

in the Wind

Seattle Storytellers' Guild • Summer 1997 • Vol. XX, Number 3

1997 Storytelling Festival

The 1997 Northwest Storytelling Festival will be held on October 25th at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Ballard. This year's line-up features four tellers from around the Pacific Northwest: Gay Ducey from California, Barb Newcomb-Stevens from Eugene, Oregon, Nancy Schimmel from Portland, and Vincent Kituku from Boise, Idaho.

The tellers bring a variety of styles, stories and ideas to the festival. Gay Ducey visited the area in March hosted, in part, by the Tahoma Storytelling Guild. Gay is a nationally recognized teller whose workshops and performances have earned her a large, devoted following here.

Barb Newcomb-Stevens publishes "Stretching the Truth," a Northwest storytelling newsletter. She's a fine teller whose CD "Daughters of the Ishi-shini" has just been awarded a 1997 Notable Recording by the American Library Association.

Nancy Schimmel is a familiar name to anyone who has been in storytelling for any length of time. Her book, *Just Enough to Make a Story*, is a standard and her telling is a lively mix of folktales and contemporary tales.

Vincent Kituku is a native of Kenya who now resides in Boise. He is a storyteller, teacher and motivational speaker as well as a writer with several books to his credit.

The festival will run from noon to 9:30 p.m. and will include workshops, a family concert and an evening

concert. Separate pre-festival workshops will be offered from 9:30 to 11:30 Saturday morning. Last year these institutes proved popular and were well attended.

Further details will be included in a special mailing in August and in the fall newsletter. So stay tuned and plan on joining us in October.

Annual Membership Meeting and Election

The annual membership meeting was held on Sunday, June 1, at the Roadrunner Coffee House. Here is the new board for 1997-98:

President: Camille Wooden

Vice President: Dawn Kuhlman

Secretary: Zelda Foxall

Treasurer: Sally Porter-Smith

Newsletter: Mary Hobbs

Folklife Coordinator: Pat Peterson

Membership: Phyllis Silling

Publicity: Linda Scott

Volunteer Coordinator: Kathy Currie

Member-at-Large: Debra Harris-Branham

Member-at-Large: open position

Margaret Read MacDonald gave a presentation on storytelling in Thailand and the meeting closed with an open mike.



Summer at the Roadrunner

Join us in July, August and September for some great storytelling and good eating. To accommodate a longer open mike we will begin the feature program at 1 p.m. starting in July. The Roadrunner Coffee House is located at 2123 N. 40th, on the corner of 40th and Bagley, five blocks south of 45th in Wallingford. The phone number is 547-3559. They open early for breakfast and begin serving lunch around noon. Here's our summer line-up:

July 20

Valerie Moriarty, "A Northern Heart with a Southern Twang"

August 17

Linda Scott, "Adventures in Storytelling," stories for a summer day

September 21

Dawn Kuhlman and Camille Wooden, "The Way We Like It," stories to help you say goodbye to summer and hello to fall.

Time change: featured programs begin at 1 p.m.
\$3 admission



New Recording Wins Award

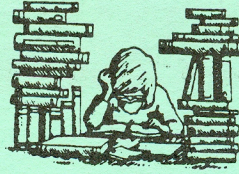
The American Library Association recently awarded a 1997 Notable Recording to northwest storyteller Barb Stevens-Newcomb for "The Daughters of Ishi-shini," a recording released November 1996. This prestigious award is presented each year to a small number of the best new recordings in the country, distinguished for their venturesome creativity and respect for the imagination and intelligence of young people.

The recording, on CD and cassette, tells stories of adventure, courage and transformation, adapted from Yamana, Allancu, Zapotec, Maklak and Ojibwa folklore. The tales are accompanied by Native American flute, cello, guitar, tabla drums, live wind and storm. Storyteller Barb Stevens-Newcomb shares these ancient tales from her journeys in the Americas.

The Daughters of Ishi-shini is produced and distributed by Black Cricket Press, and independent small press located in Eugene, Oregon. Call/fax (541) 349-0388 for ordering information.

Tellers Needed

The Guild receives a number of calls each month from people looking for tellers for small events like birthday parties and cub scout meetings. Professional tellers aren't always available to take these jobs and we would like to develop a list of tellers willing and able to fill these spots. They typically pay between \$25 and \$75 for 20 to 40 minutes of telling. If you are not currently in the directory and would like to be on this list please call and leave your name, number and some information about your experience and programs. You will be contacted by a Guild member and may be asked to submit an audio or video tape. This can be a valuable way to gain experience and exposure, as well as provide the community with storytelling. Call 621-8646.



About Stories and the Folks Who Tell Them

by Margaret Read MacDonald, King County Library System

Anne Pellowski's recent visit to Seattle brought new perspectives on story to many of us.

