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.

1st Guest Speaker – Liz Atwood (writer, journalist, academic): Biography—The Prequel, Research and Finding Your Story

2nd Guest Speaker – Keisha Bush (writer, activist): New twist on classic fiction

Gone with the Wind

32 USA

1936 Bestseller

1998
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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:
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Programs VP:
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Kim Conrey

Marketing VP:
Patrick Scullin

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

June 19 – Monthly Meeting for Members & First-Time Guests, 1:30-4:00 pm Eastern

1st Guest Speaker – Liz Atwood (writer, journalist, academic): Biography—The Prequel, Research and Finding Your Story

2nd Guest Speaker – Keisha Bush (writer, activist): New twist on classic fiction

85 years ago, June 30, 1936 the book was published

The stamp:
Issue Date: September 10, 1998
City: Cleveland, OH
Quantity: 12,533,000

Stay Connected
A Message from the President

A Southern Story

This month the Atlanta Writers Club became the new administrator for the Townsend Prize, which honors the best in fiction from Georgia writers. Past winners include Alice Walker, Celestine Sibley and recent club speaker Philip Lee Williams. Almost thirty years ago, the Townsend was awarded to Ferrol Sams for his novel *When All the World Was Young*, the third book in his Peter Osborne trilogy. Like Terry Kay—another Townsend winner—Sams was a wonderful Georgia writer, greatly missed, and one who should be studied for his ability to weave stories with a deft hand and gift for Southern storytelling.

But Ferrol Sams was not just a celebrated Southern writer, he is a part of my Southern story. By a stroke of luck, he was my childhood doctor. Several weeks ago, I took my mother to her optometrist in Fayetteville, a kind older gentleman who has paper records of her visits going back to 1986. Mother needed just a little correction and then, he noted, some reading glasses.

"How are things on your end of the highway?" he asked. We had an "old home week, how's your mom and them?" chat that included Sambo, as Dr. Sams was known. I was reminded of his front porch policy. There were seven rocking chairs, two of which were reserved for himself and his wife Helen. The others were on a first come, first sit basis. Then there was his old office on Jeff Davis Avenue, a 1970's building that inexplicably had a bridge inside and a huge aquarium.

And I remembered going to Sambo a few days before my wedding. He prescribed some medicine for a sinus infection. It worked great, but everything drained into my throat, and just in time for my vows I had laryngitis. At the reception my saintly grandmother said, "Jeff, I heard you make a lot of promises up there, but Jill, I didn't hear you say anything." Not a problem I'd had before, or have had since.

Not long before Dr. Sams's death, I heard him do an interview for *Down Town*, his last novel. It was during the 2008 recession, and he was asked if any of his patients struggled financially, and what he thought about high medical costs. His response was typically country. He said he'd taken chickens in the past as payment. He'd work something out with those who needed treatment.

The chat with my mother's eye doctor—a storytelling-in-conversation moment—is what I live for, where words meet humanity. It's the kind of visit that nudges me to go back and read the authors I admire, and to look forward to words yet written. Ones that might be prize winners, or simply words that connect to the soul of a fellow Georgian.

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 her website.
June 19th Meeting

On June 19th, we’ll host our next online meeting. A link to the online meeting room will be sent via email a few days before the meeting.

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

**June 19, 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 Liz Atwood: Biography—The Prequel, Research and Finding Your Story

**Liz Atwood** is an associate professor of journalism at Hood College in Frederick, Md., where her research focuses on how journalists contribute to political and social change. She is also a former reporter and editor at the Baltimore Sun, where she first learned about Marguerite Harrison, the Baltimore socialite and Sun reporter who worked as a double agent in the 1920s and the subject of Atwood’s biography, *The Liberation of Marguerite Harrison: America’s First Female Foreign Intelligence Agent*.

Liz grew up in Luray, Virginia, and received her bachelor’s degree in journalism from West Virginia University. She earned a master’s degree in history from the University of Virginia and a PhD in public communications from the University of Maryland.

