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.

August 21 – AWC Monthly Meeting for Members and First-Time Guests, 1:30-4:00 pm Eastern

- 1st Guest Speaker - Viana Siniscalchi: Finding the Story You’re Meant to Write
- 2nd Guest Speaker - Markus Burns: Telling All---Transparency in Memoir-Writing
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AWC officers

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Jill Evans

Executive Director:
George Weinstein

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George Weinstein
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Marty Aftewicz

Conference Director:
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Upcoming Event

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A Letter written by Russian poet Vladimir Mayakovsky to his sister Ludmila, 1905
Translation on p13
A Message from the President

Zen and the Battle for Resilience

Years ago, I was speaking with a bright college student at a soccer game. I asked what she was majoring in and what her plans were. She was contemplating intern options. One was in a familiar environment, the other not. She said she'd probably stick with the familiar. "I don't like change," she said.

"Change is coming," I said. "You'll graduate and have to adapt then."

"I know. I'd like to put it off as long as possible."

"Yes, but if you get out of your comfort zone now, you'll be more resilient later. Besides, sometimes you don't choose change, change chooses you."

Much as I'd like to pretend that was some wizened statement from the mountain of bliss, it wasn't. Not by a long shot. I've been laid off twice by the wacky outsourcing, rightsizing, mergers and acquisitions world of information technology. The first one was a gut punch of heavyweight boxing magnitude.

This past year has been a gut punch few could prepare themselves for. If we've managed to get through the utterly terrifying, we've had to adapt in ways we previously thought unimaginable. I feel like I've been dropped into an alternate universe.

Has anyone else been on Zoom/WeEx/Facetime/Whatever in the last year and thought of that scene in Total Recall when Quaid is in the apartment eating breakfast and the TV is part of the wall? The news is interrupted, and a video call comes up on the huge screen. I thought, wow, that's cool. Can't wait for that. Be careful what you wish for, young Jill. Now that we have it, I long for the days of communicating with people, not light-emitting diodes.

We wonder, when things get better will we still have to do virtual meetings and book talks? Hasn't publishing changed enough in recent years? I went down an internet worm hole some years ago and found an interesting article that talked about change in the publishing industry.

It was there. The book club effect, price fixing, remainders, the difficulties of small booksellers in competition with the biggies. Here's an example about format changes:

"These cheap editions have an enormous sale, not only because they are low in price, but because they have permanent value. For the cost of a novel which he will never look at twice, and which perhaps was hardly worth reading once, a man may obtain half a dozen books that have stood the test of time, and that will become the valued companions of his leisure. He gets them too in a form suited not only to his purse, but to the limited storage accommodation at the disposal of the mass of modern readers, who can neither buy nor house the stately editions that adorn the libraries of the wealthy. Thus, in respect of the large class of books read for recreation, we have reached the paradoxical position that cheapness and excellence go hand-in-hand; and that the disparaging adjective frequently linked with "cheap" is more properly associated with dear and pretentious."

This could have been written yesterday in defense of ebooks. But, no. The article is the Publishing entry from the 1911 edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica. That's right, 110 years ago. Check it out. It's a hoot.

Change happens, and publishing is still here. The Atlanta Writers Club is here too, and 107 years young. We're adapting as best we can, despite big, small and unforeseen changes. We'll continue to have online meetings, AND we look forward to meeting again in person. But when?

I feel like I did when my husband and I were building a house thirty years ago. "When will it be done?" I'd ask my builder. "Soon," he'd say.

My thought bubble: Soon doesn't close out the lease on my apartment, buddy.

His: Promises don't change the weather, or make the subcontractors show up, sister.

So, when will we be back meeting in person? Soon. We'll let you know when we do. Stay tuned to all our outlets, email and social media. Hang in there with us!

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 MYWEBSITE.

Atlanta Writers Club
August 21st Meeting
for Members & first time guests

On August 21st, we'll host our next meeting. Georgia State University is still deciding whether to allow outside groups such as the AWC to use its facilities, due to rising concerns about the Delta variant of COVID-19. We will notify everyone on our email list no later than August 14 about whether our meeting will be in-person at the GSU-Dunwoody campus or online. If the latter, the link to the online meeting room will be sent via email a few days before the meeting.

