August 20th
1:30PM – 4:00PM
Georgia State University -
Dunwoody Campus
2101 Womack Rd.,
Atlanta GA 30338
Building NC Auditorium

Featuring:
Emily Carpenter – Member Minute
Haywood Smith – 1st Speaker
Susan Sands – 2nd Speaker

Newsletter for the Atlanta Writers Club
...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.

**Officers**

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**Photographers:**
Andre Santillana

**eQuill Publisher:**
Gene Bowen

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**Events in August**

- 13th Georgia Writers Assn. Mystery Writers Workshop
- 20th AWC Monthly Meeting
- 27th George Weinstein Workshop
- 31th Aesthetica Creative Writing Contest

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**September 2, 3, 4**

**AWC Fall Writers Conference**

**Nov. 4-5**

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http://www.facebook.com/people/Atlanta-WritersClub/100000367043383
http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub
August Speakers

Emily Carpenter – Member Minute
Haywood Smith – 1st Speaker
Susan Sands – 2nd Speaker
At our workshop in July, Lauretta Hannon said that “everyone has a story.” I would phrase it a little differently and say that “everyone has a voice.” Semantics, maybe, but I believe most of us have more than one story. Regardless, many of us find it difficult to articulate that story or that voice verbally with any degree of coherence. But give us a means to express ourselves in writing and we become the Great Communicator. At least in our minds. Let’s face it; most of us write to satisfy our ego. It’s a way to reveal a part of ourselves that isn’t apparent. In some cases, our writing might demonstrate a suppressed depth of learned knowledge or breadth of interests. In other cases, writing may help us express our most powerful inner emotions.

I believe that the personality of a writer is embedded in his or her words. It’s probably truer in fiction than in non-fiction, although some non-fiction writers are very creative and stylistic. Certainly, that is the aim of most memoirists, biographers, and historians. In addition, I have read many non-fiction articles in popular publications that rival the writing of any best-selling novelist.

However, fiction writers are charged with creating an entirely new narrative including plot, setting, characters, and theme. Within that framework “our story” reveals something about us that longs to be told. The trick, it seems to me, is to tell that story without blatantly rubbing the “message” into the eyes of the reader. Of course, it helps if the reader finds the story itself interesting. It’s funny how readers are so danged picky about that.

I’m not sure what all of this means, but my story is in there somewhere. The imprint of my DNA lies within the words. The same is true of you.

“Storytelling reveals meaning without committing the error of defining it.”
~Hannah Arendt

Have you told your story?

Mike Brown
President
EMILY CARPENTER – Member Minute

**Emily Carpenter**, a former actor, producer, screenwriter, and behind-the-scenes soap opera assistant, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communication from Auburn University. Her short fiction has appeared in numerous online literary journals, including *Hobo Pancakes*, *Sweatpants & Coffee*, *Dogzplot*, *Wyvern Lit*, and *LongForm Fiction*. Born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama, she now lives in Georgia with her family. *Burying the Honeysuckle Girls* is her first novel. You can visit Emily online at [www.emilycarpenterauthor.com](http://www.emilycarpenterauthor.com), Facebook and Twitter.

HAYWOOD SMITH – 1st Speaker

Atlanta native **Haywood Smith** has returned to Georgia from Boston and now lives near her son, daughter-in-law, two grandsons, and two granddaughters. Besides writing, she enjoys gardening and attending Blackshear Place Baptist Church in Oakwood, Georgia. She is an active member of Georgia Romance Writers, and loves speaking (without a speaker’s fee) for major women’s charity fundraisers and large Red Hat Society gatherings.

Her six successful historical novels, set in England and Scotland, won critical acclaim and many devout fans. But after a difficult divorce, she switched to writing *Hell Hath No Fury* hardback books about women who help each other to get over it and get better when their lives fall apart.

The Red Hat Club was on the New York Times Bestseller List. The Red Hat Club Rides Again debuted at #26 on the New York Times Best Seller list. The paperback edition of Queen Bee of Mimosa Branch appeared on both the USA Today’s list and the New York Times Extended Bestseller List.

SUSAN SANDS – 2nd Speaker

**Susan Sands** began writing on her fortieth birthday. Better than a hot young boyfriend or a red convertible as mid-life crises go. Her first book, *Again, Alabama*, was published a mere eight years later, with the second, *Love, Alabama*, following closely behind. Growing up in a small Southern town in Louisiana, Susan’s passion for reading sparked her interest in writing. She now writes stories about the quirky characters and fascinating relationships that are uniquely Southern.

Susan holds a degree in education, and has lived in the Johns Creek/Alpharetta suburb of Atlanta with her husband and three children for over twenty years.
Monthly Meetings

July Workshop Photos by Andre Santillana

1 Great Crowd of 100 People
2 Lauretta Hannon - “Everyone Has a Story”
3 Writing Exercises
4 Audience Participation
5 Lauretta Sells Her Books
6 The Cracker Queen and her fans
Monthly Meetings
The Atlanta Writers Club Presents

**Remembering Pat Conroy**

A panel discussion about the life and writing of author Pat Conroy.

