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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http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub

The Atlanta Writers Club
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During our September meeting, we hosted more than 100 Atlanta Writers Club members and at least 50 first-time visitors. Many of the visitors were at the beginning of their journey as writers, and their questions evoked a wellspring of empathy in me as I recalled attending my first AWC meeting nearly twenty years ago.

Back then, I didn’t know what I didn’t know. Query letters? I’d never heard of them. Literary agents? I couldn’t imagine their critical role in traditional publishing. The Hero’s Journey? I had no idea how story worked.

Over time, I learned about these aspects of the craft and business of writing and so much more. How? By attending the meetings and paying attention to the speakers. By asking for Atlanta Writers Club members’ advice about the best books to read about writing. By learning to delve into a book with a writer’s eye rather than that of a reader. AWC members and guest speakers taught me how to do all of that.

I encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities the AWC offers, to learn all you can. That journey is never done—you can always become savvier about the industry and more skilled at the craft.

At the twice-yearly Atlanta Writers Conference, we always have some empty seats at the educational sessions: the publishing editor Q&A panel, literary agent Q&A panel, workshop, and free talks throughout the two days. This makes me sad because, for every empty chair, there’s a writer not learning everything they can about the craft and business. Clearly they don’t know everything yet. If they did, they’d be on tour or writing their next book, not hanging out at the conference hotel. In their mind, all they need is access; once the agent/publisher sees how brilliant their writing is, they’ll be on their way to the bestseller list. How I wish they were taking advantage of the opportunity to learn more that’s just a few steps away.

My hope is that the first-time visitors will become active members who immerse themselves in the meetings, conferences, workshops, contests, and critique groups we offer and engage with current members to gather invaluable writing tips and recommendations. I trust our current members will offer their acquired knowledge willingly, as it hasn’t been so long ago that they didn’t know what they didn’t know. And even though they know more now, my desire is that they too are still availing themselves of the many educational opportunities we offer instead of deciding they’ve learned everything. Let’s never stop learning nor cease helping each another!

George Weinstein is the AWC President, Atlanta Writers Conference Director, and author of five novels. His sixth, the suspense-thriller Watch What You Say, will be published in November 2019, with an SFK Press launch party on October 19 on the GSU-Dunwoody campus, Bldg. N-B, 4:00-6:00 p.m. (www.GeorgeWeinstein.com).
HOW TO GET INVOLVED

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS AT EVERY LEVEL AND IN EVERY CAPACITY

• Apprentices for each Board position:
  ♦ **President** – help us organize and run our events, help interact with the public at events to tell potential members about the AWC, and recruit the next generation of members
  ♦ **Programs** – help us identify, recruit, and shepherd meeting and workshop speakers, to give our members continued access to the best lessons about the craft and business of writing
  ♦ **Treasurer** – help us establish budgets and stay up to date on our accounting and nonprofit tax filings
  ♦ **Marketing & PR** – help us get the word out about upcoming AWC activities via social media, other online organs, print, and at physical locations, and find opportunities for our published members to establish and grow their fan base
  ♦ **Memberships** – help us reach out to new and renewing members to thank them, help connect members writing in the same genre, follow up with non-renewing members so we can improve our services, and interact with potential members through social media and in the community.
  ♦ **Operations** – help us recruit and follow up with volunteers for our meetings and workshops, book festivals, and other events
  ♦ **Websites** – help us keep our online presence up to date and inviting
  ♦ **Contests, Awards & Scholarships** – help us recruit and work with judges, follow up with member submissions, produce awards, and work with Georgia State University to select the annual scholarship recipient
  ♦ **Atlanta Writers Conference Director** – help us identify future agents, editors, and speakers and prepare materials needed during the two days of each conference
• Check-in help for members, greeters for first-time guests, and mixer-organizers for each meeting and periodic workshop

• Critique group leaders all over metro Atlanta to form and welcome AWC members who want to improve their writing and help others do the same

• Decatur Book Festival booth attendees to recruit potential new members and AWC Track management to ensure panel discussions start and end on time and run smoothly

• Twice-yearly conference timekeepers and registration assistants to help us keep our agent/editor meetings with participants on time and running smoothly and to check in arriving participants and get them oriented with their activity schedule and the venue layout

• GSU interface for auditorium and A/V reservations to make sure our meetings start on time and run smoothly

• BookFest Gwinnett book festival committee – if you enjoyed BookFest Gwinnett and want us to do it again, we need volunteers to help us recruit speakers, find a venue, pursue funding, sign up vendors, and manage the onsite volunteers who will do timekeeping and the welcome desks

If you are interested in any of these opportunities to assist the Atlanta Writers Club, or have questions before you commit, please contact AWC President George Weinstein at George@AtlantaWritersClub.org — and thank you for your desire to help your fellow writers!
All events at GSU-Dunwoody auditorium unless otherwise noted.

