**September 17th**
1:30PM – 4:00PM, Georgia State University
Dunwoody Campus, 2101 Womack Rd.,
Atlanta GA 30338, Building NC Auditorium

Featuring:
Remembering Pat Conroy Panel,
Discussion – 1st Speakers
Georgia Writers Association,
Exit 271 staff – 2nd Speakers

**September 24th**
1:00pm - 3:00pm, GSU Dunwoody
*Humor Writing in Science Fiction and Fantasy* - Mickey Dubrow

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**eQuill**
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.

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Officers Emeritus:
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http://www.facebook.com/people/Atlanta-WritersClub/100000367043383
http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub

Events in August

3rd - 4th Decatur Book Festival
9th - 11th The Writer’s High Retreat
17th AWC Monthly Meeting
23rd - 24th Chattahoochee Valley Writers Conference
24th AWC Fall Workshop

AWC Fall Writers Conference
Nov. 4-5
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Remembering Pat Conroy Panel Discussion –
1st Speakers
Georgia Writers Association, Exit 271 staff –
2nd Speakers

September Speakers

In
This
Issue
After a long, hot summer, September ushers in a change of seasons. The oppressive heat should drop a few degrees and, for parents and grandparents, the little ones will have just begun a new school year. Then, right off the bat, we have a fantastic Labor Day weekend with the Decatur Book Festival, Dragon Con, and, yes, college football. It’s a complete overload of choices, like a delicious buffet with more than you can enjoy at one sitting.

Soon afterward, we will host our highlight meeting of the year. On September 17th at our regular time and place, the AWC will present a panel discussion, “Remembering Pat Conroy.” Moderated by popular Atlanta TV personality, John Pruitt, the discussion panel consists of four men who, along with Conroy, were known as “The Boys.” Terry Kay, Cliff Graubart, Daniel Sklar, and Bernie Shein were close friends of Pat years ago in Atlanta in the early days of their writing careers.

A new season is a good time to recharge our mental batteries. With all the chaos in the world, divisiveness in our own country, and catastrophic natural disasters, it’s sometimes hard to see the good among us. I saw a lot of it in the recent Olympic Games. Nations came together in respectful competition and world class athletes performed superbly. These athletes trained hard and sacrificed a lot to reach the pinnacle of their sport. Unlike Michael Phelps and Usain Bolt, most of them will never achieve fame and fortune, but they have aimed to be as good as they possibly can be. I find that inspiring. There will be no gold medals for me, no national anthem while standing on the top of the podium. But, I’ll keep trying to improve my writing skills. Not for any reward or recognition, but because that’s what writers do.

Another thought about the season upon us:

“All when fall comes, kicking summer out on its treacherous ass as it always does one day sometime after the midpoint of September, it stays awhile like an old friend that you have missed. It settles in the way an old friend will settle into your favorite chair and take out his pipe and light it and then fill the afternoon with stories of places he has been and things he has done since last he saw you.” — Stephen King

Have a great new season.

Mike Brown
President
Monthly Meetings

August Photos by Barbara Connor

1 Emily Carpenter
2 Haywood Smith
3 Haywood Smith
4 Susan Sands
5 Susan Sands
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 18 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.**
JOHN PRUITT anchored his last 11 p.m. newscast at WSB-TV on July 7, 2010, ending a 41-year run as a late news anchor. John continues to work on special projects and political commentaries for WSB, and in 2014, he marked his 50th year in television journalism. John has a history degree from Davidson College and has received many awards for his anchoring and reporting. He has won 10 Emmys, including Best Male Anchor and Best Documentary; five Sigma Delta Chi Quill Awards, the UPI Award for his coverage of Jimmy Carter’s presidential campaign and coverage of a north Georgia airliner crash; the Georgia Winner Award for Public Service, Father of the Year, Pioneer Broadcaster Award from the University of Georgia journalism school, the Silver Circle Award from the National Academy of Radio Arts and Sciences, an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Public Service from Presbyterian College (2004) and the Distinguished Achievement in Broadcasting Award from Di Gamma Kappa at the University of Georgia School of Journalism (2006). John has been inducted into the Atlanta Press Club Hall of Fame and the Georgia Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

