AWC monthly meeting:  
September 16th  
12:30PM – 4:00PM,  
Georgia State University  
Dunwoody Campus, 2101 Womack Rd.,  
Dunwoody GA 30338,  
Building NC Auditorium
...founded in 1914

We are a social and educational club where local writers meet to discuss the craft and business of writing. We also sponsor contests for our members and host expert speakers from the worlds of writing, publishing, and entertainment.

Offices

President: Ron Aiken

Officers Emeritus:
Michael Brown
Valerie Connors
George Weinstein
Clay Ramsey
Marty Aftewicz

Conference Director: George Weinstein

Membership VP: Yvonne Green

Programs VP: Valerie Connors

Operations VP: Jennifer Wiggins

Contests, Awards, Scholarships VP: Clay Ramsey

Social Media VP: Gene Bowen

Secretary: Bill Black

Treasurer: Ron Aiken

Historian/By-Laws: George Weinstein

eQuill Publisher: Gene Bowen

Events in September:

Decatur Book Festival 1, 2 & 3
10th Gwinnett Public Library Book Talk
16th AWC monthly meeting

http://www.facebook.com/people/Atlanta-WritersClub/100000367043383
http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub
September 16th meeting

Gloria Barnes – Member Spotlight
Colleen Oakley – 1st Guest Speaker
Rob Jenkins – 2nd Guest Speaker

In This Issue
4 President’s Message
6 September Speakers
7 Future Events
8 August photos & recap
9 2017 AWC Writers Conference
11 Member Q&A: Anju Gattani
15 AWC Scholarship Awarded
16 AWC Track at DBF
17 David Fulmer Workshop
17 Barbara Brockway Accolade
18 Opportunities
19 Opportunities
20 Gwinnet Public Library events
20 Milton Literary Festival
21 The Draft House
22 Opportunities
23 Opportunities
24 Critique groups
25 Administrative matters
26 Membership info
27 Membership form
Game of Thrones is one of my favorite dramas. It’s got everything I like in a story. Complex characters—everyone’s got conflicting agendas—an exotic setting, robust dialogue and plenty of action. In short, all the elements I try to imbue my writing with. And I’m especially drawn to George R. R. Martin’s, the author on which the show is based, dialogue.

An example from a recent episode: Jamie Lannister’s army has just been devastated by a fire-breathing dragon. The smoking ruins of his smoldering men eclipse the morning sun.

“I’ve got to tell Cersei,” Jamie says.

Bronn, who dragged Jamie from the river, says. “You might as well jump back in the river.”

Even if you aren’t familiar with Martin’s books or the show, this short dialogue tells so much about these characters.

Cersei. Arrogant, strong-willed, delusional.

Jamie, loyal, but naïve.

Bronn, a jokester, yet pragmatic.

Arguably, writing good dialogue is the most challenging aspect of the craft.

“If dialogue is just doing one thing, then I know I have to rework it,” says ZZ Packer, author of the acclaimed short story collection, Drinking Coffee Elsewhere. “It has to be hitting six or seven different things. It has to be characterizing, it has to be atmospheric, it has to be informative and provide exposition.”

That’s asking a lot from dialogue. I try to hear the conversation in my head without the nonessential chatter—what Atlanta Writers Club friend, David Fulmer, called “happy talk”—“How you doin’? “Fine.” In other words, move the story along.

Writing good dialogue takes practice and patience, and here are ten tips from Jane Espenson (Buffy and The Gilmore Girls) to improve your dialogue so your conversations sizzle.

1- Read dialogue aloud. This will help noticing the flow and movement of their words.

2- Don’t use dialogue to convey large chunks of information (exposition). People don’t sound like this: “Since we arrived here at four, to watch for Martin Goodfellow, the murderer, I’ve felt hungry.” It’s okay if readers don’t know exactly what’s happening at all times – trust them to understand the story because they are intrigued by the voices of your characters.

3- Dialogue should sound real, but that doesn’t mean dialogue on the page is exactly like snippets of dialogue you overhear. You don’t need all the Hellos, Goodbyes and boring small talk of daily life. Cut it out.

