April 21

1:45, Marina Budhos will discuss “I’m Not So Young: So How Do I Write for Young Adults?”

3:15-4:15 AWC members Bobbi Kornblit, Walter Lawrence, and John Turman discuss their advice and lessons learned about self-publishing

The April meeting will be at the regular location: Georgia Perimeter College, NC-1100 auditorium
...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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It's time again to call on our members for support, and ask for volunteers to help out with some of the many exciting programs heading our way in the coming months.

We'll need check-in volunteers for each of our future monthly meetings. If you would like to volunteer for a specific meeting, please let VP of Operations Valerie Connors know which month you prefer. Or, if you would like to volunteer but are unsure about your availability until the time gets nearer, she will gladly include you in her list of volunteers to contact at a later date. Please respond to: valerie1105@comcast.net.

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http://www.facebook.com/people/Atlanta-WritersClub/100000367043383
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Curiosity. We know what it did to the cat. Or at least we think we know. Both Ben Jonson *(Every Man in His Humour, 1598)* and William Shakespeare *(Much Ado About Nothing, 1598-9)* used the line in their plays, “care’ll kill a cat.” In other words, worry or sorrow, concern with the trials of life, will kill any sentient being, including, we assume, both house pets and the theatergoers of the sixteenth-century. By 1898 in *The Galveston Daily News* the phrase becomes “curiosity killed a Thomas cat.” It is startling to see how the meaning of this phrase seems to shift over the course of three hundred years. To the Elizabethans, it was an admonition not to let the cares of this world become too burdensome. For us, it is a warning not to ask too many questions. These two different English words actually share a common Latin root. In other words, in the evolution of language, to be inquisitive and to be full-of-care, or careful/fastidious, share the same etymological history. The word can also mean to pry and be intrusive, as well as refer to a novelty or oddity. You may have heard of a *curiosity cabinet*, a piece of furniture holding unique items in a collector’s possession. Needless to say, it is a fascinating word, encompassing a variety of meanings.

But as the phrase about the proverbial feline is used now, the connotation is negative. This caution is not a modern development. St. Augustine wrote in his *Confessions* that “[God] fashioned hell for the inquisitive *[curiosis fabricavit inferos]*” (xi.12). In context, it was the theologian’s sharp comeback to a snarky question about what God was up to before He created the world, but it made its way into a tradition that is not always known for being open to personal exploration. In the *Apology*, Socrates is condemned for being “an evil-doer, and a curious person, who searches into things under the earth, and in heaven.” In addition to being accused of sophism, atheism, and corrupting the youth of Athens, the tradition preserved by Plato holds that his insatiable curiosity, his interest in matters best left to the gods, lead to his execution by the state. The Greeks furthermore had the myth of Pandora, the first woman created by Hephaestus, the god of fire, who was given a jar containing the evils of the world. Warned not to open her gift, her curiosity overwhelms her and she defies the divine caveat, unleashing woes upon the earth – another cautionary tale against curiosity. History is filled with examples, from the familiar story of Galileo’s condemnation by the papal curia, to countless cases of religious, social and political establishments crushing any expression of dissent, doubt and public questioning of the dominant ideology.

So what do a cat, some obscure etymology, and ancient history have to do with the life of a working writer? I would argue that they have everything to do with your work as a writer. It seems obvious to say that writers should
be curious, but I will say it anyway, in spite of warnings to the contrary. I believe writers should be among the most curious people on the planet. We often picture scientists embodying curiosity as they hypothesize about and test and probe the secrets of life. There is no doubt that scientific research frames and then seeks to answer the questions that the universe seems to pose about our physical existence. In fact, Albert Einstein has one of the most compelling statements about curiosity that I have discovered. He said,

The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity. (Albert Einstein, Personal memoir of William Miller, editor of Life magazine, May 2, 1955)

It was this curiosity that drove him to ask questions of the cosmos. It was his compulsion to satisfy his curiosity that resulted in some of the most monumental discoveries of twentieth-century physics. It was this curiosity that gave meaning to his vocation. And it was the insatiable, ferocious curiosity of this single Swiss patent clerk that changed the history of humanity and the way we see the universe.

But you don’t need to hold a Ph.D. or be a scientific genius to be curious. In fact, I think if you call yourself a writer, you should be known for your curiosity. It was a characteristic we all had at one point in our lives. My parents tell me that as a child I asked questions relentlessly. I’m sure it was tiresome for them and challenged their explanatory abilities, but it was a feature of my childhood that I treasure. I’m sure the same can be said for most of you as well. Children are naturally curious. For them everything is new and mysterious, and their young minds demand some explanation of the secrets that seem to surround them. Somewhere along the way, however, as life becomes more understandable and those puzzles of existence are either solved or discarded as irrelevant to conducting business and paying bills, the inborn inquisitiveness of youth is quashed and replaced with dull routine.

This tedious monotony can even extend into creative pursuits like writing. So this month I want you to make an effort to cultivate your curiosity. As I under-
stand it, curiosity is humble, admitting you are not the center of the universe and the world in which you live is infinitely more mysterious and marvelous than what you could imagine. It is also an active pursuit, rejecting the passive acceptance of the events of life as they occur to you, rather than actively engaging with the enormous range of experiences, ideas and people that make up your world. It embraces an intellectual flexibility that does not crumble when faced with new ways of looking at the world, but reconfigures your frame of mind to accommodate these novel perspectives. It is observant, not walking around in a mental fog, unaware of the brilliant variety and ultimately inexhaustible enigma of existence. It is persistent, not settling for pat answers or simple clichés of thought to explain the questions of life. It is independent, not intellectually relying on the mental labors of others to make sense of your world. It is fiercely committed to the truth, rejecting falsehoods and half-truths, even if it goes against dearly held ideologies and fond orthodoxies. And it is always, always questioning. This is my idea of the meaning of curiosity.

