



VOL. III

IN THE WIND

NO. 1

Greetings. We have much to share with all of you in this new year. The first big news concerns the **MIDWINTER STORYFEST**. We are very excited to announce that Jackie Torrence, one of the foremost storytellers in the land, will be with us on February 26, at 8 P.M. at the Monroe Center. Those fortunate few from Seattle who made it to the N.A.P.P.S. Storytelling Festival brought back rave reviews about "The Story Lady" and her tall tales, witch stories, Jack tales, and Uncle Remus stories.

Times magazine says, "Eyes rolling, hands fluttering, laughter spilling up and over, she can jolly an audience as nobody else." The Republic Scene calls her "a spinner of yarns who uses her entire being—eyeballs, vocal cords, and a wonder world of faces — to re-create a story." Tell your friends about this unique event, and post the attached flyer.

Sue Ellen Adams is the volunteer co-ordinator for this year's Storyfest. She has done a marvelous job thus far, and needs some 5 - 10 people who could give 10 hours a week during February to post flyers, transport Jackie, bake goodies, etc. Please call her if interested at 775-5954.

Tickets are available at all Bass outlets. They will go quickly, so if you would prefer to buy by mail, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Jane Muir, 6044 2nd Ave. N.W., Seattle, 98107 (her #-782-3971). Prices: \$5./members of Guild, Seattle Folklore Society, or Puget Sound Council of Libraries; \$6/non-members; \$3/Seniors and children under 12 (each ticket is 75¢ more at Bass). It is a program suitable for families, however, it will be a long evening so we urge that children be at least 5 years old.

Jackie will be highlighting Black History Month for us all. Another very talented performer will be delighting audiences during this month. King County Libraries are sponsoring Ephat Mujuru, a musician/storyteller from Zimbabwe who is a visiting artist at the University of Washington this year. See the calendar for dates and places. Thank you, King County Libraries, for this treat.

Another big thank you is due the Seattle Public Libraries and the Bunn Fund for their support of storytelling this year. Through their generous support, a number of local storytellers were able to share stories from around the world all around Seattle.

Cathy Spagnoli

WORK TO BE DONE...

First of all, a very sincere thank you to all those who've contributed to the Guild's success in 1982. Our membership is growing steadily towards 300. The Guest Artist series, **MIDWINTER STORYFEST**, Story 'n' Snack, classes, and the expanding library have all been an inspiration. The Bunn Fund grant from the Seattle Public Library gave several of us the opportunity to explore new stories in a cultural context.

We are finding however, as the green washes from behind the ears, that love of stories alone will not run the organization. For the Guild to continue with programming, classes, newsletter, we will need a larger and more organized group of volunteers. There are many jobs, large and small, short and long term, all indispensable. Please look over the list below. Fill in the form and return it as soon as possible to 1850 N. 53rd, Seattle, 98103. Thank you again for a great year. Clare Cuddy

The Board of Directors is self nominated for a one year post, with a 2nd year option (the year begins on January 1), and is made up of the committee heads from Education, Finance, and Programming, one committee at large, and the Director. We meet the first Wednesday of each month, 6:30-9:30 P.M. The time commitment is approximately 5 hours a week. Currently the Finance committee position is open, and possibly the committee at large.

Education: Needs 2-3 persons to arrange, publicize, cover registration for classes, and oversee the educational arm of the Guild. 2-5 hrs./week

Finance: Oversees Fiscal development, record keeping, expenditures. Need: Treasurer (Board position); Bookkeeper (5-7 hrs/mo); Fundraiser (??)

Program: Develop and produce the Guest Artist Series, coordinate with Education for related workshops. Select talent, themes, organize room
Need 3-4 persons, 2-5 hrs./week.

Midwinter Storyfest: See needs on front page for '83 (call 775-5954). Sign up for '84 below. Need 6-10 persons 10 hrs./wk. for 3 months.

Newsletter: Collect and organize material, oversee printing and mailing.
2-3 persons 20 hrs./quarter.

Library: Catalogue and duplicate tapes, keep card catalogue up to date.
Open library on Monday nights. 2-3 persons, 2-5 hrs/wk.

Office: Typing, filing membership information, etc. 2-3 persons, 2-5 hrs/wk.

Publicity/graphics: Oversee press releases/publicity for events. 2-3 p. 10hr/mo.

By-laws: 2 persons to work for a month to file for non-profit status.

I can volunteer for _____ hours a _____ month, _____ week.

I would like to be on the _____ Committee, & _____ on the Board.

Name , address, phone:

CLASSES...

Call 634-1634 to register, as soon as possible; give name and class desired.

