

in the Wind

Seattle Storytellers' Guild

Summer 1987, Vol. VII, #3

Traditional Tales Seminar Planned for 1987

by Margaret Read MacDonald

The Washington State Folklife Council and the Seattle Storytellers' Guild, in cooperation with the Centrum Foundation, are presenting a weekend seminar designed to bring educational and professional storytellers in contact with traditional tellers. Featured teller is Duncan Williamson, a Scottish Traveller who spent the first fifty years of his life travelling the roads of Great Britain.

Duncan has put some of his stories in print as *The Fireside Tales of the Traveller Children* (NY: Harmony, 1985). He is visiting the U.S. this year for the National Storytelling

Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee, and our conference.

Also featured is Curtis DuPuis, Native American teller from Centralia, Washington. Curtis has been delighting groups in his area with his family's humorous tales for years.

Our third featured teller is Ajan Boonliang, priest of the Washington Buddhawanaram Temple. Rev. Boonliang uses Buddhist tales in his teaching. He will share tales in both Thai and English and discuss the use of tales in the Buddhist religion.

The conference is designed with small group sessions to facilitate close contact with each teller. Also included are informal storytelling evenings, folk

dancing on the lawn, and small seminars to help participants explore the use of story in their own heritage.

The Conference begins Friday evening, October 16, and ends after lunch Sunday, October 18. To register send \$25 deposit (checks payable to Seattle Storytellers' Guild) to Margaret Read MacDonald, 11507 NE 104th, Kirkland, WA 98033, (206) 827-6430. Cost for the conference is: registration \$50; meals for weekend \$20; housing per night \$25 for twin bed in Officer's House, \$35 for queen bed (sleeps two), \$10 for dorm bunk. 1 credit is available through Seattle Pacific University for \$35. **Registration is limited so register early.**

The Search Goes On

by Cathryn Wellner

Don't you just hate prolonged goodbyes? Here I am unintentionally back again. Since the spring issue of *In the Wind*, people have been wondering why I don't leave town. Actually, friends, we were never intending to leave before September. Early warning was just so that the new editor of the newsletter would have one issue to work with me before taking over the job entirely.

By the time the next issue of *In the Wind* arrives in your mail boxes, I will indeed be in Holland. But there is still time between now and then for me to spend time with a new editor over coffee and pastries. (A little shameless bribing that will hurt only the waistline.)

Prior experience is not a requisite. Interest and curiosity are. When I first began editing the newsletter back in 1984, I was new in town, had never done any editing, and had just joined the Guild. It has turned out to be not only an invaluable experience in terms of writing and editing but has also given me fantastic contacts with storytellers both in the Puget Sound area and around the country (and even beyond its borders).

A number of people have offered to work on the newsletter. The only thing lacking as of this issue is one person's agreeing to take on the title. The new editor, whoever that dedicated and important person might be, will have plenty of help. So don't hesitate out of a fear that the job will be all consuming. It is, in fact, both manageable and one of the most enjoyable and rewarding positions in the Guild. To repeat from the spring issue:

In the Wind is the mouthpiece of the Guild, published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. Your work becomes a primary public relations tool for a vital organization. Currently the newsletter focuses on events of interest to area storytellers, with articles on topics solicited by the editor or suggested by contributors. As new editor, there are many ways you could make your mark. Maybe starting a new column on practical hints for storytellers, reviews of storytelling events, ethical issues, or uses of storytelling in different settings.

The new editor's first issue will appear October 1st. If you are interested in this important position, please contact Cathryn Wellner, 1947 14th Ave. E., Seattle 98105, 328-1328.



They say...

"The first demand of the storyteller is that he possess. He must *feel* the story. Whatever the particular quality and appeal of the work of art is, from the lightest to the grandest emotion or thought, he must have responded to it, sensed it, felt it intimately, before he can give it out again. Listen, humbly, for the message." (Sara Cone Bryant, *How to Tell Stories to Children*)

"[P]ersonal experiences can be among the deepest and truest of the stories you tell. They represent an effort on your part to share yourself with others, not with boasting or pride, but simply and openly, as you take a happening in your life and shine it for others to see." (Ramon Royal Ross, *Storyteller*)



Call Us for Answers:

Suellen Adams, Director & Pres., 361-9098

Naomi Baltuck, Membership Activities Director, 525-2560

Donald Braid, Program Development Director, 527-2341

Sharon Creeden, Folklife & other storytellers-required activities, membership & mailing lists, 1-357-5257

Janice Dahl, Volunteer Coordinator, 523-8591

Gene Friese, Grants writer, 284-9469

Mary Mercer, VP, Publicity Coordinator, Memberships, 283-7378

Eugene Vernon, Legal Advisor, 1-383-8770

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

Membership: _____ Individual, \$10 _____ Family, \$15

_____ New _____ Institutional, \$20 _____ Donor, \$25

_____ Renewal _____ Liar, \$49.95

_____ Fairy godparent (lifetime), \$100

_____ Muse (be creative & generous), \$ _____

_____ I am interested in volunteering. Please call me to discuss how I may help.

_____ Please include my name on mailing lists for related events.

Mail to: *Seattle Storytellers' Guild*
1921 Taylor Ave. N. #5
Seattle, Washington 98109

In the Wind is the newsletter of the Seattle Storytellers' Guild, a non-profit organization, and is published quarterly (January, April, July, and October). Membership in the Guild includes a year's subscription. PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATE ON YOUR LABEL.

DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER-DECEMBER

NEWSLETTER IS SEPTEMBER 15. Articles & queries should be sent to the Seattle Storytellers' Guild, 1921 Taylor Ave. N. #5, Seattle 98109.

Seattle Storytellers' Guild
1921 Taylor Ave. N., #5
Seattle, Washington 98109

Around the Region

by Yvonne Young

As the Northwest Regional Representative to the National Storytelling Advisory Council to the board of NAPPS, I felt a need to know more about our region. At the end of December, I sent out a survey letter to the 128 NAPPS members in the NW region. Though I did not receive as much response as I'd hoped, I did get some very interesting letters. Seventeen people replied.

Most of what is happening in storytelling in the Northwest, as you may have already suspected, is happening in Seattle. However, both Spokane and Yakima have storytelling groups beginning. If Portland has an organized group at the moment, no one wrote to tell me about it. Here in Eugene we have a small group that meets for monthly storytelling potlucks. We've just taken on a new project for the local cable access TV station. We'll be involved in videotaping stories for a half-hour, 13-week TV series to be entitled, "From the Wishing Well." Filming began in early April.

Respondents to my letter included a retired social worker in Salem who tells stories in a state park in the summer, librarians, two ministers, several professional tellers, and some others. I heard from four professional tellers in Oregon, including Susan Strauss and Linda Sussman from Portland, Dave Barrett from Forest Grove, and John Braden Dashney, a blind teller and writer from Salem, who

primarily performs his own material.

Roger Robbenolt, who with his wife Patricia is co-pastor of the First Congregational Church in Walla Walla, is developing some very interesting original material based on his boyhood experiences, which he hopes to have published. Roger does story performances and gives storytelling workshops in churches. I had the pleasure of hearing a very moving concert he gave in Corvallis and visiting with him afterwards.

Eleven people who replied to my letter were interested in a regional storytelling organization and/or festival. Dave Barrett said he's interested in a regional festival in Oregon and mentioned that he has contacts at Reed College and Pacific University who might be interested in hosting such an event. The one person I heard from in Idaho is very eager for some regional events because of her feelings of isolation from other tellers. One person indicated a desire for a directory of NW tellers.

My perception is that those who responded to my letter all have a very high level of interest and/or involvement in storytelling. Since I received replies from only a small percentage of NW NAPPS members, I'm not certain whether there would be enough interest and support for a regional organization at this time. If it were to happen, it seems to me that the initial organization would probably need to begin in the Seattle area, where there is a group large enough to develop such an effort.

The Advisory Council will meet again in Jonesborough in October. I would welcome any comments or concerns you'd like me to share with them at that time. Write to me at 1975 Olive, Eugene, OR 97405.

FOLKLIFE FOLKTALES

By Sharon Creeden

While enjoying three days of music at Seattle Center, the crowds at the NW Folklife Festival heard some of the area's best storytellers.

There was a 2 1/2 hour program on Saturday morning in PAC Hall. Pat Peterson, Donald Braid, Sue Grizzell, Merna Hecht, and Seattle Sass (Pat Peterson and Sharon Creeden) were the featured tellers.

