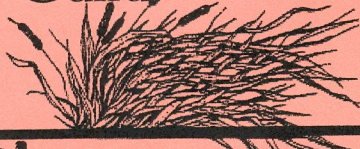


# Seattle Storytellers Guild



## F orest Storytelling Festival - October 20-22

By Cherie Trebon



The 12<sup>th</sup> annual Forest Storytelling Festival is fast approaching. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Peninsula College, all events will be held on campus, most in their fine Little Theatre. Once again we will have a Silent Auction and donated items are greatly appreciated.

Your treasures can be related to storytelling (perhaps a recording or book), an item of jewelry, piece of folk art, ethnic clothing, puppets, or any other quality items. Volunteer assistance is critical to the success of the festival. Volunteers are still needed as food service helpers, registration helpers, raffle ticket sellers, ushers, and a silent auction assistant. None of these volunteer opportunities will prevent you from full participation in festival events. Please call 360-417-5031 to volunteer an hour or so of your time

Our great lineup of featured tellers includes:

**Jay O'Callahan** North America's best-known storyteller, Jay O'Callahan takes a bare stage and transforms it into a world filled with compelling characters. The hallmark of his talent is the passion he brings to big and small dramas of ordinary life. A masterful use of character voices, gestures, and fine acting bring the characters in his stories to life and leave the audience spellbound.

**Liz Weir** Liz Weir is a Senachie, a classic Irish storyteller from Northern Ireland. Internationally known, Liz will spin classic folktales that serve not only to entertain, but also often result in cross-cultural understanding.

**Sky Shivers** Back by popular demand is Sky Shivers, a favorite Western storyteller and humorist. Sky can make a "true" story even truer and will keep listeners riveted to their seats or rolling with laughter.

**Cathryn Wellner** Drawing on her experiences as a librarian, farmer, rancher, urbanite, and community development consultant, Cathryn Wellner weaves

# In the Wind

folktales, songs, and personal stories that are filled with the joys, sorrows, absurdities, and marvels of life.

**Tom Rawson** Seattle based folksinger and storyteller Tom Rawson brings stories, songs, and acoustic folk philosophy. Armed with a long necked banjo, guitar, and other weapons of mass delight, he has the ability to turn strangers into family, a family of song.

**Rebecca Hom** For 20 years Rebecca Hom has been telling stories from many cultures collected in 30 years of adventures. Her passion and sensitivity for both the story and the audience enables her to connect deeply with her listeners.

The Festival runs from Friday evening through Sunday, and offers concerts, storyswaps, and workshops. Full festival passes are \$60.00 before October 1<sup>st</sup> \$70.00 thereafter. Individual event fees vary and are listed on our website: [www.dancingleaves.com/storypeople](http://www.dancingleaves.com/storypeople). To request a brochure or to register please contact [forestfest@yahoo.com](mailto:forestfest@yahoo.com) or call, 360-417-5031.

## Tellabration!

by Marilyn Milnor

All For Kids Bookstore  
2900 NE Blakeley, Seattle  
[www.allforkidsbooks.com](http://www.allforkidsbooks.com)  
Saturday, November 18, 7pm

This year Tellabration will be a family affair — both children and adults are welcome. In fact, our Tellabration is ALL about children this year! The event is held in All for Kids Bookstore's special events room, where the walls are decorated with drawings and signatures of childrens' books creators. A donation from the proceeds from this event will go to Childrens' Hospital.

Our theme is "Gratitude for Gifts" and we welcome you to come and celebrate with us. We have exciting tellers lined up including the fabulous Naomi Baltuck & family; the Guild's own co-President, the dynamic Jill Johnson; and the soothing Allison Cox, renowned teller of stories that nurture and promote healing. And specially featured this year — musical interludes by the incomparable Mary Brugh on her fiddle.

Fresh baked goodies by professional baker and Guild member Phyllis Franklin will be served.

Ticket prices: \$8.00 for Guild members; \$10.00 for nonmembers; and \$15 for families.





# The National Storytelling Network's 2006 Conference held in Pittsburgh, PA

By Marilyn Milnor



The theme of this year's Conference was "The Storytelling Community." Presentations were geared to explore what community is, who is part of it and what are its limits.

Choices, choices, choices! Particularly since the conference time was shortened by one day this year, many things were scheduled at the same time. What to choose? You could go on a walking tour of the downtown with its many unusual buildings and fountains – from modern to the 1800s. Or you could take a walk in the park with its historic block house and museum. Both were led by local storytellers. Or you could tell at a storyswap, view a fringe performance, attend a meeting, go to a workshop, eat lunch, snack in the hospitality room, visit with fellow storytellers, watch a video in the video room, browse through the book store, check out the trade show items, bid on the silent auction, browse the Guild displays . . . and many more.

