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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https://www.facebook.com/Atlanta-Writers-Club-218575894874539
http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub

Events this month

April 18 – AWC Meeting Online scheduled with speakers Colleen Oakley, Ricki Cardenas, and Mayra Cuevas and the announcement of winners of our annual contest

April 25 – AWC Workshop Online scheduled with poet Dana Wildsmith
Writing While Quarantined

Just as an enforced reduction in activities outside the home is a great opportunity to read, it’s also an excellent chance to start, continue, or finish a writing project you’ve been meaning to tackle. Yes, I know now that you have time to write, perversely, the ideas won’t come or you don’t feel like it, but I have great news: you’re not waiting for the Muse; rather, the Muse is waiting for you.

When you sit down to write or walk up to your standing desk, as I do, and consider your writing project, you can welcome the Muse. Steven Pressfield, in his classic *The War of Art*, even provides the incantation-like message he recites before each writing session to make sure his personal Muse feels welcomed and encouraged to inspire him. Do whatever works for you but get down to it. You’re not going to be closed off from worldly distractions forever, and—if you don’t make some progress now—you’re going to regret not seizing the moment before life returns to normal and distractions give you umpteen attractive excuses not to write.

In that same book, Pressfield addresses the subject of resistance: how and why we get in our own way to prevent ourselves from making the art we tell everyone we feel inspired and compelled to make. He offers numerous remedies, but they all boil down to recognizing the enemy—it is ourselves. Nobody is more effective at preventing us creating something worthy than we are.

Hopefully, the social distancing, closed public spaces, and postponed events will be over in a few weeks rather than a month or more, so you really don’t have much time to dig in and write before life intrudes again. So, rather than a marathon writing period such as NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month), this will be a sprint (with luck and wise public health policies), where you’ll have a few weeks to demonstrate your love of language, story, and creation.

Once quarantines are lifted and the pandemic subsides, you’ll be inundated with invitations and opportunities to leave home and give in to the pent-up demand for socializing and experiencing activities with the masses. While you’re captivated in the public swirl, it’ll be a shame if you think back to the quiet weeks you had at home where, instead of getting at that writing project you’ve meant to start, continue, or complete, you binge-watched umpteen TV shows and movies or, yes, opted always for reading instead of writing. Reading is a grand way to spend your time, of course, but writers don’t just read—they also write.

Many of us recall the famous episode of *The Twilight Zone* titled “Time Enough at Last” with Burgess Meredith, who wants only to read his beloved books but is surrounded by people who prevent him from doing so. When he finally gets the chance, he’s thwarted. Don’t let that be you with your writing. You have a grand opportunity now—be sure to take advantage of it.

George Weinstein is the AWC President, Atlanta Writers Conference Director, and author of six novels, including the suspense-thriller *Watch What You Say*, which was published in November 2019 ([www.GeorgeWeinstein.com](http://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
  - **Operations** – help us recruit and follow up with volunteers for our meetings and workshops, book festivals, and other events
  - **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

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](mailto:George@AtlantaWritersClub.org) — and thank you for your desire to help your fellow writers!
April Meeting Online Speakers

On April 18th, we’ll host our first online meeting. A link to the online meeting room will be sent via email in early April for a practice session so you can log in, learn to use the chat-box and raise-hand features, and test your video and/or microphone.

We will also record these meetings and post those links in the next month’s issue of The eQuill.

April 18, 1:30-4:00 p.m.

1:30-1:45 Announcement of the AWC Annual Contest winners and other AWC announcements.

1:45-2:45 Women’s Fiction Panel Discussion with Colleen Oakley and Ricki Cardenas

Colleen Oakley is the critically acclaimed author of Before I Go, Close Enough to Touch, You Were There Too and the forthcoming The Invisible Husband of Frick Island (May 2021). Colleen’s novels have been long-listed for the Southern Book Prize twice and Close Enough to Touch won the French Reader’s Prize. Her books have been translated into 21 languages, optioned for film and have received numerous accolades including:

*Indie Next List Pick Jan 2015, March 2017 and Jan 2020
*Library Reads Pick 2020
*Top 21 Books of 2020 by O Magazine
*People magazine Best New Book

A former magazine editor for Marie Claire and Women’s Health & Fitness, Colleen’s articles and essays have been featured in The New York Times, Ladies’ Home Journal, Women’s Health, Redbook, Parade, Women’s Day, Fitness, Health, Marie Claire and Martha Stewart Weddings. A proud graduate of the University of Georgia’s school of journalism, Colleen currently lives in Atlanta with her husband, four kids and the world's biggest lapdog, Bailey.

