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

Guest Speaker #1 - Lisa Weldon: Memoir Writing

Guest Speaker #2 - Michael Lucker: Screenwriting 101
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Click here to Register for the Atl Self-Pub Conference.

Our Next Meeting

January 21 - AWC Monthly Meeting In-Person at Georgia State University-Dunwoody Perimeter College for Members and First-Time Guests, 1:30-4:00 pm Eastern

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Cover

The cover theme for 2023 is “Famous Authors.” The images are computer generated drawings (AI), so it may be slightly more difficult to recognize than a photo. Can you guess who the author is this month? If not, you’ll find the answer somewhere in this edition of eQuill. Good luck. Neither the authors on the cover nor their books are intended as an endorsement by the AWC, its officers, or its members.

Gene Bowen, eQuill Publisher.

Stay Connected to AWC

AWC officers

President: Jill Evans
Executive Director: George Weinstein
Officers Emeritus: Valerie Connors

George Weinstein
Clay Ramsey
Marty Aftewicz
Ron Aiken
Mike Brown
Conference Director: George Weinstein

Membership VP: Yvonne Green
Programs VP: OPEN - Volunteer Wanted

Operations VP: Kim Conrey

Marketing VP: Patrick Scullin
Contests VP: Kathy Nichols
Townsend Prize Director: Clay Ramsey

Treasurer: Jerry Weiner
Historian/By-Laws: George Weinstein
eQuill Publisher: Gene Bowen
A Message from the President

The Wonder of It All

What's your favorite holiday movie? My husband's favorite is It's a Wonderful Life. Mine is How the Grinch Stole Christmas. I've seen the original cartoon show and the Jim Carrey live action film many times, and I treasure my original book.

I wish I could go back and ask my child self why the Grinch story held such appeal. I know it wasn't an affinity for the Grinch's sour disposition. Jaded and cynical though I may be as an adult, the Grinch was off-putting then, and still is. I'm now drawn to Cindy Lou Hoo's innocence, Max the dog's loyalty under less than ideal circumstances, and the magical wackiness of the Hoo world.

Steven James, in his talk to us for the December meeting, told a story about a boy who inspired him to take a fresh look at the world. If you missed it, be sure to check the recording link we'll send as soon as it’s available. All our cynicism is melted away when the world is reframed through a child's eyes.

Sentimentality in writing comes off as saccharine. My eyes roll when I read a book or watch a show that's simple syrup. We want characters to be likable, but they also need to be complex and flawed. Steven talked about the need for struggle in a story. The boy he encountered certainly faced challenges.

I think a lot of Christmas movies are popular because they end with a message of hope or suggest an attitude change. This is true of A Charlie Brown Christmas, which I loved as a child, and still do.

The world is fraught with every flavor of our worst qualities as humans. Our job as writers is to not avert our eyes, but meet those qualities head on. At the same time I want to glimpse those moments of wonder in the periphery and invite them to take the stage as well.

Wonder gets a bad rap, and I need it as my 2023 reclamation project.

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.
January 10 Online Workshop for AWC Members & First-Time Guests

Tuesday, January 10
7:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. (Online)

The Zoom meeting link will be sent during the week of the workshop to everyone on the AWC mailing list.

No RSVP necessary.

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

7:00-7:15 p.m. AWC announcements and upcoming events with AWC President Jill Evans

7:15 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Alex DiFrancesco: The Shape of Short Story

Alex DiFrancesco (they/them) is the author of Psychopomps, All City, and Transmutation. They are a 2022 recipient of the Ohio Arts Council’s Individual Excellence Award, as well as the first transgender awards finalist in over 80 years of the Ohioana Book Awards. Their work has appeared in New York Times, Washington Post, Tin House, Brevity, and more. They currently live in Philadelphia with their West Highland Terrier, Roxy Music, Dog of Doom.

On January 10, Alex will lead a discussion of the shapes short story narratives take and how we can create shapes and narratives of our own.
LISA WELDON HAS SPENT A LIFETIME in advertising in Atlanta. Her hobby? Walking cities and sharing the stories she finds. Some of her treks span Manhattan, Paris, Shanghai, Istanbul, and la Ciudad de Panamá.

After hearing about her 30-day walk of Manhattan, a NY literary agent looked Lisa squarely in the eyes and said, “You have to write a book!” And to that Lisa quipped, “Ma’am, I don’t write!” The agent winced but pressed on. “Then get a ghost writer. Your story needs to be told.” That’s how Lisa’s appetite for storytelling began. At age 68 her first book, Thirty Pieces, was published and has earned awards from 2022 Nautilus Books and 2021 American Best Books, and retains a 5-star rating on Amazon.