4- Good dialogue should move the story forward, convey character and feel full of
life. The best place to see great dialogue is by attending (or reading) plays, watching movies or even just switching on the TV.

5- If you want your character to say, “I need you,” think about the words they would actually use. Perhaps they’d say, “Do you have to catch the early bus?”

6- Learn how to write the correct punctuation for speech.

7- Another technical dialogue tip: he said and she said read just fine. Don’t worry about repetition, most readers glide over he said/she said as if those words were punctuation. Too many of these: exclaimed, gasped, screeched, postulated, reasoned, argued, pondered, mouthed, etc…. and your dialogue will be overwhelmed by the words around it.

8- Have people argue with people, or have people saying surprising, contrary things. If everyone is agreeing with each other, your story will feel flat.

9- Think about how each of your characters sounds. Make each voice distinct – this can be subtle or dramatic. Perhaps one character likes to use a certain word or short phrase, so make sure the other characters don’t use that same word or phrase.

10- People don’t have to answer each other directly. Sometimes what’s not said has huge meaning.

Bottom line: Dialogue has to sound like it’s spoken by real people … but not.
Monthly Meetings

September Speakers

**Gloria Barnes** has been a member of AWC for over four years and has a variety of interests. She is currently writing a non-fiction book on relationships. As a business owner of a computer software company for over 35 years, she has written many technical articles for IBM magazines and professional computer publications. She has also served on the Board of Directors for the IBM Atlanta users group for over 16 years.

One of Gloria's favorite interests is public speaking. She is past President of the Sandy Springs Toastmasters Club and was founder of the first advanced Toastmasters Club in the state of Georgia. She is a past member of Georgia Speakers Association and the National Speakers Association. She and her husband have trained many professionals on how to improve their speaking and communication skills. She is also past President of the Sandy Springs Optimist Club, which creates opportunities for children to develop their speaking and writing skills.

Another interest of Gloria's is cooking and finding great recipes to try out on her family and friends. She and her husband, Jim, live in Sandy Springs and have two grown sons, Jake and Eli.

**Colleen Oakley’s** debut novel *Before I Go* was a *People Best New Book Pick*, an *Us Weekly “Must” Pick*, a Publisher’s *Lunch Buzz Book*, a *Library Journal Big Fiction Debut*, and an *Indie Next List Pick*.

Formerly the senior editor of *Marie Claire* and editor-in-chief of *Women’s Health & Fitness*, Colleen’s articles, essays, and interviews have been featured in *The New York Times, Ladies’ Home Journal, Marie Claire, Women’s Health, Redbook, Parade*, and *Martha Stewart Weddings*.

She lives in Atlanta with her husband, four kids, and the world’s biggest lapdog, Bailey.

**Rob Jenkins** has spent 32 years in higher education as a faculty member and administrator. A former department chair and academic dean, he currently serves as associate professor of English at Georgia State University Perimeter College and as a Senior Fellow at the Academy for Academic Leadership.

As a regular contributor to *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and other publications, Rob has written extensively on leadership, governance, critical thinking, teaching and learning, classroom management, college completion, the higher education job market, and related topics. He is also the author of four books, including *Building a Career in America’s Community Colleges*, *The 9 Virtues of Exceptional Leaders* (with Karl Haden), and his latest, *Welcome to My Classroom*.

With the depth and breadth of his experience, along with certifications from the Chair Academy and The Center for Teacher Effectiveness, Rob has become a popular workshop presenter and keynote speaker. He has offered faculty and leadership development programs at a number of community colleges and regional universities, as well as on some of the nation’s most prestigious campuses.

Rob and his wife Bonnie have four grown children and three grandchildren—so far.
Monthly Meetings

Future Guests & Events

2017

Writing can be a solitary endeavor. Therefore, to deepen our sense of community with other writers, prior to our next meeting on September 16th, AWC will host an informal gathering in the Building NC cafeteria from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. You’ll have a chance to share stories, talk, read aloud, form critique groups, and offer each other encouragement. Light refreshments will be provided. I hope to see you there.

