

In the Wind

GRATEFUL BREAD CONCERT

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 20th for an evening of adult storytelling and superb food at The Grateful Bread Bakery, located on the corner of NE 70th St. and 35th Avenue NE, in the Wedgewood area of NE Seattle. Those who have attended concerts sponsored by the Seattle Folklore Society know that the Grateful Bread is a wonderful venue. Featured tellers are **Kevin Cotter** and **Kathi Lightstone**, excellent tellers that we haven't heard from for awhile. The Bakery offers delicious vegetarian and non-vegetarian soups, salads, sandwiches, and specialty items, with nothing priced over \$6.00, so come for a no-host dinner!. A full range of scrumptious desserts, coffees, teas, and other beverages will complete your meal. *By purchasing items, you help insure that the Seattle Storytelling Guild will be invited to come again.* Doors open at 7:01 p.m. with the program to begin at 7:45 p.m. Plan to purchase your food and beverage items prior to the performance start or during intermission. Space is limited to thirty and reservations will not be accepted. Admission price is \$7.00 - General Admittance; and \$5.00 for SSG members.

TELLERS AT GRATEFUL BREAD

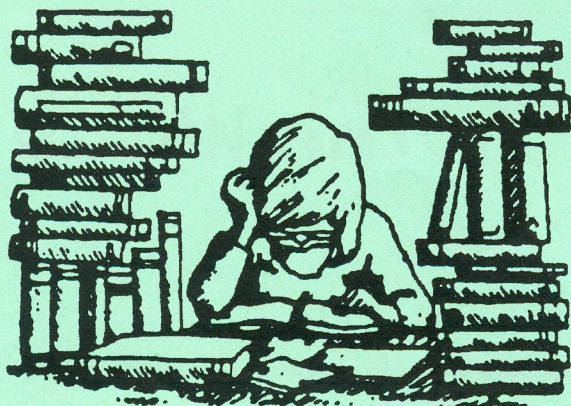
Kathi Lightstone has delighted audiences with her songs and stories throughout the region. She presents storytelling programs for professional and private groups, schools, libraries, colleges, conferences and festivals. As a teller of "fine and curious tales", old and new, that emphasize the wonder in life, Kathi is recognized as a leading storyteller in the Northwest.

Kevin Cotter was born and reared in the rural farmlands of New Zealand where his father served as a District Police Chief. He grew up amidst a family of Irish storytellers, with a deep cultural appreciation of the Maori, New Zealand's indigenous population. Since arriving in the U.S., Kevin has been entertaining audiences with his repertoire of South Pacific tales as well as personal stories from his New Zealand childhood and his Irish immigrant forefathers.

Stories and Songs from the Land to the North

Cathryn Wellner and **Richard Wright** have taken their talents on the road. This April they will be in Seattle to give a special concert at All for Kids on April 25. "Rough But Honest Miner: Reclaimed songs of BC's 1860s gold rush" is no dry history lesson. "These songs," says Wright, "help us understand history. They show that in a cold, hard land, 150 years ago, men and women fell in love, wrote about it in song and wrote about lost loves and the hardships of life. What it really shows us is that life and emotions were not so different six generations ago." The other half of their program, *Halfway to Horsefly*, is a set of stories about life on a small Cariboo ranch. They offer music, stories and poetry that come out of the land and people that surround them in an area where ranching and the cowboy mystique are everyday realities. We are going to have a high old time with songs and laughter, a tear and a heart-tug. There will be refreshments and door prizes. Admission \$8 for Guild members-\$10 general public. The fun starts at 7 pm at All for Kids, 2900 NE Blakely, 206-526-2768

SOURCES: ABOUT STORIES AND THE FOLKS WHO TELL THEM



By **Margaret Read MacDonald**,
King County Library System

A great new book from our Oregon neighbor, Robert Rubinstein. Robert is a Junior High teacher who uses story with his students and tours with a group of performing students which he trains. **CURTAINS UP! THEATRE GAMES AND STORYTELLING** by Robert Rubinstein (Fulcrum Resources, 2000). \$17.95 paperback. Tons of storytelling and theatre games here to warm up your group and get them thinking story. Should be useful for elementary, junior high, and high school. My 2nd grade teaching son-in-law **POUNCED** on it.