In the Alki Room, these tellers were featured throughout the weekend: Cathryn Wellner, Naomi Baltuck, Sharon Creeden, Kristie the Storyteller, Vi Hilbert, Connie Martin and Jer Louderbach.

The Children's Stage in the Center House was managed by Allan Hirsch. Johnny Moses, Gene Gousie, Captain Dick Wightman, Allan Hirsch and Naomi Baltuck told stories during a schedule that also included musicians and puppets.

The Tall-Tale Contest drew a packed house for three hours on Sunday night. Donald Braid hosted and coordinated the event. Judges were Margaret MacDonald, Bob Polishuck, Naomi Baltuck, Cathryn Wellner. The contestants were festival-goers. The winning whooper was about a mean Texan called "Big John". Guild member Bruce Wolcott won second prize with a science-fiction fantasy.

At the Swapping Ground, Guild members and festival-goers took turns telling tales for two hours on Saturday and Sunday. Tom Galt, Pat Peterson, Cathryn Wellner and Donald Braid were hosts.

On the stage outside the Seattle Art Museum, two tellers from Oregon, Susan Strauss and Rachel the Storyteller told world tales.

Folklife has been held for 16 years; storytelling has taken place for the last five years and has expanded each year.

notes...

There are some very talented storytellers in the **Vancouver Storytelling Circle**, including the editor of its newsletter, Nan Gregory. If you'd like to keep abreast of happenings among our neighbors to the north, you can join the Circle and receive a quarterly newsletter by sending \$10 Canadian to her at 4143 W. 15th, Vancouver, BC V6R 3A4.

Looking for a gift for storytelling enthusiasts? **The Storyteller's Calendar** (for 1988) is a wall calendar featuring art objects related to storytelling (e.g., Eskimo Storyknife, Pueblo Storyteller, Balinese Mask), stories, stunts, poems, quotes, dates of storytelling events, and more. \$10 for one, \$40 for five (inc. shipping). Make checks payable to Ruth Stotter, Stotter-Storytelling Calendar, P.O. Box 726, Stinson Beach, CA 94970.

Finding the "Story" in History Part I

© 1987 Naomi Baltuck

In the dictionary, history is defined as a continuous systematic narrative of past incidents. But it is also defined as a past that is full of important, unusual, or interesting events. Either will do, but the latter approach to history can excite the mind and touch the heart. History need not be stale and tasteless; why eat bread when we can have cake?

Long before written language, it was the storyteller who passed down precious legacies: tribal histories, hero epics, stories of the hunt, family histories, accounts of great battles. Even today, the best historians are not the ones who can write down the most facts, but the ones who can recognize a good story and breathe life into a page from the past.

Mr. Malamud, my tenth grade American History teacher, was a soft-spoken, round little man in a starched white shirt and a bow tie. On the first day of class, he handed out the textbooks, because he was required to do so. But for the rest of the semester, they gathered dust in our lockers.

Instead, Mr. Malamud gave us what he called "lectures" from his own research. He couldn't fool us; we knew they were stories! He helped us to read between the lines. Long before it was fashionable, I had learned about the Japanese internment camps. I had discovered what a blowhard the real Davy Crockett was. I had learned how to see the characters in our history as real people and to evaluate historic events by how they affected those people.

Mr. Malamud did not allow us to learn by rote. Throughout the semester, we had to choose six topics from a list of highly controversial subjects, do our own research, and learn to make our own interpretations.

Just as Mr. Malamud helped us read between the lines, storytellers can help their listeners learn to do so. But a storyteller must approach a history with a great sense of responsibility. Everyone who tells any kind of a story, especially a true story, is an interpreter of the events which she is relating, if only by choosing that particular story to tell. There is no source of historic information which has not been interpreted by someone, even if it is someone looking back at her own life story.

The work of a good historian will remind us that, no matter how far back we can or cannot trace our family tree, every person on this earth today is somehow related to that first little band of humans that wandered and parted, multiplied and became the many diverse peoples that inhabit the world.

Did a toe stubbed on the Appian Way hurt any less than a toe stubbed on a New York sidewalk? Babies must always have loved a lullaby, and tears of sadness or joy must have been just as real to the one who shed them a hundred or even a thousand years ago. And yet these things which are so much a part of the human experience are the very things which are omitted from the textbooks as insignificant trifles.

