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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

Executive Director & Acting President: George Weinstein

Officers Emeritus: Valerie Connors
George Weinstein
Clay Ramsey
Marty Aftewicz

Conference Director: George Weinstein

Membership VP: Yvonne Green

First VP & Programs VP: Jill Evans

Operations VP: Kim Conrey

Marketing VP: Patrick Scullin

Public Relations VP: Phil Fasone

Contests, Awards, Scholarships VP: Clay Ramsey

Treasurer: Jerry Weiner

Historian/By-Laws: George Weinstein

eQuill Publisher: Gene Bowen

Upcoming Events

December 19

• 1st Guest Speaker – Jack Grossman (Writing about touchy topics & preserving history)
• 2nd Guest Speaker – Alex Larned & Chayenne Skeete (Penguin Random House acquisition editors in conversation about the current state of traditional publishing and its future)
December 2020 eQuill

In This Issue

Click on the title to go to the page

The President's Column .................................................. 4
December Speakers ....................................................... 5
Nov. 21 Meeting Recording Link ........................................ 7
November Meeting Photos .............................................. 7
Adrian D. Droste - Reflections .......................................... 8
Viral Literature ................................................................ 9
Dec. AWC Member Launches & Accolades ......................... 10
AWC 2021 Writing Contest ............................................. 13
Atlanta Writers Conference - May 7-9, 2021 Register Now! 15
Opportunities .................................................................. 18
The Storyteller ................................................................. 19
The Dead Can Provide Writing Opportunities ..................... 21
The Worst They Can Do .................................................... 22
Reading Works Second Annual Short Short Story Contest ... 23
Show Your Stuff Online ..................................................... 24
Editor Directory ............................................................... 25
Atlanta Authors Event ...................................................... 27
Winter Thrills .................................................................. 28
Want a Publishing Credit? ................................................ 29
Join Our Member Success Webpage ................................. 30
Critique Groups ............................................................... 31
Membership Renewal ....................................................... 33
Membership Benefits ...................................................... 34
Membership Form ........................................................... 35
Pitching books in better times

November and December are traditionally when authors count on much of their total sales for the year because of the built-in demand of shoppers searching for a unique gift. Offering them a personalized, autographed book for under $20 makes for an easy—or at least easier—sale.

In any other year, authors would have a full calendar of book signings and appearances lined up to fill every possible shopping day before the holidays. I’m a big believer in face-to-face sales. Most of the book club invitations I’ve received over the years have come from people I’ve hand-sold books to in a retail environment: I created a good impression, they loved the book, and I made it easy for them to contact me and arrange for an in-person book talk (where I offered discounted, personalized copies of my other titles).

Due to COVID-19, however, many of us are looking at calendars with way too many open dates. Instead of gearing up for Black Friday in a bookstore or other retail space, pitching our work to shoppers, I know numerous authors who are facing bleak sales prospects.

Yes, some bookstores and other retailers are allowing in-person book signings, but the ones with the largest crowds can also be the most cautious about subjecting customers and guest authors alike to encounters where there is a lot of talking in close proximity. Even with masks, there’s an inherent risk. Having experienced two weeks of corona virus kicking my butt in July, despite rigorous mask-wearing in public, I respect the store managers’ prudence.

So, what’s an author to do? There are always online sales, but the hook of a personalized, autographed book becomes a logistical challenge, unless customers are ordering directly through your website, and you’re handling the order fulfillment, shipping, etc. However, the vast majority of online shoppers buy their gifts through well-known websites, so some authors have rediscovered the old-time bookplate, a small, adhesive label with room for an autograph and sometimes a personalized message. Customers can buy your books from whichever retailer or website they choose and then contact you through your site to request bookplates be mailed to them to complete their gift. All it costs you is the printing of these bookplates, an envelope, and a first-class stamp.

Social media can help you get the word out as well. Scroll through Facebook and Instagram at this time of year and you’re bound to come across the “Books make great gifts!” mantra from many an author. But how do you set yourself apart? Deep discounts—if you control the pricing of your books—shipping personalized, autographed copies—if you control order fulfillment—and/or offering to send bookplates are some of your options.

So, I’m hustling along with everybody else to salvage some decent holiday sales. Hopefully all those shopping days until Christmas won’t be as bleak as Scrooge’s three-ghost night.

George Weinstein is the AWC Acting President and Executive Director and the author of six novels, including the suspense-thriller Watch What You Say, which was published in November 2019 (www.GeorgeWeinstein.com).
On December 19th, 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.

December 19, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Eastern - Online (email with the online meeting link will be sent to our mailing list a few days before the meeting)

1:00-1:30 Bonus open forum: all-things-writing Q&A with AWC Executive Director & Acting President George Weinstein

1:30-1:45 AWC announcements about upcoming events

1:45-2:45 p.m. Jack Grossman (Writing about touchy topics & preserving history)

Jack is the author of Child of the Forest (coauthor James Buchanan), the true story of a young girl’s experiences following the Nazi invasion of her small town in Eastern Poland. The book has garnered tremendous recognition and has won the 2019 BIBA Awards Best Nonfiction (international) and a Benjamin Franklin Award by the IBPA. Jack resides in Mooresville, NC, with his wife Kristie.

