New Books

*Until Tuesday*
Luis Carlos Montalvan p.11

*Farming Friends ...
Renea Winchester p.13

*Couch Time with Carolyn*
Katie Hart Smith p.15

*Newcomer*
Mahasweta Ghosh p.19

September 20th AWC meeting,
1:30 p.m. Georgia Perimeter College
2101 Womack Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338
Bldg. NC, Room 110 Auditorium

Featured speakers:

Member Minute—Michael Brown

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

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

Contents

Officers
President: Valerie Connors
Offices Emeritus: George Weinstein
Clay Ramsey
Marty Aftewicz
Conference Director: George Weinstein
Asst. Conference Dir.: Georgia Lee
Membership VP: Ginny Bailey
Programs VP: Kim Brown
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Secretary: Bill Black
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Contests, Awards, Scholarships VP: Nedra Roberts
Marketing/PR VP: Anjali Enjeti
Social Events VP: Soniah Kamal
Volunteers:
Historian/By-Laws: George Weinstein
Photographers: Jamie Noll & Andre Santillana
Videographer: Jonathan Knott
Critique Groups: Ron Aiken
eQuill Publisher: Gene Bowen

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Mark your calendar
Sept 05 Katie Hart Smith book signing
Sept 06 Luis Carlos Montalvan book signing
Sept 20 AWC monthly meeting
Sept 21 Renea Winchester garden party
Sept 27 Jedwin Smith benefit

http://www.facebook.com/people/Atlanta-WritersClub/100000367043383
http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub
Surrounded by books...

Last month’s article was written at 35,000 feet, because I’d been on vacation and was nearing the deadline. I’m writing this one in the place where I do most all of my writing, in a room that might once have been referred to as the parlor. It’s at the front of the house, opposite the dining room, and has lots of natural light. My desk is in the middle of the room, and with the exception of the overstuffed armchair in one corner, the walls are lined with bookcases, so that when I’m working, I am literally surrounded by books. To my left are three tall bookcases filled with novels. One of those bookcases is devoted entirely to autographed copies that I’ve collected since joining the AWC in 2010. To my right are shelves filled with books on writing. They include a dictionary, which I haven’t opened in years because Dictionary.com is so much faster, and the 15th edition of the Chicago Manual of Style, which has already been superseded by the 16th edition. My reference shelf also includes The Elements of Style, by Strunk and White, and Anne Lamott’s wonderful book, Bird by Bird. I began my studies on the craft of writing with The Art of Fiction, and The Art of Non-fiction, both written by Ayn Rand, because I had just finished reading The Fountainhead and Atlas Shrugged and wanted to learn how to write something like that. Then I made my way through a series of books by James Scott Bell that includes Description & Setting, Plot & Structure, Dialogue, Characters Emotion & Viewpoint, and Revision & Self-Editing. I’ve added many others to my reference shelf since then, including my favorite, Stephen King’s On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft. But those were the books I read in preparation for starting my first novel, and I refer back to them often. The bookshelf behind me is filled with books on marketing, copyediting and how to make a living as a freelance writer. I haven’t quite mastered those skills yet, but I’m working on it!

Some of the writers I know are able to write anywhere. Others, like myself for example, tend to do most of their writing in the same place, the one where their muse lives. We like being surrounded by familiar things, where we can block out distractions and focus on the words. When I’m seated at my writing desk, I’m facing two full-length windows with trees outside that filter the sunlight. Our two dogs make themselves comfortable on the carpet in front of the window on the left, oftentimes side by side, carefully watching the front yard and the street. They’re always ready to protect me from evil, menacing characters, like the elderly couple who occasionally stroll by, and the neighbor’s grandchildren who ride their bikes in the circle formed by the end of our cul-de-sac. Between the windows and visible above my iMac screen is a watercolor my mom painted more than thirty years ago, of grape vines with sunlight pouring through them. I love my writing room, which is a good thing because I spend a lot of time here. I am surrounded by things that comfort me; Ginger and Coco in front of the window, the memory of my mother, who was a voracious reader and who would have been so pleased with what I’m doing, and all those books. Each of them started with a blank page, and grew into a completed manuscript. Some of them were rejected many times before finally finding a publisher, being wrapped in beautiful covers and shared with the world. Every book has its own life history, from the seed of an idea that may have simmered in the author’s mind for decades, to the finished product that will be available, in some form, for decades to come.

