



eQuill

March 2018

Atlanta Writers Club



...founded in 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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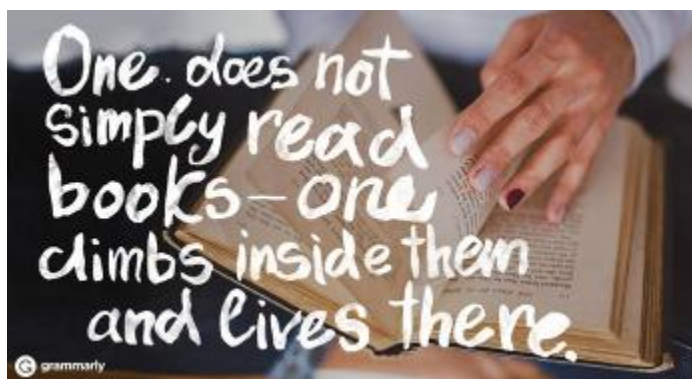
Historian/By-Laws:

George Weinstein

eQuill Publisher:

Gene Bowen

3 rd	Workshop - Writing a Nonfiction Book Proposal
9 th - 11 th	The Writers Retreat
11 th	Meet the Authors
17 th	Monthly AWC Meeting
26 th	Steve Berry
29 th	S. Lorraine Norwood



Between newsletters there's FaceBook.



<http://www.facebook.com/people/Atlanta-WritersClub/100000367043383>

<http://twitter.com/atlwritersclub>

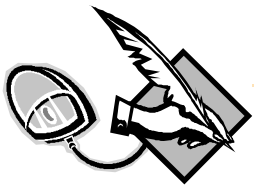


March 17 meeting

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Letter From the President

Mine is but one voice



"Mine is but one voice"

That was a memorable quote from my first rejection letter, and I assumed the agent meant it as encouragement to query other agents (or a polite blow-off). I thought about what he'd written thirteen years ago after the February Atlanta Writers Club monthly meeting. We'd held a mini-story contest, the writing prompt a photograph of a man, head bowed, sitting alone in a bar. Eighteen members submitted their stories covering several genres—police procedural, women's fiction, romance, and mystery/suspense. The stories were well crafted, but there could be only one winner.

Christopher Swann, a GAYA and Townsend nominee for his novel *Shadow of the Lions*, and one of our guest speakers was gracious enough to read the submissions and chose the winner. He said the winning entry suggested both a complete story in its fifty words and left him wanting to know more.

"Mine is but one voice"

I polled fellow board members and a few trusted readers to give me their opinions, and as I suspected, their selections differed. Two loved the same piece, but for different reasons. One liked the usage of dialogue instead of narrative to convey the story, and the darkly funny surprise ending. The other wanted to know what caused the protagonist's actions. A third reviewer liked a different piece because they learned several things about the protagonist in a few sentences, and enjoyed the unexpected ending.

In yet another favorite, the reader was intrigued by the story's complexity and felt it had real potential; they wanted to see it to the end.

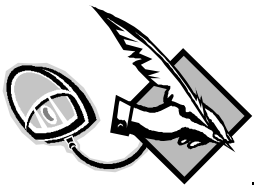
Bottom line? Nine reviewers, five different selections.

So, what does all of this mean?

Well, I'm somewhat familiar with the reviewers' writing styles and reading habits, and their votes appeared to follow along *party* lines: readers gravitate to books and genres they spend the most time enjoying.

Then, what's a writer to do when seeking representation?

Find the right voice(s). A good starting point is to query agents who represent authors who write in your genre or with a similar style. (Note: Authors usually mention their agents in their books' acknowledgements and on their websites.)



Monthly Meetings

March Speakers



Mike Brown's a Southern boy at heart, although he's lived and traveled in many states far removed from his beloved boyhood roots in Georgia and Florida. He returned to his Southern roots and back to college shortly after his youngest son graduated. In the last fifteen years he has preached, taught and coached in Alabama, Georgia and Florida until his wife, Connie, and he moved to Newnan just south of Atlanta and retired to write, travel, and spoil grandchildren.

Mike is an active member of the Atlanta Writers Club, Georgia Writers Association, Chattahoochee Valley Writers Conference, and American Christian Fiction Writers. Selected as presenting fiction author at the 2017 Decatur Book Festival, 2017 Milton Literary Festival, and 2018 Dahlonega Literary Festival.

Nominated for First Novel category of the prestigious 54th Annual Georgia Author of the Year hosted by the Georgia Writers Association.

Finalist for Best Suspense Novel of 2017 by Interviews and Reviews.

Sanctuary featured as a "Must Read" in the May/June issue of Southern Writers Magazine, 2017.



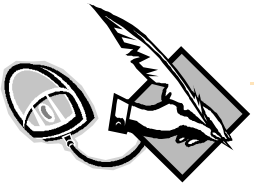
As the author of eleven novels and a novella, David Fulmer has won the Shamus Award for Best First Novel and a Benjamin Franklin Award and has been nominated for a LA Times Book Prize, the Barry Award, the Falcon Award, and the Shamus Award for Best Novel. His books have received superlative reviews from, among others, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Publishers Weekly* and in addition to audiobook versions, have been translated into French, Italian, Japanese, and Turkish.

Eclipse Alley, the sixth installment in his acclaimed Storyville series, was released last month by Crescent City Books and the final and last book in the series is coming in November.

A former journalist and producer, he is a native of central Pennsylvania and lives in Atlanta with his wife Sansanee Sermprungsuk.