If the meeting is held online, a recording link for this meeting will be posted in the next month’s issue of The eQuill.

**August 21, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Eastern**
(please add yourself to our mailing list to receive the email about the location status of the 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

1:45-3:00 Viana Siniscalchi - Finding the Story You're Meant to Write

She has edited a range of acclaimed YA and adult novels including Love in English by Maria E. Andreu, Rules for Being a Girl by Candace Bushnell and Katie Cotugno, The Rehearsals by Annette Christie, Charming as a Verb by Ben Philippe, When You Look Like Us by Pamela N. Harris, and Gimme Everything You Got by Iva-Marie Palmer. Before Alloy, Viana worked at the HarperCollins Children’s imprint Balzer + Bray.

Alloy Entertainment is a creative thinktank and full-service editorial partner that develops and produces original books, television series, and feature films. As a book packager, they develop book intellectual property. They rarely (if ever) acquire manuscripts from writers; rather, they sign up writers for projects they develop in house. Alloy is always looking for new writing talent to work on one of their concepts.

On August 21st, Viana will explain how the book packaging business operates, how writers can obtain work opportunities with a book packager, and how you can find the story you are meant to write.

3:00-4:00 Markus Burns - Telling All: Transparency in Memoir-Writing

Markus Burns is an American producer for reality television and the CEO of Burns Avenue Entertainment.

Born and raised in St. Louis, he experienced more challenges than most young people which led to homelessness, dropping out of high school, becoming a father at 17 years of age, and cheating death not once, but twice along the way. One life-changing gift of a camera gave him vision and caused him to pursue a career. He found mentors and opportunities to shadow active filmmakers. Moving to Atlanta expanded his network and with hard work and good ethics, in a short period of time he worked his way up in the land of television from PA to Producer. He has worked for reality show pioneers, including Carlos King and Mona Scott Young. The true story of how this troubled young man became a successful reality TV producer (Real Housewives of Atlanta, Sunday Best, Married at First Sight) is the subject of Markus Burns’ heartfelt and moving memoir, *The Debriefing of Markus Burns*.

The Atlanta-based producer and PGA guild member has earned credits on top reality shows and is currently creating a platform of information for like minded individuals seeking opportunities in the world of television, but need guidance on where to start. His main focus is encouraging young people to believe in their dreams and do the work needed to achieve those dreams. He is also looking to take his training, skill set and talent and apply it into his own show and develop a feature film. Markus is a true servant leader, sharing his resources and real life inspiration to transform visions into realities.

On August 21st, Markus will discuss the art of memoir-writing.

Viana Siniscalchi is a senior editor at Alloy Entertainment, where she has worked since 2017. Prior to this, she spent nearly six years as an assistant editor and then associate editor at the HarperCollins Children's imprint Balzer + Bray.
LINKS TO JULY 10th RECORDING:  https://atlantawritersclub.my.webex.com/recordingservice/sites/atlantawritersclub.my/recording/playback/b42ef38ac3d210398ff9005056810590

PASSWORD: iHKkSJX4

GRACE WYNTER

About Me

- Editing Certificate, University of Chicago
- Sourcebooks Editing Program Alum
- Freelance Editor & Writer
- Clients include Macmillan, St. Martin’s, Tor, HMH, Quarto Publishing, Amazon Crossing, and dozens of indie & traditionally published authors
- Everyday Economics with Quarto Publishing expected April 2022
- Revising my WIP — YA speculative fiction

Revise Like a Pro:
How to Give Your Novel a Fighting Chance

Grace Wynter
The Writer’s Station
www.Thewriterstation.com
thewritersstation@gmail.com

Agenda

PART I
- The Industry: Why Revising is The Best Thing You Can Do For Your Manuscript
- Breaking Down Your Manuscript: Concept, Plot, Structure, Story & Voice
- Editing: Understanding the Process

PART II
- Your Manuscript Blueprint: Start with the Foundation
Our fall Atlanta Writers Conference will be held on November 5-6, 2021 and will be in-person at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel. This will be our 25th conference! We will offer an option of calls from the participating literary agents and acquisitions editors for those unable to travel, and we will follow all CDC COVID-19 guidelines as of early November for indoor events. Register today before you miss your chance!