By the time you read this, the 2014 Decatur Book Festival will be behind us. And although as of this writing, it’s still ahead of me, I feel confident in saying that I had a wonderful time. All those authors and all those books, in the same place at the same time, for one wonderful weekend, is hard to beat! I hope to have another book finished in time for the 2015 Decatur Book Festival. How about you?
Benefit Performance for Jedwin Smith

Contacts:
Anne Wainscott-Sargent    Mari Ann Stefanelli
Tel 678-352-0009    Tel 770-570-8111
annesargent@att.net    mariann.stefanelli@gmail.com

COMEDIAN ‘FELON O’REILLY’ COMING TO ATLANTA FOR SPECIAL ONE-NIGHT PERFORMANCE TO BENEFIT CANCER SURVIVOR, ATLANTA AREA WRITER JEDWIN SMITH

Event Details:
What: Live Stand-up Comedy with Felon O’Reilly – Special Cancer Benefit for Jedwin Smith
When: Sept. 27, 2014 at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Where: MJCCA, 300 Tilly Mill Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338
Cost: $20
For more info or to order tickets: www.felonoreilly.brownpapertickets.com

ATLANTA - JULY 22, 2014 – Al Joyce met Atlanta author and writing coach Jedwin Smith seven years ago at a local writers’ conference. On first appearances, the two men had little in common – Smith was a father of four daughters, a former Marine and a two-time Pulitzer-nominated journalist, while Joyce spent a decade behind bars. After getting sober in 2001, he traded a life of crime for one of recovery outreach, through his work as a public speaker and comedian under the name Felon O'Reilly.

“When we first met in 2007, we were and still are both in recovery,” recalls Joyce. “Jedwin has been an incredible means of support for me and my recovery. Today I consider him one of my closest friends.”

When Joyce learned that Smith was battling cancer, he decided to do something to help ease his friend’s stress by bringing the gift of laughter, strength and hope to him and others. On September 27th, Joyce will perform two shows at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta starting at 7 and 9 p.m. Tickets are $20, with proceeds of both shows going toward helping Smith with his medical bills.

Smith is a Pulitzer-nominated journalist, author, writing coach and long-time member of The Atlanta Writers Club. He’s received 57 major writing awards during his 36 years as a print journalist, where his war-time coverage in Lebanon and Ethiopia netted him two Pulitzer nominations. Smith’s latest book, Our Brother’s Keeper — a Vietnam War memoir dealing with the death of his younger brother Jeff, a Marine Corps rifleman who was killed in action during the 1968 Tet Offensive — is used by the Veteran’s Administration and the Wounded Warrior program to assist returning veterans and their families.

In addition to his noteworthy career as a journalist and author, Smith has made it a point to help others as a writing coach. His classes are a major draw for aspiring and established writers. Over the last six years, he has mentored 62 writers, 22 of which are now published.

George Weinstein, former president and officer emeritus of the Atlanta Writers Club, states, “Jedwin Smith is one of those rare and remarkable individuals whose focus is on other people’s success rather than his own. He has helped scores of writers become more capable and confident in their abilities. Jedwin certainly is deserving of any help the community can give him.”

Joyce, who accrued a record 73 arrests and seven incarcerations in his life, says a measure of success for him is reaching those in most need of his message. A poignant moment for him was receiving thank you letters from 60 inmates after doing a prison show.

“There were only 90 inmates. I’ve always gotten a spiritual reward from helping another human being. It was Jedwin who taught me that it is possible to make a difference in someone’s life. So it’s time to try to make a difference in his life,” he says.
Atlanta Writers Conference
October 24-25:

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/).
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: $30
- 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/).

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORIES</th>
<th>MAXIMUM</th>
<th>SPECIFICATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Fiction</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>Any subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Story</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>Any level, any subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>32 lines</td>
<td>Any subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Card</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>October prompt: “She took a deep breath, then opened the door.” Now tell me the story.</td>
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</tbody>
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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. 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]
Member Minute - Mike Brown

**Topic:** Writing for Boomers and Beyond

**Bio:**

Michael K. Brown is known to friends simply as Mike but uses the more formal author's signature as a weak attempt of individuality among the many Mike Browns of the world.