Beginning Storytelling, 7-9 P.M., Sec. 1, Mon. with Clare Cuddy, 1/17-3/7

Sec. 2, Thurs. with Cathy Spagnoli, 1/20-3/10, Good Shepherd, \$29.00
Rediscover the ancient art of storytelling. Hear stories from different cultures told by professional storytellers. Then choose two stories to tell to class members. Some speech and drama coaching.

To meet the needs of those who have completed the beginning class, we are offering:

Story Circle, 7:30-9:30 P.M. Second Thursday (2/10, 3/10)

Participants will have the opportunity to develop new stories and polish old ones. Other tellers provide feedback in a supportive atmosphere. Fits in well with Story 'n' Snack. Meets at 6028 3rd N.W., #1. No charge. Call Thom or Naomi for more details-784-7016.

Intermediate Storytelling, Tues., 7-9 P.M., at 1850 N. 53rd, \$15/8 weeks
More stories, more feedback, a warm setting in which to share.

NETWORKING...

Several people have called me with requests for resources to use with young children. My all time favorite story is Abiyoy, by Pete Seeger (on one of his records). What do you suggest? Send me your ideas (606 19th East, Seattle, 98112) and we'll share them next newsletter. In the meantime, those interested in this subject can call Denny Joslin, 523-5389 (between 5 & 6 P.M.). She's interested in meeting with members who wish to stalk about and practice storytelling for young children.

March will be Women's History Month. A group of women around Seattle are meeting monthly to continue the work started by the Washington Women's Heritage grant (which collected a number of oral histories). We are seeking personal stories about Washington women: heroines, black sheep, community builders, moonshiners, cowgirls, whatever. Search through your store of family stories and join us for an evening of collecting on March 20.





CALENDAR...

MULES & MEN, p.27

JANUARY

- 17: Beginning Storytelling Class starts
- 17: Michael & Erica Meade tell tales for the Friends of Jungian Psychology N.W. - tales of Saints, Tricksters and more. # 363-7728 for details
- 22: Louis Killen at the Rainy Day Cafe (Monroe Center; # 789-3907)
- 27: Story 'n' Snack: An evening of storyswapping begins at 7:30 P M at 6028 3rd NW #1. For more info, call Thom or Naomi (784-7016)

FEBRUARY

- 1: Ephat Mujuru at Federal Way, 7 PM, 848 S. 320, (839-0257)
- 3: at Mercer Island, 7 PM, 4400 88th Ave SE (233-3537)
- 5: at Kingsgate, 1 PM, 12315 NE 143, (821-7686)
at Redmond, 3 PM, 15810 NE 85, (885-1861)
at Youth Service Center, 7 PM, 12th & Alder, Sea. (323-2641)
- 8: at Kent, 7 PM, 232 S 4th, (872-3330)
- 10: at Des Moines, 7 PM, 22815 24 S, (824-6066)
- 12: at Shoreline, 1 PM, 345 NE 175th, (362-7550)
- 15: at Newport Way, 7 PM, 14250 SE Newport Way, (747-2390)
- 19: at M. Valley, 2 PM, 23730 M.V.Rd, (432-4620)
at Lake Hills, 4 15228 L.Hills Blvd., (455-6888), 4 PM
- 22: at Bothell, 2 PM, 9654 NE 182, (486-7811)
- 24: Ephat Mujuru at Bellevue, 7:30 PM, 11501 Main St., (455-6889)
Story 'n' Snack at 7:30 PM , 6028 3rd NW, #1, (784-7016)
- 26: Ephat Mujuru at Valley View, 2 PM, 17850 Military Rd. S., (242-6044)
- MIDWINTER STORYFEST, 8 PM, Monroe Center**
- 27: Ephat Mujuru at Burien, 2 PM, 14700 Sixth SW, (243-3490)

MARCH

- 17-19: Klauniada performs at Washington Performance Hall (325-7901)
- 20: Evening of Women's stories -- hearing and collecting with Cathy Spagnoli & Ellen Jahoda, 7 PM, 420 16th E., Seattle (323-5193/323-5026)
- 31: Story 'n' Snack, 7:30 PM, 6028 3rd NW, #1 (784-7016)

A STORY, A STORY

This month's story is taken from the outstanding collection of Afro-American folk tales found in Mules and Men. This book was written by Zora Neale Hurston, a multi-talented writer and folklorist who went through the South collecting all kinds of stories from Afro- Americans. Too often, collections of stories are presented with no background notes; in Mules and Men, Ms. Hurston gives us the cultural context of this valuable material eg:

So I left most of my things at Loughman and ran down in the phosphate country around Mulberry. Around Mulberry, Pierce and Lakeland, I collected a mass of children's tales and games...We held a lying contest out under the trees in the night time, some sitting, some standing, everybody in a jolly mood. Mack C. Ford proved to be a mighty story teller...

