

In the Wind

Norman Kennedy in Concert

**April 30th 3:00 pm
Town Hall
8th and Seneca
Seattle**

The Seattle Storyteller's Guild, Slighe nan Gaidheal, and the Weaving Works, are pleased to present Scottish storyteller and weaver Norman Kennedy for a limited engagement this April.

Kennedy will be facilitating Scottish hand spinning and Tartan weaving workshops at the Weaving Works on the weekend of April 15-16, and again April 22-23.

Additionally, Kennedy will present a storytelling concert and demonstrate waulking on Sunday, April 30, at Town Hall, Eighth and Seneca in downtown Seattle. Doors open at 3 PM. The concert will be a family affair, and is expected to last no more than 3 hours. This is the kick off events for Slighe nan Gaidheal's bi-annual festival, Féis Shiàtail 2000.

Tickets for the concert will be available at the door for \$10 for Slighe nan Gaidheal and Seattle Storyteller's Guild members, \$12 for the general public and \$10 for children under 12.

To begin, Kennedy will demonstrate the ancient process of waulking. After weaving long lengths

of fabric people from a community would gather at a neighbor's home and shrink the fabric so that it would be warmer and more waterproof. Sitting around a long table or board each participant would take the fabric as it was passed along and pound the fabric on the board until the desired effect was achieved. To pass the time, everyone sang waulking songs. These songs have become a unique part of Scotland and Cape Breton's rich cultural heritage.

Originally from Aberdeenshire, Kennedy spent his summers on the Hebridean Island of Barra off the west coast of Scotland. It is here that he collected his stories, most of them handed down through generations in the oral tradition of Celtic society. Norman's style, unique to many on this continent, is the "fireside" style. The stories are woven from a rich cultural fabric that is unique to the Scottish Highlands and Islands. Woven in the exotic tales are the culture, mores and beliefs of a people from ancient times to present.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to see a master traditional teller in concert and share in the rich heritage of Scotland.

To find out more about the concert or to view the agenda of Slighe's festival, which includes storytelling workshops, visit Slighe's website at www.Slighe.com. Information for Weaving workshop can be found at: www.weavingworks.com

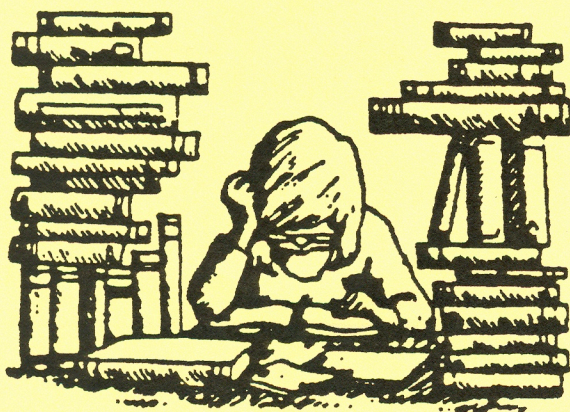
Phone contacts are:

Seattle Storytellers Guild 206-621-8646

Slighe nan Gaidheal 206-903-9452

The Weaving Works 206-524-1221

SOURCES: ABOUT STORIES AND THE FOLKS WHO TELL THEM



By **Margaret Read MacDonald**,
King County Library System

Last spring I was asked by Mark DuBois, of Earth Day 2000, if there would be some way I could encourage storytelling events in honor of Earth Day. I was already at work on a collection of folktales about our relationship to the earth, so this idea intrigued me. The National Storytelling Network agreed to run articles announcing an Earth Day 2000 Storytelling and listing the event sites. I am pleased that the Seattle Storyteller's Guild will be one of those sites. For a listing of many Earth Day 2000 storytelling events see the NSN website.

Once I began looking for suitable Earth Day material, I stumbled and staggered into many useful collections. Here are some of my favorites.

Earthtales: Storytelling in Times of Change by Alida Gershie. London: Greenprint, 1992. An extensive collection of well-chosen tales. Useful as a storytelling source. I had to order it through inter-library loan.

