanta-WritersClub/100000367043383  
http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub
Last May, at the end of my first year as president, I decided to present a “State of the AWC” column, looking back at what we had accomplished in the preceding twelve months. When I solicited the input of our officers and sorted through the records of 2009-10 I was amazed by what we had done. We had increased membership by 11% and our email circulation by a remarkable 42%. Our finances were strong. We had hosted such literary superstars as George Singleton, Kathryn Stockett and Steve Berry. We had a query letter workshop, a master class on short story writing, two screenwriting workshops, lunches and dinners with well-known authors, an expanded Atlanta Writers Conference, and a host of other events designed to encourage and challenge our members. We started a scholarship for a GPC English major, co-sponsored the Townsend Prize for Fiction and provided a reception for an annual poetry showing at GPC. We had a presence at the Decatur Book Festival and the Dahlonega Festival. It was a busy year.

But this year was just as exceptional. Our membership and financial numbers are robust and growing. At the beginning of the second year, we cosponsored an international conference, the first Write In Atlanta event. We had a fiction master class with Brian Jay Corrigan and an all-day workshop with Rick Bragg and Sonny Brewer. We sponsored the third annual Youth Creative Writing Camp with AWC member Lisa Heidle. We hosted Lisa Earle McLeod, Lynn Cullen, Thomas Mullen, Phil Nutman, Phillip DePoy, Zoe Fishman, Joshilyn Jackson, Patti Callahan Henry and Bernice McFadden, among others - not a bad roster of talent. Along the way we even had an intellectual property attorney, Neil Goldstein, address us. On several occasions we had AWC authors speak on panels. For me they were even more encouraging than those in the limelight since I was reminded of what’s possible. We devoted an entire meeting to Poetry Day. We had prep workshops and tech workshops. And in spite of the snowstorm we had a special workshop and fundraiser for the Historic Oakland Foundation with Steve Berry and his foundation, History Matters. We had contests and critique group meetings, festivals and seminars, author dinners and book signings. We celebrated with our members who found publication for their work and consoled those who didn’t. We rejoiced with those who were honored with awards and encouraged those who have not yet been recognized. It was another busy, successful year.

However, this year instead of dwelling on our past achievements, I would like to focus on the future, to turn our gaze at what lies before us. For the first time in over a year, we have filled every position on the Board of Directors. In fact, we have created three new roles. The two positions of Marketing VP and Publicity VP have been combined. Recognizing that Public Relations skills were also required, we created the office of Marketing/PR & Publicity VP, now held by Kimberly Allen. Kim is hard at work with our webmaster to design a new website and is generating other ideas for how best to market the AWC in our over-advertised world. Instead of a VP of Contests, we have expanded the role to include Awards and Scholarships. Nedra Roberts, life-long educator and accomplished writer, now serves in this position. Historically the Contests VP served only to oversee the biannual AWC writing contests for our members. With Nedra’s expertise and interests, we have plans to expand our awards programs into schools, libraries and civic groups, any place where there might be interested writers. This office will recognize and encourage achievement in writing, both within and out-
side the AWC. The final new addition to the Board is the position of VP of Community Outreach, filled by Neda Gayle. Neda brings the creativity and enthusiasm she demonstrated as Operations VP to the considerable task of reaching into the community to further our mission of educating, developing and encouraging writers and advancing the cause of literacy and literature in our city. I won't preempt her announcement, but she will soon unveil her ideas for reaching out to some of the most needy students in our area. She has some exciting plans and would love to talk to you about how you can join her in these worthwhile projects.

Of course, these are just three of the areas we have created in the past year in which you can be involved. Needless to say, I want the Atlanta Writers Club to be a group effort. I don't ever want to slip into a two-tiered system in which a small cabal of overworked volunteers does everything for the detached majority. Organizations that do so eventually implode from the twin afflictions of burnout and apathy. Instead, I want us all to participate in small and big ways – according to our time and interests – to cooperate and experience the joy together of working toward a common goal. In fact, what we are able to accomplish in the coming year is dependent on such widespread involvement. We already have an amazingly supportive and talented membership. What we hope to do in the coming years is to more fully utilize the incredible resources of our writer-members to do even greater things. These are great days, but I believe our greatest days are before us.

The AWC has had an illustrious history. In a few years we will celebrate our centennial anniversary. Adrian and George are in the process of writing a history of the club, and with its publication we will rightly concentrate on what has happened over the past 100 years. That is natural and something I look forward to, seeing how we have grown and changed over the century. But we would squander a perfect opportunity if we stop our reflection with a consideration of the past. I hope that our fete will also include a look toward the next 100 years. Organizations that look only to the past run the risk of being trapped in their history, unwilling to change and adapt. On the other hand, organizations that look only forward do not take advantage of the heritage of their origins and lessons from their development. Groups that survive and flourish do both.