I have researched and am now telling a program of stories I call "Trailblazers of the Northwest." It is a collection of the true stories and songs of the rugged women and men who pioneered the Northwest. This was at once the most exciting and the most perplexing storytelling project I had ever undertaken. In the next issue of *In the Wind*, I will share some of the specific techniques I used to find the "story" in our Washington State history.

THANKS & FAREWELL

By Mary Mercer

...To Cathryn Wellner for her three years as editor of *IN THE WIND* and hard-working board member. Cathryn is a leading NW storyteller, teacher and workshop leader. She will leave for Europe in September with her husband Jon for a year. **HEARTY BON VOYAGE AND A WONDERFUL YEAR!**

...To Ann Schuessler for her two years as Financial Officer and keeping the books in good order. Her expertise has been invaluable. She will continue to give financial advise. **THANKS, ANNI**

...To Bob Poliehuk for his wisdom and experience as a board member and one of the Guild's first members. Bob will continue to support the Guild; we are happy for his enduring friendship and inspiration. **THANK YOU, BOB!**



CATHRYN IS....

By Sharon Creeden

Cathryn is like Coke- She is the real thing.

Cathryn is like Ford- She has better ideas.

Cathryn is like Pam Am-She makes the going great.

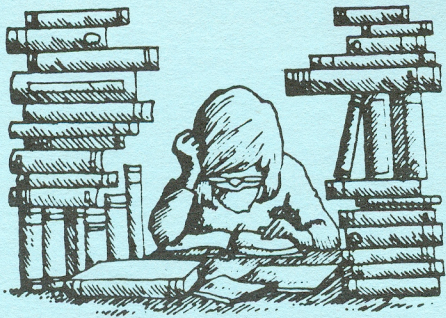
Cathryn is like Pepsi- She has alot to give.

Cathryn is like Hallmark cards- She cares enough to give the very best.

Cathryn is like Frosted Flakes-She's GRRRRRREAT!!!!!!

THANK YOU, CATHRYN WELLNER FOR YOUR WORK AS EDITOR.





When I asked my Thai friend, Su Vathanaprida, recently if she knew of any good Thai storytellers, she told me that her grandmother had been an excellent storyteller. "But she learned her stories from the monks." Su explained that in Thailand it was the Buddhist monks who were considered skilled storytellers. Su even knew a young monk living here in the Seattle area who is a good storyteller. Ajan Boonliang will be joining us for our "Traditional Tellers Weekend at Centrum" on October 17 and 18.

In case you would like to do a little reading beforehand, I suggest the fascinating *Burmese Monk's Tales* by Maung Htin Aung (NY: Columbia Univ. Pr., 1966). The book discusses the life of the monk and the use of teaching tales. It deals particularly with The Thingazar Sayadaw, whose use of teaching tales set new standards for this form. I know of no similar work on Thai monk's tales but imagine this book would enhance your understanding of Ajan Boonliang's work. The title is available at the University of Washington (398.359, H859bur). Order it through interlibrary loan. The author's *Burmese Law Tales* (London:

Sources

about stories and the folks who tell them

by Margaret Read MacDonald

Oxford, 1962) is also available at the UW.

Those interested in the use of story in religious life may also enjoy *Legends of the Hasidim* by Jerome R. Mintz (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago, 1968). This scholarly study of Hasidic culture in New York City centers on the use of story in Hasidic tradition and includes many tale texts.

A source book of interest to Christian storytellers is William R. White's *Stories for Telling: A Treasury for Christian Storytellers* (Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1986). White includes stories of "Love and Compassion," "Saints and Sinners," "Wisdom and Foolishness," "Peace and Justice," "Wealth and Greed," "Anger and Revenge," and "Friendship and Fidelity." Most are brief.

It is interesting to consider ways in which story has been an integral part of religious teaching in many cultures. Our discussion with monk Ajan Boonliang at the "Traditional Tellers Weekend" should be enlightening. If you want to join us, be sure to send your registration soon. We have a limited number of beds and several registrations already in hand.

NAPPS News

The numbers are right. Fifteenth year, fifteen tellers. Only one number is slightly out of synch, a change in timing because of Yom Kippur. If you are accustomed to setting aside the first full week end in October for a pilgrimage to Jonesborough, Tennessee, think second this year.

