



VOL. III

NO. 4

IN THE WIND

WELCOME BACK

Well, it has been a good summer. One full of storytelling workshops and gatherings for your editor and many others. I was fortunate enough to take two workshops at a great place in N.Y.: Omega Institute. One was with Heather Forest, a wonderful singer-teller, and the other was with Gioia Timpanelli, who will be telling at the NAPPS Festival in October (and should not be missed-she's amazing). Then from there on to the Storytelling Symposium sponsored by the American Storytelling Resource Center. That was a great gathering of tellers from various places in the West. It is an annual event so look for news of it in this paper next summer and plan to join everyone in sunny California.

The Guild Board has also been busy this summer. Our new director Tobiatha has things well in hand and sends her greetings to all. We are now a non-profit organization with a computerized membership list. Can you beat that?? We've started planning the Midwinter Storyfest already, featuring Jay O'Callahan, one of the best storytellers in the country. February should be a grand month for storytelling here.

The Guild is very pleased to offer various classes and programs this fall as well. One special evening of stories, October 14, with Gordon Bok and Louis Killen will be co-sponsored with the Seattle Folklore Society. Since this will be an intimate evening, you must reserve your tickets in advance by calling 634-1634. We are also co-sponsoring an evening of stories for peace with the South Seattle Women's Network on November 15. Tell your friends.

A special reminder to all those who can get away to Tennessee in the fall: the eleventh annual National Storytelling Festival will be held October 7-9 in Jonesborough. Write NAPPS; P.O. Box 112; Jonesborough, TN 37659 for details.



"Why stories? Because stories are origins and origins are places that we walk out from. Because stories have many feet and travel several roads at once to the wisdom of the heart. And most important, because the story conjures the invisible..." Deena Metzger in Parabola

GUILD PROGRAMS:

STORIES FOR PEACE. Come and share a special evening of story, poetry, and song presented by storyteller Cathy Spagnoli. Join her as she weaves together materials from many cultures to produce a working vision of peace in our time. This program is co-sponsored by the South Seattle Women's Network and thus can be offered at a reduced admission rate, \$2.00. Come with your friends, including children of elementary age, and travel together some story-paths to peace. Nov. 15, 8 pm at The Friends Center, 4001 9th Ave. NE (take NE 45 exit off I-5, go south on Roosevelt and turn after Goodway Leasing into an alley which leads to the Center's parking). Questions, 524-~~2149~~ 2149

HOLIDAY TALES. Celebrate the holiday season with a storytelling party. Bring a story to share and/or an ear to listen and enjoy a warm evening of snacks, stories, and friendship. \$2.50 7 pm, Dec. 13, Friends Center.



NOTES:

Storyforms, an exploration of myth and metaphor led by storyteller/counselor Michale Gabriel will be held starting Sept. 29, 7:30-10 pm as a 6 week class, and on Sept. 24, 9-5 as a one day seminar. Call 622- 8475 for details.

Discover Native Northwest Coast cultures See the **Smokey Top** exhibit of masks by master Kwakiutl carver Willie Seaweed at the Pacific Science Center. The exhibit features demonstrations in carving, salmon egg painting and Storytelling. Call 625-9333 for info or to arrange a group activity. **The Box of Light** is another exhibit of traditional Northwest Coast Art at the Seattle Art Museum this fall. 447-4670 for information.

Small Press Stories A Northwest Press has recently published two fine collections of stories. Write Graywolf Press; P.O.Box 142; Port Townsend, Wa 98368.

Differential Vision: A Storytelling Game is a 40 card set system for triggering creative imagination. Each black and white image embodies a basic concept of storytelling which enables players to create a story. Available through the Guild for \$10.00. Call Tobiatha, 524- 2149, and see description for Living Mythologies under Classes.

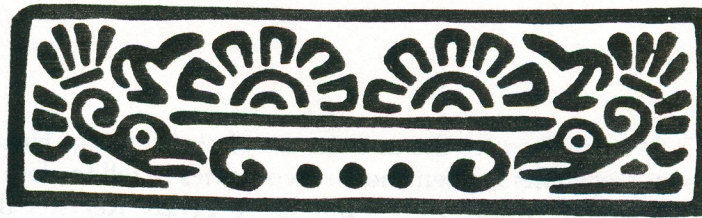
Stories by Seniors Kathe Ana, a Wisconsin storyteller, is collecting story manuscripts from Seniors in her area and wishes to exchange them with stories from the rest of the country. Write her at Rt. 2, Pulaski, WI 54162.

A Storyteller-in-Residence in Washington Schools this year will be Cathy Spagnoli, thanks to the Washington Arts Commission and Libby Sinclair. She'd love to share ideas and stories with other tellers doing the same type of work. Call 323- 5026.