Here is a summary of the activities:

- On Saturday, November 6, our guest agents and editors will do critiques of the manuscript sample you submit a month before the conference and will respond to your pitches, and on Friday, November 5, they will do query letter critiques to help you make your best pitch possible.

- Entertainment attorney and literary agent Paul Levine, Esq. will present a new workshop--“How Authors Go from Fingers on Keyboards to Dollars in Their Bank Accounts” on Friday, November 5 and will answer your questions about copyrights, contracts, and other legal issues.

- Our Q&A panels are back, with our guest editors answering your questions on November 5 and our guest agents responding to you on November 6. These are free when selecting the All-Activities Package deal.

- This summer, to help you submit your best work to the agents and acquisitions editors, our freelancers will help you get your query letter, synopsis, and manuscript sample--for fiction and memoir--or your query letter and nonfiction book proposal in shape with a pre-conference edit. This activity is free when selecting the All-Activities Package deal.

- Free to everyone who purchases at least two paid activities are the following bonuses:
  - Friday, November 5 mixer with the agents, editors, and your fellow participants, with singer-pianist and AWC member Mike Shaw providing the entertainment.
  - Two mini-seminars on Friday the 5th by Paul Levine, Esq. on the legal aspects of turning books into movies and how to get out of a bad publishing contract.
  - Four talks on Saturday the 6th: book cover designer and former filmmaker Lynne Hansen on “How to Work with a Book Cover Artist to Get the Cover You Deserve” and “How NOT to Make a Movie in 30 Days” and four-time Bram Stoker Award-nominated author Jeff Strand doing a two-part “Surviving the Writing Life.”
  - Award ceremony and giveaway drawings to closeout the conference on November 6, with each agent and editor presenting certificates for Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitch along with drawings beforehand to win future conference activities, lifetime AWC membership, and more.
Learn more about the conference activities here

Read the agent and editor profiles here

AGENT & EDITOR AVAILABILITY
The following guests who still have openings for manuscript sample critiques and/or pitches:

- Richard Brown, Director, University of South Carolina Press
- Rebecca Gyllenhaal, Assistant Editor, Quirk Books
- Georgia Hughes, Editorial Director, New World Library
- Andrew Ibis, Publisher & Editorial Director, C&R Press and Steel Toe Books
- Sydney Jeon, Assistant Editor, Flatiron Books
- Em Lysaght, Agent, Ladderbird Literary Agency
- Larissa Melo Pienkowski, Agent, Jill Grinberg Literary Management
- Leah Pierre, Agent, Ladderbird Literary Agency

And use the other website tabs for information about pricing, deadlines, the refund policy, and more before you register.

If you haven't registered, don't delay any longer!
You’re full of ideas, faithfully read Writers Digest and books on craft, attend AWC meetings where fellow writers discuss the demands and triumphs of getting published. But you just don’t have the time or the stamina to finish that novel. So, put it aside for a while, and place yourself in the company of novelists who crafted short stories to break into the writing life, many who continue(d) to write shorts throughout their writing careers: Patricia Highsmith, Ernest Hemingway, Isabel Allende, James Baldwin, and many others.

Short stories, a genre unto themselves. Published in magazines, literary journals, anthologies, and elsewhere, they span the major literary and media genres from romance to mystery, horror to humor, essay to memoir. While you seldom hear praise on the rollout of a single, specific short story, they’re all around you, waiting to be read, ready to evolve. Elmore Leonard, of Get Shorty, Rum Punch, et al, published many collections of shorts. His 60-page novella, Fire in the Hole, was the premise for the TV series, Justified. The Sentinel by Arthur C. Clark became 2001: a space odyssey. Hitchcock’s The Birds was based on Daphne du Maurier’s story of the same name. I think you get the point.

Shorts are more popular for many reasons. Attention spans are shorter. The public has gotten used to communicating, learning, and being entertained in smaller bites: email, twitter, podcasts, serialized and binge worthy media. There’s more to choose from. Media outlets are hungry for content to feed their audiences; even amazon.com offers new Short Reads.

Shorts offer a path to sharpening your writing. Fewer words require more focus on ways to engage your readers. The new AWC Short Story Critique Group brings short story writers together, supporting and challenging members to hone their style and find their niche.

