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.

January 15 – AWC Monthly Meeting In-Person at GSU-Dunwoody for Members and First-Time Guests, 1:30-4:00 pm Eastern

1st Guest Speaker - WILL LEITCH: "Contemporary Fiction: Capturing the Way We Live Today"

2nd Guest Speaker - CHRIS JOYNER: "Unearthed: Finding the Hidden Stories that Make Non-Fiction Sing"
JANUARY 2022

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President: Jill Evans
Executive Director: George Weinstein
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Public Relations VP: Della Curtis
Contests VP: Kathy Nichols
Townsend Prize Director: Clay Ramsey
Treasurer: Jerry Weiner
Historian/By-Laws: George Weinstein
eQuill Publisher: Gene Bowen

Upcoming Events

January 15 – AWC Monthly Meeting In-Person at GSU-Dunwoody for Members and First-Time Guests, 1:30-4:00 pm Eastern
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2nd Guest Speaker - CHRIS JOYNER: “Unearthed: Finding the Hidden Stories that Make Non-Fiction Sing”

I enjoy selecting the cover images for the newsletters. This year I’ve decide to give them a common theme: “Hidden Faces.” You’ll have to judge the person by their “cover.” I hope you find all 12 interesting.

As always, should a title or author be legible it is not intended as an endorsement by the AWC, its officers, or its members.

Gene Bowen, eQuill Publisher.

Stay Connected to AWC
Surfing for Genre

“A polished query letter that includes comps gives us the best chance at requests for pages.“

Another great resource on the terms upmarket, commercial and literary fiction is Carly Watters’ Infographic. These are marketing terms that help authors, agents and publishers slot our work into the book world.

If you’ve found your genre, what about comps? This is deep, dark water, but we’ve got to give agents clues as to the tone and market for our work. A polished query letter that includes comps gives us the best chance at requests for pages. Star Wuerdemann’s article on Jane Friedman’s blog goes into comps in depth. I especially liked that she referenced the Literature Map. Can we fill in the blank, for readers of _________? As a reader I found this ages ago as a method to discover authors similar to ones I already knew and enjoyed.

I also learn and have fun with the browse feature on Barnes & Nobles’ site. Click your way to a genre, and then sort by the best sellers or by the latest releases. Or, under a book’s product details on Amazon, see if there are any links that say something like #1 in Espionage Thrillers, or #1 in Saga Fiction. Click through and peruse the list to see if your book would stand alongside those in subject matter, storyline and character development. You also get a screen full of covers to see what type of cover art works for that genre.

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and are starting the New Year out with all your writing goals set. If along the way, you have time for a little internet surfing for genres and comps, enjoy that too.

See you at the January meeting!

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 www.jillevans.com.
In addition to hosting this live in-person meeting, we will also record it and post the link in the next month’s issue of The eQuill newsletter.

January 15, 1:30-4:00 p.m. Eastern
In-person at Georgia State University: Perimeter College - Dunwoody Campus, 2101 Womack Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338, Building N-C auditorium

We are requiring all attendees to provide proof of full vaccination (a scan or photo of your CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card or the actual paper record) or proof of a negative COVID test that was issued a maximum of 3 days before the meeting. When you check in at our registration table, you’ll need to present this information to our volunteers. No exceptions will be allowed. If you arrive at the meeting without this proof, you will not be admitted. Masking will be optional but is strongly encouraged.

During the meeting, we will hold our writing contest challenge, where a writing prompt will be given to AWC members when they check in. If they want to participate in the challenge, they will receive an index card and will use the prompt in their response of 50 words or less. The judges will select the winner, who will receive an additional year of AWC membership and a digital copy of our anthology Viral Literature: Alone Together in Georgia. The winning entry will be read at the end of the meeting.

Also, AWC President Jill Evans will have a drawing for “Effective Editing: How to Take Your Writing to the Next Level” with writing coach Molly McCowan. This is a Great Courses DVD set with streaming option and course guidebook. The class contains over five hours of instruction with lessons from editing for plot, structure, dynamic characters and point of view to pruning your prose.

