

# in The Wind

## Seattle Storytellers Guild Events

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Auntmama's Storytable  
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Under the Rainbow  
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## What's Ahead! An exciting season of Storytelling.

Our Season Opener – back by popular demand is *A Bit More of the Unusual* – This Open Mike Variety Show will be our first in our new location – so bring along your gimmicks, tricks, partners and other unusual ways to tell stories. Let Barry know what you have coming.

We are partnering with the *Puget Sound Welsh Association* – Both In October and May, first with Jane Valencia's Story and Harp Concert at the *Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church* in early October, and then with our Welsh Mabinogion Epic Event in May. They will receive Membership discounts for these events.

An Appalachian Tellabration™ with Vixi Jil Glenn of Asheville, N.C., *Auntmama* Moorman, and the *Piney Gals* will be a return to the southern roots of the American storytelling movement.

Workshops!! *A taste of Storytelling* in October with Susy Irwin; *Collecting and Telling from Oral Folklore* in November, *Improv Storytelling* with Lance Lambert in February, and *Finding Stories to Give Hope in Challenging Times* with Myrna Hecht in April.

Looking ahead! A Holiday Stories Potluck in December, a trio of tellers from Clallam County in January, more Improv Telling in February, The Cronos are coming in March, Native American Storytellers for Earth Day in April, and all to be topped off by a Welsh Epic in May!!

We continue to have open mikes at our monthly *First Friday Swaps* which will alternate locations after this September between the Methodist Church and Briarcrest. But in order to give our featured tellers ample time for telling, some of our regular monthly programs may not include open mike opportunities in the program.

Of course, *Auntmama's Story Table* continues last Thursdays at Olive Way Starbucks, and *Under The Rainbow* for the LGBTQ+ in Edmonds. There will be stories again at PNW Folklife in May of 2020. We will continue to bring *Elder Tales* to the retired, and are telling stories at MOHAI on October 16th at their History Cafe.

## What's New!



A new location – Haller Lake Methodist Church – The cozy Friendship Room upstairs for smaller events and The Fellowship Hall downstairs for larger ones. Ample parking in the back, and we will have an earlier starting time as well!! And better sound.

Admission – The Guild Board realizes that to bring quality to our programs and cover our costs, we need to ask for something at the door. Depending on the event – it will be \$5 for Members and \$7 for Non-Members; or \$10 for Members and \$15 for Non-Members.

Katherine Gee Perrone is starting a second Saturday *Kat Tales* for children of all ages in Monroe. Even babes in arms welcome here.

This fall, due to some conflicts and other factors, our "Third Friday" Storytelling is changing dates and locations in October and November. **Suggestions for a snappy new name for our "flagship events" are welcome!** The First Friday Swaps, Under the Rainbow and Auntmama's StoryTable also have changes you need to note!

## The Seattle Storytellers Guild Opens its New Season

**At A New Venue: The Haller Lake Methodist Church, 13055 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE, Seattle  
Friday, September 20th, And a New Time: 7:00-9:00 PM**

## A Bit More of the Unusual

Another Storytelling Variety Show of Stories with a "bit more Pzazz"!

Bring your unusual storytelling technique, gimmick, add-on, whatever,  
for a fun evening of sharing !! Interesting Costumes? Media or Props? Puppets?  
Odd musical Instruments? Twisted Tales? Told by Two in Tandem?

**Step up to the challenge - Sign up ahead of time**, Let Barry know  
what you are planning so he can put together a program. [eldrbarry@gmail.com](mailto:eldrbarry@gmail.com)

Come and Enjoy an interesting Evening of Stories

**\$5 Members \$7 Non-Members!** Refreshments served!

**Go to [seattlestorytellers.org](http://seattlestorytellers.org) for more information**



## Upcoming Fall Workshops!

### A Taste of Storytelling

A Workshop with Susy Irwin

In this workshop we will be learning to tell a tale without memorization. It is a sample of a longer class which Susy Irwin teaches at North Seattle College (See page 9). This is an excellent way to explore your curiosity about storytelling. Questions? Email [livewildpuppets@gmail.com](mailto:livewildpuppets@gmail.com)

