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.

Officers

President:
George Weinstein

Officers Emeritus:
Valerie Connors
George Weinstein
Clay Ramsey
Marty Aftewicz

Conference Director:
George Weinstein

Membership VP:
Yvonne Green

Programs VP:
Jill Evans

Operations VP:
Kim Conrey

Marketing VP:
Patrick Scullin

Public Relations VP:
Phil Fasone

Contests, Awards, Scholarships VP:
Clay Ramsey

Secretary:
Bill Black

Treasurer:
Jerry Weiner

Historian/By-Laws:
George Weinstein

eQuill Publisher:
Gene Bowen

Events This Month

May 8 – Atlanta Writers Conference Live Online Workshop by Steven James

May 13 – Ben Coles’s quarterly webinar: Building Great Primary and Secondary Characters

May 16 – AWC Meeting Online:
- Rebecca Heyman (First Sentence Frenzy: An Editor Offers Critiques about Your Opening Line)
- Adam Ragusea (The Magic of Cross-Pollination: How Newswriting Helped Me Become a Famous YouTube Cook)
May 2020 eQuill

In This Issue

Click on the title to go to the page

The President's Column .................................................. 4
Online Workshop ........................................................... 5
Free Online Presentation ............................................... 6
May Meeting Speakers—Online ...................................... 7
Recordings & file Links .................................................. 8
Writing Contest Winners ............................................... 9
Six Principles for Effective Writing ................................. 11
April 25 Poetry Workshop ............................................... 11
Member Book Launches—May ......................................... 14
Together Online .......................................................... 15
Thinking Outside the Box ............................................... 16
Bulletin Board ............................................................. 17
Want a Publishing Credit? .............................................. 18
Promote Your Book Launch or Next Signing Here ............ 19
Sign & Sell Book Opp ..................................................... 20
Join Our Member Success Webpage ............................... 21
Critique Groups .......................................................... 22
Membership Renewal .................................................... 24
Membership Benefits ................................................... 25
Membership Form ......................................................... 26
Businesses that resisted deliveries and curbside pickups have now embraced these services. People who mocked video chat now spend hours a day doing just that. Authors who eschewed social media are now offering Facebook Live readings and book talks. Organizers who embraced in-person events as the superior means of connecting and educating people (guilty as charged!) are now touting webinars and virtual classrooms.

Necessity is indeed the mother of invention. As much as I’d love to return to our 130-attendee meetings at Georgia State and our 230-participant conferences at the Westin hotel, these simply will not recur for a while yet. But the need for education about the craft and business of writing is stronger than ever, so we struggle and adapt and learn new skills and, always, persevere. I often say that the only writer who fails is the one who quits. So, we aren’t quitting; nor are we going to hibernate until there’s a COVID-19 vaccine and we can go back to doing things exactly as we did them before. If such a thing will even be possible.

The term “new normal” has been used a lot lately. Writer friends have described their new reality to me and spoke of how much they’ve surprised themselves by opening their minds to alternatives they had previously dismissed or never considered. They are trying new outlets for writing: memoirists are working on screenplays, poets are throwing themselves into epic-length manuscripts, novelists are trying out flash fiction. Others are studying new genres to see if there’s a fit with their new mindsets or are breathing new life into old manuscripts.

Self-published writers are perusing Manuscript Wish List and learning to write query letters. Traditionally published authors are hybridizing by learning how to self-publish. People who’d written exclusively for personal growth or amusement are wondering if there’s a market for their labors, while still others are turning inward and discovering a love of journaling.

Freedom to choose is one of the best things about being a creative person.

We’re all creatures of habit to some degree. If you had to deliberate over every choice and action throughout your day, you’d never get anything done. However, that doesn’t mean you don’t have free will. Freedom to choose is one of the best things about being a creative person. You can decide right now that you will write something entirely different than what you’ve done before, or that you will do something entirely different with what you’ve already written. You can change your spots into stripes, plaid, a solid head-to-toe hue, or no color at all. You can keep doing what you’re doing—the freedom to choose also includes choosing not to alter course. The coronavirus can change your life in myriad ways, but creative choices remain entirely in your control.

It’s your move.

