APRIL 3 WORKSHOP FOR AWC MEMBERS:

**BREN MCCLAIN** – Deepen the River: The Key to Revision: an interactive online workshop all about revising your work to achieve deeper emotional connections with your readers and deeper truths.

APRIL 17 MONTHLY MEETING FOR MEMBER & FIRST-TIME GUESTS:

**BEN COLES** (science fiction author and instructor): Writing sci-fi

**ROB SUGGS** (freelance writer, illustrator and cartoonist): Collaboration and ghosting
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AWC Officers

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George Weinstein
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Clay Ramsey

Treasurer:
Jerry Weiner

Historian/By-Laws:
George Weinstein

eQuill Publisher:
Gene Bowen

Upcoming Events

April 3 – Spring Workshop (for AWC Members),
1:30-4:00 pm Eastern

• Bren McClain - Deepen the River:
The Key to Revision

April 17 – Monthly Meeting, (for Members & First-Time Guests), 1:30-4:00 pm Eastern

• 1st Guest Speaker – Ben Coles (science fiction author and instructor): Writing sci-fi

• 2nd Guest Speaker – Rob Suggs (freelance writer, illustrator and cartoonist): Collaboration and ghosting

Stay Connected
A Message from the President

Reflections, Part 2

April is a special month for the Atlanta Writers Club (AWC). The AWC was founded on April 20, 1914 by two women, Kate Ross Peters and Lollie Belle Wylie, “to bring about a helpful and more intimate acquaintance among Atlanta writers, to promote their talents and market their writings.” April is also the final full month of each outgoing President’s term. It’s a time that calls for reflections.

In the March eQuill, I shared some reflections about what the AWC and its members managed to do during the pandemic—along with some revelations of a personal nature—and this month, I’d like to reflect on the state of the AWC since the first time I was its President, 2004-2007.

In this picture, incoming 2007 President Marty Aftewicz and I exchange silver cups engraved with past AWC Presidents’ names. Marty had the brilliant idea of getting the biggest cup he could find. He figured, correctly, that we would only get bigger and better, but things were far from rosy at that time. In April 2007, we had fewer than 200 members, no writers conference, an annual writing contest that attracted maybe two dozen entries, a handful of critique groups, meetings that only occasionally filled a conference room, and a tiny group of enthusiastic but overwhelmed volunteers.

Fourteen years later, Marty’s predictions of success were prophetic. We have nearly 1,000 members (due to COVID, we dropped from our early 2020 high of 1,100+). We offer not one but two Atlanta Writers Conferences each year, which have been twice-named the “Best in Georgia” by The Writer magazine and attract writers from across the US and around the world (for our May 2021 conference, we have registrants as far away as France and Israel).

Our annual writing contest received 135 submissions this year, and we’ve hosted weekly contests for more than a year, with 730+ entries. We have two dozen critique groups—mainly online due to COVID or by choice—with more AWC members than ever participating in them. Before the pandemic, we regularly seated 125-150 attendees at our meetings in the GSU-Perimeter auditorium, and we hope they will allow us to return there this fall. But even with online meeting fatigue so rampant, we still get up to 110 people logging into our monthly meetings held via WebEx.

The AWC Board is composed of dedicated volunteers who can focus on their area of expertise without needing to wear multiple hats, and they are just one part of the largest and most diverse volunteer pool we’ve ever had. Please join me in thanking the board for their remarkable efforts to give your membership the most value:

- Officer Emeritus - Marty Aftewicz
- eQuill Editor - Gene Bowen
- VP of Operations - Kim Conrey
- VP of Publicity - Della Curtis
- First VP - Jill Evans
- VP of Membership - Yvonne Green
- VP of Programs - Beth Hermes
- Officer Emeritus and VP of Contests, Awards, & Scholarships - Clay Ramsey
- VP of Marketing - Patrick Scullin
- Treasurer - Jerry Weiner

When Jill Evans follows in Kate and Lollie’s footsteps by becoming our new President in May, she will bring new ideas, energy, and perspectives. And she will inherit an organization that has displayed remarkable grit and determination in fulfilling our mission to teach the craft and business of writing during the hardest year many of us have experienced. I will continue as Executive Director and Atlanta Writers Conference Director—after twenty years as a member, there’s no way I’m stepping back from everything—but I think we’ll all benefit from having new blood at the top for the start of our next decade together. I can’t wait to experience the future with you!

