



Newsletter

## IN THE WIND

Fall, 1981

Dear Friends,

The desire to hear good stories told by seasoned storytellers is very much alive in Seattle. We have received many requests for programs! Guild members will be performing at Bumbershoot, parks, schools, libraries, and community centers in and around the Seattle area. Please see the calendar inside for details.

Good news for families! Throughout the Fall, the Guest Artist Series, on the second Wednesday of each month, will be Family Nights. Beginning with Floating Eagle Feather on September 9 we are especially happy to be able to give those of you with children 6 years and older the chance to share a few evenings of magic that you will enjoy equally. Program descriptions follow on the next page.

There is still time for anyone who speaks before an audience to register for a workshop in voice training to be held September 2. Augusto Paglialunga, faculty member of the Music Department at the University of Washington, will teach exercises that will increase vocal endurance and improve tonal quality. Phone registration is required, but hurry! The class is filling. Call 634-1634. See the calendar for details.

Everyone loves hearing ghost stories and storytellers love telling them! Bring your children 6 and over to the Good Shepherd Center on October 30 for a pre-Halloween treat. See the calendar inside.

Put five stars on your calendar for November 21. Guild storyteller Cathy Spagnoli will present a workshop on India in conjunction with the Seattle Art Museum's exhibit "Manifestations of Shiva" which opens on November 25. Cathy will offer cultural material on India, past and present, through the use of slides, ritual objects and traditional storytelling aids. Various styles of Indian storytelling and drama will be explored. We will share an Indian lunch prepared by Cathy's husband, Paramasivam. Phone registration is required by November 18. Call 634-1634. \$18. non-members. \$15. members. See calendar for time and place.

Exciting plans are underway for a Seattle Storytelling Festival featuring nationally known storytellers to be held in the Spring of 1982. We'll have more details for you in the Winter newsletter which will be sent to members in December.....



## Guest Artist Series

Plan to spend the second Wednesday of each month hearing stories told by the best of the national and local storytellers. Held at the Good Shepherd Center, 4649 Sunnyside Avenue North.

- Sept. 9: Professional storyteller FLOATING EAGLE FEATHER returns with his tales full of warmth, wisdom, and humor. It will be a very special evening for the entire family to enjoy. Non-members \$3, members \$2, children free. 7 P.M.
- Oct. 14: A night for families to hear King County librarians BETH GREGGS, SYLVIA HEROM, MARGE MACDONALD, BOB POLISHUK, and ANN ROUSH. Spend an evening together listening to some fine traditional stories. Non-members \$2, members \$1.50, children free. 7 P.M.
- Nov. 11: City of Seattle librarians DOROTHY ENGLISH, DOROTHEA GLEN, JUDY O'BRIAN, MARY ROSS, JOANNA TREFETHEN and MARY ZIPPLE will weave webs of enchantment for the entire family. Come to this warm, fun evening of storytelling. Non-members \$2. Members \$1.50. children free. 7 P.M.
- Dec. 9: The Seattle Storytellers' Guild presents Guild members sharing joyful holiday tales, songs and traditions from around the world. Non-members \$2. Members \$1.50 children free. 7 P.M.
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## Special Notes

The Story 'n' Snack nights, regularly scheduled on the last Thursday of each month will not be held in November or December due to holidays. To keep these informal nights cozy, we must begin limiting the invitation to members only.

Unfortunately, high publishing and postage costs are forcing us to supply the newsletter to members only. If you are thinking of joining us, please do so today!

Watch your newspapers for information on Encore IV, a celebration of Seniors in Downtown Seattle. Sponsored by the Mayor's Office and the Downtown Seattle Development Association, this will be a wonderful opportunity to hear Seniors telling their own stories in various downtown locations. October 29-November 7.

Robert Béla Wilhelm has produced STORYFEST QUARTERLY, a newsletter "devoted exclusively to the art & performance aspect of storytelling and its depth dimension in religion, psychology, folklore, and education." The cost is \$1.00 per issue or \$4.00 per year. STORYFEST QUARTERLY, 4912 California St., San Francisco, Ca. 94118.



# Calendar

September 2/ Voice Workshop with Augusto Paglialunga held at Elim Baptist Church Activity Hall, N. 46th and Sunnyside N. from 7:30-9:00 p.m. \$10 non-members. \$8 members. Phone registration required. 634-1634.

September 4-7/ Guild members will tell stories to children participating in Betsy Weill's mask-making workshop at Bumbershoot. 3-4 p.m. in the Exhibition Hall at Seattle Center.

September 9/ Seattle Storytellers' Guild presents Floating Eagle Feather at the Good Shepherd Center. 7 p.m. \$3 non-members. \$2 members.

September 24/ Story 'n' Snack night at Clare Cuddy's (1850 N. 53rd St. at Meridian) in Wallingford. Beginning and intermediate storytellers share stories and pot-luck dessert with other Guild members. 7:30 p.m.

October 14/ Seattle Storytellers' Guild presents five outstanding storytellers from the King County Libraries. 7p.m. at the Good Shepherd Center. \$2 non-members. \$1.50 members. children free.