**OCTOBER 19**
12:45-4:00 p.m.
1st Guest Speaker – Michael Ludden (Know What You’re Writing About)
2nd Guest Speaker – Steve McCondichie (Publishing)

4:00-6:00 SFK Press Fall Catalog Releases Party with Book Launch & Signing (Bldg. N-B)

**OCTOBER 25-26**
Atlanta Writers Conference, Westen Atlanta Airport Hotel, 4736 Best Rd., Atlanta, GA 30337

**NOVEMBER 16**
12:45-4:00 p.m.
1st Guest Speaker – William Walsh (The Craft of Writing Fiction)
2nd Guest Speakers – Director José Acosta, Screenwriter Charlotte Stauffer, and Actor Keith Brooks (From Screenplay to Shooting Script to Film)

**DECEMBER 21**
12:45-4:00 p.m.
Alpharetta Branch Library, 10 Park Plaza, Alpharetta, GA 30009

Guest Speaker – Caroline George, Associate Agent for Cyle Young Literary Elite (2 talks with a break in between)

- *Pitch, Please: An Agent’s Guide to Pitches & Queries*
- *Building Platform to Strengthen Your Pitch*
First Speaker: Michael Ludden ("Know what you’re writing about")

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.

He 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.

Michael’s topic for October 19 is “Know what you’re writing about.” It is so easy to get hung up on coming up with that one brilliant idea that’s going to carry your book forward. Michael doesn’t believe there is any great secret to ideas. Rather, he prefers to prompt writers to think about three things: taking a simple concept that can be expanded, using personal experience, and seeking out expertise.

Website: [http://www.michaelludden.com/](http://www.michaelludden.com/)

Second Speaker: Steve McCondichie (“Forging Your Path to Publishing”)

After twenty-five years peddling bulldozers around the globe, Steve McCondichie exited the corporate world to pursue his true purpose. His career now focuses on helping others who dream of going from struggling writer to published author. In 2015, he received his MFA from Queens University of Charlotte and co-founded Southern Fried Karma (SFK), an Atlanta-based multimedia company. He’s now the managing partner overseeing the operation of their independent publishing imprints, their online literary magazine, the retail bookstore, and their film development company. Steve and SFK are intent on bringing civil, social discourse to the communities they serve by sharing thoughtful, well-written stories that allow for critical reflection and freethinking.
In Steve’s talk, “Forging Your Path to Publishing”, he will:

- Confide in you his own writing journey (Superhero origin story)
- Use Moon Pies to sum up the publishing industry
- Offer down-to-earth advice on getting published
- Detail SIX immediate steps you can take to begin maneuvering the *mysterious path* to publication

Following Steve’s talk, he will invite all meeting participants and members of the public to attend his party announcing SFK’s fall catalogue of books, with free food and beverages and live music by singer-pianist and AWC member Mike Shaw. AWC President George Weinstein will be signing and personalizing copies of his new novel, *Watch What You Say*. The launch party will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on the upper floor of the Building N-B Student Center, next door to the AWC meeting location.

Website: [https://southernfriedkarma.com/](https://southernfriedkarma.com/)
Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/southernfriedkarma/](https://www.facebook.com/southernfriedkarma/)
Twitter: [https://twitter.com/SFK_Multimedia](https://twitter.com/SFK_Multimedia)
Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/sfk_multimedia/](https://www.instagram.com/sfk_multimedia/)
YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8cvvIxlMsNfGILxj6guhoQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8cvvIxlMsNfGILxj6guhoQ)

If you are traveling from or through any of these areas to our meetings, please note the members below who would love to carpool with you:

**Athens**
Pat McAlexander - patmcalex@gmail.com

**Buford or Gainesville**
Evelyn Asher - evelynasher@charter.net

**Snellville side of Gwinnett/Walton County**
Marlene Buchanan - mrat30052@aol.com
AWC Member Patricia Ann Bowen will be one of several local authors speaking and signing their books during the Indie Author Day event at the Snellville Public Library at 2740 Lenora Church Road in Snellville on Saturday, October 12, 2019. The event begins at noon with speakers, continues with festivities until 4:30 p.m., and is free and open to all.