Ricki Cardenas is the author of two humorous women’s fiction novels, Mr. Right-Swipe and Switch and Bait (Grand Central, 2017 and 2018)—both published under the name Ricki Schultz. Ricki earned a B.A. in English and an M.Ed. in Secondary Education from John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio.

In addition to writing and freelance editing, she has molded the minds of tweens & teens as a middle school and high school teacher in both the CLE and the ATL—and she also spent a year teaching writing and communications at the college level.

She currently lives in Georgia with her husband and geriatric beagle, and she’s finally starting to embrace “y’all”—even though she can’t pull it off even a little bit.

Among other publications, she has contributed to Writer’s Digest Books, both interviewing literary agents for the Guide to Literary Agents blog as well as writing various articles for both Guide to Literary Agents and Children’s Writer’s and Illustrator’s Market (F+W Media). She has spoken at and critiqued new writers’ work at several conferences and workshops.
Mayra Cuevas’s YA contemporary #OwnVoices debut Salty, Bitter, Sweet hit shelves on March 2020. Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Mayra is a professional journalist and fiction writer who prefers love stories with a happy ending. Her debut fiction short story was selected by best-selling author Becky Albertalli to appear in the Foreshadow YA serial anthology Issue 04 in April 2019. She is currently a special projects producer and writer for CNN. She keeps her sanity by practicing Buddhist meditation and serving on the Board of Directors of Kadampa Meditation Center Georgia. She lives with her husband, also a CNN journalist, and their cat, in the charming town of Norcross, Georgia. She is also the stepmom to two amazing young men who provide plenty of inspiration for her stories. Her claim to fame came as her family appeared in Season 2 of Buying and Selling with the Property Brothers.

Critique Partners Wanted

My name is Tabitha Rohm, and I joined the Atlanta Writers Club in November of 2019. I write by the idea; I read and write crime and thriller fiction in the adult market. I am writing my first book and I have written a short story. I am also a blogger on True Crime. My preferred critique partner is someone that has an eye for typographical errors, but also to give me advice on content. My preferred contact information is: crimesworthofink@yahoo.com, 770-572-3577.

My name is Michael Phillips, and I joined the Atlanta Writers Club in January of 2019. I write by the idea and I’m not a slave to genre. That said, I stick mainly to SF and speculative fiction in the adult market. I have written both novels and short stories. All of my writing has an LGBTQ-friendly element, and many of the main characters are in that category. The style is commercial, but in some cases may be considered more literary and thus upmarket. My preferred critique partner would be someone with a sharp eye for story and voice, who would mainly look at overall story content, structure, readability, and enjoyment. I do not tend to need copyediting. My preferred contact information is: michael@greyowlgraphics.com, 828-278-2028.
April 25th Poetry Workshop
Online

April 25, 1:30-4:00 p.m. - Online (link coming soon)

Poetry Workshop with Dana Wildsmith

Dana Wildsmith is the author of five collections of poetry and a memoir and was a Georgia Author of the Year finalist. Born and raised in rural South Georgia, she traveled extensively as a Navy wife before settling in Bethlehem, Georgia, on a century-old family farm outside Atlanta. Dana's love of family, nature, music, tradition, and life's simple joys is the focal point of her poignant, compelling work, which has been featured in numerous journals, magazines, and anthologies, including the highly acclaimed *Listen Here: Women Writing in Appalachia*. She is a gifted teacher as well, sharing her passion for language from ESL classes at Lanier Technical College to residencies across the country. Learn more about Dana at [www.danawildsmith.com](http://www.danawildsmith.com).

Book Donations Wanted

More Than Words is a non-profit social enterprise located in Boston, MA that serves as a job training program for youths in the foster care system, court involved, homeless, or out of school. Founded in 2004, they recently opened a 4,000 square foot bookstore and social enterprise marketplace on East Berkeley St. in the South End to serve close to 200 youths with the expanded space. Their entire business runs off of donated books. All proceeds from sales go to both pay youth and also support them as they work on education, employment and self-efficacy goals with the youth development managers.