I don't think I have mentioned Doug Lipman's new tome of advice for tellers yet. Doug obviously sits around all night just trying to think of ways to help us all. We should be grateful for his well-thought out advice. Much of it is available on his website storypower.com and you can get on his free e-newsletter list there too. **IMPROVING YOUR STORYTELLING: BEYOND THE BASICS FOR ALL WHO TELL STORIES IN WORK OR PLAY** by Doug Lipman (August House, 1999) is a thoughtful investigation of just what it is we storytellers do, and suggestions for making our work better. I found much to use here and recommend it for all advanced tellers.

Another useful new book is **YOU'RE ON: 101 TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS. A USEFUL GUIDE FOR EVERYONE INVITED TO GIVE A TALK** by Ruth Stotter (Speaking Out Press, 2000). Ruth

Stotter, a Marin County storyteller and founder of the storytelling certificate program there, gives 101 very useful suggestions here. Though purportedly for public speakers, the tips are all for problems storytellers need to address.

And now for some recent and upcoming storytelling events in our area. Meg Philp from Australia was here over the New Year's and many of us enjoyed her delightful tellings both at All for Kids and at the house concert so graciously hosted by Naomi Baltuck. For those who missed Meg, or those who want to carry her home. Her new CD, **TAKING MY FUTURE BACKSTORIES ALONG THE WAY** with storyteller Meg Philp and flautist Mary Markov is available in limited quantities at All for Kids Books and Music. It can also be ordered from Meg (PO Box 55 Wilston, BRISBANE, Australia). There is a relaxing charm to Meg's tellings. Both her lovingly rendered folktales and her finely crafted personal stories fall gracefully on our ear and sink welcome into our hearts.

And coming to Seattle soon is another fine storyteller, Cathryn Wellner. Cathryn and Richard Wright will be sharing songs and stories from their research into the Canadian Gold Rush days. They have released both a CD, **ROUGH BUT HONEST MINER: RECLAIMED MUSIC FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA'S 1800s GOLD RUSH** by Richard Wright and Cathryn Wellner with Ken Hamm and the Wake Up Jacob Band (Winter Quarters Press, Box 15 Miocene Williams Lake, BC, CANADA V2G 2P3), and a companion book, **CASTLES IN THE AIR: MUSIC & STORIES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA'S 1860s GOLD RUSH**. The book is a fascinating collection of history, historical story, and song text. The CD offers engaging renditions of the old tunes and some beautifully shared narratives from pioneer diaries and letters. It was great to hear Cathryn's warm, full voice on this CD. The Seattle storytelling community will be glad to have her home again, if only for a couple of nights. She and Richard perform at the Bothell Regional Library Monday April 23 at 7p.m., and at All for Kids, Wednesday April 25 at 7 p.m.

In Memoriam...

Storyteller Suzanne Blain died Monday, Feb. 12th, 2001.

Hundreds of people of all ages and races crowded into the memorial service, hugging, crying and joining in song as they honored her talents and generosity.

Over ten years ago, Doug Bland and Susan Blain founded the Mt. Tahoma Storytelling Guild, inspired by the need to connect with local storytellers living in the Tacoma, WA area. Doug remembers Suzanne saying, "You can HAVE things, or you can DO things. ...I choose to DO things."

Suzanne Blain shared what she and Doug had learned from forging a new storytelling guild by presenting her experiences at the National Storytelling Conference in Kansas City. Conference goers at the National Storytelling Conference in Seattle in 1993 may also remember Suzanne Blain at the concert, telling the tale of the "Search for Truth." One day, he found her, high on a mountain, in a small cave. Truth was a withered old woman but her voice was sweet and pure. The man stayed with her and learned all she had to teach. When it was time for him to leave, he asked what he could do for her. "When you speak of me, tell them I am young and beautiful." Through all of her troubles, her voice remained true and she was indeed beautiful. Suzanne delighted in the telling of that tale.