TERRY KAY, a 2006 inductee into the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame, and a 2009 recipient of the Governor’s Award in the Humanities, has been further honored in 2015 by the Atlanta Writers Club’s designation of its annual fiction award as The Terry Kay Prize for Fiction. Kay has eighteen published books, including the 2016 release of The King Who Made Paper Flowers. His other works include Song of the Vagabond Bird, The Seventh Mirror, The Greats of Cuttcane, Bogmeadow’s Wish, The Book of Marie, To Dance With the White Dog, The Valley of Light, Taking Lottie Home, The Kidnapping of Aaron Greene, Shadow Song, The Runaway, Dark Thirty, After Eli, The Year the Lights Came On, To Whom the Angel Spoke, as well as a book of essays, Special K: The Wisdom of Terry Kay. In 2011, Kay was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Georgia Writers Association. He has received the Georgia Author of the Year award four times and in 2004 was presented with the Townsend Prize, considered the state’s top literary award. In October, 2006, he received the Appalachian Heritage Writer’s Award from Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, WV. In March of 2007, he was presented the Brooke Baker Award from Dunwoody Library honoring his career as a writer. LaGrange College and Mercer University have recognized his work with honorary doctorate degrees. Also in 2007, Kay was presented the Stanley W. Lindberg Award, named for the late editor of The Georgia Review and considered one of the state’s most prestigious literary honors, given for an individual’s significant contribution to the preservation and celebration of Georgia’s literary heritage. A native of Hart County, GA, Kay and his wife now reside in Athens, GA.
Monthly Meetings

September Speakers - The Boys

CLIFF GRAUBART is the owner of the Old New York Book Shop in Atlanta. He was born and raised in New York City. He attended the University of Toledo and is a graduate of Georgia State University. Graubart is the 2013 recipient of the Georgia Author of the Year in the short story category for his book, *The Curious Vision of Sammy Levitt and Other Stories*. He has written for *The Atlanta Journal Magazine*, *Good Life Magazine*, *Atlanta Magazine* & the *Atlanta Gazette*. He has operated a rare book store since 1971. Pat Conroy in his book *My Reading Life* devoted an entire chapter “The Old New York Book Shop” capturing beautifully the store and its significance in Atlanta literary history. He lives in Atlanta with his wife, Cynthia.

BERNIE SCHEIN was born, bred, and Bar Mitzvahed in Beaufort, SC. He graduated from Newberry College, Newberry, SC, and earned his Master’s Degree in Education from Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Bernie’s been featured and published in *Atlanta Magazine*, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *Newsweek*, *Creative Loafing* and other publications. His most recent book is *Famous All Over Town* (2014), following *If Holden Caulfield Were in My Classroom* (2009). His first book (co-authored with his wife, psychologist Martha Schein), *Open Classrooms in the Middle School*, was a featured selection of the Educators’ Book Club. At present, he writes, speaks and tells stories about his life as a Jewish Southerner. An educator for 45 years, he is also an educational consultant, doing workshops, giving talks and telling stories about the kids in his classroom at the Paideia School in Atlanta, where after serving as principal of three different schools, he taught for 33 years. In reviewing Bernie’s novel, *Famous All Over Town*, Pat Conroy wrote, “Like its author, this ambitious novel is by turns hysterically funny, wildly neurotic, uniquely sensitive, and heartbreakingly honest.” Bernie lives in Beaufort.

DANIEL JUDAH SKLAR’s plays, which include *Free Ride*, *What Peaches* and *A Hill in Hong Kong*, have been performed in New York at the Ensemble Studio Theatre, Atlanta’s Alliance Theatre, and the Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven. For over 30 years Daniel Judah has also taught Playmaking, his technique for helping children to write and perform their own plays, at institutions ranging from the Yale School of Drama, to P.S. 133 in Harlem, to the Native American Preparatory School in Bemidji, MN, to the elementary school in Brooklet, GA (pop. 600) to the San Francisco Juvenile Hall to *The 52nd Street Project* and *The Circle in the Square Theatre* in New York City. His interns in New York have gone on to teach Playmaking in Amsterdam, Oslo, Copenhagen, Toronto, Tel Aviv, Santiago, Chile and South Korea.
Monthly Meetings

September Speakers

A PAT CONROY SAMPLER

Georgia Writers Association – 2nd Speakers

Margaret Walters, Executive Director

Before joining with the Georgia Writers Association, Margaret received her Ph.D. from Arizona State University and, in 1997, began teaching at Kennesaw State University, where she teaches both undergraduate English and writing classes and graduate writing classes.

