

## *In the Wind*

### **Beat the Winter Blahs!**

Seattle Sizzles with storytelling events this winter. No need to feel blue because 'there's nothing to do'. A variety of concerts, classes, workshops and telling are offered as a way to deal with our dreary days. No excuse not to hear a new or favorite teller or to take time to learn storytelling skills. If you've been telling for a while, promise yourself that you'll learn a new tale and come to share it at an open mike. If you are just getting started, we welcome you. Listening to a variety of tellers and tales is the best way to find out what kind of stories you want to tell. If you need further information, please call the Guild at 206-621-8646. We'll be glad to answer any questions.

### **Winter Storytelling Festival Storytelling at the Burke Museum**

Once again the Burke Museum is offering a series of storytelling events for families and a series of 3 evening concerts for adult audiences. The family series is held Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 5 through the 27 at 11:30 and 1:30. Thursday evening performances, Jan 10, 17 and 24 at 6:30-8 pm. Admission is \$5.50 general, \$4 seniors, \$2.50 students and free for children 5 and under. Full schedule information page 2.

### **Laura Simms Performs Saturday February 23**

Laura Simms will perform her oral memoir *Reconciled in the book of Secrets (or How to Find Romania)* Full details see page 7

### **Allison Cox and Gail Rosen concert and workshop February 16 and 17**

#### *Saturday Concert*

**From the Inside Out, Tales Along the Path To Healing** - Gail Rosen and Allison Cox, founding board members of the Healing Story Alliance, will share favorite folk tales, literary stories, and personal adventures that have been gleaned from years of working with story as a healing medium. Hear new slants on old tales and insights gained along the way. Journey along with tellers who believe in the capacity of story to open doors of possibility within each of us.

*All for Kids 2900 N.E. Blakeley 7:00 pm.*

*Cost: \$10 for members and \$12 for nonmembers*

#### *Sunday Workshop:*

**Storywork & Soulwork:** Life is change, growth is optional! People of all cultures have wrestled with questions of meaning and purpose. We will look at the healing power of story to teach listening, invite discussion and open up possibilities when none seemed available. Through song, drums, discussion, exercises, visualization, writing, and of course story, we will explore methods of finding our way through dark days and opening up to moments when insight can occur. Together, we will draw forth the stories that celebrate our connection to life and each other.

*All For Kids 2900 N.E. Blakeley 1:00 pm*

*Cost: \$25 for members and \$30 for nonmembers.*



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**Bios:**

**Allison Cox**, a professional storyteller for 19 years, has worked as a therapist, social worker, health educator and now as a Prevention Specialist for the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. Allison often tells stories for health promotion, disease prevention and community building and often just for the sheer love of story. She offers stories that touch the heart and celebrate our diversity.

**Gail Rosen** is a skilled teller from Massachusetts whose story work has focused on death and dying, loss, bereavement, and hospice. Jewish tales are yet another storytelling passion. Gail is the founder of the Healing Story Alliance - a special interest group of the National Storytelling Network.

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## Winter Storytelling Festival at the Burke Museum

### Weekend Family Events

Performances at 11:30 am and 1:30 pm  
Hands-on art activities all day, 10 am - 5 pm.

- Saturday Jan. 5 Margaret Read MacDonald  
**World Folktales**
- Sunday Jan. 6 Olga Sanchez  
**Hispanic American Tales**
- Saturday Jan 12 & Sun. Jan. 13 Mique'l Askren & David Boxley, Jr.  
**"Adax", Tsimshian Tales**
- Saturday Jan. 19 Maggie Benett  
**European Lore, Legends & Lyrics**
- Sunday Jan. 20 NancyCalos-Nakano  
**Asian-Pacific Stories**
- Saturday Jan. 26 Elmira Kocumkulkizi  
**Legends of Kyrgyzstan**
- Sunday Jan. 27 Merna Hecht  
**Jewish Stories**

## EVENINGS AT THE BURKE

**Thursday Performances 6:30-8:00 pm**

### Travel the World with Stories

Join tellers from the Seattle Storytellers' Guild as they invite you to journey with them to lands real---and imaginary. No passport required--just the desire to escape the ordinary and enjoy the fabulous.

Jan. 10 **Antoinette Botsford** With drum and song Antoinette spins stories from her mixed French-Canadian-Native American heritage.

**Allison Cox** is a compelling and inspiring storyteller. Whether telling healing tales or Celtic stories, she leads her listeners to new discoveries.

Jan. 17 **Pat Peterson** shares stories from her program, "Postcards and Snapshots-Stories from the Road".