Storytellers who have bunked with Suzanne at Jonesborough or the National Conferences remember her joy in the simple pleasures of a big porch with a view, yummy breakfasts and days sprinkled liberally with laughter. Some of Suzanne's best stories resulted from her never-a-dull-moment parties that brought together eclectic groups of people who would ordinarily never meet. And she was always engaging yet another storyteller in her second favorite art – contra dancing!

This talented, brave, compassionate woman responded to our concerned questions during her struggles with breast cancer with comments like "I've found something good that comes from chemo - my hair has grown back in curly!" After a reoccurrence of her cancer, Suzanne still told us "Life is good," expressing hope throughout her struggle. In the final years of her life, Suzanne focused on working with the homeless and hungry in her home city, so a memorial fund for Suzanne Blaine has been dedicated to the Guadalupe House Land Trust, 1417 S. G St., Tacoma, WA 98405. This organization maintains gardens that employ homeless and low-income families to grow and sell food, and supplies these families with food for themselves.

Goodbye Susan... we will remember you.

Allison Cox, Norma Jean Verhul, Pat Peterson, Doug Bland, Sharon Creeden, Renee Diaz de Leon Harvey, Yvonne Young, Karen Drum, and the Mt. Tahoma Storytelling Guild.

Midsummer Madness

June 22 - 6:30 p.m.



Come share a Midsummer Night's Dream.

Revelers shall gather to celebrate. Dress for the night, ye fairies, elves, wizards, sprites and wonder workers and B.V.F.F.S.S.C.M. and A.L.B.O.M.M. (Bring vittles, friends, folklore, stories, songs, costume, musical instruments and a little bit of midsummer magic.)

If the spirits allow, we shall gambol in the green garden of Naomi and Thom in Edmonds.
Come welcome summer. Call Naomi Baltuck at 425-776-1175

SEATTLE STORYTELLER'S GUILD ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000

2000 EXPENSES

Businesses Licenses	\$ 86.00
Postage 312.44	
Telephone 431.88	
Stationery & Supplies	23.47
Bank Fees 0.00	
Newsletter 624.68	
Brochures 0.00	
Gifts	0.00
Picnic	23.00
Gene Friese Scholarship	100.00
* Dinner Theatre	1,290.05
* Tellebration	20.00
* Sims Concert	992.19
* Sobel House Concert	208.00
* Donation - Slighe nan Gaidheal	100.00
* Donation - Jackie Torrence Fund	800.00

Total Expenses \$5,011.71

Net Income - 2000

Plus add-back check #1248 (never cleared bank)
Less unreconciled difference

Adjusted Net Income - 2000

Plus Total Funds January 1, 2000

Equals Total Funds 12/31/2000 **

2000 INCOME

Membership	\$1,490.00
Merchandise Sales	15.00
Interest	71.99
* Dinner theatre	1,452.00
* Donations	650.00
* Sims Concert	1,259.00
* Sobel House Concert	240.00
* Tellebration	800.00

Total Income \$5,977.99

\$966.28

100.00

.50

\$1,065.78

\$4,566.43

\$5,632.21

- Denotes extraordinary expense or income from Special Events

Total Income before Special Events \$1 576.99

Total expense before Special Events \$ 1 601.47

Net loss before Special Events <\$ 24.48>

- ** Total Funds 12/31/2000 includes:

Working Balance \$ 2 337.37

Special Events 934.84

Gene Friese Scholarship CD 2 360.00

Total \$5 632.21

Submitted by: Cherie Trebon, Treasurer

ARE YOU WILLING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

- by George Neiswanger -

Do you wonder what you could do? In storytelling there are many ways to help increase the momentum. Not everyone is acclaimed as a star, gifted in the art of holding an audience spellbound. Some are good listeners. Some seek out places for tellers to tell their stories and be appreciated. And others can organize programs that draw the public in to hear and enjoy.