**Free and open to the public.**
September 17, 2016, 1:30PM
Georgia State University, GPC Dunwoody Campus
Building NC, Auditorium
2101 Womack Road
Dunwoody, GA 30338

**Moderator - John Pruitt**

JOHN PRUITT retired from his anchor chair at WSB at the end of 2010 after a career spanning 46 years of covering news in Georgia. In 2014, he marked his 50th year in television journalism.

**Panelists - “The Boys”**

TERRY KAY, a 2006 inductee into the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame, is the author of 17 published works.

DANIEL SKLAR’s plays have been performed in New York’s Ensemble Studio Theatre, Atlanta’s Alliance Theatre, and the Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven.

CLIFF GRAUBART is the owner of the Old New York Book Shop in Atlanta. His short stories have appeared in numerous publications.

BERNIE SCHEIN is a published author and educator. A teacher for 33 years, he served as principal of three different schools.

According to Terry Kay, Pat Conroy’s “presence was more responsible for bringing attention to Atlanta writers in the 1970s and 1980s than anything, or anyone….I followed his rise to fame with interest and pride, but I preferred him as one of The Boys.” **Join us for a freewheeling, wide-ranging discussion among some of the writers who knew Pat best.**
Monthly Meetings

Future Guests & Events

2016

**August 20**
Emily Carpenter (Member Minute)
Haywood Smith (1st Speaker)
Susan Sands (2nd Speaker)

**September 17**
No Member Minute
Remembering Pat Conroy - Panel Discussion (1st Speaker)
Georgia Writers Association - Information Session (2nd Speaker)

**September 24**
2-Hour Workshop on Science Fiction Humor
Mickey Dubrow

**October 15**
Mary Anna Bryan (Member Minute)
Kimberly Brock (1st Speaker)
Stacy Allen (2nd Speaker)

**November 19**
Ron Aiken (Member Minute)
Jim Auchmutey (1st Speaker)
Daniel Black (2nd Speaker)

**December 17**
Barbara Connor – Member Minute
Lynn Cullen – Only Speaker
2016 Holiday Gathering
A WC Writers Conference

Presenting the 15th Atlanta Writers Conference
November 4-5

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 an editor or agent 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 an editor or agent to see if there’s any interest in the marketplace? If you answer, "Yes," to any or all of these questions, then the Atlanta Writers Club has a conference designed for you:

On Friday, November 4 and Saturday, November 5, 2016, the Atlanta Writers Club will present its next Atlanta Writers Conference (https://atlantawritersconference.com/about/) at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel. The goal of this conference is to give you access to twelve top publishing editors and literary agents—two more than usual and never any repeats from previous conferences—and to educate you with a workshop and talks by experienced industry professionals. The editors and agents will critique the manuscript sample, query, and synopsis, or nonfiction book proposal you submit in advance; respond to your pitch; 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.

After every conference some AWC members sign with conference guest agents and editors and realize their dreams of publication (see testimonials at https://atlantawritersconference.com/testimonials/). At the conference, you might be asked to send additional pages or an entire manuscript for their review. You certainly will know more about how your work is perceived by industry professionals, and you'll gain valuable experience interacting one-on-one with them.

You also will have fun, learn more about the publishing business, and get a chance to chat informally with these editors, agents, and your peers. We will have six editors and six agents in attendance: on Friday, November 4, we'll feature an Editors Q&A Panel to give you their viewpoints and on Saturday the 5th we'll have an Agents Q&A Panel to focus on their experiences and advice. In addition, you can register for up to two critiques and/or two pitches independent of any other activities, and we offer a conference package deal with an $80 savings if you want to participate in two manuscript critiques, two pitches, and every other activity on both days.

Moreover, we are featuring a special two-hour workshop on Friday, November 4 from Kathryn Ratcliffe-Lee, a Senior Marketing Associate at HarperCollins Publishers who works with the Harper Perennial and Harper Paperbacks imprints. After starting as a marketing intern in 2009, she joined the Harper group as an assistant, and has been with the paperback team since 2013. Along with developing frontlist and backlist campaigns for books each season, she actively tweets, blogs, instagrams, and snaps as Harper Perennial's “Olive.” On November 4 at 4:00 p.m., Kathryn will present the two-hour workshop “Creating Marketing Campaigns for Authors,” where she will review in depth what strategies and elements you should consider for your marketing platform at the various levels during your writing career. Kathryn will detail the
roles of social media and advertising in discovering and connecting with readers and share case studies on successful campaigns for a variety of books and authors, discussing the amount of work involved, the audiences reached, and lessons learned. Before her workshop, Kathryn Ratcliffe-Lee will present two 45-minute seminars as well: “From Frontlist to Backlist: The Publication Process and Lifespan of a Book” and “Managing Your Expectations for a Book Launch: Costly and Cost-effective Publicity Options.”

On Friday evening, we'll have a private mixer with all twelve editors and agents and Kathryn Ratcliffe-Lee that is open to all Conference participants, so you can socialize with our guests and network with each other.

With the Editors Q&A panel, Query Letter Critique, the two-hour Workshop, and evening mixer, it’s definitely worth taking a half-day off on Friday, November 4 so you can experience all these educational and developmental opportunities!