Mike was born in Alabama and grew up in Birmingham. A graduate of the University of Alabama with a BS and MS in Industrial Engineering, he has lived in the Atlanta area for most of his adult life. He held management positions for three major companies before leaving the corporate world. Presently, he lives in Loganville, Georgia, where he and his wife, Judy, own and operate a flooring business. They have three sons and three grandchildren.

The desire to write tugged at Mike for much of his life. Occasionally, he would write a short story, an article in the local newspaper, and, once, even an tongue-in-cheek article about management training that The Wall Street Journal published on the OPED page. But work or other obligations seemed to get in the way of his ambition to write seriously. Finally, for the last few years he has devoted himself to that end and has completed three novels. *Promise of Silver* is the first of these to be published.

In addition to writing, Mike enjoys reading, college football, movies, theater, and Judy's cooking. A former marathon runner with a bad knee, he also walks an hour a day and goes to a gym on days when he has no excuse not to.

First Speaker – Jedwin Smith

**Topic:** Making the Most of Your Experience

**Bio:**

The recipient of 57 major writing awards during his 36 years as a print journalist, Jedwin Smith twice was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize—in 1984 for his coverage of the U.S. Marine Corps peace-keeping force in Beirut, Lebanon; and in 1986 for his extensive coverage of Africa's longest and deadliest struggle, the Eritrea-Ethiopia civil war, for which he was a Pulitzer finalist.

Jedwin has gone wherever the story demanded—from war zones in Africa and the Middle East, to the ocean's depths in search of long-lost 17th-century Spanish treasure. He has co-piloted WWII fighter aircraft, and fought a 3-round exhibition bout against Mike Quarry, the No. 1-ranked light heavyweight contender.

A former Marine, Jedwin's penchant for adventure has resulted in numerous TV guest appearances on The History Channel, National Geographic Explorer, The Travel Channel and The Discovery Channel. In 2010 he worked with the Department of Defense in conjunction with Operation Homecoming—helping Iraq and Afghanistan combat veterans write their wartime experiences.

While covering Evander Holyfield's successful quest to become the heavyweight champion of the world in 1990, Jedwin befriended Mills Lane—the celebrated boxing referee, circuit court judge, and TV personality—which resulted in his writing of Lane's biography, *Let's Get It On*.

Jedwin's second book, *Fatal Treasure*—the untold story of legendary treasure hunter Mel Fisher and his decades-long search for the *Atocha*, the richest of all Spanish treasure galleons—has been optioned Hollywood and is presently under consideration to become a major motion picture.
September Speaker Profiles, cont

Jedwin's latest book, Our Brother's Keeper—a Vietnam War memoir dealing with the death of his younger brother Jeff, a Marine Corps rifleman who was killed in action during the 1968 Tet Offensive—is being used by the Veteran's Administration and the Wounded Warrior program to assist returning veterans and their families.

Presently working on a Civil War novel, plus teaching writer workshops, Jedwin and his wife June have been married 47 years; they have four daughters, three sons-in-laws, and 11 grandchildren.

Second Speaker - Michael Buchanan

Topic: From Page to Screen

Bio: Michael Buchanan’s latest co-authored novel, The Fat Boy Chronicles, was released in 2010. The book won the National Parenting Publication’s Gold Award, and Mom’s Choice Award of Excellence. Buchanan and his writing partner Diane Lang won the New York Champions of Character Award for Literature in 2013. Schools around the nation use the novel in their anti-bullying and childhood obesity efforts.

Buchanan wrote the screenplay for the feature film adaptation. During its festival tour, the movie won multiple awards for its impacting, yet hopeful depiction of an obese and bullied 9th grader’s world. The film has been seen by millions around the world. The book and movie are supported by Dr. John Barge, GA State Superintendent of Schools, and as well as teachers and parents in every state.

Buchanan and Lang are guest speakers at schools nationwide as well as state, national and international conferences where they discuss the issues of bullying, childhood obesity and the issues’ connection to academics. The pair offers writing and screenwriting workshops for middle/high school students. The sequel to The Fat Boy Chronicles is underway. Buchanan’s other produced scripts are shorts Last Bullet and Boxes with the feature narrative Bait and Tackle in development. Buchanan is also the lead writer of Spiral Bound, a feature-length documentary about the importance of the arts.