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).
Online Workshop

MAY 08

TROUBLESHOOTING YOUR MANUSCRIPT: ESSENTIAL TECHNIQUES FOR IDENTIFYING AND SOLVING PROBLEMS

Steven James is a national bestselling novelist whose award-winning, pulse-pounding thrillers continue to gain wide critical acclaim and a growing fan base. Equipped with a unique master’s degree in storytelling, he has taught writing and storytelling on four continents over the past two decades and has spoken more than two thousand times at events spanning the globe.

Steven’s groundbreaking books on the art of fiction writing, STORY TRUMPS STRUCTURE and TROUBLESHOOTING YOUR NOVEL, have both won Storytelling World Awards. Widely recognized for his story-crafting expertise, he teaches regularly as a Master Class instructor at ThrillerFest, North America’s premier training event for suspense writers.

In his podcast “The Story Blender,” he interviews leading storytellers in film, print, and web. Listen now to any of the dozens of archived podcasts for free by visiting his website www.thestoryblender.com.

On Friday, May 8, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Eastern, Steven will provide a workshop for fiction and creative nonfiction writers, designed just for the Atlanta Writers Conference, Troubleshooting Your Manuscript: Essential Techniques for Identifying and Solving Problems.

In this practical workshop packed full of specific, time-tested advice, you will explore how to pinpoint weak spots in your story—and solve them—examine how to adjust elements of story progression, develop riveting characters, master narrative techniques, and ensure reader engagement. You owe your book more than just a polish and a proofread. This workshop will help take it to the next level.

As a free bonus for workshop participants, Steven James will offer two 45-minute talks before his workshop, at 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. respectively on May 8th: “Story Trumps Structure: How to Write Unforgettable Fiction by Breaking the Rules” and “Pulling the Rug Out: How to Craft Twists Your Readers Will Never See Coming.”

Ten seats remain available for this workshop. The cost is $70 for AWC members and $120 to non-members (the latter includes a $50 registration fee, which will grant a 365-day membership in the Atlanta Writers Club). To register, email Conference Director and AWC President George Weinstein at awconference@gmail.com with “Workshop Registration” in the subject line. He will reply with the payment link and then follow-up with the online meeting details.
RSVP FOR FREE ONLINE QUARTERLY PRESENTATION FOR 25 AWC MEMBERS ON MAY 13

BENNETT R. COLES is an award-winning author with Harper Collins and Titan Publishing Group (UK) and he's always looking for opportunities to help newer authors navigate the intricacies of book publishing so they don't make the same mistakes he made early on in his writing career.

On Wednesday, May 13 at 7 p.m. Eastern, Ben will provide a live, online presentation, the second of a quarterly series, which is free for 25 current AWC members: “Building Great Primary and Secondary Characters”

Like so many other things in life, a good story is all about character. The most gripping plot in the world will read like an arcade game if you don't have real, sympathetic characters living it. The most fascinating theme will sound like an academic paper without profound characters uncovering it. The most startling twist ending will be nothing more than a clever trick unless your complex characters somehow navigate through it. The hero’s journey, the tortured soul, the coming-of-age, the anti-hero... and the cast of supporting oddballs, sidekicks, rivals and foils. These are what make a story really come to life.

Join award-winning author, editor and publisher Bennett R. Coles in an interactive webinar to explore what makes great characters, and how to weave the other story elements around your characters to create a unified, awesome dramatic whole. What kind of main character does your story need? Who is the main character of your story? How many main characters should you really have? What role do secondary characters play? Do you really need an antagonist in every story? All these questions and more will be considered – and feel free to bring your own questions for discussion.

Ben’s presentation will last approximately 40 minutes, after which he will answer participants’ questions.

A week before his talk, we will provide a Zoom link for participants to enter the online learning environment on May 13.

This opportunity is open to the first 25 current Atlanta Writers Club members who RSVP to AWC Vice President of Programs Jill Evans at jill@jillevans.com. If you need to join or renew so you can participate, please go to https://atlantawritersclub.org/regular-membership/.
May Meeting Speakers—Online

On May 16th, we’ll host our next online meeting. A link to the online meeting room will be sent via email a few days before the meeting.

A recording link for this meeting will be posted in the next month’s issue of The eQuill.