Writers are usually quite skilled at culling through historical documents in their work, at looking to represent what has already occurred in a way that is meaningful and fresh. But writers also embody the hopefulness of looking forward, of writing for posterity, of leaving a mark on an as-yet unrealized world. You may be aware that there is a kangaroo and an emu on the Australian coat of arms, chosen because both look back, but only move forward. Contrary to popular understanding, however, they can move backwards, but rarely do; they choose to advance. The AWC stands at a unique and critical moment in its history. As we look back on the past year – and soon on the past 100 years – let us be encouraged that what we have done is good, but what we can do is phenomenal. Let’s keep moving forward together.
**Introduction to Fiction Writing**  
with **Oindrila Mukherjee**  
May 14, 2011 Workshop Details

1:00 to 1:30 - Intro to Fiction Writing. Different Elements, why we read what we read, why we write, and differences between Literary and Genre Fiction.

1:30 to 2:15 - Introduce the element we will discuss in detail -- i.e. Character. Different ways of representing character. How to create memorable characters. Oindrila will bring examples from published stories and novels for everyone to read together.

2:15 to 3:45 - Writing Exercises. Oindrila will provide few prompts that will help develop character and story by the end. The writers will share their work with the group, depending on how many people are present.

3:45 to 4:00 - Q & A about writing, courses, degrees, publishing, agents, the business side of things, as well as creative process, etc.

**Bio**

Oindrila Mukherjee is the Creative Writing Fellow in Fiction at Emory for 2009 - 2011. She has degrees in English from India and the University of Cambridge, England, as well as an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Florida and a PhD. in Literature and Creative Writing from the University of Houston. She has taught fiction writing at Florida, Houston, and, for the past 2 years, at Emory. In the fall she will be joining Grand Valley State University’s Writing department as an Assistant Professor in creative writing.

Before coming to the U.S. 9 years ago, Oindrila worked as a journalist for The Statesman, India's oldest English-language newspaper. She has also served as Fiction and Review Editor of Gulf Coast, a literary journal in the U.S. She continues to contribute to Indian newspapers. Her reviews and articles have been published in India, England, and the U.S.

Oindrila's fiction has been published in India and the U.S. Most recently, her short story, "The Ways We Cook Fish" was published in Best New Writing 2010 (Hopewell Publications), and her story, "In The Name of My Brother" was published in Indian Voices, an anthology of writing by Indian writers from around the world.

Besides fiction she writes plays and non fiction and translates Bengali literature to English. Her translations of Bengali poet Joy Goswami’s work have been published in India and the U.S., and appeared in The Oxford Anthology of Bengali Literature.

The Fellowship at Emory is awarded to writers to complete their first book. Oindrila recently completed her novel, House of Rain, set in England and the U.S. The novel is at present a quarterfinalist in the Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award 2011 contest.

**Location**

Georgia Perimeter College in Dunwoody  
Room NA-2200 (first building on right after entering campus from Womack Rd.)

**Cost**

The fee for this 3-hour workshop is only $25, but you must be a 2011 Atlanta Writers Club member to participate. If you need to join or renew your membership, please click here to pay online or download the membership form.

**Registration**

To register, e-mail AWC Programs Committee member Soniah Kamal at soniah_k@yahoo.com
Monarca Press invites authors to submit bilingual manuscripts (in English and Spanish) to its monthly contest, THE INFINITY AWARD IN CHILDREN’S LITERATURE. Each monthly winner receives a $1,000 award and publication for a book suitable for K-5. The deadline is the 15th of each month.

Monarca Press has already published two books (issued in March and April), has two others slated for May and June, and are eager to present your work.

Please visit their website—http://www.leerconmigo.com—for contest specs and for information about the award, previous winners and their books, and the Readconmigo program.

The 2011 Aesthetica Creative Works Competition is now open for entries! Aesthetica Magazine is inviting all artists, photographers, writers and poets to submit their work into the Creative Works Competition. Now in its fourth year, the competition is dedicated to celebrating and championing creative talent across the disciplines and welcomes entries from poets and writers working in short fiction!

The Competition has three categories, Artwork & Photography, Poetry and Fiction.

Winners and finalists are published in the Aesthetica Creative Works Annual. Winners of each category receive £500 prize money (apx. $800) plus other prizes.