**Location: Haller Lake Methodist Church 13055 1st Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125**

**October 5, 2019 Time: 1 pm—3 pm**

**\$25 Non-members, SSG and Welsh Society Members \$20**

### Collecting and Telling Stories from Oral Folklore

A Workshop with Vixi Jil Glenn

**Vixi Jil Glenn** of Asheville NC specializes in Appalachian folktales, especially the Jack Tales she learned from Ray Hicks and his family. These tales are a collection of Scots-Irish/English folklore preserved by the mountain families who settled in the southern Appalachians in the 1700's. She believes it is important to keep the old stories alive, so that the stories live on, we do too. Vixi has done extensive research and fieldwork with Ted Hicks, a noted mountain folklorist. Her workshop is based on her work with the Hicks family and also on the Appalachian Fairy Faith.

**Location: Haller Lake Methodist Church 13055 1st Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125**

**November 16th Time 1:30 pm—3:30 pm**



### The Puget Sound Welsh Association

promotes Welsh heritage in language, music, dance, and fellowship and coordinates the activities of various Welsh clubs dedicated to preserving the long history & heritage of Welsh culture in the Puget Sound region and surrounding area. The club was organized over 90 years ago to further Welsh activities and to sponsor the annual St. David's Day celebration. We look forwards to their partnership with us in both our October and May Events.



### Puget Sound Welsh Association

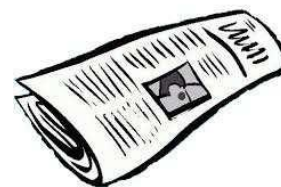
**Saint David's Day** is the feast day of Saint David, a Welsh bishop in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century – the patron saint of Wales, and falls on March 1st. The feast has been celebrated since the 12th Century. Traditional festivities include wearing daffodils and leeks (recognized symbols of Wales), eating traditional Welsh food including *cawl* and Welsh *rarebit*, and women wearing traditional Welsh dress.

**The Welsh Mabinogion** are the earliest prose stories in Britain – and consist of four “branches” of diverse mythology which pre-date the Arthurian stories and contain a classic hero's quest, glimpses of a far-off times, drama, romance, tragedy and humor. Other stories were added later.

**The Red Dragon** symbolizes all things Welsh, and is used by many public and private institutions, including the Welsh flag. It may date back to Arthur.



Chris Spengler and Judith Alexander in front of the Chinese Tower in the English Garden in Munich, Germany. Chris stopped in Munich on her way to a bike tour from Passau through Vienna to Prague. Judith and Kurt showed her around town one day, and on the next, Chris and Judith were invited to a storytelling swap (in English). About a dozen people attended and many shared stories, including Chris, who told about a bike trip in Japan, and about being a “sometimes gardener.” The evening was enjoyed by all, especially the welcoming hostess, Moira who has hosted swaps in her living room for more than a decade.



### In the Wind

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Publisher: Seattle Storytellers Guild  
Editor: Barry McWilliams

Writers & Contributors: Barry McWilliams, Jill Johnson, Judith Alexander, Naomi Baltuck, MaryAnne Moorman, Susy Irwin

*In the Wind* is published three times a year by the Seattle Storytellers Guild, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the art of storytelling. A one year subscription is included in guild membership. See Page 7.

Articles and comments should be directed to [eldrbarry@gmail.com](mailto:eldrbarry@gmail.com) txt files are preferred, with pictures sent as separate attachments.

**Winter issue deadline: November 15**

### Seattle Storytellers Guild Board 2019-2020

[www.seattlestorytellers.org](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org)

Barry McWilliams	President
Patty Zeitlin	Vice President
	Secretary
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Afifi Durr	Judith Alexander
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MaryAnne Moorman	Eva Abram
Chris Spengler	Bu Huang

### Auxiliary members:

Allison Cox	Epic Events
Naomi Baltuck	Under The Rainbow
Jill Johnson	NSN Liaison
Cherie Trebon	Folklife liaison

Contact information is on Our Web Site

### Want more Storytelling News

**Or want to announce an event  
between newsletters?**

Judith Alexander sends out her e-mail blast generally on the Sundays before the first and third Fridays of each month. She will also forward items to the Guild webmaster Larry Hohm and to Barry McWilliams for *In The Wind*.