To donate books, please mail them to the following address:

More than Words
242 East Berkeley Street, Second Floor
Attn: Eli Briskin
Boston, MA 02118
AWC member Bill Barbour published *The Wind* on March 21. This is his first book and the end of an eight-year effort to tell the story of Arnald. Based on the life of a German man, born in 1927, it reveals the experiences of a young boy, growing up in the Nazi-propaganda cloud and then serving in the Wehrmacht at age fifteen. Raised by his great aunt, born in New York, he learned alternative philosophies and morals. He loved his country and wanted to stop the killing while witnessing an oppressive, deranged government. Like many soldiers, his was a struggle to survive rather than pursuit of an unworthy cause. Bill is working on the sequel to *The Wind* which should be available by year end. He wrote several one act plays that were produced and a screenplay for cable TV. He also authored numerous technical articles while in the Air Force and with a software company.

https://billbarbourwriter.com/

AWC member Camille N. Wright will launch her first novel, *Anne Aletha*, on April 25, published by The Ardent Writer Press. In 1918 amid World War I, a reemerging Ku Klux Klan, and the Spanish Influenza, Anne Aletha, a young unconventional schoolteacher, inherits her uncle’s cash-strapped farm in Ray’s Mill, Georgia. Her plans to open a school for all children and her courage to challenge the racial injustice she witnesses plunge herself and those she loves into the violence of the Klan. BookLife Reviews (Editor’s Pick) called *Anne Aletha* an “intriguing story” that “cleverly intertwines fact with fiction.” Kirkus Reviews described it as “a thoughtful account of early-20th-century racial tensions.” Her website is www.annealetha.com.
AWC welcomes a new generation of writers with our first conference scholarship winner, Santiago Mejia. This May, he will have the opportunity to work with an agent to develop his children’s book.

I discovered Santi—or he discovered me—while working with Amy Magnus, an English teacher at Kell High School as well as a friend and former student of mine. Amy wanted to form a creative writing club for her students and asked me to help. Thrilled at the possibility of inspiring young writers, I accepted and began meeting with her and a growing number of students interested in starting an online literary magazine.

Flash forward three months and guess who’s inspired. If you guessed me, you’re right. Watching young people get excited about improving and sharing their writing is energizing and uplifting. Fiction, self-help, poetry, and essays—all have these kids fired up. In addition to writing, they plan to feature student art, music, and videos.

Even better, they want to include the entire student body in their adventure. Currently, we’re having a contest to name the magazine. Two of our staff writers volunteered to provide a gift card for the prize. Other members are working on content and organization. The goal is to have the magazine up and running by the middle of April. One of our future goals is to invite local authors and artists to consult with the group and speak to other aspiring writers.

I want to thank Amy Magnus for being such a dedicated, caring teacher and her students for their talent, enthusiasm, and determination.

One of my goals is to help develop similar groups at other schools. I would also love to have interested members join me at Kell anytime. If you’re in need of a little inspiration, something to keep you warm when facing chilly rejections, I’d love to hear from you: knichols75@gmail.com.
MISSION IMPOSSIBLE. No, not the movie, but possibly how you feel about your dream. Last night you had that recurring dream that you were going to tackle the list of ten things to do before you can’t. Travel, cook, read, dance, hike, get married, get divorced, go to a play at the Fox Theatre, or maybe check out the symphony. The first item on the list is write a novel. You say to yourself, “I’ll start the day after I retire,” which is next month.

A coworker tells you about the Atlanta Writers Club. And here you are at their monthly meeting. The president tells the audience that everyone has a beginning and you find yourself nodding in agreement. You smile, sit back and take some notes. At the break you find yourself wandering around feeling mighty green, until you meet someone and it is their first time also. Well, at least you’re here working on that bucket list before time runs out. Ready. Set. Go.

Next up is a firsthand account of how to write a novel by a member who did just that. Please welcome Caroline Clemens to the stage. (She thanks everyone for being here and tells us to take out our notebooks and write fast!) “This is for the 18- to 99-year-old first timer, any other profession besides an MFA, and someone with a story to tell. Follow this and you can write a book over the next 6-12 months. Purchase or gather up pens, notebooks, a thesaurus, and a computer. Use your name or a pen name and stick with it, start a WordPress blog, keep passwords handy, and figure out what type of book you want to write.