Ron

September 16, 2017
Gloria Barnes – Member Spotlight
Colleen Oakley - 1st Speaker
Rob Jenkins - 2nd Speaker

October 21, 2017
Roger Johns - Member Minute
Dana Ridenour – 1st Guest
Daren Wang – 2nd Guest

November 16th
Linda Sands - Member Minute
Bobbie Christmas - 1st Guest Speaker
Monthly Meetings

August Photos by Ron Aiken

Above - Doug Dahlgren
Left - Ilene Benator
Below - Jana Sasser
Register now to attend the November 3-4, 2017 Atlanta Writers Conference, at the Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport Hotel.

http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/

Whether you are...
- In search of an agent or publisher
- Working on a manuscript and seeking feedback
- A first-time writer who wants to increase your knowledge about the craft and the publishing business
- Already published and seeking more contacts and information
...this is your opportunity to take the next big step toward your writing goals.

Want to get published?

The November 3-4, 2017 Atlanta Writers Conference offers you access to a group of 12 editors and agents seeking manuscripts for every major fiction genre and nonfiction topic. Two dozen of our members have signed with agents or editors they met at our Conferences, and a number of those have scored major book deals. You could be next. Even if your work is not ready to submit, you'll benefit from the many educational sessions on the craft and business of writing.

Agents and editors at the Conference will:
- Critique a manuscript sample you submit in advance and possibly ask to see more to consider it for representation/acquisition
- Critique your query letter to improve it for the Conference pitches and future use
- Respond to your pitch and possibly ask to see your manuscript to consider it for representation/acquisition
- Provide hours of Q&A
- Select the best manuscript samples and pitches for our award ceremony--maybe they'll call your name!

You'll also enjoy:
- A workshop on contracts and legal issues for writers, back by popular demand
- Presentations on writing craft, editing, and finding a supportive writing community
- Networking with presenters and participants

We've filled the two-day conference with great experiences:

Friday, November 3:
- Query letter critique panels that pair one editor and one agent who will help you get your query in shape for the Saturday pitches
- Workshop on contracts and legal issues for writers by 35-year veteran lawyer and
Conference, *cont.*

literary agent Paul Levine, with two hours of detailed information, lessons learned, and extensive Q&A. For years, participants have asked that Paul return to give this workshop again—we heard you!

* Free talks by Paul Levine on the process of turning your book into a movie and turning self-published work into a traditionally published book
* Q&A panel with our six guest editors
* Social mixer with all twelve editors and agents

Saturday, November 4:

* One-on-one manuscript critique sessions with your choice of editors and agents
* Pitch sessions with your choice of editors and agents
* Q&A panel with our six guest agents
* Free talks on editing, networking, and story craft
* Award ceremony

**Registration is now open!**

**For full details about Conference activities:**
http://atlantawritersconference.com/the-conference

**For pricing options:**
http://atlantawritersconference.com/the-cost

**Learn about our guest editors and agents:**
http://atlantawritersconference.com/the-editors-and-agents

After you've read all the Conference details on the website—including the deadlines and refund policy—use the registration tab to secure your place at the Fall 2017 Atlanta Writers Conference.

**As past Conference participants will tell you, the spots fill up fast, so don't delay.**

*The Atlanta Writers Conference is presented exclusively for members of the Atlanta Writers Club. If you are not a current member or your membership will lapse prior to November 5, 2017, you can join/renew as part of your Conference registration—you don't need to do this as a two-step process.*

We hope you'll be able to join us! Please click through the Conference website pages for all the details: [http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/](http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/)
Anju Gattani explores the life of a modern Indian woman trapped in an abusive marriage in her cross-cultural WINDS OF FIRE trilogy. DUTY AND DESIRE, ONCE AND FOR ALL, and NEVER AGAIN are scheduled to be published by Scarsdale Publishing in 2018.

How long have you been a member of the Atlanta Writers Club?
For two or three years.

And how did you find us?
I actually found the AWC through an agent, Paul Levine, who had participated in an Atlanta Writers Conference a few years ago (and is scheduled for the November 2017 conference). At that time, I was querying agents, sending on average five queries a day. I did that for two months, realized I wasn’t getting anywhere, so I started calling agents before sending out query letters.