"Spiral Bound" Trailer
MEET THE AUTHOR

Fmr. Capt.

Luis Carlos Montalván

& his service dog “Tuesday”

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Until Tuesday

Luis Carlos Montalván

BOOK DISCUSSION & SIGNING

SUNDAY

SEPT. 21, 2014

3:00 pm

Montalván is a New York Times Bestselling Author, Speaker & Advocate, & 17-year Veteran.

Georgia Gwinnett College
Student Center
1000 University Center Lane
Lawrenceville, GA 30043

EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE. BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.
Wik '14 -- Writing and Illustrating for Kids, Writers' and Illustrators' Conference
Registration is Now Open!

Wik '14 will take place on October 11, 2014 in Birmingham, AL. Attendees can choose from over 25 breakout sessions for writers and illustrators of all levels. Every session, every speaker, every moment is designed to help writers and illustrators improve their work. Meet editors and agents from industry-leading agencies and publishing houses—and the friendliest, most supportive colleagues one could ever hope to find.

Hear about an agent’s role in the publishing process from literary agent, Courtney Miller-Callihan of Sanford J. Greenburger Associates. Learn what makes a book great from Simon & Schuster editor, RutaRimas. Discover Hollywood screenwriting techniques from Lou Enders. Other workshops include: Choosing the Perfect Words; Smart Marketing for Busy Authors; Planning Your Novel in Ten Easy Steps; Creating Picture Books That Wow; Find the Artistry and Marketability in Your Images, and so much more. Visit our website for a complete listing of workshops: southern-breeze.scbwi.org/events/wik14/.

This one-day conference offers a variety of sessions about the essentials of writing and illustrating for young readers. Learn the basics, or study advanced topics including how to sell and market your work.

Add more value to your wik experience with these options:

Two full-day workshops on Friday, October 10. A writer’s intensive with Candice Ransom--Peanut Butter to Plot: Writing Chapter Books and Middle Grade Novels, and an illustrator’s intensive with R. Gregory Christie--Embracing Your Inner Maverick. Cost: $65.

Manuscript or portfolio critiques. Register for formal critiques by September 10. Cost: $40. Free, informal peer critiques will also be available at the conference.

Advance registration is required and spaces are limited. Early bird tuition is $125 for SCBWI members, $145 for non-members, or $135 for students. After September 30, registration is $155. For those from outside the Birmingham area, a limited number of discounted hotel rooms are available at the Hampton Inn in Hoover.

Not a member of SCBWI? Join for just $85. You’ll gain access to important industry updates, be eligible for contests and awards, and receive a bi-monthly magazine filled with useful information. And you’ll be part of the largest organization for writers and illustrators of children’s books, with 22,000 members worldwide.

Additional details can be found at southern-breeze.scbwi.org/events/wik14/
Tucked behind a magnolia tree on a busy Georgia road is a magical place—a simple country farm, unchanged by time. On this little strip of land, chickens scratch greetings and goats bleat hello. Sweet yellow corn grows tall, and curly bean vines reach for the sky. A burly tractor and a fifty-year-old Chevy wait inside the shed, ready for action.

For some folks, farms trigger childhood memories, such as Sunday supper at their grandparent’s table, or recollections of past generations smiling from picture frames gathering dust on the mantle. For 82-year-old Billy Albertson, his farm reflects a time before folks were hurried, or technology ruled our lives.

Families grew gardens and feasted on fresh vegetables, adults spent time on front porches comparing stories, and children scampered barefoot through the grass waiting their turn at the hand-cranked ice cream freezer. Spending time with friends on the farm is Billy’s life. Here you don’t have to be a gardener or blood kin to be family. Inside the pages of Farming, Friends, & Fried Bologna Sandwiches is a story about Billy and his magical farm.

YOU’RE INVITED TO A “FRIENDS & FAMILY” GARDEN PARTY FOR AUTHOR RENEA WINCHESTER!

When: Saturday, September 6th, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Where: 525 Hardscrabble Road, Roswell GA 30075
♦ Meet Renea & Farmer Billy! ♦ Handmade Arts & Crafts!
♦ Bring the kids to see the goats & chickens! ♦ Follow parking signs!