Patricia will be talking about the growth of short story interest in today’s readership, and sharing an excerpt from her recently published book of short stories, *Unintended Consequences*. She’s been a lifelong writer of nonfiction who recently became addicted to making stuff up, i.e. writing fiction. She currently teaches short story writing in Kennesaw State University’s OLLI Program.

Two upcoming events for AWC member Tara Coyt:

October 5, 2019, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
**Author Meet & Greet: Tara Coyt, Real Talk About LGBTQIAP**
Posman Books at Ponce City Market
675 Ponce de Leon Avenue NE, Atlanta GA 30308

October 9, 2019, 11:30 am
**Sexuality, Science & Sandwiches - Health Equity Seminar: Tara Coyt, Real Talk About LGBTQIAP**
Georgia State University, School of Public Health
Student Center East, Rm 218
AWC Member G.S. (Jerry) Singer’s novel The Cobbler’s Daughter will be released for publication on October 24. The Cobbler’s Daughter is a fast, fun, gaslight read where feminists burn corsets instead of bras, airships take to the sky, bombs explode at midnight, a hate-filled man learns to love, and an innocent girl outwits an evil system to become a bold, confident woman.

1872. New York City. Halloween day and night. Bouncing back from her mother’s death and an autocratic ex-fiancé, aspiring journalist, Jenny Crispin lands a job as a filing clerk for a feminist newspaper owned by woman presidential candidate, Glorianna Talmadge. To stop Glorianna’s campaign, the powers-that-be send perverted vice-detective Badger McCauley to arrest her and her staff for distributing immoral literature. Now on the lamb, Jenny meets chauvinist, brothel patron, and explosives expert, Britt Salt- er, who reluctantly agrees to help her—just as soon as he blows up the visiting King of Egypt for wrongly imprisoning him. In a mad, twenty-four-hour romp, Jenny must not only elude McCauley, save Glorianna from arrest, and stop the bomb from blowing up the king, but save Britt from his soul-consuming vengeance.

AWC President George Weinstein’s suspense thriller Watch What You Say will be officially released on November 5; preorders are being accepted now. A pre-launch event will be held courtesy of his publisher, SFK Press, on Saturday, October 19, 4:00-6:00 p.m., in the Building N-B Student Center cafeteria on the campus of Georgia State University-Dunwoody Perimeter College, following the AWC meeting.
Beverly Armento’s *The Seeing Eye Girl: A Memoir of My Life with Momma* has moved up from the Long List to the Short List of finalists for the 2019 Santa Fe Writers Project (SFWP) Literary Awards Program:


A short story by AWC VP of Publicity Philip Fasone titled “Ticket to Ride” was accepted for publication by Immortal Works (https://www.immortal-works.com/). It will be printed in an anthology of space-themed alternate history to be called *The Secret Lunar Wars*. This will be published in January 2020. Immortal Works tasked the writers with two requirements: the public perception of events remains that of the actual historical record (hence, “secret”), and the fate of humanity has to somehow be at stake. It also should explain why humans have not been back to the Moon, or even outside of low Earth orbit, since 1972.

April Love-Fordham’s My book, *James in the Suburbs: A Disorderly Parable of the Epistle of James* is the 2019 Readers' Favorite Silver Medal Winner in the Christian - Devotion/Study genre. Her book is written for Christians who want to deepen their faith. It shows the link between faith and charity and how surrendering to the demands of faith transforms us into people who make a difference in our communities. This book teaches you what to do when it is challenging living the faith. It is available at https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1625646771/

Former AWC President, Officer Emeritus, and VP of Contests, Awards, & Scholarships Clay Ramsey had two articles published in the latest issue of *Georgia Backroads*, one about the life and death of a north Georgia moonshiner, “The Hanging and Shooting of Henry Worley,” and the other about a day he spent at the church where he was buried, “Ridgeway Baptist”: http://www.georgiabackroads.com/issues/2019-autumn.htm
B&N Author Opportunity

Barnes & Noble in Peachtree Corners Is Purchasing AWC Authors’ Books

Thanks to the diligent efforts of AWC VP of Publicity Phil Fasone, the Community Relations Manager (CRM) of the Barnes & Noble in Peachtree Corners (“The Forum”) has agreed to stock AWC authors’ books.

