



in the Wind

Seattle Storytellers' Guild • Autumn 1996 • Vol. XIX, Number 4

It's Back!

The 1996 Northwest Storytelling Festival

After a one-year absence, the Northwest Storytelling Festival is back, better than ever. This year we bring in new tellers to the Puget Sound area and, for the first time, offer pre-festival institutes to provide even further opportunity to share in the wide world of storytelling. Featured tellers are:

- Tomaseen Foley, born and reared in western Ireland, is a teller steeped in the Irish tradition.
- Sandra Niman, a bright and lively teller from California, has a wide range in both repertoire and experience.
- Dorothy Ormes, from Ashland, Oregon, brings her theater experience to the creation of original stories and characters.

• Kaetz and Glover, a husband and wife team from Hornby Island, B.C., have combined music, song and story for performances throughout western Canada, on both stage and radio.

Each teller will give a 90-minute workshop, perform at the family concert and do a 25-minute set at the evening concert. In between events, you can check out the vendors, including All For Kids Bookshop, have coffee and pastries and swap stories. A light dinner will be available for purchase during the swapping ground. Pre-registration is not required.



The pre-festival institutes have as their theme Multi-cultural Storytelling. The presenters are The Maharakham Storytelling Troupe from Thailand, giving a workshop on Thai storytelling. They will also be telling at the evening concert. And, Kevin Cotter, Seattle storyteller by way of New Zealand, will be offering a workshop on cultural storytelling and some of the issues and themes involved. The institutes will be held in the morning from 9:30 to 11:00. Pre-payment is not required, but please call the Guild, 621-8646, and leave your name, phone number and institute you plan to attend so we can get an idea of the number who plan to attend.

The festival offers the opportunity to hear new stories, gather fresh ideas and meet new people. It is for storylisteners and storytellers of all ages and experience levels. There is truly something for everyone. Please join us and help make this the best festival ever.

Northwest Storytelling Festival, October 26, 1996

Noon to 9:30 p.m., Institutes 9:30-11 a.m.

Nordic Heritage Museum, 3014 NW 67th St.

Institutes — \$15; All-Day Festival Pass — \$35 members, \$40 non-members; Workshops — \$20;

Family Concert — Adults \$2, Kids FREE;

Evening Concert — \$8 members, \$10 non-members

Please call the Guild (621-8646) for a brochure giving complete details of the Festival workshops and institutes.

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Wanted: Northwest Festival Volunteers



Ah, autumn is in the air. So many traditions to keep this time of year...

Crunching leaves underfoot.

Preparing for the holidays (no, not *those* holidays—Halloween, of

course—it should be a criminal offense to start decorating for *those* holidays in October!)

Calling Avis to volunteer to help at Seattle Storytellers' Guild's Northwest Storytelling Festival.

Volunteering at the festival is always fun—and it can be a money-saver, too. If you help out for an hour, you will get \$5 off your Full Day Registration Fee (plus the Guild's undying thanks, of course). Here are just some of your volunteer opportunities:

- Registration/ticket sales. Welcome people, take money, give change.
- Refreshments. Set out food and drinks, keep things tidy and available, gossip with your fellow festival-goers.
- Resource table. Sell the featured tellers' tapes, CDs and books, as well as SSG's beautiful and cozy t-

shirts and sweatshirts, plus the last of the incredible mugs (such a deal!).

- Setup/cleanup. A few minutes here and there to help us get ready for the changing programs, and leave the Nordic in tip-top shape.

- Sound. Operate a basic sound system for the Evening Concert. Experience helpful but not required.

- Workshop host. Introduce the presenter, do whatever little things are needed to help everything go smoothly, enjoy the workshop.

To continue or start your own Fall Festival Volunteering Tradition, just call Avis Jobrack, SSG's very own Volunteer Coordinator. Her home phone number in Sumner is 206/863-5025. If this is a long-distance call for you, you may call her at work. Call the Federal Way Regional Library at 206/838-3668 and, if she's not there when you call, ask to leave a message.