\*October 22-16/ Last chance to register for storytelling classes at Experimental College. Class descriptions are on the next page.

October 29/ Story 'n' Snack at Clare's. 7:30 p.m.

October 30/ Halloween Stories. Guild storytellers offer a special Night-Before-Treat for children ages 6 and up. 7 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Center. \$1.00 children and members. \$2.00 non-members.

October 31/ Guild storytellers will be telling Halloween tales at the Normandy Park Community Club, 1500 SW Shorebrook Dr., from 3:30-4:30 to preschoolers and elementary age children. free.

November 11/ Seattle Storytellers' Guild presents special guest storytellers from the Seattle Public Library. 7 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Center. \$2 non-members. \$1.50 members. children free.

November 14/ The Seattle Public Library will host a Family Story Workshop from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium. Guild storytellers will share stories and involve families in the fun of participatory storytelling. Don't miss this! free.

November 16-20/ Guild members will help the Seattle Public Library celebrate Book Week by accompanying Library storytellers to various branches for storyfests. Watch for details in Library announcements.

November 21/ A Storyteller's India Workshop by Cathy Spagnoli. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Center. \$18. non-members. \$15. members. Indian lunch included. Phone registration required by Nov. 18. 634-1634.

November 28/ "From India With Love." Guild storyteller Cathy Spagnoli will share toys, stories and culture of India with children ages 4-7. 3 p.m. at the Downtown Public Library. free.

December 9/ Seattle Storytellers' Guild presents Guild storytellers sharing holiday tales and traditions. 7 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Center. \$2 non-members. \$1.50 members. Children free.



## Classes

The Seattle Storytellers' Guild offers two 8 week storytelling classes through the Experimental College. (Course # 2101 La Raconteur)

\* Section 1, on Mondays from 7-9 P.M., is an Apprentice class for beginning storytellers. Professional storytellers Clare Cuddy and Bob Palishuk will provide the class with speech and drama exercises to lay the groundwork for fundamental story preparation. Students will get a chance to hear stories as well as a chance to select and tell two stories which will be critiqued in a supportive environment. The fee is \$24.00. Guild membership is included in the fee. The class runs 10/19-12/7. Register through Experimental College. Call 543-4375 for more information.

\* Section 2, on Tuesdays from 7-9 P.M., for advanced storytellers is taught by Elana Freeland. Strengthen the capacity for inner visualization through serious study of folk tales, legends, fables and myths. Section 1 prerequisite to Section 2. Class runs 10/20-12/8. Register through the Experimental College. Call 543-4375. (\$24.00)

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## National Events

The National Association For The Preservation And Perpetuation Of Storytelling (NAPPS) has been a source of inspiration for storytellers since its inception eight years ago in Jonesboro, Tennessee. Each summer NAPPS sponsors a National Conference On Storytelling, and each Fall a National Storytelling Festival. That's three days on non-stop storytelling which last year drew over 3,000 people!! This year's Festival will be held October 2-4 in Jonesboro. For membership, newsletter and Festival information, write NAPPS, P.O.Box 112, Jonesboro, Tennessee 37659.

The First National Conference of Storytelling is scheduled to be held in the Spring of 1982 in Washington, D.C. The event, co-sponsored by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the American Storytelling Resource Center, will be three days of shows, workshops, demonstrations and presentations in schools, libraries, museums, parks and the Smithsonian National Folklife Center. For more information, write American Storytelling Resource Center, 1471 Chanticleer Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA. 95062.

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We would like to offer a special thank you to all of the story enthusiasts who have contributed to the Guild's success these last few months. Your enthusiasm and ideas are always welcome and appreciated. Enjoy the story shared by Cathy Spagnoli.

Sincerely,

Clare Cuddy, Director

Tobiatha Tucker, newsletter Editor



# JOIN US !

The Seattle Storytellers' Guild joins a growing network of storytellers and storytelling organizations throughout the country. Storytelling is experiencing a Renaissance and we have organized to keep this ancient folk art alive in the Pacific Northwest. To date we are a group of fifty storytellers, apprentices, and listeners with a directing committee of five professional storytellers. The "guild" in our name was carefully chosen to reflect ties with the tradition of medieval guilds where masters and apprentices worked together learning and perfecting their craft, upholding the standards of their art, and sharing their repertoire where-ever audiences requested it. The Seattle Storytellers' Guild is dedicated to furthering these efforts through training sessions and seminars for old and new storytellers, and offering diverse, high quality storytelling programs for Seattle area audiences.

Currently we meet twice a month. Professional resident and visiting storytellers are featured at the Guest Artist Series on the second Wednesday of each month at the Good Shepherd Center, Seattle. The last Thursday of each month we hold Story 'n' Snack nights, an informal gathering of Guild members. On these nights, beginning and intermediate storytellers have the chance to share stories with one another. Everyone has the chance to share a pot-luck dessert too! Other events and services we offer to members include:

- Access to the Guild library which has cassette tapes of storytellers of national repute including Floating Eagle Feather, Jay O'Callahan, Laura Simms, Cynthia Orr and many others. The library also contains numerous collections of world folk tales.

- An apprentice class which is specifically geared for the aspiring storyteller.

