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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Scholarships VP: Clay Ramsey
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March
EVENTS
16 David Fulmer Fiction Writing Workshop
16 AWC Monthly Meeting
29 Boutique Writers Conference

http://www.facebook.com/people/Atlanta-WritersClub/10000367043383
http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub
Meeting Agenda

11:00 Fiction Shop w/David Fulmer (3 of 5)
12:30 Mixer—Flash Fiction Contest
1:45 Julia McDermott—First Speaker
2:45 Michael Ludden—Second Speaker

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When is “The End,” THE END? As a writer, that question has vexed me since I put pen to paper seriously. (Yes, I’m one of those old-school dudes who write things out before I go to the word processor.) Let it go, break out the DOM P and smash it across the bow. But I can’t, and certainly not at James Patterson-like speed.

By inclination, I’m 75 percent panter, with just enough top-down outlining to keep me on course. And I don’t write a completed first draft, instead, polishing each chapter until I’m comfortable moving on. Sometimes this could mean ten or more rewrites on a handful of pages. Then, peer review from a critique group, digest their feedback and more editing. Seventy-five thousand words later, and I edit again, going through the entire manuscript looking for holes in the plot, strength of my protagonist’s character arc, identifying weak chapters, a satisfying ending. More editing and clean up, and this can go on for another round or two. When I feel it’s as good as I can get it, I’m ready for my sternest test – my beta reader. My wife, a voracious reader and sometimes harsh critic. What I need but don’t always welcome. I’ve got a good divorce lawyer on speed dial. Then another go at it, and I could go on and on. But I imposed a stop sign. I engaged a professional editor, and I’m compelled to meet her deadlines. And as I mentioned in a previous letter, I was making word changes up until I hit SEND. No, that’s not true, because I noticed one of the changes was an echo and resent the offending page.

Are we there yet?

This twisted tale was the journey my manuscript, *One Shot 2 Many*, has taken so far. I started writing it twelve years ago. Abandoned it while I took on other projects, then went back to it in 2014.

Now, I anxiously await the editor’s feedback, and if I’m still standing after reviewing her comments, more editing. And If I’m able to get an agent to represent me, more editing. And if the agent lands a book deal, more editing, and ...

THE END?
March 16
- David Fulmer Workshop
- Julia McDermott – First Speaker
- Michael Ludden – Second Speaker

April 6
Workshop (AWC members only)
- 1:30-4:30 Grace Wynter workshop: Your First Page Critiques

April 20
- David Fulmer Writing Workshop #4
- Steven Cooper—First Speaker
- Susan Crawford—Second Speaker

May 18
- David Fulmer’s Fiction Workshop #5 (members only)
- Judy Goldman—First Speaker
  *Writing tips for multiple genres*
- Second Speaker— (TBA)

June 15 (Norcross Cultural Arts & Community Center, 10 College St NW, Norcross, GA 30071)
- Inaugural Atlanta Writers Club/ Gwinnett County Book Festival

July 20 Workshop (AWC members only) – Gwinnett County Public Library, 4817 Church St NW, Lilburn, GA 30047
- Jill Anderson: *Creating/improving Your Author Website*

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The March 16th meeting will be at the Georgia State University Dunwoody Campus. There will be a pre-meeting mixer with light refreshments.

The mixer will feature a flash fiction contest and the winner will receive a gift card. The submittal must be less than 50 words and include a key word given out at the mixer.

Beth Stallings, our February contest winner, pulled off a hat trick.

*I barge into the studio, always late! Heads turn toward me, eyes assessing. The model had assumed the pose. Deep breath, slow down, take a seat. The demo begins and three minutes in the work takes me over. I’m centered, focused. It’s my craft; a joy, a passion.*

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Members will have an opportunity to engage their fellow writers in an informal setting before the regular meeting, 12:45 p.m to 1:15 p.m.