See you at the festival!



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Tellebration! '96 on November 23rd

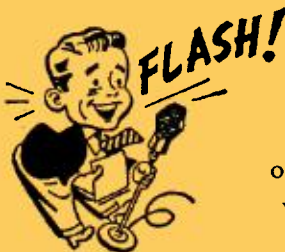
Tellebration, The Night of Storytelling, is an evening of performances held in communities across the United States, Canada and Europe. The Seattle Storytellers' Guild is proud to participate in this event with two hours of stories from six fine local tellers. The evening will include stories from Debra Harris-

Branham, Tom Galt, Phyllis Silling, Dick and Nancy Holmes, and Debbie Dimitre.

This is the ninth year of Tellebration and it is a wonderful opportunity to

experience the pleasures of storytelling, support the local community and introduce people to this most wonderful art form.

Tellebration will again be held in Shaefer Auditorium located in Lemieux Library on the campus of Seattle University, between James and Madison, just off Broadway on Capitol Hill. Doors open at 6:30, stories begin at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. While street parking is available around campus, there is a pay lot located at the campus entrance on 12th Avenue just below the library.



Sources:

About Stories and the Folks Who Tell Them

By Margaret Read MacDonald
King County Library System

Seems like folks kept handing me tapes at the American Library Association meeting this year. So I came home and began to listen. I had been enchanted by the performance of Heather Forest at the conference and was equally enchanted by her tape *THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER*. It is a 1991 release, but I had never listened before. Her charming blend of song and story is stunning artistry (available from Yellow Moon Press).

Another delight was Carmen Deedy's *GROWING UP CUBAN IN DECATUR GEORGIA*. These personal stories were aired originally on National Public Radio. Each is so finely crafted and so elegantly delivered that it is impossible to leave them once you are hooked. The sort that makes you sit in your car in the driveway for five minutes after you are already home ...just listening to the end of the NPR story (Peachtree Publishers, 1995, \$10.95).

THE CORN WOMAN: AUDIO STORIES AND LEGENDS OF THE HISPANIC SOUTHWEST by Angel Vigil is a more straightforward telling from the book of the same name. The kit includes two tapes...one in English and one in Spanish. They are narrated by Angel Vigil and Juan Francisco Marin, with one story (my favorite) told by Geraldina Lawson. Her Spanish telling of "La mujer del maiz" was flavorful and slowly paced in an easy to hear way that even a novice Spanish listener such as myself could follow. I recommend the set for the delight of that cut in particular (Libraries Unlimited, 1995).

And since I am working on a possible tape project myself now, I have begun to range more widely in my listening ... wondering about the varieties of spoken word taping. I was impressed with Bobby Norfolk's

STORYTELLER IN A GROOVE, produced in a studio with live jazz musicians (Earwig Music, 1992). But I also enjoyed Mary Hamilton's *HAUNTING TALES: LIVE FROM THE CULBERTSON MANSION*, produced as it says, in the echoing chamber of an old house during a Halloween storytelling. An appropriate sound and a pleasing tape. (Self-produced and available from Mary at Hidden Spring, 65 Springhill Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.)

Still listening, I dove into the Books on Tape section and discovered the exquisite *MEM FOX READS* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992). Beautifully spoken stories with elegant little theatrical soundings layered so gently into the background that they fit perfectly. A good example of what a big budget *plus* good taste can produce.

And being totally confused by this time about how and what and with whom to make my own tape, I was relieved to find on my doorstep a copy of *THE STORYTELLER'S GUIDE: STORYTELLERS SHARE ADVICE FOR THE CLASSROOM, BOARDROOM, SHOWROOM, PODIUM, PULPIT AND CENTER STAGE*.