Call Book Exchange @ 770-427-4848 by Sept. 5th to RSVP/reserve a copy of Renea’s new book
Perfecting your Picture Book!

Gwinnett library in partnership with The Southern Breeze region of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators present a free writer's workshop “Perfecting your Picture Book!”

Keynote speaker bestselling Children’s author Danny Schnitzlein

Saturday, October 25th 1:00 until 3:00 at Gwinnett County Public Library
2780 Five Forks Trickum Rd SW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044

In 2010, Danny’s book "The Monster Who Did My Math" was chosen for inclusion on the Georgia Center for the Book's inaugural list of “25 Books All Young Georgians Should Read.”

His first book, "The Monster Who Ate My Peas," was published in 2001. A tale told in rhyme with grotesque illustrations by Matt Faulkner and inspired by the author's childhood dislike of peas. It received state awards in Indiana and Virginia and represented the state of Georgia at the 2004 National Book Festival. "The Monster Who Did My Math," brilliantly illustrated by the Georgia artist Bill Mayer, was published in 2007. Narrated in light, humorous verse with Mayer's drawings, the story centers on a mathophobic young boy who makes a deal with a monster to do his homework only to discover there's more to the bargain than he imagined. The book was listed as one of the best books of the year by Parent and Child magazine and Atlanta Parent magazine, and it was chosen by the Georgia Department of Education to spearhead its "Read More" initiative. His latest book, "Trick or Treat on Monster Street" with illustrations by Faulkner, was published in 2008.
COUCH TIME WITH CAROLYN

GEORGIA AUTHOR AND FORMER COUNCIL MEMBER FOR THE CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE PUBLISHES COUCH TIME WITH CAROLYN

August 1, 2014, ATLANTA - Having written for numerous medical publications and authored multiple children’s books, Katie Hart Smith announces the release of her latest work, Couch Time with Carolyn. The book, set in Georgia, is a memoir, delivering intimate reflections about Smith through the relationships she has maintained with her uniquely close-knit group of Southern girlfriends, known as the Dunwoody Girls.

As the book’s title conveys, one of the central characters is Carolyn, a mom of one of the Dunwoody Girls and a dear friend in her own right. Although battling cancer, the older, wiser woman has plenty of fire in her to reminisce about her colorful past, delve into Smith’s life, and offer priceless advice. While sipping wine, sampling chocolates and puffing on cigarettes, they chat, laugh, cry and conclude that neither life nor love is random, and that even darkest days present valuable life lessons and moments worth cherishing.

“When I decided to write about Carolyn’s life lessons,” says Smith, “I realized I had to tell real stories, most of which involve the Dunwoody Girls (or DGs). The five of us have been dear friends since elementary school, so as one might imagine, we’ve had our share of hilarious and heartbreaking episodes. Interestingly, both male and female readers relate to the DGs’ bond, and they keep telling me that they laughed and cried throughout the book. That was my intention. After all, real friendship is all about experiencing the highs and lows in life together.”

Couch Time with Carolyn, released on August 1, and Smith’s poetry books for young children are available through her website at www.katiehartsmith.com. The paperback version of Couch Time with Carolyn sells for $15.00, and the e-book retails for $8.99. Individuals can also sample an audio reading from the first chapter at http://katiehartsmith.wordpress.com/2014/07/01/couch-time-with-carolyn-exclusive-chapter-1/. Organizations and others should contact Smith for speaking engagements, and additional information through her website.

Katie Hart Smith
katiehartsmith@gmail.com

Katie Hart Smith will be signing Couch Time with Carolyn on the Downtown Lawrenceville Square in September.

Friday, 9/5/14 from 5:30pm – 8:30pm
Sparkle! Design
162 E. Crogan Street
Lawrenceville, GA, 30046
(770) 237-9260
Critique Group Updates

New critique Group forming. Fourth Saturday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m. at Roswell Library. Contact Joe Ansley, josephdansley@gmail.com or 770-827-1255

Procedure for Joining AWC Critique Groups:

1. All requests from AWC members to join a critique group are to be forwarded to ron@hraiken.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.

There is a full time English instructor position at Gwinnett Technical College. The link is below. We are trying to get more people to apply. Thus far, only five people have applied.