The daughter of immigrants from Thailand and a native of New York City, Sansanee Sermprungsuk has been a research librarian for fifteen years, including her most recent position with a midtown Atlanta law firm. She holds a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Georgia, a Master's Degree in Information and Library Science from Pratt Institute and has studied at Oxford. In addition to her far-ranging legal research, she provides editorial and book-production support to her husband, the writer David Fulmer. They live in Ormewood Park with her two cats, Mimi and Louie Biscuits.



March Speakers



Kim Wright is the author of *Love in Mid Air*, *The Unexpected Waltz* and *The Canterbury Sisters*, as well as her latest novel, *Last Ride to Graceland*, which is the 2017 winner of the Willie Morris Award for Southern Fiction. Before turning her attention to novels seven years ago, Kim had a long career as a nonfiction writer, specializing in the areas of wine, food and travel and is a two-time recipient of the Lowell Thomas Award for Travel Writing. She lives in Charlotte where her hobbies include raising rescue dogs and competitive ballroom dancing.



Pre-meeting Mixer

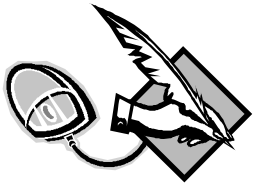
The pre-meeting mixer will be from 12:30 to 1:30, and again will feature a one-sentence contest. At the February mixer, almost 20 members chose the challenge and participated in a mini-story competition, drawing inspiration from a photograph, their narrative not to exceed fifty words. Christopher Swann, our first guest speaker, judged the submissions and chose Mayonn Passewe-Valchev's submission. She received a gift card from A Cappella Books. Well done, Mayonn. Honorable mention honors went to Mike Marsh.

It was 10 o'clock on a Sunday morning when the pastor, Walter Bates, ordered his fourth drink at the pub that overlooked the church where members had already decided his fate. (Mayonn Passewe-Valchev)



For this month's contest, you are to write a sentence of not more than forty words with a writing prompt to be provided at the March 17th mixer on a 3-by-5 index card with your name on the back of the card. The winner will receive a gift card from a local independent bookseller.

Thanks to all who took up the February challenge.



Monthly Meetings

Future Guests & Events 2018

March 3rd

Spring Workshop (Writing a nonfiction book proposal) with Sandra Johnson

April 21st

Patricia Holt – Member Spotlight

Nick Chiles – 1st Speaker

Melisa Cahnmann-Taylor - 2nd Speaker

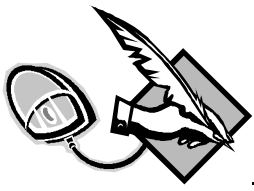
May 19th

Alayne Smith - Member Spotlight

Lola Schaefer - 1st Speaker

Melanie Summer - 2nd Speaker





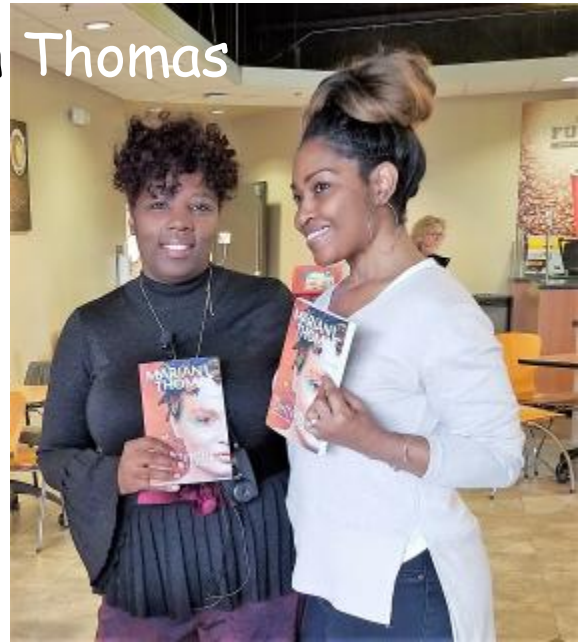
Monthly Meetings

February Photos by Ron Aiken



Christopher Swann

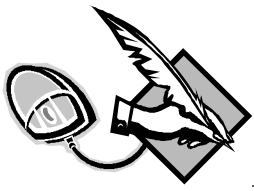
Marion Thomas



Mayonn
Paasewe-Valchev



Marsha Cornelius



AWC 2018 Writers Conference

MAY 4-5, 2018 ATLANTA WRITERS CONFERENCE

Register now to attend the May 4-5, 2018 Atlanta Writers Conference, at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel.

<http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/>

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
- Working on a screenplay
- Trying to build your network of industry contacts



...this is your opportunity to take the next big step toward your writing goals.

Want to get published?

The May 4-5, 2018 Atlanta Writers Conference offers you access to a group of 12 editors and agents seeking manuscripts for every major **fiction genre** and **nonfiction topic**, as well as **graphic novels** and **poetry** and **short-story collections**. More than two dozen of our members have signed with agents or editors they met at our Conferences, and a number of those have scored major book deals. You could be next. Even if your work is not ready to submit, you'll benefit from the many educational sessions on the craft and business of writing. We'll even help you learn how to turn your book into a screenplay.

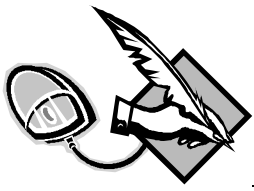
Agents and editors at the May 4-5, 2018 Conference will:

- * Critique a manuscript sample you submit in advance and possibly ask to see more to consider it for representation/acquisition
- * Critique your query letter to improve it for the Conference pitches and future use
- * Respond to your pitch and possibly ask to see your manuscript to consider it for representation/acquisition
- * Provide hours of Q&A
- * Select the best manuscript samples and pitches for our award ceremony--maybe they'll call your name!