So how do you foster such a character trait? It must begin, I think, with your commitment to become a life-long learner. If you think to yourself, I have my diploma so I don’t have to read another book or learn another fact or ask another question, then you have no business calling yourself a writer. As a writer and a developing human being, you have pledged yourself to a lifetime of books and questions and learning. From this commitment flows every other aspect of living a life of curiosity. Ask questions of everyone and everything. Read widely across a range of genres. Break out of familiar patterns of writing and thought. Get below the surface of stories. Don’t settle for commonly accepted facts. Actively search for truth, following its slender thread through the chimera of appearance and distraction to wherever it might lead. Be tenacious in the best tradition of scholarship and investigative journalism as you do your research. Pay attention to your life. Break new ground in your thoughts and in your writing. And, again, keep asking questions. Always ask those questions.

If we chip away at the mystery of life a little bit every day, as Professor Einstein recommends, then there is no limit to what we can hope to achieve. Curiosity may have killed the cat, but it created the writer. Be curious, my writer-friends, and let’s see what we can accomplish together.
Holly McClure, a principal of the Sullivan-Maxx Literary Agency, on finding and working with small, regional, and niche publishers.

Speaker Sabina Murray is the author of two short story collections, three novels & is also a screenwriter.
Marina Budhos, an author of award-winning fiction and nonfiction, has published the novels *Tell Us We’re Home*, *Ask Me No Questions*—winner of the James Cook Teen Book Award and New York Public Library Notable and Best Book—*The Professor of Light*, and *House of Waiting*, and a nonfiction book, *Remix: Conversations with Immigrant Teenagers*. In Fall 2010, she published *Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom and Science*, co-authored with her husband, historian and author Marc Aronson. Her short stories, articles, essays, and book reviews have appeared in publications such as *The Kenyon Review, The Nation, Ms.*, *Travel & Leisure, Time Out, Los Angeles Times*, as well as in numerous anthologies.

Budhos has given talks at universities in the U.S. and abroad, has been a Fulbright Scholar to India, and was awarded a Rona Jaffe Award for Women Writers and a Fellowship from the New Jersey State Arts Council. Budhos is currently an associate professor of English and Asian Studies at William Paterson University. Budhos also has received an Exceptional Merit Media Award and a Fellowship from the New Jersey Council on the Arts. Budhos graduated *magna cum laude* from Cornell University, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received a master's degree in creative writing from Brown University.

Budhos grew up in Queens, NY, in Parkway Village, a community built for U.N. families, and a haven for international, mixed, and American families during the ferment of civil rights and social change. She is married and has two young sons. Her website is www.marinabudhos.com.

On April 21 at 1:45, Marina Budhos will discuss “I’m Not So Young: So How Do I Write for Young Adults?”
Panel Profiles for April Meeting

By Soniah Kamal, co-VP of Programs

Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 3:15 p.m.

Panel Discussion: Self-Publishing Tips from a Trio of Authors

Three members of the Atlanta Writers Club joined forces to launch their books at the Texas Book Festival in Austin, Texas in October 2011. Friends and colleagues who call themselves the *Tres Amigos*, Bobbi Kornblit, Walter Lawrence, and Dr. John Turman, will share their journey on the road to becoming authors. Learn tips about self-publishing and promotion.

**Bobbi Kornblit** is a fiction writer, educator and journalist in Atlanta, Georgia. *Shelter from the Texas Heat*, her debut novel set in her home state, tells the tale of three generations of women. Her award-winning short stories, plays and poetry have appeared in anthologies. She holds a Master of Arts in Professional Writing degree from Kennesaw State University, and she teaches advanced grammar workshops at local universities. Bobbi is a member of the Atlanta Writers Club.

**Walter Lawrence** grew up in Texas, where his father was a veterinarian and his mother taught nursing. He and his sister were raised in a family that valued the origin and meaning of words. Walter majored in English in college and later earned a Masters of Arts in Professional Writing. He has published over forty freelance magazine articles, and both his poetry and short stories have won numerous awards. Luckenbach Press has recently released his anthology, *Take Me to Texas*, a compilation of short stories dealing with life in the Lone Star State, first love, and assorted adventures about coming of age.

**Dr. John Turman** grew up as an army brat although his ancestors were Georgians back to the Revolutionary War. John graduated from Washington & Lee University before being sucked into the army in 1969. Captain Turman commanded a Military Intelligence office on the German-Czech border. In 1979, John completed a Ph.D. at UTexas, then worked for AT&T. He retired in 2002 to write novels again. John gives tours at Rhodes Hall and volunteers at St. Joseph's Hospital. His first novel was *Around the Next Bend*. The newly published sequel is *Aim at the Heart*. 
Aesthetica
CREATIVE WRITING
COMPETITION

""

SUBMIT YOUR WRITING
NEW FROM AESTHETICA MAGAZINE 2012

The Creative Writing Competition is a fantastic opportunity for writers and poets to showcase their work to a wider, international audience.

- Two categories: Poetry and Fiction.
- £500 prize money for winners.
- Publishing opportunities.
- Selection of books for winners.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES 31 AUGUST

WWW.AESTHETICAMAGAZINE.COM/CREATIVEWRITING
2012 Townsend Prize for Fiction Program

You are cordially invited to attend the
2012 Townsend Prize for Fiction Program
Georgia’s oldest and most prestigious literary award
Presented by
Georgia Perimeter College’s Southern Academy for Literary Arts & Scholarly Research,
The Chattahoochee Review and the Georgia Center for the Book

Thursday, April 26, 2012
Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall
Keynote address by author Ann Beattie

5:00 p.m. – Garden stroll
7:00 p.m. – Buffet and program

Tickets - $30.00 (AWC discounted price from regular cost of $40)
(Includes Program, Buffet, Parking and Garden Admission)
must be purchased in advance at
https://giving.gpc.edu/awctownsendregistration.

For more information call 678-891-3275

RSVP by April 11, 2012

The 10 finalists for the 2012 Townsend Prize for Fiction are:

Daniel Black for Perfect Peace
Lynn Cullen for Reign of Madness
Ann Hite for Ghost on Black Mountain
Joshilyn Jackson for Backseat Saints
Collin Kelley for Remain in Light
Thomas Mullen for The Many Deaths of the Firefly Brothers
Andrew Plattner for A Marriage of Convenience
Josh Russell for My Bright Midnight
Joseph Skibell for A Curable Romantic
Amanda Kyle Williams for The Stranger You Seek

The Atlanta Writers Club is a proud co-sponsor of the Townsend Prize and our members will receive a discount. Please mention your membership in the AWC when you reserve your tickets.