REBECCA HEYMAN
began her editing career in 2007, after completing a BA and MA in English & American Literature at New York University. Her no-nonsense, compassionate, creative critiques and astute book coaching quickly drew the attention of authors and literary agents, and she founded Rebecca Faith Editorial in 2009. Since then, she has helped authors develop novels for indie and traditional publication; her clients have secured representation with New Leaf Literary & Media, the Jennifer Lyons Agency, Miller & Browne Agency, Donadio & Olson, Literary Artists Representatives, Wolf Literary Services, The Bent Agency, and more, and have been published by HarperCollins, PRH, Harlequin, Simon & Schuster, and a variety of independent presses. Rebecca believes that humor, honesty and keen discernment are the foundations of artistic growth, and she is honored to journey alongside her clients as they discover new depths of authenticity, clarity and creativity in their work. Testimonials and more information can be found at her website, and a portfolio of selected projects can be found on her Reedsy profile. She is the founder and Director of The Work Conference, an annual writers’ event in New York City. You can often find her tweeting at @RFaithEditorial, about writing, books, bread-baking, and cats.

On May 16th, Rebecca will reply to AWC members’ manuscript first sentences with critiques, compliments, and advice, because all work can be made better.

For AWC members: if you’d like to submit the first sentence of your manuscript for Rebecca’s live, unrehearsed critique, please email the first sentence from your manuscript to AWC President George Weinstein at george@atlantawritersclub.org with the subject line “First Sentence.” These will be displayed to
Rebecca and the audience anonymously on a first-come, first-served basis. She will endeavor to get to as many as she can in the time allotted.

3:00-4:00 Adam Ragusea ("The Magic of Cross-Pollination: How News-writing Helped Me Become a Famous YouTube Cook")

**ADAM RAGUSEA** cooks on the internet, mostly YouTube. He posts a recipe video on Thursdays and some other kind of video about food on Mondays. In between, he puts stuff on Instagram. He's been doing this since a pizza-making video he did randomly went viral in March 2019. He has taught journalism at Mercer University since 2014. Before that, he was a public radio reporter. Before that, he was (trying to be) a composer. Adam still sometimes does journalism, writes music, makes podcasts and teaches. He's married to novelist Lauren Morrill. They and their kids live in Macon, Georgia. Their company is Yellow House Media LLC.

https://www.adamaragusea.com/youtube
https://www.instagram.com/aragusea/

On May 16th, Adam will discuss how his work in journalism and public broadcasting provided the groundwork for his surprising new career as an internet cook.

**RECORDINGS & FILE LINKS**

**APRIL 18, 2020 AWC MONTHLY MEETING LINK:**
https://atlantawritersclub.my.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/atlantawritersclub.my/recording/playback/3be3aafe2f4c8bbbff3d84501ff96f
Password: DtNv6gZX

**APRIL 25, 2020 POETRY WORKSHOP WITH DANAL WILDSMITH LINK:**
https://atlantawritersclub.my.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/atlantawritersclub.my/recording/playback/204f1aa3d650455fb5ed6104cc5eeoe8
Password: gPgxXKj3

**MAYRA CUEVAS’S APRIL 18TH MEETING SLIDES:**
https://drive.google.com/open?id=16JN74dqTid5PCTrR4DgLs1npQucdJWC

**NATASHA TRETHEWEY PRIZE FOR POETRY**

**awc**

Winner: Scott Ellington, “Naked and Unashamed”

Runners-Up: Catherine Hamrick, “2020 Birdwatch”

Caroline Cole, “The Quarantine Blues”

**RICK BRAGG PRIZE FOR NONFICTION**

**awc**

Winner: Jalane Rolader, “Ella: A Life Reconsidered”

Runners-Up: Joyce Sewell, “In a Moment’s Notice”

Ed Gruber, “Mrs. O’Mara and the Lord’s Prayer”

**TERRY KAY PRIZE FOR FICTION**

**awc**

Winner: Lauren McGuire, “Some Things Get Lost”

Runners-Up: Adam C. Hayes, “Secret Keeper”

Jeff Shaw, “Hans”
Photos of April Online Meeting

Jill Evans

George Weinstein

Ricki Cardenas

Colleen Oakley

Mayra Cuevas

Audience
1. TITLES ARE VITAL
Consider the difference between:
*A Tale of a Whale*

and

*Moby Dick.*

2. THE FIRST LINE MUST PAY THE RENT
Consider the difference between:
“Shedealt with her grief over her series of miscarriages by giving names to the babies who had not lived.”

and

“Remahad thirteen miscarriages and she named every one.”