Family of Earth and Sky: Indigenous Tales of Nature from Around the World by John Elder and Hertha D. Wong. Boston: Beacon Press, 1994. A widely-ranging collection, not necessarily tellable, but thought-provoking.

Hidden Stories in Plants: Unusual and Easy-to-tell Stories from Around the World Together with Creative Things to Do While Telling Them by Anne Pellowski. New York: MacMillan, 1990.

The Language of the Birds by David M. Guss. San Francisco: North Point Press, 1985. Guss includes poetry, essays, and folklore in this thoughtful collection. You might not find tellable material here, but will gain from experiencing the book.

Myths of the Sacred Tree by Moyra Cladecoot. Rochester, New Vt.: Destiny Books, 1993. Cladecoot is interested in the mythological meanings of tree, her stories go deep, and will interest those who tell primarily to adult listeners.

The Rain Forest Storybook: Traditional Stories from the Peoples of South America, Africa, and SouthEast Asia by Rosalind Kervin. Cambridge University Press, 1994.

Great collection of exciting tales. I ordered my own copy through Amazon.com. It's available in paperback. A good addition to any elementary teacher's personal library.

Spinning Tales, Weaving Hope: Stories of Peace, Justice and the Environment by Ed Brody, Jay Goldspinner, Katie Green, Rona Leventhal, and John Porcino of Stories for World Change Network. Philadelphia, Pa.: New Society Publishers, 1992. Favorite tales for telling contributed by professional storytellers.

My own collection, *Earth Care: World Folktales to Talk About* (Linnet Books, 1999) is designed as a companion to my *Peace Tales: World Folktales to Talk About*. All the tales in *Earth Care* are chosen because they make some point about man's relationship to the earth. The book is reviewed elsewhere in this newsletter.

EARTH CARE: WORLD FOLKTALES TO TALK ABOUT

by **Margaret Read MacDonald**

Linnett Books 1999

Reviewed by Pat Peterson

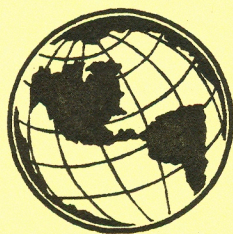
I had the pleasure of reading **EARTH CARE** during a long weekend on the Olympic Peninsula. It was one of those spring weekends that provides every kind of weather so there was time to read a few of the folktales and then scurry outside for a walk in the woods before another rainshower developed.

The folktales, fables, poems and proverbs are as relevant as today's newspaper headlines. We have much to learn about our relationship with nature and **EARTH CARE** provides material to get us started by retelling the tales. The stories come from people the world over and remind us to care for the earth and in doing so, we care for the people on it. We are not the first to wish a quick profit and instant gratification. We are not the only ones who dismiss the long-range results of our actions. Cultures world wide and far back in time have said, "Be careful---Be respectful of the Earth...Care for her...Listen and look...Think of those who are yet to come..."

The book is divided into sections on caring for the land, forests and wetlands, caring for our creatures, how all things are connected, the folly of human greed and planning for the future. Each of the folktales is followed by a proverb. As we have come to expect with this fine author, the end of the book provides us with Tale Collections with Ecological Themes, More Ecological Tales of Tell or Read Aloud and Tale Notes.

EARTH CARE is a wonderful companion to **PEACE TALES** by the same publisher.

Margaret Read MacDonald will be telling stories from the book and autographing copies at the April membership meeting of the Seattle Storyteller's Guild, on April 11 at 7 p.m. at All for Kids Bookstore.



Monthly Membership Meetings

Second Tuesdays of the month

7 p.m. at All For Kids Bookstore

2900 N.E. Blakeley

Seattle 206-526-2768

APRIL 11

Perhaps showers and an early celebration of Earth Day.

Margaret Read MacDonald tells from her book **EARTH CARE**.

Please bring a story to honor the earth if you wish to tell at the open mike.

MAY 9

MOTHERS AND OTHERS-The women in our lives.

Sharon Creeden will tell stories of women in their prime from her book **IN FULL BLOOM** and will be joined by others. Bring a remembrance of a special woman in your life to share at open mike.

