

# LA PLUME

## Official Newsletter of the Writers' Guild of Acadiana

June 2022

### Board Members:

President Sudie Landry, Vice President Christopher Fontenot, Treasurer Beth Davis, Publicist Ellen Threatts, Secretary Ed Gauthier, Webmaster & Newsletter John Comeaux, and all past WGA Presidents in good standing.

### Next Meeting: June

**June 28, 2022.** The South Regional Branch of the Lafayette Library, Auditorium. Address is 6101 Johnston St, Lafayette. Start time is **6:00 p.m.** We usually go to 7:15, but we must end by 7:30.

June is members reading month. WGA members may to bring written material to share with the group, and five minutes will be allotted for each reader. Singers and songwriters within the organization are invited to share their work as a cappella or acoustic numbers; however, there is a limit of one song per performer and the song must also be no longer than five minutes.

We will have a Door Prize from the books that were donated by authors.

### This Month's Prompt: *June*

"The Lost Card"

Category: Memoirs

This is a fun competition for members. The prompt **MUST APPEAR** somewhere within the work, and entries must be no longer than 500 words. When the prompt category is poetry, both traditional and free verse poems are acceptable. All entries must be typed and double-spaced. The story or poem must have the word count, title, author's name, and date of the competition written at the top of the first page, and a paper copy of the winner and runner-up is to be handed in to the president after the judging. Contest participants are not allowed to enter the contest with works that are typed on iPhones or any other electronic devices.

"No tears in the writer, no tears in the  
reader. No surprise in the writer, no  
surprise in the reader."  
--Robert Frost



## Looking Ahead: *July Meeting* July Guest Speaker: **Derek James**

Derek James is originally from Austin, Texas. He has sold several short stories and has self-published over a dozen novels under various pen names. He's a veteran of the Clarion Writers Workshop, the Turkey City Writers Workshop, and now runs the Lafayette Speculative Fiction Writers group here. He primarily writes science fiction, but enjoys reading and writing in every genre.

## WEB Page and Facebook

Our web page is here: <https://www.writersguildacadiana.org/>

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/writersguildacadiana.org/>

The Writers' Guild is always willing to share the success stories of its members. Be sure to let us know about your writing. We will put your blurb on our website, on our Facebook page, and on this newsletter. Let's highlight and showcase our writers! Send us a synopsis or your own paragraph about the work you are working on or have published, and how to get it. Send to John at [jpcoman9@gmail.com](mailto:jpcoman9@gmail.com).

### ◆ **Member Announcements**

#### Member Publication

Edward Gauthier has released "Invasion of the Dream Wheel," an adult science fiction novel. The story takes place in the future, but also involves time travel and murderous intrigue. Look for *Invasion of the Dream Wheel* on Amazon.com. Or check out [EdwardGauthier.com](http://EdwardGauthier.com) for more on this writer. Congratulations, Ed.

### ◆ **Writing Tips**

#### 5 Tips to Self-Publish Your First Book

by Barnes & Noble Press

March 27, 2020

We all have a book inside us that is waiting to come out. And we all have a story to share. We all have imaginations that allow us to escape.

#### Part 1. What Should You Write?

Ideally, you should write whatever your heart desires! Whether it's a collection of short stories, a book of poetry, or the next Great American Novel, you should always write what's in your heart. And, if you are looking to write a book for the first time, you should absolutely follow this Golden Rule.

Holding in what you feel inside is like holding in your breath. At a certain point, you just need to let it out. Maybe you're afraid to say the words out loud. Maybe you don't even know

what the words are yet. But once you put pen to paper, or fingers to a keyboard, you may surprise yourself at what's released.

By writing the book you always wanted to write, not only will you find a new creative outlet, but you might even feel a little freer, a little lighter, and a little more yourself again.

*(To be continued each month)*

### ◆ Humor

What type of blood does a proofreader have? Type O.

### ◆ Technical

What is "Good writing?"

In the simplest form, good writing results in good reading. If you are reading something, an article, a story, a novel, a play, and you are enjoying it and don't want to stop, then it is good writing.

### ◆ Publishing

**Highlights** Magazine is looking for admissions. There is a June 15 deadline, but other publications by this organization also have openings. *(Sorry I didn't get this out earlier, ed.)*

"HIGH FIVE MAGAZINE is now open to submissions until June 15, 2022. "We're looking for new talent, fresh voices, nonfiction relevant to young children's daily lives, and stories that will grab preschoolers' attention." Seeking stories and nonfiction for ages 2-6. No rebus stories, no finger plays, and no stories longer than 160 words. Nonfiction submissions should connect to elements of young children's daily lives. Submissions during this open period will be considered for publication in 2023 and early 2024. Only one manuscript per submission."

Visit each link if you are interested. <https://highlights.submittable.com/>

### ◆ Ask Google

I asked Google: "Are you ever too old to become a writer?"

One of the biggest myths of writing is that you have to start young in order to be successful. Yet not all authors beginning penning masterpieces in their teens. In fact, some of the most successful authors have benefited from being 'late bloomers'

◆ **Word of the month**

**Rathskeller** – *noun*

A restaurant patterned on the cellar of a German town hall, usually located below street level.

**Exigent** – *adjective*

Requiring immediate action or aid; urgent

◆ **Events**

**Sales Opportunity!** WGA members have the opportunity to join us at Moncus Park Artisan Market on the last Saturday of the month. We display our books and meet with people to discuss writing and publishing. Usually hundreds of people go by the booth, and our huge WGA banner attracts many to see and meet the authors.

If you are interested, the next dates are July 30 and Aug 27. You may contact our president, Sudie Landry, to submit your request. [praisemusicpro@cox.net](mailto:praisemusicpro@cox.net) .

◆ **Contests**

No new contest announcements have been announced that I know of.

***Would you like to join?***

Thank you for your interest in the Guild. Submit the form below to register to become a new or renew a membership with Writers' Guild of Acadiana. Annual membership fee is \$25.00. You will receive this monthly newsletter "La Plume", which will keep you informed of events and news of the Guild. WGA annual dues are due January 1st of each year, late after March 1st. When submitting the form, please mail your check or money order to:

**Writers' Guild of Acadiana**

**P O Box 51532**

**Lafayette, LA 70505**

Email questions to: [info@writersguildacadiana.org](mailto:info@writersguildacadiana.org)

Cash payments can be made at the monthly meeting – do not mail.

This form is also online: [writersguildacadiana.org](http://writersguildacadiana.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find out about us? \_\_\_\_\_

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