We hope you will be able to attend. Please note the deadline for RSVP and act today to insure your access to a spectacular evening.
Noteworthy

AWC member Daisy Ottmann's first novel, *Book Cases*, published under the name Daisy Wallace, is now available in e-book form for Kindles, NOOKS and other digital devices (you can get a free e-reader app from either Amazon or Barnes & Noble).

Workshopped with Laura Lippman and called "laugh-out-loud funny," the story follows Deeanna and James, low-level managers with nothing in common except their jobs in one urban link of a huge national bookstore chain and a talent for sarcasm, through a rash of crimes from embezzlement to murder. Make that murders, plural, in what their local media have termed "the bookstore of death."

James Patterson Donates Books to Armed Forces via AWC's Bookseller

During the week of March 12, #1 bestselling author James Patterson and Little, Brown and Company donated 200,000 copies of hardcover Patterson titles to the United States Armed Forces. The books will be distributed via Operation Gratitude with the help of George Scott of Books for Heroes and the Peerless Book Store of Alpharetta, Georgia (bookseller for the Atlanta Writers Club), as well as a number of military support organizations via Feed the Children.

2012 Moonlight & Magnolias Conference
October 5-7
*Light a fire under your fiction*

Featuring:
Keynote Speaker **Julia Quinn**
*NYT Bestselling Author of Historical Novels*

GRW Featured Speaker **Debby Giusti**
*Inspirational Romantic Suspense*

Special Craft Workshop Presenter **Jeffrey Stepakoff**
*Novelist, Screen Writer, and Professor of Dramatic Writing*

Agents
Jenny Bent, The Bent Agency
Kim Lionetti, Book Ends LLC
Beth Miller, Writers House
Nikki Terpilowski, Holloway Literary Agency

Editors
Martin Biro, Kensington
Lindsey Faber, Samhain Publishing
Latoya Smith, Grand Central Publishing
Deb Werksman, Sourcebooks
Mary Theresa Hussey, Harlequin Enterprises

Conference Features:
Editor & Agent Appointments, Pitch Workshop
Maggie Awards Ceremony, Dinner, and Dance
*SATURDAY NIGHT, BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: DJ SILVER KNIGHT!!*
Book Fair/Signing to benefit Literacy
30+ workshops, including a new digital track

*Critique/Basket*
Moonlight & Magnolias cont.

Raffles

Registration fees (Registration Deadline Sept. 15, 2012)
GRW Members/Media $189
RWA Members $209
General Attendee $219

Register for "Corsets. Crime. Craft. Light a fire under your fiction" by May 1st and you’ll receive a guaranteed second editor/agent appointment or a promotional screenshot of your latest release in the conference book. Registration link:
http://georgiaromancewriters.org/registration/moonlight.php

Conference Hotel:
Atlanta Hilton Northeast
5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd
Norcross, GA 30092-3416
(770)-447-4747
http://www.georgiaromancewriters.org/hotel-registration/

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

For more information, contact, Terry Poca at terry@terrypoca.com

Call for Submissions

Silver Boomer Books is pleased to announce their Call for Submissions for a new holiday anthology, "Times to Remember," to be released Fall 2012. They welcome submissions on any commonly celebrated holiday. Interested writers will find guidelines at the "FOR WRITERS" link on their web site:

http://silverboomerbooks.com/sbb/wp/for-writers/times-to-remember/
THE ALMIGHTY PLATFORM—a free workshop

-why a writer with a manuscript and no platform is a tragic thing.

A free workshop presented by Lauretta Hannon on April 14, 2012, 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Book deals are often granted based on the strength of a writer's platform. Its importance is second only to the writing itself, yet many of us neglect it and wonder why we're not moving forward. This workshop eliminates the confusion surrounding the topic and shows you step-by-step how to define, create, grow, and sustain a platform that is right for you. Packed with hands-on exercises, this workshop will deliver lessons, specific strategies, and answers that will lay the foundation for a successful writing career.

The following is an outline of the April 14 workshop:

1-2pm
**Will Someone Please Explain What Platform Is?**
Is It Really That Critical?
How to Get Started
Writers With Stellar Platforms

2-3pm
**Defining Your Authentic Platform**
Why It's An Inside Job
Steer Clear of The Top 12 Platform Mistakes
Niche Development
Lessons From The Road

3-4:15pm
**Building Your Platform--Right Here, Right Now**
How to Develop Visibility
Establishing Authority & Trust
Creating Wise Partnerships
Audience Engagement
Charting Your Plan

4:15-5pm

**How to Approach Bookstores & Others About Selling Your Book**

The Role of Marketing Materials
What NOT to Do at a Book Signing or Reading
A Final Look at Your Platform Plan

**About the Instructor:**

Lauretta Hannon started her platform years before she wrote her book. As a result, *The Cracker Queen--A Memoir of a Jagged, Joyful Life*, became a bestseller three weeks after its release. In 2010 the Georgia Center for the Book named her work one of the Top Twenty-Five Books All Georgians Should Read, and *Southern Living* called her "the funniest woman in Georgia." In addition to her tenure as a commentator on National Public Radio, she has taught and encouraged writers for over twenty years. Today she presents seminars and one-on-one coaching through her Down Home Writing School. More info at [thecrackerqueen.com](http://thecrackerqueen.com).

**Location:**

Georgia Perimeter College-Dunwoody
2101 Womack Rd.
Dunwoody, GA 30338

Building NC auditorium

**Registration:**

Workshop is open to all paid 2012 AWC members.

Memberships expire at the end of each calendar year, so if you didn't pay your 2012 dues last fall, it's renewal time! To renew your membership or join the Atlanta Writers Club (still only $40, with student and family discounts), please go to our website to pay online or download the form to mail in with your check: [http://atlantawritersclub.org/membership/index.shtml](http://atlantawritersclub.org/membership/index.shtml)
Looking Ahead

April 21, 2012
1:45-2:45 Award-winning Marina Budhos: author of nonfiction and fiction for adults and younger audiences
3:15-4:15 AWC members Bobbi Kornblit, Walter Lawrence, and John Turman discuss their advice and lessons learned about self-publishing

May 19, 2012
1:45-2:45 Mystical thriller author and blogger Jeffrey Small on writing about religious and spirituality topics

June 16, 2012
1:00-4:00 Annual Picnic at Hammond Park in Sandy Springs

July 21, 2012 [Location TBD]
9:00-4:00 Debra Dixon, publisher of Bell Bridge Books, and Nancy Knight--author, editor, agent, and former AWC president--will present a free daylong workshop on the craft and business of writing fiction.