How did that go?
Fantastic. I got really good responses. They were really professional. And that’s how I happened to call Paul Levine. He showed some interest, then asked if I’d heard of the Atlanta Writers Club. I spoke at an Atlanta Writers Club meeting five years ago, loved how dedicated the writers were to the craft, and at the time, thought about joining, but didn’t get around to it. Paul recommended I contact George Weinstein and become a member. “They are one of the most professional writing groups you’ll ever come across,” he said. Now that was coming from an agent all the way out in California. I contacted George and became a member. Since then I’ve presented two workshops.

I’m hearing for the first time about calling an agent. Generally, writers are taught to contact an agent with a query letter.

But it may not work for everyone.

Why do you think it worked for you?
I’ve been writing for over 20 years now, as a freelance writer and news reporter, so having dealt with editors, pitching ideas to them, knowing what to say, and when to listen, I felt comfortable. You treat agents as professionals, they will treat you as a professional.

Most of the time I got positive responses from the agents. Their assistants either directed me to the right agent or gave me the respective agents’ email addresses with a referral. Sometime they spoke to the agent while I was on hold. I’ve had one agent who couldn’t take me on as a client because she was closing shop, but she gave me her cell number and said she would guide me whenever I needed help, or call her if I just needed someone to talk to.

That’s priceless.
Did you find your agent Bob Diforio at D4EO Literary Agency that way?
Yes. I was simply asking him what genres he was interested in acquiring. He asked what my manuscript was about. I pitched my story. He requested a copy of the manuscript. I emailed it on Thursday, and Saturday night I got an email with a contract. Needless to say, I was blown away. His reading team had read the manuscript in two days. When we spoke, I told him I had just got the rights back from the first book in my proposed trilogy. He requested I send it, and his team loved it, too.

What about the two books hooked him?
He felt women would especially like the trilogy because of how it explores the dynamics of an abusive marital relationship, especially in a higher level of society, and how the opulent lifestyle makes it harder to break away. And the fact that no one really talks about, or knows about the elite in India. It’s more Slumdog Millionaire, or Lion.

I realized after three books, the reason I’m writing is to bridge cultures and break barriers. Tear down stereotypical images. I think when you understand other people, where they’re coming from, the experiences that shape them, you develop empathy for their plight.

Did you engage an attorney in contract negotiations with your publisher?
No. My agent handled it.

“Duty and Desire” was published in 2011. Are the other two books in the trilogy, “Once and For All” and “Never Again,” written at the time you queried your agent or are they yet to be written?
I got the rights back to “Duty and Desire” in 2015 and signed with D4EO, my literary agency, in January 2016. Right from beginning it’s always been a trilogy or series.

Your protagonist is trapped in an abusive, arranged marriage in India. How does she grow over the course of the series?
The series starts in India where my protagonist transitions from a modern single woman to a married woman. Initially she battles personal honor versus family honor. Then in the second book she has to choose between her role as a wife versus her role as a mother. The story then moves to the U.S., where she copes with regaining her sense of identity and self.

Reading your bio, it says you were born in India, grew up in Hong Kong, and before moving to Atlanta, you’ve lived in Singapore, Australia, Connecticut, and New Jersey. Were your experiences a template for your protagonist?
Not at all. It’s a story that arises from a class you never get to read much about or see in today’s U.S. media, and that’s the very wealthy Indian society—the one percent.

You call your work contemporary, international fiction. What do you mean by that?
A lot has changed in India over the last 20 years. It has become very cosmopolitan, a hub for international corporations in cities like Delhi and Mumbai. So the wealthy have the money and they’re able to spend in ways they were never able to before. They’re taken with Western values and technology has levelled the playing field, so to speak. That’s the
Member Q & A: Anju Gattani, cont.

environment my characters are in. The feedback I’ve had from agents and editors is the stories and the concepts I write about – emotional and physical abuse and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) are not specific to a particular country and its people. They’re universal.

Arranged marriages aren’t universal. Certainly not to the U.S. reader and you mentioned in some of the materials I’ve read, that you want your stories to have meaning in people’s lives, positive change from the message that you have in your work. What would a U.S. reader get out of that specific relationship? Or do you see that relationship having some parallel to the way women live and are treated in the U.S.?