On June 19, she will present Biography—The Prequel, Research and Finding Your Story

3:00-4:00 Keisha Bush: New Twist on Classic Fiction

**Keisha Bush** was born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts and is the oldest sibling of three brothers and two sisters. She received her bachelor of science degree in business management from Bentley University, where she also minored in philosophy, with a particular focus in business ethics. It was her minor that was the catalyst in changing her trajectory from pursuing a law degree. During her senior year of high school, and freshman year of college, she had volunteered at the Boston Legal Services Offices for Housing, and it was that early experience of seeing civil lawyers overworked and underpaid, coupled with her minor in philosophy, that solidified her dropping her accounting major, a precursor to a corporate law degree, and deciding
to go straight to work after undergrad.

After the 2004 election of George W. Bush that Keisha Bush (no familial relations) decided to take a break from America’s polarizing politics and head to Africa for the first time with a volunteer position at the YMCA, in The Gambia. Bush quickly realized that The Gambia, with its recent militant coup, regular blackouts and lack of infrastructure, was also not the place in which she felt she could have the fullest experience. This sentiment was solidified after the wrongful arrest of a young male colleague from Sierra Leon, and his subsequent torture by the local police. Bush packed her bags and overcame her fright of the harrowingly rocky, but short flight to Dakar, for a permanent move, where she found work teaching English as a second language and then eventually a position with Oxfam Great Britain, in the Dakar office.

After living in West Africa from 2004-2008 Bush returned to home, to New York City, and began working for a local LGBTQ nonprofit. It was there, that she realized that working endless hours, seven days a week, was not fulfilling in the same manner as her work week abroad, yet she wasn’t ready to return to West Africa. It was during a period of inner searching that she realized that she had continued to write short pieces and bad poetry, starting in fourth grade, through high school, undergrad, and her four years in West Africa, but had never considered it ever being something she could, or would, pursue seriously. A year into the Great Recession, Bush questioned what a writing career would look like if she gave it the same time and dedication, she had offered so many of her previous office jobs. What would a sixty-to-eighty-hour work week look like, focused solely on something she was passionate about? This question was the catalyst for what would be a complete career change along with a short three-month novel-writing course at Media Bistro, she attended held in small room at the YMCA down in SoHo, on Bowery Street.

It was in the fall of 2011, with two separate drafts of novels in hand, that Keisha began taking continuing education courses in writing at The New School. In the fall of 2013, she entered the school’s MFA program, where she was a Riggio Honors Teaching Fellow and recipient of the NSPE Dean’s scholarship. Since graduating in 2015, she has received fellowships from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council’s Workspace Residency, the Tyrone Guthrie Centre in Ireland, Moulin à Nef in France, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Vermont Studio Center and Vona. Her debut novel, No Heaven For Good Boys, a modern spin on the classic Oliver Twist, is a story about the plight of the innocent children she witnessed during her tenure in West Africa, and could not forget once she returned home.

On June 19th, Keisha will discuss how to put a new twist on classic stories.
LINKS TO MAY 15 MEETING RECORDING:

Part 1 (AWC news and announcements and 1st speaker Scott Thomas Outlar): Password: fRFVJbJ4

Part 2 (2nd speaker Jorjeana Marie): Password: xWfND5pH
AWC MEMBER MARILYN BARON’S latest novel, *The Romanov Legacy*, will be released on June 14, 2021: Two women, centuries apart, and the secrets that bind them. Melody, a young single mother, discovers she’s descended from the last Tsar, Nicholas II. She becomes the best hope of a secret global society, Guardians of the Romanov Legacy, dedicated to restoring a Romanov to the throne of a New Russia. A diary and an heirloom necklace inherited from her murdered grandmother hold the key to her identity and to the location of the Tsar’s lost shipment of gold. She must accept the sacrifices her birth demands and trust the machinations of the estranged father of her child. To refuse means turning her back on her heritage, her daughter’s legacy, and the long line of her family’s women who were keepers of the secret. Will her longing for true love have world-changing consequences?