Please contact me at ron@atlantawritersclub.org to schedule a presentation.
PHOTOS FROM FEBRUARY

by Phil Fasone

Ray Atkins

Liz Lazarus
FULMER SHOP PHOTOS
by Phil Fasone
Next Fiction Shop at the AWC

David Fulmer will present the third of five workshops from his “Fiction Shop” program. This class will focus on “When and Where – Setting the Scene.” The session will be from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with a break and time for Q&A. All classes are free to members. Future programs will cover;

Program Outline

3. Character is Everything
   No character, no story
   Biographies in three acts
   Immerse and Evoke
4. Speaking Up
   The essential importance of dialogue
   What they say and how they say it
   Real and unreal
   You don’t say
5. The Big Picture
   All the pieces into one
   The pen as a sword
   Free for all

As the author of eleven novels and a novella, Fulmer has won the Shamus Award for Best First Novel and a Benjamin Franklin Award, and has been nominated for an LA Times Book Prize, the Barry Award, the Falcon Award, and the Shamus Award for Best Novel. His books have received excellent reviews from, among others, The New York Times, USA Today, The San Francisco Chronicle, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, and Publishers Weekly, and in addition to audiobook versions, have been translated into French, Italian, Japanese, and Turkish.

The Day Ends at Dawn, his twelfth novel and the seventh and final installment in his acclaimed Storyville series was released in January by Crescent City Books.

He has been a journalist, an Army photographer, a welder, and a bartender. A native of central Pennsylvania, he lives in Ormewood Park with his wife, Sansanee Sermprungsuk.
When Mike talked at the October 2018 meeting about helping members capitalize on their writing skills in the business world, he didn’t realize how much interest he would generate. More than 50 members have signed up for the program in hopes they might learn how to convert their literary skills into a "corporate writing" career.

On Saturday, February 16, guest speaker Ana Ivey, an AWC member who writes primarily in the medical space, most notably as a regular contributor to WebMD, talked to the group about how she made the transition from full-time employee to a self-supporting full-time freelance and business writer in less than two years.
**MARCH SPEAKERS BIOS**

**Julia McDermott** is a multi-genre author of three novels and one work of creative nonfiction: Domestic Suspense DADDY’S GIRL and UNDERWATER; French Travel/New Adult Romance MAKE THAT DEUX; and ALL THE ABOVE: MY SON’S BATTLE WITH BRAIN CANCER, awarded Finalist, 2016 Georgia Author of the Year. DADDY’S GIRL was a 2017 GAYA Nominee, and UNDERWATER was a 2015 GAYA Nominee and 2014 Killer Nashville Silver Falchion Award Nominee (Best Novel). Julia is also the author of Personal Journey "Fear and Gratitude," published by the Atlanta Journal Constitution on Sunday, July 10, 2016, about ALL THE ABOVE and how her son’s battle with cancer changed her life, and his.

A native of Texas, Julia grew up in Atlanta and earned a degree from UNC-Chapel Hill in Economics and French. She spent her junior year in the south of France. After graduation, she worked in a downtown Dallas bank, and later for a software developer in Richardson, Texas. While working full time, she aced her MBA courses at the University of Dallas and North Texas State University, but chose to abandon her pursuit of that degree when (at five months pregnant) she learned she was carrying twins.

After their first birthday, she "retired," had two more children, and moved across the country four times. As her family grew, Julia successfully avoided volunteer leadership roles, but found herself constantly being drafted to write articles, create newsletters, edit and proof essays, and update websites. Once her kids began to leave the nest, she attended a variety of writing workshops and seminars, joined a writers critique group, and launched a career as a multi-genre author. A fluent French speaker, she belongs to the Atlanta Writers Club, Sisters in Crime, the Atlanta Toulouse Sister Cities Committee, Alliance Française, Atlanta Pen Women, and the Atlanta Women’s Chamber of Commerce. Julia lives in Atlanta and loves football, the UNC Tar Heels, most kinds of art, and all things French.

**Michael Ludden** is a former Deputy Managing Editor at the Orlando Sentinel, where he led an investigation that won a Pulitzer Prize. He’s written for magazines, advertising and marketing firms, edited books and spent 10 years as a senior writer/editor at CNN’s Headline News. He grew up in Mountain Lakes, N.J., and has a B.A. in English Literature from Washington College.