George Weinstein is the AWC Acting President (for one more month) and its Executive Director (probably for life) as well as the author of six novels, including the suspense-thriller Watch What You Say, which was published in November 2019 (www.GeorgeWeinstein.com). He considers himself the luckiest man alive.
On April 3rd, we'll host our spring online workshop for AWC members. A link to the online meeting room for this workshop will be sent via email a few days before the event. If you need to join or renew your AWC membership so you can participate, please use this link.

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

April 3, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Eastern - Online (email with the online workshop 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

1:30-4:00 Bren McClain - Deepen the River: The Key to Revision

Bren McClain is a writer, who never gave up. After winning a handful of awards over the last two decades for novel excerpts and short stories, her literary novel, ONE GOOD MAMA BONE, found a home with Pat Conroy’s Story River Books. The novel was long-listed for the 2018 Crook’s Corner Book Prize, received a starred review in "Booklist," named a winter Okra pick by the Southeastern Independent Booksellers Alliance and made a Pulpwood Queens selection for May. Deep South magazine included it in its recommended list of Fall/Winter books. Bren is a two-time winner of the South Carolina Fiction Project and the recipient of the 2005 Fiction Fellowship by the South Carolina Arts Commission. She is at work on her next novel, TOOK, which was named the gold medal winner for the 2016 William Faulkner -William Wisdom Novel-in-Progress. Find her online at her website.

On April 3rd, Bren will lead an interactive online workshop all about revising your work to achieve deeper emotional connections with your readers and deeper truths. In her own words:

"A very wise editor one time told me, 'Get rid of the tributaries, and deepen the river.'"

"'The River,' as I think of it, is the heart of your novel. It’s what you’re really trying to say. It likely started with the first honest impulse that drew you to write your story or novel. I’ve heard it said that if you ever get lost, go back to that first impulse that drove you to put your butt in the chair in the first place. I think that’s key. And I also think that’s where the energy of your story is. It’s where your soul feels lifted, where you slow down to read vs. skimming through.

"What is the heart of your book? What drew you to the story in the first place? How can you deepen it?"
April 17th Meeting

for Members & First-Time Guests

Bennett (Ben) R. Coles

April 17th Meeting

Bennett (Ben) R. Coles

On April 17th, 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.

April 17, 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. Ben Coles (science fiction author and instructor): Writing sci-fi

Versatile and relentlessly creative, Rob Suggs has collaborated with Dr. Bruce Wilkinson, Dr. David Jeremiah, Dr. Bill Bright, Lee Strobel, former NFL Head Coach Les Steckel, and other well-known figures. He specializes in finding the speaker's distinctive voice in prose, as well as communicating his or her message in words that touch the soul. He has collaborated on several New York Times bestsellers; on the Evangelical Christian Press Association's Inspirational Book of the Year; and on works that have seen nearly two million copies in print.

An award-winning cartoonist, an exciting speaker, and a sought-after consultant, Rob is a one-stop-shop for creative services. Whether it's a children's version of a Lee Strobel's apologetic work, the the Bible in comic form, an NFL head coach's inside scoop, a how-to manual for parenting, spiritual truth from America's top teachers--or even a laugh-out-loud collection of Rob's experiences growing up--Rob has something for everyone.

On April 17th, Rob will provide advice and lessons learned about collaborating and ghostwriting.

Rob Suggs

Ben Coles

Bennett (Ben) R. Coles

Bennett (Ben) R. Coles is an award-winning author with Harper Collins and Titan Publishing Group (UK) and he's always looking for opportunities to help newer authors navigate the intricacies of book publishing so they don't make the same mistakes he made early on in his writing career. He has provided nine webinars to AWC members over the past few years.

Ben served 15 years as a naval officer and United Nations military observer. His first novel, Virtues of War, was published in 2010 to critical acclaim and drew upon his years in uniform to create an ultra-realistic portrayal of military life and combat, which he set in a futuristic society. He makes his home in Victoria, Canada with his wife and two children.