Physical abuse and emotional abuse are not specific to any culture or country. It’s widespread, and I was particularly taken aback to learn how widespread it is, even in a country as liberal as the United States. One Hundred and One Verbal Abusers Speak Out by Patricia Evans was one of the books I researched for the trilogy. Also, The Boy Who Was Raised As A Dog and The Body Remembers were important resources.

In other words, a different genesis but the same results?

Unfortunately, yes.

You mentioned writing the books was a 15-year journey. What got you started with this story?

We moved from Singapore to the United States just after 9/11. Magazines in Singapore and Mumbai didn’t have the web presence then that they have now. I was on a dependent visa in the U.S., and I couldn’t work. One day out of the blue, I had a dream with very visual imagery, like a movie, and when I woke up, my heart was racing. I had sweaty palms and I was disorientated. With some writing experience, I knew it was a novel, but I had no clue what I was getting into. That’s how the journey started. I was still writing the first draft when we moved from New Jersey to Atlanta. The first draft took a year and a half. 180,000 words. I realized I had a sequel in my head. That was daunting, because I didn’t know what to do, so my husband suggested I join a professional writing group. I discovered the Romance Writers of America and joined the local chapter. I attended meetings and Haywood Smith mentored me, took me under her wings, and I attended my first writers conference.

You’re getting all these different voices, customs from all over the globe. What impact did that have on your writing, writing style, the way you approach the craft?

I attribute my system of values and beliefs as having the biggest impact on my writing.

The trilogy is going to be released in 2018?

Yes. 2018/19.

Where are you in the process?

I’m writing the third book, “Never Again,” now, and when it’s done, I have to revise the first two books, “Duty and Desire” and “Once and For All.” With a part-time job, it’s going to be quite a task to keep it all together. But I’m up to the task.
What’s your day job?
I’m an administrator at a health clinic.

So you haven’t ventured into freelance writing?
I did for 10 plus years. I did a lot of work for an Indian magazine in Atlanta called Khabar, and Atlanta Parent Magazine, and magazines in India and Singapore, but lately I’ve been focusing on the novels. I don’t want to spread myself too thin.

Is there anything you’d like to add?
I’m sure writers must’ve heard this a million times. Don’t give up. Don’t follow trends in the market. Write the story that’s true to you. The cliché, write what you know? I say start with what you know, but venture into unfamiliar territory because that’s where you explore, you grow, you learn and when you start doing that your characters grow, too. Writing is hard. It’s not like a medical or legal profession where you have a degree and that validates you. So the best that we can do is what others have done for me, which is help each other. I had a lot of people advise and help me along the way. From published authors and workshop presenters to agents and editors. Believe in yourself. Your voice. The power of your words. And when you don’t give up that’s when others will believe in you.
Atlanta Writers Club Scholarship
Awarded Spring 2017

Meet Scholarship Recipient
Clevelynn Rodgers

Hometown: Nassau, Bahamas
Major: English
Scholarship amount: $1,000.00
Graduation: Spring 2018

Scholarship Criteria: Current Perimeter College students who are enrolled full-time for the Spring 2017 semester and are majoring in English. Applicants must have earned at least 12 credit hours at Perimeter College and have at least two semesters remaining at Perimeter College. Applicants must have at least a 3.20 or higher grade point average for consideration.

Recipient Goals: I am planning to transfer to College of Arts and Sciences at Georgia State University to continue studying English. Once I complete my education, I hope to teach English on the high school level, as well as write. I ultimately hope to write for television and movies. I am currently working on a book that I am scheduled to complete this summer. My book is a fiction story about a girl’s odyssey in America. I used to enjoy writing poems as a child and writing is something that I have always enjoyed.

The scholarship is a big Trojan Arms Etc. We want this help to continue. Without your help, we wouldn’t be able to accomplish what we do. Thank you very much. Students like me and others are very happy to find help with our tuition fees.

— Clevelynn Rodgers

Your generosity makes it possible for our students to succeed. Each year you change a life by supporting a scholarship at Perimeter College. On behalf of the faculty, staff and most importantly, the students, we thank you for supporting the scholarship program.