Ludden has written two thrillers about a rich kid from Atlanta who drops out of medical school to become a cop... "Alfredo’s Luck" and "Tate Drawdy"... and "Tales from the Morgue" a little book of things that happened during a career in newspapers.
AWC WRITING CONTEST

ELIGIBILITY:
1. The AWC 2019 Writing Contest is open to: All current, paid club members. Please check your membership status before submitting your entry. (To join AWC, please contact the Membership VP, Yvonne Green, at yvonnegreen1000@gmail.com.)
2. Submissions must be original, unpublished, and previously un-awarded work. Entrants may submit only one piece to only one category per contest year.

DEADLINE:
Midnight, March 16, 2019. Submissions received after this date will automatically be ineligible.

AWARDS:
Each award carries a $300 cash prize, a plaque, and publication in The New Southern Fugitives. Winners will be announced at our club meeting on April 20, 2019.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:
Terry Kay Prize for Fiction (Maximum, 3000 words)
Rick Bragg Prize for Nonfiction (Maximum, 3000 words)
Natasha Trethewey Prize for Poetry (Maximum, 90 lines)

CONTEST GUIDELINES:
Manuscript Format. Failure to adhere to the following format will result in disqualification.
+ DO NOT place your name anywhere on the manuscript entry
+ Only Word files (.docx) will be accepted.
+ Font: 12 pt, Black, Times New Roman
+ Margins: 1 inch
+ Line spacing: double – yes, even for poetry.
+ White background (no colors, photos, graphics or images)
+ Page size & layout: 8-1/2 x 11; Portrait
First page: Title and Prize Category should appear in the upper left corner

(Continued on page 12)
AWC WRITING CONTEST, CONT.

(Continued from page 11)

PAPER ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

SUBMISSION RULES:
Failure to adhere to any of the submission guidelines will lead to disqualification.

Send ONE ENTRY and the corresponding Standard Submission Form (SSF) to chramse@gmail.com.
There is no template for the SSF; you create the document yourself (see below) and send it as a separate attachment. The entry and SSF both must be sent as attached Word documents (.docx). The SSF is used for identification purposes by Clay Ramsey only. Judges never know the identity of any author; they see only the blind entry document.

IMPORTANT: Name the document files by title, i.e. Title.docx and SSF-Title.docx
Example: if the entry title is Moon Fire, the document file should be named Moon Fire.docx (this is the document that will be sent to the judges) and the SSF should be named SSF-Moon Fire.docx (this is the document that will be seen only by Clay Ramsey).

Standard Submission Form (SSF):
The SSF must include the following information:
Author’s Name
Prize Category
Title of Entry
Word Count (Line Count for poetry)
Named the document: SSF-Title.docx

Attach the entry document and your SSF document to an email addressed to Clay at chramse@gmail.com. Your EMAIL MESSAGE MUST INCLUDE:
Subject Line: AWC 2019 Writing Contest
Your name, phone number, prize category, title
Example:
Dear Clay,
I have attached [Title] for the [Prize Category] and the corresponding SSF.
Thank you,
[Your name]
[Your phone number]
Black History Month

Events sponsored by AWC

Jim McDowell—Slave Potter

Photo by Denise Auger

Williams Grimes
Runaway Slave

Regina Mason &
Barbara Brockway
Why is Mrs. Maisel so marvelous?

Amy Sherman-Palladino and Daniel Palladino tell all!

It is a rare surprise that a near perfect TV show is made. The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel, now in its second season on Amazon Prime Video, is one of those shows balancing humor and drama in the 1950s world of stand-up comedy. Mrs. Maisel’s talented creator, Amy Sherman-Palladino with her co-writer and executive producer husband Daniel Palladino spoke to Creative Screenwriting Magazine about how they created their multi-award-winning show. Amy describes how growing up with Don Sherman, her stand-up comic father helped to shape the show. “I grew up hearing stories about the comic world in Greenwich Village. All of New York City was in awe to me at that time. It was a visual, colorful, vibrant, and energetic place and time to set a TV show. A comedy club is also a very interesting venue to tell the story of a woman who started off as a housewife, mother – typical 1950s cutie pie – and then suddenly she finds herself with a crashed life. Then a woman came out that she never thought was there before.

