

May 2023

# THE GUILD GAZETTE

Writers Guild of Virginia Online Newsletter

Cindy L. Freeman, Editor



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## Announcing Slam Connection's New Venue!

Starting in June, Slam Connection's Open Mic sessions will happen at 6:00 pm every first Friday of the month. However, the May event will be on the 12th (2nd Friday).

Slam Connection is happy to announce that its Open Mic Night has moved to Column 15 Coffeehouse in James York Plaza: 701 Merrimac Trail, Williamsburg, VA.

Slam Connection welcomes experienced and fledgling poets, musicians, and comedians. Reserve a slot by emailing: [contact@column15.com](mailto:contact@column15.com)

The WGV Board members encourage all WGV members to support both Slam Connection and Column 15 Coffeehouse.

## WGV Board of Directors:

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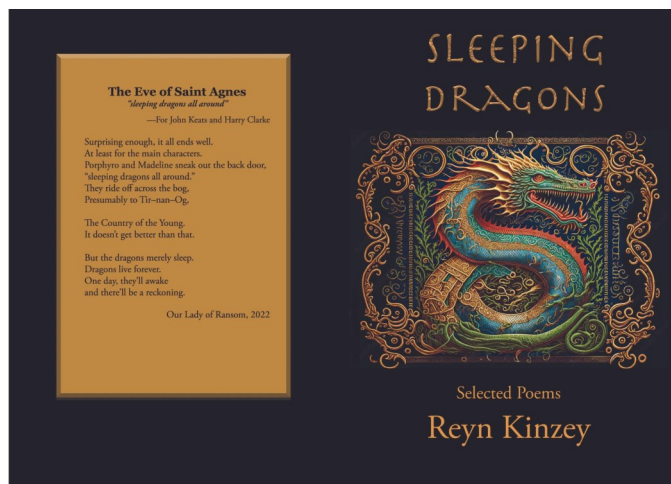
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## WGV Members in the News

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

- Writers Guild of Virginia is pleased to welcome two new members: **David Brown** and **William Carr**.
- **Dave Cariens** will speak about being a writer for Belle Isle State Park's Virginia Writers Series, May 17, 2:00-4:00 pm. [belleisle@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:belleisle@dcr.virginia.gov) or 804-462-5030
- **DM Frech's** photographs have been accepted by two online publications:  
*New Feathers Anthology* (Spring 2023) <https://www.newfeathersanthology.com/newfeathers33-642826.html#/> and *Streetlight Magazine* (Oct 2022). <https://streetlightmag.com/2022/10/>
- On Friday, April 7, **Slam Connection** held its first Open Mic event as an independent organization at Column 15 Coffeehouse. Congratulations to **Lacroy Nixon** and **Reyn Kinzey** whose work made this mission a reality.

## You're Invited!



Your attendance is requested at our next virtual book launch.

Reyn Kinzey's second poetry collection, *Sleeping Dragons*, will launch via Zoom

**Sunday, May 28, 3:00-4:30 pm**

Please attend virtually and support your fellow WGV author. Register in advance to receive the link:

[wgvirginiamail@gmail.com](mailto:wgvirginiamail@gmail.com)

## Advice from the Experts

Whether you are submitting a résumé for employment or a book for publication, your writing must look intelligent if you don't want it to end up in the bin. Here are some common pitfalls:

- ◇ **Apostrophes.** Use an apostrophe to indicate possession ("Tom's car") or for a contraction ("There's," meaning "There is") not for making a noun plural ("She has many cats." not "She has many cat's.")
- ◇ **Lose/Loose.** Lose is a verb ("If you lose my number, you can contact me by email."); Loose is an adjective ("A loose screw caused the shelf to fall.")
- ◇ **There/Their/They're.** *There* indicates a place ("He lives over *there*."); *Their* is possessive ("*Their* house is over there."); *They're* is the contracted form of They are (*They're* excellent employees.)
- ◇ **Its/It's.** *It's* is the contracted version of *It is* ("*It's* very warm outside today); *Its* is the possessive form (That company values *its* employees.") Yes, *it's* a weird rule!
- ◇ **Two/Too/To.** Okay, we all know that *two* means the number 2, but *too* and *to* are often confused. *Too* means also ("I want her to come to my party *too*."); *to* is a preposition that answers the question, where? ("I'll be going *to* the store tomorrow.")
- ◇ **Then/Than.** *Then* refers to time ("I have a meeting at noon. *Then*, I'll work on the report.") *Than* is used to compare ("Our second-quarter profit was better *than* the first quarter.")





The spring issue of WGV's literary publication, *The Journal*, will be available on Amazon.com later this month. It will feature short stories by DM Frech and Marc Meth, poetry by Sharon Canfield Dorsey, Marjory Gowdy, and Reyn Kinzey, and photography by Rebecca Day.

All Writers Guild members are eligible to contribute to *The Journal* by submitting your best prose or poetry to: [cindy@cindylfreeman.com](mailto:cindy@cindylfreeman.com)

The deadline for submission to the summer 2023 issue was April 30. For the fall issue, submissions are needed by July 31.

## Why English is Hard to Learn

We'll begin with *box*; the plural is *boxes*, but the plural of *ox* is *oxen*, not *oxes*.

One fowl is a *goose*, and two are called *geese*. Yet, the plural of *moose* is never *meese*.

You may find one *mouse* or a house full of *mice*; but the plural of house is *houses*, not *hice*.

The plural of *man* is always *men*, but the plural of *pan* is never *pen*.

If I speak of a *foot*, and you show me two *feet*, and I give you a *book*, would a pair be *beek*?

If one is a *tooth* and a whole set are *teeth*, why shouldn't two *booths* be called *beeth*?

If the singular's *this* and the plural is *these*, shouldn't the plural of *kiss* be structured as *keese*?

We speak of a *brother* and also of *brethren*, but though we say *mother*, we never say *methren*.

The masculine pronouns are *he*, *his*, and *him*; But imagine the feminine as *she*, *shis*, and *shim*!

-By the famous poet, Anonymous

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