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.
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Register now for the Fall Writers Conference.

**AWC officers**

President: Jill Evans
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eQuill Publisher: Gene Bowen

**Our Next Meeting**

OCTOBER 15 - AWC Monthly Meeting In-Person at Georgia State University-Dunwoody Perimeter College for Members and First-Time Guests, 1:30-4:00 pm Eastern

1ST SPEAKER - William Walsh: Writer Pitfalls to Avoid

2ND GUEST SPEAKER - Member Moment with 12 AWC Members

I enjoy selecting the cover images for the newsletters. This year I’ve decided 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
Welcoming the Interlopers

What type of learner are you? Visual, auditory, kinesthetic, or something else? When I was in school, learning types weren’t really a thing. It was mostly lecture. These days teachers figure out the best way to maximize students’ success by meeting them where they are, playing to their strengths.

Eventually we graduate or age out of the school system, but even if we want to escape learning as adults, we can’t. Our world is built on technology, and if we want to use our phones, we have to figure out how to navigate the new operating system when it automatically downloads.

If we choose to tackle a new skill or hobby, we sometimes flounder. Freed from compulsory education, we have to find what works best for us. Hands-on workshop, YouTube video, book?

If you slice learning types another way, I think most of us are either destination or journey students. I’m of the destination ilk most of the time. You know what I’m talking about. You want to learn writing, photography, or whatever it might be, so you set the goal and lay out the steps. You sign up for a conference, stake out the sessions you want to attend, load up on caffeine and take notes. Then, one afternoon, you have a choice: you could go back to the room and take a nap, or you could attend the luncheon keynote. You gotta eat, so you’re chewing the chicken, and the speaker knocks you sideways. She tells a story that moves you and inspires in a way you hadn’t planned for. That one experience sticks with you long after the conference is over.

In the internet world, we seek out our own news and entertainment, or with Spotify, we tell it what type of music we want to listen to. But we limit ourselves. Back in the day, a librarian or friend would recommend a book, a great DJ could surprise us with a new artist. How else would I know about Bjork or Beck? Radio and TV news gave us random human interest stories on topics we never would have pursued. Thank you, NPR!

Libraries, bookstores, radio, and TV are still there, but they are not our defaults. Some of us go to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or Netflix. I’m all over YouTube and podcasts these days.

While we might have a specific way we learn best, I think we can all benefit from striving to be both determined and curious, having a destination and enjoying the journey. Being open and curious is either innate or it’s conscious. If it’s conscious, then it’s work, but so worthwhile. I love quirky non-fiction and a good random documentary. Sometimes, I have to remind myself to be on the lookout for them. I’ve started listening to the podcast 30 Animals that Made Us Smarter. The first episode is how the kingfisher inspired the design of the Japanese bullet train.

For the club meetings, we typically have two authors in different genres who speak on different topics. I’m striving to be a better writer, so, while my goal is to learn more about historical fiction, I get tons of inspiration and craft advice from science fiction, memoir and non-fiction authors. If I’m open, the inspiration and techniques are there for the taking.

In the world of writing there are plotters and pantsers. Kimberly Brock was asked in our September meeting which she was. She's Southern, so she says her plot is like vegetables. She cooks it to death. But then she doesn’t eat it. She’s both/and. She sets a course, and then thrives on the unexpected journey.

Take a chance on something outside your comfort zone or genre. Prop that closed and heavy door of determination open, and let a few interlopers wander in.

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.
October 15 AWC In-person Meeting

October 15, 12:45 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Eastern - In-Person at Georgia State University-Dunwoody Perimeter College, 2101 Womack Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338, Building NC auditorium and café. (If you're not on our mailing list, use the form here to add yourself so you will get any updates about this meeting.)

This meeting will be recorded, and the recording link will be shared in the following month’s eQuill newsletter.

12:45-1:30 p.m. Network and Nosh Mixer in the café: Make new friends, find critique partners in your genre, and enjoy coffee, water, and snacks

1:30-1:45 p.m. AWC announcements and upcoming events with AWC President Jill Evans

1:45 p.m.-2:45 p.m. William Walsh: Writer Pitfalls to Avoid

2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Booksigning with William Walsh in the café

3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Member Moment: AWC Members Share Stories about Their Books and Writing Journeys

4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Booksigning with AWC Member Moment authors in the café

WILLIAM WALSH is the author of eight books, including the award-winning collection of poems, *Fly Fishing in Times Square* (Červená Barva Press). In 2022, after thirty-nine years in the making, his debut novel, *Lakewood*, will be published by TouchPoint Press. He is the director of the Reinhardt University undergraduate creative writing program and the MFA program. Widely published in some of the finest journals including *Five Points, The Georgia Review, The Kenyon Review, and Literary Matters*, he is also known for his literary interviews, which have included: Czeslaw Milosz, Joseph Brodsky, A.R. Ammons, Richard Blanco, Eavan Boland, Pat Conroy, Harry Crews, James Dickey, Rita Dove, Mary Hood, Ursula Le Guin, Andrew Lytle, and Lee Smith.

Born in Jamestown, NY and raised in Lakewood until moving south in 1972, his historical family has resided in Chautauqua County since pre-Revolutionary War. A graduate of Georgia State University and Vermont College, he resides in Atlanta with his family. He is the director of the undergraduate and graduate creative writing programs at Reinhardt University, in Waleska, where he teaches literature and creative writing. He is the editor of the *James Dickey Review*. When not writing, he spends time with his family, enjoys competitive tennis and golf, as well as playing chess internationally.