Miriam (Midge) Maisel (Rachel Brosnahan) found herself not only surviving and blossoming “after her life exploded, but she discovered a superpower,” said Amy. Apart from the 1950s being a time conducive to comedy, Amy adds that the style of comedy was shifting from “take my wife please jokes to more conversational comedy discussing religion, politics, and feelings that people weren’t talking about before... The 1950s was a perfect time for a woman to get on stage and work out the problems in her own life, rather than spout out a steady stream of jokes.”

Determined not to be sidelined in our conversation, Daniel chimed in and describes the world of the show as being “a great time for folk singers, jazz musicians, and stand-up comics. They were thriving in a very exciting way. People were gravitating toward that scene for a reason. It’s a great romantic time. Public speaking was exploding.”

(Continued on page 15)
When asked how they avoided making yet another show about the world of stand-up comedy and its associated tropes, Amy declared that "*we didn’t make a show about stand-up comedy. This is a show about a woman whose life was abruptly upended and forced to take an unconventional path forward. This path throws everyone around her in chaos; her friends, her family, her ex-husband.*"

"Then there’s the friendship of Midge and Susie Myerson (Alex Bornstein), two very different women banding together to forge a future together that neither even imagined a year earlier. The stand-up comedy world was only a device to explore these themes and relationships,” mused Amy.

"The world of stand-up comedy is very difficult to dramatize because it’s not a fun world to live in. It’s ironic that the world of comedy is often not that funny, but rather more filled with drama. Sometimes comics are sad, lonely, and broken people. Stand-up comedy is their way of expressing that,” continues Amy. “Midge enters the comedy world totally naive about it. Ironically, she discovers the comic world with a notebook while watching her ex-husband perform on stage. As Midge goes through the process of becoming a comic, she learns what the [stand-up] life really is.”

**Living In Multiple Worlds**

Midge Maisel doesn’t neatly exit one world of being a happily-married housewife to enter the brutal world of stand-up comedy. She straddles both her old and new worlds and shuttles between them. Dan described it as “*in reality that’s how life is. Ex-husband Joel Maisel (Michael Zegen) is the father of their children and those ties are forever binding. We also wanted to make sure that Midge didn’t feel that her past life was a fraud. She loved being a wife, mother, and housewife until he cheated on her. Midge naïvely invested her entire life in her marriage although Joel did not. Her feelings toward him are a heady mix of love and anger.*” These antithetical emotions can live side by side and make for highly satisfying character exploration.

"After they got married, Midge insisted they get an apartment in her parent’s building, so she never fully transitioned from her parents’ apartment to her married one. She kept a toe-hold in all her past lives. The breakup uncovered a passion and ambition that she never knew existed. She may never have discovered it without Joel shattering her world,” said Dan.
MRS. MAIZELE, CONT.

(Continued from page 15)

Midge is a flawed character. She’s real, but naïve because she doesn’t fully understand the life of a stand-up comic or that of Susie. “All comics have an element of narcissism and behavior. Authentic characters will be empathetic to the audience,” said Dan. “No-one is absolutely good or evil.”

Dramatic Irony
The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel is a TV show of contradictions and irony. Dan wanted to be the stand-up comic and Midge learned it through observing him. Via osmosis, if you will.

Dan added that “Midge absorbed the comic scene through Joel while she simultaneously encouraged him.” These elaborate character dynamics illustrate another way that Midge never fully left her past life to immerse herself a new one.

Midge broke into the comic scene while disparaging Joel. Yet ironically, he encourages Midge to continue knowing that he will never become a successful comic. “Feelings are complicated,” concludes Dan.

When questioned about their working relationship as a married couple, Amy shared that “they work independently most of the time. I have somebody by my side whose agenda is my agenda. I have a partner who I trust completely. He’s honest and completely services the show.”

Writing The Show
Dan confessed that the most difficult aspect of writing for The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel is “writing other comics’ stand-up lines because it isn’t coming from the main character or story. As a non-stand-up comic, that’s tough to write. We have a few comics and writers on staff to help us with that. In terms of additional challenges, the audience in a comedy club in 2018 has to find Midge as funny as an audience in 1959.”