August 18, 2012 [Location TBD]
1:45-2:45 Joshua Corin, whose thriller series protagonist is a woman, will speak about writing from the perspective of the opposite sex
3:15-4:14 Janell Agyeman, agent for Marie Brown Assoc., will speak about writing from the perspective of a different race or culture

September 15, 2012
1:45-2:45 Nationally bestselling Random House author Meg Waite Clayton

October 20, 2012
1:45-2:45 Amy Waldman, international correspondent and author of The Submission

November 17, 2012
1:45-2:45 Author and public relations professional Mary Glickman

December 15, 2012
1:45-2:45 Nonfiction author and former Atlanta Magazine editor Rebecca Burns

Upcoming workshops, author dinners, and other special events exclusively for current AWC members.
(All venues subject to change.)
Southeastern Writers

For 34 years the Southeastern Writers Association’s annual workshop has helped both experienced and aspiring writers grow their skills.

Learn more about our expert faculty and our agent in residence, review the workshop schedule and the writing contests available for attendees, and then make your plans to join us.

June 15, 2012 - June 19, 2012
St. Simons Island, GA

Join other published and aspiring writers in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere on beautiful St. Simons Island, located off the coast of Georgia. Learn new techniques, network with writers of all levels, focus on building your skills, and spend time with the exceptional faculty. Click here for the full Workshop schedule.

Join us for the day, the weekend, or for the full Workshop.

2012 Faculty

Brian Jay Corrigan • Novels; Keynote Speaker
Brian won his first national award at seventeen. Since then, he has had a dozen of his plays produced professionally. His first novel, THE POET OF LOCHNESS won the Bancroft Prize in literature, The Florida First Coast Writing Award, and in 2006 Brian was named Author of the Year in the debut fiction category by the Georgia Writers Association. Read more.

Marisa A. Corvisiero • Agent in Residence
Marisa is an attorney, a literary agent and consultant practicing in New York City and representing authors, publishers, agents, illustrators and agents from the around the world. She formerly was associated with L. Perkins Agency, but as of March 2012 will open her own agency, the Corvisiero Literary Agency. Read more.

C. Hope Clark • Business of Writing
Hope is the founder of FundsForWriters.com as well as the writer of The Carolina Slade Mystery Series published by Bell Bridge Books, slated for release in February of 2012. Read more.

Catherine R. Guess • Inspiration
Catherine is a published composer and author of inspirational, non-fiction, and children’s books with more than 20 pieces of literature in print. Read more.

Ron Houchin • Poetry
Ron is a distinguished retired public school teacher and poet from the Appalachian region of southern Ohio. His poetry has been featured in over 200 venues. Read more.

Jimmy Carl Harris • Short Stories
Jimmy hails from Birmingham, Alabama, where he has published two novels and been awarded four Hackney Literary Awards. Read more.

Full conference tuition is $445. Those opting to stay at Epworth-By-The-Sea, where the Workshop sessions are being held, will receive a $50 discount on their tuition, bringing it to $395. Those choosing a weekend only option will pay a daily rate of $125 per day.

For registration or additional information: http://southeasternwriters.com/
A

POETRY
Palette

2012 National Poetry Month (April)
Sixth Annual Exhibit

Open Theme

What To Do:

1. Submit one ready-to-hang* original poem with artwork by March 19, to Nancy McDaniel, Georgia Perimeter College LTC, 2101 Womack Road, Bldg N-LRC 3200, Dunwoody 30338.

2. Email 25-word bio to nancy.mcclanahan@gpc.edu by March 5.

~Exhibit will hang in the gallery through the month of April~

*Reading & Reception April 5, 1-3 pm*

*All frames must be wired as shown in photo.

For Additional Info:
Nancy nancy.mcclanahan@gpc.edu (770-274-5243)
Gelia gdolcima@gpc.edu (770-274-5246)
ELIGIBILITY:

1. The AWC Spring Writing Contest is open to: All current, paid club members. (To join AWC, please contact the Membership VP, Ginny Bailey.) Submissions must be original, unpublished, and un-awarded work.

DEADLINE:

May 2, 2012. (Submissions received after this date will automatically be disqualified.)

AWARDS:

Three award levels in each category. (Awarded at July 21, 2012 meeting.)

FIRST PLACE $50 CASH PRIZE

SECOND PLACE $30 CASH PRIZE

THIRD PLACE $20 CASH PRIZE

CONTEST CATEGORIES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
<th>Specifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memoir</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>Any subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Story</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>Any subject; adult or YA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious Poetry</td>
<td>32 lines</td>
<td>Any subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flash Drama</td>
<td>8-10 pages</td>
<td>Single space individual characters’ dialogue; double space between speakers</td>
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CONTEST GUIDELINES:

Manuscript Format. Failure to adhere to the following format will result in disqualification.

- DO NOT place your name anywhere on the manuscript entry
- Only Word files (.doc) will be accepted. (Files with .docx may not be viewable by judges, therefore we recommend saving and sending the file as a .doc)
- Font: 12 pt, Black, Times New Roman
- Margins: 1 inch
- Line spacing: double – yes, even for poetry. [HOWEVER, see specific spacing for Flash Drama.]
- White background (no colors, photos, graphics or images)
- Page size & layout: 8-1/2 x 11; Portrait
- First page: Title and Category should appear in the upper left corner
- Subsequent pages: Title - upper left corner; Page number - upper right corner

SUBMISSION RULES

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

Send ONE ENTRY and the corresponding Standard Submission Form (SSF) to nedra.roberts@gmail.com.

The entry and SSF must be sent as attached Word documents (.doc).