Judith's e-mail address is  
[judith\\_tells@earthlink.net](mailto:judith_tells@earthlink.net)

Or visit our website for more news:  
[seattlestorytellers.org](http://seattlestorytellers.org)  
Press the [Show All Events] Button



## The Seattle Storytellers Guild October “Big Event”

Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:00 PM

At the Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church, 14724 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE, Shoreline

### WHEN HARPERS ONCE IN WOODEN HALLS

Welsh Stories, Music, and Poetry for the Dark of the Year  
featuring Jane Valencia and her accompanying Celtic Harp!

This program is sponsored in part by the [Seattle Welsh Society](#) who will also be bringing some stories, music and poetry to the program.

**Jane Valencia** is an author/illustrator, harper, storyteller, and nature instructor who loves to adventure with kids of all ages in the wild and wondrous outdoors and our own imaginative natures.

Her works include a nature-rooted children’s fantasy novel, a kids herbal comic, a free quarterly ezine, several harp recordings, and numerous blog posts and articles. She teaches with the Vashon Wilderness Program, and lives in a passive solar home on a plain old farm where she and her family tend the land and a flock of feathered friends. Visit Jane at [ForestHalls.org](http://ForestHalls.org).



Refreshments provided. No Open Mike.

Admission: \$10 Guild and Welsh Society members \$15 non-members of the Guild,

Contact Mary Dessen [mary@marydessein.com](mailto:mary@marydessein.com) with questions, or check [seattlestorytellers.org](http://seattlestorytellers.org)



## The 25th annual Forest Storytelling Festival

Presented by The Story People of Clallam County October 18-20, 2019

At Peninsula College Little Theater, in Port Angeles, Wa

Featured Tellers Concerts Friday and Saturday Evenings and Sunday Morning

**Kevin Kling**’s hilarious often tender, autobiographical tales are as enchanting as they are true to life: hopping freight trains, getting hit by lightning, performing his banned play in Czechoslovakia, growing up in Minnesota, and eating things before knowing what they are.

**Delores Hydock**’s vivacious style that fills the stage with wit, energy, and a swirl of characters that populate her stories of family fireworks, food fads, true love, turnip greens, and other peculiarities of everyday life.

**Ray Christian** is a storyteller and instructor at Appalachian State University, his Storytelling encourages conversation about difficult subjects.

**Ingrid Nixon** is an award-winning, world-traveling storyteller, who loves nothing more than to whisk away listeners on journeys of the imagination. Exploration nail-biters, lies, tall tales, traditional and personal stories—she tells them all!

**Heather McNeil** has collected folk tales on her trips to Africa and her ancestral homeland in Scotland. She can tell a wicked creepy ghost story, an inspiring story of a little ground squirrel standing up to a power-abusing lion, and many more.

### Workshops and other events ([Check Website for Schedule](#))

A special pre-festival workshop with Kevin Kling on Friday. All of the weekend’s featured tellers offer workshops on various facets of the storytelling art Saturday morning. A story swap and a story “slam,” a lighthearted competition, are set for Saturday after lunch.

Accommodations are readily available in Port Angeles. Several hotels offer discounted rates for festival attendees.

Registration for the Forest Storytelling Festival opens September 3<sup>rd</sup>. [www.clallamstorypeople.org/](http://www.clallamstorypeople.org/)

# AN APPALACHIAN TELLABRATION™

A Celebration of Our Southeastern Story Heritage

Presented by the Seattle Storytellers Guild

7:00 PM – Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019

in the Fellowship Hall of Haller Lake Methodist Church

13055 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE, Seattle



Featuring Eva Abram, Allison Cox,  
Mary Anne Moorman and the Pingy Gals

**Eva Abram** is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, and a graduate of the University of Washington. A notable local storyteller and award winning actress, her stories are rich with wisdom and humor. They are delivered with captivating grace and style. Watching and listening to Eva's performances is a delightful experience. She says "I grew up in a little town called St. Joe, surrounded by grand parents, aunts, uncles and cousins, I listened as they told stories about their daily lives. Those stories seeped into me and shaped me."



**Allison Cox** is a talented Teller from Vashon Island who learned her "Jack Tales" in Greenville, NC. She has performed internationally as a storyteller for more than 36 years. As a mental health therapist, social worker, and health educator she was a founding board member of the Healing Story Alliance and has produced epic storytelling events with the Seattle Storytellers Guild.

