

Newsletter for the Atlanta Writers Club

August 2014

EQUILL

Mark your calendar

- Aug 02 Book signings w/Valerie Connors, Michael Brown, Bob Rodgers, & Dennis Winstead
- Aug 03 Book signings w/Buzz Bernard, Terry Segal & Valerie Connors
- Aug 14 Free Workshop for Aspiring Writers
- Aug 16 AWC monthly meeting
- Aug 26 First Fulmer Fiction Shop
- Aug 31 Deadline for Aesthetica Competition

August 16th AWC meeting, 1:30 pm
Georgia Perimeter College
2101 Womack Rd
Dunwoody, GA 30338
Bldg. NC, Room 110 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.

Inside this Edition

Officers

President:

Valerie Connors

Officers Emeritus:

George Weinstein

Clay Ramsey

Marty Aftewicz

Conference Director:

George Weinstein

Asst. Conference Dir.:

Georgia Lee

Membership VP:

Ginny Bailey

Programs VP:

Kim Brown

Social Media VP:

Kenneth Hamner

Secretary:

Bill Black

Treasurer:

Kathleen Gizzi

Operations VP:

Jennifer Wiggins

Contests, Awards,**Scholarships VP:**

Nedra Roberts

Marketing/PR VP:

Anjali Enjeti

Social Events VP:

Soniah Kamal

Volunteers:**Historian/By-Laws:**

George Weinstein

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Gene Bowen

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Silent Voices, by Valerie Connors, President



The AWC Summer Workshop, and How I Spent my Summer Vacation

August in Atlanta epitomizes the so-called “dog days of summer.” The hot, humid weather makes me long for the cool, fresh, fall air. If you attended the July workshop, you’ve already experienced some of the hottest indoor temperatures I for one have endured in recent memory. The air conditioner in the room where the workshop was held had given up the ghost, and the three portable fans didn’t begin to keep anyone cool, even if you were lucky enough to be sitting right in front of one. A few people told me they felt like they were going to faint from the heat! But our workshop leaders, Kimberly Brock and Alison Law, kept their cool in spite of the suffocating venue with close to 100 sweaty people in it, and most everyone persevered until the bitter end.

Many of us have discovered that while the process of giving birth to a completed manuscript is difficult, marketing the book once it’s out in the world can make the writing process seem like a walk in the park. At least that’s been my experience. One of the things I’m asked about most frequently by our members has been how to develop a platform and a marketing plan in order to sell more books. As we all know, Social Media is a big part of that process, and judging from the turnout at this year’s July workshop, called Social Media 102, I’d say it’s a topic that’s been on a lot of people’s minds.

The day after the workshop, I flew to Eugene, Oregon to spend a week with my dad. Two days later my brother arrived from Keller, Texas, and the following afternoon we began my “West Coast Book Tour.” I put this in quotes because my tour consisted of two separate gatherings of friends and family. The first event was held at my dad’s house, where he and my brother played jazz on two pianos, one electric, the other a baby grand, while Dad’s singer performed old standards to warm up the audience for me. Then I did a brief book talk, after which I moved to the book-signing table, while the music continued in the background. I sold some books, which was great, but I also got to visit with some people I hadn’t seen in many years. The next day we repeated the process at the home of my childhood dentist, who is now dating Dad’s singer. My brother and I agreed that although we liked the man just fine, having him around still made us both a little nervous, and we kept an eye on him to be sure he didn’t sneak up on one of us with a needle full of Novocain. Our host decided that he would pay for any books his guests wanted, and that I should just keep a count and he would settle up with me after everyone left. Unfortunately, he failed to tell me that in advance, and instead whispered it in my ear during part two of the musical performance, after I had already sold two of my books for cold hard cash. He then instructed me to give the money back. One of the nice ladies offered to let me keep the money as a tip, to which I replied that no, that would be, well, kind of icky. For the rest of the evening, when guests approached me and asked how much the books were, I replied that the host was paying for them. This of course discouraged people from getting one, so as not to impose



upon our host's generosity. Still, I did sign a few books, and I met lots of lovely people. I also reconnected with some friends I hadn't seen in twenty years or more. What I learned from the experience is that you can never be totally sure about how a book-signing event will turn out, so it's best to approach it with an open mind and a clear understanding about the financial arrangements. I once gave a brief book talk to two bookstore employees, because no one else showed up. But I didn't mind a bit. All these little things we do to promote our books can potentially pay off in the long run, just not always in the way we think they will.

It always feels a little strange going back to my hometown, especially when there are gatherings of old family friends. While the people have changed physically with the years, so many of the places that used to be part of my daily life are exactly the same. The air smells different in Eugene than it does in Atlanta, because there's no humidity in Oregon, and better air quality. Even the intensity of the daylight seems different there somehow, perhaps owing to its location on the globe. But whatever the reason, when I step outside and take a deep breath of clean, fresh Oregon air, there's no doubt that I'm back in the place where I grew up.

One thing, however, has changed about my hometown since the last time I visited. Inside the city limits, plastic bags are not given at the grocery store, or even at the mall. If you don't bring your reusable bag with you, they'll sell you a plain, brown paper bag for a nickel, or a reusable bag for thirty cents. My dad bought a pair of pants at the mall, and we walked away with nothing but the pants and a receipt. When I asked the cashier, he finally acknowledged that it made the loss prevention department have to work a little harder, with people carrying un-bagged merchandise out of the store. Eugene has always been extremely environmentally conscious, but that little twist took me by surprise.