*Huffington Post* invited Lisa to chronicle her monthlong walk of Paris then published her first submission on the front cover of their “Living Fearlessly” section. Oprah’s network, Harpo Productions, caught wind of her walks and invited her to give Cindy Crawford advice on turning 50. Lisa is a featured speaker and guest in numerous podcasts and online shows. She is a fellow of the Hambidge Center.

Her current project is *Blood Sisters, A Forbidden Friendship during the Civil Rights Era*, a novel based in Mobile, her hometown.

www.LisaWeldon.com
@LisaWeldon on social media

Lisa writes, "Publishing my memoir was like running through the street buck naked." She will speak to vulnerability--how to handle deep and tender stories, those belonging to the author as well as to those of family and friends. Publishing and marketing tips will also be shared.
MICHAEL IS A PROFESSIONAL SCREENWRITER and professor of screenwriting with more than twenty years of experience writing for major studios and ten years of experience lecturing at major universities. He began his career writing and directing cable commercials while earning his undergraduate degree in broadcasting and film at Boston University’s College of Communication. Soon after he landed in Los Angeles working in production for ABC, NBC and CBS before taking a job as assistant to Steven Spielberg at Amblin Entertainment on the feature films Always, Arachnophobia and Indiana Jones & the Last Crusade. He went onto serve in creative affairs on feature films at Hollywood Pictures before embarking on a career as a screenwriter for Paramount, Disney, DreamWorks, Fox and Universal on such movies as Vampire in Brooklyn, Home on The Range, Mulan II and Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron, which was nominated for an Academy Award in 2002 as best animated feature.

An opportunity to serve as executive producer at Turner Entertainment brought him home to Atlanta in 2007. He went onto work in television for Animal Planet, Cartoon Network, Travel Channel, History, Discovery, NBC, TBS, TNT, TLC, OWN, DIY, MSNBC and A&E. Recently, he served as consultant on the feature films Fear of Rain starring Harry Connick Jr., A Wing and A Prayer starring Dennis Quaid and The Curse of La Pata sola starring AJ Jones. The award-winning short 10-56, which Michael co-wrote and co-produced in 2021, is currently in development as a feature film with Riot Proof Entertainment.

Recently, he was hired to adapt the award-winning children’s book series FREEING FREDDIE into an animated television series with Candy Bear Productions, and write the feature thriller THE LITTLE PROJECT for Monument Multimedia. A renowned instructor in screenwriting, Michael serves as lecturer at University of North Georgia and in Reinhardt University’s Creative Writing MFA Program. He also serves as advisor to the Georgia Film Academy and is the founder of Screenwriter School. His book on screenwriting--Crash! Boom! Bang! How to Write Action Movies--is available wherever books are sold. His debut novel, the crime thriller Rule One, is set to be released in the fall of 2023. When he’s not writing or teaching, he goes hiking with his Yellow Labrador and plays drums in a rock and roll band.

Join professional screenwriter and professor of screenwriting, Michael Lucker, for a fun-filled hour on how to break in and break out as a screenwriter in the modern age. The world is changing a mile a minute, and so too are the opportunities for writers no matter where they reside. Hear first-hand from someone who has written movies for Disney, Dreamworks, Fox, Universal, Paramount and more, just how to craft and adapt stories that will sell.
December Meeting Photos

Videorecording link will be sent by email as soon as it is available.

Meeting photos by Patrick Scullin (samples shown below) and Kai Smith (all photos archived here):

AWC Volunteers at Work

Holiday Party & Mixer

Guest Speaker Steven James
AWC Annual Writing Contest
Now Open for Submissions

ELIGIBILITY:
1. The AWC 2023 Writing Contest is open to: All current (through May 31, 2023), paid club members. Please check your membership status before submitting your entry. 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.
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, 2023. 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 May 20, 2023.

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

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

PAPER ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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 Contest Apprentice Tiffany R. Jansen.
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).
The Atlanta Self-Publishing Conference (ASPC) is dedicated to serving self-published authors and the independent publishing market. Sponsored by the Atlanta Writers Club (AWC), our conferences provide professional speakers and networking for all who attend.

No matter whether you're curious about the self-publishing market or you want to learn how to grow your independent author business, everyone will have something to learn at ASPC.

Location:
WESTIN ATLANTA AIRPORT HOTEL
4736 Best Road, Atlanta, GA 30337

This year, we'll be providing Launch Track sessions for those new to self-publishing or who have recently started their indie authorship. Booster Track sessions cater to authors who feel as though they have the basics in hand and are looking for more advanced strategies to add to their publication and marketing processes.

