

# THE GUILD GAZETTE

Writers Guild of Virginia Online Newsletter

Cindy L. Freeman, Publisher/Editor



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If you expect to release a new book in 2024, you are eligible for a WGV-sponsored virtual book launch, which includes free advertising on social media. The virtual book launches and masterclasses will resume in January, but a January launch *must* be scheduled by December 15. To register, contact Jeanne Johansen: [wgviriniamail@gmail.com](mailto:wgviriniamail@gmail.com)

Masterclass topics for 2024: “Writing as a Second Career,” “Writing through Loss,” “Writing for Magazines,” “Writing Your Memoir,” and “Self Publishing.”

Happy Holidays from the Writers Guild Board of Directors!

## WGV Board of Directors

If you would like to serve on the WGV Board or volunteer on a committee, please contact a current board member:

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)

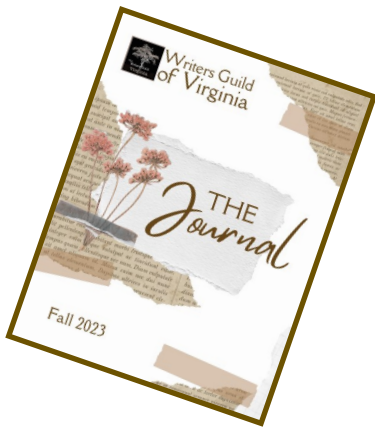
Gwen Keane  
[keanegwen@gmail.com](mailto:keanegwen@gmail.com)

Lacroy (Atlas) Nixon  
[lacroy45@gmail.com](mailto:lacroy45@gmail.com)

## WGV Members in the News

- ⇒ Two WGV members were awarded prizes in the Chesapeake Bay Writers Golden Nib contest: **Cindy L. Freeman** took second place in the nonfiction category for her essay “The Fixer” and **Bradley Harper’s** poem “Staff Call” won the humor award.
- ⇒ WGV welcomes **Kathy Kasunich** of Williamsburg who joined in November. By the way, Kathy won third place in the Poetry division at the state level of CBW’s Golden Nib contest for her poem “How Did I Get Here?”
- ⇒ Blue Fortune Enterprises announces the December 19 release of **Patti Gaustad Procopi’s** third novel *Stop Talking*. It is the sequel to her first novel, *Please... Tell Me More*.
- ⇒ This space is for *you* to announce *your* writing accomplishments! Don’t wait for your mother to brag about you. We want to celebrate all of our authors. So, please send your news to [cindy@cindylfreeman.com](mailto:cindy@cindylfreeman.com) by the 15th of each month.

## The Journal



With the fall 2023 issue of *The Journal* published, we are accepting prose, poetry, photography, and artwork for the winter issue until December 15 (deadline extended). Please submit your best work for consideration to:

[cindy@cindylfreeman.com](mailto:cindy@cindylfreeman.com)

Remember, issues of *The Journal* are now available for members to read free of charge on the WGV website:

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

## More Member Benefits



Thanks to a federal COVID-relief grant for non-profits, Writers Guild of Virginia has an exclusive arrangement with **Turn the Page Bookshop**, owned and operated by Ralph Tedeschi. Not only can WGV members display and sell their books at the store (receiving 100% of the proceeds) but we can also hold free book signings there. Now Ralph is adding a new benefit: WGV members are entitled to a 20% discount on all purchases when

you show your membership card at the register.

If you renewed your WGV membership for 2024, you will receive a membership card in the mail soon.

Take it with you to **Turn the Page Bookshop** to enjoy all of your member benefits.

**Turn the Page Bookshop** is located in Williamsburg, Virginia at Premium Outlets, 5707 Richmond Rd. Suite 40.

Contact: [ttpbookshop@gmail.com](mailto:ttpbookshop@gmail.com) (757) 808-6253

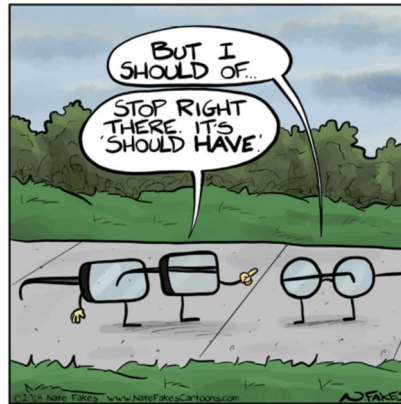
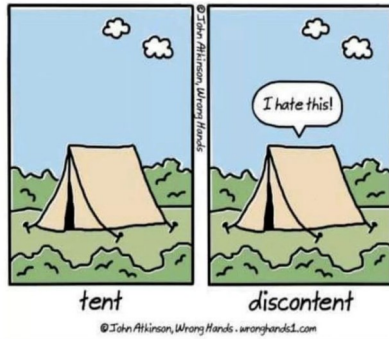


Writers Guild Website: <https://www.writersguildva.com/>

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

Writers Guild YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@hightidepublications3649>

## Quirky English



Corrective Lens



## Advice from the Experts

Clichés are figures of speech that are overused, stale, and make your writing boring and unoriginal. Writing coach, Jerry Jenkins, offers a free book, *Clichés and How to Avoid Them*. To access the book, click [here](#). Following are a few of the 160 clichés that he suggests avoiding:

1. At long last
2. All her eggs in one basket
3. Back to the drawing board
4. Beat around the bush
5. Calm before the storm
6. Clear as a bell
7. Dark before the dawn
8. Dead as a doornail
9. Dressed to kill
10. Easy as pie
11. Fish out of water
12. Fly the coop
13. Go against the grain
14. Go with the flow
15. Happy as a clam
16. Hear a pin drop
17. In a nutshell
18. In the gutter
19. Keep his chin up
20. Kill two birds with one stone
21. Light as a feather
22. Like taking candy from a baby
23. Make her blood boil
24. Moment of truth
25. Never say never
26. No stone unturned
27. Old as dirt
28. On thin ice
29. Plain as day
30. Pleased as punch
31. Quick as a bunny
32. Quiet as a mouse
33. Raining cats and dogs
34. Sigh of relief
35. Slept like a baby
36. Tough as nails
37. Two peas in a pod
38. Until the cows come home
39. White as a sheet
40. Work like a dog