On December 19th, Jack will discuss Writing About Tough Topics: Fulfilling a Promise to Tell Charlene’s Story. The long and winding journey of bringing Charlene Perlmutter’s story to today’s audience: At twelve years old she escaped the Horochów ghetto and survived in the forest for two years while Holocaust death camps loomed nearby. Join Jack as he talks about writing a tough story that educates and inspires.
ALEX LARNED is an Assistant Editor with the Del Rey, an imprint of Penguin Random House. Alex is a graduate of Brown University and has worked for Penguin Random House since 2016, first as an associate publicist at the Crown imprint and then as assistant editor at Del Rey.

CHAYENNE SKEETE is an Editorial Assistant for Penguin Random House. She joined Random House in 2017 as an editorial assistant where she provided editorial support to then Editor-in-Chief, Andy Ward.

On December 19th, Alex and Chayenne will discuss the publishing process, current trends in publishing and the future of traditional publishing and do plenty of Q&A with the audience.

She also worked on Lena Dunham and Jenni Konner's imprint, Lenny Books, and continues to accept submissions relevant to the mission of amplifying the experiences of marginalized voices. A Texas native, she now makes her home in Harlem.
November Meeting Photos

Nov. 21 Meeting Recording Link

link

Password: xC3dcj44

VALERIE FRASER LUESSE

JUDGE DEBRA H. GOLDSTEIN

MAGGIE TOUSSAINT

STEVEN COOPER

ROGER JOHNS
On November 5th, we lost Adrian D. Drost, the fiftieth president of the Atlanta Writers Club.

Here are some recollections from AWC officers who knew him:

VALERIE CONNORS, PRESIDENT FROM 2013 TO 2015: I remember sitting at my dining room table with George and Adrian while we worked on the historical booklet for the AWC centennial celebration. He was an interesting man with a wealth of information about the club’s history. When I think of Adrian, I remember a kind man who always greeted me with a smile. I’m honored to have made his acquaintance.

CLAYTON RAMSEY, PRESIDENT FROM 2009 TO 2013: He was a gracious gentleman with a remarkable history. He always treated me respectfully and encouraged my involvement with the AWC. He was kind, but entertained no nonsense. I was fascinated by his stories of survival during WWII and was inspired by his initial foray into writing as a way to deal with the trauma of the experience. Refined by hardship, he looked for ways to support the efforts of others. Although I was not a member during his tenure, I feel profoundly blessed to have enjoyed a friendship with him after he left office. Would that we had more Adrian Drost in the world—honorable, tested, creative, generous. He will be deeply missed.

MARY STRIPLING, PRESIDENT FROM 1990 TO 1992: Adrian’s personality is vividly captured in the photo of him that appears in the 100th anniversary book of the history of AWC. Adrian D. Drost was a gentleman of impeccable taste and manners. His cheerful charisma was contagious. An astute businessman, he brought organizational skills and enthusiasm to our little group. He fueled the spark shared by those who loved the AWC and significantly helped propel it into the hugely successful organization that we enjoy today. His creative genius and wizardry with archives helped communicate our club’s historical and ongoing spirit of generosity and eagerness to help all writers. He helped our team make the sprint from the 20th to 21st century.

GEORGE WEINSTEIN, PRESIDENT FROM 2004 TO 2007 AND CURRENT ACTING PRESIDENT: Adrian was responsible for encouraging my deep involvement with the Atlanta Writers Club. He persuaded and cajoled me, and occasionally applied guilt, to get me to volunteer for various AWC Board positions. When I agreed to become president in 2004, he was my mentor. Long after he ceased being active in the club, he remained my friend. The Yiddish word “mensch” means not only a gentleman but a gentle man: Adrian Drost embodied that word. He also was the first person I met who was a lucid dreamer. Every night, his imagination took him on adventures that, even as he controlled the actions and consequences, still managed to delight him every time and inspire some of his most creative writing. I always envied his ability to guarantee a happy ending to every one of his dreams, just as I envied his utter calm, sense of perspective, and humor. I’m never going to forget him.

Adrian contributed the following essay in 2014 for our centennial celebration booklet as a reflection on his AWC presidency from 2000 to 2002.

I was the 50th president of the AWC, born in Indonesia in 1931 of Dutch parents, educated in The Netherlands after WWII, and moved to Canada in 1957. Having lived 14 years in Indonesia, 11 in Holland, 11 in Canada, almost three in Germany and two-and-a-half in Thailand, my varied life was not limited to these countries alone because my international assignments with Kimberly-Clark Corp. brought me to many other countries for shorter stays. On and off I lived in the U.S. since 1968 and became an American citizen in 1998 after having been a Canadian citizen for 23 years.
My writing experiences go back at least 20 years, writing technical educational materials for my company’s foreign subsidiaries. In 1990 I started an in-house technical quarterly publication, called *The Mousetrap*, with motivational and informative articles. This quarterly is still published within Kimberly-Clark. Writing stories about my grandchildren got me started as a short-story writer since retirement in 1997. Most of these short stories are in a private family collection. After my retirement my wife encouraged me to take a writing course for seniors at Kennesaw State University. This got me hooked on writing my life history, children’s stories and short humorous works. In early 2003 I graduated from The Institute of Children’s Literature. These studies gave me much encouragement resulting in the publication of two stories in an anthology. I like to include photographs within these stories, photographs obtained from my private collection, as photography is one of my hobbies besides gardening, being in nature, and collecting interesting facts.