For more information about the scholarship program please contact the Perimeter College Office of Development at 678-891-2550.
### AWC 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mystery/Thriller/Suspense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, September 2 - 12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panelists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children's Books</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, September 2 - 1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panelists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Fiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, September 2 - 5:30pm - 6:15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panelists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonfiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, September 3 - Noon - 12:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panelists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiction That Doesn't Take Itself Too Seriously</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, September 3 - 1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panelists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Memoir</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, September 3 - 3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panelists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Workshop & Member Accolade

Now in its tenth year, David Fulmer’s Fiction Shop returns to Eagle Eye Book Shop September 12th - October 17th. The six-week class, which will meet Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 8:30, is designed for beginning and experienced fiction, non-fiction, and memoir writers who want to improve and expand their skills. A tiny sampling of Fiction Shop grads includes Roger Johns, Trudy Nan Boyce, and George Weinstein. Class size is limited. Details at: http://davidfulmer.com/ShopPage2.html.

_Eclipse Alley_, Fulmer’s tenth novel, will be released next month by Crescent City Books.

Barbara Brockway's, _Eye of Newt_ was recognized as a Notable Story in _Gemini Magazine’s_ 2017 Short Story Contest.
Jessie’s Coffee Shop is open for business. Writers - come in, take a seat, and let me pour you a cup while we chat about books, writing, and the caffeine that sustains you. I’m looking for guests for my internet radio show on KLRNRadio. Self- or traditionally published authors are both welcome in here.

Book cover art and blurbs are used for promotional purposes. (I won’t turn down an ARC copy, if you’re willing to share.)

Email me
Jessie@KLRNRadio.com for more information.
Entries are requested for the 27th annual SLO NightWriters Golden Quill Writing Contest, run by SLO NightWriters, a non-profit organization and the premiere writing organization on the Central Coast of California. The deadline for entries is September 15, 2017. The theme of the contest this year is Liberation.

For the small entry fee of $15, participants may enter one or more of the following categories:

- **Flash/Short Fiction**
  Now it’s writer’s call with this new merged category. Test your skill in composing a Flash Fiction piece, or choose the standard Short Fiction format – your choice! Entries may be no longer than 1,500 words.

- **Poetry**
  Interpret the theme creatively in a poem up to 40 lines in length.

- **Creative Non-Fiction**
  This is a brand new category this year, by popular demand! Tell any true story within the theme with a personal story, personal essay, or memoir up to 1,500 words.

Entries are accepted via Submittable, a secure online submissions management tool, at http://slonwgoldenquillwritingcontest.com/ and http://slonightwriters.org/ on the Enter Here link.

All contest rules and other contest information can be found on our webpage, http://SLONWGoldenQuillWritingContest.com/

And please check out all our social media, and follow us today for the latest news on the contest.
http://SLONWGoldenQuillWritingContest.com/
https://www.facebook.com/SLONWGoldenQuill/
https://twitter.com/SLONWGldnQuill
https://www.pinterest.com/slonwgoldenquill/
https://www.linkedin.com/in/golden-quill-74b787143/
http://slonightwriters.org/

Join the Liberation and enter today!
Event

Gwinnett Public Library

The following program is sponsored by the Gwinnett Public Library.

ELLIS HENICAN
Book talk and signing
September 10 at 3:00 pm
Norcross Cultural Arts & Community Center
10 College Street, Norcross 30071

Ellis Henican is the coauthor of Ret. Captain Luis Carlos Montalvan’s *Tuesday’s Promise: One Veteran, One Dog, and Their Bold Quest to Change Lives.* *Tuesday’s Promise* is the follow-up to Montalvan’s *Until Tuesday* and serves as a tribute to the incredible shared bond between Montalvan and Tuesday and the many challenges that war veterans face after returning from combat. Free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

The Milton Literary Festival has added a new event to their festival this year for Independent Authors.

The Book-An-Author event will allow participants to present themselves and their book to an audience of readers, book clubs, and booksellers.

Space is limited. Submission Deadline: September, 8 2017
Event

Too busy to write your novel?

Enter THE DRAFT HOUSE: September 2017 – January 2018

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 January 2018, your book will be ready for the next steps on the road to publication.