You'll also enjoy:

- * A new workshop on turning your book into a screenplay, presented by Emmy-nominated screenwriter, producer, and educator Patricia Meyer
- * Presentations on the craft and business of writing from local best-selling authors
- * Networking with presenters and participants
- * Prize giveaways for free manuscript and query letters critiques, pitches, and more



Conference, *cont.*

We've filled the two-day conference with great experiences:

Friday, May 4:

- * Query letter critique panels that pair one editor and one agent who will help you get your query in shape for the Saturday pitches
- * Screenwriting workshop by Emmy-nominated writer, producer, and educator Patricia Meyer, to give you the tools to turn your book into a screenplay
- * Free talks by Patricia Meyer on creating three-dimensional characters and the art of rewriting
- * Q&A panel with our six guest editors
- * Social mixer with all twelve editors and agents and our workshop presenter

Saturday, May 5:

- * One-on-one manuscript critique sessions with your choice of editors and agents
- * Pitch sessions with your choice of editors and agents
- * Q&A panel with our six guest agents
- * Free talks by best-selling local authors Emily Carpenter and Buzz Bernard on writing craft, working with publicists, lessons learned about traditional publishing with large, mid-size, and small presses, and the tools you'll need to be a successful author in the current environment
- * Award ceremony and prize giveaways



Registration is now open!

For full details about Conference activities:

<http://atlantawritersconference.com/the-conference>

For pricing options:

<http://atlantawritersconference.com/the-cost>

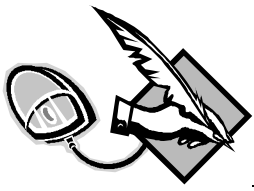
Learn about our guest editors and agents:

<http://atlantawritersconference.com/the-editors-and-agents>

After you've read all the Conference details on the website--including the deadlines and refund policy--use the registration tab to secure your place at the May 4-5, 2018 Atlanta Writers Conference.

As past Conference participants will tell you, the spots fill up fast, so don't delay.

The Atlanta Writers Conference is presented exclusively for members of the Atlanta Writers Club. If you are not a current member or your membership will lapse prior to May

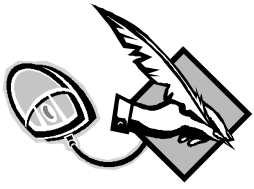


Conference, *cont.*

6, 2018, you can join/renew as part of your Conference registration--you do **not** need to do this as a two-step process.

We hope you'll be able to join us! Start here and then click through the Conference website pages for all the details: <http://atlantawritersconference.com/about/>





AWC 2018 Writing Contest

Guidelines



ELIGIBILITY:

1. The AWC 2018 Writing Contest is open to: **All current, paid club members.** Please check your membership status before submitting your entry. (To join AWC, please contact the Membership VP, Yvonne Green, at [yvonnegreen1000@gmail.com.](mailto:yvonnegreen1000@gmail.com))
 2. Submissions must be *original, unpublished, and previously un-awarded work.*
- Entrants may submit only one piece to only one category per contest year.

DEADLINE:

Midnight, March 17, 2018. Submissions received after this date will automatically be ineligible.

AWARDS:

Each award carries a \$300 cash prize, a plaque, and publication in *The Blue Mountain Review*. Winners will be announced at our club meeting on April 21, 2018.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:

Terry Kay Prize for Fiction (Maximum, 3000 words)

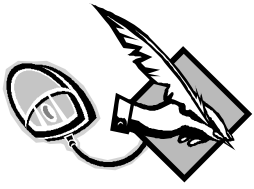
Rick Bragg Prize for Nonfiction (Maximum, 3000 words)

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



AWC 2018 Writing Contest

Guidelines, *cont.*

- ✦ 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 chramse@gmail.com.

There is no template for the SSF; you create the document yourself (see below) and send it as a separate attachment. The entry and SSF *both* must be sent as attached Word documents (.docx). The SSF is used for identification purposes by Clay Ramsey only. Judges never know the identity of any author; they see only the blind entry document.

IMPORTANT: Name the documents by title, i.e. Title.docx and SSF-Title.docx

Example: if the entry title is Moon Fire, the document 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 Clay Ramsey).

Standard Submission Form (SSF):

The SSF must include the following information:

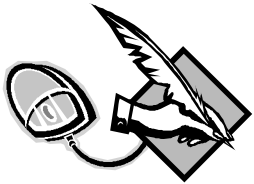
Author's Name

Prize Category

Title of Entry

Word Count (Line Count for poetry)

Named the document: SSF-Title.docx



AWC 2018 Writing Contest

Guidelines, *cont.*

Attach the entry document and your SSF document to an email addressed to Clay at chramse@gmail.com. Your EMAIL MESSAGE MUST INCLUDE:

Subject Line: AWC 2018 Writing Contest

Your name, phone number, prize category, title

Example:

Dear Clay,

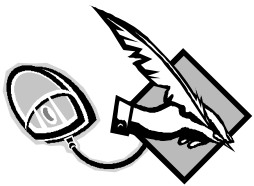
I have attached [Title] for the [Prize Category] and the corresponding SSF.

Thank you,

[Your name]

[Your phone number]





Member Q & A with Becky Albertalli

By: George Weinstein



Becky Albertalli is an author of contemporary young adult fiction, including *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda* (now a major motion picture: *Love, Simon*), *The Upside of Unrequited*, *Leah On the Offbeat*, and *What If It's Us*. She lives with her family in Atlanta, and you can visit her online at www.beckyalbertalli.com.