On April 17th, Ben will discuss the craft of writing science fiction.

Ben Coles

Ben Coles

Versatile and relentlessly creative, Rob Suggs has collaborated with Dr. Bruce Wilkinson, Dr. David Jeremiah, Dr. Bill Bright, Lee Strobel, former NFL Head Coach Les Steckel, and other well-known figures. He specializes in finding the speaker's distinctive voice in prose, as well as communicating his or her message in words that touch the soul. He has collaborated on several New York Times bestsellers; on the Evangelical Christian Press Association's Inspirational Book of the Year; and on works that have seen nearly two million copies in print.

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Rob Suggs
March Meeting Photos & Link

LINK MAR 20 MEETING RECORDING & PASSWORD: vUErPAT5

GAIL EVANS

BERNETTE SHERMAN
Member Book Launches & Accolades

AWC member Mark Ellingsen has published Finding Peaks and Valleys in a Flat World: Goodness, Truth, and Meaning in the Midst of Today’s Mad Chase for Prosperity and Instant Feedback. The flat world of our globalized economic order—with its information technology mandating the need for the labor force to compete globally—has led to turmoil, injustice, and growing unhappiness in our everyday lives. We need a way to find some mountaintops and fulfillment in our flat world, to have a sense that some moments can have eternal significance. Søren Kierkegaard, forerunner of Existentialism, provides us with a vision of life to help us cope and give us joy. Along the way, we’ll see how a lot of his insights connect with cutting-edge findings on brain research about the biological dynamics of joy and fulfillment. Finding Peaks and Valleys in a Flat World will be of interest to undergraduate Philosophy and Religion students as well as Kierkegaard specialists. It will also be a good reference work for people interested in social analyses and theologians of every denominational affiliation. ISBN: 9781648891083; Vernon Press

Mark Ellingsen is a Professor of Church History at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. With a Ph.D. from Yale University, he is the author of 500 published articles and 24 books, several used as textbooks for courses in seminaries and colleges. His most recent book, Ever Hear of Feuerbach? That’s Why American and European Christianity Is In Such a Funk, analyzes the marked growth of the religiously unaffiliated in America and what to do about it. He has offered other analyses of what occurs in everyday American life in his critically acclaimed Blessed Are the Cynical: How Original Sin Can Make America a Better Place and his When Did Jesus Become Republican?

AWC member Jan Slimming is delighted to announce the recent publication of her first book, Codebreaker Girls: A Secret Life at Bletchley Park, with a foreword by Sir Dermot Turing. I’m super excited and look forward to, hopefully, sharing a launch event with you sometime in the near future. Though she set out to write a factual non-fiction work about her mother’s secret intelligence work at Bletchley Park, the War Station where she worked in WWII, fate turned this into an informative memoir where appreciative reviewers have written, “this book is amazing; reads like a novel but it’s a true story!” Published in Britain in England (January 2021), the reviews have been truly overwhelming and astonishing for a book she thought might include a lot of codebreaking war-type technical data. The combined result is a successful, heart-wrenching, real-life story of that time, and beyond. Jan credits these incredible reviews to the help she received from the Atlanta Writers Club and especially her two AWC critique groups – you know who y’all are. Without the AWC, this important story might have been dry and uninteresting. She thanks you for sticking with her on this intriguing journey. Remember: If you think you can, you can. If you think you can’t, you won’t. Stay positive.
In AWC member Liz Lazarus's latest novel Shades of Silence, Julianna Sandoval is living in limbo. Her husband’s plane has vanished over the Atlantic Ocean and although the Coast Guard has suspended the search, she clings to hope that he’ll still be found alive. Three months later, a young woman appears after hours at Julianna’s Ormond Beach restaurant, declaring, “He’s not who you think he is.” Before the stranger can say anything else, a gunshot through the window kills her instantly.

Seasoned detective Paul Grant is assigned to investigate the girl’s murder. He senses that the shooting was not random but doesn’t know the connection to his only witness. Was the girl referring to Julianna’s presumed dead husband, her lazy stepson, her shady bar manager, or someone else?