8:00 AM
Coffee & Conversations takes place in the Networking Room and gives attendees a chance to get to know the people they will be learning with (and from) throughout the day.

8:45 AM
A formal welcome is given in the Networking Room by conference director Tenesha L. Curtis.

9:00 AM
First Sessions take place in the Launch and Booster rooms.
The first Launch session is "Self-Publishing 101" facilitated by Tamika Newhouse.
The first Booster session is "Printing Money" facilitated by Dave Sheets.

10:00 AM
Break Time gives everyone a chance to chat, grab a snack, visit the restroom, stretch, etc.

10:30 AM
Second Sessions take place in the Launch and Booster rooms.
The second Launch session is "How to Work with an Editor," facilitated by Cody Sisco.
The second Booster session is "Earning Beyond Royalties" facilitated by Bob McGough.

11:30 AM
Lunch Break is time for picking up food deliveries from the lobby or driving to one of the nearby venues for a quick bite to eat. This time can also be spend building further rapport with fellow writers.
1:00 PM
Third Sessions take place in the Launch and Booster rooms.
The third Launch session is "Social Media Basics," facilitated by K. G. Fletcher.
The third Booster session is "Profitable Newsletter Management."

2:00 PM
Break Time gives everyone a chance to chat, grab a snack, visit the restroom, stretch, etc.

2:30 PM
Fourth Sessions take place in the Launch and Booster rooms.
The fourth Launch session is "Intro to Cover Design," facilitated by Bobby Nash.
The fourth Booster session is "The Six-Figure Authorship," facilitated by David A. Simpson.

3:30 PM
Break Time gives everyone a chance to chat, grab a snack, visit the restroom, stretch, etc.

4:00 PM
Author Panel takes place in the Networking Room and gives all attendees a chance to ask questions of all the presenters who spoke at the conference.

5:00-7:00 PM
Genre Tables are a chance for authors writing in similar genres to connect. This would also be the time to buy any books and get info from vendors there wasn't time for earlier.

For complete details and to register, please go to the ASPC website.
May 5-6, 2023 Atlanta Writers Conference

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.

May 5-6, 2023
Atlanta Writers Conference
Register Now

Our 28th Atlanta Writers Conference will be held in-person (with an option to participate virtually for agent/editor meetings only) at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel on May 5-6, 2023 with agent/editor critique and pitch meetings, a two-hour workshop on writing diverse characters, two Q&A panels, emailed pre-conference edits, a Friday night mixer with music, two days of educational talks, and—for the first time—a book fair!

Location:
WESTIN ATLANTA AIRPORT HOTEL
4736 Best Road, Atlanta, GA 30337

WANT TO GET PUBLISHED?

The May 5-6, 2023 Atlanta Writers Conference offers you 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 18 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, nearly 50% 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, more than 60% 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 author and actress Tonya Todd on “Crafting Diverse Characters for Inclusive Literature” and two free bonus talks by Tonya beforehand.

- A Q&A panel with all nine participating acquisitions editors and a separate Q&A panel with all nine literary agents to address all your questions about the business of writing.

- Free bonus educational talks by Lauretta Hannon—the bestselling author named the “Funniest Woman in Georgia” by Southern Living Magazine—and...
award-winning television writer, actress, nationally touring comedian, and author Jorjeana Marie.

- 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 Pitches, with certificates to be given to the awardees—or sent after the conference for those not in attendance.

- And introducing our first book fair, with opportunities for participants who want to sign and sell their traditionally and self-published books on Friday, May 5.

- Nearly 50 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 through May 6, 2023, 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 5-6, 2023 Atlanta Writers Conference, click here to start.
AWC member Brynn Barineau’s historical novel Jaguars and Other Game is a gender-flipped, Three Musketeers-style adventure that takes readers to colonial Rio de Janeiro one year after the Portuguese royal family arrives seeking refuge from Napoleon. Three women must track down a murderer to save a friend wrongly imprisoned for the crime. While on the hunt, the friends discover a conspiracy that reaches the heart of the Portuguese court and must decide what they’re each willing to risk for justice, friendship and, possibly, love. Kirkus Reviews calls it “an addictive tale with drama, history, and delightful protagonists.” Buy it here

Originally from Atlanta, Brynn Barineau moved to her husband’s native Rio de Janeiro after finishing her master’s in International Communication at American University. She arrived in Brazil with too many sweaters and not enough Portuguese and began writing as a way to process life in a new country. Her fiction is rooted in the power and possibilities of relationships across cultures. She’s now back in Atlanta rediscovering her hometown with her Brazilian-American family.