Every morning I am thankful for being allowed another beautiful day to live, thankful for all the wonderful blessings received and extremely grateful for still being around. I enjoyed having served as president of the Atlanta Writers Club because it gave me so many wonderful contacts with creative and interesting people.

When I think back about my AWC presidency, the first thing I think of is that I was petrified. I got this phone call that the committee had looked at my capabilities and that I would be a good president. I declined. They continued to pester me. The biggest problem that I had was what I was supposed to do…I didn’t have a mentor. I got some guidance from Polly and other people, but the first thing that I didn’t find was a set of guidelines. There were no bylaws, so I did a lot of research and went to Cecil Murphy (Cecil got me into Atlanta Writers because I took a course from him). I was able to piece together the by-laws and create a job description for the presidency, and I worked hard on that first part. Being an engineer, it came naturally. I thought the second year is a lot easier.

As president I was absolutely in favor of keeping the dinners, because I liked the social aspect of the club. We had, in my first year, 50 to 60 attendees at each meeting. It petered down to maybe 20 as the atmosphere changed to more of a seminar, and the old members were less interested in this than going to a social club to exchange ideas and talk about their own works.

What am I proudest of? I am an engineer who has a foreign tongue and has no literary background, and who was asked to be the president of the Atlanta Writers Club. I was really impressed by that, and I’m grateful it worked out.

---

**Viral Literature**

**ON SALE NOW**

THE AWC BOARD of Directors and Clay Ramsey, AWC Officer Emeritus and VP of Contests, Awards & Scholarships, are pleased to announce the publication of *Viral Literature: Alone Together in Georgia*, to be published December 1, 2020, by SFK Press. *Viral Literature* is a collection of the work of 32 of the top storytellers and poets in Georgia, ranging from the accomplished Terry Kay, Janisse Ray, and Daniel Black, to talented emerging writers who are being published for the first time. Twenty authors are from the wider creative community in Georgia, and the balance are from the AWC, seven of whom were winners of a special club contest. The COVID-19 quarantine provided the opportunity for each contributor to reflect on the theme of “Alone Together in Georgia.” Some dealt with the pandemic directly, while others did not, but all circle the shared theme and show how these writers are finding a creative, hopeful, healing response to this crisis.

Inspired by Giovanni Boccaccio’s fourteenth-century *The Decameron* and sponsored by the AWC, this diverse assembly of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction will be published in both print and ebook formats and will be available directly from SFK Press initially and then on Amazon, and at your local Independent (SIBA) bookstore. The cost is $19.99 for paperback and $7.99 for the electronic version. The net royalties and revenues will be split between The National Historic Landmark Wren’s Nest and Literacy Action, Inc., representing the literary and literacy aspects of the AWC mission. We hope in some way our part of the commonwealth of writers can start to rebuild our corner of the world disrupted by the virus. Please help us by picking up copies for yourself and others today!

To order copies for yourself and those on your gift list, please contact SFK Press founder Steve McCondichie at steve@sfkmultimedia.com.
Dec. AWC Member Launches & Accolades

AWC member Anju Gattani’s The Winds of Fire series has been optioned for adaptation to the screen by Hollywood producer Justin Shenkarow of Double String, Inc.

AWC member Trae Johnson’s novel Family Scars was published on November 27, 2020. In this book, Ellis Hickman, a respected businessman, and Deacon of his church had to make the hardest decision in his life to give the green light to unplug his wife of forty years from life support. Trying to cope with the pain of losing the love of his life, Ellis finds himself trying to re-establish a relationship with his children, confront his past, and question God why his wife died before him. Ellis deals with the pain that he could never imagine and doesn’t know how to deal with the issues he battles daily effectively. Thinking that no one understands his trials and tribulations, a mystery man comes into the picture and introduces him to a group of men who shares the same pain of losing their spouse. With all the support that he has, he still is challenged by each of his kids, trying to figure out how to be the father that they need. The book is available in paperback and eBook: AMAZON

Originally from a small city outside of Augusta, GA; called Harlem, Georgia, Trae D. Johnson has a passion for writing and entertaining. With 9 years’ experience in higher education, Trae is currently a financial aid counselor and adviser. He has a Masters in Higher Education Administration, a Master’s in Public Administration, and Bachelor’s in Management. Trae has completed the John Hope Bryant Operational Training-Entrepreneur program. In 2019, he formed his publishing company, Campania Publishing, LLC; named after the community that he grew up. Trae has won numerous awards and has
been recognized for his leadership and customer service. In 2015, he was honored by winning the Outstanding Staff of the year for Perimeter College, and winner of the National Action Network essay contest, which landed him a trip to Denver, Colorado. Besides being a member of the Atlanta Writers Club, Trae is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Dogwood Unit-National Parliamentarian Organization, Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, and Sigma Youth Leadership Foundation. You can visit his author website at www.traejohnson.com.