As Grant methodically gathers evidence and challenges alibies, Julianna’s faith in her friends and family is tested. The investigation leaves her wondering who she can trust and culminates with an eerie link to the past that no one sees coming.

For more information, go to website

AWC member Mary Torre Kelly’s The Life of Death Show is the story of a father and daughter twosome who manage over time to subvert the finality of death. Jessie is a network news anchor who gets rattled, then entranced, by the voice of her deceased father, Henry, persuading her to deliver his messages from spirits in another bardo instead of the evening news. Jessie's husband Seaborn launches “The Life of Death Show,” unleashing the supernatural into everyday life. Henry channels messages from the famous and the not-so, naming names and death dates. But even as Jessie has a supernova rise as the televisionary, she makes powerful enemies. Religious extremists and other haters as well as the paparazzi make her life a living hell. Her dreams of having a baby and a normal family life have been put on hold. She is alienated from her own mother, and both her brothers turn against her and call her crazy. In five years’ time, Henry has become her demon tormentor. As the trance-like state begins to wear thin, she decides to reclaim her life by defying Henry and denouncing what has become a tyranny of the dead. She must in effect "kill" Henry in order to have a regular normal life with her husband Seaborn. For more information, go to Booklocker.

Mary Torre Kelly grew up in Florida, and later received a BFA Degree from the Atlanta College of Art. She was a real estate agent in Atlanta when she dropped out and began to follow a passion to write. Her first novel, Guava Dreams, has five stars on Amazon.
AWC member Pat Holt and her book Empower a Refugee, Peace of Thread and the Backyard Humanity Movement were profiled in an interview by Lois Reitzes’s “City Lights” show on WABE 90.1FM (WABE). Her book has been nominated for the Georgia Writers Association’s Georgia Author of the Year in nonfiction Suwanee Magazine featured her in their January issue for an article on “Fit Over 60.”

11 Signs You’re Ready to Self-Publish

by Kim Catanzarite

It’s a tough decision for a writer to make, one of the toughest. All your life you’ve fantasized about one of the big New York publishers buying your book and its subsequent astronomical launch into the stratosphere. But it hasn’t happened yet in spite of your eating, sleeping, and researching the craft of writing for years.

While the non-responses (don’t) come in, and the polite rejections clog your inbox (and your arteries, or so it may seem), the option of self-publishing hangs out there like a flag unfurling in the corner of your eye, waiting for you to take notice and give it some attention. It’s Plan B and has been for a long time.

Are you on the fence? When do you decide that it’s time to pursue Plan B? When do you turn off the traditional road and drive the indie path? There is no easy answer to this question, but if you take the time to consider the following, you’ll come that much closer to knowing.

To read the full essay, please use this link:
“This is your opportunity to take the next big step toward your writing goals.”

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!

Sign up if 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
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 15 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).

- 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 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.

You’ll find all the details for the May 7-9, 2021 Atlanta Writers Conference, [here](#).

Should you have questions, contact Atlanta Writers Conference Director and AWC Executive Director & Acting President George Weinstein.
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-.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
email
website

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.

Kay Hunt
email

Available for editing: Adventure, women’s fiction, fantasy, historical fiction

I have over 20 years in print production and graphics, proofreading annual reports, business brochures and related materials, catalogs, and advertising copy. I have six years of freelance experience proofreading/copy editing website pages and blogs for service industry businesses. Additionally, as a freelancer, I have copy-edited two novels as well as made some structural edits.

Janie Mills
email
website

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
e-mail
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.

Stephanie Siegel
e-mail
Final editing available for nonfiction (especially health for general audiences).

I read literature and am trying to write it. But most of my career was spent writing newspaper articles (12 years) or editing them (12 years). My eagle eye for details such as unanswered questions, unsupported statements, and inconsistencies made me a valued copy editor at CNN.com, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, WebMD, and the CDC.

Dave Swan
e-mail

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.

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
Alone Together in Georgia

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 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.