IMPORTANT: Name the documents by title, i.e. Title.doc and SSF-Title.doc

Example: if the title is Moon Fire, the document should be named Moon Fire.doc and the SSF should be named SSF-Moon Fire.doc.

Standard Submission Form (SSF):

Prepare and submit an SSF for each entry that includes the following information:

Author’s Name
Spring 2012 Writing Contest, cont.

Contest Category
Title of Entry
Word Count (Line Count for poetry)
Named the document: SSF-Title.doc

You may enter all 4 categories, by sending separate email entries.
PAPER ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

When sending the attached Word documents, your EMAIL MESSAGE MUST INCLUDE:
Subject Line: AWC Spring Contest
Your name, phone number, category, title
Example:
  Dear Nedra,
  I have attached [Title] for the [Category] and the corresponding SSF.
  Thank you,
  [Your name]
  [Your phone number]
Annual Spring Science Fiction Fantasy Horror Writer's Competition

• No Entry Fee
• The competition is open to anyone with an interest in science fiction, fantasy, or horror.
• Participants must be at least 13 years old to enter.
• The competition runs every year from February 5th to May 5th.
• Winners are announced annually on June 5th.
• TZPP holds the competition as one way of recruiting qualified authors to work with for full-length books.
• Many of the winning writers, especially those in the Top 5 get offers to work with TZPP on future works.
• 5,000 to 20,000 words.
• All winners will receive publication in their Annual Anthology, and three free copies of the anthology they are featured in, as well as, cash prizes totaling $1,500.

1st Place $400
2nd Place $350
3rd Place $300
4th Place $250
5th Place $200

To enter and for more information: http://zharmae.com/
### Club-Sponsored Critique Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Time/ Loc.</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Contact Info</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avondale Estates</td>
<td>Nonfiction</td>
<td>Tues, 7-9 p.m. @ Urban Grounds</td>
<td>Rebecca Ewing</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rebeccaewing@earthlink.net">rebeccaewing@earthlink.net</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckhead/Midtown</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>4th Sat @11 a.m.</td>
<td>Karen Holmes</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kpaulholmes@gmail.com">kpaulholmes@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Near capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckhead/Midtown</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conyers</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every other Tues, 6:30 @ Whistle Post Tavern</td>
<td>Nancy Fletcher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ncfletcher50@gmail.com">ncfletcher50@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Adult/YA fiction</td>
<td>Every other Tues, 6:30</td>
<td>Ricky Jacobs</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rickyjacs@mac.com">rickyjacs@mac.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Children's and YA fiction</td>
<td>Every other Tues, 10 a.m. - 12:15 Java Monkey</td>
<td>Ricky Jacobs</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rickyjacs@mac.com">rickyjacs@mac.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Adult/YA fiction groups</td>
<td>Every 3rd Wed @ 7 p.m. @ Java Monkey</td>
<td>Ron Aiken</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ron@hraiken.com">ron@hraiken.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Adult/YA fiction</td>
<td>Every other Sat, 10 a.m.-12:30 @ Java Monkey</td>
<td>Ricky Jacobs</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rickyjacs@mac.com">rickyjacs@mac.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Every other Wed, 6:30 pm @ ChocoLate, Clairmont/ North Decatur Road</td>
<td>Ruth Gresh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hrgresh@hotmail.com">hrgresh@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunwoody</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Fri,1-3 p.m. @ Georgia Perimeter College Library Building, Rm 3100</td>
<td>Gelia Dolcimascolo</td>
<td>770-274-5246</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunwoody</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every other Tue, 3:00pm, Perimeter Mall area</td>
<td>Richard Perreault</td>
<td><a href="mailto:perreaultmp@gmail.com">perreaultmp@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrenceville</td>
<td>Novel &amp; short story</td>
<td>Every other Thursday, 10 a.m. - 12 @ Applewood Towers</td>
<td>Barbara Connor</td>
<td>678-226-1483</td>
<td><a href="mailto:imayaya@charter.net">imayaya@charter.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrenceville/Snellville</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st Saturday @ 9:30 a.m. - noon @ member's home</td>
<td>Ken Schmanski</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kschmanski@yahoo.com">kschmanski@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marietta</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Tues, 7-9 p.m.</td>
<td>Linda Sullivan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindasullivan3@gmail.com">lindasullivan3@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Tues 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. member's home</td>
<td>George Weinstein</td>
<td>770-552-5887</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gjweinstein@yahoo.com">gjweinstein@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Wed, 7 to 9 p.m.</td>
<td>Jemille Williams</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jemille@bellsouth.net">jemille@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Twice monthly, Mon, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. @ Roswell Library</td>
<td>Lynn Wesch</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lewesch@me.com">lewesch@me.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>Nonfiction</td>
<td></td>
<td>Terre Spencer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:terrespencer@me.com">terrespencer@me.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jane Spalding</td>
<td><a href="mailto:liannesimon@yahoo.com">liannesimon@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Membership Information – The Atlanta Writers Club

**Regular** membership dues are $40 per year per person.  
**Students** can join for $30 per year.  
**Family members** of active AWC members can join for $20 per year.

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](http://www.atlantawritersclub.org/membership.html).

If you have additional questions, contact AWC president Clay Ramsey at clay@atlantawritersclub.org.
The Atlanta Writers Club
Membership Dues good through December 2012 • Donations • Contact Information

- **Renewal through 12/31/12**—please provide your name and any changes to your contact information
- **New Member through 12/31/12**—please complete the information below
- **Family Member**—please complete the information below

**First Name:** __________________________  **Last Name:** __________________________

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

If you are a family member, who is the **Primary Member?**

**Primary Phone:** __________________________  **Secondary Phone:** __________________________

**Email:** ____________________________________________________________

**Secondary Email:** __________________________________________________

**Website:** __________________________________________ (if you want this listed on the AWC website)

**LinkedIn Profile:** __________________________________________ (if you want AWC to link to you)

**Facebook Name:** __________________________________________ (if you want AWC to friend you)

**Ways you want to contribute to the Atlanta Writers Club (e.g., volunteering at meetings or events):**

____________________________________________

______________________________

**AWC Membership Dues**

$40 Membership through 12/31/2012  $___________

*Add any family member for $20 each  $___________*

*(Please supply family members’ contact information using a separate form)*

$30 Student Membership through 12/31/2012  $___________

**Tax Deductible Donation** in the amount of  $___________

**Total $___________**

*Please mail with checks payable to: Atlanta Writers Club*

Mail to: Kim Ciamarra • Atlanta Writers Club • 10285 Rillridge Court • Alpharetta, GA 30022

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The Atlanta Writers Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

Please keep this portion as your receipt.