Short Bio
Patricia Ann Bowen has penned speeches, ad copy, training materials, contracts, magazine and newspaper articles and more. She’s now writing dark fiction: novellas, short stories and flash fiction. She’s taught short story writing, leads the AWC short story critique group, and has published a short story collection titled Unintended Consequences.

Contact info:
email
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Twitter: WoodsgalWrites
Abusing Social Media

By AWC Member Chuck Storla

All writers are insecure. At least I think they are. Maybe not all. Maybe not even most, but I’m pretty sure some writers are insecure.

If you are an insecure writer, you need constant positive feedback to combat self-doubt and the patronizing comments from friends and family. Since writing is a solitary endeavor, you are left with the inspirational poster above your desk. Personally, I no longer find strength in the picture of a cat dangling from a branch. “Hang in There,” is the advice you give someone at the start of a twenty-to-life sentence. It does little to convince me to type another page.

What writers need is something to artificially make us feel good about ourselves. Some very smart—almost Bond-villain level of devious—people in Silicon Valley know this. They designed social media to provide “dopamine-driven feedback loops” with every click, like, and share. They have turned us into six-year-olds standing at the end of the diving board and yelling “Mommy, Daddy, look at me.” If you recall your childhood, you jump into the pool and repeat the process until someone pays attention. If no parent looked up, you are comforted knowing the experience provided future writing material and issues that will surface during therapy.

Beyond seeking attention, writers are convinced we can benefit by investing time and resources into social media. Unfortunately, the only to profit are those publishing books on “how to use social media to create a bestseller.”

We should remember just because a book is nonfiction doesn’t mean it is true.

If you don’t yet believe me—and there is no reason you should—let’s review a few social media platforms.

Facebook: The goal is to accumulate friends and get them to “like” what you share. Facebook is middle school revisited. You are driven to write today because you are working through traumas inflicted by your “friends” in grades 6 through 8. Did you enjoy the preteen cage match? Three years under a brutal caste system wasn’t enough? If you want to relive sitting alone at a lunch table, schedule a local book signing. It will come back to you.

Instagram: You post pictures hoping someone likes you enough to buy your book. But they wouldn’t be on Instagram if they were readers. I also find it depressing when no photos look like me. If I’m honest, I wouldn’t want to look at me either.

TikTok: Most TikTok videos are 15-second loops. Ask yourself if someone with a 15-second attention span is the right audience for your nine-hundred-page historical novel detailing life in a 16th century anabaptist monastery. Then consider TikTok use is highest between the ages of 16 and 24. It’s an online Children of the Corn, and they know you’re not one of them.

Twitter: Eventually, every thread on Twitter leads to someone getting called a Nazi. If you hang on long enough, they’ll get around to you.

Pinterest: Sure it’s cute, but I don’t care how you decorated your craft closet.

LinkedIn: Find a copy of A Chorus Line and watch the cast sing “I Hope I Get It.” On the other hand, after ten years without a book deal, it might be time to update your LinkedIn profile.
While they feed your yearning for attention, none of these platforms is going to make you the next publishing sensation. Still, if you insist on diving into the deep end of the swamp, try to avoid the common mistakes writers make on social media:

- Using punctuation and correct spelling. This is a dead giveaway you don’t belong. Your use of proper sentence structure is grammar-shaming all the people who post “OMG im ROFL gonna dm u tmrw.” Excuse my use of a period. I couldn’t help it.
- Thinking anyone cares. People use Facebook to show photos of what they had for lunch or their headshot transformed into a cartoon. Do you think they have time to focus on your book announcement?
- Being over 25. If you have a mature frontal lobe, the social media train left the station without you.

I understand most of you will ignore this warning and insist on spending hours each week creating posts when you should be writing prose. I expect it. Aspiring writers are the buskers of the internet. Guitar-toting performers stand on street corners or sit in subway stations in the hope of applause and a few dollars. Soon-to-be famous writers ply their trade over the internet—posting, sharing, and hashtagging in the hope their next post will go viral. Sorry to be the one to harsh your mellow. You’d be better off putting out a tip jar at a poetry reading.

Remember to “like” and share a link to this newsletter. That might make me a hypocrite, but I assure you I’m not addicted. I can stop using social media anytime I want.