All the snappy, rapid-fire dialogue is surprisingly all scripted. It is naturalistic and authentic. “There isn’t any improv by the actors,” Dan confirmed, “We write very rhythmically and musically. We like movement and flow, so improvising dialogue wouldn’t work.”
The Atlanta Writers Conference was voted the Best Writing Conference in Georgia—with more votes than any other conference in the U.S.A.: The Writer magazine declared ours the "runaway favorite" among voters!
A humble "thank you" to everybody who cast their vote for the Atlanta Writers Conference! We took The Writer magazine Best Writing Conferences Across America poll by storm, amassing more votes than any other conference in the country. In their February 2019 report (see image), the magazine also acknowledges Becky Albertalli, one of our many conference success stories.

George Weinstein

Atlanta Writers Conference

This conference was a runaway favorite among our readers, earning more votes than any other event on our list; it’s also notable for introducing best-selling YA author Becky Albertalli to her agent, who went on to negotiate a publishing contract and a film deal for Albertalli’s novel Simon Vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda.

Where: Atlanta
When: May 3-4, 2019; also holds a fall conference in November (dates pending)
atlantawritersconference.com
May 3-4, 2019
ATLANTA WRITERS CONFERENCE

Register now to attend the May 3-4, 2019 Atlanta Writers Conference at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel.

http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/

Whether you are...
- In search of an agent or a publisher
- Working on a manuscript and in need of feedback
- Seeking to learn more about the writing craft and/or publishing business
- Creating or growing your author brand
- Building your network of industry contacts

...this is your opportunity to take the next big step toward your writing goals.

~ Want to get published? ~

The May 3-4, 2019 Atlanta Writers Conference offers you:

- Access to 16 acquisitions editors and literary agents—more than ever before—seeking every major fiction genre and nonfiction topic, as well as graphic novels and picture books
- Critiques of manuscript samples by the editors and agents
- Pitches to the editors and agents in the calm and privacy of meeting rooms
- Query letter critique by an editor-agent team to improve your pitch (nearly 40% of those winning pitch awards at the November conference did this activity)
- Preparatory critique of your manuscript submission months before the conference by a freelance editor of your choice (50% of those winning any award at the November conference did this “prep” critique)

(Continued on page 19)
CONFERENCES, CONT.

May 3-4, 2019 ATLANTA WRITERS CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 18)

- Workshop for creating or building on your author brand by best-selling, award-winning author Jenny Milchman

- Separate Q&A panels by all eight acquisitions editors and all eight literary agents to give you two perspectives of the current and future publishing industry

- Free bonus activities for every participant who purchases at least two of the activities above:
  * Two talks by Jenny Milchman on suspense and the ways to get published today
  * Two presentations by debut author Nico Diaz about unorthodox strategies for publication and mental wellness for writers
  * Two presentations by author and teacher Jennifer Springsteen about structuring your manuscript to keep readers turning the pages and creating tight, concise prose.
  * Private mixer with all agents, acquisitions editors, and special guest Jenny Milchman
  * Giveaways drawings for valuable prizes, from lifetime membership in the Atlanta Writers Club to free activities at the next conference
  * Award ceremony with each agent and editor presenting Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitch certificates

Nearly 30 of our members have signed with agents or editors they met at our Conferences, and a number of those have scored major book deals (and one, so far, has hit the bigtime with a movie deal). You could be next!

We’re still accepting registrations. As past Conference participants will tell you, the spots fill up fast, so don’t delay!

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 and which ones have openings or waitlists: http://atlantawritersconference.com/the-editors-and-agents

(Continued on page 20)
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 May 3-4, 2019 Atlanta Writers Conference.

*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 May 5, 2019, you can join/renew as part of your Conference registration—you do not need to do this as a two-step process.*

We hope you'll be able to join us!

For questions, contact Atlanta Writers Conference Director George Weinstein at awconference@gmail.com
Laurie Banks places 9th in Writers Digest National Short SHORT Story Competition

Laurie Banks, a member of the Atlanta Writers Club since 2016, placed 9th in the 19th Annual *Writer’s Digest* Short SHORT story competition, writing a winning story of 1500 words. Ms. Banks’ entry, SACRAMENT, will be featured in the July/August *Writer’s Digest* magazine.