Entry to the Creative Works Competition is £10 (apx. $16).

The entry fee allows the submission of 2 images, 2 poems or 2 short stories. The deadline for submissions is the 31st August 2011.

More guidelines on how to submit can be found online at http://www.aestheticalmagazine.com/submission_guide.htm
“Where I Go” is a new weekly feature from Zócalo, an intellectual web magazine based in Los Angeles, in which contributors describe—in a few words or in a few hundred words—a place in which they find a sense of connection to people or place. The place can be anywhere in the world and it can hold any kind of meaning to the author. The prose pieces are generally in the 600-900-word range. Unfortunately, there is no payment for submissions, but there is good exposure for featured authors. About 70,000 visitors a month visit the site.

Zócalo has only featured three entries so far, but you can see them at:
http://zocalopublicsquare.org/thepublicsquare/category/where-i-go/

Anyone who is interested can send a pitch or a fully-written piece to Zócalo Managing Editor Megan Greewell at megan@zocalopublicsquare.org.
You are invited to: **Getting in Touch with the Source**
A 2-Day Writing Experience for Women

**What:** A one-of-a-kind writing experience

**When:** Friday, October 21 and Saturday October 22nd

**Where:** Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta (UUCA)

**Cost:** –
- Friday night only, Keynote Speaker Pearl Cleage $30.00;
- 2 Day event: $85.00;
- Saturday at the door: $100

*Financial Assistance is available*

There are 3 ways to submit your work!

1) Submit a piece to be published in the Getting in Touch with the Source Anthology - **Deadline May 30, 2011**
2) Have a one-on-one with a professional editor - **Deadline for Editor Review is August 15th, 2011**
3) Perform for an audience at the Coffee House Reading - **Deadline for Coffee House is August 30, 2011**

All submitters must be registered for *Getting in Touch with the Source*
For registration and submission Information:
www.uucawomenwriters.org

**Tickets available at:**
UUCA - 1911 Cliff Valley Way, Atlanta 30329
Charis Books & More: 1189 Euclid Avenue, NE, Atlanta 30307
Phoenix & Dragon Bookstore: 5531 Roswell Road, NE Atlanta, 30342
Speakers From April Meeting

Bernice McFadden
Bestselling author Bernice McFadden discussed her writing journey and which authors inspire her.

Kristi Weldon
Spoke about publishing on the Kindle for Free and Getting Your Work on Amazon.
Open call for submissions to the *Young Writers Anthology*!

VerbalEyze Publications is producing a special online edition of the *Young Writers Anthology*. We are looking for bright, young voices to speak out against teen violence and bullying and speak up for peace. We are accepting submissions from writers between the ages of 15 and 22 in any of the following genres:

- poetry,
- short story,
- creative non-fiction,
- songwriting,
- playwriting,
- graphic novel

Submissions can take the form of written work, audio recordings, and videos. Send your work to submissions@verbaleyze.org by May 27th. Selected submissions will be featured in the upcoming online edition of *Young Writers Anthology*. Click here for additional details.

*Words are power. Words are life. Words make worlds.*
So bring forth words full of passion, purpose and love!

www.verbaleyze.org
Silverland Press’s First Annual Writing Contest

Want to be published? Want to get paid for your writing? We invite you to enter your short story in Silverland Press’s First Annual Writing Contest. The entries of ten lucky winners will be included in an anthology and published.

Silverland Press is looking for original fiction that is intended for a young adult audience. We are especially interested in stories involving aspects of the paranormal or urban fantasy (for example, see the work of Jim Butcher or Kim Harrison).

Entries should be between 3,000 and 8,000 words.
We look forward to reading your entry!

There is no entry fee for this contest.

All entries must be submitted by midnight, May 31, 2011.

How To Enter the First Annual Silverland Press Writing Contest:

1. Make sure your short story is between 3,000 and 8,000 words, that it is intended for a young adult audience and that it includes a paranormal or urban fantasy theme (see the work of Jim Butcher or Kim Harrison).

2. Although stories may contain sexual themes, care must be taken to ensure that the story is suitable for a young adult audience.

3. Include, at the beginning of the story, the following information:
   - Your first and last name.
   - Your email address
   - The city you live in, the state/province and country.
   - A phone number at which you could be contacted.
   - How did you hear about this contest?