AWC member Brian DeLaney’s novel Chasing Pirates was released in November 2022. In this action/adventure novel, the Captain Morgan Piracy Tour Company based in Key West proves successful as Captain Chase Porter regales his lubbers with tales of the pirate life aboard the frigate Satisfaction. Not everyone in Key West has fallen in love with this grand ship and her crew. Jasper Cobb, the leading tour operator in Key West, is seeing his revenues shrink due to this new interloper. Together with his daughter and Chief Financial Officer, Ginger, they devise a variety of plans to stop Chase from taking all their business. Some legal, most not. Can Chase and his crew overcome these plans? Or will their venture sink like many doomed ships off the Florida coast? Buy it here

Brian is a former advertising executive with years of sales, management and creative messaging experience and is a member of the Atlanta Writers Club. Brian lives in Alpharetta, Georgia with his wife Cindy and near children Kelly, Kirstie, Samson, and their families. Brian and Cindy enjoy traveling and frequently visiting their grandchildren. He also enjoys camping and kayaking in the Adirondacks, yard work, and playing his guitar.
National Philanthropy Day was celebrated in Atlanta in November. **AWC member Linda Wise McNay**’s children’s book *The Adventures of PhilAnThropy* is featured in AFP’s Philanthropy in the Classroom program and all attendees at NPD 2023 received a copy of it.

**AWC member Will Ottinger**’s third Adam Barrow novel, *Hidden*, the art investigator returns to New York when billionaire Phillip Dansby hires him once again to authenticate a set of Picasso drawings. The search becomes secondary when Dansby uncovers a story about a scandalous painting by Diego Velazquez that was supposedly destroyed by the Catholic Church 400 years ago. Or was it? Considered by many as the greatest artist who ever lived, Velazquez’s lost painting may be a fairytale or an incalculable treasure—if it survived the Church’s wraith. With no clues about the painting’s whereabouts or its forbidden subject, Adam faces increasing doubts and the knowledge that someone wants him dead.

[Click here for Amazon purchase link](#)

You’ve probably heard Louis Armstrong sing, “Do you know what it means to miss New Orleans, when that’s where you left your heart?” That’s the dilemma facing the main character in **AWC member Dave Swan**’s new short story when she visits her ailing ex-boyfriend in the city, without telling her husband in Atlanta. The piece, “**Now You Never Call Me Anymore**,” was published by Adelaide Literary Magazine in New York.
LORIN OBERWEGER is a highly sought-after independent book editor and ghostwriter with almost thirty years’ experience in publishing. Her company, Free Expressions, offers intensive, deep craft workshops nationwide. She’s also known for her one-on-one story mastermind session for writers of all genres of fiction and creative nonfiction.

Lorin’s students and clients have been published by HarperCollins, Penguin Random House, Scholastic, Simon and Schuster, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Disney, and many other presses. They have also gained representation with some of the industry’s leading literary agents and several have had work optioned for film and television.

An award-winning author, Lorin has co-written and ghostwritten eight books, several for New York Times bestselling authors of fiction and nonfiction. Her work, commissioned by major publishers, has received glowing notices from the New York Times, Kirkus Reviews, NPR, and others. Her latest co-author credit is THANK YOU FOR COMING TO MY TED TALK, written with Chris Anderson, director of TED Conferences.

With bestselling author Veronica Rossi, Lorin is the author of the New Adult books, BOOMERANG, REBOUND, and BOUNCE, published by Harper/William Morrow under the pen name Noelle August. The novels were praised by Publishers Weekly and Library Journal, among others, and BOOMERANG was chosen as a “new and notable” selection for Target Stores across the US.

In 2023, Lorin will present a quarterly webinar series with critiques, exclusively for the Atlanta Writers Club, via Zoom, open to all current members of the Atlanta Writers Club. To register for participation in this series, please email AWC Executive Director George Weinstein with your request to receive the Zoom link each quarter. A quarterly recording will be made available to all who register. If you also want to receive a manuscript sample critique from Lorin, please see the instructions further down.

STORY 360 WITH LORIN OBERWEGER
A Comprehensive Four-part Workshop for Creating Successful Fiction

PART ONE: JANUARY 18, 2023
AT 7:00 P.M. US EASTERN

Maximizing Your Premise For Story Success (And Making Sure Your Protagonist Is The Right Person For The Job):

Often writers begin with what they think is a great character or a great story idea, only to fizzle out a few chapters into the work. Why? Because a strong, sustainable narrative relies on several factors: an interesting story world; a complex character with complex relationships; goals that escalate and put the protagonist through interesting and unexpected paces; and stakes that operate on both the personal and public level.

