

In the Wind

Volume XXII Number 3

Summer 1999

Call for Stories About Bridges

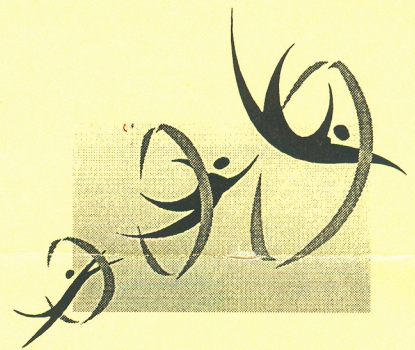
Sharon Wood Wortman is looking for published stories and tales about bridges -- either measurable or metaphorical bridges, foreign or domestic -- that she might use as part of her work as a storyteller, guide and teacher in Portland, Oregon. Author of *The Portland Bridge Book* (Oregon Historical Society Press, 1989), Wood Wortman has been leading downtown Portland bridge walks for Portland Parks and Recreation since 1991. She also leads storytelling walks for schools, convention gatherings, and other groups and individuals. Wood Wortman would appreciate any bridge tale recommendations. Address is 3270 S.W. Fairmount Blvd., Portland, OR 97201. Telephone (503) 222-5535, fax (503) 222-5554, e-mail 75214.1142@compuserve.com.

Vi Hilbert's 81st Birthday & Traditional Storytelling Event July 23 - 26, 1999

An open invitation:

You are invited to join us this summer to celebrate our beloved elder's birthday through storytelling, feasting, potlatching, and sharing. Johnny Moses (Whis.Tem.Men, knee) will share a four-day epic story. Other storytellers are also expected. We are honoring the tradition of our ancestors and continuing the Adopt-A-Story work our elder, Vi Hilbert (TaqSblu) has begun. Through the stories the wisdom of our ancestors teaches us of the sacredness of our life and this world. This gathering is a prayer and celebration to bring our families together in a joyful atmosphere. There will be feasting and potlatching each day. This is truly a traditional family gathering -- all are invited.

People are invited to stay at the Medicine House during the ceremonies. Camping space is available. Ceremonies begin at noon each day.



The Medicine House is located at
1582 Reservation Road.
Swinomish Reservation
(Near Laconner, Washington)

For more information contact: Bill Hendry
Cote (Chal Si Nam Men) at 206-230-7953

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Vi Hilbert Tribute A Report by Pat Peterson

The afternoon of April 24 at the Nordic Heritage Museum was a very special one as we gathered to honor Upper Skagit Elder Vi Hilbert. There were tributes ranging from a letter from First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton to tales told by local tellers. All presentations were equal in their recognition and respect for the work that vi has and is doing.

In her thank you Vi said, "Through my lifetime, the wisest of our teachers have taught us that the best medicine in the world is acknowledgment. The Lushootseed culture practices this always. It gives me great joy to see that so many of you have had the same teachers. So, with great humility I offer Lushootseed blessings to each of you."

Tall Tales at Folk Life by Tom S Galt

This years' Folk Life Tall Tales Contest (affectionately known as "The Liars' Contest.") was. on Monday, May 31, from 6:00 until 8:00 PM in the Rainier Room. Ten storytellers gathered to exchange yarns, in the spirit of Huckleberry Finn who said, "What's the use of telling a story if you don't stretch it a bit?"

The judges were Tom Galt, and Allan, Dee and Melody Hirsch and Clint (does anyone know his last name?). Tom has been the Emcee for the last 17 years. Allan and Dee have served as judges for the last 3 years. Dee Hirsch (a teacher) has brought needed organization, with her ideas and forms. Melody Hirsch (their ten-yea-old daughter) joined the judges for the first time this year as our first Junior Judge. Clint, who has been our time-keeper for many years, also served as a judge this year.

The Winners were:

#1 Jay Hopper (a Teacher from Woodinville) with "Of Owls and Morning Glories"
A well presented tale of Late-To-Beders and Early-Risers.

#2 Martha Smith (a previous winner here) with "A Long Winded Tale"
Another of her delightful Central Washington tales.

#3 James Thiele (another previous winner) with "The World's Great Mysteries"
A tale of Things you wouldn't believe in Indiana.

The Junior Division Winner:

Nathan Cox (14-year-old from Ferndale WA, twice previous winner and the inspiration for our Junior Division) with "Custer Mafia"
A tale of a Bovine uprising or Mafia in Custer WA.

A Note About Folklife 1999 From Pat Peterson

This year brought changes to Folklife but storytelling was well represented. For some people, this was their first introduction to storytelling and for others, a chance to sit back and listen to favorite tellers and discover new ones. To all who told or MC'd, heartfelt thanks.

