Coming in the January 16 AWC meeting

**BONUS OPEN FORUM:** all-things-writing Q&A with AWC Executive Director & Acting President George Weinstein

**CRITIQUE GROUP PANEL:** Why Join Them, How to Start One, and What Benefits You’ll Find

**RON RASH:** Writing Short Stories
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**January 16th agenda**

1. **BONUS OPEN FORUM**: all-things-writing Q&A with AWC Executive Director & Acting President George Weinstein

2. **CRITIQUE GROUP PANEL**: Why Join Them, How to Start One, and What Benefits You’ll Find

3. **RON RASH**: Writing Short Stories

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George Weinstein
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George Weinstein

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George Weinstein

**eQuill Publisher:**
Gene Bowen
A Message From the President

Resolutions

I have never been big on New Year’s resolutions, feeling instead that one shouldn’t wait until an arbitrary date on the calendar to decide to do something more or less or differently. In the past, if I wanted to make a change, then I would do it starting that day, whether it was January 1st or July 16th.

However, this has been a tumultuous year with so many changes—some tragic and some sublime—and, here on the cusp of 2021, I have found it necessary to take stock and resolve to make changes that I hope my family and friends will hold me to as we all begin a new year together.

I resolve to write more. Back in March of 2020, I had predicted in this column that we would have a month of quarantine and lockdown before things went back to normal, and we should use that time to write and read as much as possible. Instead of doing more writing and reading, though, I developed new habits around watching and listening to more news and entertainment—immersing myself in events beyond my control and then vegging out as an escape and then returning to the news to rekindle the cycle. Weeks turned into months, and immersion and escapism became ingrained.

While I did dust off two manuscripts, I have spent most of my writing time in 2020 editing those previously written pages instead of building on my earlier work. I realize now this was done as a means of assuring myself that I was indeed “writing” when, in actuality, I was avoiding writing, instead focusing on what I had created during more productive times. My late friend and mentor Terry Kay always began our conversations by asking, “George, what are you writing?” If I had been neglecting my craft, he would launch into a lecture about how it was my duty to write, that I was wasting my talent by not developing it, and so on. I disappointed the man quite often in this regard—I don’t want to disrespect his memory by squandering my time further.

I also resolve to read more. Somehow, with almost no time spent socializing and barely leaving the house, I managed to read far fewer books than I usually do in a given year. There are almost no hard and fast rules in writing, but one universal truism is that effective writers are also dedicated readers. When I was young, I was that kid who had to be reading something all the time, even if that meant perusing all six sides of a cereal box while eating breakfast. Reading reinforces the ways we convey emotions, convince others with compelling arguments, transmit ideas, and so on. The more we read, the more our brains learn creative means of communicating.

This is the ultimate training ground for writers. TV and movies are fine ways to learn storytelling, but they teach you nothing about the mechanics of stringing words together to entertain, influence, and inform. If you only watch instead of read, you will learn nothing about grammar, punctuation, and what to leave out as much as what to put in. Thanks to my new habits in 2020, I can quote entire scenes from favorite shows and films, but I’ve exiled myself for nearly a year from that which would have made me a better writer.

Write more, read more. I know these are the most basic of resolutions, but everything else builds upon them. If I read more, I will become a better writer. If I then write more, I will excel in my craft, and I will reach more readers in more effective ways. That’s what it’s all about. It’s a shame I forgot about this during 2020, but I resolve not to in 2021. I wish you a creative, productive New Year!

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 January 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.

January 16, 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. Critique Group Panel: Why Join Them, How to Start One, and What Benefits You’ll Find

Leaders from critique groups within the Atlanta Writers Club share their insights about what to look for in a critique group, how to start one, and how the critique group experience will change your life.

3:00-4:00 Ron Rash: Writing Short Stories

Ron Rash is the author of the 2009 PEN/Faulkner finalist and New York Times bestseller Serena and Above the Waterfall, In the Valley: Stories and a Novella Based on Serena and four prizewinning novels, including The Cove, One Foot in Eden, Saints at the River, and The World Made Straight; four collections of poems; and six collections of stories, among them Burning Bright, which won the 2010 Frank O’Connor International Short Story Award, and Chemistry and Other Stories, which was a finalist for the 2007 PEN/Faulkner Award. Twice the recipient of the O. Henry Prize, he teaches at Western Carolina University.