Customers shopping at The Forum location tend to prefer the mystery/thriller/suspense fiction genre and nonfiction that fits a self-improvement or business category, but the CRM is open to considering any other genres as well.

They only have a few criteria:

1. You must be a current member of the Atlanta Writers Club.

2. The book(s) you want them to purchase must be available for order through Ingram Content Group book distributor (they will order one or more copies through Ingram). To confirm your book is available through this distributor, go at [https://www.barnesandnoble.com/](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/) and enter the 13-digit ISBN in the search bar at the top of the home page.

3. They will order 1-3 titles per author.

To take advantage of this opportunity, please email AWC President George Weinstein at George@AtlantaWritersClub.org with the title(s) and ISBN(s) you would like the CRM to stock in the store. After George confirms your membership status and that the title(s) are findable on the Barnes & Noble website, he will connect you with the CRM, who will confirm which titles they will order for store stock.

After the book(s) arrive, you can arrange a time to meet the CRM to autograph the copy of your book(s) and take a photo of yourself holding these book(s) for the store’s Instagram and Twitter pages.

To make this partnership a success, please be sure to purchase books at this store—if they’re buying but not selling, this arrangement won’t last for long.
Johns Creek Books & Gifts and Read It Again Bookstore both have agreed to host book signing holiday parties for AWC authors! To maximize participation, we’re limiting each author to just one of these events.

To claim a spot, see the dates, locations and timeframes below and send your top 3 choices, rank-ordered, to AWC President George Weinstein at George@AtlantaWritersClub.org. He will confirm your AWC membership is current and tell you which of your choices will be assigned to you.

**Saturday, December 7, 2019**
Johns Creek Books & Gifts
6000 Medlock Bridge Pkwy Suite B500
Johns Creek, GA 30022
(6 seats available in each hour-long slot)
3:00-4:00 p.m.
4:00-5:00 p.m.
5:00-6:00 p.m.
6:00-7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, December 8, 2019**
Read It Again Bookstore
6052, 3630 Peachtree Pkwy # 314
Suwanee, GA 30024
(6 seats available in each hour-long slot)
4:00-5:00 p.m.
5:00-6:00 p.m.
SEPTEMBER MEETING PHOTOS
By Phil Fasone

Pre-Meeting Mixer

Full house

Second speaker Tony Grooms

104-year-old AWC member Peggy Cobb with AWC President George Weinstein (Taken at September 7 Workshop)

First speaker Dana Ridenour
WANT A PUBLISHING CREDIT?

SUBMIT AN ARTICLE TO THE AWC eQUILL!

What makes the AWC such a successful networking resource for our members is our willingness to assist others. Many of our members have stories and lessons to share from their writing journeys. Put those experiences in an article and submit them for consideration in an upcoming issue of the eQuill. Not only will you be helping your fellow members learn from your triumphs and mistakes, but you also will get a publishing credit.

A caution: this is NOT a chance to tout your book(s) and say, “Buy this!” We’re not offering billboard space here. Rather, this is an opportunity for you to help other writers avoid pitfalls and apply successful strategies that pertain to the craft and business of writing. Naturally, you will cite examples from your work. That’s a fine way to let people know you have books for sale; we’ll also include a brief bio with links, a headshot and book cover(s) at the end of your article. The point is to be respectful of your readers, who want knowledge—not product placement.

If you submit, expect to get a reply with edits and comments and be willing to rewrite accordingly. Abide by the word counts given below; one reason publishers and contests reject work is that the writer can’t/won’t follow the rules. While we want to publish articles by as many of our members as possible, we also need these pieces to be uniformly high-quality and beneficial so the 6,200+ recipients will look forward to reading them month after month.

Can you submit multiple articles over time? Absolutely! We’d love to have regular contributors.