Customer reviews

🌟🌟🌟🌟 5 out of 5

11 global ratings

5 star 100%
WHETHER YOU’RE WRITING A HUMOR COLUMN OR NOVEL, putting together a stand-up routine, scribbling a sitcom script or screenplay, crafting silly songs, drafting a storyboard, or writing a query letter, this conference can help. Register for ThinkingFunny21 and you’ll see and hear:

- Proven techniques for punching up scripts.
- Effective methods for writing humorous travel stories and columns.
- The steps to creating a comic world & cast that generates sustainable stories.
- How stand-up comics work up a set.
- How to deal with criticism.
- How animators generate ideas, create storyboards to communicate, and work in teams.
- What songwriters do to craft funny and memorable lyrics.
- What agents want in a query letter.
- How to pitch effectively.
- Career advice from experienced professionals.
- Time to ask questions and get personalized advice.
- All this... and more!

The daylong lineup is available at our [WEBSITE](http://ThinkingFunny.com). Early birds with a coupon code of “30-off” get a 30% discount off the $100 cost through March 31. Questions? [Email](mailto:info@AtlantaWritersClub.com)
A Thousand Words

MAKE A 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 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.

PHOTOGRAPH YOUR WRITING SPACE

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 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.

Look for it here: Facebook, Instagram.
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:

- 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 recently revamped its website! We're now featuring a page where AWC members can promote their latest publication: [SEE IT HERE](#)

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](mailto:george.weinstein@awc.org)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online #1</th>
<th>Fiction</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
<th>Mike Brown</th>
<th><a href="mailto:michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com">michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com</a></th>
<th>Conditional-applicants will be vetted</th>
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<tr>
<td>Online #2</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; non-Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Linh Pham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@linphambooks.com">info@linphambooks.com</a></td>
<td>FULL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online #3</td>
<td>Young Adult/Middle Grade Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Ivelisse Rodriguez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rodrigivelisse@gmail.com">rodrigivelisse@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online #4</td>
<td>Indie Authors--all genres</td>
<td>Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm</td>
<td>J. M. (Michelle) Tompkins</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michelle@creativityuntamed.com">michelle@creativityuntamed.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online #5</td>
<td>All Genres</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, at 7:00pm Eastern</td>
<td>Gail Lash</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drgail@tourismforpeace.com">drgail@tourismforpeace.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online #6</td>
<td>Short Stories</td>
<td>Every 2nd Thursday at 1pm</td>
<td>Pat Bowen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:woodsgal@hotmail.com">woodsgal@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</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</td>
<td><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</td>
<td><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</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sfincher@mindspring.com">sfincher@mindspring.com</a></td>
<td>Full</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunwoody</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Fri, 1-3 p.m. @ Georgia Perimeter College Library Building, Rm3100</td>
<td>Gelia Dolcimascolo</td>
<td>770-274-5240</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johns Creek</td>
<td>Fiction, except for erotica and horror</td>
<td>Online using emails. Once pandemic ends, may meet in person</td>
<td>Anita Lovely</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alovely@comcast.net">alovely@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>New group--needs members!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrenceville/Snellville</td>
<td>Novel, Short Story &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>suspended</td>
<td>Kerry Denney</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kerrysii@bellsouth.net">kerrysii@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Liburn</td>
<td>&quot;Write Here, Right Now&quot; shares writing techniques and offers constructive feedback</td>
<td>Meets monthly from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the 1st or 2nd Thursday online</td>
<td>Ashley Melonson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amelonson@gwinnettpl.or">amelonson@gwinnettpl.or</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Genre</td>
<td>Schedule</td>
<td>Contact Person</td>
<td>Status</td>
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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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<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>
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<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><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>
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<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>George Weinstein</td>
<td>Wait list</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:gweinstein@yahoo.com">gweinstein@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><a href="mailto:jeremylogan.author@gmail.com">jeremylogan.author@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Speculative</td>
<td>Online via Zoom every other Thursday at 8:00pm</td>
<td>Sarah Minnear</td>
<td>WAIT</td>
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<td></td>
<td>fiction (novel length or short stories), regular fiction short stories, and any kind of nonfiction</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><a href="mailto:lizbizz7@bellsouth.net">lizbizz7@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<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>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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<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) 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.
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

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.