She has published a biography titled A.L. Burruss: The Life of a Georgia Politician and a Man to Trust. She has also had numerous articles published on topics such as professional writing and research.
Georgia Writers Association – 2nd Speakers

Jessica Wilson, Administrator
In 2009, Jessica Wilson received her Master of Arts in Professional Writing from Kennesaw State University. She was awarded the Robert Hill Award for Graduate Writing from Kennesaw State University in 2009. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of South Carolina Upstate and also attended Furman University as an undergraduate.

She is currently working on revisions of her first novel when not listening to the great imaginings of her young daughter or the endless barking of her two rescue dogs. Please direct any questions about GAYA, Red Clay Writers Conference, or the Georgia Writers Association in general to administrator@georgiawriters.org.

Val Mathews, Editor-in-Chief and Creative Designer, Exit 271: Your Georgia Writers Resource
Val Mathews is an ex-commercial pilot and once ate an entire bag of Fig Newtons on a spontaneous road trip from New Orleans to Philadelphia. (She puked.) However, now she is the editor-in-chief of Exit 271: Your Georgia Writers Resource and the founder of The Exit 271 Studio.

The Exit 271 Studio is a small group of nurturing editors who make revision and promotion fun. Go to http://www.exit271.com. Val lives in Athens, Georgia. She may be reached at editors@exit271.com.
Monthly Meetings

Future Guests & Events

2016

**September 17th**

No Member Minute
Remembering Pat Conroy - Panel Discussion (1st Speaker)
Georgia Writers Association - Exit 271 staff (2nd Speaker)

**September 24th**

2-Hour Workshop on Science Fiction Humor - Mickey Dubrow

**October 15th**

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

**November 19th**

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

**December 17th**

Barbara Connor – Member Minute
Lynn Cullen – Only Speaker
2016 Holiday Gathering
DECATUR BOOK FESTIVAL

The Decatur Book Festival is almost upon us. The festival takes place every year on Labor Day weekend. This year the dates are Saturday, September 3, and Sunday, September 4. The AWC booth will be located on East Ponce de Leon Avenue just to the east side of the Old Court House (the left side when facing the Old Court House).

This year, the AWC will sponsor a hospitality room on Saturday, September 3, from 4:00pm – 6:00pm. All AWC members and their guests are invited to attend. This is a great chance to meet up and mingle with fellow writers. Light refreshments will be served. The hospitality venue is in the CoWorks Building (The Decatur Writers Studio) at 708 Church Street.

The AWC Writers Track panel discussions will feature 16 AWC authors in 6 different genres as shown in the schedule below. Please attend as many of these events as you can to support our member authors.

There are still some time slots available for AWC authors who want to sell their books at the AWC booth. The time slots are for one hour and the authors are responsible to provide and sell their own books. Times will be provided on a first come-first serve basis by contacting Clay Ramsey at chramse@gmail.com

DECATUR BOOK FESTIVAL
Saturday, September 3   10:00am – 6:00pm
Sunday, September 4           noon - 6:00pm

AWC Hospitality Room at CoWorks (Decatur Writers Studio)
Saturday, September 3   4:00pm – 6:00pm

708 Church Street
Decatur, GA 30030
(2 blocks north of E. Ponce de Leon – see map)
AWC Writers Track – Panel Discussions

**Thriller**
Saturday, September 3 11:00am - noon
Panelists Buzz Bernard, Ilene Benator, Julia McDermott, Valerie Connors
Moderator Ron Aiken
Venue City Hall Auditorium

**Nonfiction**
Saturday, September 3 3:00pm – 3:45pm
Panelists Alvin Walker, Mark Ellingsen
Venue Marriott Auditorium

**Historical Fiction**
Saturday, September 3 5:30pm – 6:15pm
Panelists Weldon Durham, George Hirthler, Mary Anna Bryan
Moderator Katie Hart Smith
Venue Marriott Auditorium

**General Fiction**
Sunday, September 4 noon – 12:45pm
Panelists Emily Carpenter, Merrill Davies
Moderator Mike Brown
Venue Marriott Auditorium
Science Fiction/Fantasy

Sunday, September 4  2:30pm – 3:15 pm
Panelists          Kerry Alan Denney, Mickey Dubrow
Moderator          Connie McKee
Venue              Marriott Auditorium

Mystery

Sunday, September 4  5:00pm – 5:45 pm
Panelists          John Sheffield, Lynn Tharp-Hesse, Theresa Worthy (Kris Allis)
Moderator          Linda Sands
Venue              City Hall Auditorium