**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.
New Atlanta Writers Conference

- Do you want the chance to earn a contract with a literary agent, leading to the publication of your book?
- Do you want an agent to tell you what you’re doing wrong and doing right in your manuscript?
- Would you like to discuss your writing project with an agent to see if there’s any interest in the marketplace?

If you answer, “Yes,” to any or all of these questions, then the Atlanta Writers Club has a conference designed for you:

On Saturday, May 5, 2012 the Atlanta Writers Club will present its sixth Atlanta Writers Conference. The goal of this conference is to give you access to six top literary agents (never any repeats from previous conferences--always an all-new lineup!) who will respond to your pitches, critique the work you submit in advance, and educate you about the current environment of the publishing industry and the changing roles of agents and their clients. You could be offered a contract based on the materials you’ve submitted: several AWC members have signed with conference agents or continue to work with them preparing their books for representation. You might be asked to send additional pages or an entire manuscript for their review. You certainly will know more about how your work is perceived by industry professionals, and you’ll gain valuable experience interacting one-on-one with them.

You also will have fun, learn more about the publishing business, and get a chance to chat informally with these agents and your peers. In addition to one-on-one time with agents to receive a critique and pitch your project, we offer a two-hour workshop delivered by Conference guest speakers Jeff Herman (author of the famed Jeff Herman's Guide to Book Editors, Publishers & Literary Agents) and Deborah Herman (agent and spiritual author), both of whom also will give four hour-long presentations during the critique and pitch sessions.

To kick things off, on Friday, May 4 in the evening, we’ll host a social event that we’re compelling the agents to attend as part of their Conference obligations. There is no charge for this mixer, which provides another chance for you to network with your peers and hear war stories and advice from the publishing trenches. Complete details about the Conference follow:
THE CONFERENCE

The conference on May 5 will consist of four parts and you may participate in one, two, three, or all of these events:

1. One-on-one critique sessions where the agents share their evaluations with those who have submitted 20 pages of work in advance
2. Pitch sessions so you can verbally present your project to an agent
3. Panel discussion on the publishing industry with Q&A

Workshop with Conference guest speakers Jeff and Deborah Herman

1. THE CRITIQUE:
If you want a critique of your project on May 5, you will submit the following at least one (1) month in advance: (a) the first 20 manuscript pages of either your novel or nonfiction work, (b) a 1-paragraph summary of your book, and (c) a 1-paragraph biography that focuses on your writing experience and marketability (i.e., your “platform”).

On May 5, you will have about 15 minutes for a one-on-one exchange with the agent about your work. The agent also will give you a written critique, which could consist of an overall review of the project (what worked and what didn't), the quality of the writing, character and story development, and marketability. The agent will not copy-edit your work (they shouldn’t have to; always make sure your work is free of grammatical errors before you submit it), but they will provide you a written summary of their comments. During the critique session, the agent may choose to request more pages or the entire manuscript from you, perhaps leading to a contract for representation to work toward an eventual publishing deal.

2. THE PITCH:
During the afternoon of May 5, you will have the opportunity to discuss your project for about 10 minutes with an agent of your choosing: give a basic synopsis of your book, talk about your writing and what you want for your future, and be prepared to ask the agent questions. This will be a verbal exchange, but in advance you will submit a 1-paragraph summary of your book and a 1-paragraph biography that focuses on your writing experience and marketability. If the agent is interested, you will be asked to send a query, a number of pages, or even the whole manuscript for consideration.
If you also want a critique (see above), pitching will give you the chance to introduce a second agent to your work. Do not choose the same individual for critiquing and pitching. It’s much smarter to double your chances.

3. THE PANEL:
A candid, freewheeling, hour-long discussion with all six agents commenting on the changing role of the agent and the author, the current state of the publishing industry, advice about working with agents and publishers, and expectations about marketing one’s work. Also get your questions answered about everything from queries and contracts to publicity and social media.

4. THE WORKSHOP:
This is a two-hour workshop on Saturday, May 5 (4:30-6:30 p.m.) by Atlanta Writers Conference guest speakers Jeff and Deborah Herman. The Jeff Herman Literary Agency has sold over 600 titles to publishers and is one of the most dynamic and innovative agencies in the business. Jeff's own books include *Jeff Herman's Guide to Book Editors, Publishers & Literary Agents* (more than 400,000 copies sold), and *Write the Perfect Book Proposal: 10 Proposals That Sold & Why!* (co-authored with Deborah Levine Herman). These are universally considered to be among the best tools available for writers. Deborah Herman is a foremost expert on spiritual writing and publishing. A twenty-year veteran literary agent, Deborah also wrote the book *Spiritual Writing from Inspiration to Publication* in the year 2000, helping to spur the mind/body nonfiction genre. The Hermans' agency website is [www.jeffherman.com](http://www.jeffherman.com).

At 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 5, they will provide the two-hour workshop *PROMOTING YOUR WORK IN THE DIGITAL AGE*. This interactive seminar focuses on how you can take an active role in promoting your work before and after publication, utilizing the Internet, and includes the pros and cons of self-publishing. This is not a technical class per se. The goal of the class is for you to leave with new confidence about making the best use of the Internet to market your book(s).

BONUS:
Our Conference guest speakers Jeff and Deborah Herman will give four separate talks of 60-75 minutes apiece while the critiques and pitches are occurring during the morning and afternoon, respectively, on May 5, to educate and entertain Conference attendees. Their topics include: *Write the Perfect Book Proposal from Idea to Deal*, *Write the Perfect Query Letter*,
Insider Tricks to Getting an Agent & How to Get an Editor without Having an Agent, and Spiritual Writing from Inspiration to Publication. These discussions are free for anyone participating in the critique, pitch, panel, or workshop.