On October 15th, William will look back on his writing journey and share all the pitfalls writers should avoid.
Inside Patricia’s collection titled *Unintended Consequences* are sixteen short stories and a longer novella, each about smart, strong, complicated women. As life comes at them some suffer the consequences, others enjoy them. Women loving men… or not, women loving women… or not, women nurturing their families and themselves. Most of them contemporary, some dealing with standards that never change, all of them people you might want to know. Find out which will be your favorite...

Patricia Ann Bowen is completing her third novel in a medical time travel trilogy about a cure for Alzheimer’s, and published *Unintended Consequences*, a collection of short stories about strong women of all ages in challenging circumstances. Her stories have appeared in *Table for Two and Stories of Southern Humor and Southern Crime* anthologies. She’s taught short story writing, and she leads a short story critique group for the Atlanta Writers Club. She lives in the burbs in Georgia and at the beach in South Carolina, has four sons, grandkids all over the world, and two cats in the yard.

In the 25th century, the caldera under Yellowstone National Park erupts and spreads ashen death across the Earth, which can no longer supply the struggling colony on Mars. Worse, the HMS Ares, the grandest starship of all time, goes dormant when Mars needs her most. The Red Planet is ripe for revolution, but Harlow Hanson, a thief who struggled most of her life to speak, becomes the only one capable of saying the words that wake the sleeping ship and save the broken colony. Meanwhile, resentments rise as Prince Jack Windsor—recently widowed and using the Ares to escape his grief—doggedly works to get the ship online and refuses to sell it for parts to fund the colonists’ welfare. When Harlow sneaks on board to plunder it, the ship springs to life and begins communicating with her. The prince realizes the woman stealing from him is the key he’s been searching for. Just as Jack begins to open his heart and offer Harlow a shot at redemption, she’s forced to betray him. Against all odds, he fights to believe in her while the fate of two planets hangs in the balance.

Kim Conrey is the author of the sci-fi romance *Stealing Ares, Book One of the Ares Ascending series*, and she also writes a blog about living with OCD. In addition, she serves as VP of Operations for the Atlanta Writers Club. You can also find her on the Wild Women Who Write Podcast where she and the other Wild Women interview authors and industry professionals with a primary goal of supporting women writers. Her essays have been published in *The Bitter Southerner, Atlanta Parent, Awakened Voices Literary Magazine* and others.
Baseball historian, Bradsher Hayes takes you on a fun run around the bases in his two new books detailing the rich 150-year history of the Braves franchise from Boston to Milwaukee to Atlanta. Some have called the author the “Braves Greatest Fan,” because of his love affair with the team since listening to the Milwaukee Braves and New York Yankees World Series games on the radio with his father in 1957. His first book, *150 Years of the Braves*, is written for baseball lovers of all ages and is filled with fun facts, and intimate stories of the players, coaches, and fans. 220 exceptional photographs compliment the writing of this baseball treasure. Bradsher’s second hit, *150 Years of Braves Trivia*, will challenge the reader with unknown facts and delight with unusual personalities, oddities, and statistical record breakers of the Braves. It is highlighted with eighty-five photographs. Both books are a welcomed birthday gift and will be a home run during the holiday season. Enjoy and Play Ball!

Atlanta native Bradsher Hayes has a genuine love for cooking, gardening, selling real estate, and writing about baseball. His first book, *King of the Southern Diamond*, was written after finding 350 newspaper articles about a grandfather he had never met. His research and writing of *150 Years of the Braves* and *150 Years of Braves Trivia* has been a three-year act of love for the Braves and the game of baseball. The author played on three state championship teams at Westminster, played baseball at UNC, and coached for ten years. The author has two grandchildren, Pearl and Olive.

Malika Samuels is fabulous, a well-known influencer and the wife of a championship winning professional basketball player. It appears that Malika is living her dream, but in reality, what appears to be a dream is Malika’s nightmare. Her life is a facade, pretending for the sake of keeping up appearances. Fed-up with the illusion, Malika is now ready to live in her truth, the good, the bad, and the ugly. Malika uncovers the veil of the facade; underneath the wealth, fame, and glamour lies the ugly truth that the perfect life is not so perfect after all. There is a high price to pay to be “That B****, Who Has it All”.... Malika’s story enlightens and uplifts readers letting them know that everyone has hardships no matter how it appears. She is young and successful yet still dealing with trauma, depression, and life-altering events. Malika takes readers on an emotional roller coaster filled with juicy plot twists and drama that keeps readers on the edge of their seats. Many people are living a life of falsity, pretending that their world is something that it is not while suffering in silence. It is time for society to break the veil.

Author Celsi Leigh (Kelsi - Lee), is stepping into the literary world with the juicy emotional drama, *Unveiled!* Born in Kingston, Jamaica, raised in Philadelphia, Celsi Leigh’s life experiences have culminated in a unique writing style filled with harsh truths and emotional transparency. Celsi Leigh is blunt, often saying what everyone else is thinking or feeling! Through her literary work, she aims to deliver an honest point of view about the current climate of society, connecting with fans through empathy. Familiarize yourself with the work of Celsi Leigh because she is just getting started, there is much more greatness to come.
The award-winning *Disorderly Parable Bible Studies* isn't your ordinary study. It teaches like Jesus taught—through parables, stories of everyday people and things that illustrate spiritual truths. But Jesus' parables were not nice, tidy stories. They were disorderly and subversive, dismantling ideas the listener accepted as truth, but were not. Three books are presently available: *James in the Suburbs* observes the antics of a suburban church to explain the Epistle of James. *Dismantling Injustice* employs the life of an African American congressman who came of age during the civil rights movement to reveal the meaning of the Song of Solomon. *St Francis and the Christian Life* uses the life of St. Francis to shed light on the lessons of the Epistle to the Galatians. This series makes you think about ancient manuscripts in new ways, provides insight into the world today, surprises you with laughter as you catch a vision of the journey ahead, and energizes you to live out faith on paths you may never have expected taking.