On January 16, Ron will discuss how to write short stories and break into that market.
December Meeting Photos & Links

Dec. 19 Meeting Recording
Password: AdNCPmj8

Jack Grossman

LINK TO CHAYENNE SKEET AND ALEX LARNED’S SLIDESHOW (PDF FORMAT):

Positioning Your Book
Fitting in and Standing out in the Market

EXAMPLE
Gothic traditions: Heroine thrown into a strange new environment, haunted house, dominating patriarch, dark family history, romance, misty graveyards

Time-period and aesthetic: “A period thriller so rich in suspense as it is in lush ‘50s atmosphere.”—Entertainment Weekly

Leitmotifs, culture, history: A socialite from Mexico City goes to an abandoned mining town in rural Mexico modeled on a real town, Real del Monte, to rescue her cousin

Themes: Feminism, gender, eugenics, colonialism, women’s health

Genre: Gothic horror, Lovecraftian horror, contemporary horror, commercial fiction
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/
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:

1. Author’s Name
2. Prize Category
3. Title of Entry
4. Word Count (Line Count for poetry)
5. 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]
AWC Member Launches & Accolades

AWC MEMBER QUAYE CHAPMAN REED’S BOOK
OUTSTANDING BLACK WOMEN OF YALOBUSHA COUNTY: Their Stories and Their Contributions to a Mississippi Community

was published on December 16. The book is a compilation of 45 articles written by Reed over a two-year period as part of a project to record the history of black matriarchs from the county. The Black women featured in this book made a way out of no way—and not just any old way—but a good way. They got in good trouble long before the late Congressman John Lewis coined the phrase—strong, Black and southern and no doubt just like his mother. They wanted more for their children than they would live to see or obtain. Just imagine how much better our society might be now had these women been given the rights and privileges of white Americans. These Black women were left behind, but they refused to quit. For if they had, we would not have former first lady Michelle Obama, activist Stacey Abrams and Kamala Harris, the first black woman vice president of the United States of America.

Quaye’s book is available on Amazon. Autographed or bulk copies of the book can also be purchased on her website: blackwomenofyalobusha.com.

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.

The AJC Bookshelf featured our anthology here.

This diverse assembly of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction is available in both print and Kindle ebook formats from Amazon, and through orders with your local bookstore: see the store listing on Indie Bound. The cost is $19.99 for the paperback and $3.99 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.

Viral Literature

“Viral Literature does what I’d always hoped the Decatur Book Festival would do... document the wild, glorious, and diverse abundance of talent that calls this region home. Together, these pieces tell the story of this place and time, but it also demonstrates the strength of this community of writers.”

~ Daren Wang, Founder of the AJC Decatur Book Festival & Author of The Hidden Light of Northern Fires

The AWC’s Viral Literature: Alone Together in Georgia, is published 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 (with his last published work before his passing), 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 AWC members, seven of whom were winners of a special club contest earlier this year.
The following is his request in his own words:

Dear Reader: I am seeking readers to read the MS as I make the corrections requested by the editor of Entangled Publishing. I submitted my novel, the Masters of Mankind, a thriller in July of this year. In November 2020, the submissions editor wrote me asking me to re-submit (after six months). This is an exciting project, and I can use your help. I reworded the editor’s letter for clarity. Also, the MS version that you review has been revised since receiving the editor’s letter. The summarized note from Entangled follows:

Re: Masters of Mankind

From: Entangled Publishing Co.

Dear Mr. Robbins; I have read your novel and am interested if you make the following corrections. Please re-submit in six months.

1. Develop the POV characters, sometimes Will Port and Tatur are distant (not in the middle of action, and need more EMOTIONS) and no head hopping (when Will talks, he should be the one thinking, moving, and doing something). Make a greater use of introspection. Make a stronger use of emotional reactions..

2. Make the voices more distinct. (Dr. Boudreaux is a Cajun from New Orleans, and I incorporated local slang).

3. There is a Plot inconsistency. Explain how Will’s (the protagonist’s) ability to detect deception is limited (the readers will find a scene where Will couldn’t read an expression and there where there was no adequate explanation of his finding). The editor wants Will’s ability to ‘be more immersive,’ which I attempt at the climax.


If you are interested in helping Bill, please email or text him, and he will forward the first 22 of 44 chapters. He requests that any corrections or suggestions be done as MS Word Track Changes comments.
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 bestselling author Lisa Gardner presenting “The Path to Bestsellerdom.”

- 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](mailto:awconference@gmail.com)
If you are and 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:

- Your name
- Your email address
- Your website, if available
- The fiction genres and/or nonfiction topics you have experience editing
- 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
https://condilnic.wixsite.com/wildwomenwhowrite/about-us

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.

JANIE MILLS  
alliancebookediting@gmail.com  
https://www.alliancebookediting.com/  
Available for editing: query letters, science fiction, memoir, Southern fiction, YA fantasy, sports fiction, apocalyptic, detective/crime fiction, soft erotica  
I have a master’s degree in English (Creative Writing) and have been a full-time editor for three years. I believe in understanding an author’s voice and putting in the work to get it right. I am blessed with my editing talent and am pleased to offer affordable, yet professional, editing services.

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.
2021 Roswell Reads

Featuring Best-Selling Novelist
ANN PATCHETT

Roswell Reads kicks off 2021 with a JANUARY presentation of award-winning author Ann Patchett! *The Dutch House* was a Finalist for the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION
Saturday, January 30, 2021 at 2 pm

*The Dutch House* program is free. Participants are encouraged to support a “house” in Roswell - *The Drake House* - whose mission is to provide a lifeline of supportive housing and enrichment programs for single mothers and their children experiencing homelessness in North Metro Atlanta.

