AWC monthly meeting: November 19th
1:30PM – 4:00PM, Georgia State University
Dunwoody Campus, 2101 Womack Rd.,
Atlanta GA 30338, Building NC Auditorium

Featuring:
Ron Aiken (Member Minute)
Jim Auchmutey - 1st Speaker
Daniel Black - 2nd Speaker
...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.

Events in November
Atlanta Writers Conference  4\textsuperscript{th} & 5\textsuperscript{th}

Gwinnett Library Workshop  12\textsuperscript{th}

Mary Alice Monroe Events  18\textsuperscript{th} & 19\textsuperscript{th}

AWC Monthly Meeting  19\textsuperscript{th}

AWC Fall Writers Conference
Nov. 4-5

http://www.facebook.com/people/Atlanta-WritersClub/10000367043383
http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub
November 19th Speakers

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

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At our meeting in September, Terry Kay said, “I don’t write to tell a story. I write to \textit{discover} the story.” That struck home to me and I think it speaks to the whole notion of creativity. The majority of novelists I have spoken to do not use an outline to any significant degree. In my opinion, the whole concept of predetermining the plot is counterintuitive to the process of discovery. To quote Truman Capote, “That is not writing, it’s typing.”

Writing can be a very intense process at times when several hours of thought and pounding away on the keyboard may produce few, if any, pearls of brilliance. But, for me, the joy of writing comes at that time when a new idea pops into my mind and makes the story or character more compelling. Some writers say that the characters take on a life of their own. But I say the writer gives life to the characters. That’s the fun part. Or, it might be the gut-wrenching part. Either way, it’s the part that gives the writing its flavor.

An instructor in a writing workshop once told me, “Paint yourself into a corner and then find your way out.” I’ve done that several times, not always on purpose. After a few days of squeezing the blood from my brain, a solution comes to me as if delivered from above by the messenger god, Mercury. That is either dumb luck or inspiration. I prefer to think of it as the latter.

The concept of surprise is often used in non-fiction as well as fiction. There are often details or obscure facts that make the telling of a well-known event or person more interesting. This is discovery of a different kind, one of research instead of inspiration, yet it still gives life to a story that might otherwise be unimaginative.

Here’s another perspective:

“No tears in the writer, no tears in the reader. No surprise in the writer, no surprise in the reader.” \textit{Robert Frost}

I hope to see you at our Conference on November 4\textsuperscript{th} and 5\textsuperscript{th} and at our next meeting on November 19. Have a great Thanksgiving.

Mike Brown
President
Monthly Meetings

October Meeting Photos
by Perry Powell

Mary Anna Bryan

Jennifer Avery

Paul Jenkins

Jennifer Avery answers questions about editing

Lots of questions for Paul Jenkins about multi-media writing
Monthly Meetings

November Speakers

RON AIKEN – Member Minute

Ron Aiken is a retired member of the New York and Florida state bar associations. An Atlanta Writers Club member since 2007, his first novel, *Death Has Its Benefits* was a Kirkus Reviews recommended new release, the reviewer concluding, “Told in short, snappy chapters with sharp, wiseass dialogue ... [the story] builds into a thrilling ride to hell.” Currently, Ron is the Treasurer of the Atlanta Writers Club. In addition, he serves on a local arts board, teaches chess to elementary school kids, and in his spare time takes flute lessons. He lives in McDonough with his wife, Herma, and their three cats.

JIM AUCHMUTEY – 1st Speaker

Jim Auchmutey spent twenty-nine years at the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* as a reporter and editor, twice winning the Cox Newspaper chain’s Writer of the Year award. He first visited Koinonia Farm in 1980 and has written extensively about the commune, the South, race relations, religion, and history. His highly acclaimed non-fiction book, *The Class of ’65: A Student, a Divided Town, and the Long Road to Forgiveness*, tells the story of one young man who showed courage and empathy in the midst of racial strife. He lives in Georgia.

DR. DANIEL BLACK – 2nd Speaker

Daniel Omotosho Black is a native of Kansas City, Missouri, yet spent the majority of his childhood years in Blackwell, Arkansas. He was granted a full scholarship to Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia, where he majored in English. He was awarded the Oxford Modern British Studies Scholarship and studied abroad at Oxford University, Oxford, England. Upon graduation from Clark College (magna cum laude in 1988), he was granted a full graduate fellowship to Temple University in pursuit of a Ph.D. in African-American Studies.