On Saturday, November 5, while the morning critiques are held, we will feature international best-selling author of The Pocket Wife and The Other Widow, Susan Crawford. Susan was signed by an agent she met during a 2012 Atlanta Writers Conference. She will provide two 75-minute talks: “Adapting Your Manuscript to the Publishing Process” and “Balancing Escapism and Realism in Your Book.”

That afternoon while the pitch sessions are held, Anju Gattani, international fiction author of Duty and Desire, freelance journalist, blogger, and former columnist and news reporter. Anju has been published in leading publications in the US, Singapore, Hong Kong, and India in fiction, feature, cover stories, news, interviews, and more. She will do 75-minute presentations on “Creating Credible Characters & Breathing Voice” and “The ‘Busi’ in Publishing – a Business!”

Kathryn Ratcliffe-Lee's 45-minute seminars on Friday and the four 75-minute talks by Susan Crawford and Anju Gattani 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 will 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 pitch. Quite a number of those who went on to score book deals and representation contracts started by receiving this award!

Our guest editors and agents love the Conference as much as the participants. Previous Conference guest Todd Hunter, Editor for Atria Books, raved, "The spirit of writing thrives at the Atlanta Writers Conference. The enthusiasm of the writers in attendance and the support they offer one another was inspiring to see. And the staff was so professional; ran the conference like a well-oiled machine. The Atlanta Writers Conference does not disappoint."
≡ THE CONFERENCE ≡

The conference on November 4-5, 2016 consists of SIX parts and you may participate in one, some, or all of these events:

1. One-on-one critique sessions on Saturday, November 5, where editors and/or agents share their evaluation and discuss your project for about 15 minutes with those who have submitted in advance the first 19 pages of manuscript plus a query letter and 1-page synopsis, or a 21-page non-fiction book proposal. You can register for up to two of these sessions.

2. Pitch sessions on Saturday, November 5, where you will provide a query letter to an editor or agent and discuss your project for about 10 minutes. You can register for up to two of these sessions.

3. Query letter critique on Friday, November 4 by an editor and an agent other than the one(s) you're meeting with on Saturday, so you can get advice about making it "pitch perfect" the next day for the editor(s)/agent(s) of your choice.

4. “Creating Marketing Campaigns for Authors” Workshop on Friday, November 4 with Conference guest speaker Kathryn Ratcliffe-Lee, Senior Marketing Associate at HarperCollins Publishers.

5. Panel discussion and Q&A with all six editors on Friday, November 4.

6. Panel discussion and Q&A with all six agents on Saturday, November 5.

We also offer a Conference All-Activities Package, which includes two manuscript critiques, two pitches, and all of the other activities, with an $80 discount.

≡ THE EDITORS & AGENTS ≡

The editors and agents below have provided the genres they are seeking to acquire, in their own words, and often identify specific genres they are not seeking, to decrease ambiguity. For these details, go to the editors and agents page on our Conference website (https://atlantawritersconference.com/the-agents/). The following editors and agents are participating in this Conference:

Hannah Braaten, Associate Editor, St. Martin’s Press at Macmillan Publishers

Gabriella Doob, Associate Editor, Ecco Books at HarperCollins Publishers

Caitie Flum, Literary Agent, Liza Dawson Associates Literary Agency

MacKenzie Fraser-Bub, Founder and Literary Agent, Fraser-Bub Literary

Sarah Guan, Assistant Editor, DAW Books at Penguin Group USA

Peter (Pete) Knapp, Literary Agent, New Leaf Literary & Media
AWC Brings Even More of the Top Literary Professionals to You
Event

DECATUR BOOK FESTIVAL

The Decatur Book Festival will be held:

**Friday, September 2nd**, 8:00pm - Keynote Address, Schwartz Center for Performing Arts at Emory University.

**Saturday, September 3rd**, 10am - 6:00pm  Decatur City Square Venues

**Sunday, September 4th**, noon - 5:00pm  Decatur City Square Venues

**AWC Member Book Sales**

If you are a paid, active member of the Atlanta Writers Club, …have written published books, …and are planning to attend the 2016 Decatur Book Festival,

Then you will have the opportunity to sell your books at the AWC tent this year.

Here’s what you need to know:
- The time periods are one hour long.
- You can sign up for only one period.
- You will share that period with one other AWC author.
- Periods will run on the hour for the entire length of the Festival, both Saturday and Sunday.
- We will try to accommodate your requests for specific periods, but they will be filled on a first come-first served basis.
- You alone will be responsible for the sales, including change, taxes, whether and how you will accept credit cards, and similar issues. The AWC will not take a percentage, nor will we be involved in the sales in any way, other than by providing you a table and a place to sit in the AWC booth.