4. All entries must be previously unpublished and written in English.

5. The individual who submits an entry must hold the copyright for that entry. Original work only, please.

6. All entrants must be 18 years old or over.

7. Up to two stories may be submitted.

8. No simultaneous submissions are allowed.

9. The results of the contest will be mailed out to everyone who entered on or before July 1, 2011.

Visit the website for details: http://www.silverlandpress.com/
Announcing Doe Branch Ink

Doe Branch Ink is a writers’ retreat located on 50 acres in the heart of the Blue Ridge mountains just 30 miles north of Asheville in historic Madison County, North Carolina. We offer writers experiences of several kinds: in the late spring and early fall, we organize facilitated writing experiences for 8 to 10 guests with successful writers-in-residence who are also proven teachers. Writers of all levels are welcome. At other times of the year, our guest house is available to rent for individual writers or writers groups, both short and long-term.

Advisory Board: Judy Dearlove, Jill McCorkle, Ariel Dorfman, Clyde Edgerton, David Gessner, Michael Malone, Ron Rash


www.doebranchink.org • doebranchink@gmail.com • 919-490-1558

Comments from Our Inaugural Fall Workshop

“Fresh from a week at the Doe Branch writing retreat, I have new energy and greater confidence about my writing. Away from work, life chores, and all the excuses I come up with for not writing, this time away was just what I needed.” *** “I have had a great time at Doe Branch too, great company, lovely mountain scenery and walks, and fabulous food and care taking. I’d call this the deluxe plus workshop!” *** “This was my first writing retreat ever -- now I’m utterly spoiled. To have such a debut for Doe Branch, with no false notes? Kudos!” *** “Thank you for your vision and for the opportunity to be among the first to experience it.”
**Scribblers’ Retreat Writers’ Conference**

*St. Simons Island, GA*

*May 12-14*

**Phillip Margolin**, *New York Times* bestselling author “How to Write a Novel in Your Spare Time.” Phil will show you how to go from your idea, to actually beginning your book, and how to work it out all the way through to the end.

**June Hall McCash** – “Writing Historical Fiction”  
**Victor DiGenti** – “Revving Up Your Narrative Drive”  
**Anna Silver** - “Writing Poetry: The Enchanted Craft”  
**Denise Tompkins** – “Effective Query Letter Writing”  
**Ricki Schultz** – “Online Presence-Building, Made Easy”  
**Jane Wood** - “Schools, A Niche Market”  
**Pat Bertram** – “Creating Incredible, but Credible, Characters”  
**Chuck Barrett** - “Who’s Point of View is It Anyway? How Not to Confuse Your Reader”

Please Register today, as seating is limited!

[www.scribblersretreatwritersconference.org](http://www.scribblersretreatwritersconference.org)  
**800-996-2904**

King and Prince Beach & Golf Resort  
[www.kingandprince.com](http://www.kingandprince.com)  
620 Arnold Rd.  St. Simons Island
You are Invited to Attend...the 2nd Annual Northwest Georgia Valley Writers Conference May 6 & 7 at the Harris Arts Center
212 South Wall Street
Calhoun, GA 30701
www.harrisartscenter.com

This Year's Keynote Speaker is...Jackie Lee Miles

OPTION ONE / For Writers: Pre-Registration at the Harris Arts Center or by Phone (706-629-2599) is highly encouraged as there will be limited registration on the day of the event. $50 for the conference / price does not include meals.

OPTION TWO / For Readers: There is no charge to attend end-of-day events on Saturday. Join us at 5:45PM for a panel discussion on "The Writer's Life" then stay for book sales and signing at 6:15PM Those attending ONLY the "readers" portion of the event do NOT need to register and admission is free.

Friday Night: New this Year—Bonus workshop!

7:00 PM Enjoy dinner with several authors & workshop leaders at the Velo Vineyard in Downtown Calhoun while you participate in the workshop, "What a Publisher Wants From You" with Publisher Tony Burton of Wolfmont Press.

If you are joining us for dinner, please check the box on your registration form, as we will need a headcount. ($15 buffet dinner is not included in price of conference)