Other Events:

Susan Crawford will be speaking in the **Deadly Secrets** panel:
   Saturday, September 3
   1:45pm - 2:30pm
   Marriott Conference Center

Debra Goldstein will be speaking on the **Mystery, Murder, & Mayhem: Sisters in Crime SE Chapter** panel:
   Saturday, September 3
   3:00pm – 3:45pm
   City Hall Auditorium

Libby Ware will be speaking on **The Toll of Secrets** panel:
   Sunday, September 4
   Noon - 12:45pm
   The Old Courthouse

**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.
Event

Nedra’s Play

September 7th, 2016 @ 7:30 PM
Synchronicity Theatre
Free (donations accepted)

Newsman Jake doubts the verdict of the crime story that won him a Pulitzer but destroyed his relationship with Darcy, the daughter of the guilty man. He is determined to uncover the truth. Darcy’s aunt Margaret enlists Jazz Connor, a wily lawyer, to block Jake’s path in reopening the story. Jake uncovers the truth only to face a deeper question: whether doing the right thing is always the right thing to do.

Working Title Playwrights would like to thank Synchronicity Theatre for their support!

Directed by Julie Skrzypek
Featuring Jill Perry, Mark Kincaid, Robin Bloodworth, Tony Larkin and Tenaya Cleveland
Stage Directions: Nicole Smith

New Playwrights ready to see a brand new play on its feet request a produced reading. For a flat fee WTP provides a professional team of artists, a theater space, and marketing support. The series is produced with the support of professional Atlanta theater partners.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Nedra Pezold Roberts is an Atlanta playwright. Over the past several years, she has had productions or staged readings from coast to coast, and several of her plays have won competitions, including the Southern Playwrights Competition, AACT NewPlayFest (twice), Hudson Shakespeare Company’s NEW WORKS! Competition, and TNT POPS. Notably, the CalStage production of THE VANISHING POINT swept seven Elly Awards, among them Best Script, in the 2014 awards announced by SARTA, the Sacramento Area Regional Theatre Alliance. Nedra is a member of the Dramatists Guild, Working Title Playwrights, and the Atlanta Writers Club (board).
Presenting the 15th Atlanta Writers Conference on November 4-5: AWC Brings Even More of the Top Literary Professionals to You

On Friday, November 4 and Saturday, November 5, 2016, the Atlanta Writers Club will present its next Atlanta Writers Conference (www.atlantawritersconference.com) 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.

Conference Highlights:

- 6 editors from St. Martin’s Press, HarperCollins, William Morrow, DAW/Penguin, Simon & Schuster, & Tor/Forge
- 6 agents from top literary agencies
- Manuscript critiques: submit first 19 pages, query letter & synopsis in advance; discuss project and go over comments for ~ 15 minutes (short or nonexistent waitlists so far)
- Pitches: bring query letter and discuss project for ~ 10 minutes (some spots remain or short/nonexistent waitlists)
- Educational Activities: plenty of spots available!
  - Query letter critique: on November 4, editor and agent collaborate to help you improve your query letter for November 5 pitches and future use
  - Editor Q&A Panel and Agent Q&A Panel: Each offers an hour of publishing industry insights from differing POVs
  - Workshop on marketing: two hours of advice and help from a senior marketing associate at HarperCollins
- Free Activities if you register for any of the above
  - Two seminars by the HarperCollins senior marketing associate prior to the marketing workshop
  - Two seminars each by author—and Conference success story! —Susan Crawford and author Anju Gattani on the craft and business of writing
- Nov. 4 mixer with guest editors and agents
- Nov. 5 award ceremony
After every conference some AWC members sign with conference guest agents and editors and realize their dreams of publication. Here are some highlights from recent conferences:

Roger Johns – *Dark River* sold to St. Martin’s Press/Macmillan Entertainment in a two-book deal
Rebecca Albertalli – *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda* sold at auction to Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins
M.J. Pullen - *The Marriage Pact* trilogy, originally self-published, repackaged and released by St. Martin’s Press/Macmillan Entertainment
Emily Carpenter – *Burying the Honeysuckle Girls* sold to Lake Union at Amazon
Deborah Mantella – *My Sweet Vidalia* sold to Turner Publishing
Marie Marquardt – *Dream Things True* sold to St. Martin's Griffin

For a complete list of testimonials, go to [https://atlantawritersconference.com/testimonials/](https://atlantawritersconference.com/testimonials/)

**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
Bess Cozby, Associate Editor, Tor/Forge/ Starscape/Tor Teen 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
Chloe Moffett, Assistant Editor, William Morrow at HarperCollins Publishers
Natasha Simons, Associate Editor, Gallery Books at Simon & Schuster
Alexa Stark, Literary Agent, Trident Media Group

Julie Stevenson, Literary Agent, Lippincott Massie McQuilkin

Carlisle (Carlie) Webber, Founder and Literary Agent, CK Webber Associates

REGISTRATION

Please read all of the details on the registration page (https://atlantawritersconference.com/registration/) before you click the Cvent link there to register.