**Cherie Trebon** brings a personal family story, "Moving Days". It's an account of a journey---in many different ways.

Jan. 24 **Naomi Baltuck** presents "Traveling Light", stories of the unexpected journey.

**Kevin Cotter** comes to us from New Zealand with an assortment of tuneful and tantalizing tales.

Come early to enjoy touring the Museum.

**Program admission**, which includes admission to the Burke Museum, is \$5.50 general, \$4 seniors. Free for children 5 and under.

*The Burke Museum is located on the northwest corner of the University of Washington campus, at NE 45 St. and 17<sup>th</sup> Ave NE. Parking is available on campus and in nearby lots (fees vary).*  
Information 206-543-5590 or  
[www.burkemuseum.org](http://www.burkemuseum.org)



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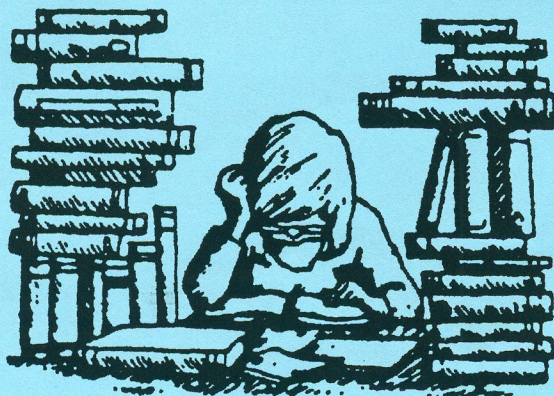
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## SOURCES: ABOUT STORIES AND THE FOLKS WHO TELL THEM



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

*In the Wind* editor, Pat Peterson, asked me to reflect on stories folks have been finding useful since 9-11.

Tellers have taken many paths in their responses. On the listserve STORYTELL I find tellers exchanging stories of peace and wisdom stories. There is a search for tales from Afghanistan and tales relating the Islamic experience. Others are seeking tales to help heal, tales which aid in dealing with grief, tales which help us face terror. Myself, I turned to tales of kindness and compassion. This seemed the response I wanted to make in my work with children.

Here are a few of the sources people have been using:

- *Doorways to the Soul: 52 Wisdom tales from Around the World* by Elisa Pearmain (Pilgrim Press, 1998). A very useful collection of carefully chosen stories.
- *Peace Tales* by Margaret Read MacDonald (Linnet Books, 1992). Includes thirty-six folktales on themes of peace.
- *Wisdom Tales from Around the World* by Heather Forest (August House, 1996). Heather actually posted several of the stories from this collection on her website and Pat included some of those stories in the last issue of *In the Wind*.

Many folks are turning to folktales from the worlds of Islam, Afghanistan, and the Middle East in an effort to create points of contact for our listeners with a world we have largely ignored.

I recommend especially Inea Bushnaq's *Arab Folktales* (Pantheon, 1986). This is one of the large paperback series produced by Pantheon a few years ago. It is chock full of delightful tales many of them translated from the Arabic or from French and German texts. Lots of new material here, much of it tellable.

*Tales Arab Women Tell and the Behavior Patterns They Portray* by Hasan M. El-Shamy (Indiana University Press, 1999) is a hefty collection of little known stories of mainly adult themes. The book includes both Type and Motif indexes. Hasan is a professor at Indiana University and author also of *Folktales of Egypt* (University of Chicago, 1980), a useful collection which I have used for retellings. He also produced the extensive motif-index *Folk Traditions of the Arab World: A Guide to Motif Classification*, Vols. 1 and 2 (Indiana University, 1994).

Two of the new books I had piled up for this quarter's review seem useful as sources in the wake of 9-11. *Gadi Mirrabooka: Australian Aboriginal Tales from the Dreaming* Edited by Helen K. McKay. Retold by Pauline E. McLeod, Francis Firebrace Jones, and June E. Barker. (Libraries Unlimited, 2001). I was delighted to see this work published. At last we have a collection of Aboriginal tales retold by Aboriginal tellers. And the tellers have gone back to their elders for permission to present these tales. I believe this means that we are given permission to share them with our listeners. I find this collection especially useful just now because so many of the stories are moral tales. And many speak of kindnesses. I used Pauline McLeod's story of "How the Kangaroo Got Her Pouch" as a way to speak of human kindness. This seemed what I wanted most to share after 9-11. I suggest that everyone get their hands on this book for a quick perusal, and those who work with children may well want a copy for your personal library.



(continued from page 3...)