How did you choose “contemporary young adult” novels as your genre (or how did it choose you)?

I think it did choose me! I never had a moment where I wasn't sure what genre or age category to pursue. *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda* was the first book I attempted to write, and I knew it would be contemporary YA from the very beginning of the planning stages. I love YA, and my teen memories are still very vivid. I'm not sure if I'll want to branch out in the future, but for now, I'm excited to continue writing in this space.

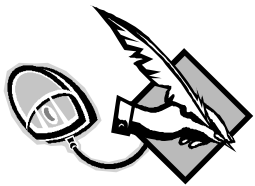
Your first novel, *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda*—a bestseller available in 20 languages—is an Atlanta Writers Conference success story. How did it go from manuscript to published novel?

Technically, *Simon* has never hit a bestseller list! It's been a consistent seller (more so now than ever), but it wasn't an overnight success. In many ways, though, *Simon's* had a charmed journey. I pitched it to agents for the first time at the fall 2013 Atlanta Writers Conference, queried after the conference, and signed with an agent very quickly. Brooks Sherman, my agent, sold the book to HarperCollins a few days after I signed with him. I was so lucky my book fell into the right hands at the right time. When I tell this story, I always like to mention that my second book had to be fully rewritten seven times over the course of two years. Every book has a different journey.



What was your involvement in marketing the published book, and how did you feel as it took off not only in the U.S. but internationally?

Simon wasn't a lead title in the season it was published, but it was well-loved in-house at HarperCollins. There were many steps I took to market my book, including stepping up my social media presence, hosting giveaways, and organizing a small, self-funded book tour with friends. Ultimately, though, the thing that made the biggest difference for *Simon* was word of mouth, both within my publishing house and among readers.

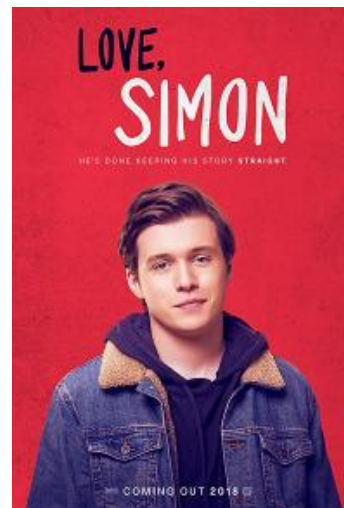


Member Q & A with Becky Albertalli

By: George Weinstein

And then how did the novel become the major motion picture, *Love, Simon*, launching on March 16, 2018?

I learned so much about the book-to-film process as I went through it with *Simon*, and the lesson that stands out the most is this: every book-to-film process is different. In my case, my literary agent connected me with a film representative, who was able to attach Temple Hill Entertainment as a production company. Temple Hill brought the movie pitch to Twentieth Century Fox, who optioned the film rights. That was incredibly exciting for me, but still – I had no expectation that a movie would actually be made (it's common for optioned books to never be developed, or for projects to die in development). Then, slowly, the pieces started falling into place – Elizabeth Berger and Isaac Aptaker wrote an incredible script, funding was negotiated, the project was greenlit, and actors began auditioning. Finally, in February of 2017, I visited the production office for the first time – which was when it finally started to click that the film was actually happening. It's still incredibly surreal.

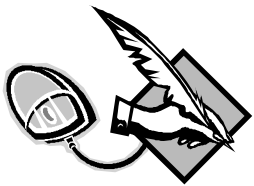


What lessons would you like to pass along to other authors about giving up/maintaining creative control when one's book becomes a screenplay?

Giving up control during the book-to-film process is difficult - in a very different way than giving up control when you work with a traditional publisher. Authors' levels of involvement can vary dramatically, with some authors choosing to remain completely detached from the adaptation. I was lucky enough to have a really collaborative team with experience in YA book-to-film adaptations, and they valued my input and support of the project at every stage. In turn, I went into the process knowing that the team needed space to interpret the material in their own way.

How are you preparing fans of your novel for the inevitable differences they'll see in the movie?

This can be tricky, especially with a passionate YA audience, and I've definitely received messages from readers who are frustrated about even the most minor changes. I try to gently remind them that film adaptations are always different from their source material, and that the heart of the film is very faithful to the book. My friend Angie Thomas (author of the bestselling *The Hate U Give*) refers to books and their film adaptations as "fraternal twins," which I think is a useful analogy.



Member Q & A with Becky Albertalli

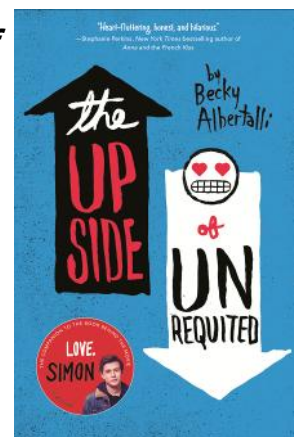
By: George Weinstein

How did you feel when readers who loved your novel started to write fan fiction using the characters you created, and how have your feelings evolved about this over time?

I love fanfiction, and I'm incredibly honored and grateful that fanfiction for my work exists. I make it very clear to my readers that I support it, and if they share pieces with me directly, I'll boost it for other readers to enjoy. This is so important to me as a former fanfiction writer – I think fanfiction is the best writing practice in the world.

When you were working on your second novel, *The Upside of Unrequited*, and seeing it go out into the world, how did you prepare yourself for the anticipated comparisons to your breakout debut, and did you have any fears of disappointing your fanbase and/or other anxious feelings about its reception?