AWC member Harrison Kone is the author of the debut thriller, Saber Down. While on mission near Kandahar, Afghanistan, an IED and ambush take seasoned MARSOC Marine Raider, Captain David Shaw, out of the fight. While recuperating at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, Shaw learns greater forces within the military are pushing him toward a forced medical retirement, but Shaw is hell-bent on returning to his team in the Middle East. As his team heads to Yemen for a special assignment, Shaw is left with no choice but to observe as a spectator from the inside of a US-based mission room. He watches in horror as their helicopters are shot down by unknown forces. After discovering the identity of the individuals responsible but unable to get to them on his own, Shaw bends the rules and subverts his command to lead a raid against the terrorist leader responsible for the attack on his men. But the mission leads to new questions. Who provided the US-made weapons used in the attack? Who is selling out Marines for profit?"

The inspirations behind Harrison’s characters are birthed from his grandfather, who served as a Marine Corps machine gunner with the 1st and 3rd Marine Divisions in World War II’s Guadalcanal and Bougainville campaigns, and all those who have answered the call to military service across the globe in defense of liberty. Harrison’s writing has also been featured on the front lines of combating
Antisemitism. He is an ardent patriot, Second Amendment advocate, firearms enthusiast, theologian, adventurer, and family man. His website is www.harrisonkone.com.

AWC member Victoria Wilcox’s latest book, *The World of Doc Holliday: History & Historic Images* was released by TwoDot/Globe Pequot on November 30. *The World of Doc Holliday* is a nonfiction, pictorial travelogue of the life of the legendary Doc Holliday, following his travels across the West on the railroads of 19th century America.

Revealed from contemporary newspaper accounts and records of interviews with Doc himself and the people who knew him and packed with archival photos and illustrations, *The World of Doc Holliday* offers a real first-hand accounting of his life of adventure.

*The World of Doc Holliday* has been recommended by *True West Magazine*.

Victoria Wilcox is Founding Director of Georgia’s Holliday-Dorsey-Fife Museum (home of the family of Doc Holliday) and an expert on the life of the Western legend. She authored the award-winning historical novel trilogy, *Southern Son: The Saga of Doc Holliday*, the documentary film *In Search of Doc Holliday*, has lectured across the country, guested on NPR affiliates, and was featured in the TV series *Legends & Lies: The Real West*. Her website is http://www.victoriawilcoxbooks.com/.

#4

Nothing I write can ever compare to what's going on in my mind.
AWC 2021 Writing Contest

ELIGIBILITY:

1. The AWC 2021 Writing Contest is open to: **All current, paid club members**. Please check your membership status before submitting your entry if you are unsure of your renewal date by contacting the Membership VP, Yvonne Green, at yvonnegreen1000@gmail.com. If you need to join the AWC or renew your membership so you will be eligible to enter, please use our online form and payment portal: [https://atlantawritersclub.org/regular-membership-2020/](https://atlantawritersclub.org/regular-membership-2020/)

2. Submissions must be **original, unpublished**, and previously **un-awarded work**.

3. Entrants may submit only one piece to only one category per contest year.

DEADLINE:

Midnight, March 20, 2021. Submissions received after this date will automatically be ineligible.

AWARDS:

Each award carries a $300 cash prize, a plaque, and publication in *The New Southern Fugitives*. Winners will be announced at our club meeting on April 17, 2021.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:

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

CONTEST GUIDELINES:

**Manuscript Format.** Failure to adhere to the following format will result in disqualification.

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

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

Send ONE ENTRY and the corresponding Standard Submission Form (SSF) to Contest Apprentice Tiffany R. Jansen tiffanyrjansen@gmail.com.

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

IMPORTANT: Name the document files by title, i.e. Title.docx and SSF-Title.docx

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

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

Named the document: SSF-Title.docx

Attach the entry document and your SSF document to an email addressed to Contest Apprentice Tiffany R. Jansen at tiffanyrjansen@gmail.com. Your EMAIL MESSAGE MUST INCLUDE:

Subject Line: AWC 2021 Writing Contest
Your name, phone number, prize category, title
Example:
Dear Tiffany,
I have attached [Title] for the [Prize Category] and the corresponding SSF.
Thank you,
[Your name]
[Your phone number]
The Writer magazine’s “runaway favorite” among voters, our twice-yearly Atlanta Writers Conference was voted the “Best Writing Conference in Georgia”—with more votes received than any other conference in the U.S. in their Feb. 2019 and 2020 issues.

Our 24th Atlanta Writers Conference will be held virtually on May 7-9, 2021 with Friday-Saturday agent/editor meetings via phone calls, emailed pre-conference edits, and an online Sunday workshop doubleheader!

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.