**Mary Anne Moorman** grew up in the South and she whips up silver, spit-shined, down home tales. An Emcee, Writer, Storyteller, and Trainer, an artist honored as a Seattle Living Legend by the Seattle Arts Commission. A valued member of the Seattle Storytelling Guild, she hosts *Auntmana's StoryTable* at the Starbucks on Olive Way, and has a radio show on Sundays. And can she tell!



**The Pingy Gals** perform traditional songs and fiddle tunes dug from the roots of American folk music. Kate Lichtenstein (of the Barn Owls) and Charmaine Slaven (of Squirrel Butter and The Tallboys) started singing together in 2017 on their back porches and living rooms, and found that their voices, taste in repertoire, and sense of humor meshed well together. We think you'll enjoy the music that these two ladies of old-time music have arranged.

**Refreshments Provided - No Open Mike**

**Admission: \$10 Guild members. \$15 non-members of the Guild**

(Suggested, No one will be turned away for lack of funds)

**For more information : [seattlestorytellers.org](http://seattlestorytellers.org)**

(We regret that, due to circumstances, the workshop and performance of Vixi Jil Glenn previously announced for this date have been canceled.)



## Fall Calendar of Seattle Area Events \*indicates Seattle Storytellers' Guild event

### September

**5 MOTH StorySLAM** Fremont Abbey Arts Center, 7 pm 4272 Fremont Ave N, Seattle \$

**6\* Haller Lake Story Swap** Haller Lake Methodist Church (see page 7)

**6\* Briarcrest Neighborhood Swap** at Jill Boyd's home, 16035 27<sup>th</sup> Ave NE

**12\* Under The Rainbow's Out Loud!** An LGBTQ+ Story Event at Edmonds Library Page 9

**14\* Kat Tales for Children** 10:30 AM 16958 158th Pl SE, Monroe, WA (Page 9)

**19 Fresh Ground Stories** 7 p.m., Olive Way Starbucks, 1600 E Olive Way

**20\* A Bit More of the Unusual Storytelling Variety Show** Haller Lake Methodist Church 7 PM \$

**20 MOTH StorySLAM** Bloedel Hall 1245 10th Ave E, Seattle 8 PM \$

**26\* Auntmama's Story Table** 7 p.m., Olive Way Starbucks, 1600 E Olive Way free. (See Page 7)

### October

**3 MOTH StorySLAM** Fremont Abbey Arts Center, 7 pm 4272 Fremont Ave N, \$

**4\* Haller Lake Story Swap**—Haller Lake Methodist Church **7:00 pm** (See Page 7)

**5\* A Taste of Storytelling Workshop with Susy Irwin**—Haller Lake Methodist Church 1-3 PM \$ (See Page 2)

**5\* Story — Jane Valencia "When Harpers Once in Wooden Halls"** Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church **7:00 pm** \$ (See Page 7)

**15\* Under The Rainbow** Stories for LGBTQ+ Edmonds Library (See Page 9)

**16 MOHAI History Café** 6:30-7:30 pm

**18 Fresh Ground Stories** 7 p.m., 1600 E Olive Way, Seattle

**18 MOTH StorySLAM** Bloedel Hall 1245 10th Ave E, Seattle 8 PM \$

**18-20 Forest Storytelling Festival**, Port Angeles Registration opens 9/3 Info:

**31\* Auntmama's Story Table** 7 p.m., Olive Way Starbucks, 1600 E Olive Way,

### November

**2\* Briarcrest Neighborhood Swap** at 16010 25th Ave NE, Shoreline

**9 MOTH StorySLAM** Fremont Abbey Arts Center, 4272 Fremont Ave N, Seattle 8 PM \$

**12\* Under The Rainbow** Stories for LGBTQ+ Edmonds Library Page 9

**17 MOTH StorySLAM** Bloedel Hall 1245 10th Ave E, Seattle 8 PM \$

**16\* Workshop: Collecting and Telling Oral Folklore**, Vixi Jil Glenn **1:30-3:30 pm** (Page 2)

**16\* Tellabration™ with Vixi Jil Glenn, Auntmama & The Piney Gals** at Haller Lake Methodist Church, 7:00 PM \$ (Page 5)