Ms. Banks, a Maine native and owner of a B2B marketing company, is a recent Georgia transplant, and has won two Atlanta Writers Club Conference Best Manuscript awards over the past three years.

“I believe that participating in the Atlanta Writers Club activities, especially the conferences, has been the single most important force behind my writing career,” said Ms. Banks. “I am beyond elated to have won this award on my first attempt at any contest.”

*Writer’s Digest* is the No. 1 Resource for Writers, celebrating the writing life and what it means to be a writer in today’s publishing environment. As part of their mission, *Writer’s Digest* hosts several yearly writing contests that attract thousands of entrants worldwide.

AWC member **Kim Conrey’s work** has been published in *The Bitter Southerner*, *Atlanta Parent*, *Oracle 20/20*, *The Secret Place*, and others. She lives in Marietta, Georgia with her husband and two daughters. You may follow her on Twitter: @kimconrey Instagram: kimconrey or Facebook.

*Why are you so mad?* I kept asking myself as I try to slow my breathing and make sense of the anger that has me shaking. This was long before I had two daughters of my own, long before I decided to be the first person in my family to darken the door of a university, long before I decided lacking a penis didn’t mean lacking a voice. I was just a mad-as-hell 20-something standing in the middle of a Winn-Dixie about to claw out a redneck’s eyes. It all started with one simple sentence.

"Smile, it can’t be that bad,” the stranger said.

Read the entire essay here: https://bittersoutherner.com/folklore-project/2018/kim-conrey-smile-damn-it
Jonathan Putnam is a writer and attorney. His Lincoln and Speed Mystery book series has been a tremendous success. Titles include *These Honored Dead* (2016), *Perish from the Earth* (2017), and *Final Resting Place* (2018).

Join us on Sunday, March 3 at 6:30 pm in the Aurora Theatre, 153 East Crogan Street, Lawrenceville, GA 30046 for an author talk and signing. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Free and open to the public.
ETC.

AUTHOR TABLES

Hundreds of Florida librarians alike will be attending our 2019 FLA Annual Conference. Our exhibit of Author Tables offers the perfect location to network and promote your work to this large group of book lovers!

They are first come, first serve and will fill up fast!

Available time slots:
Wednesday, May 15th: 4 PM - 6 PM: $7 (7 Available)
Thursday, May 16th: 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM: $75 (6 Available)
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM: $75 (6 Available)
2:30 PM - 4:30 PM: $75 (6 Available)
All day: $200 (6 Available)

Register Here:
Applications accepted until May 3, 2019.
For more information contact the FLA Office at 850-270-9205 or Karen@flalib.org
A Reflection on Women’s Journeys is a Book Anthology Series and platform for women writers.

Our mission is to showcase writers, create anthologies and to provide platforms for writers to gain greater exposure. Giving women a voice to share their stories and experiences is important to us, as this act of sharing is a powerful tool for empowering other women.

We are currently running a **writing contest** Coming of Age in the 60’s and 70’s. [https://www.kaleidoscopewojo.com/take-action](https://www.kaleidoscopewojo.com/take-action)

Check the **Writers Spotlight** tab for prior contest winners’ stories and bios. We recently began featuring interviews with story submitters. Anyone submitting a story for the contest or another topic will be eligible to be featured. [https://www.kaleidoscopewojo.com/news](https://www.kaleidoscopewojo.com/news)

You’ll find writing prompts in the **Community** tab. [https://www.kaleidoscopewojo.com/read-me](https://www.kaleidoscopewojo.com/read-me)

Like us on Facebook, share with your friends. [https://www.facebook.com/Kaleidoscope-WoJo-188435748422369/](https://www.facebook.com/Kaleidoscope-WoJo-188435748422369/)

Write On,

Marianne Chester, Co-Founder
Kaleidoscope™, A Reflection on Women’s Journeys™
mchester@kaleidoscopewojo.com