Westerners will be pleased to see some familiar names in this year's lineup: Vi Hilbert, Salish elder from Seattle; Joe Hayes, bilingual teller from Santa Fe; and two Californians, Steve Sanfield, teller of Jewish and other tales from Nevada City; and Patrick Ball, storyteller and musician from Bodega Bay.

Several festival favorites will be back: Jay O'Callahan, Heather Forest, Alice Kane, Maggi Peirce, Carol Birch. Duncan Williamson, a Traveller, will be coming all the way from Scotland. Also there will be Brother Blue, Mary Hamilton, Ray Hicks, Alice Kane, Syd Lieberman, and Jim May.

If you would like help reserving housing near Jonesborough, call the NAPPS office at (615) 753-2171. (And if you're not already a member of the National Association for the Preservation and Perpetuation of Storytelling, \$25 sent to P.O. Box 309, Jonesborough, TN 37659, will bring you a monthly *Yarnspinner*, a quarterly *National Storytelling Journal*, and advance notice of all NAPPS-sponsored events.)



2ND SUNDAY STORYTELLING FRIENDS MEETING FRIENDS

This summer we are having three storytellers you are not going to want to miss! Some old favorites... some new faces... from near and far. Come to the Friend's Center, 4001 9th NE on the Second Sunday of each month. Admission is \$3. Open mike follows each program. Come and tell a story. Doors open at 6:30 PM and stories begin at 7 PM.

JULY 12

SHARON CREEDEN

"WOMANSONG: Stories of Extraordinary Women."

AUGUST 9

From Bandon, Oregon
RACHEL THE STORYTELLER

SEPTEMBER 13

International traveler and storyteller from S. Carolina
FLOATING EAGLE FEATHER

NATIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL: OCT. 9-11 JONESBOROUGH, TENN.

NAPPS presents Patrick Ball, Brother Blue, Carol Birch, Heather Forest, Joe Hayes, Mary Hamilton, Syd Lieberman, Ray Hicks, Jim May, Vi Hilbert, Alice Kane, Jay O'Callahan, Maggi Peirce, Steve Sanfield & Duncan Williamson. For info, contact Cathryn Wellner (206) 328-1328 or NAPPS (615) 753-2171.



notes...

The first issue of **By Word of Mouth**, newsletter of the National Clearinghouse for Information on Storytelling, included an article by the editor on the question of storytelling versus performance. She wrote, "...it is with the relationship between teller and listener, both focused on the living, breathing enchantment of the story, the story that holds them both and becomes greater than them both, that I would begin to differentiate between telling and performing." To join NCIS send \$5 to Dept. of Library & Information Studies, E. Carolina Univ., Greenville, NC 27834-4353.

Sad news for **Garrison Keillor** fans. Radio's best-known storyteller has resumed the life of a shy person. If you want to be sure storytelling, the main reason for the success of *A Prairie Home Companion*, continues on Saturday evenings, contact Noah Adams at American Public Radio. He is the producer of the replacement show.

New York storyteller Robert Rodriguez calls our attention to two recent collections of the short stories of **Jane Yolen**, both published by Ace Books. *Dragonfields* includes the title novelette, "White Seal Maid," "The Lady and the Merman," plus an entire reprinting of her out-of-print collection, *Dreamweaver*. *Merlin's Book* is a wonderful collection of poems and tales depicting the magical, mysterious Merlin--magician, king maker, teacher, Druid. Her many portrayals of the numerous aspect of this mythical Arthurian figure is done with power, poignancy, and the usual master touch Ms. Yolen has garnered in her literary career.

A very fine newsletter crossed our desk recently, **The Jewish Storytelling Newsletter**, edited in New York by Marcia D. Miller and Peninnah Schram. Anyone interested in telling Jewish stories will want to subscribe. Send \$10 to Jewish Storytelling Center, 92nd Street Y Library, 1395 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10128.

Michale Gabriel has returned from yet another trip to the Soviet Union, this time leading 25 Washington and California teachers on a storytelling exchange. They told stories in English-language schools, presented story banners wherever they went, answered questions about American life. Next stop for Michale? South America. (The International Story Banner Program continues. Anyone interested in designing a banner which will carry the gift of story to children in other countries may contact Michale at Storytell International, Suite 1986, 1075 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue 98004, 206 822-2307.)