Guild Library Hours will be from 7-9 pm on Mondays. The library which features books, records, and tapes for storytellers, will be housed in the Perkins School which is in the Annex behind the Good Shepherd Center, Wallingford.

National Oral History Workshop and Colloquium will be held in Seattle Sept. 29-Oct.2. Call Margo Knight at 1-866-6510 for information.

Deadline for next issue: Dec.31 Please send all calendar items, notes, complaints, etc. to Cathy Spagnoli, 606 19th Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112.



CALENDAR:

SEPTEMBER:

- 24 Ephat Mujuru gives a storytelling/music workshop, Langston Hughes, 2 pm, 625-5357 \$2.00

OCTOBER:

- 1 Ephat Mujuru in performance, Langston Hughes, 8 pm. \$2.00
- 8 Terry Tafoya, Winter Tales, Volunteer Park, 7:30 pm
- 9 Erica Meade, Red Sky Poetry at Soup 'n Salad, Pike Place Market, 2 pm
- 14 Gordon Bok & Louis Killen, Rm. 214, Monroe Center, 8 pm \$5.00
- 15 Gordon Bok in concert, Museum of History and Industry, 8 pm, \$5.00 324-1125
- 17 Troy Elmore Tabore lectures on "Mask-Eye to the Self", Rm 11-32, North Seattle Comm. College, 7:30, \$3.00
- 22 Cathy Spagnoli leads storytelling workshops at Wa. Assoc. Ed. of Young Children Conf., Everett Pacific Hotel
- 27 Story 'n Snack, Bring a story and a snack to 846 NE 98th. 7:30 pm For details, call Thom or Naomi, 784-7016
- 29 Cathy Spagnoli, Benefit for Bellevue Comm. Col. Women's Program, 10:00 pm, 641- 1678

NOVEMBER:

- 15 Cathy Spagnoli, Stories for Peace, Friends Center, 8 pm, \$2.00,
- 19 Tlingit, Haida, Tsimschian Stories by Chief Koox Ka Naah, Volunteer Park, 2 pm, 447-4670
- 27 Snake in Grass Moving Theater by Garbanzo and Koko from B.C., Volunteer Park, 3 pm, 447-4670 \$5.00,

DECEMBER:

- 1 Story 'n Snack (combined Nov.-Dec.) see Oct. for details.
- 3 West Coast Stories of the Makah by Maria Parker, Volunteer Park, 3 pm, 447-4670
- 11 Oral Traditions by Vi and Ron Hilbert, Volunteer Park, 3 pm, 447-4670
- 13 Holiday Storytelling Party/Program, Guild Members, Friends Center, 7 pm, \$2.50

CLASSES:

The Storyteller, Clare Cuddy, 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. Wallingford, Mondays, 7-9 pm, 10/10-11/28, Register through Ex College, U. of Washington

Voice This class is geared for the storyteller and public speaker who wish to improve their tonal quality, and control, increase their dynamic range and more. The instructor, Julian Smedley, began his musical career at 10 and now, years later, teaches at Cornish Institute, performs regularly and has produced albums for local singing groups. Tuesdays, 7-9pm, starting 10/11; 6 wks, \$35. Wallingford, Call 634-1634 to register.

Working with the language of stories: writing and rewriting This class is for anyone who has read a story and wanted to improve on it for telling. Through a series of writing exercises you will gain a sensitivity to language and its use in spoken and written stories. Margaret Scarborough, the instructor, has a Ph.D. in Literature from U. of Wa. as well as much experience both collecting stories and writing them. She has taught writing for more than five years in Washington colleges. Saturdays, 10-12 noon, 6 wks., starting 10/15, Wallingford, \$30.00, Call 634-1634 to register.

Living Mythologies Aaron Joyner, Seattle writer and storyteller, will guide players in small groups in the creation of new myths using his storytelling cards (see Notes). In the course of weaving a story, players may draw in any colors, sensations, climates, seasons, characters, animals, directions, silences, dreams, or stories within stories. The possibilities are as endless as your imagination. Saturdays, 4 weeks, starting 11/5, 1-3 pm. Wallingford, \$24.00 includes a set of cards. Call 634-1634 to register.



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail to:

Seattle Storytellers' Guild
1850 N 53rd
Seattle, WA 98103

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

Membership: ___ Individual \$10 ___ Family \$15 ___ new ___ renewal

___ I am interested in volunteering, please call me to discuss how I may help.

___ Please include my name on mailing lists for related storytelling events.

LA MADRINA MUERTE

Not far from a certain city lived a poor man. He had a large family and the youngest child, a boy, was yet to be christened. One morning the man set out to seek a godparent for his son. He had walked only a little way when he met a poor man.