[www.kaleidoscopewojo.com](http://www.kaleidoscopewojo.com)
The Atlanta Writers Club has revamped its website! We’re now featuring a page where AWC members can promote their latest publication:
https://atlantawritersclub.org/our-members-success/

Current Atlanta Writers Club members are invited to add/update their listing: please email your headshot, book (or other publication) cover, and website URL to AWC Officer Emeritus George Weinstein at george@atlantawritersclub.org
Calling All AWC Members

Volunteers Needed

For over one hundred years, the Atlanta Writers Club has provided events and activities to help their members achieve their writing goals and to provide even more activities, we need your help. We are seeking volunteers in the following areas:

- **Experienced Photographer for AWC meetings, workshops, and conferences to** capture high-quality images of our monthly speakers, workshop presenters, and conference agents, editors, and speakers, as well as our engaged audience members for each event.

- **Experienced Videographer for AWC meetings, workshops, and conferences to** record high-quality video and audio of monthly meeting presentations, workshops, and conference activities to post and manage on the AWC YouTube page.

- **Social media marketing volunteer to** post content on a consistent basis on the AWC Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages to advertise upcoming AWC events, celebrate just-completed events, and share the successes of AWC members.

- **Member and guest check-in assistants at meetings and workshops to** greet people arriving at AWC meetings and workshops to check-in current members, assist individuals who want to renew their dues or join the AWC, and guide guests who are coming to a meeting as a first-timer to see if the AWC is a good fit for their needs.

- **Member with at least a year of active AWC membership to** contact new members by phone to welcome them, reinforce the benefits of the Club, and answer questions they have or refer them to a board member for further assistance.

If you can volunteer, please email me at ron@atlantawritersclub.org.

Regards,

Ron Aiken
President
The Work Weekend

THE WORK WEEKEND is a retreat-style workshop staged at the historic Endicott Estate in Dedham, MA. This craft-focused, writing-intensive weekend is for writers of fiction (all genres) and narrative non-fiction (memoir, essay collections). Here are the details:

- Authors will be grouped into a four-person cohort led by the same publishing-house editor all weekend, so you'll have a chance to deep-dive both with your editor and your fellow writers. You'll still get to learn from/interact with the rest of the faculty during daily lectures, meals, social events, etc.
- Faculty includes Laura Chasen (lit fic, nonfiction -- formerly of SMP), Laura Apperson (YA -- SMP), Natalie Hallak (women's fiction -- Park Row Books/ Hanover Square), Carolyn Williams (adult fiction -- Doubleday/PRH), and Rebecca Brewer (SFF -- Ace/Berkley/PRH). Bios for all faculty are currently posted on the The Work Conference website (www.theworkconference.com).
- Daily programming includes a mini lecture, creative writing labs, lots of time to write, and small-group critique. You'll also meet one-on-one with your editor once during the weekend, to discuss your submission and ask questions. Full program details available on website.
- Catered meals, candy and pen buffets, swag bags, coffee/beverage service, and other thoughtful details -- all included.

Two ticket options -- with or without accommodation. Daily shuttle service to/from the venue from the hotel.

Notably, this is NOT a pitching event. There are no agents on faculty! The Work Weekend is about craft, which is why our faculty is completely comprised of publishing-house editors.

Also notably, attendance is currently capped at just 20 authors. Admissions are rolling, and this event will fill to capacity! If you'd like to join us for the retreat, please review the details on the conference website ASAP (www.theworkconference.com).
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.

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: jill.coxcordova@gmail.com.
## AWC CRITIQUE GROUPS