AMAZON LINK

Marilyn Baron writes in a variety of genres from women’s fiction to historical romantic thrillers and romantic suspense to paranormal/fantasy. She’s received writing awards in Single Title, Suspense Romance, Novel with Strong Romantic Elements and Paranormal/Fantasy Romance. She was also The Finalist in the 2017 Georgia Author of the Year Awards (GAYA) in the Romance Category for her novel, *Stumble Stones*, and the Finalist for the 2018 GAYA Awards in the Romance category for her novel, *The Alibi*. Her latest novel, *The Romanov Legacy*, is her 27th work of fiction. A public relations consultant in Atlanta, Marilyn is past chair of Roswell Reads and serves on the Atlanta Authors Series Committee. To find out more about what Marilyn writes, visit her website.

AWC MEMBER KERRY DENNEY’S latest novel, bestselling author Gideon Cain is losing his mind. Everywhere he turns lately, the femme fatales from his psychological thrillers show up—live and in person. Are they actresses playing a cruel joke on him, figments of his increasingly terrifying delusions, or fantastical vigilantes sprung to life from the pages of his books? All he knows for certain is if he doesn’t find answers soon, he’s bound for the psych ward. When one of his fictional antagonists poisons him on a flight home from a book-signing tour, he realizes that someone isn’t just messing with his mind—they’re trying to kill him. Now he’s running for his life from an enemy with a weapon so deadly it can kill with the touch of a button. Only an enigmatic woman from his tragic past can help him discover the truth behind his adversary’s vendetta. And time is running out to stop the madman who is stalking Gideon Cain.

AMAZON LINK

Kerry Alan Denney aka The Reality Bender is the multiple award-winning author of seven published novels and numerous short stories. Denney blends elements of suspense, thriller, horror, sci-fi, fantasy, supernatural, paranormal, and various ways the world ends in his work: speculative
fiction at its wildest and craziest. With glee and a touch of madness, he writes reality-bending thrillers ... even when the voices don’t make him do it. His protagonists are his children, and he loves them as dearly as he despises his antagonists—even when he has to kill them. Denney lives in Stone Mountain, Georgia with Gypsy Dancer, his remarkably exuberant dog. He is currently training Gypsy to be a therapy dog and writing his next thriller ... and deciding who to kill in it.

AWC MEMBER MIKE SHAW cowrote Understanding Economic Equilibrium: Making Your Way Through an Interdependent World with Thomas Cunningham; their book was released in May. Economic agents all over the world are trying to maximize their returns given their efforts, resources, and opportunities. They come together in markets that ultimately allocate goods and services among the many competing interests. We can readily see how the individual markets behave; it’s more difficult, but exponentially more important, to recognize the general equilibrium across all markets. Disturbances in one market have implications for others. These interrelationships are particularly important to understand when policy changes are being considered where actions in one market will impose changes on other markets, and not always in obvious or pleasant ways. Understanding how general equilibrium works is key both for policymakers and everyone involved in any of the affected markets.

AWC MEMBER DAVE SWAN’S latest short story, “The Man With the Six-Foot Soul,” has been published by the Red Fez. The man is a presence in the lives of a young couple struggling to stay together amid the pandemic. If you’re a Twilight Zone fan, you might notice echoes of a highly acclaimed episode. Dave’s stories have also appeared in the Dead Mule School of Southern Literature and the Birmingham Arts Journal. He’s a blogger, editor, former broadcast journalist, and lifelong writer.

AMAZON LINK

Mike Shaw has been writing about and for businesses for more than five decades. He counts more than 15,000 published articles, from investigative pieces adapted by 60 Minutes and ABC 20/20, to ghostwritten articles, white papers, and blogs for corporate clients. Mike founded and has run three Atlanta-based marketing agencies. His first novel, The Musician, is scheduled for release by Blue Room Books in June.

Thomas J. Cunningham, PhD, retired as Vice President, Senior Economist and Regional Executive of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta after a 31-year career with the Fed, and was working with the Metro Atlanta Chamber as Chief Economist and Senior Vice President.
The following AWC members received awards at our latest conference. Look for the November 5-6 conference launch announcement in early June.

