

Purple Pros

The Official Newsletter of

Southeastern Writers



writers helping writers

PURPLE PROS -- SOUTHEASTERN WRITERS NEWSLETTER -- MARCH 2022

Dear Fellow Scribes,

The SWA Board is excited that the time has come for us to finally meet in person. Our webmaster has all the information posted on our site for your registration to the conference. Plus, the links to Epworth for accommodations are also in place so feel free to book your rooms for the June 10-14 dates.

Our instructors are excited to share their wealth of knowledge with you. It makes no difference what you write or in what stage your career path lies, you will glean something from Steve, Michael, Piper, Amy, Buzz, or Val. They are truly gifted people who have agreed to help you on your way to writing success.

If this is not your first time, you already know that our get-together is an amazing experience. If it IS your first workshop, be prepared for a wonderful time.

For almost 50 years, SWA's philosophy has been "writers helping writers," and we have another all-star lineup of instructors to give you the tools to help you to write and sell your work.

We also encourage you to network outside of class to enhance your writing career, greet old friends, and build new friendships. No matter whether you're a beginner or a seasoned professional, you'll find non-judgmental folks here who want to help you, people who are interested in what you write, and who want to share their own

experiences with you. That said, if you're typically the shy wallflower type, put that part of your persona away for the next few days. You'll be glad you did!

St. Simons Island also has many beautiful and historic sights, and we have provided time for you to explore and enjoy this resort area. While we encourage you to have as much fun as you can, we do ask that you remember that our host, Epworth-by-the-Sea, is a Methodist retreat, and we'll be adhering to their policies.

Our Board of Directors has worked diligently to provide you with a workshop that puts SWA as the best place to learn the craft of writing. If any of us on the SWA Board can do anything to enhance your experience, please do not hesitate to let us know.

We hope you enjoy the workshop week!

Sheila

Sheila Hudson

President, Southeastern Writers Association

P.S. As soon as they are available, the hand-outs for classes will be on the website. You MUST download and print. We will NOT have them available in class.

Also, polish your presentations for Open Mic Night.



SWA Writers Conference Epworth By The Sea June 10-14, 2022

We are a diverse group of writers from all over the Southeast. We gather together on the beautiful island of St. Simons to learn and work hard at our craft. It is a very small, intimate group. Mingle and make friends with writers, authors, editors, and agents. Enjoy small classes. Jumpstart your writing. Learn how to write and sell a screenplay. Have one-on-one meetings with instructors. Attend sessions on historical fiction novels, writing queries that dazzle, impressing readers with social media, writing the ugly truth, and much, much more. Come as a stranger. Leave as part of our SWA family. Plan to return in 2023.

SWA Vice-President's Letter



My, how time seems to fly. Our annual conference is only three months away – June 10-14, 2022. Everyone is anticipating an educational, enjoyable experience – finally going live and actually interacting with other writers while learning from a superbly

talented faculty.

Since we have some time until then, I want to encourage all of you to consider entering one or more of our writing contests this year. There are eight writing contests offered -- all of which award cash prizes. Enrolling as a member of SWA automatically qualifies you to enter as many of the contests as you wish. An awards ceremony will be held the last evening of the conference, June 13, 2022.

I recall the first year I entered a few contests. I was nervous and not very confident, and while I didn't win a first prize, the feeling I got from taking second place for one of my entries was thrilling. But that was just the beginning. In subsequent years, I managed to win a couple of first prizes. When my name was announced as the author of one of the winning entries, and I

received my first-place certificate and monetary award, it gave me more confidence and motivation to continue to improve my writing skills. It also provided me the knowledge that I had the talent to produce books, short stories, or articles worthy of being published.

So, whether you have entered many contests in years past, or if this is the first time you have thought about it, please start now. Pick out a contest or two you like and begin writing. You might surprise yourself. Please click on this link to check out the contests:

Contests | Southeastern Writers (southeasternwriters.org)

Good luck, and I look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Jim Furry

Vice-President

Southeastern Writers Association

Link to SWA Conference on website -<https://www.southeasternwriters.org/swa-workshop>

Link to SWA Contests on website -<https://www.southeasternwriters.org/copy-of-conferences-1>

SWA 2021-2022 Board of Directors

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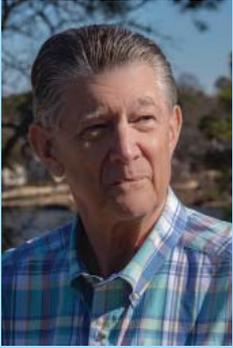
**SWA Auxiliary
Mary Purcell, Social Hours**

**Cappy Rearick & Mary Stripling,
Hospitality**

**SWA Staff
Tim Hudson, Meeting Planner**

Brian Wallace, Webmaster

2022 SWA Conference Sessions



Harold “Buzz” Bernard, an alumnus of Southeastern Writers Association, will be one of the evening speakers.

