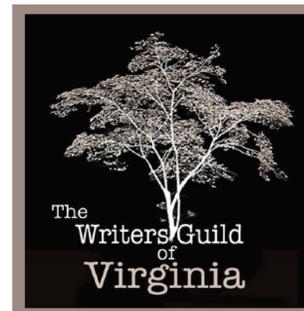


April 2023

THE GUILD GAZETTE

Writers Guild of Virginia Online Newsletter

Cindy L. Freeman, Editor



In this issue:

- Online Book Launches
- Board of Directors
- WGV Members' in the News
- You're Invited!
- Advice from the Experts
- *The Journal*
- Writing Pitfalls
- Check Us Out

Announcing a New WGV Benefit!

Do you have a book being released soon? Do you have a book that you couldn't launch because of the pandemic? Writers Guild of Virginia now offers a platform that doesn't require renting a venue or serving refreshments.

That's right! Starting later this month, WGV will host an online book launch via Zoom for any member. All you have to do is invite your friends, family, and readers to attend, and prepare a 30-minute speech about yourself and your book.

See p. 2 for *your* invitation to the inaugural event!

WGV Board of Directors:

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WGV Members in the News

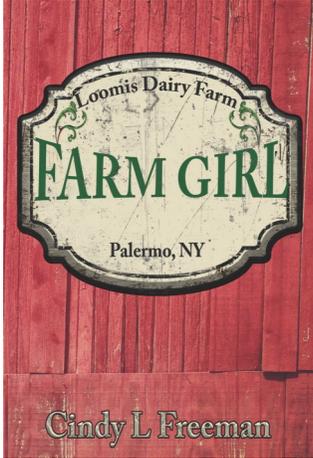
(Send your author news to: cindy@cindylfreeman.com)

- **Kathleen DesOrmeaux's** (penname Caterina Novelliere) book, *War Rising*, is a finalist in the Oklahoma Romance Writers Guild Heart Awards for the category "A Nonromance with Romantic Subplot."
- Congratulations to these WGV poets whose work was accepted for publication in the *Centennial Anthology* of The Poetry Society of Virginia: **Kathleen Decker, Sharon Canfield Dorsey, James Garrett, Marjorie Gowdy, Janice Hoffmann, Edward Lull, and Joyce Carr Stedelbauer.**
- **Ann Eichenmuller** was the invited speaker for Belle Isle State Park's Virginia Writers Series in March. **Cindy L. Freeman** will be featured April 12, 2:00-4:00 pm.
belleisle@dcr.virginia.gov or 804-462-5030

You're Invited!

Your attendance is requested at the WGV's first online book launch:

Sunday, April 23, 3:00—5:00 pm



Please attend virtually and support your fellow author, **Cindy L. Freeman**. Cindy's childhood memoir, *Farm Girl*, is being released this month by High Tide Publications. The launch will be celebrated via Zoom with a special introductory price of \$10 for a signed book, plus prizes and giveaways. Please register in advance to receive the link.

Jeanne Johansen: wgvirginiamail@gmail.com

Come for a few minutes, an hour, or the entire session. It's an opportunity to connect with your WGV colleagues and other guests, participate with comments and questions, or simply observe.

Next up: **Reyn Kinzey's** new poetry book, *Sleeping Dragons*, will be launched Sunday, May 7.

Advice from the Experts

According to Lucy V. Hay of Bang2Write.com, here are a few overused and ineffective words and phrases to avoid in screenwriting and novels:

1. Obviously, Clearly - If it's obvious or clear, there's no need to point it out.
2. Sit, Stand, Feel, Wonder (and other passive verbs) - You'll lose the reader's attention.
3. Look (and similar passive verbs like gaze, glance, regard) - Use sparingly
4. Cliches like

"[Character] battles his/her demons."

[to a police character] "I'll have your badge!"

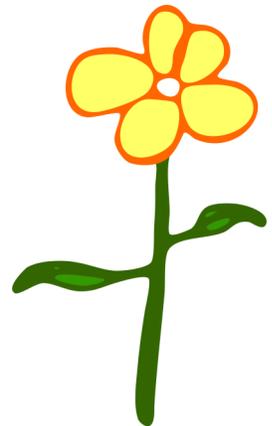
"[Character] has to learn to love and live again."

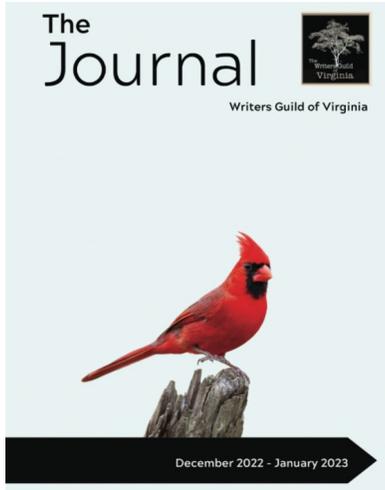
"This [situation] is just the tip of the iceberg."

"At the end of the day..."

"I've got a bad feeling about this." And the winner is...

"I let out a breath I didn't realize I was holding."





The Fall/Winter issue of WGV's literary publication, *The Journal*, is now available on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com). It features poetry by Sharon Canfield Dorsey, James Garrett, and Marjory Gowdy and short stories by DM Frech and Bradley Harper.

All Writers Guild members are eligible to contribute to *The Journal* by submitting your best prose or poetry to:

cindy@cindylfreeman.com

The deadline for submission to the summer 2023 issue is April 30.

Good writers use correct grammar, syntax, voice, and spelling. Right? Hopefully, but even the most careful writers have misused or confused some of these common words and phrases:



- “hone in” or “home in” - hone means to sharpen; “home in” means to focus one’s attention toward a goal. Therefore we “home in” to a possible solution.
- “should of” or “should have” - You should have said “should have” because “have” is the actual verb in this phrase. It can be shortened to the contraction “should’ve” but “should of” is incorrect.
- “effect” and “affect” are often confused, but they are different parts of speech. “Effect” is a noun - *His smile had an “effect” on my mood.* “Affect” is a verb - *I was hoping my smile would “affect” his mood.*
- “for all intensive purposes” or “for all intents and purposes” - “for all intents and purposes” is correct. *For all intents and purposes, he and I are dating.*
- “chomping at the bit” or “champing at the bit” - “champing” is correct. The phrase comes from horses anxiously “grinding” or “champing” their teeth before a race. *She is champing at the bit to start her new job.*

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

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