But if you are one of those who volunteer to do the grunt work, does your intuition tell you that somehow you could be helping to move the ball even further down the field? If you sometimes feel that way, how about doing this?

Besides helping with the events near you, and besides joining the Seattle Storyteller's Guild, and even joining National Storytelling Network, you have the power to advance storytelling in the minds of the generations that follow you. No matter what your financial circumstances are now, you ought to have a will. You ought to have it written, signed, and in effect now, right now. And someday you intend to have a reasonably comfortable retirement. That is where you come in.

Make a will. And include in it a provision - a dollar amount, or a percentage of your assets - that will go to SSG. You can instruct for it to be added to the endowment; or you can allow it to be spent on current operations. But when that happens, you won't miss it, will you? First, take care of yourself. Then take care of the future of storytelling. Seattle Storyteller's Guild belongs in your will. Will you do it?

For additional information call George Neiswanger, 425-670-1671.

STORYTELLING INSTITUTE

The 18th Storytelling Institute: A Gathering of Storytellers Sharing Stories is returning to the University of Washington Campus May 4-5, 2001. Originated and directed by Spencer G. Shaw, Professor Emeritus, this important event complements the academic course, Storytelling: Art and Technique.

Novice and skilled storytellers will meet to explore their unique roles as tellers. Individuals will share the creative art forms of storytelling with its multiple uses for all ages in the fields of family life, education, librarian-ship, performing arts, recreation, religion, social services and multi-media.

The Storytelling Institute continues to be a strategic channel with resources for individuals to hone their skill and creativity through the oral tradition of storytelling.

Master classes for storytelling demonstrations will be held Friday, May 4, 1:30-4:30 pm. Participants should be prepared to tell a memorized story, five to eight minutes in length.

Saturday May 5, after a welcome by Spencer G. Shaw, Ellin Greene will deliver the keynote address. The Fairytales of My Life will draw on reminiscences about her own development as a storyteller and reteller of folktales. Greene will talk about the importance of story in our lives, and the special roles story-listening and storytelling play in human development.

Participants may attend two workshops. Topics include: Sharing Storytelling and Reading Aloud in the Classroom, A Dialogue with Ellin Greene, Sharing Storytelling and Stories with Middle and High School Listeners and Adults, Sharing Stories and Storytelling with Young Listeners and Sharing Stories and Storytelling with Diverse Cultures.

The afternoon will conclude with a Festival of Storytelling.

The complete workshop (Friday and Saturday) is \$180. Saturday only is \$150. There is a registration fee of \$30. Lunch is included on Saturday. Clock hours and CEUs are available. To request a brochure or for additional information about the institute, contact Rebecca Hackman, 206-543-2320 or 1-800-543-2320: rhackman@ese.washington.edu

Classes:

EXPLORE THE ART OF STORYTELLING:

North Seattle Community College Continuing Education Department is again offering a beginning storytelling class taught by storyteller and SSG board member, **Cherie Trebon**. This interactive class covers the basics, including storytelling dynamics, voice control and diction, choosing and learning a tale, and aspects of performing. Whether you are an aspiring storyteller, terrified public speaker, parent, grandparent, teacher, student, lawyer, therapist, or just plain curious, this is a fun opportunity to explore storytelling in a safe, non-threatening environment. Class members will be telling stories by the end of the very first session!

Three consecutive Tuesdays beginning 4/24/01; 6:30-9:00 p.m.; \$45.00.

Register by calling NSCC: (206) 516-2955 or (206) 527-3705. Class #7174

TALES AS TOOLS-STORYTELLING IN THE CLASSROOM

Michale Gabriel teaches at the SPU Summer Institute July 16-18. \$320-2 credits or 20 clock hours. Call 206-281-2274

Looking for Tellers for a nursing home and assisted living facility. Call Lynn Perry at 206-932-8692 or Mark at 206-362-8077. Small stipend-great rewards.

