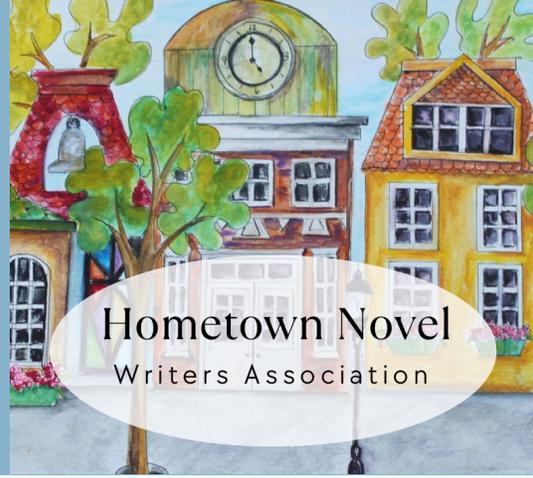


Hometown Novel Writers Association Newsletter

July 2022



Join us for the 1st Annual Book Fair



SHARPSBURG BOOK FAIR

August 27, 2022, 10 AM to 5 PM

Sharpsburg's A. O. Bridges Community Center & Grounds



*See page 2 for details on how
you can participate!*

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www.hometownnovel.com

Sharpsburg Book Fair set for Aug. 27 at A&O Bridges Community Center

The First Annual Sharpsburg Book Fair is scheduled for Saturday, August 27, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Sharpsburg's A&O Bridges Community Center and its grounds. This event is free for the public to attend.

Authors wishing to participate can request a Standard Indoor Space, including a six-foot table and two chairs, for \$30 each. A Pavilion Outdoor Space is also available, and that will include a designated half of a nine-foot picnic table under the town's sprawling outdoor pavilion at a cost of \$20 each. Applications may be downloaded at hometownnovel.com.

All net proceeds from the Sharpsburg Book Fair will be used to sponsor a scholarship for selected high school students to attend the Atlanta Writers Conference this fall and support Coweta FERST Readers, where the love of books begins with children from birth up to kindergarten age.

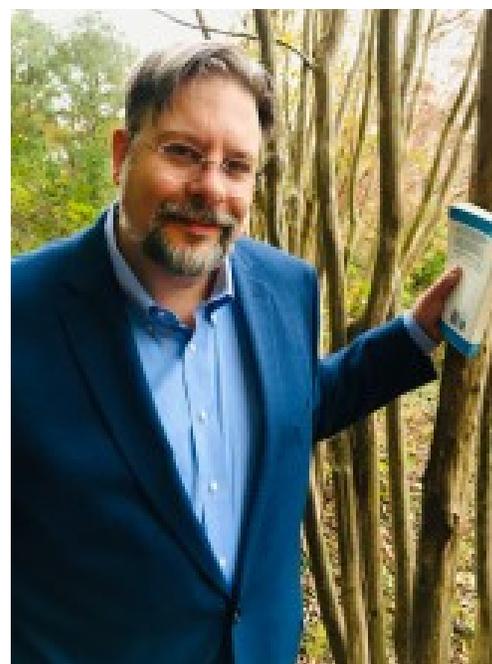
Guest authors Martha Boone and Mark Wallace Maguire will join a host of local Georgia authors talking about their books and other topics related to the world of books today. The pavilion will also feature a children's book area, and author talks will be held at the bandstand/gazebo throughout the day. Food trucks will also be on hand.

For more information, contact Angie Moore at 404-290-4830 or Mike Brown, 352-812-5199, or email mike@tmbrownauthor.com.

The Sharpsburg Book Fair will be held rain or shine, and setup begins at 9 a.m. No refunds will be given for space reservations.



Martha Boone



Mark Wallace Maguire

Corner Arts to host Children's Event on July 2

On Saturday, July 2, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Corner Arts Gallery, Studio & Gift Shop on the Court Square in downtown Newnan will host a Children's Book Event with Patricia Cruzan, Jacqueline Leigh, and Ann Rhodes. Books by Beverley Reichman and other children's authors will be presented as well. We hope to see you there.

Sharpsburg welcomes HNWA founding members Angie Gallion and Scott Ludwig

On hand for the June 25 Hometown Novel Writers Association author panel in Sharpsburg were two of the founding members of the HNWA, Angie Gallion and Scott Ludwig.

"Both did an admirable job with lots of questions from the roomful of curious folks," said HNWA President T.M. "Mike" Brown.

For more information about HNWA, visit HometownNovel.com or follow us on Facebook @WGAHometownNovelNights.



News & Notes

Hometown Novel Writers Association members were busy in June! In addition to appearances at the Newnan Carnegie Library Foundation's LitFest, we also had authors appear at Pretty Good Books in LaGrange, Corner Arts Gallery in Newnan, and the Coweta FORCE offices in Newnan!



July 2022 Calendar



The Hometown Novel Writers Association has another great lineup of programs this month.