New Mexico Storyteller's Gazette is a new entry in the storytelling newsletter field. We requested an exchange (and sent a newsletter) but never received a response so can't tell you anything about its quality. \$5 will get you a year's subscription (four issues). Write Teresa Van Etten, 157 West Zia Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505, (505) 988-3412.

KBCS, 91.3 FM, public radio from Bellevue Community College, has launched a weekly storytelling hour that is receiving kudos from the listeners. Area tellers have gone to the studio to pre-record stories for the 7 pm, Tuesday, program. What began as a pilot program has been so successful that KBCS is starting to invite tellers back to the studio to record additional segments. Storytellers visiting the area and wanting to record stories for broadcast on KBCS can contact Mary Ann Bundren (home, 885-2571; work, 641-2525).

Storyline, publication of the Bay Area Storytelling Festival, is the latest newsletter we've received in exchange for *In the Wind*. Much going on down that way that you'll want to take advantage of if you're traveling in northern California. Newsletters are kept in the Guild files after circulating among Board members and are available for members to read. To subscribe to *Storyline*, send \$5 Nancy Lenz, 211 The Uplands, Berkeley, CA 94705.

Membership in the **Washington State Folklife Council** brings you folklife news and a subscription to the NW history quarterly, *Landmarks*. Send \$10 to WSFC, Mail Stop TA00-12102, Olympia 98505.

You've worked on your stories for weeks and can't wait to tell them. But when you arrive, you see hordes of children turning cartwheels around the room while parents nod approvingly. "An exciting challenge," says your mind. "Run," say your feet. How do you get through the next hour with your ego intact? **Jackie Torrence** suggests talking to the audience first. Tell them what storytelling is. Talk to them of the magic between storyteller and story listener. Enlist their aid. Many people have never heard a storyteller before. When they know what to expect, they'll be ready to listen.

Storytellers of San Diego Newsletter has metamorphosed into **The Story Bag Newsletter**. Yearly subscriptions to a newsletter filled with practical tips and provocative articles are \$15. Send checks to Harlynn Geisler, 4182-J Mt. Alifan Pl., San Diego, CA 92111.

Jack Zipes, whose thought provoking examination of folk and fairy tales has stirred many a controversy, has written a book that will be a boon for anyone who has ever confronted the issue of sexism in fairy tales. *Don't Bet on the Prince* (published by Methuen and now available in paperback), is an anthology of contemporary feminist fairy tales by such authors as Jane Yolen, Angela Carter, Anne Sexton, Margaret Atwood, and Joanna Russ.

H.W. Wilson Co. recently published **"American Storytelling,"** a series of eight 30-min. videocassettes. Nationally known storytellers tell folk tales, tall tales, mountain tales, personal reminiscences, stories put to music, and more. Among the 22 tellers are Ed Stivender, The Folk Tellers, Jay O'Callahan, Donald Davis, Diane Wolkstein, Heather Forest, and Laura Simms. Libraries and schools can order them singly (\$99) or in sets of four (\$349) by calling 1-800-367-6770.

If you attended the **Myth and Meaning** series and wish you could hear the lectures again (or missed it and wonder why we are all raving about it), you can now order cassettes. Individual lectures are \$7, or order all seven for \$36 (postage and handling included). Contact Health, Behavioral and Social Sciences, UW Extension, GH-21, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195.

STORYTELLING KNOW-HOW

BY ROBERT RUBINSTEIN

Reprinted from the Storytellers of San Diego Newsletter.

