Atlanta Writers Club - founded 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.

MAY 7-9 – Spring Atlanta Writers Conference

MAY 15 – Monthly Meeting for Members & First-Time Guests, 1:30-4:00 pm Eastern

1st Guest Speaker – Scott Thomas Outlar (author and poet): Writing poetry

2nd Guest Speaker – Jorjeana Marie (script writer, actress, comedian): Comedy writing secrets
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**AWC Officers**

President: Jill Evans

Executive Director: George Weinstein

Officers Emeritus: Valerie Connors George Weinstein Clay Ramsey Marty Aftewicz

Conference Director: George Weinstein

Membership VP: Yvonne Green

Programs VP: Beth Hermes

Operations VP: Kim Conrey

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Public Relations VP: Della Curtis

Contests VP: Kathy Nichols

Townsend Prize Director: Clay Ramsey

Treasurer: Jerry Weiner

Historian/By-Laws: George Weinstein

eQuill Publisher: Gene Bowen

**Upcoming Events**

May 7-9 – Spring Atlanta Writers Conference

May 15 – Monthly Meeting for Members & First-Time Guests, 1:30-4:00 pm Eastern

1st Guest Speaker – Scott Thomas Outlar (author and poet): Writing poetry

2nd Guest Speaker – Jorjeana Marie (script writer, actress, comedian): Comedy writing secrets

Throughout time, our alphabet has changed quite a lot. It started around 1900 B.C. in the Sinaï dessert. This writing (called Proto-Sinaïtic) was adopted and changed by the neighboring Phoenicians (around 1500 B.C.). The Phoenicians were a nation of sailors and through trade they’ve passed the alphabet on to the Greeks (around 800 B.C.). The Greeks changed the letterforms a bit and eventually passed it on to the Romans who finalized the alphabet in the way we still use it today in the Western world:
A Message from the President

So Grateful, and Here to Serve

Ten years ago I sent a message to Ginger Collins, who was then an officer, asking her about the Atlanta Writers Club. I was in search of a place where I could learn more about the craft. Ginger described what the club did, but - more importantly, and just as quickly - said, “Come and check us out at a meeting.” I met her at the door, attended a great session and joined straight away. Afterwards, I learned that the club hosted a writer’s conference and got to see the talent and devotion to writers that is George Weinstein, conference founder and director as well as club president.

My participation in those early years was on an “as could” basis. The kids were still in school and involved in activities; life was BUSY. But, I found writing to be the thing I can’t stop doing. And, Atlanta Writers Club was that enduring, excellent and joyful source of teaching and encouragement. A place to connect with other scribblers and wordsmiths.

I’m thrilled to serve and be a part of a team that honors the club’s past and creates its future. Let’s learn and write together.

We yearn to tell stories, to move and motivate, casting out lines of words and pulling readers in. Writers calm, stir up trouble, entertain, bring emotion to the surface, and so much more. Will readers empathize with our characters, feel tension and conflict, be satisfied or ignited? We hover over the keys and clack away in service to those goals.

In recent years I’ve taken the opportunity to step up my writing and my participation in the club. In late 2019 I took on the role of Vice President of Programming, following the wonderful Valerie Connors. I barely had my feet under me when March 2020 hit us with the pandemic. We could have paused the meetings, but instead decided to take them online. For over a year now we’ve kept it rolling with excellent speakers, weekly contests and terrific workshops.

Throughout this time I’ve been so grateful to George, the board, volunteers and our members for keeping the community alive and thriving. What an honor to be asked to assume the presidency! George isn’t going anywhere, thank goodness, and the talent and experience on the board is vast in Clay, Beth, Della, Jerry, Kim, Patrick, Yvonne and Kathy. I’m thrilled to serve and be a part of a team that honors the club’s past and creates its future. Let’s learn and write together.

AWC President Jill Evans is a computer nerd by trade, website designer, photographer and writer. Her work in progress is a novel that combines her love of art, intrigue and history. You can follow her on Instagram at @jillevanswriter and find out more at WEBSITE.
May 15th Meeting
for Members & First-Time Guests

May 15th Meeting

On May 15th, 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.