As I write this, I'm on the airplane heading back toward Atlanta. I splurged on a first class ticket, thanks Dad, and I've got plenty of legroom. It was a great summer vacation, but now I'm looking forward to being home. I hope to see you soon!

Kind Regards,
Val

Presenting the Latest Atlanta Writers Conference on October 24-25: AWC Continues to Bring the Top Literary Professionals to You

Do you want the chance to earn a contract directly with a publishing editor or with a literary agent who will represent you to publishers? Do you want editors and agents to tell you what you're doing wrong and doing right in your manuscript, synopsis, and query letter? Would you like to discuss your writing project with editors or agents 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 designed a conference for you:

We are pleased to announce the next Atlanta Writers Conference, with a total of ten editors and agents--seeking every genre in fiction from Christian and literary to fantasy and science fiction, and all major topics in non-fiction--plus three terrific guest speakers and new opportunities on October 24-25, 2014. Act fast to register with the editors and/or agents of your choosing.

So far, nine of our members have signed with agents they worked with at the 2012 or 2013 conferences (with more likely from May 2014), and three of them scored major book deals not long after signing with their agents. You could be the next writer to succeed!

On Friday, October 24 and Saturday, October 25, 2014, the Atlanta Writers Club will present its eleventh Atlanta Writers Conference. The goal of this conference is to give you access to ten top publishing editors and literary agents—always a new lineup, never any repeats---and to educate you with a workshop and talks by experienced authors. The editors and agents will respond to your pitch; critique the manuscript sample, query, and synopsis you submit in advance; critique your query letter during a Friday practice session so you can improve your work for Saturday; and educate you about the current environment of the publishing industry and the changing roles of editors, agents, and their clients.

You could be offered a contract based on the materials you've submitted: after every conference some AWC members sign with conference guests and realize their dream of publication (see testimonials: <http://atlantawritersconference.com/testimonials/>). 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

Complete details about the Conference are on our [Atlanta Writers Conference website](http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/) (<http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/>).





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 editors, agents, and your peers. We will have five editors and five agents in attendance: on Friday, October 24, we'll feature an Editors Q&A Panel to give you their viewpoints and on Saturday the 25th we will have an Agents Q&A Panel to focus on their experiences and advice. In addition, you can register for two critiques and two pitches from the start, as part of a conference package deal.

Moreover, we are featuring a special two-hour Workshop on Friday the 24th from **Writer's Digest editor and Conference special guest speaker Chuck Sambuchino**, who will present "Platform & Social Media: How to Use Both to Make Connections and Sell More Books" with exercises, examples, and extensive Q&A. This workshop is for writers at all levels, from those just starting out to authors with books who want to build a larger audience.

With the Editors Q&A panel, Query Letter Critique, and the two-hour Workshop, it's definitely worth taking a half-day off from work on Friday the 24th so you can experience all of these educational and developmental opportunities!

On Saturday, October 25, while the morning critiques are held, **award-winning author and educator Daniel Black** will give two 75-minute presentations, and that afternoon while the pitch sessions are held, **bestseller Lauretta Hannon** will do two 75-minute presentations. Chuck's 45-minute talks on Friday and the 75-minute presentations on Saturday are free to those who register for any of the paid Conference activities. Finally, to close out the Conference on Saturday afternoon, we feature an award ceremony, where each editor and agent will present a certificate to participants for the best manuscript sample submitted for critique and for the best query letter pitched. Testimonial provider Marie Marquardt was awarded a certificate and you can see how it helped to change her life!

Those who have succeeded as a result of the conference aren't the only ones who are grateful for the experience. Conference guest Heather Alexander, Associate Editor for Dial Books, raved, "**The Atlanta Writers Conference is a great place for writers to meet editors and agents, and learn some of the ins and outs of the publishing industry. What a great networking and learning opportunity!**"

Register for one, some, or all of these Conference activities:

- Manuscript Critique on Saturday, October 25: \$150
- Pitch on Saturday, October 25: \$50
- Query Letter Critique on Friday, October 24: \$50
- Workshop on Friday, October 24: \$50
- Editor Q&A Panel on Friday, October 24: \$30
- Agent Q&A Panel on Saturday, October 25: \$30
- Atlanta Writers Conference Package "All Activities" option (all six activities above plus an extra manuscript critique and an extra pitch): \$500

The editors and agents are:

Peter Blackstock, Grove Atlantic
Kat Brzozowski, Thomas Dunne Books
Nadeen Gayle, Serendipity Literary Agency
Katie Grimm, Don Congdon Associates
Silissa Kenney, St. Martin's Press
Elizabeth Kracht, Kimberley Cameron & Associates
Mark Krotov, Melville House
Kelly O'Connor, William Morrow | Harper Voyager
Beth Phelan, The Bent Agency
Jennifer Udden, Donald Maass Literary Agency

Complete details about the Conference are on our [Atlanta Writers Conference website](http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/) (<http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/>).

If you have any questions about the conference, please contact George Weinstein, Atlanta Writers Conference Director at awconference@gmail.com.

You must use the online registration link at <http://atlantawritersconference.com/> to register, so please do not send George an e-mail with your registration requests.

AWC Continues to Bring the Top Literary Professionals to You



AWC Fall Writing Contest

ELIGIBILITY:

1. The AWC Fall 2014 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:

October 30, 2014. (Submissions received after this date will automatically be disqualified.)

AWARDS:

Three award levels in each category. (Awarded at November 15, 2014 meeting.)