Gene Frieese Scholarship Awarded

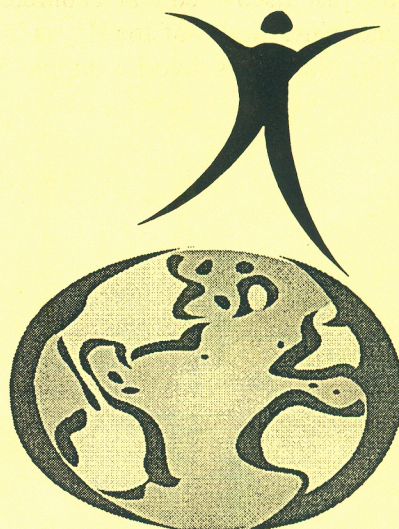
Josephine Pedersen is the recipient of the 1999 Gene Frieese Scholarship. She will apply it towards fees for the National Storytelling Conference in San Diego this July. Josephine is the founder of the Forest Storytelling Festival. All of the entries were deserving. We wished we could have made more than one award. Please apply next year.

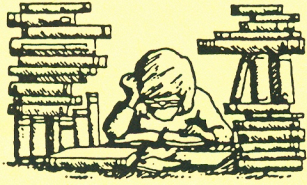
Annual Guild Membership Potluck Picnic

The annual Seattle Storyteller's Guild potluck picnic and story swap will be held on Sunday, August 15 at the home of Cherie Trebon. Time is 2:00 - 5:00 PM. Please bring a dish to share and a story or two to swap. Beverages will be provided. The picnic is open to members of SSG, their families and other friends of storytelling. Call Cherie at (206) 525-0382 for driving instructions.

Slighe Nan Gaidheal Gaelic Camp

Slighe Nan Gaidheal, an institutional member of Seattle Storytelling Guild, is offering a Gaelic camp on the weekend of August 20, 21, and 22. The weekend will include Scottish Gaelic language instruction, workshops on the history, music, dance, and culture of the Scottish Gaels, a beginner's storytelling workshop by SSG Board member Cherie Trebon, and much music, dance, and fun. Cost for the weekend is \$75.00. The camp will be held in North Bend, WA; camping spaces, meals, and workshops are included in the cost. Please call (206) 328-9642 for information or a registration packet, or check out their web site at www.slighe.com.





SOURCES: ABOUT STORIES AND THE FOLKS WHO TELL THEM

by Margaret Read MacDonald,
King County Library System

TELL ME A TALE: A BOOK ABOUT STORYTELLING by Joseph Bruchac (Harcourt Brace, 1997). In this small, sweet book Joseph Bruchac talks to the young reader about storytelling. Interweaving personal anecdotes, brief story texts, and sensible commentary about story and its uses, the author produces a book which will please and inform adults and is also readable by older youth. Pick it up at your local library for a quick and useful read.

STORIES TO PLAY WITH: KIDS' TALES TOLD WITH PUPPETS, PAPER, TOYS, AND IMAGINATION by Hiroko Fujita, Adapted and edited by Fran Stallings (August House, 1999). Story tricks from the bag of an older Japanese children's storyteller. Primary and pre-school teachers will want to scan this for simple stories told with finger puppets, paper and hankerchief folding, moving-picture stories and such. Several are well known, but some are quite novel. Nice to have them all in one tidy collection at any rate.

HERE COMES THE STORYTELLER by Joe Hayes (El Paso: Cinco Puntos Press, 1996). This has been out for a while, but I just discovered it at a conference. Strong black and white photos of Joe Hayes in action alongside text for nine of his favorite, simple folktales, with margin comments by Joe about his tellings. Similar to the popular **JACKIE TALES** which most of you have seen, but in a slim, paperback format. Worth a look. Some great stories for retelling here. Since Joe gives directions to the potential teller in the margins, I assume he means for folks to retell them?

DOORWAYS TO THE SOUL: 52 WISDOM TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD by Elisa Davy Pearmain (Cleveland, Ohio: The Pilgrim Press, 1998). Brief stories to consider, with suggestions for using them as individual meditation. "These stories are meant to be read in small doses. When we read more than a few at

one sitting, we stop pondering and begin consuming." Elisa suggests that the reader take one story a week and mull it over. A fresh approach which we jaded "consumers" of tales may find hard to adhere to. A charming gift to pass on to someone who needs to learn the value of story.