With degrees from Georgia Tech, Dr. April Love-Fordham spent twenty years in the corporate world, including several as a technology adviser to the George H. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations where her resume once claimed she helped Al Gore invent the internet. Her teams were awarded the Internet Product of the Year two years in a row for the first internet-based e-mail system. Afterwards, she went to Columbia Seminary. Today she finds joy in working for peace and social justice, embracing human diversity and equality, questioning religious culture, and living as a good steward of the earth.

In *Lullaby for Leo*, Leo Miller’s wounds run deep. A decorated Vietnam vet, his injuries are not the physical type but ones imprinted on his soul by the trauma of war. Leo’s conscience is weighted down by the searing guilt for surviving where his brothers perished. Leo fled, burning all his bridges and leaving behind his true love. Almost forty years later, a deranged killer murders his former wife, and their daughter discovers she has a biological father she never knew existed. Feeling her life is one big lie, the investigative reporter undertakes writing the story of a lifetime, determined to learn who this man is and if he’s alive. Travel along on her odyssey of hope and discovery, but keep your head down. There’s an escaped lunatic on the prowl.

Born and bred in Brooklyn, New York, Michael March attended the Fashion Institute of Technology in Manhattan before pursuing his first love, singing in a rock and roll band. Uncle Sam had an alternative plan and decided the author would be more valuable directing artillery fire as a member of the Eleventh Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam. After fulfilling his military obligation, Michael returned home and traveled the breadth of our country in search of the soul of his generation. Today, his mission continues; only now, his laptop serves as his mode of transportation. Take a chance. Stick out a thumb and hitch a ride.
The Sometime Sister is suspenseful women’s fiction. Devastated by the suspicious death of Stella, the beloved sister who betrayed her, Grace Burnette heads to Ecuador seeking justice. Accompanied by Justin McElroy, hired by her mother as a hitman, she faces down her ex-fiancé Ben Wilcott, who eloped with Stella and broke Grace’s heart. A meeting with Stella’s lover Adelmo Balsutto, a drug lord more interested in revenge than justice, convinces Grace her sister was murdered by Ben. The more she discovers about Stella’s last days, the more certain she is that her own life is in danger. When an explosive encounter lands Grace in the hospital with a faulty memory, she recovers details of recent events, as well as a long-buried secret concerning her mother and aunt. Her blossoming relationship with Justin McElroy, not a hitman after all, eases Grace’s struggles with grief, guilt, and her confusion over her family’s past. A surprise gift from Stella leaves readers with a message of the redemptive power of love and forgiveness. The Substitute Sister, the sequel, hits the shelves in June 2023.

Katherine Nichols is a writer of suspense with heart and humor. She is the author of The Sometime Sister, The Unreliables, and Trust Issues. A vice president of The Atlanta Writers Club, she also serves on the board of Sisters in Crime Atlanta. As a strong proponent of women authors supporting each other, Katherine is a co-host of the inspirational Wild Women Who Write Take Flight podcast. When she isn’t spending time with her children and grandchildren, Katherine loves to read, walk, and travel. She lives in Lilburn, Georgia with her husband, two rescue dogs, and two rescue cats.

Will recently completed his third novel which will be released this December. It’s titled Hidden and is the third book in the Adam Barrow art mystery trilogy. As a former gallery owner, Will thought it would be fun to explore the possibility of unknown fictional works by the Great Masters. In his first novel, The Last Van Gogh, the protagonist, Adam Barrow, chases a lost van Gogh across Europe and the U.S. The second book, Shadows of Leonardo, concerns a controversial da Vinci painting and high-end world of fine art and auction houses. The final book that will be released in several months finishes up the series with Adam traveling to Spain in search of a salacious Velazquez that was supposedly banned by the Church over 400 years ago. Both of the former books won awards. He also published two other novels, one a historical work set in 1918, and the other set in Savannah in the 1830’s. Before that, Will wrote a non-fiction work that was published in Great Britain, plus he authored a regular column in a financial magazine for seven years.

Will Ottinger was a Trust sales manager and financial trainer in his business life and came to writing late in life. He’d devoured over 30 books on writing and believed one of the keys to producing readable work was learning the basics. Writing is a learned craft, not something you do by the seat of your pants. Basically, he found writing fiction was the most difficult creative thing he’d ever done. As one writing coach said, you can sit in Starbucks and scribble all day, but unless you learn how fiction and non-fiction are constructed, chances are you’ll never be published.
In Danger of Judgment is a crime thriller set in Chicago in 1987. Two police detectives investigating a series of heroin-related murders become enmeshed in a larger conspiracy arising out of a failed covert operation fifteen years earlier during the Vietnam War. As they race to stop a drug war, they’re unaware they’re about to be caught in a deadly crossfire between a drug lord and a man who seeks revenge against him.

David Rabin was born in Chicago and raised in its Lakeview neighborhood. He later moved to Atlanta, where he worked as a trial lawyer for thirty-three years. Now retired, he writes crime fiction, runs a competitive shooting program, and competes in rifle sports. David belongs to the Atlanta Writers Club, International Thriller Writers, and Sisters in Crime. His debut crime thriller, In Danger of Judgment, was released by Black Rose Writing in August and was the Runner-Up in the Thriller category of the 2022 Maxy Awards.