(changes in red)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online #1</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com">michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online #2</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; non-Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>D.Nicole Steele</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dnicolesteele@gmail.com">dnicolesteele@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpharetta</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>3rd Thursday 7:00 pm at Barnes &amp; Noble North Point Parkway</td>
<td>Susan McBrearty</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sjmcb816@gmail.com">sjmcb816@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7PM at member's house</td>
<td>Barbara Broekway</td>
<td><a href="mailto:padulafamily@gmail.com">padulafamily@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candler Park</td>
<td>Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>Tues, 4-6PM @San Francisco Coffee 1660 Dekalb Avenue</td>
<td>Tara Coyt</td>
<td><a href="mailto:contact@taracoyt.com">contact@taracoyt.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conyers</td>
<td>All Genres</td>
<td>Every other Tuesday, 6:00PM at Mandarin Garden restaurant</td>
<td>Nancy Fletcher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ncfletcher50@gmail.com">ncfletcher50@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Adult/YA Novels and Novellas</td>
<td>Every other Thursday at Choco Late, 2094 North Decatur Rd.</td>
<td>Jonathan Grant</td>
<td>404-909-0189</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunwoody</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Fri, 1-3 p.m. @ Georgia Perimeter College Library Building, Rm3100</td>
<td>Gelia Dolimascolo</td>
<td>770-274-5246</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrenceville/ Snellville</td>
<td>Novel, Short Story &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>1st Saturday 9:30AM - noon @ Member's Home</td>
<td>Kerry Denney</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kerrysii@bellsouth.net">kerrysii@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### AWC CRITIQUE GROUPS
*(changes in red)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Meeting Details</th>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loganville</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com">michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Full</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marietta</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Tues. 6:30-8:00PM</td>
<td>Linda Sullivan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindasullivan3@gmail.com">lindasullivan3@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Thursdays @ The Heron House</td>
<td>Jane Shirley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:basketcasecafe@gmail.com">basketcasecafe@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every Tues 6:30 - 9:00PM @ Scooter's Coffee</td>
<td>George Weinstein</td>
<td><a href="mailto:giweinstein@yahoo.com">giweinstein@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Twice monthly, Mon, 10:30AM - 12:30PM @ Roswell Library</td>
<td>Jeremy Logan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeremylogan.author@gmail.com">jeremylogan.author@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Speculative fiction (novel length or short stories), regular fiction short stories, and any kind of nonfiction</td>
<td>First and third Saturday of each month at 5:00 p.m on the porch of Slope’s BBQ</td>
<td>Sarah Minnear</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com">sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open (contact Sarah to submit work)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smyrna/Marietta</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Tuesdays from 6-8PM @ coffee shop</td>
<td>Liz Helenek</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lizbizz7@bellsouth.net">lizbizz7@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snellville</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meet at the Snellville Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library on 1st Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Joyce Sewell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbs.atpeace@gmail.com">jbs.atpeace@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snellville</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meet at member's house 1st Saturday of month 9:30 - noon</td>
<td>Lynda Fitzgerald</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lyndafitz@yahoo.com">lyndafitz@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Highlands</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Every other Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. @ member’s house</td>
<td>Cindy Tolbert</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cynthiatolbert@comcast.net">cynthiatolbert@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Want to Start Your Own Critique Group?**
Current Atlanta Writers Club (AWC) members can start their own critique groups, to focus on particular genres and/or serve a specific geographic area. The AWC will advertise your group on our website and in the monthly eQuill newsletter. To get started, please contact AWC Officer Emeritus George Weinstein at george@atlantawritersclub.org
The AWC has an automated system for tracking memberships and alerting members when it's time to renew.

You will receive an e-mail from the system (showing Officer Emeritus George Weinstein’s e-mail address george@atlantawritersclub.org) one month before your membership expiration date. If you haven't renewed within a week, you will receive another e-mail every seven days, with a final e-mail one week from expiration. If the expiration date for your membership passes without renewal, the system will mark your membership as expired. It is a good e-mail practice to check your spam/junk folder to see if any legitimate e-mail has been misfiled there, possibly including the email you'll receive from george@atlantawritersclub.org prior to the expiration of your membership.

We appreciate your continued support of the Atlanta Writers Club. Your membership dues make it possible to bring fabulous speakers to our meetings, provide generous cash awards for our annual writing contest, and sponsor scholarships, literary prizes, and local writing festivals.
Regular membership dues are $50 per year per person. Students can join for $40 per year. Family members of active AWC members can join for $25 per year. Our Membership Form is on the last page of this newsletter.

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 Ron Aiken: ron@atlantawritersclub.org
THE ATLANTA WRITERS CLUB

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

If this is a Renewal, please update your information if necessary

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

AWC MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership is for ONE YEAR

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 your receipt.