JUNE 13

TALES FOR A SUMMER NIGHT with talented guest tellers from the Mt. Tahoma Storyteller's Guild

Mary Miroslavichwicker, along with her harp, and **Renee Diaz de Leon**.

The Calendar

April 11 -- Membership Meeting

April 21 -- Margaret Read MacDonald tells
Stories for Our Earth

11:00 a.m. for Pre-school kids,

6:30 p.m. for adults at

Third Place Books

April 22 -- Margaret Read MacDonald tells
Stories for Earth Day at
Elliot Bay Books

April 30 -- Norman Kennedy in Concert

May 3 -- Storytelling Classes with Cherie Trebon (3
consecutive Wednesdays)

May 9 -- Membership Meeting

May 26, 27, 28, and 29 -- Folklife Festival

June 4 -- Annual meeting and Potluck

June 10 -- Biblical Storytelling workshop

June 13 -- Membership Meeting

Gene Frieze Scholarship

Applications due: May 15, 2000

The Seattle Storytellers' Guild is pleased to announce the 2000 Gene Frieze Scholarship process.

The award of \$100.00 may be used to attend any storytelling conference, workshop, or class. If selected, the person must provide the SSG Board with proof of your use of the scholarship (registration receipt, ticket stub, etc.)

To qualify for this scholarship you must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a resident of Washington or Oregon,
2. Be a member of a storytelling Guild in Washington or Oregon or the National Storytelling Network,
3. Provide all the information required, and,
4. Send your application to the Seattle storytellers Guild, attention Gene Frieze scholarship committee, Post Office Box 45532, Seattle, Washington 98145-0532. The application must be postmarked by May 15, 2000.

Your application must include all of the following information:

1. Your name, address, phone number and the storytelling Guild you belong to,
2. Your storytelling experience apprentices beginners are encouraged to apply),
3. How you would like to use the scholarship money, i.e., a description of the events, workshop, convention, class, Festival. Please limit your description to 300 words.

Interagency School Seeks Volunteer Storytellers

Interagency School is a group of nine public school programs in the Seattle area that bring multiple services to high-risk middle and high school students. Programming which integrates the arts, especially storytelling and drama, is the kind of teaching strategy that resonates with these students. Students at Interagency School are predominantly multi-cultural, have varying levels of ability and multiple needs, and have not

been successful in traditional educational settings. But the oral tradition is a strength from which they draw. There is a need and opportunity for volunteer storytellers to work with these students. Interagency School is interested in one-time visits, adoption of a site by a storyteller or an integrated residency where teachers and storytellers collaborate in developing curriculum/lessons. The opportunity for storytellers is to provide a community service and gain skills and experiences in working with at-risk students. For more information call Deborah Moffit, Interagency Project Coordinator at (206) 726-6740.

Stories in the Air



Storytelling on live radio lives! KSER 90.7 FM's weekly program of stories and music from around the world, GLOBAL GRIOT, airs every Sunday from 8 – 11 a.m. The program is hosted by Mary Miroslavichwicker and Aarene Storms.

Some great telling was heard recently told by many of our own. Linda Cummings-Scott, Lenore Jackson, Terra Lea Allen, Dunc Shields from Vancouver, B.C. dropped by, and Marilyn Milnor. Marilyn even got a mention in the Everett Herald!

It is an open invitation: please contact Mary at marystoriesmusic@excite.com or 360-568-3320 or toll free at Mary's dayjob 1-888-240-8572.

We have Walkin' Jim Stoltz due in on April 16 and composer/performer extraordinaire, Harper Tasche on April 30's program. Listen or tell but JOIN US!

STORYTELLING CLASSES

North Seattle Community College Continuing Education Department will again offer a beginning storytelling class taught by storyteller and SSG board member, Cherie Trebon. This interactive series, now in its third year, covers the basics of storytelling including storytelling dynamics, voice control, choosing and learning a tale, and elements of performing. Strengthen your ability to express yourself with power and sensitivity while learning to create verbal magic out of special memories or a treasured folktale. Add vitality to public speaking, teaching, and conversation. Sweaty palms and stomach butterflies can enhance, not inhibit, the natural storyteller within you.