FIRST PLACE	\$50 CASH PRIZE
SECOND PLACE	\$30 CASH PRIZE
THIRD PLACE	\$20 CASH PRIZE

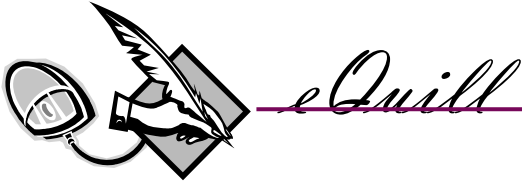
CONTEST CATEGORIES:

CATEGORIES	MAXIMUM	SPECIFICATIONS
Non-Fiction	2000 words	Any subject
Short Story	2000 words	Any level, any subject
Poetry	32 lines	Any subject
Wild Card	2000 words	October prompt: "She took a deep breath, then opened the door." Now tell me the story.

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. You can do this by clicking on the "save as type" drop-down menu in the box at the bottom of your "save" screen. The .doc choice is the third one down.)
- ✦ Font: 12 pt, Black, Times New Roman; PLEASE adhere to this point size.
- ✦ Margins: 1 inch
- ✦ Line spacing: double – yes, even for poetry.



- ✦ 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.

There is no template for the SSF; you create the doc yourself and send it as a separate attachment. The entry and SSF *both* 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
- ◆ 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 2014 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]

Fulmer's Fiction Shop



Eagle Eye Book Shop
2076 North Decatur Road Decatur, GA
www.eagleeyebooks.com

Author **David Fulmer** is announcing a new **Fiction Shop** for the fall, with a special discount for AWC members. Classes will be held on Tuesday nights in the Reading Room at Eagle Eye Book Shop on North Decatur Road beginning August 26th, with the last class on October 14th. The member price is \$225, a \$25 discount on the regular \$250 price. Class size will be limited to eight. Details at www.davidfulmer.com/ShopPage2.html.



WCW
WISDOM CRIETH WITHOUT

A Literary Homage to Traditional Arts

AWC member Evan Guilford Blake is delighted to announce his story, "*My Father's Robe*," has been published online in *Wisdom Crieth Without*. This is a traditional story, and a very gentle piece that he thinks will appeal, especially, to those who have aging parents. Comments are welcome.

The link: <http://www.wisdomcriethwithout.com/fathers-robe-evan-guilford-blake-2/>



August Speaker Profiles



Member Minute: Lee Gimenez

Topic: How to Write a Successful Novel

Bio: Lee Gimenez is the author of ten novels and over fifty short stories. Several of his books became ebook bestsellers, including *BLACKSNOW ZERO* and *THE NANOTECH MURDERS*. His novel *THE WASHINGTON ULTIMATUM* was nominated in 2013 for Best Thriller of the Year by the International Thriller Writers Association. His mystery thriller *THE SIGMA CONSPIRACY*, was published in January 2014. His next thriller is due out at the end of 2014.

His books are available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, the Apple Store, Books-A-Million, Books In Motion, Mobipocket, Amazon UK (England), Junglee (India), Amazon CA (Canada), Boomerang (Australia), Amazon JP (Japan), IBS (Italy), Amazon CH (China), and many other retailers.

Lee is a member of International Thriller Writers (ITW) and the Science Fiction Writers of America (SFWA). He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Georgia Tech University and a Masters degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University. After college, he served as an officer in the U.S. Army. During his business management career, he worked for three Fortune 500 companies: Verizon, Tech Data, and M&M Mars. For more information about him, please visit his website at: <http://www.LeeGimenez.com>. You can also join him on Twitter, Facebook, Google Plus, LinkedIn and Goodreads. Lee lives with his wife in the Atlanta, Georgia area.



1st Speaker – Dan Veach

Topic: From Both Sides Now: An Editor and Poet Looks at Poetry and Publication

Bio: Dan Veach is the founder of Poetry Atlanta and the founder and editor of the international poetry journal *Atlanta Review*. His book *Elephant Water* won the 2013 Georgia Author of the Year Award in poetry, and he has also received the Georgia Writers Association's Lifetime Achievement Award. A translator of Chinese, Anglo-Saxon and Arabic, he won the Willis Barnstone Translation Prize in 2011. His translation of Iraqi war poetry, *Flowers of Flame* (Michigan State University Press, 2008), won the Independent Publisher Book Award.

Dan is also very active in Atlanta's music scene, playing clarinet and bass clarinet with the Atlanta Community Symphony Orchestra and the Callanwolde Concert Band. His compositions, including two symphonies, have been performed by concert bands and orchestras.

2nd Speakers: Tara Coyt and Joe Barry Carroll

Topic: The Truth About Ghost Writing & Book Consulting – From A Ghost Writer/Consultant and Her NBA Client

Description: Former Atlanta Writers Club board member Tara Y. Coyt and former NBA All-Star Joe Barry Carroll will discuss how to be a successful ghost writer/book consultant and how to hire and work with one. They will also tell how they collaborated to produce and distribute Joe's memoir "Growing Up ... In Words and Images" a 272-page coffee table book featuring Carroll's paintings and narratives about growing up as the tenth of thirteen children, and the family, friends, foes, disappointments and triumphs that shaped him into a Purdue All-American and NBA player who later reinvented himself into a wealth advisor, philanthropist, painter and author.