Anne was keynote speaker for the 17th Annual Storytelling Conference at the University of Washington. Recently her storytelling has taken her to the Amazon. There she works with peoples who have no written literary tradition. If you have no picture books for your children what do you do? You MAKE your own! And noting that the women work beautifully with cloth, Anne has taught them to make cloth books for their children.

There is something so tactile and user-friendly about the cloth book that Anne recommends it for ALL families. Her colorfully illustrated HOW TO MAKE CLOTH BOOKS FOR CHILDREN: A GUIDE TO MAKING PERSONALIZED BOOKS (Chilton, 1982) shows many examples of cloth books and suggests ways to get families involved in this art form.

Another recent publication of Anne's is THE STORYTELLING HANDBOOK: A YOUNG PEOPLE'S COLLECTION OF UNUSUAL TALES AND HELPFUL HINTS ON HOW TO TELL THEM (Simon & Schuster, 1995). A special feature of this book is the comments from young folks who tell stories. Anne also includes suggestions useful for those adults who work with children as tellers. Several good stories for children to start with are included. Those who teach kids to tell will want both this title and the following.

STORIES IN MY POCKET: TALES KIDS CAN TELL by Martha Hamilton & Mitch Weiss (Fulcrum, 1996) is written specifically for the young teller to read. It opens with a chapter of "Storytelling Tips for Kids", which is addressed to the young reader. Thirty easy-to-tell stories are included. The tales are set in a very easy to tell format, emphasized words are highlighted, and stage directions are given alongside the text. The stage

directions may be a bit of overkill, but this should provide an easy place to start for the hesitant beginner. A section on "Guidelines for Adults to Help Kids Tell Stories" is at the rear.

Those tellers who are selling their services will want to get their hands on STORYTELLING PROFESSIONALLY: THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF A WORKING PERFORMER by Harlynne Geisler (Libraries Unlimited, 1997). Drawn from her own experience as a professional storyteller, Harlynne makes useful suggestions about setting fees, promoting yourself, handling difficult audiences, and much more. She includes good bibliographies for further information on all topics too. This is an excellent tool for the teller who is interested in making a business of story.



Storytelling at Folklife

The new Leo K. theater provided a wonderful space for tellers at this year's festival. Many of you took advantage of the slower pace on Friday night to help kick off the four days of telling. Special thanks to Linda Scott and Dawn Kuhlman for stepping in at the last minute to fill cancellations.

The Liar's Contest was won by James Thiel. To all the MCs, judges and organizers, our heartfelt thanks. To those of you who came to listen, we welcome you to our other events held throughout the year.

Calendar



July

7 Tom S. Galt, A Celtic Celebration, 7 p.m. at the White Center Library, 11220 16th S.W., Seattle. (206) 243-0233

9 Debbie Dimitre, "Around the World with Nellie Bly," 7:30 p.m., Fairwood Library in Renton. For more information call Debbie at (206) 823-1081.

11 Tom S. Galt, A Celtic Celebration, 1 p.m. at the Carnation Library, Snow Valley Senior Center, Carnation. (425) 333-4398

12 Tom S. Galt, A Celtic Celebration, 1 p.m. at the Federal Way 320th Library, 848 S. 320th Street, Federal Way. (253) 839-0257

15 Tom S. Galt, A Bag of Hats, 2 p.m. at the Tacoma Public Library, 1102 Tacoma Ave. S. (253) 591-5688

17 Eastside Story 'N Snack, 7 p.m. dessert potluck and story swap. Call Kathy Murphy, 391-4312, for more information.

19 Kathy Murphy and Bob Christian present family stories for all ages, 3:30 p.m., free. Call Kathy, 391-4312, for information and location.

19 Tom S. Galt, A Bag of Hats, 11 a.m. at the Tacoma Public Library, 1102 Tacoma Ave. S. (253) 591-5688

20 Valerie Moriarty, "A Northern Heart with a Southern Twang," stories from Alaska by way of the South. Roadrunner Coffee House, 1 p.m. (please note time change).

22 Debbie Dimitre, "Crazy Quilt Tales," 11 a.m. at Mt. Vernon Library. 1 p.m., Burlington Library. 3

p.m., Sedro Woolley Library. For more information call Debbie at (206) 823-1081.

26 Tom S. Galt, A Celtic Celebration. N.W. Scottish Highland Games, 10 a.m., King County Fairground, Enumclaw. (206) 522-2541

31 Story 'N Snack, 7-9:30 p.m. dessert potluck and story swap. Call Guild, 621-8646, for location.

August

2 Tom S. Galt, A Celtic Celebration, 1 p.m. at the Vashon Library, 17210 Vashon Highway S.W., Vashon Island. (206) 463-2069

7 Tom S. Galt, A Bag of Hats. Wednesday Walk, 7:30 p.m., Antique Stores Etc., Downtown Renton. (425) 228-1849

13 Debbie Dimitre, "Around the World with Nellie Bly," 7 p.m., Shoreline Library. For more information call Debbie at (206) 823-1081.