Inviting the Wolf In: Thinking About Difficult Stories by Loren Niemi and Elizabeth Ellis (August House, 2001). Here we have a book of great honesty and depth, of caring and of considerable usefulness. Owning this book is a must for those who attempt the difficult task of shaping personal stories. And a read of Loren and Elizabeth's carefully thought through advice is basic to even tellers like myself, who wouldn't touch a personal tale with a ten-foot pole. Sharing their personal experiences in life, and in telling, they lead us through a difficult but sure path toward the refinement of a personal story which can be successfully offered onstage. And Loren and Elizabeth deal here with the more difficult of our personal stories, accounts of grief, embarrassment, jealousy, anger, guilt. Exposing themselves through their own very personal stories, they clear the way for us to enter this thorny land and commence to fit pieces together. Personal worksheets follow each chapter, and the book whets the appetite for the extraordinary workshops these two are known to lead. We may want to bring them to our area in the future to help us all with our own tales. But for now, we have this fine book to start us on the way.

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## Classes

### Explore the Art of Storytelling

North Seattle Community College Continuing Education Department will again offer a beginning storytelling class taught by storyteller and SSG board member, Cherie Trebon. This interactive series, now in its fourth year, covers the basics of storytelling including storytelling dynamics, diction, voice control, choosing and learning a tale, and elements of performing. Strengthen your ability to express yourself with power and sensitivity while learning to create verbal magic out of special memories or a treasured folktale. Add vitality to public speaking, teaching, and conversation. Sweaty palms and stomach butterflies can enhance, not inhibit, the natural storyteller within you.

**Three consecutive Wednesday evenings beginning January 16th 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.; \$45.00.**

**Register by calling: (206) 516-2955 or (206) 527-3705.**

**Honing the Steel:** A follow-up to the beginning class, or for those who have some experience with

storytelling and want to learn more. Offered only twice per year, this class delves into breath control, relaxation techniques, character identification and development, shaping the story, and sharpening performance skills. As with all my workshops and classes this one is highly interactive.

Tuesdays, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> and Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. (Can change to another evening with agreement of participants), AND, Saturday, Mar. 2 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring a sack lunch. Beverages provided.

**Class limited to 10 participants, with a minimum of 6. Location: Sandpoint area of Northeast Seattle. Fee: \$45.00. Register by calling (206) 525-0382. Deposit required to hold your place.**

## **Learn to sew and bead the Tlingit Way**

Submitted by  
**JonLee Joseph**

A workshop is being held to learn to sew and bead the Tlingit way hosted by the Carkeek Watershed Community Action Project and Sheila Kelly. Ka-Neel-Cah (Jeri Scott) a Tlingit Artist and Storyteller will be the guide and teacher. This will be a hands on experience for the participants. The goal of the workshop is to produce a Tlingit Button 'Story' Blanket for the new Green Building at Carkeek Park.

Ms. Scott has worked exclusively in her Tlingit Tradition Art for over 15 years. She is a skilled storyteller and singer. The workshop participants will first decide on the 'Story' to be told on the blanket and learn the sewing skills. While working on the blanket Jeri will share her experiences and Indian stories. She is a member of the Tlingit Nation, the Raven Tribe and her Clan/Family is the Dog Salmon at Angoon, Alaska. Since the Dog (Chum) Salmon is the primary specie raised for Piper's Creek (in Carkeek Park), and travels to Alaskan waters in their migration pattern it is fitting to connect Carkeek Park with Alaska.

The workshop will be held from 10 am to noon on Wednesdays, January 9, 16, 23, 30 and February 6. Fee for the workshop is on a sliding scale from \$30 to \$50 depending on income status. To register contact Nancy Malmgren at (206) 363-4116. Registration is limited so call early.



## CALL FOR TELLERS

The Seattle Storyteller's Guild often gets inquiries from individuals or groups that are looking for a storyteller. While we do not endorse individual tellers, the Guild will refer several storytellers and let those seeking the teller interview and select the individual that seems most appropriate. Many times volunteers are sought; other times a small honorarium may be offered. If you have been telling for awhile and are interested in getting more practical experience please send a brief outline of the types of stories you tell, your experience level, fee requirements (if any), and your preferred audience (i.e., pre-school, school age, adults-only, all ages), to the Guild address which is located on the last page of the newsletter.

### Teller's Night Out and Stories on a Second Sunday

Please join us. *Teller's Night Out* is an informal gathering of storytellers and listeners that takes place on the second Friday of the month at All for Kids bookstore, 2900 N.E. Blakeley, in Seattle. Call 206-526-2768 for directions. Our program begins at 7 pm. We may have a 'how to workshop' on some aspect of telling or a featured teller. An open mike follows.