August Speaker Profiles, cont

Tara will discuss

- Required skills
- Finding clients
- Setting rates and fees
- Managing client relationships
- The writing process
- Completing the project
- Resources

Joe will discuss:

- Why use a book consultant
- How to best utilize your ghost writer or author coach
- When to take advice and when to say “no thank you”
- Creating a unique product that fits your brand
- Creating unique distribution models
- Ensuring you get what you want and what you paid for

BIOS

Tara Y. Coyt

Tara is the founder of Coyt Communications and the Get It Write Author's Circle. She is a writer, book consultant and an award-winning marketing and communications professional and is currently the book consultant and curator for NBA All-Star Joe Barry Carroll's memoir and art exhibition, “Growing Up ... In Words and Images.” Tara has also ghost written, consulted on and edited books for NBA All-Star Sidney Moncrief, Death Row Records photographer Simone Green, financial advisor Lee Jenkins, educational trainer Millicent and Moody Publishing. Articles by Tara have appeared in Atlanta Magazine, Rolling Out, Catalyst, Washington Info Source, and Newsmakers Journal.

Her marketing, writing, and history seminars and workshops have impacted BellSouth, Cingular, the Miller Urban Entrepreneur Series, the U.S Army, U.S. Navy, Bainbridge College, and the Institute of African American Studies, and The Indus Entrepreneurs. Tara is a Walter Kaitz Fellow, and received an Outstanding Business Achievement Award from the Atlanta Business League. She earned an MBA in Marketing from The Ohio State University and a BS in Natural Sciences from Xavier University.

Please visit www.coytcommunications.com to learn more about Tara and her marketing and book development services.

Joe Barry Carroll

Joe Barry Carroll is a seven-foot-tall NBA All-Star, wealth advisor, philanthropist, painter and author. He was the first overall pick in the 1980 NBA draft. Carroll's NBA totals are 12,455 points, 5,404 rebounds, 1,264 assists and 1,122 blocked shots, which included a career high average of 24 points in the 1983-84 season. He began painting in 2011 and in 2014 published “Growing Up . . . In Words and Images”, a memoir featuring his original art paired with narratives about self-discovery, family, basketball, love, and money. 100 percent of book sale proceeds are donated to selected non-profit organizations including the Georgia Innocence project. In May 2014 Carroll received the Champions for Justice Award from the Atlanta Braves and the Center for Civil and Human Rights.

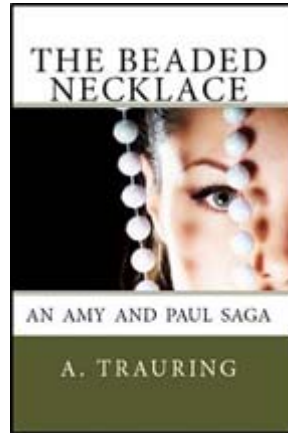
At the age of 26 Carroll founded the BroadView Foundation to financially support and participate in organizations and programs that serve lower socio-economic groups and individuals in communities of color. In addition to establishing college scholarships, Carroll and BroadView have funded afterschool programs, elder care, Aid to Children of Imprisoned Mothers, Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre, Task Force for the Homeless, The Georgia Innocence Project, and WABE, Atlanta's NPR station. Upon retiring from the NBA in 1991, Carroll relocated to Atlanta, Georgia where in 1993 he founded The Carroll Group a wealth advisory company serving high-net-worth families.

Please visit www.joebarrycarroll.com for more about Joe Barry Carroll and “Growing Up ... In Words and Images”.





The Beaded Necklace—A. Trauring



CONTACT: AT Press, Decatur, Georgia

Contact Person: A. Trauring

Company Name: AT Press

Press Inquiries: 404-217-5437

Email Address: atrauring@bellsouth.net

Website URL: atrauring.weebly.com

LOCAL AUTHOR PUBLISHES SECOND NOVEL

Decatur, Georgia, July 16, 2014 --- Longtime DeKalb resident and Atlanta Writers' Club member A. Trauring's second novel *The Beaded Necklace* has been published by AT Press. This is the follow-up to his startling debut *A Different Kind of Twin*, released this past March.

The Beaded Necklace is another amateur sleuth story, featuring the same central characters as in the first book. The lead snoop, Amy Clear, now is a college junior. A series of murders on campus give her the opportunity to ingratiate herself with a police detective, and she finds learning professional techniques and forensics much more appealing than studying for a psychology exam.

"The transfer of one mind to another body is a standard Science Fiction premise," Trauring says, "but usually it's creepy and evil. In *A Different Kind of Twin* I wanted to see what could happen if a person's body was dying and their mind was somehow added to another person. Could the two personalities inside the one body get along? Cooperate? Become friends? The answers to those questions were 'yes,' and *The Beaded Necklace* explores the next level of bonding, cooperation, and problem solving."

Readers can learn more about A. Trauring, *The Beaded Necklace*, and the projected series of novels at the website <http://atrauring.weebly.com>.

The Beaded Necklace is available in paperback and Kindle through Amazon at http://www.amazon.com/The-Beaded-Necklace-A-Trauring/dp/099152912X/ref=tmm_pap_title_0



Keys to the Page

A website that encourages writers. This site looks at the art of writing verses the publishing side of writing.

Website: www.keystothepage.com

Benefits of Submitting to Keys To The Page:

- Build your portfolio
- Learn social media and blogging
- Learn the importance of online presence
- Open your work to a whole new audience
- Have your work read by industry professionals who visit the site

Submission Guidelines for Keys To The Page

Submissions Due by September 1, 2014.

Submit to Amie Flanagan at keystothepage@gmail.com
Please state which category (i.e., Flash Fiction, Freewrite, or Creative Nonfiction) in the subject line.