SATURDAY: Main Event

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Check in at the Registration Desk / Authors available for book signing & sales
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM Introduction & Welcome with Literary Chair, Gray Bridges
9:15 AM - 10:45 AM Five Things that Make a Good Story Great, with Keynote Speaker, Jackie Lee Miles
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Workshop A: Recipes for Success; A complete Guide to Writing Cookbooks Food Blogs, Reviews & More, with Aletia DuPree (OR) Workshop B: Writing Through Grief with Jessica Handler
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Break for Lunch (cost of lunch not included)
1:30 PM - 2:00 PM Panel Discussion: How the Face of Publishing Has Changed
2:15 PM - 3:45 PM Workshop A: Writing and Publishing for Children & Young Adults with Donny Seagraves (OR) Workshop B: Writing Historical Fiction; Imagine the Facts with Amanda Gable
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Workshop A: Polish; Making your Writing Shine with Barbara Tucker (OR) Workshop B: Stress-Free Marketing for Newly Published Authors with Renea Winchester
5:45 PM - 6:15 PM Panel Discussion: Living the Writer’s Life
6:15 PM - 7:15 PM Authors Available for books signing & sale
7:45 PM Conference Attendees are invited to join some of our authors & workshop leaders for dinner at Ruby Tuesday’s on Hwy 53 by 1-75
ZONA ROSA WRITERS’ RETREAT WITH ROSEMARY DANIELL
IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE
May 21-28, 2011

Rosemary Daniell, award-winning author, founder of Zona Rosa writing-and-living workshops, and renowned as one of the best writing coaches in the country, will return to the South of France to lead a one-week workshop. We will stay in Aix-en-Provence, the “Paris of the South.”

Aix-en-Provence was founded by the Romans (Aquae Sextiae, named for its hot springs) in 122 BC. It is a city of elegant architecture and fountains, music and culture, an important law center, and a lively student hub. (In 2009 the university celebrated its 600th birthday.) A prestigious summer music festival draws celebrated performers and music lovers from around the world. But Aix is also a city of leisure. Walk along the stately, tree-lined Cours Mirabeau and stop at a sidewalk café to enjoy a coffee and people-watching. Explore the Vieille Ville, the Old City, and marvel in the warm ochre shades of buildings from the 17th and 18th centuries, a period of power and prosperity for the city. Enjoy the sights and scents of the morning outdoor food market, held every day of the year. (Incidentally, Aix is pronounced like the letter X.)

Our schedule consists of afternoon group meetings, with subjects tailored to participants’ needs; individual sessions with Rosemary; and private writing time.

The cost, based on twin occupancy and current rates of exchange, is $1695. Included in the cost: accommodations for the week in a charming small hotel located in a quiet neighborhood, several lunches, a gala dinner, group airport transfers, manuscript critique, and private and group sessions with Rosemary. Single supplement: $325.

Payments: A non-refundable deposit of $350 is due upon application. For an application form, contact Suzan at genet1136@gmail.com. Since space is limited, participants will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about Rosemary Daniell and Zona Rosa, visit the web site at www.myzonarosa.com.

Air travel: You will fly into and out of Marseille, arriving on Saturday, May 21, and departing on Saturday, May 28. Group transfers will take you from the Marseille airport and back. If you need a travel agent’s assistance for your air travel, you can contact Phyliss Brassey at Explorations Travel in Atlanta (770-432-3247; 800-451-9630; Phyliss@explorationsltd.com). Travel agencies charge fees for their booking services.

Trip Cancellation Insurance is strongly advised, and you may purchase it through a travel agency.

Questions? Please contact Suzan at genet1136@gmail.com.
Registration Now Open For Moonlight & Magnolias 2011 Conference – *The Course of True Love*

A weekend of writing sessions designed to smooth out the rough edges of your romance.

**Sponsor:** Georgia Romance Writers

**Dates:** September 29-October 2, 2011

**Location:** Holiday Inn® Decatur Conference Plaza, in historic downtown Decatur, near Atlanta, 130 Clairemont Avenue, Decatur, GA 30030.

**Fee:** GRW members/Media: $189; RWA members: $209; General Registration for nonmembers: $219.

**Agents Attending:**
Laura Bradford, The Bradford Literary Agency
Jessica Faust, BookEnds, LLC
Michelle Grajkowski, 3 Seas Literary Agency, Inc.
Deidre Knight, The Knight Agency, Inc.

**Editors Attending:**
Holly Blanck, St. Martin’s Press
Victoria Curran, Harlequin Enterprises
Leah Hultenschmidt, Sourcebooks, Inc.
Wendy McCurdy, Berkley Group/Penguin
Charlene Patterson, Bethany House Publishers

**Keynote Speaker:** Eloisa James, *NY Times* Bestselling Historical Romance Author and Shakespeare Scholar

**GRW Featured Speaker:** Karen White, *NY Times* Bestselling Southern Literature Author

**Special Craft Speaker:** Leigh Michaels, Craft Workshop

(Continued on page 17)
Conference Features: 30+ Workshops, Maggie Awards, Editor & Agent appointments, raffles, critiques, literacy book fair.

For more details and to register, visit the conference page http://www.georgiaromancewriters.org/mm-conference/ and view editor/agent information, the conference schedule, and reserve your hotel room.