Completing this phase of his academic career in 1993, with Sonia Sanchez as one of his dissertation advisers, Dr. Black returned to his alma mater in order to help establish the tradition of top-notch scholars who publish and remain at historically Black institutions. He is an associate professor at his alma mater, Clark Atlanta University, where he now aims to provide an example to young African Americans of the importance of self-knowledge and communal commitment. He is the author of *They Tell Me of a Home, The Sacred Place, Perfect Peace*, and *Twelve Gates to the City.*
Monthly Meetings

Future Guests & Events

2016/17

November 19, 2016
Ron Aiken (Member Minute)
Jim Auchmutey
Daniel Black

December 17, 2016
Barbara Connor (Member Minute)
Lynn Cullen
Annual Holiday Gathering

January 21, 2017
Katie Hart Smith (Member Minute)
Clifford Brooks
Deborah Malone

February 18, 2017
Linda Sands (Member Minute)
Alex Berensen
Mary Hall Kelly

March 11, 2017
Spring Writing Workshop with Cherry Weiner

March 18, 2017
Barbara Brockway (Member Minute)
Amber Brock
Scott Hawkins
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.
Inheriting Edith is a poignant breakout novel, for fans of J. Courtney Sullivan and Elin Hilderbrand, about a single mother who inherits a beautiful beach house with a caveat—she must take care of the ornery elderly woman who lives in it.

For years, Maggie Sheets has been an invisible hand in the glittering homes of wealthy New York City clients, scrubbing, dusting, mopping, and doing all she can to keep her head above water as a single mother. Everything changes when a former employer dies leaving Maggie a staggering inheritance. A house in Sag Harbor. The catch? It comes with an inhabitant: The deceased’s eighty-two-year old mother Edith.

Edith has Alzheimer’s—or so the doctors tell her—but she remembers exactly how her daughter Liza could light up a room, or bring dark clouds in her wake. And now Liza’s gone, by her own hand, and Edith has been left—like a chaise or strand of pearls—to a poorly dressed young woman with a toddler in tow.

Maggie and Edith are both certain this arrangement will be an utter disaster. But as summer days wane, a tenuous bond forms, and Edith, who feels the urgency of her diagnosis, shares a secret that she’s held close for five decades, launching Maggie on a mission that might just lead them each to what they are looking for.
Contest

MASTERS REVIEW FALL FICTION CONTEST


Fall Fiction Contest \ $2000 + Publication

|| Judged by Kelly Link ||

OPEN: SEPT 15 – NOV 15

Fall is our favorite time of year and this year’s contest is judged by one of our favorite writers. Get stoked. We are.

|| SUBMIT NOW ||

Our Fall Fiction Contest, which awards $2000 and publication to the winner, is open until November 15. This year the incredible Kelly Link will judge stories. Full details and guidelines can be found below:

- Winner receives $2000, a year’s subscription to Duotrope, and publication
- Second and third place prizes ($200, $100, and publication)
- Stories under 7000 words
- Simultaneous and multiple submissions allowed
- Emerging writers only (We are interested in offering a larger platform to new writers. Self-published writers and writers with story collections and novels with a small circulation are welcome to submit.)
- International submissions allowed
- $20 entry fee
- Deadline: November 15
Contest

- Please no identifying information on your story
- All stories are considered for publication

To submit a story click the submit button:

SUBMIT BUTTON

Contest Details:
Fifteen finalists will be selected and announced on or before December 21, 2016. Kelly Link will select three winners from this group. Winners will be announced in January. The winning writer will be awarded $2000, publication, and a year’s subscription to Duotrope, one of the best resources for writers on the web. Second and third place will be awarded $200 and $100, respectively and also earn publication on the site. All stories submitted will be considered for publication. It is very common for us to accept additional work.