Retired airline Captain Brian H. Settles is the author of Smoke for Breakfast: A Vietnam Combat Pilot’s Story, a next Red Tail generation fighter pilot story of going off to fly fighters in a war Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. denounced as “immoral and politically wrong for America.” This is a unique literary excursion into the private world of Captain Settles, who flew 199 missions as a Vietnam combat pilot in the F-4 Phantom fighter jet. Brian invites the reader into his guts-and-glory world, the culture of bravery, combat flying, and what it took to endure. In addition to his first book, Brian has also written the memoir Shattered Dream: A Single-Parent Airline Pilot’s Story, in which this experienced airline pilot—well-educated and a single parent—seemed to have it all: freedom, income, and a great career until an airline strike and bankruptcy shattered his existence. Readers will get an amazing account of his journey from airline pilot to taxicab driver and back again as he raised two sons with unceasing determination to keep a roof over their heads and food on the table. The author’s trial of perseverance led him to triumph and taught him valuable life lessons about people and himself.

Brian Settles completed Undergraduate Pilot Training in the United States Air Force, pinning on his Air Force wings in October of 1967. After flight training, Brian volunteered to fly the F-4 Phantom Jet fighter, a decision that led to a combat tour at Da Nang AB, Republic of Vietnam where he survived 199 aerial combat missions between 1968 and 1969. After flying for Eastern Airlines and having to drive a taxi for two years, he retired from ATA Airlines in 2004 as a Boeing 757 captain with more than 20,000 jet flight hours accumulated over a 35-year career. He is a member of the Atlanta Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen and a motivational speaker.
Angels in the Fog is a World War II novel of a family's struggle to keep hope and faith alive in a time of great peril. Few have told these war stories of the Pacific, and they are heart breaking. This family will touch your soul.

Susan N. Swann is a previously published author with a passion for creating historical fiction. She graduated from the University of Utah and taught high school literature and writing before earning a master's degree in clinical psychology. Susan is retired and lives outside Atlanta where she enjoys writing, traveling, and spending time with her grandchildren. She's a proud member of the Atlanta Writers Club.

The first recipient of the Atlanta Writer's Club Terry Kay Prize for Fiction, Portia Tewogbade has written for African Voices, descant, the Hawai'i Pacific Review, and other literary journals. A sponsor and featured author in DeKalb County Library's Jubilee of Reading, she also has been featured at the Decatur Book Festival and Roswell's Black History Month celebration called “Roswell Roots.” A former English instructor and life insurance underwriting consultant, she was born and raised in Atlanta, where she has settled down after detours in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New York, and Nigeria.

Portia has published three books of fiction: During a Dry Season is a unique novel about an American wife and her Nigerian husband living in his country, where she fights to save her marriage from the twin threats of his infidelity and her barren womb. In Red Was the Midnight, it's September 1906, and Atlanta is a booming, shining example of America's New South that has attracted the fictional Redmond family—three African American sisters and their brother with big plans, secrets, and resentments—who migrate in from a small town. Things soon change, and the family turns from fighting each other to fighting for their lives in a race massacre. Good Decent People is a collection of fourteen character-driven stories that takes its title from a poignant tale about a woman’s disdain for Katrina Hurricane victims, who move into her stodgy Atlanta subdivision.
September Meeting Photos

September meeting video link, with recording and editing courtesy of AWC member Jorge Barboza: [LINK]
Photos by Patrick Scullin

Per-Meeting Mixer

AWC Speaker Kimberly Belle

AWC Speaker Kim Brock
November 2022 Atlanta Writers Conference

November 4-5, 2022 Atlanta Writers Conference: Register Now!

Our 27th Atlanta Writers Conference will be held in-person (with an option to participate virtually) at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel on November 4-5, 2022 with agent/editor critique and pitch meetings, a two-hour workshop with first-page critiques, two Q&A panels, emailed pre-conference edits, a Friday night mixer with music, 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.

Want to get published?

The November 4-5, 2022 Atlanta Writers Conference offers you in-person/virtual meetings with literary agents and acquisitions editors—with an option to participate virtually 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 17 acquisitions editors and literary agents seeking every major fiction genre and nonfiction topic, as well as graphic novels, picture books, and short story collections.

• 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 bring 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, 50% 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 first-page critiques by Alex Finlay, author of the 2021 breakout hit Every Last Fear and two free bonus talks by Alex beforehand.

• Free bonus educational talks by award-winning authors Samantha Jaye Allen and Anthony Grooms.

• Friday-night mixer with musical entertainment by pianist/singer and AWC member Mike Shaw and his accompanist.

• Award ceremony, where each of the agents and editors will select participants for Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitch, with certificates to be given to the awardees—or sent after the conference for those not in attendance.
Nearly 45 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 and TV 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, 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 November 4-5, 2022 Atlanta Writers Conference, click here to start
AWC member Rosanne Barnett and two other Emory University authors participated in a virtual panel discussion titled “Tips: How to Write, Edit, and Get Published - Insights from 3 Emory Authors”:

[Link to view]

On November 5 from 10 am. to noon, she will be speaking at Indie Author’s Day at the Gwinnett County Public Library, Peachtree Corners branch (5570 Spalding Dr., Peachtree Corners, GA 30092). Her presentation will highlight anecdotes from both of her books (written under the name R. Lynn Barnett), *What Patients Want: Anecdotes and Advice and My Mother Has Alzheimer's and My Dog Has Tapeworms: A Caregiver's Tale*, but it will mostly focus on the latter. Books will be available for sale after the presentation.