12:45-1:30 Pre-Meeting Network & Nosh in the Bldg. N-C café: Get to know your fellow writers and their projects while enjoying snacks and beverages.
1:30-1:45 AWC announcements and upcoming events

1:45-2:45 Will Leitch: “Contemporary Fiction: Capturing the Way We Live Today”

Will Leitch is the author of five books, including the recent bestselling novel HOW LUCKY for Harper Books. He is a contributing editor at New York Magazine, the founder of the late website Deadspin and a columnist for MLB and Medium. He also writes regularly for The New York Times, The Washington Post, NBC News and The Atlantic. He lives in Athens with his wife and two sons.

3:00-3:45 Chris Joyner: “Unearthed: Finding the Hidden Stories that Make Non-Fiction Sing”

Chris Joyner’s new release The Three Death Sentences of Clarence Henderson chronicles Henderson’s perilous legal journey against the backdrop of race, politics, and massive societal changes in 1950s America.

Chris is an investigative reporter with The Atlanta Journal-Constitution with more than two decades of experience in journalism, ranging from community newspapers to national and international news and wire services. He reported from the scene of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill of 2010. As an investigative reporter, he focuses on uncovering hidden communities and has written about street gangs and life inside a supermax prison, the hidden world of government lobbying, and a white-collar criminal network built around a drug testing lab. He lives in Atlanta.
December 18 Meeting Photos & Links

LINK TO DECEMBER MEETING RECORDING  PASSWORD: QnNmPQe5

Charles McNair

Leanna Renee Hieber

Steampunk vs. Gaslamp Fantasy: What's the Difference

Queen Victoria's Book of Spells

Strangely Beautiful

The Ballad of Black Tom

Atlanta Writers Club
AWC 2022 Writing Contest

ELIGIBILITY:
1. The AWC 2022 Writing Contest is open to: All current, paid club members. To join the AWC or renew your membership, please use this link: . If you have a question about when your AWC membership expires, please contact the Membership VP, Yvonne Green, at yvonnegreen1000@gmail.com.
2. Submissions must be original, unpublished, and previously un-awarded work.
3. Entrants may submit only one piece to only one category per contest year.

DEADLINE:
Midnight, March 20, 2022. Submissions received after this date will automatically be ineligible.

AWARDS:
Each award carries a $300 cash prize and a plaque. Winners will be announced at our club meeting on April 16, 2022.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:
Terry Kay Prize for Fiction (Max, 3000 words)
Rick Bragg Prize for Nonfiction (Max, 3000 words)
Natasha Trethewey Prize for Poetry (Max, 90 lines)

CONTEST GUIDELINES:
Manuscript Format. Failure to adhere to the following format will result in disqualification.
1. DO NOT place your name anywhere on the manuscript entry
2. Only Word files (.docx) will be accepted.
3. Font: 12 pt, Black, Times New Roman
4. Margins: 1 inch
5. Line spacing: double – yes, even for poetry.
6. White background (no colors, photos, graphics or images)
7. Page size & layout: 8-1/2 x 11; Portrait
8. First page: Title and Prize Category should appear in the upper left corner

SUBMISSION RULES:
Failure to adhere to any of the submission guidelines will lead to disqualification.

Send ONE ENTRY and the corresponding Standard Submission Form (SSF) to tiffanyrjansen@gmail.com.

The SSF must include the following information:
Author’s Name
Prize Category
Title of Entry
Word Count (Line Count for poetry)

**Name your SSF document using the following template: SSF-YourTitle.docx**
There is no template for the SSF itself; you create the document as instructed above and send it as a separate attachment. The entry and SSF must both be sent as attached Word documents (.docx). The SSF is used for identification purposes by Tiffany Jansen only; Judges never know the identity of any author; they see only the blind entry document.

IMPORTANT: Name the document files by title, i.e., YourTitle.docx and SSF-YourTitle.docx
Example: if the entry title is Moon Fire, the document file should be named Moon Fire.docx (this is the document that will be sent to the judges) and the SSF should be named SSF-Moon Fire.docx (this is the document that will be seen only by Tiffany Jansen).

Attach the entry document and your SSF document to an email addressed to Contest Apprentice Tiffany R. Jansen at tiffanyrjansen@gmail.com. Your EMAIL MESSAGE MUST INCLUDE:

Subject Line: AWC 2022 Writing Contest
Your name, phone number, prize category, title

Example:
Dear Tiffany,
I have attached [Title] for the [Prize Category] and the corresponding SSF.
Thank you,
[Your name]
[Your phone number]
**Member Book Launches & Accolades**

**AWC VP of Operations Kim Conrey’s** first novel, the sci-fi romance *Stealing Ares*, will be published by Black Rose Writing in September 2022.