AVOID THESE BARRIERS TO GOOD STORYTELLING

1. **APOLOGIZING...** for the story, for your preparation, for being a substitute. If you must apologize, do not tell the story. Even saying, "I was called at the last minute but will do the best I can," serves no purpose and puts the listeners in a negative frame of mind.
2. **SPEAKING TOO SOFTLY...**not fair to the listeners. Eventually they will tire, will "tune you out" and the story is lost.
3. **EXTREME CLOTHES AND JEWELRY...**distracting to the listeners. Dangling earrings take the attention away from the story.
4. **GESTURES WHICH ARE EXCESSIVE OR EXTREME...**simple and natural ones- fine.
5. **NOT LOOKING AT THE LISTENERS...**many storytellers at first are too self-conscious to look into the faces of the listeners. You lose much inspiration this way. Eye contact makes you and the listeners have a bond of communication which looking over them cancels.
6. **AWKWARD HAND POSITIONS...**wringing hands, twisting rings, rubbing the edges of the podium, playing with beads or swinging arms. Some persons need to hold their hands behind their backs to avoid this.
7. **BEING WHERE THE LISTENER CANNOT SEE YOU...**sitting down may be very natural for telling stories, but you must be seen by the listener. Often a podium or microphone will hide a person. Arrange beforehand to have a box or small platform on which to stand if necessary.
8. **EXCEEDING TIME LIMITS...**most programs are planned for a specific time period. Obey this strictly. A 10-12 minute story is a good length (unless the children are very young). If 30 minutes of program is desired, you might tell two long stories or one long and several short.
9. **NOT PRACTICING THE STORY ALOUD...**even for experienced storytellers this is necessary. It brings fluency, ease, and expression which just reading silently to yourself does not accomplish.
10. **MAKING GRAMMATICAL ERRORS AND MISPRONOUNCING WORDS...**the habit of speaking this way is often unconscious. Others are embarrassed for you as you would be for them. Welcome your friends who call this to your attention. **MASTER THIS HANDICAP.**
11. **NOT READING GOOD STORIES AND GOOD WRITING...**deprives you of pleasure of adding to your vocabulary and being able to add colorful phrases and sentences to your storytelling. Reading expands your mind and ability to think new and better thoughts.

(con't on page 5)

Classes

The Wilderness Within, with Connie Martin. (See "My Feet So Deep in the Earth" above.) Hollyhock Farm, Cortes Island, B.C., V0P 1K9. July 7-12. \$475. (604) 935-6465.

"Stories for All Reasons," Western District Story League Convention. Workshops will include "Storytelling for the Young" with Marylouise Reighart, ed., *Story Art Magazine*, "Stories for Adults" with Ruth Stotter, "Stories for Senior Citizenry" with Mildred Hoffman, and "Cutting the Story for Telling" (leader to be announced). July 9-12, Marylhurst College (just south of Portland), Marylhurst, OR. \$15 reg. (\$5/day). For reg. & info., Mrs. Eileen Beckowitz, 4810 N. 30th St., Tacoma, WA 98407.

Caretakers of Wonder. Storytelling, dance, mime, clowning, and magic sponsored by **Phoenix Power & Light Co.** This year's workshops, which focus on "the theatrical, theoretical, and theological," will be held at the University of Ontario, Windsor, July 12-18. For more info. contact Phoenix at P.O. Box 820, Oxon Hill, MD 20745-0820, (202) 561-4286.

UW Summer Writers Conference includes such notable authors as Peter S. Beagle (*The Last Unicorn*) and Kelly Cherry (*In the Wink of an Eye*). There will be workshops with authors; consultations (for an additional \$25) for those who wish to have their work examined; discussions based on questions submitted by participants; and readings. July 17-19, University of Washington, \$115. Register through Extension Registration, UW, GH-25, Seattle 98195 (or by phone with credit cards, 206 543-2310).

Storytelling for Everyone, taught by Cathryn Wellner. Expand your storytelling skills in a safe atmosphere. Exercises to lessen inhibitions and stir creativity are combined with insight into how to prepare and tell stories. Learn to use voice, body, and imagination to explore the full range of human expression. Capitol Hill. Mon., 7/20-8/10, 7-9:30 pm. \$25 inst. fee (UW student, \$20), \$5 supply fee. **Section II (for people who have taken the introductory course or had some previous storytelling experience),** Tues., 7/21-8/11, 7-9:30 pm. \$25 inst. fee (UW student, \$20), \$5 supply fee. Register through ASUW Experimental College, 543-4735.

Exploration of the Art of Storytelling, taught by Cathryn Wellner. A course for busy educators: from finding the right story to using storytelling to enliven classroom instruction. Tues. & Thurs., 7/27-8/19, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma. For info., call Cathryn Wellner, 328-1328, or Summer Session Office, PLU, 1-535-7143.



Calendar

(All events listed are open to the public.)