If you are interested and meet the requirements, then what do you do? Email Clay Ramsey (clay@atlantawritersclub.org) and tell him you want to sign up to sell your books at the AWC tent at the DBF. Also tell him your first and second choices for preferred times. That’s it! He’ll let you know you’ve been scheduled and when, along with any other instructions you may need.
AWC Writers Track

As a sponsor of the DBF, the AWC will host a series of panel discussions titled the AWC Track. This year’s participants are:

**Thriller**
Saturday, September 3rd
11:15AM – 12:00
City Hall Auditorium
Buzz Bernard
Ilene Benator
Julia McDermott
Valerie Connors

**Nonfiction**
Saturday, September 3rd
3:00PM – 3:45 PM
Marriott Auditorium
Alvin Walker
Mark Ellingsen

**Historical Fiction**
Saturday, September 3rd
5:30PM – 6:15PM
Marriott Auditorium
Weldon Durham
George Hirthler
Mary Anna Bryan

**General Fiction**
Sunday, September 4th
12:00 – 12:45PM
Marriott Auditorium
Emily Carpenter
Merrill Davies

**Science Fiction/Fantasy**
Sunday, September 4th
2:30PM – 3:15PM
Marriott Auditorium
Kerry Alan Denney
Mickey Dubrow

**Mystery**
Sunday, September 4th
5:00PM – 5:45PM
City Hall Auditorium
John Sheffield
Theresa Worthy (pen name Kris Allis)
Lynn Tharp-Hesse
AWC Hospitality Room

The AWC will host a hospitality room for members and invited guests at the conclusion of the first full day of the Decatur Book Festival:

September, 3, from 4:00PM - 6:00PM
Decatur Writers Studio
708 Church Street (The Co-Works Building)
Decatur, 30030

The spacious facility is free and open exclusively for the AWC. The AWC will provide refreshments and Georgia Lee will host the reception.

Please support the writing community and the AWC by attending the Decatur Book Festival. It is a fantastic event.
Nedra Roberts’ American Association of Community Theatres winning play *WASH, DRY, FOLD* recently played to sold out houses at the Chicago Street Theatre. A photo from the play also made the cover of the July/August issue of *Spotlight*, the AACT magazine.

Nedra’s play *WRONG NUMBER* just closed at the Gallery Players Theatre in Brooklyn. The play will be produced in midtown Manhattan in November as the winner of the Hudson Shakespeare Company’s *NEW WORKS!* Competition. It also won the Texas Nonprofit Theatres' *TNT POPS!* Competition, and will be produced in the Baytown Little Theatre’s 2016-17 season. From there, the play moves to the Cupcake Theatre in North Hollywood, CA.

And Nedra’s 10-minute play *CATATONIC* has been produced in Myrtle Beach, SC, Gulfport/St. Pete, FL, and North Hollywood, CA. It now moves to Manhattan’s Times Square neighborhood as part of the upcoming July show *Shattered! Deception, Denial, and the Truth* by the Blue Pearl Theatrics at the DeSotelle Theater.

Way to go Nedra!
Lee Gimenez’ 12th novel, *THE MEDIA MURDERS*, has just been published by River Ridge Press. The novel, which is a J.T. Ryan Thriller, features the FBI’s John Ryan and Erin Welch. These characters were in several of my previous books including *SKYFLASH* and *THE WASHINGTON ULTIMATUM*. This new novel is available now in paperback and all eBook formats. Please check it out at the link below.

https://www.amazon.com/Lee-Gimenez/e/B002C1UXJI/ref=ntt_dp_epwbk_0

Before breaking an explosive story, a famous New York Times reporter dies under suspicious circumstances. Then a well-known TV reporter commits suicide. Suspecting foul play, the FBI’s John Ryan and Erin Welch investigate. As they probe the mysterious deaths, they uncover a shocking truth: Reporters are being murdered to suppress the news. More shocking is who they suspect is responsible for the killings. Can John Ryan and Erin Welch survive as they try to expose the conspiracy? Or will they be murdered by the assassins sent to keep them from revealing the truth?
Event

Milton Literary Festival

The City of Milton will be hosting the second annual Milton Literary Festival on November 11 and 12, 2016. The festival will begin with a “Words and Wine” kickoff event on Friday evening hosted by Cassandra King, widow of the late Pat Conroy. On Saturday, November 12, the FREE events will begin as best-selling author Lynn Cullen opens the festival as the keynote speaker. Throughout the day, there will be over 25 authors participating in panel discussions, workshops, children’s activities, cooking demonstrations and other special events. A special “Book Club Hookup” will take place in the afternoon where registered book clubs can meet and mingle with authors and fill their calendars with new club selections. AWC authors interested in participating in the festival should check out the Milton Literary Festival website www.miltonliteraryfestival.com. The Book Club Hookup requires advance registration.
Events

Conference

Chattahoochee Valley Writers Conference

Whether you are an aspiring or a published writer, poet, scriptwriter, playwright, or blogger, the 10th Annual Chattahoochee Valley Writers Conference will inspire you and guide you!

The conference kicks off with a FREE poetry event on Friday, Sept. 23 at 7 pm at the Columbus Public Library on Macon Road showcasing award winning poets Michael Diebert and Dan Veach.

On Saturday, we offer keynote speaker Billy Winn, plus seminars in Memoir Writing by Brenda Sutton Rose, Fiction Writing by Michael Bishop, Student Communications by Rob St. Clair, Screenwriting by Ty Mann, and poetry workshops by Michael Diebert and Dan Veach.

Registration is required. The cost of Saturday’s all-day conference is $50 if registered before 9/5/16, after 9/5/16, cost is $65. Seniors/Military $40, students $25. For more information go to chattwriters.org.