- A quarterly newsletter, "In The Wind," which includes a calendar of local storytelling events, regional and national storytelling news, profiles of storytellers in upcoming Guest Artist programs, listings of classes and workshops, and, a story to read, think about and enjoy.

Our future plans include:

- Being a clearing house for organizations that would like to hire storytellers.

- Collecting folklore indigenous to the Pacific Northwest.

- Offering regular story programs for children.

- Co-sponsoring International Nights where the stories, songs and dances of a particular culture are performed.

- Sponsoring an annual Storytelling Festival.

It's an ambitious list which can only be accomplished by a steadily growing membership. To encourage this, we have established membership categories that offer varying degrees of participation in Guild activities.



Please read through the categories listed below to find the one that suits you and fill out the membership form today.

1. **General Membership.** This category is for anyone interested in story telling and listening. The \$5.00 yearly dues entitles the member to vote, receive the quarterly newsletter and have access to the Guild library.
2. **Apprentice Membership.** The Guild offers an eight week apprentice class through the Experimental College. The class is designed for beginning storytellers and for storytellers who want to work on technique. Professional storytellers will teach the class using speech exercises, demonstration and critique. Students will select and learn one folk tale and one fable. The fee is \$24.00. Guild membership is included in the fee.
3. **Active Membership.** An active member must demonstrate professional expertise as a storyteller, meeting performance standards determined by Guild members. When hired through the Guild this member agrees to give 20% of these bookings to Guild coffers. To remain an active member, one must give at least 5 (paid or unpaid) performances a year as a representative of the Guild, 1 skills workshop to fellow Guild members and contribute one 30 minute tape of their storytelling to the Guild library. \$5.00 yearly dues include voting privileges, quarterly newsletter and use of the library.
4. **Institutional Membership.** The \$25.00 yearly dues applies to libraries, schools, museums, businesses, etc., whose many employees may benefit from the Guild newsletter and the Guild referral service. Individual employees of member institutions may purchase a General Membership for the reduced rate of \$3.00

Not everyone in the Guild is, or wants to be, a storyteller. Many members simply love to hear good stories told by caring storytellers and want to assure themselves of that opportunity. Remember, story listeners are as critical to storytelling as the teller! We need your support. Please join now.

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## Membership Form

Please complete and mail with membership dues. Make all checks and money orders payable to : **Seattle Storytellers' Guild**  
1850 N. 53rd Street, Seattle, WA. 98103  
(206) 634-1634 or 522-2174

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP \_\_\_\_\_



Kandan and his wife lived in a quiet village surrounded by sleepy palm trees. Kandan worked in his neighbor's fields and his wife raised and sold garden vegetables. One day, she collected some greens and asked Kandan to sell them. He sold them in the village market and started home by way of the village temple. He went to the tank in front of the goddess to wash and noticed the lovely green mangoes hanging on a tree. As he washed his face, he saw many delicious looking fish. Kandan knew that the fish and mangoes were the property of the village goddess and that humans were forbidden to touch them. So, he picked up his empty basket and walked on, but finally, the temptation proved too strong and he returned hastily to the temple.

Very quickly, with no one watching, he caught four fish, picked two mangoes and ran home with them hidden in his basket. His mouth watered as he pictured the fish-mango curry his wife would prepare--mmmmmm!! Returning home, he gave his wife the food, told her the truth and swore her to secrecy. Then, as she began to prepare the food, he went outside to work.

The fish curry was soon cooking in a clay pot; the smells from the pot were very inviting. Kandan's wife lifted the lid and took a small taste. A little was not enough so she tasted a little more. Even that was not enough so she tried some more. Soon, before the curry was even cooked, she had eaten half of it. When the curry was finished, she covered it and put it safely in the corner to await Kandan. She ran out to call him, but he was not to be seen. Returning to the kitchen, she felt hungry and had a bit more of the curry.

Several times, she searched for Kandan with no success and several times she ate more of the curry. After a while, she discovered, to her horror, that the fish curry was finished. Fearing her husband's anger, she searched desperately for an idea. At last, she decided on a plan. She put some mud in the pot and covered it well with a banana leaf. Then she undid her carefully braided hair, made it fall in her face and began to cry and shout.

In that village, there was a belief that if a goddess was displeased with someone, the deity would enter a human to express her anger. So, when Kandan returned home and saw his wife in such a strange state, he was sure that she was possessed by the village goddess. He fell to his knees and begged her to stop.

"Why did you steal my mangoes and fish?", the figure roared as Kandan pleaded for forgiveness.

"All right", the "goddess" shouted, "I will forgive you if you return the curry to the tank. In time, it will turn back into fresh fish".

Without wasting a moment, Kandan picked up the pot, ran to the temple and threw it into the tank. Then, just as quickly, he ran home. His wife was resting. She looked like she was coming out of a deep sleep. While she stretched her arms lazily she looked at him and asked, "What happened to you? And where is the fish curry?"



## Executive Committee

Clare Cuddy

Elana Freeland

Merna Hecht

Bob Polishuk

Harold Shapiro

Cathy Spagnoli

Tobiatha Tucker

Seattle Storytellers' Guild

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