May 15, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Eastern - Online (please add yourself to our mailing list to receive the email with the online meeting link):

1:00-1:30 Bonus open forum: all-things-writing Q&A with AWC Executive Director George Weinstein
1:30-1:45 AWC announcements and upcoming events
1:45-2:45 Scott Thomas Outlar (author and poet): Writing poetry

Scott Thomas Outlar lives and writes in the suburbs outside of Atlanta, Georgia. His work has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net. He guest-edited the 2019, 2020, and 2021 Western Voices editions of Setu Mag. Selections of his poetry have been translated into Afrikaans, Albanian, Bengali, Dutch, French, Italian, Kurdish, Malayalam, Persian, Serbian, and Spanish.

He has been a weekly contributor for the Dissident Voice newsletter since 2014. His sixth book, Of Sand and Sugar, was released in 2019. His podcast, Songs of Selah, airs weekly on 17Numa Radio and features interviews with contemporary poets, artists, musicians, and health advocates. More about Outlar’s work can be found at 17RADIO.

On May 15th, Scott will provide insights about how to break into poetry writing, how to know which work is "good," the poetry community, having your work published in a variety of outlets.

3:00-4:00 Jorjeana Marie (script writer, actress, comedian): Comedy writing secrets

Jorjeana Marie is a television writer on the forthcoming Disney show Mickey Mouse FunHouse, a nationally touring comedian opening for Richard Lewis, Kathleen Madigan and Louis Anderson and the author of Improv for Writers (Penguin Random House/Ten Speed Press 2019). She is an award-winning voice actress you may have heard on Nickelodeon or Disney and has narrated over 400 audiobooks. She has earned a prestigious Audie, more than a dozen Earphones awards and been named one of the best YA voices for several consecutive years. Publishers Weekly calls her “Pitch Perfect.” Paste Magazine named her one of their favorite narrators and Audiofile Magazine calls her characters “Hilarious!” She is the voice of the New Nancy Drew Di-
aries and AudioFile says “Jor-jeana Marie captures the essence of what makes Nancy Drew such a timeless fictional icon”. As an actress, Jorjeana starred in the pilot “Listen to Grandpa, Andy Ling” with Randall Parks and Elliott Gould and can be seen or heard regularly in dozens of national commercials.

Her desire to create work for herself led to becoming an award-winning playwright, creating and performing three one-woman shows in NY and LA: “Ally, MaryJane & Me”, “NY, I Love” and “JoJo and Friends” – a sold-out solo sketch show with animation, puppets and stand-up. With an endorsement from Daisy Rock Guitars, Jorjeana performs ‘micro-songs’ in her act. She has also written on television shows for Dreamworks, Cartoon Network and Netflix. She writes about comedy for Writer’s Digest Magazine and is included in Writer’s Digest Best Of.

While she shares her passion for improv by teaching and speaking at Disney, Google, CBS/Scriptwriter’s Network and Cartoon Network Studios, she is often involved in many charitable organizations as a host and comedienne including: Gilda’s Club, Comedy Cures, Comedy Fights Cancer, Paul Newman’s Double H hole in the Wall and Young Story-tellers. She is currently working on her own comedy special (more puppets!), writing her next book and trying to keep crumbs off the counter-top.

On May 15, Jorjeana on writing humor and will provide tips on how improv can help with comedy writing, characters, dialogue, and more.

April 03 Workshop Photos & Links

LINK APR 03 WORKSHOP RECORDING & PASSWORD: 3fJpPPvk

Bren McClain’s after-workshop handout can be found on pages 8-9.
April Meeting Photos & Link

April 17 Meeting Recording & Password: xCsb3MHR

BEN COLE

ROB SUGGS

Bennett R. Coles

- Writing since 1985
  - Military SF series
  - Space Pirates series
- Editing since 1992

Can you ghost or collaborate?

Here's a sampling of my work.
What I Believe/Tenets I Write By

- I must be chosen to tell a story.
- I believe in writing to stories that are mine and mine alone to write.
- I want to exert such pressure on my characters that I can see what he/she is capable of.
- I want to show my heart, hold it wide open. I want to give myself. I want to be naked on the page.
- Fiction fixes it. I don’t write all of what really happened – but what should have happened/what I would have liked to have happen.
- The only “rule” I have is to make readers care.