In this generative workshop, we’ll explore the essential elements to a strong story concept and dynamic main character, which will give you plenty to work with, help you avoid—or defeat—the saggy middle, and ultimately ensure you deliver a rewarding and memorable experience to your reader.

PART TWO: APRIL 12, 2023
AT 7:00 P.M. US EASTERN

Deep Dive Into Scene Structure: Going Beyond The Basics To Create Shapely, Resonant Scenes

Though many writers know the basics of scene structure, they fail to make their scenes do all the work they can do, taking the path of least resistance instead of challenging themselves—and their characters and stories—to greater heights.

In this generative class, we’ll dig into the foundational element of story construction, the scene, and examine ways in which every aspect of the scene can perform multiple functions, creating richer and more dynamic moments that lead to a much more satisfying work.
PART THREE: JULY 19, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. US EASTERN

_Holding The River: On Pacing And Voice_

Effective pacing, like voice, can sometimes be an “I’ll know it when I feel it” proposition, but there ARE practical considerations in creating an efficient narrative flow—while expressing the personality of one’s viewpoint character or characters.

In this generative workshop, we’ll look at the issues of when to use exposition and when to employ more observable dramatic action; what kinds of scenes demand to be slowed down and savored and what scenes can be dispensed with more quickly; when—and if—we need aftermath or sequel scenes; and how to get a handle on the overall pacing of our novels, creating a sense of escalation and stronger drive as we move toward our story’s climax. We’ll also work on deepening and sharpening narrative voice, to make the expression of your story one of its key strengths.

PART FOUR: OCTOBER 18, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. US EASTERN

_The End Is The Beginning (With Bonus Emotional Query And Revision Content)_

As writers, we’re often guilty of noodling around with our story openings FOREVER, but what about our endings?

In this generative workshop, we’ll talk about—and play with writing—story endings that serve as a powerful target for the rest of your narrative. We’ll ask ourselves what makes for a potent and resonant ending. Other topics covered will include how to weave all of your plot threads and plot lines together and how to decide on the order for doing so; how to decide on last images/last lines; how to bring things full circle from your opening; how to avoid disappointing the reader; and how to clarify and underscore your protagonist’s emotional journey at story’s end.

We’ll also look at maximizing our revision process and creating query letters that express not just the mechanics of our stories but the beating heart behind the words.

Lorin Oberweger’s Critiques:

Lorin will review 10 manuscript samples of no more than 2,500 words each (along with a manuscript summary of no more than 400 words) per quarter. To register for one of these critiques, please email AWC Executive Director George Weinstein. He will fill the first quarterly allotment of 10 and then the second quarterly allotment of 10, and so on until all 40 available spots are full, and then a waitlist will be available. Lorin will send out Calendly invitations with Zoom details for the first 10 to respond for first quarter meetings. During the second quarter, she will send Calendly invitations to the next 10, and so on. AWC members who register for this critique must submit their materials two weeks prior to the webinar for that quarter, and Lorin will meet with them the week after the webinar according to the date and time they select on the Calendly invitation.
AWC Townsend Prize for Fiction Update

Here are the 10 Finalists for the 2023 AWC Townsend Prize for Fiction:

Daniel Black, *Don’t Cry for Me*
Kimberly Brock, *The Lost Book of Eleanor Dare*
Taylor Brown, *Wingwalkers*
Anjali Enjeti, *The Parted Earth*
Ann Hite, *Haints on Black Mountain*
Thomas Mullen, *Midnight Atlanta*
Lo Patrick, *The Floating Girls*
Josh Russell, *King of the Animals*
Sanjena Sathian, *The Gold Diggers*
Tiphanie Yanique, *Monster in the Middle*

Save the Date
AWC Townsend Prize for Fiction Award Ceremony:
Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Location:
Atlanta Woman’s Club Wimbish House
1150 Peachtree Street NE
Atlanta, GA 30309

Keynote Speaker: Melissa Fay Greene

Award Ceremony tickets will go on sale in January.
Don’t Hire the First Editor You Meet—Shop Around

By AWC Member Catherine Hamrick

THERE IS NO ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL EDITOR. Hire a professional suited to your field/genre. When interviewing candidates, clearly communicate the required services. Editorial terms vary. However, a quick snapshot follows.