Is there a story inside you, or do you just like a particular genre? Purchase a book or two of your favorite author, genre, or general interest. This will help with details when you get to the end of the road.

If you have never written anything and feel very green, then join a poetry group online. I joined d-Verse Poets Pub and stayed with them for over a year eventually having enough material for a collection of poems. Writing poetry gets the language moving, the words are enticing and your brain responds creatively. Join a writing group if you like, I was unable to do this with three kids to escort around town, school, cooking and homework, and later a job. I followed other writing blogs and derived my critique and inspiration from them. If you have a title, great, if not don’t worry it will come. You are going to learn along the way. You are going to Atlanta Writers Club meetings, starting a blog, following a poetry and/or other writing blogs, purchased your writing items, lit a candle, turned on some inspirational music, or silence, and hence the next step is it.

Don’t be scared, this is where I help. On the first few pages of the notebook write the title, plot, places, character names, genre, and any notes you want to remember about the story. On a single page write the title, plot, first sentence, last sentence and desired word count. This will keep you motivated and on task towards the goal. The next four pages, leave pages in between for when you change something and rip it out, will be the outline. According to how many words construct an appropriate amount of chapters. Do you like long chapters, or short? Once you know the amount of words per chapter then set down the chapters with headings or a story flow. Now you have something to refer to when you get all mixed up or forgetful. I wrote out in notebooks by hand my first four or five novels this way, then typed them to the computer. This is the very fun part because you’ve done an
extraordinary amount of work and now you can add or delete at will. Have fun!

Read a paragraph out loud to see if it flows. Edit yourself—then find an editor who may be a friend or from a group, even a professional one for hire. When you have completed typing it to the computer, and edited the manuscript, find yourself a cover! I use Self-Pub Covers online and the cost is about $75-$125. You will want to write a back cover and this can be very tricky. Get out that favorite author of yours and read their back cover—look at the insides, etc. Teach yourself. I eventually found an editor who makes my manuscript look perfect on the page, but you can use someone like XLibris to format your book. These two costs are around $100-$400. My books are now with Ingram Spark who is a book distributor. They distribute everywhere around the globe in print or digital. Mine are available on Amazon/Barnes & Noble and other venues. I have just started the marketing process so I’ll be working on that part of book-selling.

Finally, it sounds like so much to do but it isn’t—it works right from you. You are master of your fate, maybe for once in your life you write the details and tell people what to say. After I wrote four or five books I turned the page and just like that improved upon my own process. What did I have to lose? I now use yellow tablets, putting the title, plot, characters, word count, genre, places, and a full six page outline with headings, storyline, etc. and type to the computer from this. This was a magnificent accomplishment of mine. I’ve heard Scrivener has a tool and I may try that next time. I’ve been writing for nine years now, and hopefully my marketing will help me to sell and make a few bucks. Readers, reviews, and a positive query are the prizes and I wish that for all of us. I Always Wanted to Write a Novel.”

Caroline will be at the Alpharetta Library (10 Park Plaza, Alpharetta, GA 30009) on April 26th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**AWC Member Accolade—April**

Do you feel as if you’re in a movie you’d rather not be watching? That sense of profound disconnection on a quiet day might be familiar to you. After all, we’ve been in this movie before.

My suburb in Georgia is like the day after 9/11 — an eerily quiet, beautiful day. I also felt the same disconnection when taking care of my dying sister, through all those ordinary days swelled with the dread of what I usually ignore.

A southern Spring only strengthens the disconnect because it’s so beautiful. Cherry trees and wisteria and azaleas and magnolias are all blooming, and stormy skies merely intensify their colors. My life has taken a 19th century tinge: I iron shirts, sweep, play board games, walk down empty streets and see entire families taking walks, giving me the We’re-all-in-this-together kind of smile that either restores one’s faith in humanity or makes one want to puke. More people are riding bicycles than cars. Without the background hum of a vibrant, busy society, the loudest sound is bird song.