THE LOCATION

Westin Atlanta Airport
4736 Best Road
Atlanta, GA 30337
404-762-7676
www.westin.com

A free shuttle runs between the Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport and the hotel every 20 minutes, so you can take MARTA to the airport and hop the free shuttle to the hotel, which saves you money and the hassle of driving, and provides an environmentally friendly option. If you do choose to drive, plenty of parking exists in the hotel lot. Note: the hotel charges a parking fee.

On the evening of Friday, May 4, from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., we invite you to gather at the Westin lounge area for informal conversations with the agents and to network with your peers. As a condition of participation in the Conference, the agents are being asked to attend this mixer, so you WILL see them there, and Conference guest speakers Jeff and Deborah Herman will attend as well! If you choose to stay at the Westin on Friday night so you’ll be fresh and well rested the next day, we’ve negotiated an Atlanta Writers Conference discount ($89/night+tax) for a block of rooms.

HOUR-BY-HOUR CONFERENCE DETAILS

Note: all activities take place at the Westin Atlanta Airport

Friday, May 4
8:00-11:00 p.m. Free social event in the Westin lounge area for club members. No RSVP necessary. Even if you cannot participate in the Conference on May 5, we invite you to join us on the evening of the 4th for casual chats about books and the people who write them, sell them, publish them, and buy them. As part of their conference obligations, the agents are compelled to participate, and Conference guest speakers Jeff and Deborah Herman will be there as well.
Saturday, May 5

8:00-9:00 a.m. Check in at the College Park Ballroom on the second floor of the Westin Atlanta Airport conference area.

9:00-10:00 a.m. Panel and Q&A with all six agents.

10:00-10:15 a.m. Set up Boardrooms 1-6 for Critique Sessions.

10:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m. One-on-one meetings for about 15 minutes each between the agents and those who submitted their work for critique. Meanwhile, Conference guest speakers Jeff and Deborah Herman give two talks with Q&A in the College Park Ballroom.

1:00-2:00 p.m. Break (go to lunch at Palio’s restaurant at the Westin, retreat to the lounge, practice your pitch with friends).

2:05-4:30 p.m. Participants pitch an agent one-on-one for about ten minutes each, while Jeff and Deborah Herman give two talks with Q&A in the College Park Ballroom.

4:30-6:30 p.m. Conference guest speakers Jeff and Deborah Herman present their workshop PROMOTING YOUR WORK IN THE DIGITAL AGE, with extensive Q&A.

THE AGENTS

The agents below have provided their backgrounds and what genres they are seeking to acquire. Besides reading this information, you also should review their websites, do an Internet search for interviews with them and/or what other agents and authors have written about them, and make sure you’re a good fit for their tastes and attitudes.

Bernadette Baker-Baughman, Victoria Sanders & Associates LLC
(www.victoriasanders.com)

Bernadette Baker-Baughman has a MS in Professional Writing and has worked on both the editorial and marketing sides of publishing. As the Marketing Coordinator for Beyond Words Publishing/Atria Books, she headed up campaigns for two New York Times best-selling titles. In 2005 Bernadette co-founded Baker’s Mark Literary Agency where she discovered talent such as Farel Dalrymple, Faith Erin Hicks, Paul Guinan & Anina Bennett, Dan Elconin, David Axe, Carson Morton, and Zack Giallongo, among others. In 2010 Bernadette joined Victoria Sanders & Associates.
She looks for edgy, fresh, exciting, amazing, luxurious, enticing, passionate, experimental, meaningful, substantial, and freakin’ awesome literary entertainment. Bernadette is currently interested in representing commercial adult, YA, and middle grade fiction, nonfiction, and graphic novels. In fiction she gravitates towards books with a wide audience access point—specifically books with cultural or contemporary touchstones (reimaginings, historical fiction, fiction based on legend or myth, fiction with fantastical elements that are part of the cultural collective imagination, Steampunk, etc). In nonfiction she is looking for image rich books, pop culture, art, quirky gift books, light sociology, and narrative nonfiction. In graphic novels she is seeking beautifully illustrated works of nonfiction, memoir, young adult or children’s fiction, high fantasy, funny character driven stories, and graphic literature. Bernadette is also willing to talk to writers who do not have art attached to their comic concept or illustrators willing to work with other authors.

**Brandi Bowles, Foundry Literary+Media** ([www.foundrymedia.com](http://www.foundrymedia.com))

Brandi Bowles joined Foundry Literary in 2010, after working as an agent at Morhaim Literary and an assistant editor at Crown/Three Rivers Press. She does mostly nonfiction, including narrative nonfiction, science, humor, music, pop culture, food, and memoir. Her expanding fiction interests include commercial women’s fiction, high-concept literary fiction, middle grade, and young adult.

**Paul Lucas, Janklow & Nesbit Associates** ([www.janklowandnesbit.com](http://www.janklowandnesbit.com))

Paul joined Janklow & Nesbit Associates in 2007 and began representing authors in 2010. He is interested in a wide variety of commercial and literary fiction, as well as specific non-fiction. In fiction, he enjoys both character- and plot-driven novels but it’s important to him for the storytelling to be clear and accessible. In genre fiction, he is looking for thrillers, spy, science fiction, and fantasy genre writing, as well as literary novels. He appreciates a literary bent, subverting genre, and darker, conflicted characters. Nothing helps a story move along than a compelling anti-hero. Finally, he loves historical fiction and war novels. For non-fiction, he is interested in representing popular science books and narrative histories.
He does not represent romance, westerns, women’s fiction, memoir, humor, self-help, children’s or picture books.

Laurie McLean, Larsen-Pomada Literary Agency (www.larsenpomada.com)

At Larsen-Pomada Literary Agents in San Francisco, Northern California’s oldest literary agency founded in 1972, Laurie represents adult genre fiction (romance, fantasy, science fiction, horror, mysteries, suspense, thrillers, etc.) as well as middle-grade and young-adult books. She looks for great writing, first and foremost, followed by memorable characters, a searing storyline, and solid world building.

For more than 20 years Laurie ran a multi-million dollar eponymous public relations agency in California's Silicon Valley. She is passionate about marketing, publicity, negotiating, editing and a host of other business-critical areas. She is also a novelist herself, so she can empathize with the author's journey to and through publication. In addition, Laurie is the dean of the new San Francisco Writers University at www.SFWritersU.com and on the management team of the San Francisco Writers Conference.