[If you missed part one of this series, “It’s Only Fraud if They Can Prove Intent,” you can find it in the July issue at this link.]

Chuck Storla believes if you laugh, the world laughs with you. If you cry, they’ll call you a whiner. Laugh at the world while reading his humorous book, Zen and the Art of Christmas Letters, available through Amazon. You can learn more than you want to know at Chuck-Storla.com.
For the editors listed below, please consider selecting a few and getting a quote for how much some of them would charge to edit a sample (e.g., 20-50 pages)--some charge by the page (e.g., $3-$5/page), others by the word (e.g., $.01-$0.05/word)--and define what kind of edit you want (developmental versus line-editing, or both). Then make your selection (consider picking two, for comparison purposes) and see if you like the job either editor did on that small portion of your manuscript before committing to having your whole book edited by that person.

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

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

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

**Kay Hunt**
kayhunt1@gmail.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**
alliancebookediting@gmail.com
https://www.alliancebookediting.com/

Available for editing: query letters, science fiction, memoir, Southern fiction, YA fantasy, sports fiction, apocalyptic, detective/crime fiction, soft erotica

I have a master’s degree in English (Creative Writing) and have been a full-time editor for three years. I believe in understanding an author’s voice and putting in the work to get it right. I am blessed with my editing talent and am pleased to offer affordable, yet professional, editing services.

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

Available for query letter consults, developmental editing

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

**Dawn Richerson**  
dawn@yourextraordinarybook.com  
https://www.yourextraordinarybook.com

Nonfiction Genres: lifestyle, health, business, nonprofit, personal growth, self-help, memoir  
Fiction Genres: mainstream, historical fiction, young adult

Providing editing & publishing services to authors since 2012. I specialize in developmental editing, strengthening the bones of your manuscript through content structure, depth, and clarity for a polished, professional manuscript ready to pitch or publish. Free video consult plus two full rounds of editing with detailed comments for a flat fee. Per-word rate available for shorter projects.

**Stephanie Siegel**  
siegel@consultant.com  
https://www.linkedin.com/in/eagleeyesiegel

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

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

My experience: As a journalist and all-around communicator, I’ve edited news and information on a wide range of issues for audiences all over the world. One of my specialties is presenting complex subjects in plain, hard-hitting language. I can help you shape your story from the beginning or proofread your final draft. My goal is to make YOUR voice as powerful and compelling as it can be.

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

Atlanta Writers Club
“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%
How to Be a Great Podcast Guest

A Guide for Authors
by Sue Campbell

Being on a podcast can be a great way to promote your book, but if it’s your first time on a show, you might not have a clue how to proceed. Even frequent guests may not realize how they can improve their appearances with straightforward preparation and a little bit of strategy.

Guesting on a podcast can raise your visibility by piggybacking on the audience the host has already built. Someone has taken the time and effort to create a community, and now you have the opportunity to interest their listeners in your book and get them subscribed to your newsletter. In other words: the podcast’s audience could become yours.

One of the great things about podcasts is that the interviews don’t take up much of your time. Once you get the hang of it, they take far less time than, say, writing a guest post. But you do need to spend a little time preparing.

To read the rest of this blog, click here

Cover letter translation

Dear Luda! How are you doing? I have finally got the Bagdati air together and am writing to you. I went to Baghdati for a few days, because, according to local Georgians, we had a "punti" (riot - broken Russian) in Kutaisi. There is nothing new in Baghdati. I went to the city, and by chance, I had to pass through the Boulevard, and I met two young ladies, one of them was a high school girl, maybe a fake. They remarked aloud that I was in a hurry and that I thought I had a lot to do. I said that I thought a high school student should have more to do than street singers, but that was because they were singing something. I bought an alcohol lamp and use it to learn how to burn wood. Write more often. Sorry for the mistakes. I Kiss you very much. Your brother Volodya, who loves you. February 2, 1905".
**STORY TERRACE** is seeking freelance writers to become the professional biographers for clients who want their story told.

Here is an example project for which they are seeking a writer:

The client is requesting to work with a male Black sportswriter to best relate to his story. We have many projects from all over the country but this one has a very specific writer request.