**22 Fresh Ground Stories** 1600 E Olive Way, Seattle

**No Auntmama's StoryTable in November or December due to the Holidays.**

### Ongoing Events : Seattle Area

*Please check before you go! Details may change.*

**Second Sundays Story and Dance Folk Tales, 7pm**, hosted by Marion Moat Kalia Indian Cuisine, 4520 200th Ave. SW #202, Lynnwood, 425-771-6422 No cover; tips welcome. Updates or request a storytelling spot, e-mail [marion.moat@frontier.com](mailto:marion.moat@frontier.com)

**Second Mondays Under the Rainbow** 6:30-7:30 PM Edmonds Library, Stories from the LGBTQ community— See Page 9 for changes in Fall Schedule

**First Thursdays Moth StorySLAM** themed, open mic. 8 p.m., Fremont Abbey Arts Center, Seattle, [themoth.org/events](http://themoth.org/events) \$

**Third Thursdays Fresh Ground Stories** 7 p.m. Olive Way Starbucks, 1600 Olive Way, Seattle, free. [www.meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/](http://www.meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/)

**Last Thursdays Auntmama's StoryTable**, 7-8:15 p.m., Olive Way Starbucks, 1600 Olive Way, Seattle Free See Page 7 **Monthly except Nov and Dec**

**First Fridays Haller Lake Story Swaps Even Months** Haller Lake Methodist Church See page 7 for details **Even Months after Sept**

**Third Fridays Haller Lake Friday Evenings** 7:00 p.m., Featured Tellers Haller Lake Methodist Church \$ **Sept.-May. See Pages 2, 4 & 5 for Fall dates and locations!!**

**Third Fridays Moth StorySLAM** themed, open mic. 8 p.m. Bloedel Hall, Seattle \$

**Saturdays Children's Storytelling** at 3rd Place books, Ravenna, 11:00am. 6504 20th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA, Free. [thirdplacebooks.com](http://thirdplacebooks.com)

**First Saturdays Island Books Family Story Time** 6:30 p.m., 3014 78th Ave. SE, Mercer Isl., for children ages 3+ and their families. Free [Mercerislandbooks.com](http://Mercerislandbooks.com)

**Second Saturdays Kat Tales** 10:30 AM Stories for all ages at Katherine Gee Perrone's home 16958 158th Pl SE, Monroe [kategeestories@gmail.com](mailto:kategeestories@gmail.com)

**First and Third Mondays Thrilling Tales for Grownups** 12:05—12:50 P.M. Seattle Central Library Free

### Regional Ongoing Events

**Fourth Fridays The Story Today**, Featured tellers and open mike. 7 p.m., Centre for Peace:1825 West 16th Avenue at Burrard B.C., \$7. [vancouverstorytellers.ca](http://vancouverstorytellers.ca) (Sept. to May)

**Second Mondays Fireside Story League of Tacoma** Story Circle and Storytelling Lesson, 6:30 pm Go to [www.firesidestoryleague.org](http://www.firesidestoryleague.org) & click newsletter for location. Details contact: Penny Tennison 253-265-2113. (Sept-Jun)

**Third Mondays Stories at Fern** 7:30 p.m., 1831 Fern St., Victoria, B.C., \$5. [victoriastorytellers.org](http://victoriastorytellers.org) (second Mondays in Dec & June)

**Third Tuesdays Story People of Clallam County** 7-9 pm Port Angeles Library, 2210 Peabody St., Free (Sept—June) [www.clallamstorypeople.org](http://www.clallamstorypeople.org)

**First Tuesdays Ellensburg Storytellers - The Yarn Spinners**, 6:00 p.m., Hal Holmes Center, 209 S Ruby St., Ellensburg, WA Contact: [bleggi@charter.net](mailto:bleggi@charter.net) (Not in Nov)

**Second Wednesdays South Sound Storytellers Guild** Featured teller and open mike. 7 p.m., The Olympia Center, 222 Columbia St. NW, Olympia, WA, Free (Sept-May)

**Third Wednesdays Stories on Tap** and Open Mike hosted by Anne Rutherford and Norm Brecke 7-9 PM Lucky Lab Taproom 1700 N. Killingsworth PDX **Not in Nov/Dec**

**First Friday Quimper Guild StoryNight**, 7-9 pm Quaker Friends Meeting House, 1841 Sheridan Street, Port Townsend. Facebook or Contact [QuimperStoryGuild@gmail.com](mailto:QuimperStoryGuild@gmail.com)