Roswell Reads is sponsored by Friends of the Roswell Library and supported by Friends of the East Roswell Library, the Fulton County Library System, and Roswell Rotary.

RSVP: roswellreads2021.eventbrite.com

Donate to The Drake House:
https://thedrakehouse.formstack.com/forms/donatenow

facebook.com/roswellreads/ RoswellReads.com
November 22, 2020

Long before the coronavirus pandemic accelerated the devastation of newspapers and media outlets of all kinds, book reviews around the country had already started to disappear. Papers like the San Francisco Chronicle, the Boston Globe, the Los Angeles Times, and the Washington Post eliminated their standalone sections; the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and the Dallas Morning News let their book editors and staff critics go; coverage evaporated in the Cleveland Plain Dealer and the Orlando Sentinel. News outlets that once reviewed more than five hundred books every year—and, in some cases, three times as many—now rarely cover them at all.

That national crisis came for the Volunteer State just over a decade ago. Tim Henderson, the executive director of Humanities Tennessee, the state’s affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, remembers noticing fewer book reviews and fewer publications, but also talking with struggling local arts and culture writers. “When we saw the disappearance of arts coverage across the state, it was obvious we should respond,” Henderson said, “but not how.”

Humanities Tennessee eventually created something called Chapter 16: a part-digital, part-print publication that covers literature and literary life in the state by doing what almost any other outlet would—running reviews, profiles, interviews, and essays—but also by doing what almost no other outlet could afford to do: giving away its content for free, not only to readers but to any publication of any kind that wants to reproduce it....

To read the entire article, [click here](#).
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:
Show Your Stuff Online

READ YOUR BOOK 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 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.

YOUR WRITING 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/
REGISTER NOW
JAN 11 - MAR 18

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

An eQuill opportunity
The Atlanta Writers Club has revamped its website! We're now featuring a page where AWC members can promote their latest publication: https://atlantawritersclub.org/our-members-success/

Current Atlanta Writers Club members are invited to add/update their listing: please email your head-shot, book (or other publication) cover, and website URL to AWC President George Weinstein at george@atlantawritersclub.org
## Changes in RED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group ID</th>
<th>Genre(s)</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Contact Info</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Online #1</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Mike Brown <a href="mailto:michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com">michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Conditional-applicants will be vetted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online #2</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; non-Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td>Wait list</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online #3</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>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candler Park/Decatur</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:tara@coytcommunications.com">tara@coytcommunications.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 <a href="mailto:ncfletcher50@gmail.com">ncfletcher50@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>Adult Fiction</td>
<td>Online, every other Thursday, 7-9 pm</td>
<td>Susanne Fincher <a href="mailto:sfincher@mindspring.com">sfincher@mindspring.com</a></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 770-274-5240</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrenceville/Snellville</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>
<td></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 online</td>
<td>Ashley Melonson <a href="mailto:amelonson@gwinnettpl.or">amelonson@gwinnettpl.or</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Genre</td>
<td>Meeting Details</td>
<td>Critic</td>
<td>Email Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loganville</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com">michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<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><a href="mailto:lindasullivan3@gmail.com">lindasullivan3@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>Wednesdays, every 2 weeks, 6:00-8:00PM @ Scooter’s Coffee</td>
<td>Kim Wright</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com">wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Thursdays @ The Heron House</td>
<td>Jane Shirley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:basketcasecafe@gmail.com">basketcasecafe@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>George Weinstein</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gjweinstein@yahoo.com">gjweinstein@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>Jeremy Logan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeremylogan.author@gmail.com">jeremylogan.author@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Speculative fiction (novel length or short stories), regular fiction short stories, and any kind of nonfiction</td>
<td>Online via Zoom every other Thursday at 8:00pm</td>
<td>Sarah Minnear</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com">sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; Non-fiction</td>
<td>2nd Saturday of each month, 2:30-4:30PM in member’s home</td>
<td>Bill Ottinger</td>
<td><a href="mailto:osrtrain@att.net">osrtrain@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smyrna/Marietta</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>Currently inactive</td>
<td>Liz Helenek</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lizbizz7@bellsouth.net">lizbizz7@bellsouth.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snellville</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meet at the Snellville Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library on 1st Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Mark Woodard</td>
<td><a href="mailto:markwoodard@gwinnettpl.org">markwoodard@gwinnettpl.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snellville</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meet at member’s house 1st Saturday of month 9:30 - noon</td>
<td>Lynda Fitzgerald</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lyndafitz@yahoo.com">lyndafitz@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suwanee</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Wednesdays, 6-8pm @ George Pierce Park Community Center</td>
<td>Lexy Petrick</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lpetrick2002@yahoo.com">lpetrick2002@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Highlands</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Every other Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. @ member’s house</td>
<td>Cindy Tolbert</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cindy@cltolbert.com">cindy@cltolbert.com</a></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.

Membership Benefits

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 [ $10.00 ] $__________

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.