Jessica Allen
Best Manuscript Sample, Lara Jones, Atria/Emily Bestler Books/Simon & Schuster

Trisha Andres
Best Manuscript Sample, Caroline Bleeke, Flatiron Books/Macmillan Publishers Ltd.
Best Manuscript Sample, Laura Brown, Park Row Books/Harlequin/HarperCollins Publishers
Best Pitch, Lara Jones, Atria/Emily Bestler Books/Simon & Schuster
Best Pitch, Sarah Ried, Harper Perrenial, HarperCollins Publishers

Kristina Castillo
Best Pitch, Miranda Hill, Ace/Berkley Publishing Group at Penguin Random House

Sarah Clayville
Best Pitch, Sam Farkas, Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Best Pitch, Emily Forney, BookEnds Literary Agency

Kim Conrey
Best Pitch, Kate Roddy, Sourcebooks

Laura Coy
Best Pitch, Emily Forney, Book Ends Literary Agency

Angela Crew
Best Manuscript Sample, Sarah Ried, Harper Perrenial, HarperCollins Publishers

Elizabeth Crosby
Best Manuscript Sample, Laura Brown, Park Row Books/Harlequin/HarperCollins Publishers

Della Curtis
Best Manuscript Sample, Jessica Errera, Jane Rotrosen Agency

Amanda D’Errico
Best Pitch, Colleen Oefelein, Adventure Write Literary Management

Jessica DeHart
Best Manuscript Sample, Alex Rice, Creative Artists Agency
Best Pitch, Mark Gottlieb, Trident Media Group
Jill Evans
Best Manuscript Sample, Priya Doraswamy, Lotus Lane Literary

Scott Eveloff
Best Pitch, Colleen Oefelein, Adventure Write Literary Management

Bill Guilford
Best Manuscript Sample, Nikki Terpilowski, Holloway Literary

Kimberly Hays de Muga
Best Pitch, Jessica Errera, Jane Rotroson Agency
Best Pitch, Sam Farkas, Jill Grinberg Literary Management

Daniel Horowitz Garcia
Best Manuscript Sample, Emily Forney, Book Ends Literary Agency

Melody McWhorter
Best Manuscript Sample, Colleen Oefelein, Adventure Write Literary Management
Best Manuscript Sample, Alex Rice, Creative Artists Agency

Simon Miller
Best Manuscript Sample, Jessica Errera, Jane Rotroson Agency
Best Pitch, Nikki Terpilowski, Holloway Literary

Angie Moses
Best Manuscript Sample, Caroline Bleeke, Flatiron Books/Macmillan Publishers Ltd.

Kripa Nidhi
Best Pitch, Caroline Bleeke, Flatiron Books/Macmillan Publishers Ltd.

Robert Olin
Best Manuscript Sample, Miranda Hill, Ace/Berkley Publishing Group at Penguin Random House

Renée Ozburn
Best Pitch, Laura Brown, Park Row Books/Harlequin/HarperCollins Publishers

Sheryl Parbhoo
Best Pitch, Sarah Ried, Harper Perrenial, HarperCollins Publishers

Natalie Pawelski
Best Pitch, Jennifer Chen Tran, Bradford Literary Agency
Sara Porcaro
Best Pitch, Miranda Hill, Ace/Berkley Publishing Group at Penguin Random House

Jill Prouty
Best Manuscript Sample, Lara Jones, Atria/Emily Bestler Books/Simon & Schuster

David Rabin
Best Manuscript Sample, Mark Gottlieb, Trident Media Group

Abhijith Ravinutala
Best Manuscript Sample, Sam Farkas, Jill Grinberg Literary Management

Linda Rehkopf
Best Manuscript Sample, Jennifer Chen Tran, Bradford Literary Agency

Jennifer Sadera
Best Manuscript Sample, Kate Roddy, Sourcebooks

Cary Shackelford
Best Manuscript Sample, Miranda Hill, Ace/Berkley Publishing Group at Penguin Random House

Erik Sikorski
Best Pitch, Priya Doraswamy, Lotus Lane Literary

Fran Snelwar
Best Pitch, Jennifer Chen Tran, Bradford Literary Agency

Dave Swan
Best Pitch, Nikki Terpilowski, Holloway Literary

Sylvia Taylor
Best Manuscript Sample, Sarah Ried, Harper Perrenial, HarperCollins Publishers

Meredith Walters
Best Pitch, Caroline Bleeke, Flatiron Books/Macmillan Publishers Ltd.