16 Kathy Murphy and Bob Christian present family stories for all ages, 3:30 p.m., free. Call Kathy, 391-4312, for information and location.

16 Tom S. Galt, Bardic Tales. 10 a.m. at the Kent Canterbury Faire, Earthworks Park in Kent. (253) 859-3991

17 Linda Scott in "Adventures in Storytelling," stories for a summer day. Roadrunner Coffee House, 1 p.m. (please note time change).

21 Eastside Story 'N Snack, 7 p.m. dessert potluck and story swap. Call Kathy Murphy, 391-4312, for more information.

Calendar



28 Story 'N Snack, 7-9:30 p.m. dessert potluck and story swap. Call Guild, 621-8646, for location.

September

4 Tom S. Galt, A Bag of Hats. Wednesday Walk, 7:30 p.m., Antique Stores Etc., Downtown Renton. (425) 228-1849

18 Eastside Story 'N Snack, 7 p.m. dessert potluck and story swap. Call Kathy Murphy, 391-4312, for more information.

21 "The Way We Like It," Dawn Kuhlman and Camille Wooden. Stories to help you ease into fall. Roadrunner Coffee House, 1 p.m. (please note time change).

25 Story 'N Snack, 7-9:30 p.m. dessert potluck and story swap. Call Guild, 621-8646, for location.

Out of Area

July 18-20 Vancouver Folk Festival featuring storytelling and spoken word events. (604) 602-9798

July 18-20 13th Sierra Storytelling Festival with Len Cabral, Heather Forest, Bill Harley, Vicki Juditz, Marijo, Dovie Thomason and MC Gay Ducey. Contact: NCSCC, 17894 Tyler Foote Crossing Rd., Nevada City, CA 98959

Aug. 30-Sept. 1 T.A.L.E.S. 9th Annual Storytelling Festival at Fort Edmonton Park. (403) 422-8243 or email: tales@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Forest Storytelling Festival in Port Angeles

September 19, 20 and 21 are the dates to mark on your calendar. Batt Burns from Ireland will be there along with Dianne Ferlatte, Steve Sanfield and Katy Rydell from California. Regional talent to be showcased includes Naomi Baltuck, Kevin Cotter, Allison Cox and Cherie Trebon. Nan Gregory from Vancouver, B.C. will tell along with John Dashney from Oregon, Ian McDonald from Australia and Chris Morganroth, a Quileute storyteller from LaPush, Wash. Carol Soth will be traveling from Montana in an authentic Gypsy sheepherder's wagon. She combines storytelling and the arts to help us find the stories in ourselves, our landscapes and communities.

The festival will begin with a free two-hour workshop, "Whole Body Storytelling," on Friday from 1-3 p.m. Friday evening at 7:30 — Olio of tellers.

Saturday — workshops, concerts, story swap, ghost stories and stories for adults.

Sunday — stories to inspire, concerts, story swap and comedy night.

Pre-register by Sept. 1 for \$55. For more information contact Josephine Pedersen, The Story People, 1320 So. Cherry, Port Angeles, WA 98362, phone (360) 457-3169.

There are lodgings to please everyone but the Uptown Motel is a real favorite with festival tellers and listeners. It is within easy walking distance to all activities and the management provides a discount if you mention the festival. Give them a call at (360) 457-9434.

Seattle Storytellers' Guild Board for 1997-98

President: Camille Wooden (854-2909)
Vice president: Dawn Kuhlman (939-7117)
Secretary: Zelda Foxall (322-5038)
Treasurer: Sally Porter-Smith (283-5984)
Member-At-Large: Debra Harris-Branham (772-0415)
Member-At-Large: open position
Membership: Phyllis Silling (246-7636)
Newsletter Editor: Mary Hobbs (781-3487)
Folklife Coordinator: Pat Peterson (935-5308)
Publicity: Linda Scott (822-6053)
Volunteer Coordinator: Kathleen Currie (222-5442)

In the Wind is the newsletter of the Seattle Storytellers' Guild, a non-profit organization, and is published quarterly. Membership in the Guild includes a year's subscription. Please check the expiration date on your label. Deadline for the fall issue is September 1, 1997. Call the Guild at 621-8646 for updated information on Guild events.

Newsletter design by Nancy Blanton, 937-1343

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Date: _____

☐ New ☐ Renewal

☐ Individual, \$15

☐ Family, \$20

☐ Institutional, \$30

☐ Donor, \$35

☐ Lifetime, \$150

☐ Muse, over \$150

☐ I am interested in volunteering. Please call me to discuss how I may help.

☐ Please include my name on mailing list for related events.

Mail to: Seattle Storytellers' Guild, P.O. Box 45532,
Seattle, WA 98145-0532.

Seattle Storytellers' Guild

P.O. Box 45532

Seattle, WA 98145-0532

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE, WA
PERMIT NO. 3819