Some quotes I keep with me from other writers--

“All good novelists have bad memories. What you remember comes out as journalism; what you forget goes into the compost of your imagination.” Bob Butler

“Why Bother? Because right now, there is someone out there with a wound in the exact shape of your words.” Writer on Facebook

“You were made and set here to give voice to this, your own astonishment….Spend it all, shoot it, lose it, all, right away, every time.” Annie Dillard

“Go to the page with a heart as open as the heart of God.” Elizabeth Strout

Dorothy Allison

“Great writing suggests to us that as simple human beings, we are worth the trouble.”
Write a loved version of your life. Become the hero of your own experience.”
“Build me an engine of desire, make me nervous, make me want to know, pull me along. Take me somewhere and let me know I got there because I want my heart to hurt, and then I want it to heal, I want a way back. If you do it really well, then change that will have taken place in your book will take place inside the reader.”
“Try to be of use. Give your readers something they can use.”
“Storytelling is how you can make peace with your life. I like to create a loved version of our world.”
“I want stories that grab my heart, lift me up and show me something wider.”
“The gateway to readers is self-exposure.”

“Your eraser is your best friend.” Truman Capote
Beth Ann Fennelly’s “From Telling the Gospel Truth” from her book, TENDER HOOKS

Here’s the beauty of REVISION –

It allows you to tease out the story’s riches.

It allows the story to love what it loves.

It allows you honor/massage what gives you energy on the page.

Metaphor I keep in mind is the River.

What an editor told me --- “Get rid of the tributaries, and deepen the river.”

What is the river?

• It’s your core story.
• For a hint at it, you can go back to the honesty of your first impulse. I WAS MADE X BY Y.
  Y MADE ME FEEL X.
  “That’s what artists do, that’s what poets do….we all do it. We start with something, and sometimes we
  destroy everything that we’ve made in order to get to the core place where we started from.”
  Singer Patti Smith
• It’s the prize you keep your eye on, helps you know what stays, what goes.

Andra Miller, editor formerly of Algonquin and now at Ballantine, advised this:

WRITE A LETTER TO YOURSELF/AN AUTHOR’S NOTE – (DO IN PHASES)

1. Talk about WHY you’re writing it
2. WHAT first drew you to it
3. How did FEEL about it? What emotion did it stir?
4. What you can impart. What is it that you have come to say?
   It’s the prize you keep your eye on, helps you know what stays, what goes.
5. Give yourself permission to take that license. To do it.

Other “Tips”

• Revision is an act of considering what needs to be removed, need to be filled, needs to be added.
• The work getting cold, even ice cold, is your friend.
• Read it backwards. Start with the last movement. As you go back through the narrative, ask yourself how
  each scene is contributing to the end. If you see the connection, ask yourself whether you can enhance it in
  any way. If you can’t think of a way, ask yourself if you really need that scene.
IN AWC MEMBER E B CHANG’S new novel, *Afloat in the River*, Ed Jung is a Korean immigrant living in Atlanta, Georgia. His life has not always been easy, and after the death of his sister and mother, Ed’s thoughts turn to an introspective review of his life to this point. We follow him through his formative years in Korea to his move to the United States for education and opportunity. Through his eyes, we are exposed to a culture that respects tradition, hard work, and family. After living in the United States for decades, however, he starts to feel that he has lived with two cultures, the American culture in one hand and the Korean in the other. Eventually, he realizes that he belongs to neither and does not know where to stand. He stands on a cliff of a north Georgian mountain and disappears.

**AMAZON**

E B Chang was born in a small village of Chonranamdo, Korea. He graduated from the College of Business Administration at Korea University in Seoul and worked for the ROK Navy as an accounting officer to fulfill his military duty. Honorably discharged from the Navy, he immigrated to the United States. He lives in Atlanta and is active as a financial planner; he is a CPA and also CFP®. He is an avid tennis player. He plays classical guitar and enjoys reading classical novels.

AWC MEMBER ALAYNE SMITH WAS a finalist in the William Faulkner – William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition for her upcoming YA novel, *This Is Ellen Jones Reporting* (Ellard Publishing, July 2021.) The competition discovers and assists talented writers of unpublished work and is sponsored by The Pirate’s Alley Society, a William Faulkner non-profit. Faulkner lived at 624 Pirate’s Alley in New Orleans, now the home of Faulkner House Books. As a finalist, Alayne is an invited guest at the 2021 Faulkner Festival & gala in NOLA in September.