Bill Mooney and David Holt had the great idea to produce this book. They interviewed 41 storytellers and compiled their commentary into this readable and very useful book. There is a whole chapter on "How Do I Record and Market My Tapes?" which I read at once. But there are chapters for every range of storyteller from "How Do I Get Started?" to "What Is the Life of a Professional Storyteller Like?" Stage fright, ethics, copyright, the role of the emcee ... everything you have

ever worried about receives comment here. I cannot imagine how Bill and David transcribed their hours of tape and edited out these gems for us. But here it is. And we should all thank them. And buy their book! (August House, 1996. \$23.95 pb.)



Especially for Members & Friends:

Second Mondays on the Hill

As the fall weather brings a chill to the air, warm your bones with a story at the New City Theater, 1643 11th Avenue, on Capitol Hill. Featured performance is at 7 p.m. followed by an open mike. Cost is \$4 for members, \$6 for non-members.

October 14

Barb Stevens-Newcomb—Storyteller from Eugene, Oregon

This will be Barb's first visit to Seattle but she is familiar to story lovers throughout the country. She has appeared at festivals, schools, museums and on television. She tells stories that range from pre-Inca legends to her personal stories of growing up on Coon Creek Farm. Come, listen and welcome this fine teller to Seattle.

November 11

Pat Peterson, Stories of Women—Wild and Wonderful

Pat returns to New City with a program of stories about women you'll want to know. Pat's list of storytelling credits are too numerous to list but if you have had the pleasure of hearing Pat tell, I know you'll be there. If not, don't miss this chance to hear one of Seattle's finest tellers.

Donald Davis to Visit Seattle Sept. 30

Area lovers of a tale well told will have a chance to hear one of the country's finest storytellers when Donald Davis tells at the All for Kids bookstore on September 30 at 4 p.m. This will be his only Seattle stop on his way back from being featured at the Port Angeles Festival. Stories from the hills of North Carolina both traditional and personal are his specialty. The bookstore is located near University Village at 2900 Blakely, 526-2768. His many books and tapes will be available and he will be glad to sign them.

December 9

Holiday Potpourri

The annual holiday program. This year we feature both new tellers to the New City stage, Julie Miller and Rita Howard, as well as old favorites like Ron Vernon. Come and share the holiday magic of seasonal stories.

The Guild is looking into new options for our monthly programs, i.e. move back to Fridays, membership meetings instead of or in addition to featured programs, moving to a cafe or coffee shop and so on. If you have any ideas or thoughts on these options please drop the Guild a note or leave us a message on the answering machine at 621-8648.

Storyteller Profile

Barb Stevens-Newcomb

Barb Stevens-Newcomb calls herself a "navigator of the imagination." Her stories are funny, entertaining, transformational, sometimes told in Spanish and English together. She blends sound and movement for a multi-cultural, interactive experience. She has been a storyteller for the last 16 years. Currently she is a storyteller-in-residence with the Lane County Arts Council. She also publishes the quarterly northwest storytelling newsletter *Stretching the Truth*, as well as produces a music and storytelling performance series called Tellers in Concert. She also produced the CD, "Daughters of Ishi-shini," published by Black Cricket Press. As if that wasn't enough to keep her busy she has also written four children's books and a collection of personal essays for adults (*Tales from Coon Creek Farm*). Her work as a teller includes television, schools, festivals, museums and other venues all around the country. Her October appearance as the featured teller at New City will be her first visit to Seattle. Come and hear Barb spin her special magic.

Storytelling in the Libraries

Hans Christian Andersen

Jake Esau, local actor, portrays the happy-go-lucky Hans, the itinerant cobbler, and he tells some of his best-loved fairy tales. Families and school-age children. • Monday, September 16, 7 p.m., Tukwila Library, 244-5140 • Wednesday, September 18, 4:15 p.m., Burien Library, 243-3490 • Sunday, September 22, 2 p.m., Mercer Island Library, 236-3537 • Saturday, October 26, 12 noon, Tahoma High School (part of the Maple Vally Community Fest — call Maple Valley Library, 432-4620)

Kibibi Monie's Nu-Legacy

Wednesday, November 13, 7 p.m., Fairwood Library, 226-0522. This family program presents a combination of music and drama coupled with folktales from around the world. All ages!