Enforced time at home should be great. It’s an excuse not to interact with people I don’t want to see anyway, and an opportunity to pour time into the next project. But the lassitude brought on by boredom and anxiety makes it hard to concentrate, so my mind deflects to the trivial. I wonder how many literary agents are asking clients if they can whip up a Covid-19 novel in a few months. I wonder if I should use a plague background in my next book. I wonder if I’ll be able to write a novel that isn’t imbued with today’s quietly weird atmosphere.

I miss lit-up theaters selling tickets, buddies in sports bars shouting at big-screen games, office workers debating market plans and construction workers framing buildings. We’re affected by society’s background noise, even when it’s absent. I know I am. Its noise comforts me. It shields me in the presence of my mortality.

Now we’re stuck waiting for our vibrant society to resume. Such anxious long-term waiting can have a profound impact, like it did to Samuel Beckett, who was in the French Resistance during World War II and spent many hours waiting for friends or foes to arrive. His tense mix of restless ennui informs every line of Waiting for Godot. Maybe if I’m stuck waiting here for weeks, I’ll rise to the embers-in-the-void luminosity of Beckett’s work. Maybe this pandemic will make me a better writer!

Yeah, I know, I’m making a lot of assumptions. My college kids are home. My husband and I love it. They hate it. They miss their friends, campus life, classes. So far, they mostly sleep and text.

We’re stocked up on jumbo-sized boxes of Cheerios and pasta noodles and jars of tomato sauce. I don’t want to return to the grocery store until I have to. Maybe the next time around it won’t be packed with grim-faced stranger pushing carts heaped with toilet paper and water and frozen food, as if every supply chain in America is shattered. We’re not under attack, guys. This is just a waiting game.

I scroll through streaming movies, a suburbanite curled up on the couch with the shadow of death fluttering silently overhead. The girls laugh in the kitchen. I get up and kiss them. I love this. This will end. I take another walk. People smile at me. We’re all in this together. I treasure this. This will end. I want to hug them. I want to touch them.
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 head-shot 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 head-shot and book cover image(s) in JPG or PNG format, the higher the resolution, the better

We look forward to learning from you!
Promote Your Book Launch or Next Signing

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/head-shot/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**

March 29, 11 a.m. to 3 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 lengths. 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.
Join Our Member Success Webpage

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 head-shot, book (or other publication) cover, and website URL to

AWC President George Weinstein at george@atlantawritersclub.org
# Critique Groups

## Changes in RED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critique Group</th>
<th>Genre(s)</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Lead Writer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Waitlist/Opening Status</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Online #1</strong></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>
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<td><strong>Online #2</strong></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>Wait List</td>
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<td><strong>Online #3</strong></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>
<td>Wait*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alpharetta/Roswell</strong></td>
<td>Fiction/Non-Fiction</td>
<td>Suspended</td>
<td>April Love-Fordham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:loveford@gmail.com">loveford@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Suspended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Candler Park/Decatur</strong></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>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conyers</strong></td>
<td>All Genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>Nancy Fletcher</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ncfletcher50@gmail.com">ncfletcher50@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></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><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 Dolcimascolo</td>
<td>770-274-5240</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<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><a href="mailto:kerryssii@bellsouth.net">kerryssii@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liburn</strong></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>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>Organizer</td>
<td>Contact Information</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<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>Poetry</td>
<td>Wednesdays, every 2 weeks, 6:00-8:00PM @ Scooter's Coffee</td>
<td>Kim Wright</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com">wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</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>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>George Weinstein</td>
<td><a href="mailto:giweinstein@yahoo.com">giweinstein@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>Jeremy Logan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jerymylogan.author@gmail.com">jerymylogan.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>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>Sarah Minnear</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com">sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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><a href="mailto:osrtrain@att.net">osrtrain@att.net</a></td>
<td>(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>Snelville</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meet at the Snelville 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>Snelville</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>Suwanee</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Wednesdays, 6-8pm @ George Pierce Park Community Center</td>
<td>Lexy Petrick</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lpetrick2002@yahoo.com">lpetrick2002@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></td>
<td><a href="mailto:cindy@cltolbert.com">cindy@cltolbert.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.
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/](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 online 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 George Weinstein: george@atlantawritersclub.org
Membership Form

First Name: ___________________________ Last Name: ___________________________

Cell Phone: __________________________ Other Phone: ___________________________

Email: _______________________________ Alternate Email: _________________________

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): __________________________

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

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 donation. Please keep this portion of the form as your receipt.