For the contest:
Submit a short story or up to 5 poems to the Chattahoochee Valley Writers annual contest. Entries must be received by Sept. 1, 2016 and the fee to enter is $10. Winners will be announced on Sept. 24, 2016. See chattwriters.org for complete details and submission guidelines.
The Broadleaf Writers Association is, at its heart, a nonprofit educational organization of writers and writing professionals assembled to instruct and inspire writers in their efforts to refine their craft. We aim to educate writers through seminars, webinars, programming, an annual conference, peer groups, and networking events that employ editorial-minded associates willing to lend their time and energy helping writers grow as artists. Getting published is the goal of every writer. We believe the craft of writing is the key to publication, and it is our desire to inspire writers reach that goal.

The Southern region is deep in a varied collective of talented writers in need of a spotlight. Through our efforts, through the community of writers we cultivate, we hope to establish an atmosphere designed to bolster the skill and understanding of writers both young and old, from any genre.


2016 Broadleaf Writers Conference

The Broadleaf Writers Association is pleased to announce that we will host the first annual Broadleaf Writers Conference September 24-25, 2016, at the Decatur Library in downtown Decatur, Georgia. Featuring an all-star cast of talented writers, agents and editors, and sessions packed with insightful information and experience, our conference will offer you all that you need to refine and improve your craft, and get you on the road toward publication!

Registration for the 2016 BWA Conference is now open! A discounted rate for current BWA members is available. If you are not already a member, you can do so and save at the time of your registration! In addition, you will have the opportunity to schedule a five-minute one-on-one session with an agent. For more information on how to schedule your appointment, visit our one-on-one page!

On Saturday, we will also be presenting a First Pages Critique for our panel of agents. Once you have registered, be sure to submit your first page and take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to get your manuscript on the right path!

Check out our list of this year’s confirmed speakers!

Registration prices are as follows (cost includes catered lunch):

- Non-Members $199
- Members $175
- One-Day Pass (Saturday only) $125
- Annual Membership $40
- Late Registration (begins 8/1/16) $225 Non-Members
- $200 Members
New York Times Best-Selling Author Joshilyn Jackson leads the lineup for The Writer’s High Retreat™ 2016 at Brasstown Valley Resort September 9 – 11 in Young Harris, Georgia. Joining Jackson are the award-winning authors Jessica Handler, whose memoir, Invisible Sisters, was named as one of the “Twenty Five Books All Georgians Should Read”; Michael Morris, whose third novel, Man in the Blue Moon, was named a best book of 2012 by Publishers Weekly; and the poet Clifford Brooks, whose first book of poetry, The Draw of Broken Eyes & Whirling Metaphysics, was nominated for two Pushcarts and a Pulitzer in Poetry.

The retreat is in its second year and already growing in stature. In fact, the venerable Atlanta Writers Club, which plays a critical role in supporting writers through its meetings, conferences, workshops, critique groups, and other activities that bring writers together, has stepped on board as an official sponsor for this year’s retreat. AWC Officer Emeritus and Conference Director George Weinstein will also speak at the retreat, acknowledging the profound and wonderful ways the AWC has changed his life since he joined in 2000.

“I've made my most important friendships, as well as critical industry contacts, through the AWC,” Weinstein said. “I'll share that story at the retreat and hopefully inspire the attendees to reach out and meet others who will enhance their own lives, not just as writers but as people.”

The Writer’s High Retreat at Brasstown Valley Resort package includes two nights’ accommodations, all retreat presentations, workshops, and events; meals included are
Friday and Saturday dinner buffet, lunch buffet Saturday, and breakfast buffet Saturday and Sunday. Prices also include all taxes and gratuities. From May 1 – June 30, rates are $754 for a single and $559 (per person) for a double. Space is limited. To register or to get more information, including the full program schedule, visit www.thewritershighretreat.com.

"Many retreat guests told me last year’s debut was ‘magical,’ and they felt energized in a way they’d never experienced before—’the writer’s high,’” said Mari Ann Stefanelli, retreat founder. “There’s a powerful alchemy that occurs when writers come together in a gorgeous, peaceful setting and are given the time, inspiration, and support they need to breathe life into their writing.”

A perfect weekend writing retreat, the program schedule weaves built-in writing breaks between inspiring and informative presentations and workshops. The featured speakers are accomplished authors, well-versed in fiction, nonfiction/memoir, and poetry, and known for their engaging and ground-breaking presentations.

**Joshilyn Jackson:** *New York Times* best-selling novelist Joshilyn Jackson is the author of seven novels: *Someone Else’s Love Story*, *Gods in Alabama*, *Between, Georgia*, *The Girl Who Stopped Swimming*, *Backseat Saints*, and *A Grown-Up Kind of Pretty*. Her books have been translated into a dozen languages, won SIBA’s novel of the year, three times been a #1 Book Sense Pick, twice won Georgia Author of the Year, and three times been shortlisted for the Townsend prize. Her new novel, *The Opposite of Everyone*, is a “must-read” according to the *New York Times* Book Review. Find out more [HERE](#).

**Clifford Brooks:** Clifford’s first book of poetry, *The Draw of Broken Eyes & Whirling Metaphysics* has been nominated for two Pushcarts, a Pulitzer in Poetry, and Clifford has been nominated for Georgia Author of the Year. With the attention his literary career has garnered, he has since started *The Southern Collective Experience* and was invited into *The Last Ancients*. Both of these groups have given Clifford new energy and inspiration to complete his next book, *Athena Departs*, which will be released later this year.