Spine-Tingling Tales

Friday, October 25, 6:30 p.m. at the Des Moines Field House, 1000 So. 220th St. Call the library at 824-6066 for information. Tom Galt spins and evening of ghostly yarns from all over the world. These spine-tingling tales are sure to make you giggle and scream. For school-age children and their families.

Song and Story to Reconcile By

Ted Hutchinson
Sunday, November 24, 7 p.m.
Bellevue Regional Library, 450-1775

Merna Hecht

Monday, December 9, 7 p.m.
Festival of Lights
Bellevue Regional Library, 450-1775

Patchwork Tales...

Debbie Dimitre, in costume and character as Louisa Boren-Denny (first bride of Seattle), dramatically brings to life the memories of two young Seattle pioneer girls. School-age, family.

- Wednesday, September 18, 4 p.m. Carnation, program at Sno-Valley Senior Center, 4610 Stephens Street, 333-4398
- Monday, September 23, 1 p.m., Skykomish School, please call the library by Friday, September 20 to confirm time and date, 677-2660
- Tuesday, September 24, 7 p.m., Bothell Regional Library, 486-7811
- Sunday, September 29, 2 p.m., Kingsgate Library, 821-7686
- Sunday, September 29, 7 p.m., Bellevue Regional Library, 450-1775
- Wednesday, October 2, 7 p.m., Kenmore Library, please register, 486-8747
- Saturday, October 5, 2 p.m., Lake Forest Park Library, 362-8860
- Monday, October 7, 7 p.m., Tukwila Library, 244-5140
- Monday, October 14, 7 p.m. Kirkland Library, 822-2459
- Wednesday, October 16, 4 p.m. Snoqualmie Library, 888-1223



Maharakham Storytelling Troupe: Story and Song of N.E. Thailand

Lively stories of wisdom and sanuk (fun) presented by performers from Maharakham University. All ages welcome. Bellevue Regional Library, Thursday, October 24, 7 p.m.; Bothell Regional Library, Monday, October 28, 7 p.m.; Newport Way Library, Tuesday, October 29, 7 p.m.; Federal Way Regional Library, Tuesday, November 5, 7 p.m.

For directions, call your local King County Library System library.

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September

28 Marilyn Hurley
Bimstein: Autumn stories at their best, 11 a.m. Island Books, 3014 78th Ave. SE, Mercer Island, 232-6920.

30 Storyteller Donald Davis tells and signs copies of his books at All for Kids, 2900 NE Blakeley, 4 p.m. 526-2768.



November

2 Cherie Trebon. Cherie returns with new stories to tell, 11 a.m. Island Books, 3014 78th Ave. SE, Mercer Island, 232-6920.

5 Mahasarakham Storytelling Troupe presents story and song of N.E. Thailand, 7 p.m., Federal Way Regional Library.

9 Pat Peterson: Stories to be thankful for, 11 a.m. Island Books, 3014 78th Ave. SE, Mercer Island, 232-6920.

11 Second Mondays on the Hill. Pat Peterson, 7 p.m. See page 5.

16 Kathi Lightstone-Matanovic: Captivating myths and stories, 11 a.m. Island Books, 3014 78th Ave. SE, Mercer Island, 232-6920.