Long-time AWC member H. W. “Buzz” Bernard (who now calls Washington state his home) was awarded a Gold Medal by the Military Writers Society of America (MWSA) for his novel *When Heroes Flew: The Shangri-La Raiders*. The award was presented August 27 at the MWSA’s annual conference held this year in New Orleans, Louisiana. This was Buzz’s second Gold Medal. He was presented a Gold Medal last year for his novel *When Heroes Flew*. Mwsa is a nationwide association of authors, poets, and artists drawn together by the common bond of military service. Most of its members are active-duty military, retirees, or military veterans.

Photo: Center: Buzz; Right: Kathy Rogers, MWSA board member and award-winning author; Left: Tom Rogers, Kathy’s husband and beta-reader for *When Heroes Flew: The Roof Of The World*. 
AWC member Lee Gimenez’s 17th novel, *Killshot*, was published in August 2022 by River Ridge Press. This page-turning mystery is the second of his Rachel West thrillers. His first was *Killing West*. Rachel West is the CIA’s best operative. She’s tough, highly intelligent, and beautiful. When the man she loves, John (J.T.) Ryan, is kidnapped, she plunges into a desperate search for his captors. Rachel soon learns the shocking truth behind the kidnapping. To gain Ryan’s release, Rachel must accomplish a nearly impossible task: Assassinate the most well-guarded person on earth— the President of the United States. Does Rachel commit murder and treason to save the man she loves?

_Purchase Link_

Lee Gimenez is the award-winning author of 17 books. He is best known for his highly-acclaimed J.T. Ryan thrillers. His latest mystery book is *Killshot*. Lee was a Finalist for the Author Academy Award, and many of his books were Featured Novels of the International Thriller Writers Association. They include *Tripwire*, *Fireball*, *Crossfire*, *FBI Code Red*, *The Media Murders*, and *And Skyflash*. Lee is a multi-year nominee for the Georgia Author of the Year Award and was a Finalist in the prestigious Terry Kay Prize for Fiction. He is also a U.S. Army veteran. All of his books are available in the U.S. and Internationally. For more information about him, visit his website.

AWC Member Jeff Shaw was featured on the “Our American Stories” podcast in an episode titled “From One End of Law Enforcement to the Other: Becoming a Police Officer.” A former police officer in South Florida, Jeff shares his personal story, including many calls he had to respond to and how they affected him. This is a real and raw insight into what being a police officer truly means.

_Link_
AWC Executive Director George Weinstein’s seventh novel, *Return to Hardscrabble Road*, has been published by SFK Press. In this sequel to George’s beloved historical novel *Hardscrabble Road*, Roger “Bud” MacLeod and his two brothers return to the ramshackle home of their youth, on emergency leave from the military after the murder of their reviled father. Instead of having the festive reunion they’d planned with Mama and their sister, the three soldiers are flung into a series of violent confrontations with old and new rivals plus double trouble: Papa’s siblings. In their way, Harvey and Rutha MacLeod are even more brutal than Papa, hell-bent on claiming the legacy they believe he left for them and willing to run over anybody in their way. Picking up where the critically acclaimed *Hardscrabble Road* left off, *Return to Hardscrabble Road* delves even deeper into Roger’s growth from tormented boy to determined young man at the crossroads of everything he loves and fears. This time, he doesn’t merely have to survive—he must save his whole misbegotten family without sacrificing his soul.

George Weinstein has helped to lead the Atlanta Writers Club for twenty years and counting. He has served twice as president and currently serves as Executive Director, which he hopes will be a lifetime appointment. He is the author of seven novels: an eclectic mix with three books of historical fiction, an amateur-sleuth murder mystery, a kidnapping thriller, a domestic drama, and a children’s adventure story written for a nonprofit. He and his wife, Kim Conrey, who is the author of the recently published sci-fi romance *Stealing Ares* and serves as the AWC VP of Operations, will have a joint book launch on October 16, 3-6 p.m. at Red Hare Brewing Co. in Marietta, and you’re invited to attend: Click here for details.

AWC member W.F. (Fred) Whitson was interviewed by his Blue Room Books publisher Angela Durden about his writing journey and his novel *The Librarian: Intrigue at RAF Greenham*: Link
What’s Your “Why”?  

By AWC Member Judy Farrington Aust

At a recent writing workshop, I met Jacqueline, an aspiring novelist like me, whose work took my breath away. About halfway through the week, I read aloud a section of my novel-in-progress and asked for advice about a sensitive topic. Jacqueline leaned close to the Zoom screen and asked, “What is your WHY?”

How would you answer this startling question? I found it hard to articulate my “why,” but I’ve since come to believe it’s the first thing a writer needs to address before starting a manuscript.

I do not claim to be an experienced writer of fiction—yet! I am, however, a ravenous reader. It is the author whose heart is in his or her work that I most want to read. It’s that book that pulls me onto the page and won’t let me go.

And that is what my new friend challenged me to find in the narrative I’m trying to write.

It’s a novel of historical fiction set during the Civil War and the long, long tail of its aftermath. It brings up issues many people in the current century would prefer to put comfortably away. I’m writing because that history matters to me. And the more I explore why it matters, the more I feel engaged with the story and, more importantly, with the reader I hope will one day pick up my book. Because my heart is in the why of my novel.

Why are you writing the story you’re trying to tell? Unlocking the “why” might reveal things you don’t know about your characters, their struggles, their desires, what they have to say to your reader. And, like me, you might discover some things your own heart needs to say.

BIO: Judy Farrington Aust writes fiction and poetry, with publication credits through the Atlanta Writers Club, the Georgia Writers Museum, and Viral Literature: Alone Together in Georgia. She is an attorney and mediator in Atlanta. Her novel-in-progress, a work of historical fiction, is titled Thistledown.
Behind the Writer's Curtain
Writing, Publishing, and Promoting the Story

J.M. TOMPKINS

J. M. Tompkins' writings combine several of her passions including people, nature, science, and technology. Within her writing, she loves to explore what she refers to as interesting science with her fears of what our future society might be like.