In the body of the e-mail include:

- Name
- Title of the piece
- 10 key words for the piece (for Internet search tags)
- Your website and social media pages (if any).
- A brief writing-focused bio (incl. awards, etc.), no more than 4 sentences long
- Where you are located (general geographic area is fine)

Documents must be submitted in a .doc or a .docx format and must be in either Chicago or MLA style. Please put the word count in the upper right hand corner of page 1.

There is no limit to the number of submissions.

Flash Fiction:

The story should not exceed 700 words.



Freewrite:

A topic of the month or week, with the piece limited to 700 words. Those interested can e-mail Amie and she will provide the theme.

Creative Nonfiction:

A personal essay, the thoughts you had for the day, whatever makes you happy, with the piece limited to 700 words.

Also, positions are available for bloggers on the Keys To The Page site:

Contributing Blogger:

A contributing blogger will be required to post at least once a week about writing and the topic of the week in relation to blogging. Think: writer lifestyle. Must also leave a meaningful comment on at least one other post. Must know AP style.

Contributing News Blogger:

A contributing blogger will be required to post at least once a week about news in the writing and literary world. Think: hard news. Must also leave a meaningful comment on at least one other post other than the News blog. Must know AP style.

Submission Guidelines for Blogging positions:

Submit to Amie at keystothepage@gmail.com

Deadline: Until filled

On the subject line, state which position you're interested in.

In the body of the e-mail include:

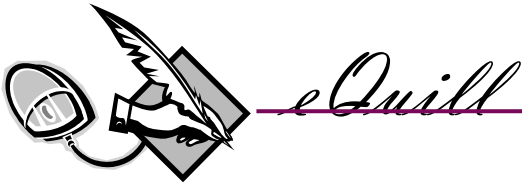
- Name
- Cover letter with no more than 4 paragraphs
- Your website and social media pages (if any)
- Where you are located (general geographic area is fine)

Documents submitted in a .doc or a .docx format only as an attachment.

Documents include:

- Resume
- 2 portfolio pieces
- A sample piece for Keys To The Page





Book Signings

AWC President Valerie Connors, author of *Shadow of a Smile*, and AWC Member Michael Brown, author of *Promise of Silver*, will be signing their books, along with authors Bob Rodgers and Dennis Winstead, at Books For Less in Buford on Saturday, August 2nd from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The address is: Books For Less, 2815 Buford Dr #108, Buford, GA 30519, (770) 945-9288

AWC members H.W. "Buzz" Bernard, Terry Segal, and Valerie Connors will be signing books on Sunday, August 3rd at 2:00 p.m., at the North Point Barnes & Noble store.

The address is: 7660 North Point Parkway, Suite 200, Alpharetta, GA 30022, (770) 993-8340

Free Copy Editing: Need a Second Set of Eyes?

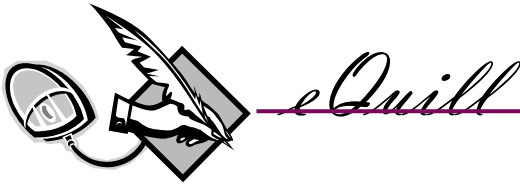
Harold ("Psaighe") Simmons is a retired senior with time on his hands who has volunteered to do copy editing at no charge to Atlanta Writers Club members. Though he doesn't make any claims to be a professional editor, he has a lifetime of experience to lend. Psaighe is a voracious reader, has a vocabulary "to die for", and is a stickler for proper grammar and punctuation. You may contact him directly at psaighe@gmail.com to forward your manuscript and discuss turnaround time.

Please note, copy editing consists of grammar, punctuation, word usage, and consistency. It is not a developmental or structural edit addressing character development or story arc, pacing and the like.

The offer is good through September 30th.

(P.S. He's also the father of AWC member Rona Simmons)

MARK	MEANING	MARK	MEANING
1	something insert in the text	---	remove an underline
e	delete a punctuation, word, or letter	o	spell out abbrev. or number (see 1 hr. as one hour)
∩	delete and close up space	#	indicate a paragraph
(close up space	~	run in; no paragraph
#	add space] [center



Free Workshop for Aspiring Writers



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 Contact: Casey Wallace
 Gwinnett County Public Library
 1001 Lawrenceville Highway
 Lawrenceville, GA 30046
 Phone: 770.822.5326
cwallace@gwinnettpl.org

Research: A Writer's Best Friend and a Writer's Worst Enemy- Using Research in Your Fiction.

(Suwanee, GA June 1, 2014)-- On Thursday, August 14th at 6:30 p.m. Bestselling author and renowned writer's workshop conference speaker Joe Samuel Starnes will host a free workshop and book discussion at the Suwanee branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library. Starnes will focus his discussion on *Research: A Writer's Best Friend and A Writer's Worst Enemy- Using Research in Your Fiction*.

Eudora Welty wrote "the art that speaks most clearly, explicitly, directly, and passionately from its place of origin will remain the longest understood." Starnes, author of the novels *Fall Line* and *Calling*, will discuss how fiction can come alive with details acquired from research, giving your short stories and novels a sense of verisimilitude. He will offer practical advice to aspiring writers about conducting research, and he will offer writers tips on avoiding the pitfalls and delays that doing research can bring to fiction writing.