FOLKLIFE

It's full-steam ahead for the Northwest Folklife Festival, 2001, to be held Memorial Day weekend, May 25-28 at the Seattle Center. For the first time in recent history, Storytelling will be represented EVERY DAY of the festival! And for the first time ever, a Ghost Story Concert will be offered. Performer applications have been reviewed; notifications of acceptance will be mailed within a few weeks. Due to a large number of applicants, not all could be scheduled and some tellers will appear in "non-traditional" settings. However, there are opportunities for "walk-on" performers at the Liar's Contest and an extended Open Mike. Sign up for either is on a first-come, first serve basis so start working on your story now! The maximum time limit for stories is 10 minutes for the Liar's Contest and 7 minutes for the Open Mike. The tentative schedule for SSG-sponsored storytelling events is listed below. Please check the Folklife Festival schedule (available in the Seattle Weekly the week prior to the festival or at www.nwfollife.org/follife/) for actual times and venues and other storytelling performances.

Friday Evening – Concert

Saturday Evening – Ghost Stories

Sunday afternoon – Concert – including a "New Teller Showcase"

Sunday afternoon/evening – Liar's Contest – Sign up Friday to Sunday until filled

Monday afternoon – Open Mike – Sign up on Monday only, prior to program start

KSER 90.7FM's weekly Sunday morning live program of stories and music from around the world continues to expand! Now available live online at www.kser.org, Global Griot is drawing listeners from around the U.S. As it has in the past, KSER will be broadcasting live from the Exhibition Hall all during Folklife this Memorial Day weekend. **Global Griot will be broadcast live Sunday morning May 27. We are still looking for tellers and musicians for our broadcast.** It's great fun. Anyone interested, please contact Mary Marguerite at marystoriesmusic@excite.com or 1-888-240-8572 ext. 3327

Folklife Focus: Storytelling As Art

Saturday, May 5th, 7:30 p.m. Wit's End

Bookstore and Cafe

770 N 34th Street, Fremont Tickets: \$5
TerraLea Allen of Gig Harbor, **Lenore Jackson** of Seattle, and **Dunc Shields** of

Vancouver, BC will present a variety of stories and information about storytelling. The program will also include audience participation and interaction. Sponsored by Northwest Folklife.

WANTED: Board Members Could this Be You?

The Seattle Storytellers Guild is looking for individuals to fill vacating positions on its Board. The Guild, as do all nonprofit organizations, relies on volunteers to guide its business and direction. Qualifications for Board members include a love of storytelling, good ideas, great enthusiasm, willingness to take on a little extra work, and a desire to launch the Guild into the new millennium. Previous board experience is not required. To be considered for a position you should be an active member of the Seattle Storytellers Guild.

All positions are open for election and are held for one year, beginning in June. Board members take an active part in the events of the Guild and are asked to attend monthly meetings. If you are interested please send a letter of interest including your first choice for board position by June 1st. If you need more information call the Guild number, leave a message, and someone will return your call.

Gene Frieese Scholarship

The Seattle Storytellers' Guild is pleased to announce the 2001 Gene Frieese Scholarship process.

The award of \$100.00 must be used to attend any storytelling conference, workshop, or class. If selected, proof of your use of the scholarship (receipt, ticket stub, etc.) will be requested.

To qualify for this scholarship you must be a resident of Washington or Oregon and be a member of a storytelling Guild in Washington or Oregon or the National Storytelling Network.

Your application must include:

1. Your name, address, phone number and the storytelling Guild you belong to,
2. Your storytelling experience (beginners are encouraged to apply),
3. How you would like to use the scholarship money, i.e., a description of the events. Please limit your description to 300 words.

Send your application to the Seattle Storytellers Guild, attention Gene Frieese scholarship committee, Post Office Box 45532, Seattle, Washington 98145-0532. The application must be postmarked by May 15, 2001.