If you want to submit an article for consideration, please email the following to AWC President George Weinstein at George@AtlantaWritersClub.org:

1. Your article, with a catchy/provocative/thought-provoking title, that addresses your personal lessons about aspects of the craft and/or business of writing, in 300 words or less (can be in a Word doc attachment or in the body of your email)

2. A profile of you and your book(s) in 50 words or less, as well as your website and social media links (can be in the same Word doc attachment or in the body of your email)

3. Your headshot and book cover image(s) in JPG or PNG format, the higher the resolution, the better

We look forward to learning from you!
Friday, Oct 11 at 6:00 PM
Kevin Begos – *Tasting the Past*
R. Alexander Fine Art
5650 Peachtree Pkwy., Peachtree Corners 30092

Tuesday, Oct 15 at 7:30 PM
Stuart Woods – *Skin Game*
Norcross Cultural Arts Center
10 College St., Norcross 30071

Tuesday, Oct. 29 evening
An Evening of Books, Beer and Bluegrass
Ron Smith and Mary O. Doyle – *Prohibition in Atlanta Still Fire Brewing*
343 Buford Hwy., Suwanee 30024

Saturday, Nov. 2 at 7 PM
North GA Reads: A Consortium of 46 libraries in North Georgia
Karen White, Books, Beverages and Bites – *The Christmas Spirits of Tradd Street*
Norcross Cultural Arts Center
10 College St., Norcross 30071
BOOK CLUBS

Morning Book Club
Wednesday, October 9th at 10:30 AM
For October we are reading *The Dry* by Jane Harper for our Morning Book Club! Harper’s first novel, *The Dry* is an atmospheric page-turner that is sure to thrill! Be sure to grab your copy from the store, and join us for an animated discussion.

Evening Book Club
Wednesday, October 16th at 7:00 PM
For our October Evening Book Club, we are reading *The Island of The Sea Women* by Lisa See! Focusing on the relationship between two women who were never meant to be friends, *Island of The Sea Women* is sure to make for compelling discussion.

Au Courant Morning Book Club
Tuesday, October 22nd at 10:30 am
By popular demand, we are adding a new book club. This book club will read the latest, hot titles. For our first meeting, we are reading *This Tender Land*, a companion novel to William Kent Krueger’s earlier book, *Ordinary Grace*. This novel follows four orphans as they travel in search of a better life. Reminiscent of *Huckleberry Finn*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *The Odyssey*.

To join any of these book clubs, call Johns Creek Books and Gifts at 770-696-9999

All book club meetings are held at Johns Creek Books and Gifts, 6000 Medlock Bridge Rd, Suite B500 Johns Creek, Georgia 30022

The Atlanta Writers Club
CURRY CRAVINGS DINNER EVENT

Invitation to Atlanta Writers Club Members: The ‘Ten Thousand Tongues’ Supper Series

October 11, 2019. 6.00 p.m. onwards, Roswell, GA
Hostess: Author, Nandita Godbole of Curry Cravings™ LLC.

Roswell author, Nandita Godbole, invites AWC members to a limited seating, secret supper event especially curated around her biographical novel, Ten Thousand Tongues: secrets of a layered kitchen, the saga of eight matriarchs and their evolving relationship to comfort food across time. This novel begins in rural India in the late 1800’s and takes readers through the life and times of women in one family - all the way through the post 9/11 era in the United States. It will interest those keen to explore cultural perspectives on feminism, migration, self-identity, place attachment and genus-loci - through the lens of food. Johari, the first matriarch, sets the tone for the novel. This supper, first in a series of eight, is from her kitchen, replete with iconic rustic flavors from the desert state of Rajasthan, India. Join us for an evening of traditional favorites from this gastronomic region of India, where Fall harvest traditions are celebrated with pomp and festivity. Dinner includes classic dishes from Johari-ba’s kitchen:

- Cha – a traditional tea brew
- Bajra Raab – Pearl Millet Soup
- Batterfried Red Onion Fritters with Garlic Chutney
- Makkai Shaak – Sweet Corn Stew
- Rotla – Pearl Millet & Sorghum Bread
- Laapsi – Bulgar Dessert

HOSTESS NOTES

Pri-fixe, limited & private: This secret supper at a private location has a limited seating for 12 guests. No holds. The cost is $60 per head and $110 for couples. Reserve your spot using the link and password below. Cancellations/refunds are not available after 10/7/2019. Location disclosed upon RSVP.