I was very nervous about this. Second books are notoriously difficult, and this was the first book I'd written under contract. It's also a deeply personal book, with a main character who is a lot like teen-me. It's hard to follow up a successful debut, and there will be some readers who are so attached to your earlier work that they'll have difficulty connecting to anything different. I've struggled with this, but I'm coming to understand that each book tends to find its own readers. You can't let the fear of disappointing your earlier readers keep you from telling the story you need to tell.



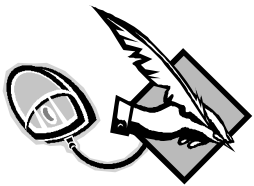
Did you plan on your third novel to be a sequel to *Simon*, or did you have another story in mind but needed to write *Leah On the Offbeat* (releasing April 24, 2018) because of the ongoing success of your debut and the forthcoming movie?

I was actually dying to write Leah's story, and never thought I'd get that chance. I was really happy that my publisher was open to me taking this on. The timing of the movie and *Leah On the Offbeat* is actually a coincidence!

When writing *Leah*, how did it feel to revisit your characters from *Simon*, and did any of the choices made by the *Love, Simon* filmmakers influence your decisions about the further development of these characters, the plot, introducing new characters, etc.?

I loved having the chance to spend more time in Simon's world, and it was particular fun getting to explore that world from a different perspective. Much of the direction of Leah's book was influenced by conversations among readers about Simon.





Member Q & A with Becky Albertalli

By: George Weinstein

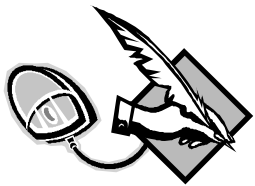
I don't know that the filmmakers' decisions necessarily influenced the story, but I do think I pictured some of the actors as I was drafting Leah. I'm curious to see if readers will pick up on that.

Your fourth novel, *What If It's Us*, coming in October 2018, provided you with a new adventure: cowriting with another successful author, Adam Silvera. Based on that experience, what advice do you have for writers who are considering teaming up to work on a book together?

This ended up being my favorite writing experience of all – it was such an interesting and different creative experience for me, particularly since I've always been very private about the early stages of my writing. Adam and I collaborated every step of the way, and I think it made the story richer and more dynamic. I'd advise other writers to carefully consider whether you and your co-writer are creatively and personally compatible. It's not a process I could undertake with most of my friends – it's almost like parenting a child together. That said, with the right cowriter, it can be incredibly rewarding, fun, and fulfilling.



[Click here to watch trailer](#)



Tips

by Dan Smith, CEO & Founder, Smith Publicity

Here are a few quick tips to help the self-promoting author:

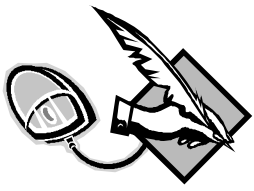


Maximize the power of social media. Online social platforms enable you to engage with potential fans and readers in an easier manner than speaking personally to someone. Be active, connect, and give followers a reason to be interested in you and your book. And social media, actually, is not a place for self-promotion – it’s about promoting yourself and book by providing information and giving something to people. You don’t tweet “My book is great! Buy it now!” Rather, make meaningful connections by offering something to people – whether it’s great information from a non-fiction book, or fun contests related to your novel.

Remember that you sell yourself every day. We get hung up on the term “self-promotion,” but in reality, whether at work or in daily life, we all do things to try and make people like us, and like to be around us. We’re all natural self-promoters. When talking about your book, it’s really no different.

Write, write and write. One of the easiest ways to bring attention to yourself is by writing – I’m not talking about your book, but on blogs and other online platforms. Even if you’re writing about something not directly related to your book, if you provide good, useful or entertaining content and put your book in your bio, you’ll get people interested in you.

Stay out of politics and religion! It’s the Thanksgiving table rule – expressing opinions about politics and religion will inevitably offend someone, and there are right and wrong places to discuss these topics. Example: You may be someone who detests President Trump or you’re a hard core conservative; it doesn’t matter – keep your opinions offline! Unless you’ve written a political or religious book or having strong opinions on certain topics is part of your brand, keep personal beliefs to yourself on social media and any other public forum. Remember that you will offend **someone**, and that perhaps even large segments of your potential book-buying market may feel strongly enough to not buy your book because of what you’ve expressed.



AWC Member Achievements



Jackie Hunter said she began writing short stories and poems when she was twelve years old. Over a thirty-year career, she taught middle school math and science and worked as an elementary school administrator.

Her debut novel, *Lost in the Red Hills of Mars*, is about a thirteen years old girl who lives in the first human colony on Mars. Ms. Hunter wrote this book because she remembered how excited her students were when they were asked to design a human colony for Mars.

Thirteen-year-old Celine Red Cloud's world is confined to the Compound, the tiny underground community that represents humanity's first foothold on Mars. There she lives with a hundred other colonists, including her parents.

Celine's mother hates Mars and makes no secret of it. As for Mr. Red Cloud, the Cherokee geologist left Earth to escape a past he'd rather forget. Living with one parent who'd give anything to leave Mars and one who sees the red planet as a new start causes some strain in Celine's homelife, but right now family tension is the last thing on her mind—her father has gone missing.

Lost in a skin-scouring Martian sandstorm, Mr. Red Cloud is presumed dead by the little colony. Only Celine holds out hope he somehow survived. Together with Alex, a young clone desperate to gain his own father's approval, Celine sets out to hunt for her father among the gullies and canyons of Mars. To succeed, she's going to have to face local wildlife, a deadly environment, and every challenge Mars can throw at her.