**Jessica Handler:** Jessica’s memoir, *Invisible Sisters*, was named as one of the “Twenty Five Books All Georgians Should Read” in 2010. She wrote the acclaimed writers’ guide, *Braving the Fire: A Guide to Writing About Grief and Loss*, to accompany her workshops about the challenges and rewards in writing well about difficult subjects. Her essays and features have appeared on NPR, in *Tin House, Drunken Boat, Full Grown People, Brevity, Newsweek, The Washington Post*, and *More Magazine*. Honors for her writing include residencies at the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation, the Hambidge Center for Creative Arts & Sciences, a 2010 Emerging Writer Fellowship from The Writers Center in Bethesda, Maryland, the 2009 Peter Taylor Nonfiction Fellowship at the Kenyon Review Writers Workshop, and special mention for a 2008 Pushcart Prize. Jessica is a Visiting Lecturer in English at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta.
**Michael Morris:** Michael’s debut novel, *A Place Called Wiregrass*, won the Christy Award for Best First Novel. The *Washington Post* compared his second novel, *Slow Way Home*, to the work of Harper Lee and Flannery O’Connor. It was nationally ranked as one of the top three recommended books by the American Booksellers Association and named one of the best novels of the year by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. *Publishers Weekly* named *Man in the Blue Moon* a best book of 2012. It was also an Indie Next List book club selection – ranking number three on the independent bookseller association’s list of recommended reads. Michael was a finalist for the Southern Book Critics Circle Award, and his essays have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times, The Dallas Morning News*, and the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*.

The Writer’s High Retreat™ is presented by the *Writer’s High, LLC*, a professional writing and editing service for authors, businesses, and individuals. Additional sponsors include *Atlanta Writers Club*, *Tinderbox Writers Workshop*, *Sensei Project*, an award-winning group of social media experts; *McCurdy Life Coach*, an executive coaching service, and *Crane Creek Vineyards*.

For more information or to register, visit The Writer’s High Retreat at [www.thewritershighretreat.com](http://www.thewritershighretreat.com) or contact retreat Founder and Executive Director Mari Ann Stefanelli at mariann.stefanelli@gmail.com. AWC members receive a $25 discount (use coupon code AWCTWHR when registering).
Workshop

SO YOU WANT TO BE A WRITER?
A Workshop with Award Winning Author GEORGE WEINSTEIN

Register today, space is limited
email georgiawritersmuseum@gmail.com | Call 706.991.5119 | order online @ georgiawritersmuseum.com

WORKSHOP TOPICS

- Why and what do you want to write?
- How will you achieve your goals?
- Obstacles to writing and how to overcome them.
- Developing the discipline of writing
- Deciding what to write about
- New ways to think about writing
- Good writing is good storytelling
- Options for publication, distribution, and sales

Hosted by the Georgia Writers Museum
109 S. Jefferson Ave, Eatonton, GA 31024
706.991.5119
georgiawritersmuseum@gmail.com

August 27th
10:00-12:00
$30 Member
$35 Non-member
Signed George Weinstein book included

ABOUT GEORGE WEINSTEIN

George Weinstein is an award winning author of five novels to date, including the forthcoming mystery Aftermath and the Southern historical novel Hardscrabble Road, a favorite with book clubs and other readers. George has been an active participant and leader within the Atlanta Writers Club since 2000. Information about George and his books is available on his website:
Deborah Malone's "Mystery Writing 101" August 13, 2016

When
August 13, 2016
12-2 pm
Add to Calendar

Where
KSU Center, Room 300
3333 Busbee Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144
Driving Directions

You’re invited to attend Georgia Writers Association’s first workshop in our Fall 2016 Schedule.

Come join us on August 13, 2016 from 12-2 pm as Deborah Malone hosts an investigation into mystery writing.

Whether you have always wanted to write a mystery novel, or are currently in the process, this workshop is for you! Deborah Malone, an established author and freelance writer, will cover many aspects of writing a mystery including characters, setting, clues, point of view, dialogue, and editing.

You don’t want to miss this adventure as we uncover clues along the way to a successful mystery novel!

Please click on the link below to register today.

Get more information

Register Now!

I can't make it

We look forward to cracking the case with you!

Sincerely,
Jessica Wilson
Administrator, Georgia Writers Association
administrator@georgiawriters.org
470-578-4736
Let the "Draft Queens" – M.J. Pullen and Emily Carpenter – and a small support network of fellow drafters help you start, write, and finish a draft of your novel (or narrative non-fiction book). By May 2017, your book will be ready for the next steps on the road to publication.

At $450 for the entire season, the DRAFT HOUSE accountability program includes:

- Personalized, achievable Drafting Schedule with daily and weekly word count goals, created by the Draft Queens, for your 9 month drafting term. Your word goal must be between 65,000 and 150,000 words.
- Daily check-ins to report your word count progress. (And a stern but loving accountability email from the Draft Queens if you fall short!)
- Weekly video conference group meetings to discuss word count goals, solve problems, and encourage your Draft Team
- Monthly online seminar covering common draft issues

GRADUATES receive an in-depth, developmental critique of their completed manuscript from one of the Draft Queens. And a DRAFT HOUSE t-shirt!

