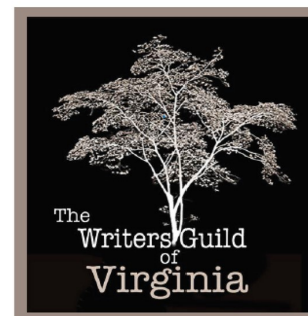


# THE GUILD GAZETTE

Writers Guild of Virginia Online Newsletter

Cindy L. Freeman, Publisher/Editor



## In this issue:

- WGV Seeks New Board Members
- Board of Directors
- WGV Members in the News
- Literary Arts Festival in Pictures
- More Pictures from the Festival
- Help Us Help You!
- More Handy Grammar Rules

## WGV Seeks New Board Members for 2025

We are all volunteers, and we are tired. Please seriously consider what *YOU* can do to help us keep the Writers Guild of Virginia serving its membership.

Most of the board's communication is through email messages, and most of our meetings are via Zoom. So, you wouldn't even have to leave your home.

Contact Jeanne Johansen, Chair: [j.johansen@hightidepublications.com](mailto:j.johansen@hightidepublications.com) if you can share your talent in any way, big or small, to make our organization the best that it can be.

## Board of Directors

David Cariens  
[dcariens@gmail.com](mailto:dcariens@gmail.com)

Ann Eichenmuller  
[aceichenm@gmail.com](mailto:aceichenm@gmail.com)

Cindy L. Freeman  
[cindy@cindylfreeman.com](mailto:cindy@cindylfreeman.com)

Martha Hall  
[mhall0816@gmail.com](mailto:mhall0816@gmail.com)

Jeanne Johansen, Chair  
[j.johansen@hightidepublications.com](mailto:j.johansen@hightidepublications.com)

Gwen Keane  
[keanegwen@gmail.com](mailto:keanegwen@gmail.com)

We wish each of you a safe and joyous holiday season. We are committed to making 2025 our organization's best year yet.

## WGV Members in the News

Send your author news to: [cindy@cindylfreeman.com](mailto:cindy@cindylfreeman.com) by the 15th of each month.

- ⇒ Writers Guild of Virginia welcomes its newest members, **Mary Ann Olsen** and **Susan Robertson**.
- ⇒ **High Tide Publications, Jeanne Johansen**, owner has been accepted for participation in the Williamsburg Book Festival to be held Sat. Feb. 22, 2025.
- ⇒ These WGV authors have been accepted to participate in the Williamsburg Book Festival in February:

**David Cariens**

**Kathleen Decker**

**Cindy L. Freeman**

**Kathy Kasunich**

**Patti Gaustad Procopi**

**Susan Williamson, WBF Board Member**

## WGV Literary Arts Festival in Pictures - Thanks to all Who Participated!





## More Pictures from our Literary Arts Festival, 2024



## Help Us Help You!

Did you know that each member is entitled to an author page on the WGV website? It is an excellent marketing tool for you as an author. You can't afford *not* to use this free benefit! But it's up to you to provide the necessary information. We need your help to update your author page on the website.

Here's what to do:

1. Sign onto the Writer's Guild website:  
<https://www.writersguildva.com>
2. On the menu at the top, click "Our Members." Find your picture. If it isn't there, you need to submit a current headshot. Otherwise, click on
3. If your bio appears, please check it for accuracy; if your bio does not appear, please submit one (up to 500 words).
4. If your published books are not listed, provide each title. If they are not available for purchase on Amazon, tell us how someone can order them.
5. To submit your missing info, send an email message to [writersguildva@gmail.com](mailto:writersguildva@gmail.com). In the subject line, type "Author Webpage Update."

## More Handy Grammar Rules for Writers

1. Adapt vs. adept vs. adopt. "Adapt" means to make something fit for a new purpose; "adept" means well-trained or capable; "adopt" means to put something into effect or take a child as your own.
2. A while vs. awhile. "A while" is a two-word noun that refers to "a period of time." Ex. "We haven't seen each other for a while." Awhile is an adverb. "Let's stop walking and rest awhile." Are you confused yet?
3. Can I start a sentence with "because?" There's no grammar rule against starting a sentence with "because."
4. Can I use contractions in my writing? Avoid contractions in formal writing such as a business letter or dissertation. Otherwise, contractions are fine, especially when writing dialogue that should sound natural, not stilted.
5. Foreword vs. forward. The "word" in "foreword" indicates that it is the commentary (or words) at the beginning of a book. "Forward" means "a direction toward the front" or "in the future." It can also be a verb, as in "Please forward this document to your boss."
6. I couldn't care less vs. I could care less. "I couldn't care less" means I don't care. "I could care less" means I do care.
7. Leaped vs. leapt vs. lept. "Leaped" and "leapt" are both past tense versions of "leap," but "lept" is a misspelling of "leapt."
8. Lets vs. let's. "Lets" is the present tense form of the verb "let" as in "She lets her dog out every morning." "Let's" is a contraction of the words "let" and "us." Ex. "Let's walk to the store tomorrow."
9. May vs. might. "May" and "might" mean the same thing, but "may" indicates you're more likely to do something, and "might" hints that you're less likely to do it.
10. May vs. can. You "may" do something means you're allowed to do it. You "can" do something means you are capable of doing it.

Check Us Out:

Writers Guild Website: <https://www.writersguildva.com>

Writers Guild Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069653723114>

Writers Guild YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZU7VZKke0Y>