The DRAFT HOUSE accountability program includes:

- A workable outline of your book, created with Draft Queens M.J. Pullen & Emily Carpenter.
- Personalized, achievable Drafting Schedule with weekly word count goals, created with your schedule in mind.
- Weekly check-ins to report your word count progress. (And a stern but loving reminder from the Draft Queens if you fall short!)
- Monthly video conference milestones check-ins with your team to guide you through each section of your draft.
- Monthly one-on-one coaching with a Draft Queen for advice, encouragement, and tips.

GRADUATES receive an in-depth, developmental critique of their completed manuscript from one of the Draft Queens and DRAFT HOUSE swag!

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE - APPLY NOW!
Deadline September 1
$100 early-bird discount through August 15
www.draftyourbook.com
We at Living Springs Publishers LLP are publishing a series of books called *Stories Through The Ages*. Each book will feature short stories written by people in different segments of the population.

We are now accepting submissions for the Baby Boomers Plus edition (anyone born 1964 or earlier) and the Generations XYZ edition (anyone born 1996 – 1965).

Submissions for the College Edition are currently closed as we are working on getting the first book in the series ready for publication. We will re-open submissions this summer. You can see information about the winners of this contest in our Blog and on our Facebook page.

There is no prompt for the contests, and stories may be about any topic. For each contest the story from the top 15 finalists will be included in a book published by Living Springs Publishers LLP. In addition first, second and third place finalists receive cash prizes of $500, $200 and $100 respectively.

You can download it at –

Veryle Peavler – Managing Partner
Living Springs Publishers LLP
720-219-2238
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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Genre(s)</th>
<th>Time/Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Openness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Online</strong></td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Mike Brown</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 Saturday of each month at 7p.m</td>
<td>Susan McBrearty</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Candler Park</strong></td>
<td>Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>Tues, 4-6p.m. @ San Francisco Coffee 1660 Dekalb Avenue</td>
<td>Tara Coyt</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Buckhead/ Midtown</strong></td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>4th Sat @ 11a.m.</td>
<td>Karen Holmes</td>
<td>Full</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conyers</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every other Tues, 6:00 @ Mandarin Garden</td>
<td>Nancy Fletcher</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 Rd.</td>
<td>Jonathan Grant</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Adult &amp; YA Fiction</td>
<td>Sunday, 1:00PM, monthly</td>
<td>Ricky Jacobs</td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Adult, YA Fiction &amp; Memoirs</td>
<td>Sunday 10am, fortnightly</td>
<td>Ricky Jacobs</td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Wed, 6:30 pm @ Athens Pizza, 1341 Clairmont Road</td>
<td>Ruth Gresh</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dunwoody</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Fri, 1-3 p.m. @ Georgia Perimeter College Library Building Rm3100</td>
<td>Gelia Dolcimascalo</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lawrenceville/ Snellville</strong></td>
<td>Novel, Short Story &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>1st Saturday 9:30AM - noon @ Member's Home</td>
<td>Kerry Denney</td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Loganville</strong></td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
<td>Full</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marietta</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Tues. 6:30-8:00PM</td>
<td>Linda Sullivan</td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poncey-Highlands</strong></td>
<td>All genera</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Monday Manuel's Tavern email John for time</td>
<td>John Whittemore</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roswell</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Thursdays @ The Heron House</td>
<td>Carolyn Graham</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roswell</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every Tues 6:45 - 9:00PM @ Member's Home</td>
<td>George Weinstein</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roswell</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Twice monthly, Mon, 10:30AM - 12:30Pm @ Roswell Library</td>
<td>Jeremy Logan</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.
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.

If you have additional questions, contact AWC President Ron Aiken at ron@atlantawritersclub.org
# Membership Form

**New Membership [Individual] [Family]**

**Renewal [Individual] [Family]**

If this is a Renewal, please update your information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name: ___________________________</th>
<th>Last Name: ___________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cell Phone: ___________________________</td>
<td>Other Phone: ___________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: _______________________________</td>
<td>Alternate Email: ______________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For additional family members, please use additional forms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name: ___________________________</th>
<th>Last Name: ___________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cell Phone: ___________________________</td>
<td>Other Phone: ___________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: _______________________________</td>
<td>Alternate Email: ______________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I would like to become involved with the AWC as: 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]**: $__________

**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*