Kim is a mom, writer, runner, and cosplayer. In addition to writing sci-fi romance, she blogs about living with [OCD and Harm OCD](#) and is currently seeking publication for her memoir *You're Not a Murderer: You Just Have OCD*. She has written for the eQuill, Awakened Voices Literary Magazine, The Bitter Southerner, The New Southern Fugitives, Atlanta Parent, and others ([click here for links](#)). She is also a collaborator with the [Wild Women Who Write](#) and their podcast “Wild Women Who Write Take Flight.”

**AWC member Fred Whitson’s** novel *The Librarian—Intrigue at RAF Greenham* was covered by the British newspaper [Newbury Today](#) on December 10, 2021. The article encouraged feedback from readers for Fred’s Cold War-era espionage novel.

[The book can be purchased here.](#)

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**Recommended Resources for Writers**

- [Authors Guild](#)
- The Acquisitions Process: What Should Authors Know?
Now Open for Registration

UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF SUCCESS

The Atlanta Self-Publishing Conference (ASPC) is dedicated to serving self-published authors and the independent publishing market, but it also offers writing craft and book marketing topics that will appeal to all authors. Our inaugural conference on Saturday, April 23, 2022, will showcase a full day of speakers and networking for all those who attend. You can participate in-person or virtually.

No matter whether you're curious about the self-publishing market, want to learn the writing craft and marketing tips from accomplished guests, or you want to discover how to grow your independent author business, everyone will have something to learn at ASPC.

Join us for a jam-packed day of networking as well as business and craft presentations from professionals in the industry.

For the April 23, 2022 ASPC at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel, in-person participants will receive full access to the conference for $129 for all Atlanta Writers Club members including:

- Eight Presentations
- Coffee & Conversations
- Genre Tables Evening Networking Event
- Access to the Networking Room with our speakers and other attendees (open all day for building your author community and talking with professionals)

The virtual option offers access to all eight presentations. The presentations will not be recorded.

Scheduled Presentations:

1. Wired For Story: What Your Reader’s Brain Really Craves, and How to Deliver It
2. How to Know When to Click Publish & Getting Started
3. Using the Pixar Method to Hook Your Reader
4. The Art of Selling at Events
5. Your High Concept: Taking Your Book’s Theme from Start to Finish
6. Finding the Courage to Shamelessly Market Your Book
7. Trouble-Shooting Your Self-Published Business
8. Author Panel (for any unanswered questions attendees may have)

For all the ASPC details and the registration link, click here:

Now Open for Registration
Our 26th Atlanta Writers Conference will be held in-person (with an option to participate virtually) at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel on May 6-7, 2022 with agent/editor critique and pitch meetings, a two-hour workshop on working with book publishing professionals at every stage of the publication process, two Q&A panels, emailed pre-conference edits, the return of our fabled mixer, and two days of educational talks!

Whether you are...
• In search of an agent or a publisher
• Working on a manuscript and in need of feedback
• Seeking to learn more about the writing craft and/or publishing business
• Building your network of industry professionals and writing colleagues
...this is your opportunity to take the next big step toward your writing goals.

For the safety of all concerned, every participant, guest agent and editor, and volunteer must present proof of a negative COVID test (no older than 72 hours) or proof of full vaccination (the actual CDC COVID card or a photo/photocopy of it) upon entering the conference section of the hotel. Thought masking will be optional, we encourage all individuals to wear a mask while engaging in the in-person conference activities.

Want to get published?

Most of our guest agents and editors will be traveling to Georgia, while a couple might participate in all activities via Zoom. The May 6-7, 2022 Atlanta Writers Conference offers you in-person/virtual meetings with literary agents and acquisitions editors—with an option to participate virtually yourself if you are unable to travel to Atlanta due to COVID or another reason—along with a host of other in-person activities:

• Access to 18 acquisitions editors and literary agents seeking every major fiction genre and nonfiction topic, as well as graphic novels, picture books, movie screenplays, and TV scripts.

• Critiques of manuscript samples by the editors and agents, with work submitted a month in advance.

• Pitches to the editors and agents with query letters you will submit ahead of time for their review.

• Query letter critique by a pair of editors/agents to improve your pitch (at past conferences, 70% or more of Best Pitch awards by an agent or editor went to those who participated in the Query Letter Critique).