JULY

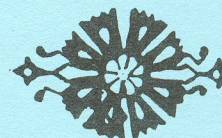
- 12 **Second Sunday Storytelling** features **Rose of Sharon**. Univ. Friends Center, 4001 9th NE. Doors open 6:30 pm, program at 7. \$3, 525-2560.
 - 16 **Board meeting** (everyone welcome), 7 pm, 1921 Taylor Ave. N., #5, 283-7378.
 - 17-19 **Sierra Storytelling Festival** features Brian Conroy, Dennis Freeman, Martha Holloway, Syd Lieberman, our own Cathy Spagnoli, Sandra MacLees (m.c.), and tellers from past festivals. New this year are a children's concert with the Story Tailors and a critique session with Bob Jenkins and Steve Sanfield. Contact Sierra Storytelling Festival, 17894 Tyler-Foote Rd., Nevada City, CA 95959, (916) 265-2826.
 - 18 **Naomi Baltuck** tells stories for the whole family at "From over the Rainbow," a festival for and about children sponsored by the University Unitarian Church, 6556 35th NE. 2:30 pm. For info., call Larry or Desiree Smith, 367-5893.
 - 22 **Gene Friese**, "The Teddy Bear Man," tells stories for the whole family at the Redmond Library, 15810 NE 85th. 885-1861.
- Cathy Spagnoli** tells stories from around the world at the Kenmore Library, 18138 73rd NE. Please register. 486-8747.
- 23 **Story 'n' Snack**. Tales and treats and good company. Come to tell or just to listen. 7:30 pm, 846 NE 98th. For more info., call Naomi Baltuck or Thom Garrard, 525-2560.
 - 25 **Gordon Bok** performs in a concert sponsored by the Seattle Storytellers' Guild and the UW Graduate School of Library and Information Science. 8 pm, Kane Hall, Room 140, UW. \$8.50 in advance (HUB, Ticketmaster, Elliott Bay Book Co.), \$10 at the door. Or call Suellen Adams, 775-6977.

AUGUST

- 9 **Second Sunday Storytelling** features **Rachel the Storyteller** (from Bandon, Oregon). Univ. Friends Center, 4001 9th NE. Doors open 6:30 pm, program at 7. \$3, 525-2560.
- 20 **Board meeting** (everyone welcome), 7 pm, 1921 Taylor Ave. N., #5, 283-7378.
- 27 **Story 'n' Snack**. Tales and treats and good company. Come to tell or just to listen. 7:30 pm, 846 NE 98th. For more info., call Naomi Baltuck or Thom Garrard, 525-2560.

SEPTEMBER

- 13 **Second Sunday Storytelling** features **Floating Eaglefeather**. Univ. Friends Center, 4001 9th NE. Doors open 6:30 pm, program at 7. \$3, 525-2560.
- 17 **Board meeting** (everyone welcome), 7 pm, 1921 Taylor Ave. N., #5, 283-7378.
- 21 **Naomi Baltuck** tells "Tales of the Wet Apple," modern-day fairy tales set in the city of Seattle. Seattle Public Library, Auditorium, 1000 4th Ave. 7:30 pm, 625-4870.
- 22 **Naomi Baltuck** tells "Trailblazers of the Northwest," true stories and songs of men and women who pioneered the Northwest wilderness. Rainier Beach Library, 9125 Rainier Ave. S. 7:30 pm, 625-4937.
- 24 **Story 'n' Snack**. Tales and treats and good company. Come to tell or just to listen. 7:30 pm, 846 NE 98th. For more info., call Naomi Baltuck or Thom Garrard, 525-2560.
- 29 **Naomi Baltuck** tells "Mountain Tales," stories from the South. Douglass-Truth Library, 23rd & E. Yesler Way. 7:30 pm, 625-4497.



KNOWN-HOW (Con't from page 4)

- 12. **TELLING TRITE AND WORTHLESS STORIES**...be sure the story has a good message of some kind, is amusing to the listeners, or might teach something new and exciting. It is a waste of time for you and the listeners to choose a worthless story.
 - 13. **BEING COMPETITIVE**...be so only with yourself. Comparing yourself with another in trying to outshine that person in telling is unworthy.
 - 14. **NOT BEING YOURSELF**...naturalness is part of your charm. Be alert to polish the rough edges of your own storytelling, but keep your own style. This is the ingredient which makes you unique.
- (In 1969, Bob Rubinstein formed the "Roosevelt Troupe of Tellers". His young tellers have performed for over 43,000 students and in 1983 received one of Oregon's "Great Kids" Public Service Awards. For information about his workshops and performances, write him at 90 East 49th Ave., Eugene, OR 97405.)