BURNING BRIGHTLY: NEW LIGHT ON OLD TALES TOLD TODAY by Kay Stone (Broadview Press, 1998). Canadian folklorist, Kay Stone, tackles a number of topics in these essays. She first discusses storytelling communities, examining the storytelling revival's four streams coming:

oral tradition, library and educational storytelling, theatrical storytelling, and therapeutic and spiritual storytelling. She talks about "intentional storytelling communities", giving interesting examples from Canadian groups. And she discusses "social identity" in organized storytelling. Then Stone turns to an examination of individual tellers in a fascinating section which talks of Bob Barton's use of story and creative drama, the entrance of traditional teller, Joe Neil MacNeil to the performance platform after being nurtured by folklorist, John Shaw. In each discussion she includes an illustrative text from the teller's repertoire. Through interviews with tellers Marylyn Peringer and Stewart Cameron the author queries the introduction of elements from the teller's own experience into their interpretation of folktales. In discussing how three tellers interpret stories of strong women, Stone makes the interesting observation "the first audiences for performed stories are the tellers themselves." She shows how Carol McGirr, Marvyne Jenoff, and Susan Gordon respond to their material and shape it according to their own emotional needs. In this case "They viewed controversial heroines as heroic rather than victimized and opened new prospects for understanding destructive mothers/stepmothers because these issues were personally significant to them." Stone concludes the book with an introspective discussion of her own reworking of a fairy tale text for telling, and a stirring chapter in support of the "wonder tale" "When the reality of archetypal metaphor rings true and burns brightly, the wondertales offer a path into the woods of inner vision an creativity; one returns to the external world with new wisdom and new vision, paralleling the journey of the protagonist of a folktale." A respected folklorist who also shares stories as a member of the revivalist storytelling community, Stone has long been known for her insightful essays connecting these two fields. We are fortunate to have her insights made available to us in the intriguing **BURNING BRIGHTLY**.

A Farewell from Camille



Dear Storytelling Community,

As we all prepare for summer and the journeying and scattering that it brings, a new board is coming together to guide the guild into the new year. John Clauson is our new president and I wish him all the best. Returning board members include Pat Peterson, Kevin Cotter, Linda Scott-Cummings, Debra Harris-Branham, and Cherie Trebon. We welcome new board member Marilyn Milnor. At this time there are board positions open which we hope will be filled soon.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every board member for their untiring support and work for storytelling and the efforts of the guild. Dawn Kuhlman and Sally Porter have served for many years, in several capacities, always willing to take on any task that needed doing. Zelda Foxall not only was an extraordinarily capable secretary, but was willing to take on the formidable task of the bulk

mailing (a job out of which several good stories will come). Phyllis Silling has handled the membership list upkeep and brought us into the computer age. Jean Pollock, though only with us for a year, shared her ideas and experience in meetings and a program. To those who remain on the board, I can only say how lucky we are in the Puget Sound area to have such talented and hardworking people working for the promotion and preservation of storytelling. A special thanks to Pat Peterson for all the good advice and guidance of these last 3 years.

The guild can only grow and prosper with member support and enthusiasm. I encourage you to stay in touch with your board, let them know what you would like to see and then volunteer to make it happen.

Storytelling as an art, as healing, as community has never been more important than it is now. Get involved and help spread the joy.

Many Blessings,

Camille

King County Library System Summer Storytelling Happenings

All programs free. Call individual libraries for more information

Bear On The Mountain -- Whitman Family Sampler: Lively mountain stories with audience participation.

June 26, 2pm, Valley View
June 28, 4 pm, Kirkland Library
July 1, 2pm, Kingsgate
July 12, 7pm, Bothell Regional Library
July 13, 2pm, Mercer Island
July 15, 4pm, Auburn Library
July 19, 7pm, Algona-Pacific
July 20, 2pm, Maple Valley Library
July 21, 2pm, Federal Way Regional
July 21, 7pm, White Center
July 26, 7pm, Tukwila Library
July 28, 2pm, Carnation
July 28, 7pm, Newport Wary
July 31, 2pm, Skyway

Reflections of the Potlatch -- Ronn Wilson, Storyteller -- Dramatic, narrated dance, songs and full costume presentation of NW Coast Indians

June 28, 7pm, Des Moines
July 10, 1:30pm, Kirkland
July 20, 7pm, North Bend
July 28, 7pm, Lake Hills Library
August 2, 1pm, Skykomish
August 2, 7pm, Bothell Regional Library
August 3, 2pm, Federal Way 320th
August 3, 7pm, Woodinville
August 4, 2pm, Carnation
August 5, 3pm, Algona-Pacific
August 6, 2pm, Auburn
August 7, 2pm, Bellevue Regional Library

Salmon Boy -- Kieffer Denning: storytelling, clowning and dance are part of this play about the migration of salmon

June 11, 2:30, Carnation Elementary School
June 28, 1pm and 3pm, Issaquah train depot (free tickets starting at 11am)
June 29, 2pm, Fairwood
August 3, 2pm, Muckleshoot
August 4, 3pm, Foster
August 5, 11am, Richmond Beach Center Park
August 6, 11am, Redmond Library
August 7, 3pm, Kenmore Library
August 9, 7pm, Bothell Regional Library

There Was A Storyteller, a Drummer & A Mask Dancer -- Won-Ldy Paye, Liberian storyteller tells authentic folktales from Liberia and West Africa.