**First Fridays Urban Tellers at the Fremont** 2303 NE Fremont, Portland OR [www.pdxstorytheater.org/shows/urban-tellers/](http://www.pdxstorytheater.org/shows/urban-tellers/) (Oct-Jun only)

**Second Fridays Portland Storytellers Guild Potluck and Story Swap** 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Multnomah Arts Center, 7688 Southwest Capitol Highway, Portland, OR (Sept-May)

**Third Fridays The Bellingham Storytellers Guild: Storytelling for the Love of It** Fairhaven Library Fireplace Room General Meeting and Workshops 6:00 to 7:00 PM Storytelling Showcase 7:00 - 8:00 [BellinghamStorytellersGuild.org](http://BellinghamStorytellersGuild.org)

**First Saturdays Portland Storyteller's Guild StoryThon!** 7:30-9:30 Clinton Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St, Portland [portlandstorytellers.org](http://portlandstorytellers.org) (Sept-May)



## Guild Events

### First Friday Night Story Swaps

**September 6th and October 4th 7pm to 9 , Haller Lake Methodist Church**

13055 1st Ave. N.E. N. Seattle (enter front door on 1st Ave only)

Telling starts promptly at 7:00 - Snacks, beverages and social time at the end of the evening at 8:45 pm. Listeners and tellers are welcome. There will be an 8 minute limit for stories. Feedback will be offered if time allows. Personal or folk tales are welcome. We'll have a timer and feedback guidelines. Donations are welcome, but not required.

For more information contact Patty Zeitlin at [pattipaz.z@gmail.com](mailto:pattipaz.z@gmail.com)

### The Briarcrest Neighborhood Story Swap

**September 6th** at Jill Boyd's home, 16035 27<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Shoreline

**November 1st:** at Jon and Amy Anscher's home 16010 25th Ave NE, Shoreline  
(Park across the street as the East Hamlin Park Lot)

Join the Briarcrest Neighborhood Association for an evening of storytelling, Bring a five- to seven- minute story to share or just come to listen. A free, all ages event sponsored by the Briarcrest Neighborhood Association—an all-volunteer, non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote community.

For more information contact Afifi Durr at [afidurr15@gmail.com](mailto:afidurr15@gmail.com)

### Auntmama's StoryTable

**Last Thursdays, 6:45 PM- 8:00 PM, free**

**September: "Git up and Do Right" featuring Josh Axelrod**

**October: "A Bit of Fright" featuring Larry Hohm**

Olive Way Starbucks, 1600 E Olive Way, Seattle, WA — 206 329 3736

Music and stories for fun and enlightenment. Come and share!

**Due to the Holidays, there will be no Storytable in Nov. and Dec.**

Text 206-473-9522 Or contact [auntmama@gmail.com](mailto:auntmama@gmail.com)

## Seattle Storytellers Guild

### Membership Form

Circle one: New member or Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Individual \$25/year \_\_\_\_ \$70/3 years \_\_\_\_

Family \$35/year \_\_\_\_ \$85/3 years \_\_\_\_

Professional Membership \$75/year \_\_\_\_  
(SSG membership plus Web listing)

Additional tax-deductible contribution \_\_\_\_\_

OK to share your data with National Storytelling  
Network? name only \_\_\_\_ e-mail too \_\_\_\_



For More info on Local and Regional Events  
visit: [www.seattlestorytellers.org](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org)

**To join the SSG** You can fill out the form below and send it to:  
*Seattle Storytellers Guild*  
P.O. Box 18361  
Seattle, WA 98118

Or go to [www.seattlestorytellers.org](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org) Click on "Join Now" at the top of the page, from there you can join or renew online using PayPal By clicking the "Pay Now" button or you can print and mail the form with a check.



**Employer matching funds?** Check if your employer will match your SSG membership donation.

**Find us on Facebook.** Be a fan, get updates, join discussions.

**Professional memberships** include guild membership and a listing on the Performing Tellers section of the guild website. Join with the form on page 9 or at [www.seattlestorytellers.org](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org). You'll be contacted for details for your web listing.