3. BE ACTIVE, NOT PASSIVE
Consider the difference between:
“Call me Ishmael.”

and

“I have always been called by the name Ishmael.”

4. DESCRIBE THROUGH ACTION, NOT THROUGH DESCRIPTION (use verbs, not adjectives)
Consider the difference between:
“Then God reached out and took the light in His hands
And God rolled the light around in His hand
Until He made the sun;”

and

“God was so powerful and majestic he could do anything.”

5. PUNCTUATION IS LIKE SEX: APPROPRIATE AND POWERFUL WHEN THE MOMENT IS RIGHT.
- Commas are not like kisses—they should not be scattered freely among your beloved words.
- Like spouses, exclamation marks should ideally come one per person, per lifetime.
- Parenthetical asides are like secrets between friends—not a good idea.

6. ENDINGS: DON’T LET A GOOD RELATIONSHIP COME TO A BAD END.
Stop playing while you’re still at the top of your game.

Plus this from Rosemary Daniell:
SELF SABOTAGE, OR HOW GOOD WRITERS SHOOT THEMSELVES IN THE FOOT
- Lack of self-discipline
- Failing to use biological time positively
- Creating distractions/giving in to them
- Failing to finish individual pieces of work
- Failing to set goals that are high enough
- Failing to analyze one’s own process and strengths
- Not honoring one’s own unique material
- Failing to acknowledge the duality within the creative person
I AM FROM POEM FORM

Use this template to draft your poem, and then write a final draft to share on blank paper.

I am from ____________________________
(specific ordinary item)

From ____________________________ and ____________________________
(product name) (product name)

I am from the ____________________________
(home description)

_________________________ ’ ____________________________ ’ ____________________________
(adjective) (adjective) (sensory detail)

I am from ____________________________ ,
(plant, flower, natural item)

__________________________
(description of above item)

I’m from ____________________________ and ____________________________
(family tradition) (family trait)

From ____________________________ and ____________________________
(name of family member) (another family name)

I’m from the ____________________________ and ____________________________
(description of family tendency) (another one)

From ____________________________ and ____________________________
(something you were told as a child) (another)

I’m from ____________________________ / ____________________________
(representation of religion or lack of), (further description)

I’m from ____________________________
(place of birth and family ancestry)

_________________________ ’ ____________________________
(a food item that represents your family) (another one)

From the ____________________________
(specific family story about a specific person and detail)
Original Poem:
Where I'm From
By George Ella Lyon

I am from clothespins,
from Clorox and carbon-tetrachloride.
I am from the dirt under the back porch.
(Black, glistening, it tasted like beets.)
I am from the forsythia bush the Dutch elm
whose long-gone limbs I remember as if
they were my own.
I'm from fudge and eyeglasses, from Imogene
and Alafair.
I'm from the know-it-alls and the pass-it-ons, from
Perk up! and Pipe down!
I'm from He restoreth my soul with a cottonball lamb
and ten verses I can say myself.
I'm from Artemus and Billie's Branch, fried com and
strong coffee.
From the finger my grandfather lost to the auger,
the eye my father shut to keep his sight.
Under my bed was a dress box spilling old pictures,
a sift of lost faces to drift beneath my dreams.
I am from those moments--
snapped before I budded --
leaf-fall from the family tree.

Model Poem:
Where I'm From
By Ms. Vaca

I am from bookshelves, from vinegar and
green detergent.
I am from the dog hair in every corner (Yellow,
abundant, the vacuum could never get it all.)
I am from azaleas the magnolia tree whose leaves
chunched under my feet like snow every fall.
I'm from puzzles and sunburns, from Dorothy Ann and
Mary Christine Catherine.
I'm from reading and road trips From “Please watch
your brother” and “Don’t let your brother hit you!”
I'm from Easter sunrises and Iowa
churches at Christmas.
I'm from Alexandria and the Rileys, Sterzing’s potato
chips and sponge candy.
From my Air Force dad’s refusal to go to Vietnam,
from my mom’s leaving home at 17.
On a low shelf in my new house is a stack of photo
albums, carefully curated by my faraway father,
chronicling my childhood.
I am from these pages, yellowed but firm, holding on
to me across the country.