- **Saturday, July 2, 2022, The Puckett Station (Moreland) Independence Day Celebration.** Chellie Phillips, Angie Gallion, Beverley Reichman, David Dupree, Sharon Marchisello, Bob Moseley, and T.M. "Mike" Brown (along with wife Connie attending with her pottery and crafts) will be on hand to promote books and sign up book lovers and aspiring writers for the Hometown Novel Writers Association newsletter and emails.
- **Saturday, July 2, 2022, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Children's Book Event, Corner Arts Gallery, Studio & Gift Shop on the Court Square in downtown Newnan.** Featured authors will include Patricia Cruzan, Jacqueline Leigh, and Ann Rhodes. Books by Beverley Reichman and other children's authors will be presented as well. We hope to see you there.
- **Wednesday, July 13, 2022, 6:30 p.m., Writers Critique (virtual).** Writers may sign up and tune in on the HNWA Writers Group page on Facebook.
- **Thursday, July 21, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Newnan Carnegie Library.** "Hot Summer Stories" is the theme for this evening panel with local authors including Lynn Hesse, Susie Berta, and Danielle Thorne. Scott Ludwig will moderate. This event is free to attend and open to the public.
- **Saturday, August 27, Sharpsburg Book Fair, Sharpsburg Community Center and Pavilion.** There will be author panel discussions and readings throughout the day. Proceeds will provide scholarships for selected high school students to attend the Atlanta Writers Conference in November and to support the Coweta FERST Readers program. Cohosted by the Town of Sharpsburg and the Hometown Novel Writers Association. This event is free to attend and open to the public.

Q&A with Author Scott Ludwig

In each issue of our newsletter, we're introducing one of our Hometown Novel Writers Association authors. In this issue, meet founding member (and longtime moderator) Scott Ludwig.

What inspired you to become a writer?

My mom told me when I was young that I should write a book. After I graduated from college, moved to Atlanta, and started reading Lewis Grizzard's columns, I wanted to write like him. In a tragic twist of fate, my first book went to print on the day my mom passed away. She will always have the first copy beside her.

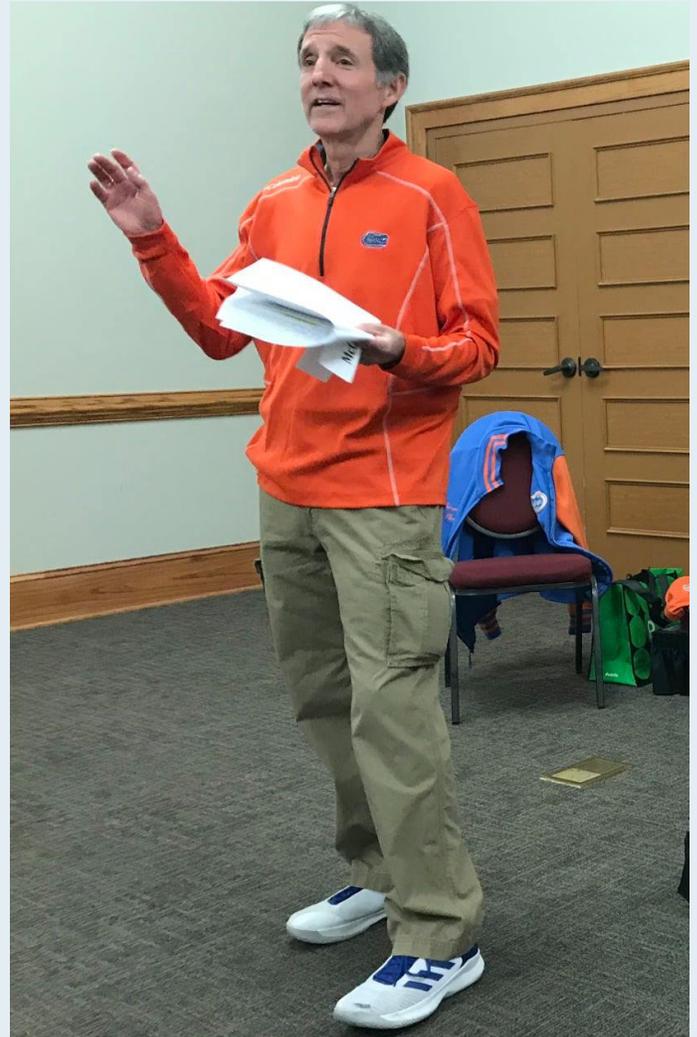
You're a founding member of the Hometown Novel Writers Association. How did you first become involved? Mike Brown invited me to speak as an author in 2018. I've been part of the group ever since, primarily as moderator for the monthly author panels at Hometown Novel Nights.

Who's the author you admire most? Obviously, Lewis Grizzard. Pat Conroy, Rick Reilly, and Rick Bragg are all tied for second.

What's the last good book you read? Since I retired four years ago, I've read 330 books, and it would be hard to pick. But if I had to pick just one, it would be Pat Conroy's *Beach Music*. One of his other books, *My Losing Season*, would be a close second.

You're a sports enthusiast and longtime runner. Do those practices influence your writing? Yes. I get most of my ideas when I run. There are times when I'll write as many as three columns "in my head" while I run. Then, after a shower, I'll sit at my desk and put them down on paper. The first drafts, at least. I usually rewrite a column four or five times before I'm happy with it.

How long does it take you to write a book? If it's a compilation of columns, it takes between 18 and 24 months, since I'll include 101 columns in a book. If I wrote a book straight through from start to finish—that is to say, if I wasn't writing columns for the newspapers as well—I imagine it would take eight months to a year. I've written a couple of books in six months, but they're all less than 250 pages.



Best advice about the craft of writing? Have an idea of what you'll write before sitting down and doing it. If you don't, there's a very good chance you'll be staring at a blank piece of paper—with no idea where to begin. It's hard to "force" what you want to write. It has to come naturally.

You're on that infamous desert island and can stream only three movies. What are they? Only because the music is incredible in all three of them: *Purple Rain* and *A Star is Born* (both the Barbra Streisand and Lady Gaga versions).

What is your next book about? The working title is *Portraits of the South*. It's a compilation of 65 or so profiles of people—most of them in the Coweta/Fayette area—who have incredible stories to tell. Only I'm telling the stories for them. I hope to have it published this fall. After that, my third compilation of 101 columns (working title: *Southern Hospitality*) won't be too far behind.