Three consecutive Wednesday evenings beginning May 3, 2000; 6:30-9:00 p.m.; \$45.00. Register by calling: 206-516-2955 or 206-527-3705.

FOLKLIFE

Storytelling and the Seattle Storyteller's Guild will be well represented at the Northwest Folklife Festival on Memorial Day Weekend, May 26th through May 29th. Friday evening will feature the **Storyteller's Showcase** featuring adult storytelling. This is a great opportunity to see some of the Northwest's finest tellers and the Friday evening venue means you can do so and beat the crowds that form as the festival progresses. Saturday evening the Folklife favorite **Tall Tales Contest** (referred to by some non-believers as the "Liar's Contest") will be held. And Sunday a special concert of **World Folktales** will be presented for listeners of all ages. Additional storytelling for children will take place throughout the weekend on the children's stage. All events are free. Treat yourself, your family and friends to some great entertainment. Check the Folklife program for times and places. The program is available in the Seattle Weekly the week prior to the festival and is also available at the Seattle Center where all events are held.

The schedule will be available at www.nwfolklife.org/folklife/.

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 4th, 2:00 p.m., for the annual meeting and election of officers of the Seattle Storytellers Guild. All members and guests are welcome and encouraged to attend. A potluck supper and story swap will follow the short meeting, which will be held at the home of Cherie Trebon. For driving instructions and other information, please call 206-525-0382.

WANTED: Board Members Could this Be You?

The Seattle Storytellers Guild is looking for individuals to fill vacating positions on its Board. The Guild, as do all nonprofit organizations, relies on volunteers to guide its business and direction. Qualifications for Board members include a love of storytelling (you don't have to be a storyteller though), good ideas, great enthusiasm, willingness to take on a little extra work, and a desire to launch the Guild into the new millennium. Previous board experience is not required. To be considered for a position you should be an active member of the Seattle Storytellers Guild.

All positions are open for election and are held for one year, beginning in June. Positions include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership, Newsletter Editor, Folklife Coordinator, Publicity, Volunteer Coordinator, and Members-at-large. Board members take an active part in the events of the Guild and are asked to attend monthly meetings. This is a great way to get involved in the storytelling community. If you are interested please send a letter of interest including you're first choice for board position by June 1st. If you need more information call the Guild number, leave a message, and someone will return your call.

PREMIER BIBLICAL STORYTELLER TO LEAD WORKSHOP IN SEATTLE

World traveled biblical storyteller Dennis Dewey will lead a workshop for anyone wanting to learn techniques for internalizing and telling the story and desiring to experience "The Pentecost Power of the Biblical Story."

Dennis Dewey is a full time Biblical Storyteller and Ambassador for the International Network of Biblical Storytellers (NOBS). For over 15 years he has toured extensively, performing and teaching Biblical Storytelling all over the United States, and Canada as well as in Europe, New Zealand, Australia, Korea, and Israel. Dennis was a special guest at the National Storytelling Festival and at the Joseph Campbell Festival. He is an ordained Presbyterian clergy from New York, whose calling and ministry is storytelling.

When: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Saturday, June 10

Where: St Joseph Roman Catholic Church
732 18th Ave. E. & Aloha
Capitol Hill neighborhood of Seattle
Free parking in church lot off 19th Ave
Social Hall lower level off parking lot

Registration Cost: \$40 per person

Sponsored by: Puget Sound Network of Biblical Storytellers

A Guild of the International Network of Biblical Storytellers

To register, please write check for \$40 made out to Puget Sound NOBS & send to:

Weldon Nisly,
Seattle Mennonite Church,
3120 NE 125th Street,
Seattle, WA 98125.