GEORGE WEINSTEIN

George Weinstein is the author of numerous novels in diverse genres, his Southern Gothic historical novel Hardscrabble Road, a favorite with book clubs. The long-awaited Hardscrabble sequel, Return to Hardscrabble Road, will be published on October 11, 2022.

THURSDAY
October 6, 2022
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Books available for purchase and signing at the event

Special Host
LINDA SANDS

VINTAGE PIZZERIA
5510 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd.
Dunwoody, GA 30338
Heather Newton Book Talk, Oct. 6

A Cappella Books and Center for Puppetry Arts present Heather Newton - *The Puppeteer’s Daughters* at Manuel’s Tavern

Thursday, Oct 6, 2022 7:00 PM

**Location:**
Manuel’s Tavern
602 North Highland Avenue, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

A famed puppeteer and master manipulator surprises his three daughters by announcing there is a fourth at his 80th birthday party. An incomplete paternity test—and a will that places a condition on each daughter’s inheritance—suggest that the missing daughter isn’t a figment of his dementia.

A Cappella Books is delighted to welcome award-winning novelist of *Under the Mercy Trees*, Heather Newton, to Manuel’s Tavern to celebrate her fascinating new book, *The Puppeteer’s Daughters*. The author will appear in conversation with AWC member, writer, podcaster, and activist Jill Cox-Cordova.

The author event will include a special presentation by Center for Puppetry Arts.

This event is free and open to the public, and copies of the book will be available for purchase.

**About the Book**

Jane, the eldest daughter of legendary puppeteer and master manipulator Walter Gray is tired of her father’s eccentricities. She remembers the scarcity of her childhood and doesn’t want another sister to share the birthright.

Rosie, born out of wedlock, sees the missing sister as her key to acceptance as a full member of the puppeteer’s family.

Cora, the youngest, born after Walter achieved fame and fortune, is most concerned with extricating herself from running Walter’s company so that she can pursue her own life.

The sisters each knew a different version of their enigmatic father, but all grew up in the presence of fairy tales acted out with marionettes and shadow puppets. If they are to find the fourth daughter and claim the legacy their father has left them, the three must confront their fractured relationships with their father and each other. Infused with fairy tales that sometimes spill magic into the sisters’ real lives, *The Puppeteer’s Daughters* is a stunningly woven family saga about the cost and rewards of claiming a creative life.

**About the Author**

Heather Newton’s novel *Under The Mercy Trees* (HarperCollins, 2011) won the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award, was chosen by the Women’s National Book Association as a Great Group Reads Selection, and was named an Okra Pick by the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance. Her short story collection, *McMullen Circle* (Regal House, 2022), was a finalist for the W.S. Porter prize. Her novel *The Puppeteer’s Daughters* (Turner, 2022) is her second novel. A practicing attorney, she teaches creative writing for UNC-Asheville’s Great Smokies Writing Program and is co-founder and program manager for the Flatiron Writers Room in Asheville, North Carolina.
Acworth Book Festival, Oct 22

FESTIVAL OF
AUTHORS
BOOKS
STORYTELLING PERFORMERS

Saturday, October 22, 2022
9:00a - 12:00p and 1:00p - 4:00p
Roberts School Community & Education Center
4861 School St
Acworth, GA 30101

More info at:
acworthculturalarts.org

Featuring
Atlanta Writer’s Club Speakers:

George Weinstein - Novel Writing
Lucy Sullivan - Writing about Your Life
Kim Conrey - Marketing

Featuring Storytelling Performers:
Leslie Shelly, Natalie Jones, Kanute
Raney, Amanda Lawrence, Denise Mount,
& Danielle Ramos

* Meet the authors
* Attend talks & lectures
* Kids crafts
* Watch & listen to storytelling performances.
Meet the Author: A live talk with William Shatner in conversation with Joshua Brandon
Wednesday, October 5 at 8:00 p.m., Virtual

Join Gwinnett County Public Library with actor and author William Shatner as he discusses his new book, *Boldly Go: Reflections on a Life of Awe and Wonder*. This is a ticketed event. A ticket includes event attendance and a copy of the book.

Authors & Dessert in Duluth: Marisela Martinez-Cola
Thursday, October 20 at 7:30 p.m., Duluth

Editorial in “Write for Kids”

Does this look like a pornographic book to you?

How about this one?

Or this?

To a group of Texas politicians and activist groups, the answer for all three is "YES." And that's why they're working to ban these books - along with scores of other books about civil rights, LGBTQ+ rights, alternative historical viewpoints and other topics that don't fit their agenda.

And the madness is spreading. In Michigan, a local library has been defunded, and its librarians and staff smeared as "groomers" and "pedophiles." In Oklahoma, a teacher who shared a link to a Brooklyn library's collection of challenged ebooks was put on leave and ultimately resigned. In Missouri, a new law threatens teachers and librarians with up to a year in jail for sharing books that state deems unsuitable.

Regardless of your personal political or moral beliefs, the thought of a state putting educators in prison should send a chill down your spine.

The following editorial lays out the *real* issue and what's at stake, and it includes actionable advice for writers concerned about getting caught in the crossfire: [LINK]
How independent bookstores help in the fight against book banning and why it matters

by Fernando Alfonso III

NPR Supervising Editor, Digital News

BROOKHAVEN, Ga.—The graphic novel adaptation of Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl* was the last book Jan Bolgla expected to see yanked off public library shelves in the 16 years since she and her husband bought a used bookstore filled with cats, artwork and, as of this past week, a banned book section.