July 6, 2pm, Duvall
July 7, 7pm, Federal Way 320
July 12, 7pm, Des Moines
July 14, 1pm, Vashon
July 16, 7pm, Lake Forest Park Library
July 19, 7pm, Bothell Regional Library
July 21, 1pm, Foster

Seattle Public Library Summer Storytelling Happenings

Take a Sound Effects Story Safari with Charlie Williams

Join us and see stories come to life with the unique sound effects of performer Charlie Williams. Williams uses lively movements, silly voices, and the most amazing noises you've ever heard! His stories range from updated fairy tales, such as "Jack and the Beanstalk" and "The Race" (The Tortoise and the Hare), to original stories about childhood including "The Boy Who Thought He was a Submarine" and "The Great Outdoors." Williams has worked as a children's librarian, pre-school teacher, graphic artist, cartoonist, emcee, disc jockey, and sound effect specialist for a broadcast company in St. Louis.

Washington Talking Book and Braille Library,
Saturday June 26 at 10 a.m.
Montlake Library Thursday July 1 at 10:30 a.m.
Broadview Library Saturday July 3 at 2 p.m.

The Whitman Story Sampler Presents Bear on the Mountain: Tandem Storytelling for All Ages

Join us when Jen and Nat Whitman, a lively tandem storytelling team, tell audience-participatory folktales from around the world. This summer, the Whitman Story Sampler will bring "mountain" related stories and songs to share with family audiences. The Whitmans use songs, chants, and motions to involve audience members in storytelling.

Wallingford-Wilmot Library, Tuesday June 8 at 7 p.m.
Madrona-Sally Goldmark Library
Wednesday July 28 at 10:30 a.m.
Central Library Lee Auditorium Thursday July 29 at 10:30 a.m.

Forest Storytelling Festival

The Fifth International Forest Storytelling Festival will be held in Port Angeles on September 17-19. Featured tellers include: Brother Blue, Gay Ducey, Angela Lloyd, Sky Shivers, Antionette Botsford, Marilyn McPhie, Debra Zaslow, Cathryn Wellner and Richard Wright. For early arrivals on Thursday evening, STONE SOUP AND SONG will be served on the banks of the Elwha River. For those who just can't bear to leave, on Monday there will be a tour of a tree farm. A free workshop will be offered on Friday afternoon and there will be a "Meet the Tellers" dinner on Saturday night. For more information, call Josephine Pedersen, 1-888-457-0030.

Festival Lodging -- Once again, the *Uptown Motel* is offering a special rate for festival attendees. Give them a call at 1-800-858-3812. For a unique accommodations, give *The Spa* a try. They are reasonable and include a hearty breakfast (360-452-3257).

National Storytelling Conference San Diego, July 7 - 11

The theme of this year's conference is, *Voices at the Water's Edge*. Workshops, keynote speakers, concerts and awards will fill our days and nights. Seattle's own Allison Cox will be representing our region at the regional concert. Call 1-800-525-4514 for information.

Fall Membership Meeting September 9th at All For Kids 7:00 PM

Welcome the fall with the first membership meeting of the new season. Story swap to follow - open to all.

Summer Story Swan Group Meeting Information

Tale Traders, an informal group of people who love stories, will meet the 2nd Tuesdays and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 7:00pm in Renton. Call 425-391-4312 for directions.

The Network of Biblical Storytellers will not meet in July or August. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14. Call 206-361-4630 for the exact location.

Raintales Story Swap meets every 4th Tuesday on Queen Anne. Call Lenore Jackson at 206-284-2976.

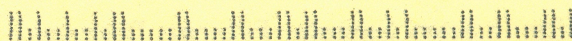


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Seattle Storytellers' Guild

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Marilyn Milnor

In the Wind is the newsletter of the Seattle Storyteller 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.

Call the Guild at 206-621-8646 for updated information on Guild events.

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zipcode: _____ Phone: _____

Today's Date: _____

New: _____ Renewal: _____

Individual, \$20. _____ Family, \$30. _____

Institutional, \$35. _____