Food: Menu is vegetarian by design, all dishes except the dessert are gluten-free. However, the kitchen uses gluten, nuts and meat products. Please inform hostess of food allergies.

Book-reading: A short book reading will precede the sit-down dinner on an open, outdoor patio, weather permitting.

Private gallery event: Eight original watercolor portraits of the matriarchs created for this novel will be on display.

YOUR $$ SUPPORTS LOCAL!

Ten percent of the proceeds from this special event is slated to benefit AWC.

Nandita is an indie author and small business, your support stays local.

All of Nandita's books are written, designed, created in Georgia, and printed through a local printer.
To RSVP and submit your payment:
https://www.currycravings.com/specialgroups
Password: AWC2019

AWC members unable to attend this event are welcome to write to the author: Nandita Godbole, at currycravings@gmail.com, for special event requests.

About the author:
Nandita is an Indian origin, Roswell-based indie author of many titles, who writes specifically about the classic nature of Indian culture and cuisine. Her books are crowdfunded, through which she has garnered readers in more than 30 countries. In addition to writing books, she is a freelancer and has recently converted her book *Ten Thousand Tongues* into a podcast. Her small business, Curry Cravings™ LLC curates dining experiences in both metro Atlanta and the greater Los Angeles area. Nandita is a member of the Asian American Journalists Association.

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**Help Wanted**

Jonny Moor is in search of an experienced, published author who would be interested in adapting a historical drama screenplay to a novel. He also is interested in an experienced screenwriter (preferably one who has sold scripts) to update formatting of this same 2010 script and/or rewrite and improve it. Terms are negotiable. Timeline is flexible. To discuss this project further, please contact Jonny Moor at jondmoor@hotmail.com.
Self-Publish Like a Pro: Top 7 Mistakes New Authors Make and How to Avoid Them

by
Stephanie Chandler

The world of self-publishing can be overwhelming, and there is an abundance of conflicting advice around the internet-wild-west that can leave your head spinning. However, most publishing industry professionals would agree that there are several common mistakes we see from new authors and indie book publishers. Take note of these mistakes so that you can ensure your self-published book is produced in the most professional way possible. (Hint: Your book should look like it was produced by a big New York publishing house.)

Self-Publishing Mistake #1: Unprofessional Cover Design

Like it or not, the old adage that we judge a book by its cover is one hundred percent true. One of the best ways to overcome some of the stigma that exists around self-publishing is to have an experienced book cover designer create a dazzling cover for your book.

Book covers have many elements that us non-graphic designers can’t begin to understand. Font sizes should be legible when the cover is viewed in a small thumbnail online, there shouldn’t be too many graphic elements, and colors should be balanced. Scroll through a list of New York Times bestsellers and you’ll see the beauty and simplicity in the covers.

Please, please, please do not let your cousin, sister, friend’s aunt, or an inexpensive overseas contractor design the part of your book that is going to make the first impression with potential readers. Invest in a cover that impresses your potential readers.

Self-Publishing Mistake #2: Lack of Editing

Hands down, one of the biggest mistakes self-published authors make is skimping on editing. Unfortunately, just because your cousin is a high school English teacher or your sister is an avid reader, it doesn’t mean either is qualified to edit your manuscript.

Professional editing is essential to the success of your book. Not only will pro editors make your manuscript better, they will follow industry standard style guides that most people don’t even know about. There are several different types of editing:

- Developmental Editing – The editor suggests changes to the storyline, character development, and other areas that need improvement, and then the author incorporates changes and works with the editor on a collaborative basis.
- Substantive Editing – The editor rewrites portions of the manuscript to improve the flow, clarify points, and generally make the work better.
- Copy Editing – The editor focuses on sentence structure, removing redundancies, improving word usage and providing alternative words that strengthen the work.
- Proofreading – The final phase of editing to check for grammar, spelling and punctuation errors.

While not all writers need developmental or even substantive editing, every manuscript will benefit from copy editing and proofreading. And because editing is a human function and no editor is perfect, ideally you should have at least two professional editors (people who edit manuscripts for a living) review your work before it goes press.

Read the complete article here: https://www.sfwriters.org/7-mistakes-to-avoid-when-self-publishing-by-stephanie-chandler/
If you are a current Atlanta Writers Club (AWC) member who has a book launch or signing event scheduled in the next month or two, let us help you promote it!