*Stories on a Second Sunday* is held at Third Place Books located in Lake Forest Park Towne Center. Call 206-366-3333 for directions. The program starts at 6 pm on the second Sunday of the month. A featured teller is followed by an open mike.

Both of these programs are free and open to all. It is suggested you check the Calendar for specific topics....some are suitable for families, others for an adult audience.

If you are new to storytelling, this is a fine way to get to know people in the storytelling community. If you would like to be considered as a featured teller, telling at an open mike is a good way for us to get to know you. Please call the Guild at 206-621-8646 for further information.

#### 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

## CALENDAR

Jan. 10 **Antoinette Botsford** and **Allsion Cox** tell at the Burke Museum. 6:30 pm

Jan. 11 Teller's Night Out **Aarene Storms** and **Liz May** present "The Literate Storyteller".

Ever wondered which picture books are good to read out loud—and which stories are better WITHOUT the book? Liz and Aarene will be the guides through the twisty-turny path of sharing stories and books together. They'll even address the physical contortions recommended for sharing picture books with an audience. All for Kids 7 pm

Jan. 13 Stories on a Second Sunday **Jill Johnson** presents "Playparty: Stories and Songs from Appalachia". What's a "whimmy diddle"? How about a Jack Tale? After four years of listening and sharing and telling in Northeastern Tennessee, Jill will share some of her favorite tales and songs and games with you. This program is for all ages—anyone who is young at heart. Third Place Books 6 pm

Jan. 17 **Pat Peterson** and **Cherie Trebon** tell at the Burke Museum 6:30 pm

Jan. 24 **Naomi Baltuck** and **Kevin Cotter** tell at the Burke Museum 6:30 pm

Feb. 8 Teller's Night Out **Eileen O'Malley Hanna** tells "My Left Breast", the chronicle of a journey with cancer. Eileen interweaves personal stories and multicultural healing/wisdom tales on death, denial, self-care, change and laughter. All for Kids 7 pm

Feb. 8 & 9 **John O'Neal** presents "Don't Get Me Talking or I'll Tell You Everything I Know". It's a one-man show designed to heighten social awareness while delighting his audience with subtle brilliance, humor and passion. He tells a tale that's entertaining while passing along African-American history. On the campus at Evergreen College in Olympia. 8 pm  
Call 360-867-6833 for tickets and information.

Feb. 10 Stories on a Second Sunday **Sharon Gunn** comes from Canada to share a program of "Celtic Love Knots". "I was born in New Brunswick, Canada and am of Scottish, Irish and French origin. I speak English best but can manage in my two heritage languages, Gaelic and French. I am most interested in the Gaelic heritage of my maternal grandfather who is descended from a dynasty of Scottish Gaelic poets. When he heard I was interested in learning to read and write Gaelic as well as sing the songs and tell the stories, my grandfather paid for my tuition at Glasgow University in Scotland."



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Feb 16 **Allison Cox** and **Gail Rosen** in concert .  
"From the Inside Out, Tales Along the Path to  
Healing" \$10 members, \$12 nonmembers.  
All for Kids Bookstore 7 pm

Feb 17 **Allison Cox** and **Gail Rosen** lead a  
workshop. "Storywork & Soulwork"  
\$25 for member, \$30 for nonmembers.  
All for Kids Bookstore 1-4:30 pm

Feb. 23 **Laura Simms** in concert 7:30 pm  
"Reconciled in the Book of Secrets (or How to Find  
Romania)" Bethany Presbyterian Church, 1818  
Queen Anne Ave North (on top of Queen Anne  
Hill) Advance tickets \$10 members, \$12  
nonmembers, At the door, \$13 members, \$15  
nonmembers. See order form. For more information  
call 206-284-2976.

March 8 Teller's Night Out **Naomi Baltuck**  
presents an evening of "Story Stretches".  
We all need snappy little fill-ins to round out our  
programs. No one does it better than Naomi. Her  
book "Crazy Gibberish" is a must-have reference.  
She'll have us finger-poppin' and storytellin' and  
send us home with new bits to try. All for Kids 7 pm.

March 10 Stories on a Second Sunday "It's a Family  
Thing." **Naomi Baltuck** and **Thom Garrard** with  
their daughters **Elly** and **Bea** are going to dish up  
some story stew—a little bit of this and a little bit of  
that. Third Place Books 6 pm

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup>  
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).

**New Storytelling Circle** in Issaquah. First  
Wednesday of each month 7 p.m. – 9p.m.  
Contact Kim Pearson 425-865-0409

## Comings and Goings

Heartfelt thanks to **Debra Harris-Branham** for her  
years of service as Membership Chair.  
It's a difficult job but one that is vital for maintaining  
communication within the Guild.