Bolgla shared this somber observation on the eve of Banned Books Week while petting Big Boo, a Maine Coon rescue purring atop a glass case full of rare books. Near the store's entrance was a bookshelf Bolgla's sister-in-law Michele Bolgla had stocked with Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*, George Orwell's *1984* and J.D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*, each of which have been or are currently banned in parts of the U.S.

"There should not be censorship," she said. "...

Booksellers are lucky, because we get to sell whatever we want to sell. So we can sell the banned books, but what they're doing to schools and libraries, for that generation coming up, not being able to experience diversity as much and seeing it as a bad thing, we feel very strongly that it is not the right way to go."

[Click here to read the entire article]
The 2022 event will feature a ticketed Keynote from acclaimed author Pete Souza on Friday, September 30 at 8:00 p.m (tickets available starting Aug. 29th). Pete Souza was the Chief Official White House Photographer for the tenure of the presidency of Barack Obama. At the keynote event, he’ll discuss his latest book, The West Wing and Beyond: What I Saw Inside the Presidency.

The rest of the 2022 Decatur Book Festival is a free, non-ticketed, all-day event on October 1st at First Baptist Church of Decatur. Nearby, the Atlanta Writers Club will have a tent and will be recruiting potential members. The event will highlight selected authors with new publications featured in sixteen sessions presented in three tracks: adult fiction, adult non-fiction, and children & youth. Click the button below to read all about this year's sessions.

READ ABOUT THE 2022 SESSIONS
Florida WritersCon 2022

250+ Expected Attendees
9 Amazing presenters
6 Agent and Publishers
3 Days of networking, fun, improving your craft
1 Amazing event

Space is limited; register on the website to reserve your spot!

October 28–30th, 2022
Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs

www.floridawriters.org/florida-writerscon
Open September 1 – November 1

Current and past residents from North Carolina and its border states — Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia — are invited to enter their work in three categories: poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Guidelines are below, and at Charlotte Lit’s Submittable site after September 1.

All winners and honorable mentions will be published in the Spring 2023 issue of Litmosphere: Journal of Charlotte Lit and receive prizes starting at $1,500 for first place. The 2022 winners are listed here.

CATEGORIES & PRIZES

Categories:
• Poetry: 1-3 poems, up to five pages
• Fiction: up to 4000 words
• Nonfiction: up to 4000 words

Prizes in Each Category:
• 1st: $1,500
• 2nd: $500
• 3rd: $250
• Honorable Mentions: $50

...plus publication in the Spring 2023 issue of Litmosphere: Journal of Charlotte Lit

For complete details and submission instructions, click here.
Moonlight & Magnolias - 2022 Press Release

For immediate release.

Georgia Romance Writers Set to Host their Annual Writing Conference Moonlight & Magnolias in October

ATLANTA, October 20, 2022 - The Georgia Romance Writers (GRW), a non-profit, professional writing organization based in Atlanta, GA, will host their annual 4-day conference, Moonlight & Magnolias, on October 20th to the 23rd. The conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Atlanta SW - Peachtree City, with early bird registration rates available until July 15, 2022, and general registration open until October.

For forty years the Moonlight & Magnolias Writing Conference has maintained a tradition of supporting and developing writers of all levels. The conference Keynote Speaker is New York Times bestselling author Lora Leigh, with bestselling special guest speakers Andrew Grey and Dahlia Rose. Deb Dixon, leading authority on Goals, Motivation & Conflict, is set to host an all day workshop. Attendees can expect workshop tracks for beginner, intermediate and advanced (bestselling) writers, editor and agent pitching appointments, as well as a vendor’s room with offerings from authors, branded merchandise and other fun surprises. Registration includes a ticket to the Saturday night’s Maggie Award Dinner.

Moonlight & Magnolias also has events for romance readers, including the Reader Luncheon on Saturday, October 22 followed by a book signing where attendees can meet their favorite romance authors. Tickets for the luncheon can be purchased separately for those not attending the conference. The book signing is free and open to the public.

“Georgia Romance Writers' Moonlight and Magnolias is the best writing conference out there,” said Brenda Lowder, GRW President. “The events, workshops, and speakers are always fantastic. Authors I've met at M&M have become my lifelong writing friends. The atmosphere is incredibly friendly, supportive, and just plain fun. This conference is not to be missed!”

To learn more about Moonlight & Magnolias and to register to attend the conference visit https://www.garomancewriters.org/moonlight-and-magnolias.

About Georgia Romance Writers
Georgia Romance Writers is a non-profit organization made up of approximately 150 serious, professional writers, nearly one-third of whom are multi-published in book length fiction. Our organization is dedicated to bringing quality women’s fiction to the market. GRW's mission is to promote high quality romance writing; to disseminate information regarding all aspects of the romance genre; and to give support and encouragement to members. Visit our website to learn more about Georgia Romance Writers.

###

Media Contact
Lauren Connolly
GRW Director of Communications
EMAIL
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
[Email](mailto:bobbie@zebra-communications.com)
[Website](http://zebra-communications.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**
[Email](mailto:kay.hunt@zebra-communications.com)

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

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

**JANIE MILLS**
[Email](mailto:janie.mills@zebra-communications.com)
[Website](http://janie.mills.com)

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

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

**CHRIS NEGRON**
[Email](mailto:chris.negron@zebra-communications.com)
[Website](http://chris.negron.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**
[Email](mailto:daown.richerston@zebra-communications.com)
[Website](http://daown.richerston.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**

Email  
Website

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 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.