Lost in the Red Hills of Mars ties together family devotion, self-reliance, and survival in a rousing adventure story.



Kindle unlimited



Kerry Alan Denney

February 6 at 4:48pm

♥♥♥ Release day today! 2/6/2018: A CUP OF LOVE ♥♥♥

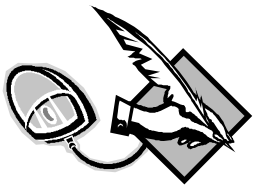
<https://www.amazon.com/Cup-Love-Stories-Valentines-Anthology-ebook/dp/B079KXLTTJ/>

100% of proceeds go to the wonderful charity FIRST BOOK

Celebrating 25 years of delivering possibilities to children in need.

<https://firstbook.org/>

A Cup of Love: Stories From the Heart: Valentine's Day Anthology : 30 Writers on Love & Life



Event

writers helping writers
**Southeastern
Writers**

Join us for the 43rd Annual
Southeastern Writers Workshop
June 8 - 12, 2018
Eworth By The Sea
St. Simons Island, Georgia

Registration is **NOW OPEN** for the best
Writers' Workshop in the Southeast!

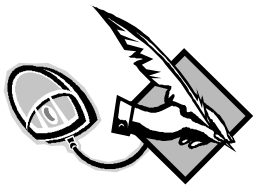
Space is limited! Don't miss your chance to spend
four days and nights learning from bestselling authors,
a literary agent, and a publisher.

FREE CONTESTS for attendees!
FREE MANUSCRIPT EVALUATIONS!
NEW for 2018 - **FREE** PROFESSIONAL HEAD SHOTS!

Shamus Award Winner **Michael Wiley** - *Fiction*
Southern Writer **C.D. Mitchell** - *Short Fiction*
Award-Winner **Dana Wildsmith** - *Poetry & Memoirs*
Award-Winner **Cappy Hall Rearick** - *Humor & Columns*
Agent-in-Residence **Kristy Hunter** - *The Knight Agency*
The Write Platform - **Debra Brown** - *Marketing*
Write Way Editing - Award-Winner **Alexandra Christle** - *Editing*
Thomas Max Publishing - **Lee Clevenger** - *Publishing*



See our website for details!
southeasternwriters.org



Event

The Writer's High Retreat[®]

"The perfect weekend writing retreat"

Amicalola Falls Lodge, Dawsonville, Georgia

March 9–11, 2018

Featuring the New York Times

Best Selling Author

PATTI CALLAHAN HENRY

&

NICK CHILES

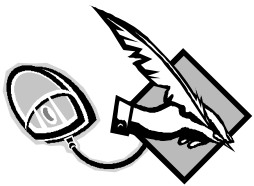
NYT Best Selling Author, Pulitzer Prize-winning Former Journalist, and Literary Agent

Sponsors:

Atlanta Writers Club

Broadleaf Writers Association

Visit www.thewritershigh.com for registration details



Writers Service

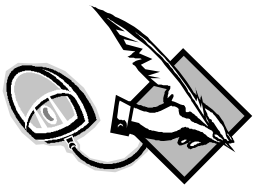


Transform your writing dreams into reality **Sandra Johnson Literary Services**

Often the difference between a book appearing on bestsellers' lists or disappearing in rejection piles is comprehensive literary services from a seasoned publishing industry professional like Sandra Johnson. As attested by bestselling author Blaire Edens, Sandra Johnson has the expertise to guide you to success whether in fiction or non-fiction. This comes from years as a freelance editor, writing instructor, and acclaimed writer. Her novel *Flowers for the Living* was nominated for a prestigious PEN/Faulkner Award; her narrative nonfiction book *Standing on Holy Ground: A Triumph over Hate Crime in the Deep South* won rave reviews from *O: The Oprah Magazine*, *USA Today*, and *Southern Living*; and her self-help book *Body-Mind Peace Journal: Daily Prompts for Mindful Living* will be featured in Barnes and Noble's *A New You* campaign in January 2019. These diverse achievements fortify Sandra Johnson's knowledge of each stage of the publishing process—from crafting compelling query letters to producing polished books across a range of genres that attract the attention of top agents and editors. She is eager to share this extensive knowledge with you to help turn your writing dreams into reality.



Sandra Johnson Literary Services provides expert guidance in helping novelists and nonfiction writers to prepare their books for commercial publication. My website sandrajohnsonliteraryservices.com offers more details as well as a testimonial from *USA Today* bestselling author Blaire Edens.



Event

Gwinnett County Public Library Presents
a Bicentennial Series Program

Meet the Authors

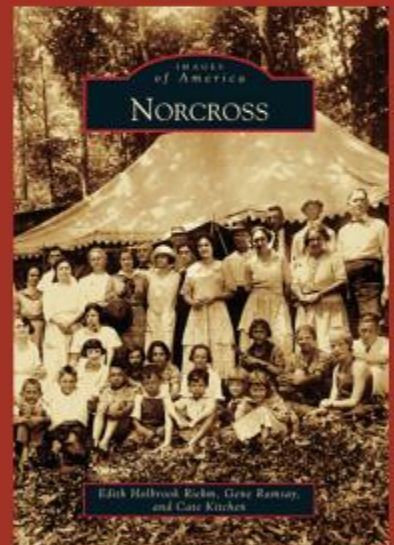
Edith Holbrook Riehm • Gene Ramsay • Cate Kitchen

Sunday, March 11th at 3:00 pm
Norcross Cultural Arts and Community Center
10 College Street, Norcross, GA 30071

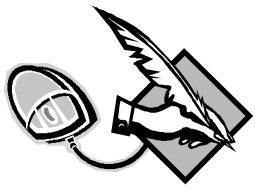
Join GCPL for a panel discussion and presentation featuring local authors on the history of Norcross.