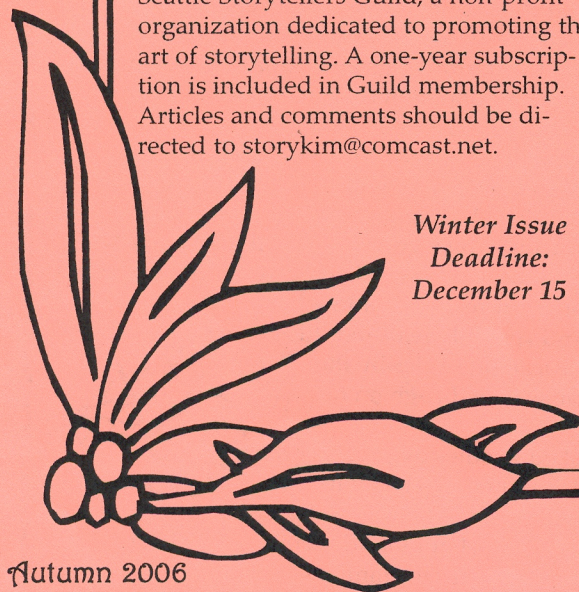
## *In The Wind*

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Mary Brugh, Judith Alexander, Jourdan  
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In the Wind is published quarterly by the Seattle Storytellers Guild, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the art of storytelling. A one-year subscription is included in Guild membership. Articles and comments should be directed to [storykim@comcast.net](mailto:storykim@comcast.net).

Winter Issue  
Deadline:  
December 15



Autumn 2006

Some of the highlights of NSN Conference:

Events started out at the acclaimed children's museum. We romped through Mr. Roger's Neighborhood, ate great food, watched presentations and engaged with interactive cutting-edge exhibits. The beloved TV show, Mr. Rogers, was filmed in Pittsburgh. A panel from the show told stories, and showed film clips. One clip was of our own Gay Ducey's appearance on the show as, of all things, a storyteller!

Also featured was nationally recognized documentary film maker, Rick Sebak, who shows people stories. Rick, also from Pittsburgh, showed clips of his work and told us how he did it.

There were many excellent workshops. Some of the most memorable were Doug Lipman's, how to create a community of our supporters; authors Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss on children telling stories; Chris King on a professional looking web site, Nancy Donoval, on your marketable brand; author Elisa Pearmain on storytelling to prevent bullying in schools; impersonator Randel McGee; I could go on and on.

The Regional concert treated us to a variety of local tellers including Jane Crouse telling a folktale about the importance of storytelling, Linda Goodman telling a wonderful Appalachian tale and Arianna Ross telling a heartwarming personal story.

The Sunday concert had such biggies as Gay Ducey, Dan Keding, Bil Lepp, Donna Washington and Dan Yashinsky. Wow!

The Fringe was excellent. Some I saw: Cathryn Fairlee was Henry the VIII's last wife, Queen Kathryn Parr, the only one who outlived Henry; I laughed and cried as Yvonne Healy told of her Irish relatives; Joan Leotta showed us her work in progress as a civil war nurse and asked for feedback; and Judith Black was hilarious as well as profound in her presentation on "the Crone."

But the best thing of all was meeting old friends, making new ones and comparing notes with other storytellers. I came away from the Conference filled.



## *Our region well represented in the NSN*

Check out the latest National Storytelling Organization's colorful, informative and beautiful magazine, Storytelling, and you will see that the Pacific Northwest is well represented! Read the article by Allison Cox and peruse yet another tribute to our own Vi Hilbert.

If you're not a member of NSN, we encourage you to join. For one thing, you'll receive their great magazine. You can get more info on their website, [www.storynet.org](http://www.storynet.org).



## Changes—*In the Wind* - Notes from the President

by Marilyn Milnor

When our former president, Pat Peterson, announced she was stepping down, Jill Johnson and I, as long time Guild Board members, agreed to serve as the Guild's co-Presidents.

First of all we want to thank Pat for the excellent job she did. We are so grateful for all the wonderful contributions she made. She will be missed. We wish her all the best in her new endeavors.

The days are getting shorter and the evenings nippier, as Jill and I begin the fall season as co-Presidents with both excitement and deep conscientiousness. Excitement because we want to make the Guild the best it can be; deep conscientiousness because we want to do the best job we can. We want to see the Guild grow and prosper. As such we would like your feedback. As you can see from this newsletter, we have a vibrant storytelling community here in the Pacific Northwest. We know you have great ideas! We invite comments and suggestions from you as to how we can improve the Guild and take care of our members.

We would love to have you join us at our two regular monthly events, the Storyswap at All For Kids Bookstore, on the second Friday of the month, 7:00 pm (come to listen or to share a story) and our event at Ravenna Third Place Books featuring a special storyteller, on the last Thursday of the month, 7:30 pm. And of course at our upcoming workshops and special events.

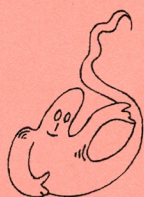
Hope to see you there. . .



## Scary Stories for BRAVE Listeners

Storytellers from KSER Radio will tell frightening, yucky, and true tales of ghosts and hauntings, followed by an open mike for storytellers with a scary tale to tell.

This program is NOT recommended for young or timid children. Refreshments will be served...to survivors...