Caitlin Weaver
Best Manuscript Sample, Kate Roddy, Sourcebooks
Best Pitch, Lara Jones, Atria/Emily Bestler Books/Simon & Schuster
Best Pitch, Alex Rice, Creative Artists Agency

Linda-Raven Woods
Best Manuscript Sample, Emily Forney, BookEnds Literary Agency
Open Call

Open call to the residents of Morningside, Lenox Park or VaHi communities of Atlanta. If you live there, I'd like to hear from you.

2,520 of the families in the Morningside and Lenox Park communities receive their Morningside Neighbors private community publication in their mailbox every month. If you receive it, there's no need to explain it to you, but if you don't, it is one of several private community publications in the greater Atlanta area that focus on a specific area and help introduce neighbor to neighbor and the local businesses to the community. The Morningside Neighbors publication has been mailed out monthly since February of 2019.

Every issue has a photo-essay cover story about a family living in the community, and is the most popular feature in the publication, If you'd like to volunteer your family to grace the cover of a future issue, please contact me. If you're bashful but would like to nominate a family you know to be a future Family-Feature family, please let me know that, too.

I know that AWC members like to write and I'm always looking for interesting content. This is your community publication, so please share your ideas, stories, updates, events, art, recipes, pet pictures, photos or anything you think would be of interest to your neighbors. Would be a great publishing credit!

Any architects or historians among you? I love the style of the homes in the area and would like to include regular articles educating the current homeowners about the homes in their community. Many are almost as old as the AWC!

Interested? Please reach out to me at kschmanski@bestversionmedia.com–I'd love to talk to you about contributing to your community publication.

I miss seeing everyone at the monthly AWC meetings and have been a member since the October meeting following the first Decatur Book Festival. George Weinstein had me when he asked me, "Are you a reader or a writer?"

Ken Schmanski
404-422-9845
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*  
*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

**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

**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 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
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%
In the last month, there have been a few informative articles discussing how much authors earn:

- The One Where Writing Books Is Not Really a Good Idea by Elle Griffin (Substack)
- How Much Do Authors Make Per Book? by Sarah Nicolas (BookRiot)
- How Much Do Authors Actually Earn? by Lincoln Michel (Substack)

All of these are excellent pieces, written and reported by people bringing transparency to the money side of the writing life. If you go and read them, you’ll have a meaningful education in what to expect as a writer if you’re just starting out. This is a subject near and dear to my heart and why I wrote The Business of Being a Writer. I’d heard too often—usually from speakers at AWP—that they wish someone had told them, before they went into six-figure debt for their MFA, that writing doesn’t pay that well. Not even a minimum wage.

So I’m always happy to see the veil lifted. We need more discussion of what writers earn, with specific authors talking about their advances, royalties, sales, expenses, connections that led to earnings and profitable gigs—all of it. In an industry where talking about the money is often taboo or even shameful (few want to admit how little or how much they earn), the more we all open up, then the more we can normalize the practice of talking about art and commerce, and the more people can make the best decisions for their careers. And I’ll disclose my own book earnings by the end of this post.

To read the complete blogpost, click here
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
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**
## Changes in RED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online #1</th>
<th>Fiction</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
<th>Mike Brown</th>
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<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>EMAIL</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>EMAIL</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>EMAIL</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online #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>
</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>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>
</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>EMAIL</td>
<td>FULL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrenceville/Snellville</td>
<td>Novel, Short Story &amp; Memoir</td>
<td>suspended</td>
<td>Kerry Denney</td>
<td>EMAIL</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</td>
<td>Meeting Details</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@gmail.com">michaelkbrown22@gmail.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:giweinstein@yahoo.com">giweinstein@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 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>(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>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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<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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</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:  □ 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.