Images of America: Norcross tells the stories of the town's founders, residents, and visitors, combining everyday lives with historical events that stretch over 140 years. The rich history includes pioneers, Civil War veterans, former slaves, railroaders, baseball players, preachers, teachers, politicians, bootleggers, entrepreneurs, US presidents, and the 1996 Olympic torch.

Free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase and signing.



1001 Lawrenceville Highway, Lawrenceville, GA 30046 | Call: 770.978.5154 | Text: 770.450.5305 | www.gwinnettpl.org



Event

Gwinnett County Public Library Presents



Steve Berry

Bestselling Author

Monday, March 26th at 7:00 pm

Prototype Prime

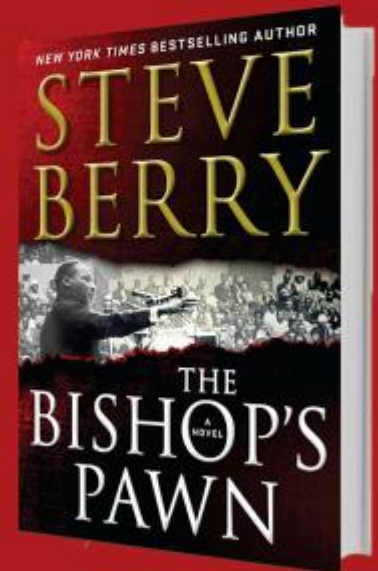
147 Technology Pkwy NW #100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

Steve Berry always mines the lost riches of history — this time he imagines a gripping, provocative thriller about an American icon.

Steve Berry is the *New York Times* and #1 internationally bestselling author of *The Bishop's Pawn*, *The Lost Order*, *The 14th Colony*, *The Patriot Threat*, *The Lincoln Myth*, *The King's Deception*, *The Columbus Affair*, *The Jefferson Key*, *The Emperor's Tomb*, *The Paris Vendetta*, *The Charlemagne Pursuit*, *The Venetian Betrayal*, *The Alexandria Link*, *The Templar Legacy*, *The Third Secret*, *The Romanov Prophecy*, and *The Amber Room*.

His books have been translated into 40 languages with over 22,000,000 copies in 51 countries. They consistently appear in the top echelon of *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, and Indie bestseller lists.

Free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase and signing.



GWINNETT COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

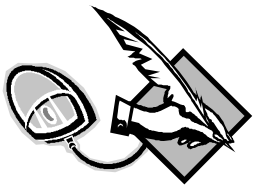
prototype
PRIME

EAGLE EYE BOOK SHOP

St. Martin's Press



1001 Lawrenceville Highway, Lawrenceville, GA 30046 | Call: 770.978.5154 | Text: 770.450.5305 | www.gwinnettpl.org



Event

Presented by Gwinnett County Public Library,
the City of Duluth & the Duluth Historical Society



S. Lorraine Norwood

Local Author & Essayist

Thursday, March 29th at 7:00 pm

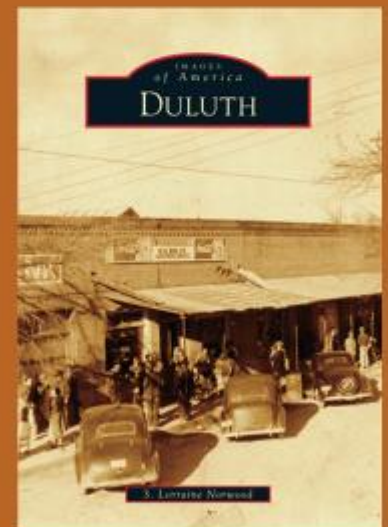
Duluth City Hall

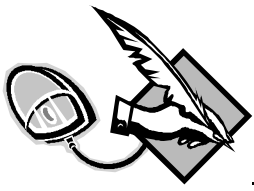
3167 Main Street, Duluth, GA 30096

A former journalist, Norwood's short stories and essays have won numerous awards and have been published in *Minerva Rising*, *New Southerner*, *Proud to Be: Writing by American Warriors, Volume 3*, and *Talking Writing*.

She is a member of the Atlanta Writers Cooperative, the Atlanta Writers Club, the North Carolina Writers Network, and the Historical Novel Society.

The program is free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase and signing.





Ongoing Opportunities



We depend on our members for support, and ask for volunteers to help out with some of the many exciting programs heading our way in the coming months.

We'll need check-in volunteers for each of our future monthly meetings. If you would like to volunteer for a specific meeting, please let VP of Operations Jennifer Wiggins know which month you prefer. Or, if you would like to volunteer but are unsure about your availability until the time gets nearer, she will gladly include you in her list of volunteers to contact at a later date. Please respond to: jennifer.wiggins1@aol.com.

Fiction Critique Group Online

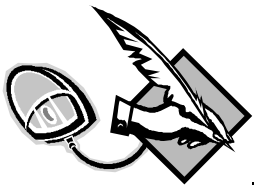
If you have difficulty in finding a critique group that meets at a convenient location and fits your schedule then you might consider the Atlanta Writers Club Fiction Online Critique Group. This group encompasses all genres of fiction writing from flash fiction to short story to novella to novels. All subject areas are welcome, although content warnings are appreciated. Group members are also encouraged to exchange information on any aspect of writing or publication, including query letters and self-publishing.