*Register for The Course of True Love by May 1, 2011, and receive a guaranteed second editor/agent appointment or publicity for published authors (your name and a screen shot of your newest release in a special section of the conference book).

Questions? Contact Vice President-Conference, Anna Steffl at MMChair@georgiaromancewriters.org.

Georgia Romance Writers (GRW), a chapter of ROMANCE WRITERS OF AMERICA®, is made up of approximately 200 serious, professional writers, nearly one-third of whom are multi-published in book length fiction. A nonprofit organization, GRW is dedicated to bringing quality women’s fiction to the market. GRW was founded in 1982, held its first regional conference the same year, and has grown steadily ever since. But the heart and soul of GRW are its members who reach out to every writer who is dedicated to his or her craft.

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Redwood Coast Press New Poet Series

Redwood Coast Press publishes first books of poetry. This is for you if you have not yet had a manuscript of your poetry published by a professional press. Our thinking is that it is much easier to get a second book published than it is to get a first out there. We are committed to bringing new poetry into the world. Through May 31, 2011 we invite submissions for our 2011 list.

Any time from this very instant, through May 31, 2011, we invite you to send, in pdf format, a:

- poetry manuscript of at least 64 pages
- brief biography (25 to 50 words)
- publishing history (list of publications and awards)
- list of work from the collection that has been previously published

Please send submissions to redwoodcoastpresssubmissions@gmail.com

Submissions before May 31, 2011, will be considered for publication in 2011.

We will send you an immediate notification of receipt, and will post the forthcoming book(s) on this webpage before August 30, 2011.

We pride ourselves on honoring aesthetic diversity. Our press publishes work of exceptional skill and craft, and is not tied to any particular school of poetic thought. Create strong work and send it to us. We will read it.

We pay royalties of 10%, enter your poetry book into competitions, and partner with you to publicize the book.

Small Press Distribution carries our books.
May 14, 2011
Introduction to Fiction Writing with Creative Writing Fellow in Fiction at Emory University, Oindrila Mukherjee. 1 - 4 p.m. Georgia Perimeter College Dunwoody, Room NA-2200.

May 14, 2011
Part II of Technology Workshop for Writers at Booklogix Publishing Services. Details to be announced.

May 21, 2011
Atlanta Writers Conference at Westin Atlanta Airport - no regular meeting this month.

June 18, 2011
Annual club picnic at Hammond Park in Sandy Springs - no regular meeting this month.

July 16, 2011:
Free workshop by author and wellness expert Brenda Stockdale on Writing for Health.

August 20, 2011:
Holly Goddard Jones, author of the collection Girl Trouble, on writing short stories.

September 17, 2011:
Indu Sundaresan, author of the Taj Mahal trilogy and two other novels set in India, discusses writing about history, exotic locations, and intriguing characters.

October 15, 2011:
Women’s National Book Association award-winner, journalist, and author of four novels Masha Hamilton on the importance of encouraging women writers and readers.

November 19, 2011:
Meg Waite Clayton, bestselling novelist, reveals how to catch the eye of editors and agents and how to successfully submit for publication.

December 17, 2011:
Simon & Schuster author Terra Elan McVoy on writing for the young adult audience.

Upcoming workshops, author dinners, and other special events exclusively for current AWC members.

(All venues subject to change.)
Angry Alligators and Energetic Elephants

Remember when you decided to buy a particular car and immediately began to see that same style and color everywhere? I know that in my early to mid-twenties I never paid much attention to pregnant women, but as soon as I had that positive test result, pregnant women seemed to pop out all over. Excuse my choice of words, please.

The same effect is true, apparently, with editing. The errors seem to come in clumps, just like your green Chevrolets. Lately I’ve been seeing a lot of mistakes in the use of affect and effect, particularly in the non-fiction I’m editing, although the same misuse has shown up in some of the fiction as well.

Both words can be either nouns or verbs, depending on the context. I’ve seen more trouble, though, with the verb forms.

Affect means to change or to influence.

   Angry alligators affect Andy’s sense of well-being. (Alligators influence or change his sense of well-being.)

Effect, on the other hand, means to cause or produce.

   Ergonomic elevator-shoes effect better balance for Ellen. (They produce better balance for her.)

Notice that we can’t say the alligators effect Andy’s sense of well-being. Instead, they would effect terror in Andy, in that they would cause the terror to happen.

Vitamin A affects (influences) one’s ability to see well.

   So, Vitamin A effects good eyesight.

Vitamin E effects (produces) protection of cell membranes.