“In the winter, in the dark hours, when others
were asleep. I found these words and put them
together by their appetites and respect for
each other. In stillness, they jostled. They traded
meanings while pretending to have only one.”

-William Stafford
AWC MEMBER JEFF SHAW launches his memoir, *Who I Am: The Man Behind the Badge*, May 12, published by Mountain Arbor Press. The memoir is a ten-year project detailing his 24 years as a police officer in graphic detail.

Described by Jedwin Smith in the book’s foreword, "*Who I Am* is an up-close-and-personal look at what cops nationwide experience every day—a glimpse into society's horrific underbelly of spousal abuse, fatal automobile accidents, suicides, ethnic riots, and gangbanger vendettas."


AWC MEMBER BUZZ BERNARD’s latest novel, *When Heroes Flew*, launched on April 28th. For B-24 bomber pilot Al Lycoming, the WWII mission was history in the making.

Dispatched to Benghazi, Libya, on mysterious orders, he finds nearly 200 other B-24 bombers being assembled...and a top-secret assignment that will catapult them all into seemingly impenetrable Nazi defenses. Their mission: a daring low-level attack on Hitler’s extensive oil refineries. But when his co-pilot falls ill, Albert is forced to secretly find help from an unlikely source—a female pilot who ferried a bomber from America. Together, the two launch on the most daring bombing raid of the war...and into the pages of history. *When Heroes Flew* is a novel of extraordinary bravery, based on the true story of one of the most historic air raids ever flown.

With perspectives from American and German pilots alike, this gripping thriller will keep you turning pages until the fateful ending

[https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0849QV396/?tag=srpof-20](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0849QV396/?tag=srpof-20)
BOOK-READING VIDEO

Step 1: Make a video (SIXTY SECONDS MAX!) of you reading a sample of your work. Videos can be created with a phone, tablet, or computer.

Step 2: Upload your video to https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tI8vb7OdP-1PVTJKBq72XefyDXoZ5o9X. This may take a few minutes.

Step 3: Once uploaded, send an email to Patrick Scullin at awc.member.services@gmail.com with "AWC VIDEO" in the subject line. Let him know you have uploaded your video and include info about where your book can be purchased. Include the title and author name.

Step 4: Relax.

CREATIVE SPACE PHOTO

Step 1: Take a picture of where you write. Don't clean it up, show us the natural environment where you make the magic. You can be in the shot, or not.

Step 2: Send the picture to Patrick Scullin at awc.member.services@gmail.com with "My Creative Space" in the subject line.

Step 3: Keep watching the Atlanta Writers Club Facebook page and Instagram page and when you are featured, share it with the world.

Step 4: Learn to live with fame.

If you haven't liked our social media pages yet, they are as follows:

https://www.facebook.com/AtlantaWritersClub/
https://twitter.com/atlwritersclub
https://www.instagram.com/atlantawritersclub/
Any great truth can – and eventually will – be expressed as a cliche...and a cliche is a sure and certain way to dilute an idea.” ~ Solomon Short.

Cliches

1. Writing on the wall
2. Cry over spilled milk
3. Better late than never
4. Think outside the box
5. At the end of the day
6. The bottom line
7. It’s not rocket science
8. Easy as pie
9. Smart as a whip
10. Taking candy from a baby
11. Love makes the world go ’round
12. Selling like hotcakes
13. In the nick of time
14. Go get ’em, tiger!
15. When life gives you lemons...

If you want a diversion during your busy day try choosing two or three of these worn out phrases and re-imaging them to express the same thought but with new words.

Send your bottom line results to George in a simple eMail. He’ll select some to be published in next month’s eQuill. If you’re smart as a whip it’ll be easy as pie; like taking candy from a baby. It’s not rocket science, you know! Go get ’em, tiger!

George@AtlantaWritersClub.org
**Mystery in the Midlands**, a FREE virtual conference sponsored by Southeast Regional Chapter of Mystery Writers of America and the Palmetto Chapter of Sisters in Crime, will be held on Saturday, July 25 between 10-2:30 EST.