Nine months. Two bucks a day. Dream accomplished.

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE - APPLY NOW!

www.draftyourbook.com
The Southern Collective Experience (SCE) provides opportunities for writers, poets, musicians, and other artists via the online literary magazine *The Blue Mountain Review*, the NPR-affiliated radio program “Dante’s Old South,” and many other opportunities to present to and inspire the public.

The SCE is built by, and thrives, through brothers & sisters fused in all the arts, who feel the vibe below the Mason-Dixon Line even if their home isn't hugged in Dixie.

For more information, go to:

Contest

Aesthetica Creative Writing Award: 8 weeks left to enter

The 10th Aesthetica Creative Writing Award is currently open for entries, presenting a fantastic opportunity for budding and established writers and poets at Atlanta Writers Club to showcase their work to a wider audience.

With the aim to support and nurture new writing talent, the prize awards publication for 60 shortlisted writers, plus for the winners: £500 cash prize each, a consultation with literary agency Redhammer Management, a Full Membership to The Poetry Society, a subscription to Granta and books courtesy of Bloodaxe Books and Vintage Books.

Facebook/ Enews/ Email:

There are 8 weeks left to enter the Aesthetica Creative Writing Award 2016, presenting an opportunity for emerging and established writers and poets to showcase their work and further their involvement in the literary world. Now in its 10th year, the award is an internationally renowned prize presented by Aesthetica Magazine and judged by literary experts.

Prizes include:

£500 each (Poetry Winner and Short Fiction Winner)
Publication in the Aesthetica Creative Writing Annual
One year subscription to Granta
Selection of books courtesy of Bloodaxe and Vintage
Consultation with Redhammer Management (Short Fiction Winner)
Full Membership to The Poetry Society (Poetry Winner)

Short Fiction entries should be no more than 2,000 words. Poetry entries should be no more than 40 lines. Works previously published are accepted.

Deadline for submissions is 31 August 2016.

To enter, visit www.aestheticamagazine.com/cwa

Twitter:

.@AestheticaMag Creative #Writing Award: win #publication + support for your literary projects #poetry #shortfiction www.aestheticamagazine.com/cwa

Call for entries: #poetry #shortfiction @AestheticaMag Creative #Writing Award prizes incl. #publication www.aestheticamagazine.com/cwa

Entries are open for @AestheticaMag Creative #Writing Award prizes incl. #publication #poetry #shortfiction www.aestheticamagazine.com/cwa
Other Opportunities

We depend 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.

Fiction Critique Group Online

If you have difficulty in finding a critique group that meets at a convenient location and fits your schedule then you might consider the Atlanta Writers Club Fiction Online Critique Group. This group encompasses all genres of fiction writing from flash fiction to short story to novella to novels. All subject areas are welcome, although content warnings are appreciated. Group members are also encouraged to exchange information on any aspect of writing or publication, including query letters and self-publishing.