"Everybody says 'unh hunh' and Ah'll tell you why." He cleared his throat and continued:

Old Devil looked around hell one day and seen his place was short of help so he thought he'd run up to Heben and kidnap some angels to keep things runnin' till he got reinforcements from Miami.

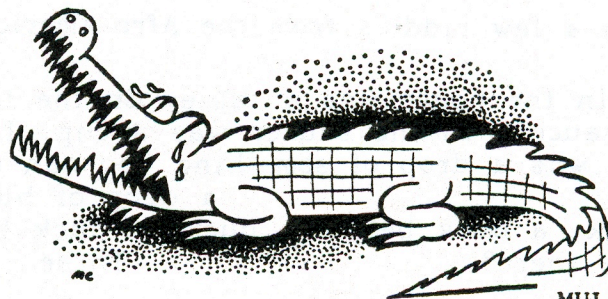
Well, he slipped up on a great crowd of angels on de outskirts of Heben and stuffed a couple of thousand in his mouth, a few hundred under each arm and wrapped his tail 'round another thousand and darted off towards hell.

When he was flyin' low over de earth lookin' for a place to land, a man looked up and seen de Devil and ast 'im, "Old Devil, Ah see you got a load of angels. Is you goin' back for mo'?"

Devil opened his mouth and tole 'im, "Yeah," and all de l'il angels flew out his mouf and went on back to Heben. While he was tryin' to ketch 'em he lost all de others. So he went back after another load.

He was flyin' low agin and de same man seen him and says, "Ole Devil, Ah see you got another load uh angels," Devil nodded his head and said, "unh hunh," and dat's why we say it today.

p. 168-170, Mules and Men, Bloomington, Indiana U., 1978



NOTES...

Margi MacDonald's excellent Storyteller's Sourcebook is now available in the Guild Library. Margi's informative workshop last quarter was appreciated by all who attended. Thank you, Margi.

The Library, which contains books, tapes, etc. for storytellers, is now housed at the Perkins School in the Good Shepherd Center. It will be open on Monday nights, from 7- 9 PM.

Floating Eagle Feather, a storyteller from South Carolina and a former Guest Artist, will be in Seattle in May. If you'd like to arrange a booking while he's here, please call Louise Lew at 722-9724.

Laura Simms, a storyteller from New York who many of you will remember from last year's Midwinter Storyfest, will be in town the week of April 25. To arrange a booking, call Clare, 634-1634.

There may still be a little bit of Jackie Torrence's time while she's here. Call Sue Ellen, 775-5954, if your group wishes to sponsor a program.

For those seeking a program for Women's History Month in March, Cathy Spagnoli's evening of song/story, "Voices of American Women" is available. Call 323-5026 for details.

Louis Killen will be teaching a class on Sea Songs and Chanties through the UW Wednesdays 1/19-3/16. Call 543-2590 for further information.

Seattle storytellers are sharing tales over the air. Tune in to "Our Own Folks" on KUOW, Saturdays, 9:30 AM and "Skip to My Lou" on KRAB, Sunday's at 9 AM. Libby Sinclair's lively children's program, "Skip..." will feature stories and readings for Black History Month, Vietnamese stories for Vietnamese New Year, & stories about wonderful girls in March.

Klauniada Movement Theatre uses dance and clownwork to reveal and extend the body's capacity for articulate expression. They will be offering an intensive workshop on corporeal mime and the internal clown during February. Call 329-7952 for details.

The next issue of the Newsletter will be out in April. Please have items for the calendar, notes, storytelling resources, anything you want to share to me by March 22. Call 323-5026 or write Cathy Spagnoli, 606 19th Ave. East, Seattle, 98112.

Sharpen your wits on a few riddles from the Afro-American tradition:

There was a house. In the house was a table. On the table was a plate. In the plate was a saucer. In the saucer was a cup. In the cup was a spoon. In that spoon was a drop of something you can't do without.

a drop of blood

A duck behind a duck, a duck before a duck, a duck between 2 ducks.
How many ducks were there?

Three



1850 N. 53rd.
Seattle, WA. 98103

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 250 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 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.

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!

Your membership (\$10. Individual; \$15. Family- Annually) includes the quarterly newsletter, "In the Wind"; reduced ticket prices for the Guest Artist Series and the MidWinter Storyfest; access to the Guild library which contains print and cassette tape collections of stories; and an invitation to an informal monthly gettogether for a potluck dessert and storyswap.

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

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: _____

_____ INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP (\$10.00) _____ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (\$15.00)