### Linking up with nearby storytelling communities

Fresh Ground Stories

Seattle Meetup Group

[meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/](http://meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/)

The MOTH : True Stories told Live

Seattle and Portland

[themoth.org/](http://themoth.org/)

Seattle Public Library: Calendar

[spl.org/calendar-of-events](http://spl.org/calendar-of-events)

Story People of Clallum County

Port Angeles

[clallamstorypeople.org/](http://clallamstorypeople.org/)

Quimper Story Guild

Port Townsend

[facebook.com/QuimperStoryGuild](https://facebook.com/QuimperStoryGuild)

South Sound Storytellers Guild

Lakewood

[southsoundstory.org/](http://southsoundstory.org/)

Fireside Story League of Tacoma

[firesidestoryleague.org/](http://firesidestoryleague.org/)

Bellingham Storytellers Guild

[BellinghamStoryTellers.org/](http://BellinghamStoryTellers.org/)

Storytelling Club—Yarn Spinners

Ellensburg - See Facebook

Portland Storytellers Guild

[portlandstorytellers.org/](http://portlandstorytellers.org/)

Portland Story Theater

[portlandstorytheater.com/](http://portlandstorytheater.com/)

# INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL –

## with a 15 year old By Jill Johnson

This year, grand-daughter, Erika, was ready – for a Road Scholar Inter-Generational (grandparent-grandchild) trip to Iceland – a place neither one of us had been to or knew anything about. Her reason for going: Icelandic horses; Mine: Viking history and folklore. The trick: to satisfy both these desires and support one another in the process... and we did it.

“Oma...LOOK!!!” Erika was wriggling with excitement. We were in a taxi – and there were horses in the pasture alongside the road. For the next ten days, Erika’s enthusiasm never wavered; she took dozens of pictures.

But the finale came at the stables in Ovalsstadir. The Icelandic horse has five unique gaits: walk, trot, tolt (a smooth, running trot), quick pace (a fast pacing gait), and gallop. Erika DESPERATELY wanted to tolt. But, as I explained gently, with such a big group, that might not be possible...don’t get your hopes up. But my hopes went up as I watched the



stable manager quietly evaluate the riders. Maybe, I thought... maybe. I didn’t go on the ride (my riding days are over), so I didn’t see what happened. But I got a blow by blow description afterwards. Ten minutes into the ride, one of the riding assistants quietly separated Erika and her friend, Lorien, from the others. What followed was almost an hour of tolt, quick

pacing, and galloping along the Hvita River in glorious sunshine. Erika returned to the stable, her face suffused with joy. Eighteen months ago, I saw her leaving the ring at her first horse show, weeping because she couldn’t get her horse to obey. Now, I watched as she proudly led three horses out of the barn and into the pasture. (That’s me in the background, trying to get the shot!)



This trip visited six Icelandic farms: everything from a greenhouse tomato farm, to sheep and dairy farms, to the only farm in the country raising Icelandic goats. Haafell Farm has brought this breed back from near extinction. For a grandchild who has wanted to be a vet since age 6, this was heaven.

Yes, we did many of things that Icelandic tourists (2 million a year vs 440,000 native Icelanders) do: visited the waterfalls and geysers and hot springs, crunched our way through the ice cave at Langjokull Glacier, and swam in the Blue Lagoon....

**Jill Johnson** is the Guild’s NSN Liaison and the organizer of the Village by the Sea Storytelling Festival which is coming again in March, 2020.

But, for me, the most exciting sites were the historic ones: Eiríksstaðir, Lieff Eriksson’s birthplace, was fun for both kids and adults. A costumed guide led us inside (and out of the wind!). As we sat in the dimly lit interior, she showed us bone toys and tools, weapons (spears, shields, and broadswords that the kids were allowed to wave around...carefully), helmets and coats of mail they could try on (hilarious!) and the weaving room and the kitchen. The building was constructed (after vigorous research) of blocks of earth with a grass roof. The whole experience was a wonderful evocation of Viking domestic life.



Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is where Iceland’s Parliament, the Althing, was founded in 930 AD. Standing on the site of a parliamentary meeting



place over a thousand years old is a powerful experience. Looking up at the spot where the Lawspeaker read the laws, I pictured Snorri Sturluson, Iceland’s most famous 13<sup>th</sup> Century politician and poet, pontificating while below, peddlers and sword sharpeners shouted prices and beggars pleaded for alms. I would love to be able to visit this site in mid-winter – alone; would I then... somehow... be able to sense even more clearly the ghosts of the past?