Lianne Simon has led this group for several years but is ready to hand it off to someone else. If you have an interest in hosting this group, please contact michael@atlantawritersclub.org.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Location</th>
<th>Genre(s)</th>
<th>Meetings</th>
<th>Contact(s)</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atlanta/Midtown</strong></td>
<td>Nonfiction</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Wednesday 6-7:30 pm at 77 12th Street</td>
<td>Ilanit Kateb <a href="mailto:ilanitkateb@gmail.com">ilanitkateb@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open/new</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Online</strong></td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Lianne Simon <a href="mailto:liannesimon@yahoo.com">liannesimon@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alpharetta</strong></td>
<td>All Genres</td>
<td>Barnes &amp; Noble on North Point Parkway in Alpharetta on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7p.m.</td>
<td>Susan McBrearty <a href="mailto:sjmcb816@gmail.com">sjmcb816@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>FULL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Avondale Estates</strong></td>
<td>Nonfiction</td>
<td>Mon, 6:30 p.m. @ Urban Grounds</td>
<td>Therra Cathryn Gwyn <a href="mailto:therra@earthlink.net">therra@earthlink.net</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Avondale Estates</strong></td>
<td>Nonfiction</td>
<td>Tues, 4-6p.m. @ Urban Grounds</td>
<td>Tara Coyt <a href="mailto:contact@taracoyt.com">contact@taracoyt.com</a></td>
<td>Waitlist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Buckhead/Midtown</strong></td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>4th Sat @11a.m.</td>
<td>Karen Holmes <a href="mailto:kpaulholmes@gmail.com">kpaulholmes@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Full</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conyers</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every other Tues, 6:30 @ Whistle Post Tavern</td>
<td>Nancy Fletcher <a href="mailto:ncfletcher50@gmail.com">ncfletcher50@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every other Thursday at Choco Late, 2094 North Decatur Road</td>
<td>Jonathan Grant <a href="mailto:landjgrant@bellsouth.net">landjgrant@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Adult &amp; YA fiction</td>
<td>Sunday, 1:30PM, monthly</td>
<td>Ricky Jacobs <a href="mailto:rickyjacobs@mac.com">rickyjacobs@mac.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Adult, YA fiction, &amp; memoirs</td>
<td>Sunday, 10AM, fortnightly</td>
<td>Ricky Jacobs <a href="mailto:rickyjacobs@mac.com">rickyjacobs@mac.com</a></td>
<td>Waitlist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Children's and YA fiction</td>
<td>Thursday, 10AM, monthly</td>
<td>Ricky Jacobs <a href="mailto:rickyjacobs@mac.com">rickyjacobs@mac.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Adult/YA fiction groups</td>
<td>Every 3rd Wed @ 7 @ Java Monkey</td>
<td>Ron Aiken <a href="mailto:ron@hraiken.com">ron@hraiken.com</a></td>
<td>WaitList</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Every other Wed, 6:30 pm @ Chocolat Coffee – Clair- mont/ North Decatur Road.</td>
<td>Ruth Gresh <a href="mailto:hrgresh@hotmail.com">hrgresh@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Waitlist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dunwoody</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Once a month, on the Saturday of the AWC meeting at 12:30 in the Georgia Perimeter College breakroom</td>
<td>Kieran Pavlick <a href="mailto:kieranpavlick@comcast.net">kieranpavlick@comcast.net</a>.</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lawrenceville/Snellville</strong></td>
<td>Novel, Short Story &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>1st Saturday @ 9:30 a.m. - noon @ member’s home</td>
<td>Kerry Denney <a href="mailto:kerryssi@bellsouth.net">kerryssi@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Loganville</strong></td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM</td>
<td>Mike Brown <a href="mailto:michaelbrown22@yahoo.com">michaelbrown22@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marietta</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Fri,1-3 p.m. @ Georgia Perimeter College Library Building, Rm3100</td>
<td>Linda Sullivan <a href="mailto:lindasullivan3@gmail.com">lindasullivan3@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Waitlist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poncey-Highlands</strong></td>
<td>All genera</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Monday Manuel’s Tavern email John fortune</td>
<td>John Whittemore <a href="mailto:thegridbook@gmail.com">thegridbook@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Starting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rowell</strong></td>
<td>All genera</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Thursdays The Heron House</td>
<td>Carolyn Graham <a href="mailto:Majesty.journey@gmail.com">Majesty.journey@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roswell</strong></td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>3rd Sunday</td>
<td>Nathan Simone <a href="mailto:nathan.simone@lycon.com">nathan.simone@lycon.com</a></td>
<td>Forming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roswell</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>4th Saturday of month</td>
<td>Joe Ansley <a href="mailto:josephdansley@gmail.com">josephdansley@gmail.com</a> 770-827-1255</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roswell</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every Tues 6:45 - 9:00 p.m. at member’s home</td>
<td>George WeinsteinRecursive <a href="mailto:george@smith.com">george@smith.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roswell</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Wed, 7 to 9p.m.</td>
<td>Jemille Williams <a href="mailto:jemille@bellsouth.net">jemille@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roswell</strong></td>
<td>Women’s</td>
<td>Twice monthly, Mon,10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. @ Roswell Library.</td>
<td>John Sheffield <a href="mailto:John.sheffield@aol.com">John.sheffield@aol.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 (showing Officer Emeritus George Weinstein’s e-mail address george@atlantawritersclub.org) one month before your membership expiration date. If you haven't renewed within a week, you will receive another e-mail every seven days, with a final e-mail one week from expiration. 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 george@atlantawritersclub.org prior to the expiration of your membership.

We appreciate your continued support of the Atlanta Writers Club. Your membership dues make it possible to bring fabulous speakers to our meetings, provide generous cash awards for our annual writing contest, and sponsor scholarships, literary prizes, and local writing festivals.
Regular membership dues are $50 per year per person. Students can join for $40 per year. Family members of active AWC members can join for $25 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.** At least one contest is held each year with a 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 Michael Brown at michael@atlantawritersclub.org
Membership Form

□ New Membership [Individual] [Family]
□ Renewal [Individual] [Family]

*If this is a Renewal, please update your information*

First Name: ____________________________________________
Last Name: ____________________________________________
Cell Phone: __________________ Other Phone: ________________
Email: ____________________________________________
Alternate Email: __________________

First Name: ____________________________________________
Last Name: ____________________________________________
Cell Phone: __________________ Other Phone: ________________
Email: ____________________________________________
Alternate Email: __________________

*For additional family members, please use additional forms*

I would like to become involved with the AWC as a: □ Meeting Volunteer □ Conference Volunteer
□ Decatur Book Festival Volunteer □ Other (please specify):

AWC MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual [**$50.00**]: $__________
Family [add family members for **$25.00** each]: $__________

Membership is for ONE YEAR

Student [**$40.00**]: $__________

Make checks payable to: Atlanta Writers Club
Tax Deductible Donation: $__________
Total: $__________

Mail check and form to: Atlanta Writers Club
C/O Ron Aiken, Treasurer
155 Glen Eagle Way
McDonough, GA 30253

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

Name: __________________________________ donated $ ________ to the Atlanta Writers Club.

Date: ________________________________

No goods or services were provided in exchange for or in association with this donation.

*Please keep this portion of the form as you receipt*