   Likewise, Vitamin E affects the ability of cell membranes to deflect free radicals.

The effect (noun) of the elephant’s energetic trumpeting was to electrify the village by affecting (influencing) their eardrums, thereby effecting (causing) their instant evacuation.

All these silly examples are affecting my funny bone, thereby effecting laughter.

When Fran isn’t writing or editing, she’s busy with her beehives and happily awaiting the first harvest of honey. Her blog about this adventure is http://

www.beeskneesbeekeeping.blogspot.com
Club-Sponsored Critique Groups

Critique Groups Face-to-Face and Cyberspace

Whether online or in-person-neighborhood-groups, the Atlanta Writers Club offers a variety of critique groups as a service for its members. If your writing is ready for a critique group -- meaning you're ready to hear what others think and offer constructive criticism in return -- then search the directory below. Pick a group and contact its leader to see if this is the best group for you. Some of the groups are at capacity and have wait lists; others are eagerly seeking new members. The critique groups are a service of AWC and thus open to dues-paying members.

Women writers—Jemille Williams has offered to host a critique group for writers of women’s fiction and/or chick lit in her home in historic Roswell. Any women interested please contact Jemille at jemille@bellsouth.net right away.

Online Groups

AWC-NF-Critique@yahoogroups.com is a nonfiction group led by Terre Spencer at terrespencer@me.com.

Fiction Critique Group 1 is led by Derek Koehl at Derek@nonhappyendings.com.

Onsite Groups

Austell
An all-genre group is looking for a new location to meet, a new leader, and new members. Contact Jennie Helder at jmhelderman@comcast.net if you are interested in leading a group in this area.

Buckhead/Midtown
Poetry group. The Buckhead/Midtown poetry group meets on the fourth Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. Group is nearing capacity.
To be included on the distribution list for meeting details, please email Karen Holmes at karen.holmes@comcast.net and give a brief description of your writing experience.

Buckhead Novel/Fiction Critique Group meets every other Tuesday evening at 7PM at the Starbucks in Lindbergh Plaza. The group is closed. Contact Patricia at pepatterson@bellsouth.net to be placed on a wait list.

Conyers
The Conyers critique group meets every other Wednesday at 6:30 at the Whistle Post Tavern in Conyers, GA. We are looking for new members. If you'd like more information, please contact Nancy at ncfletcher50@gmail.com.

Decatur
An adult/YA fiction critique group meets every other Tuesday at 6:30 in Decatur. There is one opening at present. If interested, email Ricky Jacobs rickyjacs@mac.com attaching a brief bio and 5-6 pages of your fiction. When the slot is filled, a wait list will be created. Please do not contact him without that submission.
A children's and YA fiction group meets every other Tuesday, 10 a.m.-12:15 at the Java Monkey on Church Street almost opposite the Decatur Marta Station. The group is full at present. Write to Ricky Jacobs rickyjacs@mac.com to be put on a wait list. You are asked to submit about five pages of your writing and a brief bio. Please do not contact him without that submission.
Two adult/YA fiction groups meet every other Thursday 7 p.m.-9 in Decatur. Both groups are full at present. Write to Ricky Jacobs rickyjacs@mac.com to be put on a wait list. You are asked to submit about five pages of your writing and a brief bio. Please do not contact him without that submission.
An adult/YA fiction group meets every other Saturday 10 a.m.-12:30 at the Java Monkeys Café in Decatur. The group is full at present. Write to Ricky Jacobs rickyjacs@mac.com to be put on a wait list. You are asked to submit about five pages of your writing and a brief bio. Please do not contact him without that submission.
A nonfiction group meets Mondays 6:30 p.m. at Urban Grounds in Avondale Estates. Contact Emily Strasser at emstrass@gmail.com.
A nonfiction group meets Tuesdays 7-9 p.m. at Urban Grounds in Avondale Estates. Email Rebecca Ewing at rebeccaewing@earthlink.net.

Dunwoody
Georgia Perimeter College’s Learning and Tutoring Center sponsors Writers’ Circle, an ongoing group of students and community members who enjoy the writing process and seek the support and insight of other
writers. Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, 1-3 p.m. in LRC Dunwoody campus, LRC (Library Building), Rm 3100. During school breaks, the group meets at Barnes & Noble, Dunwoody. Contact Gelia Dolcimascolo at 770-274-5246 for further information.

**Redshirt Writers** meet Tuesday afternoons at 3:00 pm in the Perimeter Mall area. Writers in all genres with a desire to hone their craft in a supportive and engaged group are welcome. Please email Richard Perreault at perreaultmp@gmail.com with a brief description of your writing experience and a short sample of your writing.