Joe Samuel "Sam" Starnes first novel, "Calling," was published in 2005. NewSouth Books published his second novel "Fall Line" in November 2011. Articles by Starnes have appeared in the New York Times, Washington Post and various magazines, as well as essays, short stories, and poems in literary journals. In December 2012, "Fall Line" was named to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's "A Year in Reading: Best of the South" list.

The Suwanee branch is located at 361 Main Street Suwanee, GA. To learn more about Gwinnett County Public Library programs and services, please visit www.gwinnettpl.org, find GwinnettLibrary on Facebook, Twitter, or call 770.978.5154





Critique Group Updates

For the Lawrenceville/Snellville Critique group—Ken Schmanski's email address is now kschmanski@aol.com



Procedure for Joining AWC Critique Groups:

1. All requests from AWC members to join a critique group are to be forwarded to ron@hraiiken.com. Ron Aiken currently serves as the Critique Group Coordinator for the AWC.
2. Members should include in their request:
 - a. Their location
 - b. Availability
 - c. Genre
 - d. Writing sample (first chapter, short story, poetry)
3. Based upon information provided by members in their email request and available openings, the Coordinator will attempt to place members. Coordinator will periodically poll critique groups for status updates.
4. Coordinator will forward member's information to appropriate critique group leader. Genre is taken into account, but members generally will be placed first come-first served.
5. Coordinator will compile and maintain member "wait list."
6. Coordinator will attempt to form new critique groups from the wait list.



Photos from July Workshop



Kimberly Brock & Alison Law lead July workshop



Members register for workshop



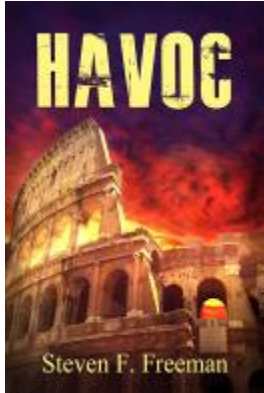
George Scott sells books



George sells lots of books

Havoc—Steven F. Freeman

AWC member Steven F. Freeman announces the release of his novel, *Havoc*, the fourth in a series entitled *The Blackwell Files*.



Description:

When Cryptologist Alton Blackwell takes his girlfriend, FBI Agent Mallory Wilson, on a surprise trip to Italy, the couple expects the vacation of a lifetime, but their pleasure is short-lived. Intent on selling Vidulum Inc.'s proprietary technology to the highest bidder, a rogue employee of the high-tech company arranges a clandestine meeting at one of Rome's most famous tourist attractions. Rather than collecting a huge payday, however, the company turncoat encounters a lethal surprise. When Alton and Mallory rush to assist the dying scientist, they find themselves pulled into the subsequent murder investigation.

Foreign and domestic agents, corporate spies, intellectual-property thieves, and shadowy underworld figures race to acquire the technical files stored on the dead employee's missing cellphone and reap the billions of dollars and technological superiority now at stake.

Despite their efforts to leave the tragedy behind and continue their vacation, Alton and Mallory soon learn their own lives are in danger. They are left with no choice but to join forces with the Roman police in an effort to crack the case. While diving into the investigation, the discovery of another man in Mallory's past disrupts Alton's plan to move his relationship with her to a new level.

As they encounter unexpected twists at a breakneck pace, Alton and Mallory must summon all their intellectual powers to reveal the truth behind the Vidulum employee's death and track down the missing technological plans before a life-threatening end game can be set in motion.

How people can buy the book

Havoc is available via Amazon (<http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00M26R8A0>), Barnes & Noble (<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/havoc-steven-f-freeman/1120002887?ean=2940149745395>) or through my website: www.SteveFreemanWriter.com.

Author bio and photo

Thriller/mystery author Steve Freeman is a former member of the US Army's Signal Corps, a twenty-six year employee of a large American technology company, and an avid traveler who has visited five continents. The novels of *The Blackwell Files* draw from his firsthand knowledge of military service, the tech industry, and the diverse cultures of our world.





Second Place Sister—Sue Horner

Atlanta Writers Club member Sue Horner announces her debut novel
Second Place Sister

Second Place
SISTER



SUE HORNER

Uncork the wine. Bring out the calming chocolate. Ali Lawrence's diva sister, Janelle Jennings, is making an unexpected visit to their hometown of Willoughby, Georgia, and Ali needs help. Since they were schoolgirls, Ali has suffered ridicule and criticism from her prom queen, beauty pageant older sister, whom their mother still coddles at Ali's expense. Ali is suspicious of her sister's motives for visiting Willoughby, and especially her odd behavior and uncharacteristically long stay. Something's not quite right, and Ali is both curious and concerned.

During this visit, Ali vows to stop being a bitter doormat and stand up to Janelle. But when Ali discovers a secret that has the potential to destroy Janelle's career and tarnish her reputation, will she expose her sister, or, for the sake of family unity, will she protect her? Can the sisters finally come to terms with each other, admire their achievements, and ignore their faults, or will their relationship continue to disintegrate, bringing bedlam to Willoughby in the process?

Someone has to take the first step: Will it be Janelle in her stepladder stilettos or Ali in her ratty, old running shoes?