This is yet another benefit of AWC membership. Social media has made it easy to get the word out about your book events, but having your posts seen and shared is another matter entirely. Our newsletter reaches more than 6,400 inboxes, with an average open rate of about 25%, so put this network to work.

Contact AWC President George Weinstein at George@AtlantaWritersClub.org with these details:

Category of event (e.g., book launch, signing, talk, reading)
Date, time, and location of the event
Any other event details (agenda, RSVP requirement, public/private, etc.)
Say something about your book(s) and yourself in a paragraph or two
Your publicity photo/headshot/selfie
Book cover image (JPG or PNG file)

Deadline: 20th of the month for inclusion in the following month’s eQuill, which will be sent to subscribers on the 1st or 2nd.

Here’s an example of how your information will look (along with some shameless self-promotion):

**Book Signing for AWC President George Weinstein**

December 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Open to the Public

Posman Books – Ponce City Market
675 Ponce De Leon Ave NE, C197
Atlanta, GA 30308

George Weinstein is the current President of the Atlanta Writers Club and has managed its Atlanta Writers Conference for a decade. He is also the author of six novels, including historical fiction, a mystery, and women’s fiction. In November 2019, his suspense thriller *Watch What You Say* was published.
Posman Books at Ponce City Market is seeking a few good authors for book signings.

Some AWC members have done quite well selling their books at Posman Books at Ponce City Market, and we’re helping them find more authors who are able to pitch their wares.

The manager prefers authors with outgoing personalities who can stay off their phones during the entire length of their signing—no easy feat for some—and greet, greet, greet everybody who enters the store.

Also, he will need to see a copy of your book(s) before he commits, as he’s been burned in the past by authors trying to sell books with bad printing, poor cover art, layout errors, typos, etc.

With his approval, you’ll work with him to select a book signing date and times. Typical signings are two hours in length. Your books will be consigned to the store for the duration of your signing, with sales split 60/40 in your favor. At the end of the signing, the manager might choose to purchase one or more titles for the store. You will then invoice him for the books you sold at 60% of the selling price, and he will pay promptly.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please write to AWC President George Weinstein at George@AtlantaWritersClub.org, and he will introduce you to the Posman Books manager.
Register for Remaining Spots: October 25-26, 2019

ATLANTA WRITERS CONFERENCE

Some activities still have a few open seats for our 20th Atlanta Writers Conference, on October 25-26, 2019 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
- Building your network of industry contacts

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

The October 25-26, 2019 Atlanta Writers Conference openings include:

- Workshop on world-building, pacing, and making your characters’ “voices” distinctive by Kimberley Howe, award-winning author and Executive Director of ThrillerFest.
• Editor Q&A panel with all eight acquisitions editors and Agent Q&A panel with all eight literary agents to give you two perspectives of the current and future publishing industry.

• Waitlists available for pitches and query letter critiques with agents and editors.

• Free bonus activities for every participant who purchases at least two of the activities above:
  ◊ Two talks by Kimberley Howe on networking and leveraging conferences to advance your writing career.
  ◊ Two presentations by award-winning author Brian Panowich about breaking the rules of grammar in writing and how to spot and avoid those who prey on writers.
  ◊ Two presentations by author, screenwriter, and award-winning producer Paul Sinor about turning novels into screenplays—and vice versa—without sacrificing your main character, and writing about the drama of trauma.
  ◊ Private mixer with all agents, acquisitions editors, and special guest Kimberley Howe.
  ◊ 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.
More than 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!

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 inquire about waitlist lengths for pitches:
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 October 25-26, 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 October 26, 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 and waitlist inquiries, contact Atlanta Writers Conference Director and AWC President George Weinstein at awconference@gmail.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 President George Weinstein at george@atlantawritersclub.org
### AWC CRITIQUE GROUPS