Here are the project details below:

We have a project in Shamong, NJ, and the storyteller is looking to start right away! *Please note this is a remote project with remote interviewing.*

Package Bought: Custom
- Introductory Phone Call
- 1 Questionnaire
- 20-hours of remote interviewing / 8-10 sessions
- Manuscript of 40,000 words
- 1 round of revision with your writer
- Professional copy edit and proofread
- Design and layout of your book
- Design includes up to 50 photos/images
- Record and deliver audio files

*Any additional work (ex: additional in-person or phone interview hours, extra words, additional rounds of revision--anything that doesn’t fit into the specs above) needs to be first cleared by your StoryTerrace editor prior to the work being completed. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me.*

Writer's rate: $10,000

About the Storyteller:
- Retired from NFL in 2018
- Let the community know that everyone has a chance
- Almost drowned
- Been through a case of having been bitten by a dog
- Studied the Islam religion
- His book is an autobiography about his experiences and his journey to the league - it's also a self-help for high school/college students who want to make it big
- Has had 12 surgeries over the years

Reason: to inspire others by sharing his struggles and journey

Writer Specifications: Black male sportswriter who can relate to client's story

To join the Story Terrace pool of freelance writers, or to apply to fill the specific biographer role above, please use this link.
2021 Festival Weekend in Decatur

October 1-3

Decatur Book Festival: Saturday, October 2

After 15 years of hosting literary events over Labor Day Weekend, the AJC Decatur Book Festival presented by Emory University is making a permanent move to the first weekend of October. This year the book festival will host a one-day program with five author events at the First Baptist Church of Decatur on Saturday, October 2. The lineup will be announced in early July. There will not be a book festival street fair with booths this year.

Amplify Decatur Music Festival: Friday and Saturday, October 1 and 2

Amplify will present national, regional, and local music acts at a free outdoor concert the night of Friday, October 1, and an all-day, ticketed festival on Saturday, October 2. Amplify will announce their performers in mid-June.

Decatur Arts Festival: Saturday and Sunday, October 2 and 3

The Decatur Arts Festival will present more than 100 new and returning artists, from across the country and across town, on Saturday and Sunday October 2 and 3, showcasing their creations within a dozen disciplines.

The Decatur Craft Beer Festival: Saturday, October 2

The Decatur Craft Beer Festival will host live music in the Brick Store Pub beer garden with hard-to-find special beer offerings on Saturday, October 2.
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 Executive Director 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 Executive Director **George Weinstein**.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online #1</th>
<th>Fiction</th>
<th>Meets every other Friday, 1pm. Each member receives group critiques at least once a month.</th>
<th>Joe White</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>Open/conditional. Applicants vetted.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online #2</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; non-Fiction</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Linh Pham</td>
<td>EMAIL</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>EMAIL</td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online #4</td>
<td>Self Published Authors</td>
<td>Every 2nd &amp; 4th Tuesday at 7 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>
</tr>
<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/online</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>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liburn</td>
<td>&quot;Write Here, Right Now&quot; shares writing techniques and offers constructive feedback</td>
<td>Meets monthly from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the 1st or 2nd Thursday online</td>
<td>Ashley Melonson</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Genre(s)</td>
<td>Schedule</td>
<td>Contact Person</td>
<td>Email Adress</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
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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><a href="mailto:michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com">michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Full</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marietta</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting online 1st &amp; 3rd Tues. 6:30-8:00PM</td>
<td>Linda Sullivan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindasullivan3@gmail.com">lindasullivan3@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>Wednesdays, every 2 weeks, 6:00-8:00PM @ Scooter's Coffee</td>
<td>Kim Wright</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com">wrightkimberlylou@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Thursdays @ The Heron House</td>
<td>Jane Shirley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:basketcasecafe@gmail.com">basketcasecafe@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Every Tuesday 6-8pm at Scooters in West Roswell</td>
<td>George Weinstein</td>
<td><a href="mailto:giweinstein@yahoo.com">giweinstein@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roswell</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meeting suspended; exchange papers via email</td>
<td>Jeremy Logan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeremylogan.author@gmail.com">jeremylogan.author@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Speculative</td>
<td>Online via Zoom every other Thursday at 8:00pm</td>
<td>Sarah Minnear</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com">sarah.dwyer.minnear@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>WAIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; Non-</td>
<td>2nd Saturday of each month, 2:30-4:30PM in member’s home</td>
<td>Bill Ottinger</td>
<td><a href="mailto:osrtrain@att.net">osrtrain@att.net</a></td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smyrna/Marietta</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>Currently inactive</td>
<td>Liz Helenek</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lizbizz7@bellsouth.net">lizbizz7@bellsouth.net</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snellville</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meet at the Snellville Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library on 1st Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Mark Woodard</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Markwoodard@gwinnettpl.org">Markwoodard@gwinnettpl.org</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snellville</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meet at member’s house 1st Saturday of month 9:30 - noon</td>
<td>Lynda Fitzgerald</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lyndafitz@yahoo.com">lyndafitz@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Highlands</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>Every other Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. @ member’s house</td>
<td>Cindy Tolbert</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cindy@cltolbert.com">cindy@cltolbert.com</a></td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
</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 Executive Director George Weinstein’s e-mail address) one month before your membership expiration date.

