

About Greg Bowers

First, the cold, hard facts:

I went to undergrad school at Catawba College (Salisbury, NC) and grad school at Western Washington University (Bellingham, WA). I was a lecturer at York College of Pennsylvania, and worked 15 years as a reporter, and 10 as an editor at the York Dispatch/York Sunday News (York, PA).

I was a professor for 14 years at the University of Missouri's School of Journalism and led three international study groups: to Beijing (for the 2008 Olympics); to Guangzhou, China (for the 2010 Asian Games) and on a media tour through France, Belgium, Germany and Italy.

I've lectured, read and published (poetry, fiction and non-fiction) everywhere from literary magazines to journalism industry publications (Poynter.com, Associated Sports Editors.com and Harvard's Neiman Storyboard).

Since I moved back to Pennsylvania, I've been judging writing contests (United States Basketball Writers Association, Society of American Travel Writers, and City and Regional Magazines Association) and working on creative nonfiction.

Recent publications include Southeastern Review (Florida State University) Saw Palm (University of South Florida) Arts and Letters (Georgia College) and Fleas on the Dog (Ontario, Canada). My poem, "How to Talk to a Giraffe" was included in "Goldfish, Germs and Galaxies," a children's anthology published by Harvard College.

And now, interesting stuff:

My hobbies include collecting writing-related art and juggling - especially the legendary "Apples of Death" during which the juggler eats apples while he juggles them. (To be fair, a friend has suggested that it's more an inconvenient, rather than deadly, way of eating apples. But "Apples of Inconvenience" just doesn't have the same ring.)

I served as honorary coach of the University of Missouri gymnastics team (honorary record: 0-1).

More favorite writing moments: covering the Nude Olym-picks, editing a poem by Allen Ginsberg and helping to simultaneously flush every toilet in the Baltimore Ravens stadium prior to its 1998 opening.

I appeared (briefly) as a sportswriter in the film "Major League II" and (even more briefly) as a contestant in a biscuits-and-gravy eating contest on the Travel Channel's reality show "Truck Stop Missouri". (Spoiler alert: I lost in the first round. The contest was eventually won by Bean, a midget who rode a motorized ice chest.)

I did a voice-over in a radio commercial for the Atkins Pest Control Service in Missouri (catch phrase, "Life is Hard").

I also wrote and performed "The Inverted Pyramid Song." With over 10,000 views on YouTube, it was the journalism hit of 2011.