**Emory**
A fiction group meets every other Wednesday at 6:30 pm at Chocolate Coffee located in a shopping center at the intersection of Clairmont and North Decatur Road. The group is currently closed. Contact Ruth Gresh at hrgresh@hotmail.com to be added to a waiting list.

**Lawrenceville**
The novel/short story group Fiction Crafters meets every other Thursday 10 to 12 at Applewood Towers. The group is full. Contact Barbara Connor at 678-226-1483 or imayaya@charter.net to be put on a wait list.

**Lawrenceville/Snellville**
An all genre group meets on the first Saturday of every month 9:30 a.m. to noon at a member's home. Contact Ken Schmanski at kschmanski@yahoo.com for location and to get on his distribution list.

**Marietta**
An all genre group meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m. The group has openings. Contact Linda Sullivan at lindasullivan3@gmail.com for more information.

**Roswell**
An all genre group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. at the Atlanta Bread Company near the corner of Hwy 92 and Woodstock Rd. Contact George Weinstein at 770-552-5887 or giweinstein@yahoo.com to get on his distribution list.

**Sandy Springs**
An all genre group meets twice monthly on Mondays, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Roswell Library. Contact Lynn Wesch at lewesch@me.com to get on her distribution list.

Guidelines that might help your group be the most effective:

1. Remember to comment on the TEXT, not the author.
2. Remember to speak from your own perspective.
3. Give honest feedback.
4. Always give positive feedback at the first, middle and last of the critique.
5. Honor the author's own voice. Do not try to make their writing sounds like yours.
6. Remember to keep the writer's work and the conversation of such private.
7. Remember to consider the goals of the writer and include that in your feedback.
8. Don't be nitpicky, but be specific.
9. Allow time for other's comments.
10. Remember to keep a sense of humor.

Guidelines that might help when you are receiving critique:

1. Remain open-minded
2. Don't argue or defend your writing. Do ask for clarification. (“Help me understand what you mean.”)
3. Be open to receiving feedback.
4. Identify to the group what you type of feedback you seek for any particular submission. (ideas, line edits)
5. Do not bring your ego to the meetings.
6. Remember to keep a sense of humor.
7. Learn to accept praise as well as criticism
8. Remind yourself why you are there.
9. Remember, feedback is just one person's opinion. If it doesn't fit, let it go. HOWEVER, if you receive the same feedback from more than one person be sure to pay attention to it and consider what they are saying.
10. Pay attention to those comments you receive over and over again. Learn from them and self correct.

*2010 Sylvia Dickey Smith*
Membership Information – The Atlanta Writers Club

Membership dues are $40 per year. 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 next page. 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 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 online at our website, using PayPal at http://www.atlantawritersclub.org/membership.html.

If you have additional questions, contact AWC president Clay Ramsey at clay@atlantawritersclub.org.
The Atlanta Writers Club
2011 Membership Dues • Donations • Contact Information

☐ Renewal—please update us with changes only  ☐ New Member—welcome, your membership is through 12/31/2011
☐ Family Member—additional contact information only

First Name: ____________________________  ☐ Primary Member: ____________________________
Last Name: ____________________________

Please register your last name accurately—this is how your AWC membership will be filed

Street Address: ____________________________
City: ____________________________ State: _________ ZIP _________

Primary Phone: ____________________________
Secondary Phone: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________

Website: ____________________________  ☐ List my website on the AWC website
LinkedIn Profile: ____________________________  ☐ Link to me
Facebook name: ____________________________  ☐ Friend me
Writing genre(s): ____________________________

Ways you might contribute to your club: ____________________________


2011 AWC Membership Dues
(covers remainder of 2010 and through entire year of 2011)

$40 Membership through 12/31/2011  ____________________________

Add any family member for $20 each  ____________________________
(Please supply family members’ contact information using a separate form)
Students, ages 25 and under, pay only $30 year-round  ____________________________

Tax Deductible Donation in the amount of  ____________________________

Total  ____________________________

Please mail with checks payable to: The Atlanta Writers Club
Mail to: Kimberly Clayara • The Atlanta Writers Club • 10235 Rillridge Court • Alpharetta, GA 30022
(Please note—this is a new address as of August, 2010)

Date: ____________________________
Name: ____________________________ has donated $ ____________________________ to the Atlanta Writers Club.

This amount is not associated with any services provided in exchange or related to this contribution.

Please retain this lower portion as your donation receipt.