2. If you haven’t renewed within a week, you will receive another e-mail every seven days, with a final e-mail one week from expiration.

3. If the expiration date for your membership passes without renewal, the system will mark your membership as expired.

4. It is a good e-mail practice to check your spam/junk folder to see if any legitimate e-mail has been misfiled there, possibly including the email you’ll receive from george@atlantawritersclub.org prior to the expiration of your membership.

Without your continued support of the Atlanta Writers Club we would not be able to bring fabulous speakers to our meetings nor provide generous cash awards for our annual writing contest.
MONTHLY MEETINGS. On the third Saturday of each month (August-May), our members gather to listen and learn from two guest speakers who cover a broad range of topics and genres, and come to us from many facets of the literary world. Our speakers include published authors, literary agents, editors, playwrights and poets, just to name a few. Please refer to our list of upcoming guest speakers in this newsletter.

PERIODIC WORKSHOPS. Your membership provides access to numerous outstanding writing workshops throughout the year, all of them free to members. We feature a 3-hour, members-only workshop each July and others in the spring and fall. Please see the AWCC Calendar page in this newsletter for upcoming workshops.

TWICE-YEARLY ATLANTA WRITERS CONFERENCE. This is your opportunity to pitch and receive manuscript and query letter guidance from literary agents and publisher acquisitions editor. Each Atlanta Writers Conference also includes agent and editor Q & A panels, workshops on the craft and business of writing, and a reception mixer where you’ll get to meet and talk with the agents, editors, and your fellow participants in a more informal setting. Details are at https://atlantawritersconference.com/

CRITIQUE GROUPS. Please see the two-page listing in this issue of the eQuill for the different critique groups available to members, both online and spread around the metro Atlanta area. Critique group participants meet regularly to read each other’s writings and recommend improvements. Don’t see a group in your area or don’t see your genre represented? Start your own and let the AWC advertise it for you.

WRITING CONTEST WITH CASH PRIZES AND PUBLICATION. Each winter/spring, we hold a writing contest for fiction, nonfiction, and poetry with cash prizes and publication in the New Southern Fugitives online zine.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SELL YOUR BOOKS. We are constantly seeking more opportunities for you to speak to new audiences and sell your books. From creating AWC shelves at local bookstores to sponsoring an AWC Writers’ Track and providing an authors’ booth at the Decatur Book Festival, we provide year-round occasions for our members.

FREE TICKETS TO AUTHOR EVENTS. Because of our sponsorship of the Book Festival of the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta, we receive periodic offers to attend their paid events at no charge, and we share these tickets with our members via email announcements.

Membership Benefits

We are one of the best literary bargains in town. The Atlanta Writers Club is simply a group of writers that work together to help each other improve their skills and attain their writing goals. Anyone can join, with no prior publication requirements.

Potential members are invited to attend a first meeting as our guest. After that, we’re sure you will want to become a member and take advantage of all the benefits that come with it. You may join The Atlanta Writers Club at any of our events or meetings, or pay on line at our website using PayPal at www.atlantawritersclub.org/membership.html.

Regular membership dues are $50 per year per person. Students can join for $40 per year. Family members of active AWC members can join for $25 per year. Our Membership Form is on the last page of this newsletter.

If you have additional questions, contact AWC Executive Director 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
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.