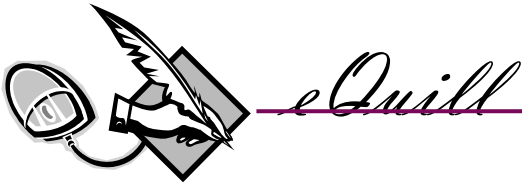
www.suehornerauthor.com

suehorner@bellsouth.net

by ROSU Publishing

ISBN: 978-0-9912177-0-0

Available at Amazon, Kindle, Barnes & Noble



Membership Renewal—What to Expect

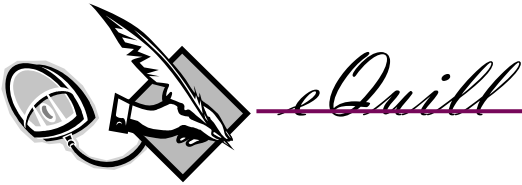
The AWC has an automated system for tracking **memberships** and alerting members when it's time to renew. You will receive an e-mail from the system (awcmembership@principalds.com) one month before your membership expiration date. If you haven't renewed within two weeks of expiration, you will receive another e-mail and a final e-mail one week from expiration if you haven't yet renewed. If the expiration date for your membership passes without renewal, the system will mark your membership as expired. It is a good e-mail practice to check your spam/junk folder to see if any legitimate e-mail has been misfiled there, possibly including the email you'll receive from awcmembership@principalds.com prior to the expiration of your membership.



2 AWC Members Seek Rides to Meetings

New AWC member Peggy Cobb lives at Hammond Glen, a senior community at 335 Hammond Drive NE in Sandy Springs. She wants to start attending our meetings but needs a ride. If you could offer this to Peggy, please contact her at peggyvcobb@bellsouth.net.

AWC member Kalin Thomas is looking for a ride to meetings from anyone who lives in the Riverdale area. Thanks! Contact Kalin at: 404-863-8182



Aesthetica Creative Writing Competition 2014: Call for Entries

Aesthetica

The Aesthetica Creative Writing Call for Entries is now open, presenting a fantastic opportunity for writers amongst the Atlanta Writers Club to showcase recent works to a wider audience.

Previous winners and finalists from the Aesthetica Creative Writing Competition have gone on to achieve recognition around the world, having been selected from over 3,000 entries to be published the anthology. Last year, poetry winner and award-winning novelist Sylvia Adams was selected for her piece *Hands A Choice*, and Jennifer Roe championed the Short Fiction category with *Roses are Red*.

Prizes include publication in the Aesthetica Creative Writing Annual, a compelling anthology of new writing loved by audiences internationally including literary students and fellow writers, a selection of inspirational books from our competition partners and £500 prize money.

Twitter:

The @AestheticaMag Creative Writing Competition Call for Entries! Submit your #poetry #shortfiction Win publication! tinyurl.com/ckktess

Facebook/ Website/ E-newsletter:

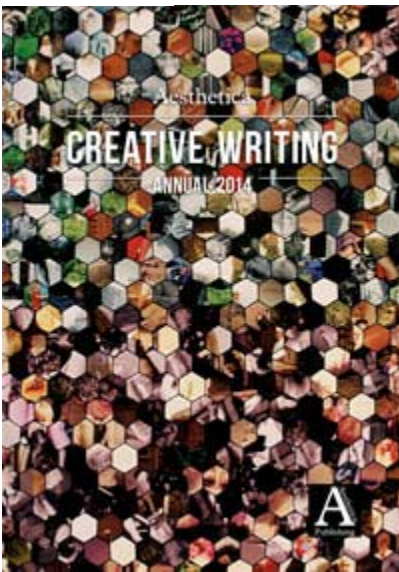
The Aesthetica Creative Writing Competition has launched its Call for Entries, presenting a fantastic opportunity for established and emerging writers to showcase their poetry and short fiction to an international audience.

Previous winners and finalists from the Aesthetica Creative Writing Competition have gone on to achieve recognition around the world, having been selected from over 3,000 entries to be published the anthology. Last year, poetry winner and award-winning novelist Sylvia Adams was selected for her piece *Hands A Choice*, and Jennifer Roe championed the Short Fiction category with *Roses are Red*.

Prizes include publication in the Aesthetica Creative Writing Annual, a compelling anthology of new writing loved by audiences internationally including literary students and fellow writers, a selection of inspirational books from our competition partners and £500 prize money.

Visit www.aestheticamagazine.com/creativewriting for more information and to register your entry today. Entry is £10 and the deadline to submit your work is 31 August 2014. One entry permits the submission of two works into any one category.

Looking for literary inspiration? [CLICK HERE](#) to pick up a copy of last year's Aesthetica Creative Writing Annual.





Future Guests & Events

August:

Member Minute—Lee Gimenez, *How to Write a Successful Novel*.

1st Speaker—Dan Veach, Editor of the Atlanta Review

2nd Speaker—Tara Coyt, Ghostwriter/Book Consultant and Joe Barry Carroll, Author & former NBS Allstar.

September:

1st Speaker—Jedwin Smith, *Making the Most of Your Experience*

2nd Speaker—Michael Buchanan, *From Page to Screen*

October:

1st Speaker—Ricki Schultz, *Journalistic Writing and Its Benefits for Writing of ANY Kind*.

2nd Speaker—TBA

November:

1st Speaker—Alex Hughes, *Science Fiction & Fantasy*

2nd Speaker—Lynn Cullen, *Historical Fiction*

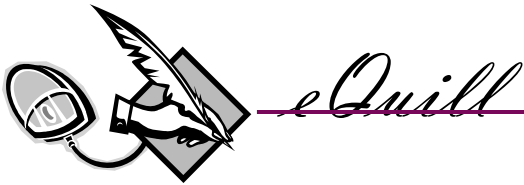
volunteers

It's time 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 Jennifer Wiggins 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: jennifer.wiggins1@aol.com.