Moderated by Dana Kaye, it will feature Charlaine Harris. Other panelists include John Floyd, Tara Laskowski, and Art Taylor (short stories), Alexia Gordon, Toni L.P. Kelner, and Gigi Pandian (paranormals), and Charlaine Harris, Dana Cameron, and Jeffery Deaver (novels to screenplays).

Although FREE to all MWA, SinC members, and other writers and readers, registration is required [https://www.sistersincrime.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1369310](https://www.sistersincrime.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1369310)

The 35th Annual Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival is seeking submissions of original *Fiction, Short Fiction, Poetry, and One-Act plays* for our 2020-2021 Writing Contest.

This contest is open to U.S. and international submissions. Prizes awarded for the winning submission, as well as for the top finalists in each category. Fiction and One-Act Play deadline is October 1, 2020. Poetry and Very Short Fiction deadline is October 15, 2020.

Please distribute this information to your writing group members and colleagues who may benefit. For complete guidelines and submission details, please see our website: [http://tennesseewilliams.net/contests/](http://tennesseewilliams.net/contests/)

Saints and Sinners, the Tennessee Williams & New Orleans LGBTQ Literary Festival, also has an annual Fiction Contest. Deadline for submissions is October 1, 2020. More information can be found on our website. [http://sasfest.org/#contest](http://sasfest.org/#contest)
SUBMIT AN ARTICLE TO THE AWC

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:

- 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)
- 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)
- 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!
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.
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 headshot, book (or other publication) cover, and website URL to AWC President George Weinstein at george@atlantawritersclub.org
## Changes in RED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Facilitator</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Notes</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>Linh Pham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@linphambooks.com">info@linphambooks.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>
<td>Wait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpharetta/Roswell</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>Candler Park/Decatur</td>
<td>Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>Tuesdays, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm, ChocoLate 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>Conyers</td>
<td>All Genres</td>
<td>Meeting online every other Tues.</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 Dolcimascolo</td>
<td>770-274-5240</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:kerryssii@bellsouth.net">kerryssii@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
<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>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Genre</td>
<td>Meetings Details</td>
<td>Contact</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loganville</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM</td>
<td>michealkbrown22@\Yahoo.com</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marietta</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Tues. 6:30-8:00PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindasullivan3@gmail.com">lindasullivan3@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Wait List</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>Wednesdays, every 2 weeks, 6:00-8:00PM @ Scooter's Coffee</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com">wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Thursdays @ The Heron House</td>
<td><a href="mailto:basketcasecafe@gmail.com">basketcasecafe@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:giweinstein@yahoo.com">giweinstein@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Wait List</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeremylogan.author@gmail.com">jeremylogan.author@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Speculative fiction</td>
<td>2nd Saturday of each month, 2:30-4:30PM in member's home</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com">sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; Non-fiction</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Tuesdays from 6-8PM @ coffee shop</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lizbizz7@bellsouth.net">lizbizz7@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smyrna/Marietta</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>2nd &amp; 4th Thursdays from 6-8PM @ coffee shop</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lpetrick2002@yahoo.com">lpetrick2002@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></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 9 AM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:markwoodard@gwinnettpl.org">markwoodard@gwinnettpl.org</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></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><a href="mailto:lyndafitz@yahoo.com">lyndafitz@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suwanee</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Wednesdays, 6-8pm @ George Pierce Park Community Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lpetrick2002@yahoo.com">lpetrick2002@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Highlands</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Every other Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. @ member’s house</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cindy@cltolbert.com">cindy@cltolbert.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Membership Renewal

THE AWC HAS AN AUTOMATED SYSTEM FOR TRACKING MEMBERSHIPS AND ALERTING MEMBERS WHEN IT'S TIME TO RENEW.

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. If the expiration date for your membership passes without renewal, the system will mark your membership as expired.

4. 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.

Without your continued support of the Atlanta Writers Club we would not be able to bring fabulous speakers to our meetings nor provide generous cash awards for our annual writing contest.
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.

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.

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 www.atlantawritersclub.org/membership.html.

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.

If you have additional questions, contact AWC President George Weinstein: george@atlantawritingclub.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

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

Atlanta Writers Club