Bernard has a background as a meteorologist, but his last three books have been about something completely different. He is the author of two books in a

series about World War II pilots – *When Heroes Flew* and *The Shangri-La Raiders*. Book three – *The Roof of the World* – will be released this summer.

Bernard will speak about his writing journey and share some of his SWA memories. <https://buzzbernard.com/>

Amy Collins, an agent with the Talcott Notch Literary Services agency, focuses on non-fiction and international rights. She is a *USA Today* and *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author and is currently working with authors with expertise in business, history, personal development, and prescriptive how-to.



Collins will teach the following sessions:

- **Connect with Readers Online - Even If You Hate Social Media**
- **Publishing Math and Science**
- **The Business of Queries: How to Get the Stats, Data, and Intel You Need to Impress an Agent or Editor.**

Piper G. Huguley, the author of *Sweet Tea* by Hallmark Publishing, is a two-time Golden Heart® finalist and author of two historical romance series: “Migrations of the Heart”, about the Great Migration, and “Home to Milford College.”

- Huguley will teach the following sessions:**
- **How to Start Writing Your Historical Fic-**



tion Novel

– **Part 1, Filling in the Blanks: The Boom in Diverse Historical Fiction Novels**

– **Part 2, Filling in the Blanks: The Boom in Diverse Historical Fiction Novels**

– **What’s in a Name?**

Everything!

Huguley blogs about the history behind her novels at <https://piperhuguley.com>.

Steve Kistulentz is the author of the novel *Panorama*, (Little, Brown & Co., 2018) and the forthcoming novel, *The General Secretary*. He has also published two award-winning collections of poetry, *Little Black Daydream* (University of Akron Press, 2012) and *The Luckless Age* (Red Hen Press, 2010), winner of the Benjamin Saltman Award.

Kistulentz will teach the following sessions:

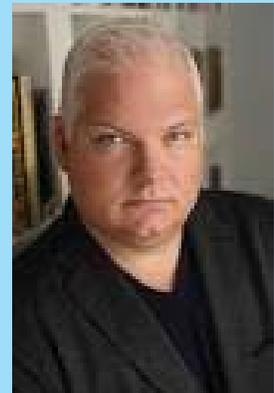
– **Learning Not to Flinch: Understanding Why We Must Write the Ugly Truth**

– **The invitation: How Personal Material Expands the Audience for Your Poems**

– **Why Tell What Happened? Liberating Ourselves from Our Own Experience**

Michael Lucker is a professional screenwriter and professor of screenwriting with 20 years’ experience writing for major studios and 10 years’ experience lecturing at major universities.

A renowned instructor in screenwriting, Lucker serves as lecturer at University of North Georgia and Emory University,



mentor in Reinhardt University's Creative Writing MFA Program, advisor to the Georgia Film Academy, and 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 – crime thriller *Rule One* – is scheduled for release Fall 2022.

Lucker will teach the following sessions:

- **Breaking the Book**
- **Writing the Screenplay**
- **Selling the Screenplay**
- **Making the Movie**

Val M. Mathews is a big-hearted, fun-loving editor at The Wild Rose Press, the kinder and gentler publishing house in New York. She accepts pitch-

es for everything from Romances to challenging Sci-Fi.

Mathews will teach the following sessions:

– **Part 1, Creative Tools to Jumpstart Your Writing**

– **Part 2, Creative Tools to Jumpstart Your Writing**

– **Part 3, Creative Tools to Jumpstart Your Writing**

Mathews teaches courses in structural editing and copyediting for Queens University in Ontario, Canada, and developmental editing for the Editorial Freelancers Association in New York. She also freelances on the side.



SWA Member News



Muriel Ellis Pritchett was selected for the Amelia Island Book Festival Authors in Schools Program for 2022. Her YA paranormal *Not Myself Today* (September 2020, Black Rose Writing) was chosen by West Nassau High School in Callahan FL to be read in 12th grade English classes. In February, Pritchett was invited to the high school to speak to students reading her book.

Every year, AIBF buys every student in Nassau County FL a book chosen by their school. Then authors are invited to meet and talk to students in the classroom. AIBF also sponsors the annual Amelia Island Book Festival and Expo to bring authors into the community. Money raised by AIBF goes to buy books for students.