Club-Sponsored Critique Groups

Alpharetta	All Genres	Barnes & Noble on North Point Parkway in Alpharetta on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.	Buzz Bernard	hwbernard@att.net	FULL
Avondale Estates	Nonfiction	Mon, 6:30 p.m. @ Urban Grounds	Therra Cathryn Gwyn	therra@earthlink.net	Open
Avondale Estates	Nonfiction	Tues, 7-9 p.m. @ Urban Grounds	Rebecca Ewing	rebeccaewing@earthlink.net	Wait list
Buckhead/Midtown	Poetry	4th Sat @11 a.m.	Karen Holmes	kpaulholmes@gmail.com	Full
Buckhead/Midtown	Fiction				Hiatus
Conyers	All genres	Every other Tues, 6:30 @ Whistle Post Tavern	Nancy Fletcher	ncfletcher50@gmail.com	
Cumming	Poetry, moderate to advanced	Starbucks Peachtree Parkway and Ronald Reagan Highway. 2nd and 4th Tues, 7 - 9 p.m.	Rick Rohdenburg,	rohdenburg.submissions@gmail.com	Open
Decatur	Adult/YA fiction	Monthly on Tues, 6:45	Ricky Jacobs	rickyjacobs@mac.com	Open
Decatur	Children's and YA fiction	Every other Tues 10 a.m. – 12:15 @ Java Monkey	Ricky Jacobs	rickyjacobs@mac.com	Wait list
Decatur	Adult/YA fiction groups	Every 3 rd Wed @ 7 @ Java Monkey	Ron Aiken	ron@hraiken.com	Wait List
Decatur	Fiction	Every other Wed, 6:30 pm @ ChocoLate Coffee – Clairmont/ North Decatur Road.	Ruth Gresh	hrgresh@hotmail.com	Wait list
Dunwoody	All genres	1st and 3rd Fri, 1-3 p.m. @ Georgia Perimeter College Library Building, Rm 3100	Gelia Dolcimascolo	770-274-5246	Open
Kennesaw	Fiction	Wednesday 6-8:30, Abundant Grounds Coffee	Linda Joyce Clements	linda@linda-joyce.com	No longer meeting
Lawrenceville	Novel & short story	Every other Thursday, 10 a.m.- 12 @ Applewood Towers	Barbara Connor	(678) 226-1483 imayaya@charter.net	Wait list
Lawrenceville/Snellville	Novel, Short Story & Memoir	1 st Saturday @ 9:30 a.m. - noon @ member's home	Ken Schmanski	kschmanski@aol.com	Full
Marietta	All genres	1 st and 3 rd Tues, 7-9 p.m.	Linda Sullivan	lindasullivan3@gmail.com	Wait list
Roswell	All genres	2 nd and 4 th Tues 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. member's home	George Weinstein	(770) 552-5887 gjweinstein@yahoo.com	Open
Roswell	All genres women's	2 nd and 4 th Wed, 7 to 9 p.m.	Jemille Williams	jemille@bellsouth.net	Open
Sandy Springs	All genres	Twice monthly, Mon, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. @ Roswell Library.	Lynn Wesch	lewesch@me.com	FULL



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, our members gather to listen and learn from two guest speakers who cover a broad range of topics and genres, and come to us from many facets of the literary world. Our speakers include published authors, literary agents, editors, playwrights and poets, just to name a few. Please refer to our list of upcoming guest speakers in this newsletter.

Workshops. Your membership provides access to outstanding writing workshops. Some are free with membership and others are provided at a discounted price. Watch for announcements about upcoming workshops.

Twice-Yearly Writers Conferences. This is your opportunity to spend time face to face with a literary agent or editor and have the chance to pitch your work. Conferences include agent Q & A panels, writing workshops, and a social gathering where you'll get to meet and talk with the agents and editors in a more informal setting.

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 read each other's writings and recommend modifications.

Writing Contests With Cash Prizes. Contests are held in the spring and fall, with a wide variety of formats and topics.

Monthly Newsletter. Our monthly newsletter, the eQuill, provides the opportunity for our members to advertise their book launches and book signings to a wide reaching mailing list. And, it will keep you up to date with news about writing opportunities and literary events across the Southeast and beyond.

Decatur Book Festival Participation. The Atlanta Writers Club has a tent at the Decatur Book Festival each year, that's staffed by member volunteers. It's a great way to get involved in the largest book festival in the area.

Potential members are invited to attend a first meeting as our guest. After that, we're sure you will want to become a member and take advantage of all the benefits that come with it. You may join The Atlanta Writers Club at any of our events or meetings, or pay on line at our website using PayPal at <http://www.atlantawritersclub.org/membership.html>.

If you have additional questions, contact AWC president Valerie Connors at valerie@atlantawritersclub.org.

The Atlanta Writers Club

Membership Dues valid for 365 days • Donations • Contact Information

- Renewal for 365 days**—*please provide your name and any changes to your contact information*
- New Member for 365 days**—*please complete the information below*
- Family Member for 365 days**—*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?** _____)

Preferred Phone: _____ **Secondary Phone:** _____

Preferred 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 for 365 days \$ _____

Add any family member for \$20 each \$ _____

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

\$30 Student Membership for 365 days \$ _____

Tax Deductible Donation in the amount of \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please mail with checks payable to: Atlanta Writers Club

Mail to: Kathleen Gizzi • Atlanta Writers Club • 9540 Fenbrook Court • Alpharetta, GA 30022

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.