Due to COVID-19, our guest agents and editors can’t travel to Georgia, so the May 7-9, 2021 Atlanta Writers Conference offers you phone meetings with literary agents and acquisitions editors along with email and online activities:
• Access to 16 acquisitions editors and literary agents—no repeats from previous conferences—seeking every major fiction genre and nonfiction topic, as well as graphic novels and picture books.

• Critiques of manuscript samples by the editors and agents, with work submitted a month in advance.

• Pitches to the editors and agents with query letters submitted in advance.

• Query letter critique by a pair of editors/agents to improve your pitch (at the October 2019 conference, more than 90% of Best Pitch awards by an agent or editor went to those who participated in the Query Letter Critique).

• Pre-conference edit of your manuscript submission via email months before the conference by a freelance editor of your choice (at our October 2019 conference, 65% of all awards—for Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitch—went to writers who participated in the Pre-Conference Edit).

• Sunday online workshop doubleheader—recorded live with audience Q&A—with book buyer focus group expert Peter Hildick-Smith using insights from surveys of thousands of book buyers to critique participants’ proposed book titles, jacket copy, book covers (if available) and more in “Judging a Book by Its Title” and New York Times #1 best-selling author Lisa Gardner presenting “The Path to Bestsellersdom.”

• Free bonus educational recordings for every participant who purchases any of the activities above: due to COVID-19, large crowds are still to be avoided, so we aren’t able to offer our mixer or award ceremony or present our usual 8 hours of bonus talks during the conference. To give you more value, though, we’ll send recorded educational talks by knowledgeable authors with your conference information and personalized schedule about two weeks before the May 7-9 conference.

• Also, even though we won’t be able to hold an award ceremony, each of the 16 agents and editors will select participants for Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitches, with certificates to be sent to the awardees after the conference.
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!

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

The Atlanta Writers Conference is presented exclusively for members of the Atlanta Writers Club. If you are not a current member or your membership will lapse prior to May 10, 2021, you can join/renew as part of your Conference registration—you do not need to do this as a two-step process.

To read all the details for the May 7-9, 2021 Atlanta Writers Conference, start here: [https://atlantawritersconference.com/the-conference/](https://atlantawritersconference.com/the-conference/)

For questions, contact Atlanta Writers Conference Director and AWC Executive Director & Acting President George Weinstein at awconference@gmail.com
Circle of Confusion Writers Discovery Fellowship

Circle of Confusion with information about the new Writers Discovery Fellowship. This opportunity will pair six to eight writers with a dedicated mentor to develop a television script and learn more about navigating the entertainment industry. All Fellows will leave the program with a $10,000 stipend distributed by way of a first look deal with Circle of Confusion Television Studios.

Writers are encouraged to apply by the January 5th deadline in order to be considered for the Spring semester beginning in March! The application and requirements can be found on our website's Fellowship page. http://www.circleofconfusion.com/fellowship/. If you have any further questions, please email fellowship@circleofconfusion.com.

Inkshares All-Genre Manuscript Contest

Inkshares is pleased to announce its first ever Inkshares All-Genre Manuscript Contest, open November 7th through December 20th, 2020. The purpose of the contest is to discover debut storytellers with incredible stories. The contest will run the gamut of story-type regardless of length, fact, or fiction. There is no fee to enter the contest.

Inkshares will select at least three authors to grant publishing deals (and representation in TV/film, audiobook, and foreign rights). The top three books will be determined through a combination of community engagement, Inkshares' proprietary technology, Story Machine, and independent evaluation by the Inkshares Story Board. Phase one of the contest will come to a close at 12 p.m. PST on December 20, 2020 with the top contestants announced on February 28th, 2021. Inkshares will evaluate all submissions for publishing and representation, even if they didn’t make the finals and announce additional winners throughout the first half of the year, completing selections by July 1st, 2021.

Novels Inkshares has published over the past few years from similar contests have been praised by every major review including the New York Times and reached the top of Amazon's charts. They've been licensed by the major houses in every single major foreign territory and are being adapted at the best studios and networks: Warner Brothers, Lionsgate, Amazon, and Showtime, amongst others. Inkshares believes that the most talented storytellers of tomorrow are unknown today.

Click here for complete rules and FAQs: https://www.inkshares.com/contests/2020-all-genre-contest

To enter the contest, click here: https://www.inkshares.com/start_project/idea

Any questions? Please email hello@inkshares.com.
HE HAD ME FROM THE MOMENT he told us about getting pulled over by a State Patrol on the way to my house. It was all so vivid in his telling: the officer’s rotund belly, the way he pulled himself up from the seat of his patrol car. We could see the officer as he stood feet apart and hiked his pants up by the belt, then set his flat-brimmed hat just so on his head. We sat there on my screened porch in the October chill, tense, hearing for ourselves the heavy crunch of boots on gravel, watching the bright blue lights reflected on the dashboard, back and forth and forth and back, and feeling vaguely guilty that our guest had such misfortune coming to be with us.