Calendar Spring 2001

April 8-Third Place Books-Cherie Trebon tells tales at a special time... 4 pm

April 13-Teller's Night Out-A Bouquet of Blossoming Tellers with Joan Beerger and Jennifer Loomis -All for Kids-7 pm

April 20-Stories at the Grateful Bread (see article page 1)

April 23-Music and Stories of the BC Gold Rush. Bothell Library 7 pm

April 25-Special Concert - Stories and Songs from the Land to the North (see article page 1)
All for Kids - 7 pm Tickets \$8 for Guild members-\$10 general public.

May 4 & 5 Storytelling Institute at University of Washington (see page 5)

May 5-Folklife Focus: Storytelling as Art (see page 6)

May 11-Teller's Night Out-Frog Rock Story Circle Kitsap County tellers who meet monthly on Bainbridge Island including Alyson Neils, Kimberly Parker, Diane Rudisell, Elizabeth Erving and Ed Sheridan will be frog-kicking across the Sound to share stories from Japan, Africa and elsewhere.
All for Kids - 7pm

May 13-Third Place Books- Kathy Currie shares sparkling stories - 6:30pm

May 25-28 - FOLKLIFE (see page 6)

June 8- Teller's Night Out-Election-Dessert Potluck - Summer Solstice Stories
Allison Cox, Mary Marguertie and Vicky Beatty will weave story, music and costume into a magical evening. All for Kids 7pm

June 10-Third Place Books-Sharon Creeden tells stories of women in their prime from her book "In Full Bloom" 6:30 pm

June 22-Midsummer Madness (see page 3)

Key Addresses and Numbers for the Calendar Third Place Books

Lake Forest Park Towne Centre
206-366-3333

All For Kids

2900 N.E. Blakeley
Seattle, WA
206-526-2768

Looking Ahead

- **National Storytelling Conference**
Providence, Rhode Island
July 11-15
(1-800-525-4514)

- **Storyfest International 2001**
King County Library System
Bellevue Regional Library Aug. 17-18
Donald Davis, Bill Harley and many others.
More information in the next issue

- **Port Angeles Storytelling Festival**
October 12-14

STORY CIRCLES

Raintales Story Swap

Share favorite stories, try out new ones and get to know other tellers of all levels in a supportive, informal meeting:

Fourth **Monday** of the month, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
2125 First Avenue West

Call Lenore Jackson at 206-284-2976

Mukilteo Story Circle

Story Circle in Mukilteo meets at Starbucks, 13916 Mukilteo Speedway (in the Food Emporium at the junction of Hwy 99 and the Mukilteo Speedway) 2nd Mondays at 7 p.m.
Call 425-353-7410 (Eileen).

Tale Traders

This story circle meets on the 3rd Thursday in Issaquah from 7:00-9:00 p.m. If you love storytelling and are looking for an informal place to share stories and network, please come and join us.

Call Kathy Murphy 425-391-4312 for directions.

Frog Rock Story Circle

Experienced and novice storytellers from Kitsap county and beyond are equally welcomed. The Circle meets on the first Tuesday of the month from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. at 9702 Sands Ave. N.E. on Bainbridge Island.

Call 206-842-5293 (Alyson) or 206-842-4562 (Ed).

Seattle Storyteller's Guild

2000 - 2001 Board

President - John Clauson 360-275-5386

Secretary - Marilyn Milnor 206-322-7330

Treasurer - Cherie Trebon 206-525-0382

Publicity - Lenore Jackson 206-284-2976

Membership - Debra Harris-Branham 206-772-0415

Members at Large:

Kathy Currie 425-222-5442

George Neiswanger 425-670-1671

Aarene Storms 425-493-8202

Margaret Swanson-Vance 206-632-9047

Newsletter Editor - Pat Peterson 206-935-5308

In the Wind is the newsletter of the Seattle Storyteller's 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.

Newsletter articles and comments should be directed to:
patpeterson@Home.com

Summer issue deadline is June 15, 2001

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____

Zipcode: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Today's Date: _____

NEW _____ Individual, \$20. _____

RENEWAL _____ Family, \$30. _____

Institutional, \$35. _____

In the Wind

Seattle Storyteller's Guild

P.O. Box 45532

Seattle, WA 98145-0532

First Class Mail