When you register, the Cvent conference registration webpage will show up-to-the-minute updates regarding availability for each manuscript critique and pitch session for all of these individuals. Simply read and follow the instructions on each page and complete your registration and payment within 60 minutes.

*If you don't see any spots available in the "Earlier Manuscript Critique" session for an agent/editor you want, scroll down to the "Later Manuscript Critique" session; the same applies to the Pitch sessions.*

QUESTIONS?

Complete details about all of the activities are on the Conference website. Start at https://atlantawritersconference.com/about/

If you still have any questions after reviewing the Conference website, please contact Atlanta Writers Conference Director George Weinstein at awconference@gmail.com.
DON'T WAIT FOR 'EM TO DIE: THE MEMOIR MASTER CLASS by Author & Huffington Post Blogger Lauretta Hannon

Saturday, October 8, 2016
11am-2pm
Marietta Museum of History
1 Depot Street, Suite 200
Marietta, GA 30060
770-794-5710
Early Bird Discount through September 16

Writing a memoir is a powerful, life-changing act, whether you ever publish it or not. This seminar addresses the issues and challenges specific to the memoir. This master class is perfect for the beginning writer and the seasoned author alike.

In this three-hour seminar you'll learn:

-How speaking your truth will set you free
-How to handle painful subject matter
-How to recognize the real F-word: FEAR and put it in its place
-How to deal with the opinions and reactions of family and friends
-How to revive old memories and fill in the gaps
-How to begin, organize, and frame your story
-Why authenticity matters more than anything else
-How marketing is essential to your success
-How to easily identify literary agents who are looking for memoirs

Each attendee will receive a workbook, resource packet, and recommended reading list. Once the master class has concluded, join us next door at Hemingway's for a libation and casual discussion.

Advance registration is required at memoirclass.brownpapertickets.com

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR
Lauretta Hannon is a bestselling author, Huffington Post blogger, and has been a regular commentator on National Public Radio's All Things Considered. She has taught and encouraged writers for more than twenty years. As a writer she has captured more than 100 national awards.

Her memoir, The Cracker Queen--A Memoir of a Jagged, Joyful Life, became a bestseller only three weeks after its release in April 2009. In 2010 the Georgia Center for the Book named her work one of the Top Twenty-Five Books All Georgians Should Read. Lauretta has completed six writing residencies at the Hambidge Center for Creative Arts and Sciences. She has also been an advice columnist syndicated in 24 newspapers. She is at work on her next book.

This master class is part of Lauretta's Down Home Writing School (DHWS) and is suitable for writers working at any level.
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.
Event
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.
Event
Conference

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
The Perfect Weekend Writing Retreat in the North Georgia Mountains

The Writer’s High Retreat™ to Feature NYT Best-Selling Author Joshilyn Jackson

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
North Georgia Retreat, cont.

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](http://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](http://www.thewritershighretreat.com).

**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 TheWriter’sHighRetreat at www.thewritershighretreat.com or contact retreat Founder and Executive Director MariAnn Stefanelli at mariann.stefanelli@gmail.com. AWC members receive a $25 discount (use coupon code AWCTWHR when registering).
Workshop

AWC FALL WORKSHOP

Humor Writing in Science Fiction and Fantasy
Conducted by MICKEY DUBROW

September 24th
1:00pm – 3:00pm
Georgia State University Dunwoody Campus
2101 Womack Road
Building NC Auditorium
Dunwoody, GA 30338

Science Fiction and Fantasy allow our imaginations to create new worlds filled with amazing creatures. Occasionally, we love to see those creatures slip on a banana peel. Science Fiction and Fantasy depend on suspending disbelief. Adding humor can be challenging because humor is so subjective. Whether you’re trying to be the next Douglas Adams, Terry Pratchett, or just want to inject moments of levity to your dark fantasy, this workshop will discuss how to adapt humor for genre writing. In space, no one can hear you fart. Participants will have a chance to try out their comedic chops with writing exercises, and will leave with take-home writing prompts to use in their own work.