August Meeting Photos

Member Minute speaker Lee Gimenez signs books at the break.

Lee Gimenez, Joe Barry Carroll and AWC president Valerie Connors try to get the slide presentation to work. Tara Coyt saves the day a moment later.

Speaker Dan Veach sells literary journals.

After the meeting, one last photo before packing up the AWC sign. Next stop, Decatur Book Festival.

Speakers Tara Coyt and Joe Barry Carroll talk about book consulting, and ghostwriting.
Authorship Media

LOOKING FOR A GOOD BOOK?
SUBSCRIBE TO THE IN PRINT REVIEW ……IT'S FREE!

Author Kevin J. Martinez and fellow member of the Atlanta Writers Club is starting a book publicity company. His company, Authorship Media, will offer affordable P.R. advertising campaigns to help new and established writers publicize their work. He will also offer a discount to members of the AWC.

Authorship Media will also publish a free monthly e-news magazine called The In Print Review. This news periodical will contain book reviews, interviews and articles about the art and business of writing. Please take a moment to visit www.authorshipmedia.com and become a subscriber. Who knows? You might even discover the next Hawthorne, Vonnegut, or Poe among our pages.

Rivendell Writers’ Colony Now Accepting Applications

Looking for a quiet, inspiring place to write? Apply for a subsidized writer’s residency at the Rivendell Writers’ Colony in beautiful Sewanee, Tennessee. To apply to be a writer-in-residence, go to the website, http://rivendellwriterscolony.org

Application Deadlines: Summer – March 31; Fall – June 30; Winter – September 30; Spring – December 31.

Questions? Contact AWC member Anjali Enjeti (former Rivendell writer-in-residence) at shestartedit@gmail.com
Alum Publishes Novel Focusing on Graduate Studies at UC

Chira shaktira nirjhara nitya jhare laha se abhisheka lalaato pare.” (The divine energy is continuously showered on us. Accept the blessings with your heart and soul.) – Nobel Laureate R.N. Tagore

"I found Newcomer very interesting and thought provoking. Mahasweta has sensitive perception that she is able to communicate well. I recommend the book. I probably would have been more effective in my job had I read this book when I started out.” – Dr. Joseph Boyd, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Cincinnati.

The Newcomer is a novel based on my personal experience as a female foreign graduate student at the College of Engineering, University of Cincinnati, in the early 80’s.

Mahasweta Ghosh, 80’s alum of the College of Engineering and Applied Science, has published a book focusing on her time as a foreign graduate student from Calcutta, India. Mahasweta’s main character narrates the story. The book titled, Newcomer, bounces back and forth between her life in an American institution and her sweet memories of home. She openly discusses her struggles with finances, an unfamiliar culture, and the demands of graduate studies in the states. She gives the reader a glimpse of her life in India and a clear perspective on American culture.

In her three and a half year stint at the university, the narrator’s life was mostly confined to campus and her one bedroom apartment. Though she did not have the means to explore the city, her impressions of it were quite strong. She offers an interesting look at the varying educational systems, traditions, and core beliefs.

As the main character narrates her time at the university, she invites the reader into her thoughts and emotions. With each new encounter, the reader is witness to her internal debriefing. She holds nothing back and asks honest questions. The Newcomer provides a lesson in openness- even in the midst of great trials.

The reader can be nothing but sympathetic as they turn each page of Mahasweta’s book. Being a newcomer is an experience almost everyone can relate to in some degree. The narrator’s raw struggle is an encouragement to resist life’s defining circumstances and to hold tight to our most cherished beliefs.

Q: What is Kindle Unlimited?
A: Kindle Unlimited is a new reader service that allows you to read as much as you want, choosing from over 600,000 titles and thousands of audiobooks. Freely explore new authors, books, and genres from mysteries and romance to sci-fi and more. You can read on any device. It’s available for $9.99 a month and you can cancel anytime. Try it out free for 30 days

Have you looked into Kindle Unlimited? As a new author, would you get faster recognition and more reviews by putting your book on Kindle Unlimited?
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.

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
Future Guests & Events

September:
Member Minute—Michael Brown
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*

December:
1st Speaker—Kimberly Brock, *Fiction*
AWC Holiday Gathering to follow

22 Lessons From Stephen King On How To Be A Great Writer

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.
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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](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.

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.