We don’t have any preferences topically or in terms of style. We’re simply looking for the best. Like our judge, we don’t define, nor are we interested in, stories identified by their genre. We do, however, consider ourselves a publication that focuses on literary fiction and are looking for stories that dazzle us, take chances, are bold — and do so by focusing on more than plot. For a good idea of what we like you can read last year’s winners. Our New Voices archive is also a good reference.

Last Year’s Winners:

Winner: “Linger Longer” by Vincent Masterson
Second Place Story: “Pool People” by Jen Neale
Third Place Story: “Animalizing” by Marisela Navarro

About Kelly Link

KELLY LINK is the award-winning author of numerous short story collections including Stranger Things Happen, Magic for Beginners, Pretty Monsters, and Get in Trouble. Her short stories have been published in The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction, The Best American Short Stories, and Prize Stories: The O. Henry Awards. She has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. She and Gavin J. Grant have co-edited a number of anthologies, including multiple volumes of The Year’s Best Fantasy and Horror and, for young adults, Steampunk! and Monstrous Affections. She is the co-founder of Small Beer Press and co-edits the occasional zine Lady Churchill’s Rosebud Wristlet. Get In Trouble was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2016 and was named a Best Book of The Year by Time, Kirkus Reviews, Slate, The Washington Post, and many others.
Event

Mary Alice Monroe

2016 NORTH GEORGIA READS to HOST BESTSELLING AUTHOR MARY ALICE MONROE

North Georgia Reads will host New York Times bestselling author Mary Alice Monroe for book signing events from November 18 through November 20.

North Georgia Reads was created to promote collaboration between neighboring library systems and to bring bestselling authors to a community of 46 libraries in north Georgia.

Gwinnett County Public Library
Saturday, November 19th at 7:30 pm
Christ the King Lutheran Church
5575 Peachtree Parkway in Peachtree Corners
Free beverages and food.

Cobb County Public Library System
Friday, November 18th at 7 pm
266 Roswell Street in Marietta

Mary Alice will discuss her new book A Low Country Christmas. The book’s main character was inspired by retired Captain Luis Carlos Montalvan and his service dog Tuesday. The author will discuss their advocacy work for disabled veterans. All programs are free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase and signing.
Event

Gwinnett Library

Free Fall Writer’s Workshop with Award Winning Author Dori Kleber presented by Gwinnett Library

Gwinnett County Public Library and SCBWI will present this writer’s workshop with Dori Kleber on Saturday, November 12 at 1:00pm at our Five Forks Branch, 2780 Five Forks Trickum Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30044. It is free and open to the public. Writers please bring the first page of your book to share and be critiqued, if you wish.

Dori Kleber began her career as a newspaper reporter before working in public relations and corporate branding. After more than twenty years as a professional writer, she began writing fiction for children in 2009. Her debut book More-igami, published by Candlewick Press, is a “2016 Books All Young Georgians Should Read” winner. She has been writing for seven years and will discuss the writing process and how to get published.
What about that book you’ve always wanted to write?

WE CAN HELP!

KSU’s M.A. in Professional Writing Program’s

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CREATIVE WRITING

A unique four-course, non-degree program that provides instruction, and membership in a lively community of engaged writers for those who seek intensive creative writing practice led by award winning writers.

learn in graduate-level writing workshops taught by professional writers

improve your writing and explore publishing opportunities

participate in literary events

take courses in fiction, poetry, playwriting, feature writing, screenplay writing and memoir writing

broaden your personal and professional horizons!

QUALIFICATIONS
An undergraduate degree in any subject. No GRE is required for this program. Apply by Nov 15 for Spring ‘17; Feb 1 for Fall ’17. Senior tuition waiver applies. http://mapw.hss.kennesaw.edu 470 578 3335
November is National Novel Writing Month.

On November 1, participants begin working towards the goal of writing a 50,000-word novel by 11:59 PM on November 30. Valuing enthusiasm, determination, and a deadline, NaNoWriMo is for anyone who has ever thought about writing a novel.

Interested? Below are several resources:

National Novel Writing Month
http://nanowrimo.org/

NaNoWriMo Prep: Planning Your Novel

NaNoWriMo Prep: 30 Tips for Writing a Book in 30 Days

“Don’t talk to me about suffering—in my spare time, I’m a writer.”
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.

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.
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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 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*