“Well, did you get a ticket?” I asked, leaning forward in my chair, waiting for him to finish his story. His dimpled face spread in an embarrassed grin. Or maybe it was a “gotcha” face. I can’t remember. He’d made it all up. On the spot. He’d leaned back in the wicker chair, one leg crossed over the other, a glass of wine in one hand, and told us a tale as tall as his imagination. Maybe even he didn’t know how it would end as it unfolded in his mind. It was his way of illustrating to our book group how colorful details, woven together, create a story that’s rich, believable. This was my introduction to Terry Kay, master storyteller.

Terry had agreed to join us for our discussion of his then-most recent novel, *The King Who Made Paper Flowers*, and he brought flowers he’d constructed himself out of colorful paper and florist wire. He held us rapt from the first, with words spoken in a voice not much louder than a hush. He’d narrow his eyes and the corners of his mouth would tilt upward and the words just floated like leaves in a slow-moving creek. Perhaps I’m projecting my own reaction on the others, but I believe every one of us was enchanted.

Before the night was over, he’d slipped me his email address and told me to “send some pages.” Whatever it was that sparked the notion I might have a story in me is a stumper. I’d never written a word of fiction in my life. Unless white lies count. In that case, I’d have to own up to a few.
And so began a correspondence between generous mentor and eager protégé. Eventually, I sent him a few “pages,” and he replied with comments and suggestions, then asked for more. It took a bit of time for me to get over the inhibition of just making stuff up. A thing constructed from my consciousness, like the thoughts and behavior of my characters, felt so revealing of my own interior self, as if the most private spaces in my mind were being disrobed, exposed. And yet, before long, I couldn’t let go of the compulsion to follow a vague plot that began to worm its way into my head. It’s been just over three years, and the birthing of my – dare I claim it’s a novel? – has been arduous. But Terry is unfailingly diplomatic in his critique, urging a more atmospheric description here, a sharper edit there, reminding me that some details must be left for the reader to fill in. And it has grown easier, over time, to let go of my inhibition and to let the story come.

Over occasional lunches at Ruby Tuesday halfway between the towns we live in, we’ve talked about books we’ve been reading, travels we’ve taken, travels we’d like to take, stories he has waiting in the wings and yes, my struggling manuscript. Every lunch has felt like my own private master class in creative writing and I’ve always left with my mind well and truly blown. The last reminder he always mentions as we wave goodbye at our car doors is to look to my characters for inspiration. “Trust them to tell you what comes next,” he’ll say. He’s right, of course, though I sometimes still question their judgment.

I’ve seen Terry’s eyes go far away for just a minute and a faint smile appear, as if he’s listening to something that has just kindled an idea – something only he can hear. The people who live in the worlds he creates are ones we know or want to know. The man has an unerring instinct for the things a character needs to care about.

And magic. I suspect, with some evidence, that the sometimes-mystical twists in his stories spring from something a little transcendent in Terry himself. He once told me of how he fell in love with Ireland, with the mystery of the island, the spirits in the mists, the voices in the rocks. I believe he saw those spirits and heard those voices and that they inhabit his own imagination.

Words are magic and Terry Kay is a sorcerer. And the spirits speak to him always, because I’d swear his resting face is a smile.
A FEW YEARS AGO, I received an email out of the blue from a volunteer researcher at Bellefontaine cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri who found my email address posted at Ancestry.com. She had information on one of my ancestors buried at the cemetery that matched information in a family tree I created. She often volunteered there to help them research the biographies of many of their illustrious dead to include in their popular cemetery tours. Bellefontaine, a historic cemetery, was established in 1849 and was for many years the preferred burial location for many of St. Louis’s notable residents, history makers, movers and shakers.

The researcher asked for my assistance in determining the stories of the people buried in my ancestor’s plot and also for help in uncovering the stories behind their research that confirmed there were additional relatives in a nearby plot. An opportunity for research? I was happy to oblige.

That email, our subsequent phone calls, and a few meetings later at Bellefontaine cemetery resulted in me having an article published as the main feature in the Fall 2020 edition of the *St. Louis Genealogical Quarterly*. I was able to uncover a phenomenal history of wealthy free Blacks who ran successful businesses and were intimately involved in the politics and the civil rights struggles of 19th century St. Louis, Missouri, a time when Missouri was a slave state.

That was a wonderful opportunity for me to help a stranger in need. I immediately viewed her request as an opportunity to improve my own research skills by helping to solve an intriguing mystery. My advice is to lend a helping hand when you can because a closed fist is not open to receiving anything.

Biography:

Nikki Williams Sebastian, a St. Louis native, is a historian and writer who enjoys researching the complex, rich, and remarkable histories of African-Ancestored Americans. Her mission is to unveil forgotten stories about the contributions of these individuals to the fabric of America. Nikki can be contacted at nikki@lineagelogs.com.
MY DAD WAS A SALESMAN, but when it came to rejection from potential customers, he had the soul of a writer. As he put it, “The worst they can do is say no.” So when my submission didn’t make the cut for our “Alone Together in Georgia” anthology contest, I decided to try again. Our VP of Contests, Awards, & Scholarships, Clay Ramsey, encouraged us to do just that: “We hope you don’t hide your work away in a drawer. Please send it out to other publications and share it with the world!”