"I will be the boy's godfather," said the poor man. Not knowing it was God to whom he spoke, the man refused His offer. Farther down the road he met a man of wealth.

"I know you seek a godfather. I will be the one," said he. The father shook his head no. Next he met a woman. It was Death. She offered to be the godparent and the man agreed since she was not partial to youth, age, wealth, or poverty.

It was Death who baptized the child. Some years later she returned and asked that her godson be allowed to walk with her into the forest. In the forest, Madrina Muerte plucked a flower and presented it to her ahijado, telling him that it would bring him happiness in accordance as to how it was used.

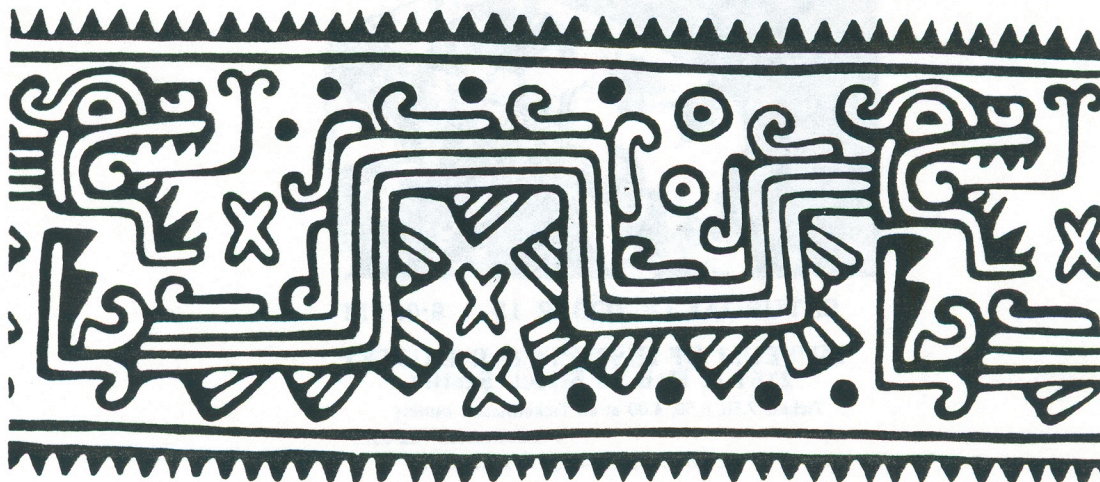
"This plant will cure all ills," said she, "and from now on you will be known as the Famous Healer. However, if, upon attending a patient you see me at the foot of the bed, you are to leave him to me."

Famous Healer had cured many people when he was called to the bedside of the king. The king promised his daughter and the kingdom if cured. Though Madrina Muerte stood at the foot of the bed and forbade the cure, the Famous Healer disobeyed her. Being a good madrina, she forgave her ahijado this, his first offense. A few days later the princess took seriously ill and the Famous Healer was called. Madrina Muerte was there and forbade the cure, but the godson disobeyed her again. The princess, like the king, was cured; and the following day was set for the wedding. But Madrina Muerte called for him and took him to a dark abode where burned candles representing the souls of dying mortals.

"This," said Madrina Muerte, pointing to a new candle, "is your soul. When it is burned down, you are to die." The ahijado asked for more life, and Madrina placed a small candle on top of the one representing his body.

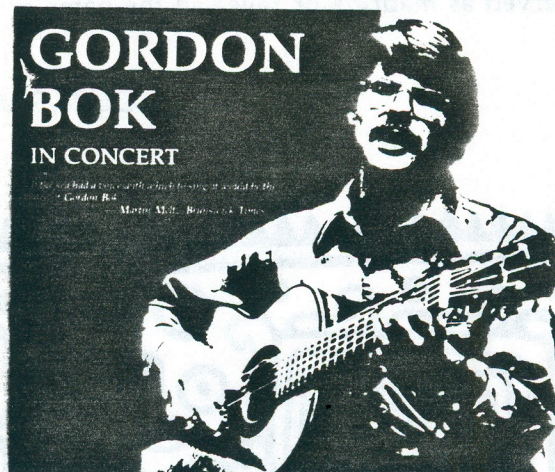
"You have disobeyed," said she, "and you must pay with life." So it was that Death's only godson died, and never since has she served as madrina or revealed the name of the life-giving plant.

from *Puro Mexicano*
J. Dobie, Southern Methodist U. Press



Seattle Storytellers' Guild
1850 N 53rd
Seattle, WA 98103

THE SEATTLE FOLKLORE SOCIETY PRESENTS



SATURDAY OCTOBER 15 8:00 PM

MUSEUM OF HISTORY & INDUSTRY
2161 E. Hamlin Street, Seattle

Tickets 7.50, 6.50, 4.00 at all Ticketmaster outlets

Information 782-0505

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