

# THE GUILD GAZETTE

Writers Guild of Virginia Online Newsletter

Cindy L. Freeman, Editor



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## Free Events for Writers

**June 7, 11:00 am.** Midtown Row Club House Theater, 221 Monticello Ave. Williamsburg—Author **Patti Gaustad Procopi** will present “Writing Your Story.” Patti believes that everyone’s life has a story, and she’ll provide ideas for telling that story.

After the program, there will be time for socializing and networking. An optional box lunch is available, which must be ordered in advance. Preregistration is required to attend the meeting:

<https://www.chesapeakebaywriters.org>

**July 1, 2:00 pm.** Williamsburg Regional Library, Schell Room, 515 Scotland St.—Author/Editor **Cindy L. Freeman** will present “Writing as a Second Career.” Have you dreamed of being a writer but your career took a different path? You’ll learn that it’s never too late to start writing. No preregistration is required.

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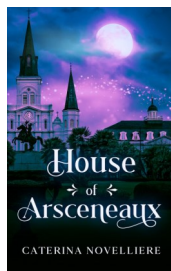
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## WGV Members in the News

(Send your author news to: [cindy@cindylfreeman.com](mailto:cindy@cindylfreeman.com))

Writers Guild of VA welcomes its newest member, **Trevor Carter**, from Abingdon, VA.



*House of Arcseneaux*, by **Caterina Novelliere**, will release June 11. If you like to read about time travel, vampires, and star-crossed lovers, you’ll enjoy Novelliere’s latest paranormal romance novel. Website:

<https://caterinanovelliere.com>

*Farm Girl*, by **Cindy L. Freeman**, is now available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). *Farm Girl*, a *Mem-oir*, is the account of Freeman’s childhood on a dairy farm where her severe allergies created physical and emotional distance from her family members. Website:

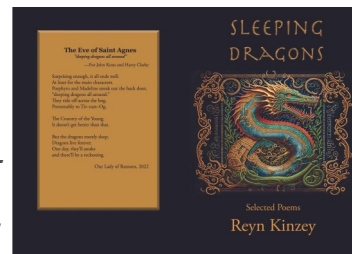
<https://www.cindylfreeman.com/>



## You're Invited!

Let's all help our fellow WGV authors celebrate their new publications! Writer's Guild of Virginia provides virtual book launches for any member, including advertising on social media.

Congratulations to **Reyn Kinzey** whose second book of poetry, *Sleeping Dragons*, launched May 28th! Thanks to **Jeanne Johansen** for hosting the WGV launches and for her six-week Zoom session on *All Things Marketing!*



The next launch will be Sunday, July 23, 3:00 pm for **Maurine Frank's** new children's book, *Lilly Ladybug and Her Leaf Blanket*. Save the date and watch for details!

Do you have a book release coming? Contact Jeanne Johansen to schedule *your* free virtual launch: [wgvirginiamail@gmail.com](mailto:wgvirginiamail@gmail.com)

## Advice from the Experts—More Writers' Pitfalls

- ◇ *Everyday/Every day.* *Everyday* (one word) is used like an adjective describing a daily occurrence ("The everyday staff meeting starts at 9:00 am."); *Every day* (two words) means each day ("We brush our teeth every day.")
- ◇ *I/Me.* Use *I* when it is the subject of the verb. ("*I* took a walk yesterday."); Use *me* when the verb is doing something to someone or something ("Mike drove *me* to the store." or "Melanie Mike took Sarah and *me* to the concert.")
- ◇ *Less/Fewer.* Use *less* for things that can't be counted. ("Since it's overcast tonight, *less* stars are visible.") Use *fewer* for countable things. ("*Fewer* than fifty people showed up for the party.")
- ◇ *That/Who.* Use *that* when referring to things and animals. ("It is the red dress *that* I prefer." or "The puppy *that* licked my hand seems friendly.") Use *who* when referring to people. ("She is the candidate *who* seems most qualified for the job.")
- ◇ *Imply/Infer.* Use *imply* when you are the speaker giving information. ("I *implied* that she no longer wanted the job.") Use *infer* when you are the listener or reader receiving information. ("She *inferred* that she could not accept the position without a higher salary.")
- ◇ *Advise/Advice.* *Advise* is a verb. (Her manager needs to *advise* her that she is too abrupt with the customers.) *Advice* is a noun, meaning the guidance that someone gives. ("His life coach offered some valuable career *advice*.")



The spring 2023 issue of *The Journal*, WGV's literary publication, will soon be available on Amazon. The summer issue will be released in July. It will include poetry by Sharon Canfield Dorsey, Marjory Gowdy, Reyn Kinzey, and Peggy Newcomb, an essay by Cindy L. Freeman, and photography by Rebecca Day.

All Writers Guild members are eligible to contribute to *The Journal* by submitting your best prose, poetry, or photography to [cindy@cindylfreeman.com](mailto:cindy@cindylfreeman.com).  
Submission deadline for fall: July 31.

## Why English is Hard to Learn

### Another poem by Anonymous:

Lets face it.  
English is a stupid language.  
There is no egg in the eggplant;  
no ham in the hamburger  
and neither pine nor apple in the pineapple.  
And while no one knows what is in a hot dog,  
you can be pretty sure it isn't canine.  
English muffins were not invented in England;  
French fries were not invented in France.

We sometimes take English for granted.  
But if we examine its paradoxes we find that  
quicksand takes you down slowly.  
Boxing rings are square.  
A guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.  
Sweetmeats are candies, while sweetbreads,  
which aren't sweet, are meat.

If writers write, how come fingers don't fing?  
If the plural of tooth is teeth,  
one goose, two geese.  
So one moose, two meese?  
Is cheese the plural of choose?  
One mouse, two mice; one louse, two lice,  
one house, two hice?  
Shouldn't the plural of phone booth be phone beeth?  
If the teacher taught, why didn't the preacher  
praught or the grocer groce, or hammers ham?

If a vegetarian eats vegetables,  
what the heck does a humanitarian eat?  
Why do people recite at a play,  
yet play at a recital?  
Park on driveways and drive on parkways?  
Ship by truck, and send cargo by ship?  
Have feet that smell and noses than run?  
How can the weather be as hot as hell one day  
and as cold as hell on another?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy  
of a language where a house can burn up as  
it burns down,  
and in which you fill in a form by filling it out,  
and a bell is only heard once it goes!  
How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the  
same,  
while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

English was invented by people, not computers,  
and it reflects the creativity of the human race  
(which, of course, isn't a race at all).  
That is why  
you get in and out of a car, and on and off a bus.  
When the stars are out they are visible,  
but when the lights are out they are invisible.  
And why it is that when I wind up my watch  
it starts, but when I wind up this poem,  
it ends.

Check out our website: <https://www.writersguildva.com/>

Join our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069653723114>