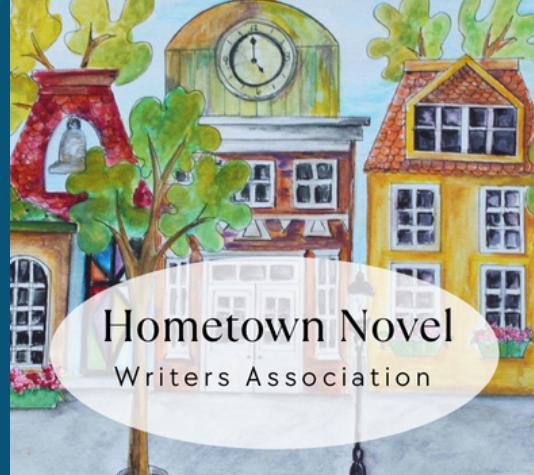


Hometown Novel Writers Association Newsletter

February 2023



Kicking off another year of showing that we ❤️ books!



We had a full house at our first Hometown Novel Nights of 2023 at the Newnan Carnegie Library on January 19. President T. M. "Mike" Brown and Moderator Scott Ludwig did a great job of welcoming and introducing the authors who kicked off our programming for the year, Mike Nemeth, Roseann Raniere, and our friends from the Atlanta Writers Club, Kim Conrey and George Weinstein. We had some great questions from the audience and were happy to see all those seats filled!

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Visit us online at
www.hometownnovel.com



Another way to connect with HNWA: our Hometown Novel News Podcast

Did you know that we now have a Hometown Novel News Podcast? This new avenue to promote local authors and their books launched late last year, and you can check out all the episodes on the Newnan Podcast Network with Apple Podcasts.

Some of the podcasts we've released so far have featured:

- **Jill Evans**, a writer, web designer, photographer, and president of the Atlanta Writers Club as well as a board member of the Newnan Carnegie Library Foundation. In this episode, Evans talks about the process of helping aspiring writers develop their craft by getting critical feedback from peers and about how writing groups can assist with this.
- **Steve Quesinberry and Richard Proctor**. These two local authors joined host Mike Brown to talk about their recent works profiling local icons. Quesinberry recently published "Better Men: Coweta County, Georgia and the Vietnam War," in which 23 of the 28 chapters are dedicated to Coweta's Vietnam War KIA. Proctor's latest book, "Everybody Needs a Mule," focuses on the life of legendary Newnan Football Coach Max Bass.
- **HNWA President Mike Brown**. Mike spoke about the importance of local bookstores and was joined by Jenny Jones from Corner Arts Gallery and Laura Meredith of the Newnan Book Company.
- **Newnan Carnegie Director Susan Crutchfield**. Susan joined HNWA President Mike Brown to discuss the importance of local libraries like the Carnegie and how they work to bridge the digital divide by providing the human element to the literary experience.



February 2023 Calendar

February Author Panel — February 16, 6:30-8 p.m., Coweta FORCE offices, Newnan. The evening's program, "Inspirational Books for Young and Old," will feature authors Cheryl Davis, Kevin Raines, and Paul Salvatore with Scott Ludwig moderating.

Monthly Virtual Critique Group (on Zoom) hosted by Donna Black and Sharon Marchisello. Second Monday each month, 6:30-8 p.m. Manuscript submissions are due the first of each month. Sign up on Facebook @HNWA Writers Group or email hometownnovel@hotmail.com.

HNWA In-Person Writers Group, Monday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m at Corner Arts Gallery, Studio & Gift Shop, Newnan (home of the Georgia Author Book Nook).

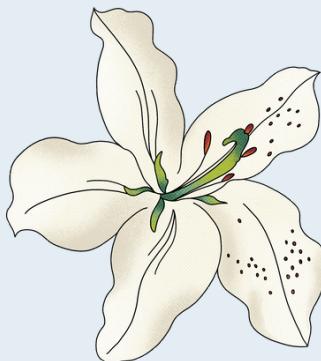
Weekly meetings feature discussions and updates of ongoing writing projects, weekly relevant writing topics, and guest author presentations to encourage, engage, and inform writers of all stages on their journey to publishing and promoting their books.

Participants pay a one-time \$20 fee, and the group helps determine the direction of the meetings, which cover topics ranging from character development and point of view to editing, beta readers, and the various publication models. For info, email mike@hometownnovel.com.



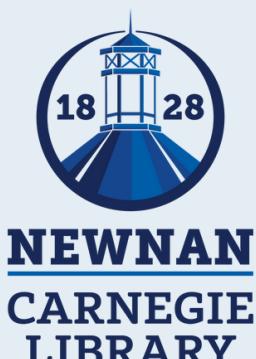
Thank you to Corner Arts Gallery, Studio & Gift Shop for hosting our meetings as well as the Georgia Author Book Nook!

News & Notes



Condolences go to our president, Mike Brown, and his family on the passing of his mother, Mary "Pat" Brown, on January 26, 2023. Mrs. Brown was a familiar face to many of us who had the privilege of meeting up with her at Corner Arts, the Monarch House, and other venues around town. She was definitely a friend to local authors, and we're grateful to Mike for sharing her with us. May she rest in peace.

Plans are now underway for HNWA to host two writing conferences this year as well as our Second Annual Sharpsburg Book Fair, set for August 26, 2023. Scott Ludwig will chair the book fair, and Sharon Marchisello will chair the HNWA Writer Workshops (dates and details TBA). One workshop will be in the spring at the Newnan Carnegie Library and the other in the fall at the Peachtree City Library.



Next month's Hometown Novel Nights program is set for March 16, 2023, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Newnan Carnegie Library. "Fresh Voices, New Books" will be the theme, and featured authors will include Steve Quesinberry, Julia Sanders, Kevin Raines, and Stephanie Baldi, with Scott Ludwig serving as moderator.



The inaugural **Carrollton Book Fest** will be held Saturday, March 25, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Carrollton Writers Guild, Inc. and Carrollton Center for the Arts are organizers of this event, which will include panel discussions, lectures, readings by featured authors, and workshops. Keynote speaker is Bren McClain, who will speak at the end of the day. Her novel, *One Good Mama Bone*, is published by Pat Conroy's Story River Books and has received numerous commendations. HNWA authors appearing that day will include Mike Brown, Mark Wallace Maguire, and Danielle Thorne. For more information and the full lineup of authors, visit carrolltonbookfest.com.