BJ Robbins, BJ Robbins Literary Agency (www.publishersmarketplace.com/members/bjrobbins)

BJ’s tastes are very eclectic and range from deeply serious to laugh-out-loud funny. In fiction she’s drawn to the more literary side, whether it be contemporary, historical, multicultural, mystery, or thriller--she’s looking for an emotional pull as well as great storytelling. She doesn't handle any straight-out genre fiction, such as romance, westerns, sci-fi, or fantasy.

On the nonfiction side she’s looking for authoritative and lively voices in history, biography, memoir, psychology, women's issues, popular science, health/medicine, and travel/adventure. She’s open to self-help but the writer needs to have expertise in the subject on a professional level. In all of these categories it's the writing that attracts her; subject matter comes second. She doesn't handle cookbooks (though she'd love a great book about food), or books on dating or religion.
Ken Sherman is the President of Ken Sherman and Associates, a Los Angeles-based literary agency. An agent for more than twenty years, Ken represents screen, television, and book writers, and also sells film and television rights to books as well as life rights.

A few of Ken's clients include David Guterson, author of *Snow Falling on Cedars*; Tawni O'Dell, whose first novel, *Back Roads*, became an international bestseller and Oprah Book Club selection; Starhawk, considered the best-known witch in the world; Anne Perry, the world's best-known Victorian murder mystery writer and author of 60 books; and the estates of Luis Buñuel, John Hersey, and Simon Wiesenthal.

Ken is very open to almost any fiction or non-fiction new project. He considers them individually and tries to decide if he can potentially sell them. For fiction, he is seeking everything except children's books and religious fiction. For non-fiction, he is totally open to everything except cookbooks.

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**THE COST**

Because some might want to take advantage of only one event, while others will do it all, we offer the following ala carte pricing:

- Critique: $135
- Pitch: $45
- Panel: $25
- Workshop: $45
- Atlanta Writers Conference package deal (all four activities): $220

You must be a 2012 Atlanta Writers Club member to register for the conference. If you would like to join the club or renew your membership so you can participate, please add $40 to your total to cover club dues; your membership will be valid all the way through the end of 2012.
REGISTRATION

Contact AWC Conference Director George Weinstein at gjweinstein@yahoo.com and tell him the following:

1. Which event(s) you’re registering for:
   a. Critique
   b. Pitch
   c. Panel
   d. Workshop
   e. All 4

2. If you want the critique and/or pitch, tell him your rank-ordered preference for agents for each activity, with the most preferred at the top (list at least three, if possible). Choose different individuals for the critique and the pitch to maximize the number of professionals you introduce to your work. If your first pick has no spots remaining, George will try to assign you to your second choice. If that person’s spots also are filled, he will go to your third pick, etc. If all spots for all your agents are full, you will be put on standby for the individual you chose with the fewest on standby ahead of you. Before and during every conference at least a few spots open up as people withdraw or fail to show up, so hopefully you’ll still get the opportunity to participate. Again, the agents are:

   Bernadette Baker-Baughman, Victoria Sanders & Associates LLC
   Brandi Bowles, Foundry Literary+Media
   Paul Lucas, Janklow & Nesbit Associates
   Laurie McLean, Larsen-Pomada Literary Agency
   BJ Robbins, BJ Robbins Literary Agency
   Ken Sherman, Ken Sherman & Associates

* If you do not want a specific agent, do not put that person on your rank-order of preferences.

* If you want to receive a critique AND do a pitch, remember to give George your rank-ordered agent -preference list for each activity.

NOTE: So that we can accommodate the maximum number of club members,
you may only register for one critique and one pitch.

3. **Indicate if you intend to stay at the Westin Atlanta Airport on Friday, May 4.** The hotel is holding a block of rooms at the special price of $89/night+tax. George will provide reservation details so you get the conference discount price.

In summary, reply with:
- Which activity or activities you want to do
- If applicable, which agent you want for a critique and/or which one you want to pitch
- Indicate if you want to stay at the Westin on May 4

George will respond to your e-mail with the cost due, confirm which agent has been assigned to you for critique and/or pitch if applicable, and give you payment instructions. Upon receipt of your payment, he will send you formatting instructions for the materials you need to provide to him and the due date for these items, if you selected the critique and/or pitch. Also for the pitch, he'll give you some recommendations and resources for pitching an agent.

In late April, you will receive the conference schedule, with your time assignment for the critique and/or pitch if you have registered for these.

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**DEADLINES**

Spots for the critique and pitch will fill completely during the first few weeks of enrollment, so if you want to participate in those activities especially, **respond now!** The deadline to register for a critique and submit your work for evaluation is April 4. The deadline to register for a pitch is April 28, assuming spots remain unfilled. You may register and pay for the workshop and/or the hour-long panel discussion up until May 1. **After you send your request to register to George and receive his instructions, you will have two weeks to send in your payment. If you fail to do so, you will be removed from the registration list so that others can fill those spots.**

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**REFUND POLICY**

To offset Atlanta Writers Club costs incurred for providing refunds, $25 will be
withheld for any refunds given. If you paid for a critique but cannot make it to the May 5 event, you will receive a $110 refund if you notify George at gjweinstein@yahoo.com no later than April 4. If you already submitted your materials for critique, you will not receive a refund but the agent’s written comments will be sent to you. If you paid for a pitch but cannot make it to the May 5 event, you will receive a $20 refund if you notify George at gjweinstein@yahoo.com no later than April 28. If you paid the workshop fee, you will receive a $20 refund if you notify George at gjweinstein@yahoo.com no later than May 1. No refund will be given for the panel discussion.

Finally, if an agent has to withdraw from the conference, we will consult your rank ordering to connect you with the next pick on your list. If time permits, we’ll enlist another agent to fill that opening and we’ll confirm if that individual will suit you. If your top pick withdraws and all spots are full for the others you indicated, you will be put on standby for all of these remaining agents and be given a spot for whichever one opens first. If no openings occur, you will receive a full refund regardless of the deadlines.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact George Weinstein at gjweinstein@yahoo.com.