*This Is Ellen Jones Reporting* follows the story of a Miami college student as she follows her dream to become a broadcast journalist. The historical novel is set in Cuba, the South, and the tumultuous 1960's with a notebook of tips for aspiring broadcasters. Watch for it this summer! See Alayne’s website for more details: [WEBSITE](#)
AWC MEMBER WILLIAM (FRED) WHITSON’S first novel _The Librarian_ was published in April. In the 1980s the Cold War was heating up. NATO decided to counter the Soviet buildup of SS-20 missiles with the deployment of American Cruise Missiles to RAF Greenham Common Air Base, UK. Peace Camps encircle the base (near Newbury, Berkshire) as they and CND marchers and demonstrators all come together to protest the placement of Cruise Missiles in Britain. In this stunning debut historical thriller by WF Whitson, the KGB sends Nikolai Sokolov, a cunning Soviet spy, who uses sleeper agents and others to deploy dirty bombs in an attempt to weaken NATO’s resolve. But on the watch is Lieutenant Colonel Wes Forrest, a hard-nosed, dedicated USAF officer, ordered by the Pentagon to be on the watch for Soviet activity. Once the threat is identified, Forrest joins forces with MI5, and the confrontations become violent and personal.

**AMAZON**

Fred served for over 23 years in the US Air Force. He was in Europe in December 1979 when NATO made the “Duel Track Decision” regarding nuclear weapons, including deployment of the American ground-launched cruise missile (GLCM) in Europe. Fred was the first missile officer at the first GLCM base (RAF Greenham Common UK in 1982) and was privileged to play a small part in the development of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty agreement that dismantled GLCM and Pershing II missiles signed by US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev in December 1987.
2021 AWC Annual Writing Contest Winners & Runners-Up

TERRY KAY PRIZE FOR FICTION

Winner: Jarrett Kaufman, “Where Do We Go From Here?”
Runners Up: Patricia McAlexander, “Falling”
               Pamela Wright, “Hallelujah By and By”

RICK BRAGG PRIZE FOR NONFICTION

Winner: Terri Whitesel, “My New Best Friend”
Runners Up: Nancy Luana Wilkes, “Candy Corn”
               Barbara Jennings, “A Disarming Man”

NATASHA TRETHEWEY PRIZE FOR POETRY

Winner: Rick Rohdenburg, “A Winter in Majorca”
Runners Up: LaDonna Benedict, “In Stride”
               Anubhooti Kabra, “Guilt”
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 and features an online Sunday workshop doubleheader!

Our Workshop Doubleheader will provide four hours of education about the craft and business of writing using our Cisco Webex online meeting platform. In the first two-hour session, reader focus group expert Peter Hildick-Smith will offer live critiques of participants' proposed book title, jacket copy, and book cover (if available) based on his expertise working with book buyers. Then, standout New York Times bestselling author Lisa Gardner will discuss "The Path to Bestsellerdom" during the concluding two-hour session.

The cost for this workshop doubleheader is $60 for AWC members and $110 for all others (which will provide a year of membership in the AWC). The entire four hours of presentations, critiques, and Q&A will be recorded, and a link and password will be sent to all workshop participants in case they cannot attend some/all of this activity or want to view the sessions again.

To register for this workshop (all other activities are full, with waitlists): LINK

For questions, contact Atlanta Writers Conference Director and AWC Executive Director George Weinstein.
You were cheap and I was in the mood, so I took you, but I’ve been tired of you ever since. I can’t believe you’re still hanging around. I want you out.

It’s been ten years since we met, and a year since we were trapped together under quarantine. You haven’t changed, but I have. I’ve gained thirty pounds, but you remain Size 8. Maybe someone looking for a cheap thrill in some sleazy thrift shop can try you on for size, someone who’s your kind, a real Size 8. I confess I was a Size 10 when we met, but pretended to be something I wasn’t, just so I could take you home. I’ve regretted it ever since. The fun ended the moment you and I went through those whooshing glass doors.

It’s long past time for us to bag it. I hate being stuck in this tiny place with every spare inch stuffed full. If I can’t have freedom, I can at least have closet space, in my psyche, in my life. I can’t be sentimental about the memories woven into your threads. The sparkle has fallen from our relationship like the sequins that once covered that patch on your shoulder where my purse strap used to hang. One of us needs to end this relationship, and it’s got to be me. You might have the whack Joan Crawford shoulder pads, but I have hands.

And you, smugly slouching in the corner, confident I’ll never break up with you because you’re the sexy bad boy, with your multiple buckles and fur-trimmed leather. I admit that when I was at a vulnerable age, you turned me on. You were my Mad Max/Joan Jett fantasy wrapped into one, and yeah, I liked it, all right? We pounded the pavement together, had us some crazy fun, but my toes never liked you. In fact, they always hated you. You hurt them. You loved hurting them.