AWC CRITIQUE GROUPS
(changes in red)

Online	Fiction	Ongoing	Mike Brown	michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com	Open
Alpharetta	All Genres	Barnes & Noble on North Point Parkway in Alpharetta on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7p.m	Susan McBrearity	simcb816@gmail.com	Open
Candler Park	Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, & Memoir	Tues, 4-6PM @San Francisco Coffee 1660 Dekalb Avenue	Tara Coyt	contact@taracoyt.com	Open
Buckhead/ Midtown	Poetry	4th Sat @11a.m.	Karen Holmes	kpaulholmes@gmail.com	Full
Conyers	All genres	Every other Tues, 6:00 @ Mandarin Garden	Nancy Fletcher	ncfletcher50@gmail.com	Open
Decatur	Adult/YA Novels and Novellas	Every other Thursday at Choco Late, 2094 North Decatur Rd.	Jonathan Grant	404-909-0189	Open
Decatur	Adult & YA Fiction	Sunday, 1:00PM, monthly	Ricky Jacobs	rickyjacobs@mac.com	Wait List
Decatur	Adult, YA Fiction, & Memoirs	Sunday 10AM, fortnightly	Ricky Jacobs	rickyjacobs@mac.com	Wait List
Dunwoody	All genres	1st and 3rd Fri,1-3 p.m. @ Georgia Perimeter College Library Building, Rm3100	Gelia Dolcimascolo	770-274-5246	Open
Lawrenceville/ Snellville	Novel, Short Story & Memoir	1st Saturday 9:30AM - noon @ Member's Home	Kerry Denney	kerryssii@bellsouth.net	Wait List
Loganville	Fiction	1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM	Mike Brown	michaelkbrown22@yahoo.com	Full

AWC CRITIQUE GROUPS
(changes in red)

Marietta	All genres	1st & 3rd Tues. 6:30-8:00PM	Linda Sullivan	lindasullivan3@gmail.com	Wait List
Poncey/ Highlands	All genres	2nd & 4th Monday Manuel's Tavern email John for time	John Whitte- more	thegridbook@gmail.com	Open
Roswell	All genres	1st & 3rd Thursdays @ The Heron House	Carolyn Graham	majesty.journey@gmail.com	Open
Roswell	All genres	Every Tues 6:30 - 9:00PM @ Scooter's Coffee	George Weinstein	gjweinstein@yahoo.com	Open
Roswell	All genres	Twice monthly, Mon, 10:30AM - 12:30PM @ Roswell Library	Jeremy Logan	jeremylogan.author@gmail.com	Open
Smyrna/ Marietta	Poetry	2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 6-8PM @coffee shop	Liz Helenek	lizbizz7@bellsouth.net	Open
Snellville	All genres	Meet at the Snellville Branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library on 1st Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.	Joyce Sewell	jbs.atpeace@gmail.com	Open



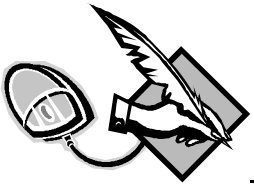
Administrative Matters



Membership Renewal—What to Expect

The AWC has an automated system for tracking memberships and alerting members when it's time to renew. You will receive an e-mail from the system (showing Officer Emeritus George Weinstein's e-mail address george@atlantawritersclub.org) 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@atlantawritersclub.org prior to the expiration of your membership.

We appreciate your continued support of the Atlanta Writers Club. Your membership dues make it possible to bring fabulous speakers to our meetings, provide generous cash awards for our annual writing contest, and sponsor scholarships, literary prizes, and local writing festivals.



Administrative Matters

Membership Information – The Atlanta Writers Club

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.

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. Here are a just a few membership benefits:

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.

Workshops. Your membership provides access to outstanding writing workshops. Some are free with membership and others are provided at a discounted price. Watch for announcements about upcoming workshops.

Twice-Yearly Writers Conferences. This is your opportunity to spend time face to face with a literary agent or editor and have the chance to pitch your work. Conferences include agent Q & A panels, writing workshops, and a social gathering where you'll get to meet and talk with the agents and editors in a more informal setting.

Critique Groups. We now have approximately twenty (20) different critique groups available to members. Scattered about the Atlanta metro area, these critique groups meet regularly to read each other's writings and recommend modifications.

Writing Contests With Cash Prizes. At least one contest is held each year with a variety of formats and topics.

Monthly Newsletter. Our monthly newsletter, the eQuill, provides the opportunity for our members to advertise their book launches and book signings to a wide reaching mailing list. And, it will keep you up to date with news about writing opportunities and literary events across the Southeast and beyond.

Decatur Book Festival Participation. The Atlanta Writers Club has a tent at the Decatur Book Festival each year, that's staffed by member volunteers. It's a great way to get involved in the largest book festival in the area.

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 <http://www.atlantawritersclub.org/membership.html>.

If you have additional questions, contact AWC President Ron Aiken at ron@atlantawritersclub.org

Membership Form



? New Membership [Individual] [Family]

? Renewal [Individual] [Family]

?If this is a Renewal, please update your information?

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

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

?For additional family members, please use additional forms?


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 [**\$50.00**]: \$ _____
 Family [add family members for **\$25.00** each]: \$ _____

Membership is for ONE YEAR Student [**\$40.00**]: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: **Atlanta Writers Club** Tax Deductible Donation: \$ _____
 Total: \$ _____

Mail check and form to: **Atlanta Writers Club**
C/O Ron Aiken, Treasurer
155 Glen Eagle Way
McDonough, GA 30253

 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 you receipt?