• Pre-conference edit of your manuscript submission via email months before the conference by a freelance editor of your choice (at past conferences, 60% or more of all awards—for Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitch—went to writers who participated in the Pre-Conference Edit).

• Two-hour workshop with acquisitions editor and former literary agent MacKenzie Collier on “Working with Book Publishing Professionals at Every Stage of the Process” and two free bonus talks beforehand.

• Free bonus educational talks by award-winning author Nicki Salcedo and Amazon bestseller (and Atlanta Writers Conference success story) Emily Carpenter.

• Friday-night mixer for those who are not COVID risk averse
• Award ceremony, where each of the agents and editors—virtual and in-person—will select participants for Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitches, with certificates to be given to the awardees—or sent after the conference for those not in attendance.

More than 40 of our members have signed with agents or editors they met at our Conferences, and a number of those have scored major book deals (and one, so far, has hit the bigtime with a movie deal). You could be next!

We’re now accepting registrations. As past Conference participants will tell you, the spots fill up fast, so don’t delay!

The Atlanta Writers Conference is presented exclusively for members of the Atlanta Writers Club. If you are not a current member or your membership will lapse prior to May 8, 2022, you can join/renew as part of your Conference registration—you do not need to do this as a two-step process.

To read all the details for the May 6-7, 2022 Atlanta Writers Conference, click here

Register Now!
At Berkley, we strive to publish commercial fiction that reflects the world we live in and to bring readers stories that encompass a full range of backgrounds, experiences and unique perspectives. With the Berkley Open Submission Program, we are opening a direct submission channel in the hopes of reaching more potential authors. We are inviting submissions from all writers, including those sharing underrepresented stories in regards to race, national origin, religion, age, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and disability. We hope to discover new talent and share their works with the world.

“We believe in publishing books from a wide variety of voices and hope giving un-agented authors easier access to our submission process will help us discover work from the widest possible community of writers. The Berkley list is strongest when it reflects the diversity of the world we live in,” said Berkley Vice President and Editor-in-Chief Claire Zion.

We are looking for full-length adult novels in the following genres: romance, women’s fiction, mystery, suspense and thrillers, horror, science fiction, and fantasy.

SUBMISSION WINDOW:
Dec 7th, 2021 - Jan 9th, 2022

For submission guidelines and more, click here
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.
2022 Roswell Reads

Featuring Best-Selling Novelist
LAURA MORELLI

Roswell Reads 2022 features Laura Morelli, talking about her historical fiction novel, The Stolen Lady, based on the true story behind the Louvre’s efforts to keep the Mona Lisa out of Nazi hands.

VIRTUAL PRESENTATION
Saturday, January 29, 2022, at 2 p.m.

The Stolen Lady program featuring Laura Morelli is free, but registration is required to receive the link.

Roswell Reads will also host a Virtual Book Discussion on January 11; a Writing Workshop on January 31; and a Family Program with an art project for children.

For details, go to RoswellReads.com
Registration: roswellreads2021.eventbrite.com

Roswell Reads is an organization of the Friends of the Roswell Library (FORL). To learn more about FORL and its other programs - Atlanta Authors, Mystery Book Club and Noonday Nash - visit www.FORL.net
What Happened to You? with Bruce D. Perry, MD, PhD
Conversations on Trauma, Resilience, and Healing
Monday, January 10 at 7:00 p.m. (EST) Virtual
Renowned brain development and trauma expert, Dr. Bruce Perry will discuss the impact of trauma and adversity and how healing must begin with a shift from asking, "what’s wrong with you?" to “what happened to you?”.

Words and Wine with New York Times Bestselling Author Patti Callahan
Thursday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m.
Peachtree Corners City Hall (310 Technology Pkwy NW, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092)
Join GCPL and the Friends of the Library as Patti Callahan discusses her book, *Once Upon a Wardrobe*, which pulls back the curtain on the early life of C.S. Lewis. Complimentary wine and a silent auction sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.

Cuba: An American History with Author and Expert Ada Ferrer
Thursday, January 20 at 7:00 p.m. (EST) Virtual
Join author Alayne Smith in conversation with the award-winning historian and author Ada Ferrer as she discusses her new book, *Cuba: An American History*.