MANUSCRIPT REVIEW: Examines purpose, audience focus, content development, readability, style, tone, voice, need to rewrite, structure, cohesiveness, flow, and word choices. (In fiction, also examines hook, character development, point of view, conflict, plot, setting, time frame, awkward passages, and detail.) A critique does not involve proofreading, copyediting, line editing, developmental editing, or rewriting. It is an overall review of the text so the writer can address key issues to shape the manuscript.

A manuscript review is a wise investment, especially if you’re a first-time author. It's a reality check on how much work your text requires before you consult an editor.

DEVELOPMENTAL EDITOR: Addresses logic, structure, form, plot, character, style, tone, voice, cohesiveness, clarity, flow, text to rewrite, information gaps, and unfocused copy.

HEAVY COPYEDITOR: Performs basic copyediting. Addresses style, tone, voice, readability, logic, structure, cohesiveness, flow, consistency of content, appropriate word choices, context, smooth transitions, and elimination of ambiguity, triteness, wordiness, jargon, and redundancy.

BASIC COPYEDITOR: Addresses grammar, usage, punctuation, spelling, capitalization, mechanics, cross-references, and order.

PROOFREADER: Checks basic grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and mechanics. Cross-checks table of contents, tables, lists, and other matter.

HOW MUCH SHOULD YOU PAY FOR SERVICES?
Fees vary—depending on the manuscript's word count, level of editing required, and genre. The more experienced an editor, the more you’re likely to pay. For perspective, explore these websites:

- Reedsy: Editing Costs
- Editorial Freelancers Association Rates

Before making a financial commitment, shape up your manuscript. Need motivation, encouragement, and creative problem-solving along the way? Joining a writing group is an excellent time investment. You’ll meet like-minded contemporaries while getting valuable feedback. The Atlanta Writers Club lists critique groups you can contact to find the right fit.

REVISE, REVISE, REVISE
Whether getting input from your critique group or an editor, it’s on you to persist. As you work through multiple drafts, remember that most storied authors sweat every page. In an interview with The Paris Review in 1956, Hemingway was asked how much he rewrote. He said, "It depends. I rewrote the ending of A Farewell to Arms, the last page of it, 39 times before I was satisfied."

What stumped him? "Getting the words right."

Currently a marketing copywriter, Catherine Hamrick worked at Cooking Light, Better Homes and Gardens, Victoria, and Meredith Books. Her poetry has appeared in The Blue Mountain Review, storySouth, Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel, and elsewhere. Find her online at Random Storyteller.
Join Legendary UGA Quarterback and 1980 National Champion

BUCK BELUE

Celebrating His New Book
INSIDE THE HEDGES

Tuesday, January 17th
6:00-7:30 p.m.
Alpharetta Library
10 Park Plaza
Alpharetta, GA 30009

Inside The Hedges is a look back at Georgia’s 1980 National Championship Season through the quarterback’s eyes. A behind the curtain look at Buck Belue’s story from Valdosta High through the University of Georgia.
Meet the Author: A talk with Susan Shapiro Barash
Tuesday, January 10 at 7:00 p.m., Virtual
For over thirty years, Susan Shapiro Barash has been researching female infidelity. In her updated investigation, *A Passion for More*, we learn why and how a diverse group of women in their twenties to their eighties conduct affairs.

Authors & Dessert in Duluth with Michael Gagnon and Matthew Hild
Thursday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m., Duluth Branch
Join GCPL for desserts and beverages with local historians and authors Michael Gagnon and Matthew Hild as they discuss their book, *Gwinnett County, Georgia, and the Transformation of the American South, 1818-2018*.

Writers’ Workshop
Family Stories: Creating Genuine Emotion in Your Characters
Saturday, January 21 at 10:30 a.m., Norcross Branch
Is 2023 the year to write your family story? Join Susan Beckham Zurenda, author of *Bells for Eli*, for a hands-on writing workshop on creating family stories.

Housing, Race, and Exclusion in Modern-Day Atlanta with Professor Dan Immergluck
Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m., Virtual
*Red Hot City* is an insightful examination of how growth-at-all-costs planning and policy have exacerbated inequality and racial division in Atlanta.

Meet the New York Times Bestselling Author Stacy Willingham
Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m., Virtual

Meet TV Star & Author Matt Paxton
Thursday, January 26 at 7:00 p.m., Norcross Cultural Arts Center
Hoarders TV star Matt Paxton will discuss his book, *Keep the Memories, Lose the Stuff: Declutter, Downsize, and Move Forward with Your Life*.