**Cherie Trebon** leaves her position as Treasurer but  
not the Board. She will serve as Vice-President.

**Julia Buchholz** assumes the role of Treasurer and we  
welcome her experience and ideas.

### Newsletter Editor

**Ah, the power of the printed word. In this  
age of cyber communication, there is still  
something very satisfying about our  
quarterly newsletter.**

**The Guild is looking for a new newsletter  
editor. What's required? Patience and the  
ability to organize information.**

**If interested, please contact Pat Peterson  
206-935-5308 or [patpeterson@attbi.com](mailto:patpeterson@attbi.com).**

## Tellabration! Thank you

A big thank you to the Seattle Storyteller's Guild for  
your contribution to the Friends of the Bothell  
Library for support of our Spanish language  
picture book collection. The check was designated  
for a "literacy project of your choice" and this was a  
gift from proceeds of the 2001 Tellebration. The  
guild had decided to donate the proceeds to a  
literacy project, and they kindly let me pick my  
favorite project! We have a group of Spanish  
speaking mothers here who have started offering a  
storytime the first Saturday of each month in  
Spanish. They quickly worked through our small  
Spanish language collection and are eager for  
more good stories to read aloud. I have some on  
order, but this gift allowed me to purchase several  
excellent and unusual paperbacks at a  
conference I attended in San Francisco. Thanks  
from myself and the moms!

Margaret Read MacDonald

Children's Librarian, Bothell Regional Library.



## Laura Simms to Perform

Internationally acclaimed storyteller Laura Simms will perform her oral memoir *Reconciled in the Book of Secrets (or How to Find Romania)* at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 23, 2002, at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Seattle. Commissioned by San Francisco's Traveling Jewish Theater, *Reconciled in the Book of Secrets* is a funny and haunting autobiographical journey, interspersed with the ancient Babylonian story of a sage who travels to the place where the earth meets the sky. In her own journey from Brooklyn to Bucharest, Laura encounters Maori elders, a Santeria priest, women weeping at Rachel's Tomb, and the ghost of her glamorous Romanian grandmother. The ingenious combination of faraway and exotic stories with those as familiar as a child conducting a pet's funeral creates a deep connection with the audience. *Reconciled in the Book of Secrets* is an opportunity to hear one of the finest works of a master storyteller.

A leading figure in the storytelling renaissance, Laura is a recording artist, author, teacher, and humanitarian. In response to the events of September 11, she created an emergency storytelling project for children saying, "No matter how many buildings are destroyed, what can not be destroyed is the power of our minds and hearts to find meaning, to know inherent goodness, to love, and to feel renewed. Real stories told and heard do not thrust into fantasy, but engage us in an experience of the world as it is. This is the invisible ordinary magic of the process of storytelling."

Laura has been artist-in-residence at the Lincoln Center Institute for Arts in Education, teaches at Naropa University, is affiliated with the Interfaith Center in New York, is board consultant for the Healing Story Alliance, and writes regularly for Parabola Magazine. She received the 1999

Sesame Street Sunny Days Award for her contribution to children in the world, the 2000 Charlotte's Web Award for her book *Rotten Teeth*, and a nomination for the 2000 Indie Award for Best Children's Recording for her CD *Four Legged Tales*. In August Laura will offer her twenty-first annual storytelling residency in California, and in September she will lead a storytelling tour in Ireland.

Tickets for *Reconciled in the Book of Secrets* are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. There is an additional \$2 discount for Guild members.

### Advance Ticket Order Form

## Laura Simms

### *Reconciled in the Book of Secrets*

Saturday, February 23, 2002 – 7:30 p.m.

Bethany Presbyterian Church  
1818 Queen Anne Avenue North  
(on top of Queen Anne Hill)

#### Ticket Prices:

SSG Members: \$10.00 (\$13 at the door)

Non-members: \$12.00 (\$15 at the door)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ZipCode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to SSG and mail to:

Lenore Jackson  
2125 First Avenue West, #4  
Seattle, WA 98119



## Seattle Storyteller's Guild 2001 - 2002 Board

President - John Clauson 360-275-5386  
Vice President - Cherie Trebon 206-525-0382  
Secretary - Marilyn Milnor 206-322-7330  
Treasurer - Julia Bucholz 206-329-3323  
Publicity - Lenore Jackson 206-284-2976

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George Neiswanger 425-670-1671  
Aarene Storms 425-493-8202  
Margaret Swanson-Vance 206-632-9047  
Liz May 206-782-1057

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@attbi.com](mailto:patpeterson@attbi.com)

**Spring issue deadline is March 15, 2002**

## 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**