**MARI ANN STEFANELLI**

The Writer’s High, LLC: Take your writing to a higher level with experienced, professional editing.  
Email  
Website

Specialty areas: memoir and narrative nonfiction; mystery, thriller, romance, fantasy, women’s fiction, and commercial fiction; book proposals and query letters.

A former public relations professional, I’ve specialized in developmental and line editing since 2014. Editorial assessments honor your voice and vision; all communication is shared in a respectful, encouraging manner. I’m a coordinator for the Georgia chapter, Editorial Freelancers Association, and founded the Writer’s High Retreat, an inspiring weekend retreat featuring literary luminaries such as Winston Groom, Cassandra King, and Patti Callahan Henry. Read more about me and my services [HERE](#).

**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 be.

**A.E. WILLIAMS**

EMAIL  
WEBSITE

Genres I edit: fantasy, sci-fi, horror, thriller, screenplays, comic book scripts, memoir, and various nonfiction topics

Bio: My name is A.E. Williams. I run an editorial firm, A.E. Williams Editorial. My clients are oftentimes independent authors for which I perform copyediting, developmental editing, and line editing. I am also a freelance copyeditor with Hachette Book Group. If interested in working with me, please email a 1,000-word sample and I will complete it for free. In my response I will provide your edited sample, testimonials, rates, resume, and a list of recent projects.

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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](#) 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.
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 website offers Free Promotion. 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](mailto:george.weinstein@atlantawritersclub.com).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online #</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Meeting Schedule</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Availability</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>Fiction: Short Stories &amp; Novels</td>
<td>Meets on 2nd &amp; 4th Friday of the month via Zoom, 1pm.</td>
<td>Kelley Cody-Grimm</td>
<td>EMAIL, Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>Fiction only</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Linh Pham</td>
<td>EMAIL, Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>All Genres</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, at 7:00pm Eastern</td>
<td>Gail Lash</td>
<td>EMAIL, Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5</td>
<td>Short Stories</td>
<td>Every 2nd Thursday at 1pm</td>
<td>Pat Bowen</td>
<td>EMAIL, Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6</td>
<td>Young Adult &amp; Middle Grade Fiction</td>
<td>Work shared by email</td>
<td>Brad Scott</td>
<td>EMAIL, Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>Screenwriting (email for details)</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Friday of every month @ 7pm via ZOOM</td>
<td>Liz Irlard</td>
<td>EMAIL, Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8</td>
<td>Advanced Writers in Thriller/Mystery/Suspense</td>
<td>Meet on the 2nd-4th Thursday each month at 7:00 pm online (or in-person if participants are interested)</td>
<td>Bill Robbins</td>
<td>EMAIL, OPEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#9</td>
<td>Romance</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7-8pm using Google Meets</td>
<td>Dana Armstrong</td>
<td>EMAIL, OPEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#10</td>
<td>Study/Critique Group open to all level of writers and all genres</td>
<td>Click here and scroll down for details</td>
<td>April Love-Fordham</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#11</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, Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#12</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, Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#13</td>
<td>All Genres</td>
<td>Meeting online every other Tues.</td>
<td>Nancy Fletcher</td>
<td>EMAIL, Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#14</td>
<td>Adult Fiction</td>
<td>Online, every other Thursday, 7-9 pm</td>
<td>Susanne Fincher</td>
<td>EMAIL, Wait List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#15</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM</td>
<td>Mike Brown</td>
<td>email, WAIT LIST</td>
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## AWC CRITIQUE GROUPS, cont.

(Changed groups in red)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group Name</th>
<th>Genre(s)</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Contact Person(s)</th>
<th>Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online #16</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meetings are virtual via Zoom every other Monday at 10:30 am. Members exchange drafts of their work product twice monthly for critiquing. Members also engage in a virtual happy hour on Thursdays at 5 pm the weeks they don’t have a regular meeting</td>
<td>Jeremy Logan</td>
<td>email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online/In person Lawrenceville</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Files shared via Google &amp; meetings on second Thursday of every month from 6-7pm at Five Forks Library</td>
<td>Ashley Melanson</td>
<td>email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta/ Midtown</td>
<td>Advanced Mystery/ Thriller, LGBT, Romance in the real world</td>
<td>For with finished MS, submit 2000 words+ at a time, sent in advance. Meet every other Monday 7-9pm for feedback at Ponce City Market, upstairs, in the seating area facing Ponce</td>
<td>Stephen James</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunwoody/ Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Speculative fiction (novels and short stories), Science Fiction, Space Opera, &amp; Fantasy</td>
<td>Meets every other Wednesday, 6:30pm. Usually at a restaurant. Zoom used if necessary.</td>
<td>Sarah Minnear &amp; Serene Taleb-Agha</td>
<td>email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online/In person Dunwoody, Duluth</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Online file sharing. In-Person before/after AWC meeting.</td>
<td>Lisa Cooper</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online/In person Alpharetta</td>
<td>Screenplays</td>
<td>Online filesharing for 30 days (one Act and then in-person meeting near North Point Mall on first Saturday of month. 10am - 12:30pm</td>
<td>Joe Redace</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marietta</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meets at member’s house 1st &amp; 3rd Tues. 6:30-8:00PM</td>
<td>Linda Sullivan</td>
<td>email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marietta/ East Cobb</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of every month at 2:00PM in the East Cobb Library community room (4880 Lower Roswell Rd, in the Parkaire Landing Shopping Plaza).</td>
<td>Margaret Richlin</td>
<td>email</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>
</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Fiction &amp; Non-fiction (Please indicate what you are writing, any published work, and expectations.)</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>
</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 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

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.