DISCOVER MORE & REGISTER FOR ONLINE ACCESS:
WWW.GWINNETTPL.ORG/ADULTSERVICES
Georgia Writers Museum 2023 Retreat

2023 Writers Retreat

FEBRUARY 24-26, 2023
SAVE THE DATE
Writers Retreat

EARLY REGISTRATION
Dec. 17, 2022 through Jan. 7, 2023

$270 Full-Conference
(includes keynote, 2 lunches, and critique session)

$130 One-Day
(includes lunch)

$45 a la carte, per session

Register Today
The Key Book Publishing Paths: 2023–2024
By Jane Friedman

One of the biggest questions I hear from authors today: Should I traditionally publish or self-publish?

This is an increasingly complicated question to answer because:

1. There are now many varieties of traditional publishing and self-publishing, with evolving models and diverse contracts.
2. It’s not an either/or proposition; you can do both. Many successful authors, including myself, decide which path is best based on our goals and career level.

Thus, there is no one path or service that’s right for everyone all the time; you should take time to understand the landscape and make a decision based on long-term career goals, as well as the unique qualities of your work. Your choice should also be guided by your own personality (are you an entrepreneurial sort?) and experience as an author (do you have the slightest idea what you’re doing?).

My chart divides the field into traditional (advance-based) publishing, small presses, assisted publishing, indie or self-publishing, and social publishing:

See a downloadable version of the chart and complete article.
Starting January 1, 2023, Harlequin is accepting romance story submissions for the Romance Includes You Mentorship. They welcome submissions from unpublished, debut romance writers and are particularly interested in writers underrepresented in the romance genre.

They are looking to offer the writer of the top submission:
- the chance to work one-on-one with a Harlequin editor for a year to develop their happily-ever-after story for publication under the famous Harlequin name;
- a publishing contract with an advance; and
- a grant to support your writing and career development

This opportunity is open to writers living in North America.

Consider submitting a romance story to the #RomanceIncludesYou Mentorship. Submissions are being accepted from Jan. 1 to Jan. 31, 2023.

Get the details 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-.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
Website

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

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

**KAY HUNT**

Email

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.

**JUDITH KOLBERG**

Email
Website
404-226-1381

Nonfiction Genres: lifestyle, health, business, personal growth, self-help, memoir, spiritual, inspiration, and narrative non-fiction.

I am an experienced developmental editor with fifteen years of experience bringing multiple authors to publication in Specializing in developmental editing including content structure, clarity, interest, flow, segue and other writing elements that make for a fantastic reader’s experience. Perfect for writers in need of a rigorous, honest, and compassionate first-reader or for authors at any level seeking a collaborative, effective editing process designed to fit their schedule and budget. Confidential ghost-writing services available.

**JANIE MILLS**

Email
Website

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

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

**CHRIS NEGRON**

Email
Website

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

DAWN RICHERSON
Email
Website

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 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.

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.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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**LOOK FOR IT HERE**