First, though, I’d already done lots of revisions, I re-read my story with fresh eyes. Let’s see: That paragraph could use a few details, to heighten the sense of place. The narrative needs more substance, more tension. I can ratchet up the argument the characters are having, maybe cut some color and atmosphere so it doesn’t get clichéd. Hey, what if I drop a hint on page 1 about the big plot twist, instead of saving it all for the end?

After giving the piece a final once-over, I sent it off to The Dead Mule School of Southern Literature. This operation began as a literary journal and now flourishes online with the motto, “No good Southern fiction is complete without a dead mule.” They accepted it, and you can read it here. A little extra effort brought me a publication credit and the joy of seeing my words out there in the universe. Yay!

What isn’t right for one outlet might be just the ticket for another. Our website has a list of magazines and publications you can try. (BTW, if you submit to the Dead Mule, you’ll need to attach a Southern Legitimacy Statement; mine includes the blues, Faulkner, and fried apple pie.) Take care and be safe, write, revise, and write some more.

My bio

Dave Swan is a writer and editor as well as a former journalist, cab driver, and disc jockey. His stories have appeared in the Dead Mule School, the Birmingham Arts Journal, and the Red Fez. As one of our social media volunteers, he reminds you to follow us on Twitter @atlwritersclub. Twitter: @DavidSwan5

Authorsite: https://daveswanauthor.wordpress.com/
Blog: https://davidsswan.com
Reading Works is a nonprofit, community-based literacy program that provides free tutoring to teens and adults in reading, writing and speaking English. They are located in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The contest is a fundraiser to support their programs.

The challenge is to write a story using no more than 100 words that relates in some way to one of these topics:

- water
- 1940s
- bowling
- ants.

Reading Works is offering seven cash prizes:

- Best of Contest ($100)
- Best of Category ($50)
- Best Youth Story (author is 14 or younger) ($50)
- People’s Choice ($50).

Submission dates are from October 1, 2020 to January 15, 2021. The entry fee is $10 per story. For contest rules, the submission link, and payment portal, please go to their website: [https://www.reading-works.org/store/p30/Short_Short_Story_Submission.html](https://www.reading-works.org/store/p30/Short_Short_Story_Submission.html).
Show Your Stuff Online

**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 [AWCVIDEO](#). This may take a few minutes.

Step 3: Once uploaded, send an email to Patrick Scullin at [awc.member.services@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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://www.facebook.com/AtlantaWritersClub/)
- [https://twitter.com/atlwritersclub](https://twitter.com/atlwritersclub)
- [https://www.instagram.com/atlantawritersclub/](https://www.instagram.com/atlantawritersclub/)
Editor Directory

The AWC maintains this directory in an effort to assist AWC members with editor options for consideration; however, the AWC does not endorse the individuals in this directory and is not liable for any member’s experiences with these editors.

If you are an AWC member, offer editing services and want to add your information to this directory, please send an email to AWC Executive Director and Acting President George Weinstein at George@AtlantaWritersClub.org with the following information:

1. Your name
2. Your email address
3. Your website, if available
4. The fiction genres and/or nonfiction topics you have experience editing
5. A brief statement detailing your editing experience of 75 words or less

For the editors listed below, please consider selecting a few and getting a quote for how much some of them would charge to edit a sample (e.g., 20-50 pages)--some charge by the page (e.g., $3-$5/page), others by the word (e.g., $.01-$0.05/word)--and define what kind of edit you want (developmental versus line-editing, or both). Then make your selection (consider picking two, for comparison purposes) and see if you like the job either editor did on that small portion of your manuscript before committing to having your whole book edited by that person.

**Bobbie Christmas**
Zebra Communications: Excellent editing for maximum marketability
Bobbie@zebraeditor.com
https://www.zebraeditor.com/

Fiction: Mainstream, science fiction, paranormal, romance, action adventure, fantasy, suspense/thriller, mystery, young adult, biographical novel, historical fiction, and more. Nonfiction: Memoir, biography, autobiography, self-help, travelogue, essays, and more.

When you hire me, you hire a professional with more than 50 years of experience. After 27 years of editing and writing newspapers, magazines, and corporate communications, I founded Zebra Communications in 1992 to specialize in editing fiction and nonfiction. You and your manuscript will be treated with kindness yet honesty. I’ve edited books for seven publishing houses, so I know what publishers and readers want. My services and pricing are listed on my website.

**Kim Conrey**
kimconrey@yahoo.com
website

Available for editing: essays, nonfiction, and fiction

I’m a published author (please see website for links to my published works) with over 12 years of experience in editing. I’ve completed the Editorial Freelancers Association course on Copy Editing and studied English Literature at Kennesaw State University. References available upon request. Let’s talk about your editing needs.
Kay Hunt
kayhunt1@gmail.com
Available for editing: Adventure, women's fiction, fantasy, historical fiction

As the former owner and sole proprietor of a graphics and print production business, I have a keen eye for detail, consistency and accuracy. As an avid reader, I am very comfortable with many types of fiction and non-fiction.