Mickey Dubrow’s work has appeared in Full Grown People, The Good Man Project, The Atlanta Jewish Times, and Prime Number Magazine. As a writer and producer for television, he is the recipient of several broadcast writing awards, including a 2013 Telly Silver Award, and a 2007 Promax Silver Award. His clients include Cartoon Network, Cartoon Network Latin America, CNN, TNT Latin America, and Home & Garden Television. Under the pen name, Allan Kemp, he writes the Black Phoenix urban fantasy series. His short stories have appeared in Dark Gothic Resurrected, Babes and Beasts: Tales of Lusty Shifters, and the forthcoming “Super Weird” Anthology from Pro Se Publications. Mickey lives in Atlanta with his wife.
WRITE & SELL YOUR SHORT STORY

How-to-Write & Sell Your Short Story Workshop - October 8, 2016

Join four award-winning crime-fiction short story authors as they take you through the steps of How-to-Write & Sell Your Short Story. Sponsored by the Atlanta Chapter of Sisters in Crime (SinC Atlanta), the workshop will be held Saturday, October 8, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the DeKalb Central Library in Decatur, Georgia.

Workshop attendees will learn how to create lifelike characters and submerge them in tight, tangled plots that keep readers up long past bedtime. The last session includes resources and strategies for making short stories pay off.

Lisa Malice, President of Sisters in Crime’s Atlanta Chapter: "Short stories are a great way to get started as a writer. They allow you to learn the craft of story-telling, sharpen your writing skills, and earn money and publication credits—all of which help you capture the attention of agents and publishers when you are ready to sell your first book.

"If you’re a published novelist, short stories are a great way to hold your fans’ interest between books, draw new readers, and explore new book ideas and genres. Write enough short stories, and you have a ready-made book to sell."

The four author-presenters are:

Legislative Attorney Paula Gail Benson’s short stories have appeared in many online and print anthologies, including A Matter of Honor, co-authored with bestselling author, Robert Dugoni, was included in Killer Nashville Noir: Cold Blooded (Diversion Publishing, 2015). She regularly blogs about writing through The Stiletto Gang, Writers Who Kill, and her personal blog, Little Sources of Joy. Visit with Paula at www.PaulaGailBenson.com.

Robert Mangeot’s writing appears in many varied journals and anthologies, they include, Mystery Writers of America Presents Ice Cold: Tales of Intrigue from the Cold War, and Murder Under the Oaks. His stories have won numerous contests and awards, notably, awards from the Chattanooga Writers’ Guild and Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers. Next up is his fourth piece for the Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine. Learn more about Robert, and the unusual sandwich he
Workshop


Kaye George is a national best-selling author, three-time Agatha Award nominee, and a Killer Nashville Silver Falchion Award finalist. Writing under her own name and under the pseudonym Janet Cantrell, she writes four popular mystery series. Her numerous short stories appear in a wide variety of anthologies and magazines. Learn more about Kaye at www.KayeGeorge.com.

Judge Debra H. Goldstein is the author of two novels, Should Have Played Poker, and Maze in Blue. Her short stories and essays have received numerous awards and been published in numerous periodicals and anthologies, including Mardi Gras Murder and The Killer Wore Cranberry: A Fourth Meal of Mayhem. “Debra serves as Chair of the Short Story Initiative on the national Sisters in Crime Board and is an active member of Mystery Writers of America. Learn more about Debra at www.DebraHGoldstein.com.

Workshop fee (includes lunch, materials, beverages): $40 (SinC members, $20).


* * *
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-Sponsored Critique Groups</th>
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<td><strong>Atlanta/Midtown</strong></td>
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<td>Nonfiction</td>
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<td>6-7:30 pm at</td>
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<td>77 12thStreet</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:ilanitkateb@gmail.com">ilanitkateb@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td><strong>Online</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Alpharetta</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Conyers</strong></td>
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<td>Nancy Fletcher</td>
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<td>Kerry Denney</td>
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<td><strong>Marietta</strong></td>
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<td>Jemilie Williams</td>
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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.
Membership Information – The Atlanta Writers Club

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]: \$________
Student [\$40.00]: \$________

Membership is for ONE YEAR

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*