[Cover Writer Arthur C. Clarke](https://www.coverwriter.org)
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
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**.
<p>| Online #1 | Fiction: Short Stories &amp; Novels | Meets on 2nd &amp; 4th Friday of the month via Zoom, 1pm. | Kelley Cody-Grimm | EMAIL | Wait List |
| Online #2 | Fiction only | Ongoing | Linh Pham | EMAIL | Wait List |
| Online #3 | Self Published Authors | Every 2nd &amp; 4th Tuesday at 7 pm | J. M. (Michelle) Tompkins | EMAIL | Wait List |
| Online #4 | All Genres | 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, at 7:00pm Eastern | Gail Lash | EMAIL | Wait List |
| Online #5 | Short Stories | Every 2nd Thursday at 1pm | Pat Bowen | EMAIL | Open |
| Online #6 | Young Adult &amp; Middle Grade Fiction | Work shared by email | Brad Scott | EMAIL | Wait List |
| Online #7 | Screenwriting (email for details) | 1st &amp; 3rd Friday of every month @ 7pm via ZOOM | Liz Irland | EMAIL | Wait List |
| Online #8 | Advanced Writers in Thriller/Mystery/ Suspense | Meet on the 2nd-4th Thursday each month at 7:00 pm online (or in-person if participants are interested) | Bill Robbins | EMAIL | Open |
| Online #9 | Romance | 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7-8pm using Google Meets | Dana Armstrong | EMAIL | Wait |
| Online #10 | Study/Critique Group open to all level of writers and all genres | Click here and scroll down for details | April Love-Fordham | EMAIL | Open |
| Online #11 | All genres | 1st and 3rd Fri, 1-3 p.m. @ Georgia Perimeter College Library Building, Rm3100 | Gelia Dolcimascolo | 770-274-5240 | Open |
| Online #12 | Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, &amp; Memoir | Meeting online, Tuesdays, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm | Quinn Eastman | EMAIL | Open |
| Online #13 | All Genres | Meeting online every other Tues. | Nancy Fletcher | EMAIL | Wait List |
| Online #14 | Adult Fiction | Online, every other Thursday, 7-9 pm | Susanne Fincher | EMAIL | Wait List |
| Online #15 | Fiction | 1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM | Mike Brown | EMAIL | Wait List |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Meetings</th>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roswell/online #16</td>
<td>All genres</td>
<td>Meetings are virtual via Zoom every other Monday at 10:30am. Members exchange drafts twice monthly for critiquing.</td>
<td>Toni Bellon</td>
<td>email</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online #17</td>
<td>Sci-Fi and Fantasy</td>
<td>Online using Google Meet, 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 7pm</td>
<td>Dana Armstrong</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>Wait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online/In person L’ville</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>
<td>open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>In partnership with Latin American Assc., All genres in English, Spanish, Spanglish, &amp; more</td>
<td>Bi-weekly on Thursdays at the Latin American Association. 6:3-3pm to 8:00pm. Instruction and facilitation in English/Spanish/Spanglish</td>
<td>Jonathan Peraza Campos &amp; Anna Frida Herrera</td>
<td>EMAIL Or EMAIL</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta Northside (W. P. F.)</td>
<td>Sci-Fi but open to other types of speculative fiction</td>
<td>Meetings at Northside Branch Library on 3rd Thursday of month at 6:30pm</td>
<td>Helen Shaw</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>OPEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta/ Ponce-Highland</td>
<td>Literary fiction</td>
<td>Meets in person at pre-selected location, 7-9pm every other Tuesday, beginning March 7, 2023. We’ll discuss preshared excerpts and pre-meeting critiques.</td>
<td>Jim Trueblood</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>OPEN (Limited to 10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online/In person Tucker</td>
<td>Children’s picture books &amp; Middle grade fiction, with near complete manuscripts.</td>
<td>Zoom on 1st &amp; 3rd Tuesdays (7-8:30pm) and in-person 2nd &amp; 4th Saturdays (2-3:30pm)</td>
<td>Susan Burnash</td>
<td>email</td>
<td>open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunwoody/ Sandy Springs</td>
<td>Speculative fiction (novels and short stories),</td>
<td>Meets every other Wednesday, 6:30pm. Usually at a restaurant. Zoom used if necessary.</td>
<td>Sarah Minnear Serene Taleb-Agha</td>
<td>email</td>
<td>open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online/In person Dunwoody, Duluth</td>
<td>Science Fiction, Space Opera, &amp; Fantasy</td>
<td>Online file sharing. In-Person before/after AWC meeting.</td>
<td>Lisa Cooper</td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td>OPEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online/In person Alpharetta</td>
<td>Screenplays</td>
<td>Online fileshearing 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>
<td>Open</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>
<td>Wait List</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>
<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>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>
<td>Wait list</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Membership Renewal

The AWC has an automated system for tracking memberships and alerting members when it's time to renew. 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.

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY A MEMBER...

• 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.

• 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.

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

• 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 prior to the expiration of your membership.
MONTHLY MEETINGS. On the third Saturday of each month, 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 AWC 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.

Regular membership dues are $60 per year per person. Students can join for $10 per year. Family members of active AWC members can join for $30 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

□ New Membership  [Individual]  [Family]
□ Renewal  [Individual]  [Family]

*If this is a Renewal, please provide your name and update your contact information as needed*

First Name: _____________________________ Last Name: _____________________________
Cell Phone: _____________________________ Other Phone: _____________________________
Email: _____________________________ Alternate Email: _____________________________

*For additional family members, please use additional forms*

First Name: _____________________________ Last Name: _____________________________
Cell Phone: _____________________________ Other Phone: _____________________________
Email: _____________________________ Alternate Email: _____________________________

I would like to become involved with the AWC as a:  □ Meeting Volunteer  □ Conference Volunteer
□ Decatur Book Festival Volunteer  □ Other (please specify):

AWC MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual [$60.00]: $__________
Family [add family members for $30.00 each]: $__________
Student [$10.00]: $__________

Make checks payable to: Atlanta Writers Club
Tax Deductible Donation: $__________

Total: $__________

Mail check and form to: Atlanta Writers Club
C/O Jerry Weiner, Treasurer
8080 Jett Ferry Road
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 this donation.
*Please keep this portion of the form as your receipt*