#### Changes in RED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online #</th>
<th>Fiction</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
<th>Mike Brown</th>
<th>Wait list</th>
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<tr>
<td>Online #1</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
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<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>
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<td>Online #3</td>
<td>Young Adult/Middle Grade Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Ivelisse Rodriguez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rodrigivelisse@gmail.com">rodrigivelisse@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alpharetta</td>
<td>Fiction/ Non-Fiction</td>
<td>Every Monday 7:00-8:30 pm, Barnes and Noble on Northpoint Parkway</td>
<td>April Love-Fordham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:loveford@gmail.com">loveford@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Candler Park/Decatur</td>
<td>Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>Tuesdays, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm, ChocoLaté Coffee Decatur</td>
<td>Tara Coyt</td>
<td><a href="mailto:contact@taracoyt.com">contact@taracoyt.com</a></td>
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<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>
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<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>
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<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 Dolcimascolo</td>
<td>770-274-5240</td>
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<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:kerryssii@bellsouth.net">kerryssii@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Liburn</td>
<td>&quot;Write Here, Right Now&quot; shares writing techniques and offers constructive feedback</td>
<td>Meets monthly from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the 1st or 2nd Thursday at the Gwinnett Mountain Park Library Branch</td>
<td>Ashley Melonson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amelonson@gwinnettpl.org">amelonson@gwinnettpl.org</a></td>
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<td>Location</td>
<td>Genre</td>
<td>Meeting Time</td>
<td>Contact Person</td>
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<td>Loganville</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
<td>Full</td>
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<td>Marietta</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Tues. 6:30-8:00PM</td>
<td>Linda Sullivan</td>
<td>Wait List</td>
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<td>Roswell</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>Wednesdays, every 2 weeks, 6:00-8:00PM @ Scooter's Coffee</td>
<td>Kim Wright</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Thursdays @ The Heron House</td>
<td>Jane Shirley</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every Tues 6:15 - 9:00PM @ Scooter’s Coffee</td>
<td>George Weinstein</td>
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<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Twice monthly, Mon, 10:30AM - 12:30PM @ Roswell Library</td>
<td>Jeremy Logan</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<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>Open (contact Sarah to submit work)</td>
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<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; Non-fiction</td>
<td>2nd Saturday of each month, 2:30-4:30PM in member’s home</td>
<td>Bill Ottinger</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<td>Smyrna/Marietta</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Tuesdays from 6-8PM @ coffee shop</td>
<td>Liz Helenek</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<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>Open</td>
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<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>Open</td>
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<td>Virginia Highlands</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Every other Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. @ member’s house</td>
<td>Cindy Tolbert</td>
<td>Open</td>
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**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 President 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 President 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 (August-May), 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.

**Periodic Workshops.** Your membership provides access to numerous outstanding writing workshops throughout the year, all of them free to members. We feature a 3-hour, members-only workshop each July and others in the spring and fall. Please see the AWCC Calendar page in this newsletter for upcoming workshops.

**Twice-Yearly Atlanta Writers Conference.** This is your opportunity to pitch and receive manuscript and query letter guidance from literary agents and publisher acquisitions editor. Each Atlanta Writers Conference also includes agent and editor Q & A panels, workshops on the craft and business of writing, and a reception mixer where you’ll get to meet and talk with the agents, editors, and your fellow participants in a more informal setting. Details are at https://atlantawritersconference.com/

**Critique Groups.** Please see the two-page listing in this issue of the eQuill for the different critique groups available to members, both online and spread around the metro Atlanta area. Critique group participants meet regularly to read each other’s writings and recommend improvements. Don’t see a group in your area or don’t see your genre represented? Start your own and let the AWC advertise it for you.

**Writing Contest with Cash Prizes and Publication.** Each winter/spring, we hold a writing contest for fiction, nonfiction, and poetry with cash prizes and publication in the *New Southern Fugitives* online zine.

**Opportunities to Sell Your Books.** We are constantly seeking more opportunities for you to speak to new audiences and sell your books. From creating AWC shelves at local bookstores to sponsoring an AWC Writers’ Track and providing an authors’ booth at the Decatur Book Festival, we provide year-round occasions for our members.

**Free Tickets to Author Events.** Because of our sponsorship of the Book Festival of the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta, we receive periodic offers to attend their paid events at no charge, and we share these tickets with our members via email announcements.

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 George Weinstein: george@atlantawritersclub.org
First Name: ___________________________________ Last Name: ___________________________________
Cell Phone: ______________________________ Other Phone: ______________________________
Email: _________________________________ Alternate Email: ________________________________

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 Jerry Weiner, Treasurer
8080 Jett Ferry Rd.
Atlanta, GA 30350

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.