I also have excellent communication skills to help clarify questions and expectations.

Chris Negron
chris@chrisnegron.com
https://chrisnegron.com/

Available for query letter consults, developmental editing

Author of the middle grade novels Dan Unmasked (July 2020) and The Last Super Chef (July 2021), both from HarperCollins, available for editing novels of all genres, but with a particular focus on middle grade and contemporary fiction for adults and teens as well. Novel editing price proposed after review of sample chapter(s). Single-page query letter feedback available for $50 / query.

Dave Swan
davesswan@gmail.com
https://www.linkedin.com/in/dsswan/

Nonfiction topics: Politics, defense, foreign affairs, crime and legal issues, education, taxes, music, film, humor, relationships, and writing about writing.

My experience: As a journalist and all-around communicator, I've edited news and information on a wide range of issues for audiences all over the world. One of my specialties is presenting complex subjects in plain, hard-hitting language. I can help you shape your story from the beginning or proofread your final draft. My goal is to make YOUR voice as powerful and compelling as it can be.
Dove Jarrod was a renowned evangelist and faith healer. Only her granddaughter, Eve Candler, knows that she was a con artist. Since Dove's death, Eve has maintained Dove's charitable foundation—and her lies. But just as a documentary team wraps up a shoot about the miracle worker, a vengeful stranger comes forth, intent on exposing what could be Dove's darkest secrets.

Emily Carpenter is the critically acclaimed author of Burying the Honeysuckle Girls, The Weight of Lies, and Every Single Secret. An Auburn graduate, she worked in NYC as an actor, producer, screenwriter, and behind-the-scenes soap opera assistant for As the World Turns and Guiding Light. She lives in Atlanta.

Atlanta Authors works in association with Roswell Reads
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WINTER THRILLS

MASTER CLASS, THRILLER MBA, PRACTICE PITCHFEST

THRILLERFEST.COM

#WINTERTHRILLS21
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!
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
## Critique Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location/Specialty</th>
<th>Genre(s)</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Contact Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Online #1</strong></td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Mike Brown, <a href="mailto:michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com">michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Online #2</strong></td>
<td>Fiction &amp; non-Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Linh Pham, <a href="mailto:info@linhphambooks.com">info@linhphambooks.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Online #3</strong></td>
<td>Young Adult/Middle Grade Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Ivelisse Rodriguez, <a href="mailto:rodrigivelisse@gmail.com">rodrigivelisse@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td><strong>Alpharetta/ Roswell</strong></td>
<td>Fiction/ Non-Fiction</td>
<td>Suspended</td>
<td>April Love-Fordham, <a href="mailto:loveford@gmail.com">loveford@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Candler Park/ Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>Meeting online, Tuesdays, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm</td>
<td>Tara Coyt, <a href="mailto:contact@taracoyt.com">contact@taracoyt.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Conyers</strong></td>
<td>All Genres</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nancy Fletcher, nc <a href="mailto:Fletcher50@gmail.com">Fletcher50@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur</strong></td>
<td>Adult/YA Novels and Novellas</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jonathan Grant, 404-909-0189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dunwoody</strong></td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gelia Dolcimascolo, 770-274-5240</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lawrenceville/ Snellville</strong></td>
<td>Novel, Short Story &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>suspended</td>
<td>Kerry Denney, <a href="mailto:kerryssii@bellsouth.net">kerryssii@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Liburn</strong></td>
<td>&quot;Write Here, Right Now&quot; shares writing techniques and offers constructive feedback</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ashley Melonson, <a href="mailto:amelonson@gwinnettpl.org">amelonson@gwinnettpl.org</a></td>
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Atlanta Writers Club
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com">michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marietta</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting online 1st &amp; 3rd Tues. 6:30-8:00PM</td>
<td>Linda Sullivan</td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindasullivan3@gmail.com">lindasullivan3@gmail.com</a></td>
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<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>Open</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com">wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com</a></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><a href="mailto:basketcasecafe@gmail.com">basketcasecafe@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>George Weinstein</td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:gwillenstein@yahoo.com">gwillenstein@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>Jeremy Logan</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jeremylogan.author@gmail.com">jeremylogan.author@gmail.com</a></td>
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<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>Open</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com">sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com</a></td>
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<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>Wait List</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:osrtrain@att.net">osrtrain@att.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Smyrna/ Marietta</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>Currently inactive</td>
<td>Liz Helenek</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lizbizz7@bellsouth.net">lizbizz7@bellsouth.net</a></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>Mark Woodard</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:markwoodard@gwinnettpl.org">markwoodard@gwinnettpl.org</a></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><a href="mailto:lyndafitz@yahoo.com">lyndafitz@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Suwanee</td>
<td>All-genres</td>
<td>Wednesdays, 6-8pm @ George Pierce Park Community Center</td>
<td>Lexy Petrick</td>
<td>Dissolved</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lpetrick2002@yahoo.com">lpetrick2002@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Highlands</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Every other Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. @ member’s house</td>
<td>Cindy Tolbert</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:cindy@cltolbert.com">cindy@cltolbert.com</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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] $___________

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

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