JRR Tolkien first heard the Icelandic tale, “Sigurd and the Dragon Slayer” as a toddler. At 16, he picked up a copy of the “Volsung Saga” - in Icelandic – and started trying to translate it. By 1925, he was a professor at Oxford, having late night sessions with friend, C.S. Lewis. Many of Tolkien’s characters were not invented, but adapted from Norse mythology and the works of Snorri Sturluson. Tolkien’s dragons, shape-shifters, trolls...and many other creatures came from Snorri’s work and other medieval Icelandic and Norse sources.

And so...here we all are... a motley bunch of retired engineers, art teachers, health administrators - and storytellers - with our grandchildren. What a grand adventure it was!





## *Under the Rainbow LGBTQIA+ Storytelling Series*

September 12th: **OUT LOUD!**

### **A LGBTQIA Storytelling Concert**

7:00—9:30 PM in the Plaza Room of the Edmonds Public Library 650 Main St, Edmonds, Wa.



JOSELITO CASTILLO is inspired by the poetry of storytelling, memories of his grandfather's dramatic tales, and the myths and corridos that filled his childhood. He weaves movement and music to embody the stories transporting listeners to another time & place.

ALLISON COX has been performing as a freelance storyteller for 37 years, nationally and abroad. She co-edited and contributed to THE HEALING HEART books on storytelling for communities and co-founded the Healing Story Alliance. Allison tells monthly for Under the Rainbow.

CHRIS SPENGLER tells personal stories, both humorous and wise, providing a recipe for making lemonade out of the lemons life sometimes throws at us. She tells at Fresh Ground Stories, The Moth, Folklife's Story Slam Light, and is a featured host/storyteller at Under the Rainbow.

ROBERTO ENRIQUE LOPEZ is a Southerner who found his true home in the Pacific Northwest. He has found sharing stories, especially in a queer community, to be healing, illuminating, and empowering. Under the Rainbow has had a profound impact upon him.

Presented by Under the Rainbow, the Seattle Storytellers Guild, the [Edmonds Neighborhood Action Coalition](#) and sponsored by a grant from the [Pride Foundation](#).

**Fall Schedule for Under The Rainbow:** Storytime reserved for LGBTQ. Allies welcome to listen  
At Edmonds Public Library — Doors Open at 6; Program at 6:30-7:45 PM

Tuesday, October 8th — Featured Co-host: Kent Whipple (Changes are due to Monday Holidays)

Tuesday, November 12th — Featured: Gretchen Peterson **FREE ADMISSION!  
REFRESHMENTS!**

Monday, December 9th — Featured: John Cummings (

**SAVE THE DAY!** Gretchen Peterson of Portland is doing a house concert  
at Thom and Naomi's 20228 87th Ave West, Edmonds, Wa

7:30 PM, Monday, November 11th. \$12 SSG Members \$15 Non-Members

See [seattlestorytellers.org](http://seattlestorytellers.org) for further details

**KAT TALES!** *Starting Sept. 14th:* at 10:30 AM

16958 158th Pl SE, Monroe, WA 98272

Award-winning storyteller and singer Katherine Gee Perrone invites you to her home in Monroe every second Saturday of the month at 10:30 A.M. for a lively and interactive program of stories and songs for children. Refreshments and playtime to always follow. All ages welcome, including babes in arms. Contact: [katgeestories@gmail.com](mailto:katgeestories@gmail.com)



## You Can Tell Stories!

Join others this fall who are finding their voice, collecting their words, and standing up and telling stories! Whether you want to use storytelling in your work or for personal enjoyment, this fun and supportive class will help you develop and practice storytelling skills. We begin by learning methods of telling stories without memorization and putting those skills to work weekly. By the final class, you will be working on a polished, 10-minute presentation.

Class is open to those who want to work on personal stories, as well as traditional storytelling. Attending local events will be encouraged. By participating in the class, all students will earn a year's membership in the Seattle Storytellers Guild!

**Tuesdays October 22- November 19 7-9pm \$99**

**On campus: North Seattle College**

Info: <https://continuinged.northseattle.edu/courses/you-can-tell-stories>



## *In the Wind*

*Seattle Storytellers Guild*

*P.O. Box 18361*

*Seattle, WA 98118*



[www.seattlestorytellers.org](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org)

**Standard Mail**