In addition to the annual book festival and Authors in Schools Program, AIBF sponsors writing contests and scholarships for Nassau County seniors. www.murielpritchett.com

Camille Sabbagh, who writes science fiction, romance thrillers under the pen name **Cami**

Michaels, reports that Book Two of her Sheffrou Trilogy – *Sheffrou Betrayed: The Color of Treason* – will be published as an eBook on March 31, 2022, and as paperback on April 5, 2022.

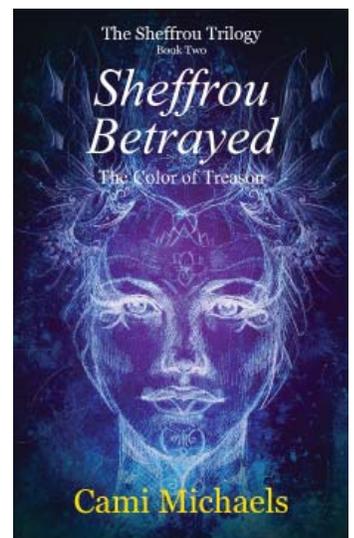
Michaels is a self-published author through KDP.

Synopsis for Book Two: Can an Earth woman and an alien male save a dying race from extermination?

Tamara falls from Earth through a wormhole and lands in an alien world. After being seduced by a powerful Sheffrou, Lord Maashi, she resigns herself to the fact that this fantasy world is her new reality. The more time she spends with her alien lover, the less concerned she is about finding a way home.

Everything changes when enemy attacks leave Tamara's new alien friends dead, kidnapped, and fighting for their lives. A deadly plague is killing the young alien offspring. The best hope for everyone's survival is Sheffrou Maashi. If only they could find him before it's too late.

www.camimichaels.com



Literary News & Events

91st Annual Writing Competition

Writer's Digest's oldest and most popular competition, the Annual Writing Competition, is currently open for entries. Winners will be announced in the magazine's Nov/Dec 2022 issue. ENTER NOW! Deadline: May 6, 2022. For details, go to www.writersdigest.com/writers-digest-competitions/

Callout for Stories about Fun Families

Chicken Soup for the Soul Editors are looking for stories about eccentric, goofy, wacky, lovable, and oh-so-fun family members. Share true stories and poems about those family members. No mean-spirited stories wanted. Deadline for submissions is April 30, 2022. Visit website for submission information: www.chickensoup.com/story-submissions/

2022 Killer Nashville Awards

Enter the Silver Falchion Award or the Claymore Award competitions and make your writing dreams come true. There are 14 different categories in the competition. Deadline is June 15, 2022. For further information visit www.killer-nashville.com/awards/silver-falchion-award/

Wergle Flomp Humor Poetry Contest

This contest is sponsored by Winning Writers and Duotrope. Free to enter; both published and unpublished work accepted. Top prize is \$2,000; \$3,500 in total prizes. Deadline is April, 2022. For more information go to www.winning-writers.com/wergle/

The Atlanta Writers Club

(<https://atlantawritersclub.org/>)

Features Two Spring Conferences:

(1) Our 1st Atlanta Self-Publishing Conference, April 23, 2022, which will feature 8 talks on writing craft and the business of self-publishing by Lisa Cron, Craig Martelle, and others; a networking mixer; and informal one-on-one meetings with our in-person speakers. In-person at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel with a virtual option.

<https://www.atlantaselfpublishingconference.com/>

(2) Our 26th Atlanta Writers Conference, May 6-7, 2022, which will feature 17 literary agents and acquisitions editors doing critiques and responding to pitches; a two-hour workshop on working with the professionals at every stage of the publishing process; two Q&A panels; free educational seminars; a networking mixer; an award ceremony; and giveaways. In-person at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel with a virtual option.

<https://atlantawritersconference.com/>

ThinkingFunny.com Writing Contest and Writing Conference Are Scheduled

The ThinkingFunny.com's no-entry fee writing contest is open. <https://thinkingfunny.com/no-fee-humor-writing-contest-thinkingfunny22/>

The via-CrowCast writing conference can be enjoyed from the comfort and safety of your own home at a fraction of the price of a face-to-face event. Registrations are now being accepted. <https://thinkingfunny.com/event-schedule-thinkingfunny22-humor-writing-conference/>

The masterclass schedule is ready, too. Our 2nd annual conference offers everything from breaking through writer's block, to using humor appropriately in serious nonfiction, writing memoirs & travel pieces, creating comic characters, learning sure-fire humor techniques, and meeting literary agents and hearing their tips. All our presenters are experienced professionals.