I was on to your sadism from the start, but if you were a sadist, why did you make me so happy? Because I was a masochist! We were made for each other, like bunions in a tight toe box. But your long furry black tongue no longer siren-sings to me. The purple mountain majesties of my bunions have claimed their righteous space in house slippers and Crocs.

I’ll miss you, my bad-boy leather boots. No I won’t. Some relationships are worth the pain. No they’re not.

I’m so confused.

Last of all, you there, lying on the couch. You’ve never been flashy or sexy, never transformed me, but you’ve always been billowy and generous, giving me cover when I needed to hide my growing flab during quarantine. You’re always there for me. My old reliable. You can stay.

I guess this is what it means to settle down. God. How boring. But someday soon I’ll stride outside, diving into crowds and laughing with friends as we crowd together, squeezed cheek to armpit, ears ringing in the din, inhaling stale beer and B.O. How I miss those days! And when those days return, my friend, I’ll leave you home with your BFF, the sweatpants, while I pull on a fresh new fantasy and step back into the world.

BIO:
Karla Jennings is a novelist, playwright, and book author with freelance work published in The New York Times, Newsweek, Cosmo, and elsewhere. A finalist in The Moth’s 2018 Atlanta Grand Slam and 2018 recipient of the AWC’s Terry Kay Prize for Fiction, she is always on the verge of getting an agent.
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.

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.

**Bobbie Christmas**  
Zebra Communications: Excellent editing for maximum marketability  
[Email](mailto:bobbiechristmas@zebracommunications.com)  
[Website](http://www.zebracommunications.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**  
[Email](mailto:kconrey@kimconrey.com)  
[Website](http://www.kimconrey.com)  
[Wixsite](http://www.kimconreywixsite.com)

Available for editing: essays, memoirs and creative nonfiction, and all genres of 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**  
[Email](mailto:kayhunt@kayhunt.com)

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](mailto:janie@millseditor.com)  
[Website](http://www.millseditor.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
email
website

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
email
linkedin

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
email
linkedin

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 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:

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%

Atlanta Writers Club
During the bonus Q&A segment moderated by AWC Executive Director George Weinstein that preceded our April 17 online meeting, a participant asked for recommendations of podcasts about writing.

Here are some compilations of the most popular blogs and podcasts about writing for your education and entertainment:

- CONSULTANTS 500
- FEED SPOT
- THE WRITE LIFE

![Podcast icons](image)
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.
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**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online #</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>Conditional-applicants will be vetted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; non-Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Linh Pham</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>FULL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>Young Adult/Middle Grade Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Ivelisse Rodriguez</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>Indie Authors--all genres</td>
<td>Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm</td>
<td>J. M. (Michelle) Tompkins</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5</td>
<td>All Genres</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, at 7:00pm Eastern</td>
<td>Gail Lash</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6</td>
<td>Short Stories</td>
<td>Every 2nd Thursday at 1pm</td>
<td>Pat Bowen</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>Young Adult &amp; Middle Grade Fiction</td>
<td>Work shared by email</td>
<td>Richard Gnann</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<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>Quinn Eastman</td>
<td>EMAIL</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>EMAIL</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>EMAIL</td>
<td>Full</td>
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<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 Dolcimascollo</td>
<td>770-274-5240</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<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>EMAIL</td>
<td>New group--needs members!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrenceville/Snellville</td>
<td>Novel, Short Story &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>suspended</td>
<td>Kerry Denney</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>Open</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>EMAIL</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Genre(s)</td>
<td>Time/Format</td>
<td>Contact</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></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>michaelbrown22</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>@yahoo.com</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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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>lindasullivan3@</td>
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<td>gmail.com</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>wrightkimberlylou@</td>
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<td>gmail.com</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.c">basketcasecafe@gmail.c</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></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:gjweinstein@yahoo.com">gjweinstein@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>
<td></td>
<td>jeremylogan.author</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>@gmail.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Speculative fiction</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>(novel length or short</td>
<td></td>
<td>sarah.dwyer.minnear</td>
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<td></td>
<td>stories), regular fiction</td>
<td></td>
<td>@gmail.com</td>
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<td>short stories, and any</td>
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<td>kind of nonfiction</td>
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<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</td>
<td>Mark Woodard</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Markwoodard@gwinnettpl.or">Markwoodard@gwinnettpl.or</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></td>
<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

Atlanta Writers Club
New Membership [Individual] [Family]
Renewal [Individual] [Family]

If this is a Renewal, please update your information if necessary

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.