21 Eastside Story 'N Snack, 7 p.m., dessert potluck and story swap. Call Kathy Murphy, 391-4312 for more information.

23 Camille Wooden & Dawn Kuhlman: Two times the fun, 11 a.m. Island Books, 3014 78th Ave. SE, Mercer Island, 232-6920.

28 No Seattle Story 'N Snack. See December 12.



October

14 Barb Stevens-Newcomb, Second Mondays on the Hill, 7 p.m. See page 5.

17 Eastside Story 'N Snack, 7 p.m., dessert potluck and story swap. Call Kathy Murphy, 391-4312 for more information.

24 Mahasarakham Storytelling Troupe presents story and song of N.E. Thailand, 7 p.m., Bellevue Regional Library.

24 Story 'N Snack, dessert potluck and story swap, 7 p.m.. Call Guild, 621-8646 for more information.

28 Mahasarakham Storytelling Troupe presents story and song of N.E. Thailand, 7 p.m., Bothell Regional Library.

29 Mahasarakham Storytelling Troupe presents story and song of N.E. Thailand, 7 p.m., Newport Way Library.



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 • Story 'N Snack Expands to East Side!
 • Starting September 19 and continuing the
 • third Thursday of each month, Issaquah is now
 • home to a new swapping ground. Call Kathy
 • Murphy at 391-4312 for information and directions.
 • See calendar for dates.
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C ❖ A ❖ L ❖ E ❖ N ❖ D ❖ A ❖ R

December



7 Rosemary Adamski:
Enchanting holiday stories old
& new, 11 a.m. Island Books, 3014 78th Ave. SE,
Mercer Island, 232-6920.

9 Holiday Potpourri, Second Mondays on the
Hill, 7 p.m. See page 5.

12 Story 'N Snack, dessert potluck and story
swap, 7 p.m.. Call Guild, 621-8646 for information.

14 Julie Miller: Interactive stories to warm the
heart, 11 a.m. Island Books, 3014 78th Ave. SE,
Mercer Island, 232-6920.

19 Eastside Story 'N Snack, 7 p.m., dessert
potluck and story swap. Call Kathy Murphy, 391-
4312 for more information.



January

16 Eastside Story 'N Snack, 7
p.m., dessert potluck and story swap.
Call Kathy Murphy, 391-4312 for information.

30 Story 'N Snack, dessert potluck and story
swap, 7 p.m.. Call Guild, 621-8646 for information.

Local Author & Storyteller Three Special Christmas Events

This December, Storyteller Debbie Dimitre will be presenting a dramatic telling of the book "Portrait of Mary," written by local author Nikki Grimes. Debbie has chosen the advent season for her presentations, as the piece she will be doing from "Portrait of Mary" is a beautiful retelling of the ancient Christmas story of Jesus Christ told through the eyes of his mother Mary. Each program will be accented by music on the Dulcimer, played by Jane McGrath and will conclude with a book signing session with the author Nikki Grimes.



- Sunday, December 1 at 2 p.m.
For location and more information, call
The Secret Garden, 789-8006.

- Tuesday, December 3 at 7 p.m.,
The University Book Store, Bellevue.

- Saturday, December 7 at 4 p.m.,
Parkplace Book Company in Kirkland.
For more information call 828-6546.

Debbie Dimitre also will be performing for several churches in the Seattle area during the Advent. For more information about dates and times, call Debbie at 823-1081.

Directories Available

If you wish to order a Storytellers Northwest Directory, they are now available for \$3 each. To order, complete and return this form. Make checks payable to Seattle Storytellers' Guild. Mail form and check to Dawn Kuhlman, 921 4th St. S.E., Auburn, WA 98092.

SSG Directory Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Quantity _____ @ \$3 = Total: _____

Seattle Storytellers' Guild
621-8646

President: Camille Wooden (854-2909)
Co-vice presidents:
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Volunteer Coordinator: Avis Jobrack (206/863-5025)

In the Wind is the newsletter of the Seattle Storytellers' Guild, a non-profit organization, and is published quarterly. Membership in the Guild includes a year's subscription. Please check the expiration date on your label. Deadline for the winter 1997 issue is December 1, 1996.

Newsletter design by Nancy Blanton, 937-1343

Membership Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____
Date: _____

- New Renewal
- Individual, \$15
- Family, \$20
- Institutional, \$30
- Donor, \$35
- Lifetime, \$150
- Muse, over \$150
- I am interested in volunteering. Please call me to discuss how I may help.
- Please include my name on mailing list for related events.

Mail to: Seattle Storytellers' Guild, P.O. Box 45532, Seattle, WA 98145-0532.

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