Telephone 206-361-4630

COMING EVENTS

Bay Area Storytelling Festival May 20 – 21

Kennedy Grove

Tel: 510-525-1533

650-952-3397

Tellagain@aol.com

National Storytelling Conference July 12 – 16

Kingsport, TN

For a full schedule, check

<http://www.storynet.org>

Tel: 1-800-525-4514

StoryFest International August 17 - 19

The King County Library System is sponsoring a free two-day storytelling festival at locations in Bellevue and Kent. Storytelling programs will precede the Festival on August 17th in twenty-one King County Libraries.

Featured storytellers include: David Novak, Diane Ferlatte, Olga Loya, Tim Jennings & Leanne Ponder, Jocelyn Berube, Makio Malo, Kazako Furuya, Billy Seago. Locations and times will be announced later this spring.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ruth Bacharach, Managing Librarian, Bothell Library at 425-486-7811.

In July, the King County Library System will mail program booklets to all Seattle Storytellers' Guild members. Hope to see you in August!

STORY CIRCLES

Raintales Story Swap

...*Change of day*...

Share favorite stories, try out new ones and get to know other tellers of all levels in a supportive, informal meeting:

Fourth **Monday** of the month, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
2125 First Avenue West

Call Lenore Jackson at 206-284-2976

Mukilteo Story Circle

Story Circle in Mukilteo sponsored by the Mukilteo Library meets the 3rd Monday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Call 425-493-8202 (Aarene) or 425-353-7410 (Eileen).

Tale Traders

This story circle meets on the 3rd Thursday in Issaquah from 7:00-9:00 p.m. If you love storytelling and are looking for an informal place to share stories and network, please come and join us.

Call 425-391-4312 for directions.

Kitsap Story Circle

Experienced and novice tellers are equally welcomed. The Circle meets on the first Tuesday of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at

9702 Sands Ave. N.E.
Bainbridge Island

Call 206-842-5293 (Alyson) or 206-842-4562 (Ed).

Sorry if we didn't list your event. To be included in the Summer 2000 edition, send your information to the editor prior to June 15.

NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK NEWS

Storytelling Research Grant Applications Due May 1

If you're involved in research that focuses on the value of storytelling, then you may want to apply for a Storytelling Research Grant sponsored by the National Storytelling Network. The application is available for download on Storynet www.storynet.org. You may also call 1-800-525-4514, or fax a request to 423-753-9331, or e-mail to nsn@naxs.net.

To apply, return the application, a one-page resume and a description of the project with method of evaluation, a statement of budget needs, and a timetable for the project's completion.

Mail five copies of the materials to the NSN office by May 1, 2000. No faxes or electronic submissions will be accepted.

Conference Scholarships Available

Each year two scholarships are presented to recipients based on work in the storytelling field and demonstrated need.

The scholarships constitute a waiver of the Conference registration fee.

To apply, candidates should submit a letter describing the following: 1) work they've already done in storytelling; 2) length of time they've been involved in this work; 3) what effect they expect attending the Conference on their work; and 4) why the scholarship is needed to attend the conference.

Applications may be submitted by fax to 423-753-9331; by e-mail to nsn@naxs.net; or by ground mail to NSN office. Application deadline is May 1, 2000.

Seattle Storytellers' Guild 1999 - 2000 Board

President - John Clauson, 425-277-5090
Secretary - Marilyn Milnor, 206-322-7330
Treasurer - Cherie Trebon, 206-525-0382
Publicity - Linda Cummings, 425-702-4723
Membership - Debra Harris-Branham, 206-772-0415
Member at Large - Lenore Jackson, 206-284-2976
Member at Large - Suzy Irwin, 206-784-0704
Newsletter Editor - Pat Peterson, 206-935-5308

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.

Call the Guild at 206-621-8646 for updated information on Guild events.

Newsletter articles and comments should be directed to:
patpeterson@Home.com
Summer issue deadline is June 15, 2000

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____

Zipcode: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Today's Date: _____

NEW _____ Individual, \$20. _____

RENEWAL _____ Family, \$30. _____

Institutional, \$35. _____

In the Wind

Seattle Storytellers Guild
P.O.Box 45532
Seattle, WA 98145-0532

First Class Mail