Sundays in Suwanee Series with Author Tom Poland
Sunday, January 30 at 3:00 p.m.
Suwanee Library Branch (361 Main St, Suwanee, GA 30024)
Learn more about exciting and educational Georgia day trips for you and your family. Author Tom Poland will revisit disappearing traditions in his book, *The Last Sunday Drive: Vanishing Traditions in Georgia and the Carolinas*. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event.
listen to AWC member Patricia Ann Bowen question Elizabeth Ireland about her writing adventure. Then meet the ANI team and find ways to get involved.

Thursday, January 20, 2022, 7:30 PM EST

About this event

These two Atlanta women began writing after completing other careers. They were both drawn to fiction through the mysteries of people's minds and motivations. Each is an animal lover. Given their long friendship, they surely have avoided the cat vs. dog discussion. Maybe we can get an answer on January 20th, 2022.

Registration for this free event will be available until 1/18/22. An e-mail with the Zoom link will be sent on the Wednesday prior to the Zoom to all those who register.

Register on Eventbrite by clicking here
Kick-off the new year with a writing workshop at Georgia Writers Museum!

A writers workshop is a great holiday gift, or give yourself the gift of a workshop with former AJC journalist and author Jim Auchmuety.

Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 1pm, $45 per person

REGISTER HERE

Writing for Scene link

Description: Scenes are the building blocks of narrative storytelling. Think of any book or movie you’ve loved, and you probably remember, second only to an indelible character, a vivid scene that captures the conflicts of the story and conveys the mood and emotions. In this class, we’ll examine the art of scene-writing — especially gleaning the telling details that put a reader there. Participants are invited to send a piece of writing to the instructor before the class. We’ll also walk outside for an exercise in scene-writing during the class.

Instructor: Jim Auchmutey is the author of two books that were named Books All Georgians Should Read by the Georgia Center for the Book: The Class of ’65: A Student, a Divided Town, and the Long Road to Forgiveness and Smokelore: A Short History of Barbecue in America. They both begin with scenes. He wrote for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution for almost 30 years and was twice named the Cox Newspaper chain’s writer of the year. (https://jimauchmutey.com/)
Save $100 on the Ready Chapter 1 Novel Academy

We are excited to announce a collaboration with Ready Chapter 1, a first-of-its-kind academy designed for career-minded writers looking to develop and sell their stories to traditional publishers. The faculty takes writers from concept to query over 10 months and includes editors, agents, and bestselling authors. If you think this program might be a fit for you, registration is open until February at our website and AWC members will receive a $100 discount with code: AWC22.
Expose Yourself

MAKE A READ-YOUR-BOOK VIDEO

• Make a video (SIXTY SECONDS MAX!) of you reading a sample of your work. Videos can be created with a phone, tablet, or computer.

• Upload your video to AWC VIDEO. This may take a few minutes.

• Once uploaded, send an email to awc.member.services@gmail.com with "AWC VIDEO" in the subject line. Let him know you have uploaded your video and include info about where your book can be purchased. Include the title and author name.

PHOTOGRAPH YOUR WRITING SPACE

• 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.

• Send the picture to awc.member.services@gmail.com with "My Creative Space" in the subject line.

• Keep watching the Atlanta Writers Club Facebook page and Instagram page and when you are featured, share it with the world.

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**.
## Changes in **RED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online #1</th>
<th>Fiction: Short Stories &amp; Novels</th>
<th>Meets every other Friday, 1pm.</th>
<th>Karlee Bradbury</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>Wait list</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 #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>Online #8</td>
<td>Screenwriting</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Friday of every month</td>
<td>Liz Irland</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>Open</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</td>
<td>Schedule</td>
<td>Leader</td>
<td>Contact</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loganville</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
<td>email</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>email</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>email</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>email</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>email</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>email</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<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>email</td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; Non-fiction</td>
<td>Saturdays except when AWC meets, 2:00-4:00 PM in member's home or virtual.</td>
<td>Bill Ottinger</td>
<td>email</td>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smyrna/ Marietta</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
<td>Currently inactive</td>
<td>Liz Helenek</td>
<td>email</td>
<td>closed</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>email</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>email</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>email</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodstock</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; nonfiction</td>
<td>Every Wed. 1pm @ Copper Coin (zoom, too)</td>
<td>Sheryl Parbhoo</td>
<td>email</td>
<td>Wait list</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.

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 online at our website using PayPal at www.atlantawritersclub.org/membership.html.

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

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.