Saturday, Oct. 14, 7:30 pm Zippy's Java Lounge  
Monday, Oct. 23, 7:00 pm, Shoreline Library  
Friday, Oct 27, TBA, Crossroads Mall, Bellevue  
Saturday, Oct 28, 7:00 pm, Third Place Commons,  
Lake Forest Park  
Monday, Oct. 30, 7pm Richmond Beach Library

For more information about these programs, please email aarenex@comcast.net or call (425) 318-2493

## KSER Radio's Global Griots



tell stories for adults and kids, followed by an open mike for audience members with a tale to tell, the 2nd Saturday of each month at Zippy's Java Lounge, 1804 Hewitt Ave., in downtown Everett. For more information, contact Jim or Aarene at (425)318-2493 or email aarenex@comcast.net.

AND listen to KSER90.7 FM every Sunday morning, 8-11 am, or online at [www.kser.org](http://www.kser.org), for 3 hours of stories, music, poetry, culture and myths from around the world. If you are interested in performing stories live on the radio, contact the program hosts at [globalgriot@yahoo.com](mailto:globalgriot@yahoo.com).

## POSTER HANGING MADE EASY

by Virginia Rankin

We are still looking for folks to hang posters in targeted areas advertising storytelling events. You don't need to live in the area. I'll assign you a street, like "The Ave" in the U district, or 45<sup>th</sup> in Wallingford, & you start at one end and work your way to the other, visiting all the likely spots along the way - cafes, coffee houses, etc.

Some will have display areas for posters; others will not. You'll make a list of the ones that do, and that will save the next poster hanger some time.

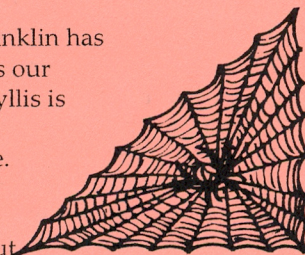
It's fun to see the inside of these places - the ambience, the food. You can treat yourself as a reward for a job well done by returning to the most tempting one, or stop along the way for sustenance.

If you are willing to donate an hour or two to help increase the visibility of the Seattle Storytellers Guild, while having a bit of an adventure, contact Virginia Rankin at 206-525-6436, or [varankin@comcast.net](mailto:varankin@comcast.net). I'll give you lots of tips to make the job simple and fun.

## Yay! A Website Coordinator Helps Get the Words on the Web

Guild member Phyllis Franklin has stepped up to the Web! She is our new website coordinator. Phyllis is in charge of getting timely information onto our website. Are you telling or going to a storytelling event and want the community to know about it before it can get into the newsletter? Send Phyllis an email ([bakerphyl@quidnunc.net](mailto:bakerphyl@quidnunc.net)) with what/when/where/who/how much, and she'll make sure your event gets posted on our online calendar. Deadline is the 15th of the month previous to the event.

Thank you Phyllis for filling this important position!



*In the Wind*



## Member Spotlights

### *Seattle Storyteller Tells in Europe*

Guild Member Judith Alexander will be participating in Storytelling Days in Munich, Germany from October 21 through 29, as one of a half dozen tellers during an "International Evening of Storytelling," as well as in a program at Amerika Haus called "Old Stories from a New Land." The ten-day event is being advertised through traveling tellers (with a mule!) earning their board and lodging in Southern Bavaria for two weeks in September, and a Pied-Piper-like action, involving children being picked up by "Piper Mike" and other storytellers from their schools or daycare and brought to a central location to hear stories.



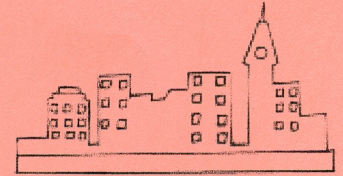
During the ten days, there will be Middle Eastern stories told in an oriental carpet store, Greek myths told in a Greek Orthodox Church, stories told in hairdressing salons, Egyptian myths in the Antiquities Museum and tales told in parks and cemeteries.

One night we'll see a Storytelling Duel, where two tellers will each tell a love story, a wisdom story and a "Three-Minute Story;" during the intermission, the audience votes (with a paper flower in a marked ballot box) for their favorite, and the winner tells the "good-night" story. There are over 100 events planned before, during and after the Storytelling Days.

### *Seattle's Poet Populist Teaches Storytelling*

Poet, storyteller and Guild member Jourdan Keith was elected Seattle's 2006-2007 Poet Populist. Her work connects storytelling and poetry to the natural world and gives voice to marginalized communities.

She says, "It is an honor to be Seattle's Poet Populist because it connects me to the traditional role that Griots held in civic life. Through the Urban Wilderness Project, I offer a program called Griot Works™ that trains poets and storytellers, because I believe it is critical to learn to keep our cultural and political history through the oral tradition. I see poetry as a tool to enlighten and engage community and when necessary to defend and heal our spirits; this is what I learned by coming through the word womb of my mothers: Sonia Sanchez, Audre Lorde and others."



The next Griot Works™ workshops take place on eight Tuesdays, September 26 -November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Cal Anderson Park Shelter near 11<sup>th</sup> and Pine Street in Seattle. Please call 206-579-5848 to register. This storytelling and performance training is intended to bring environmentally and culturally based storytelling to the community as a restoration tool. Therefore, training is linked to community performance. Each week workshop participants are invited to share stories as part of the service-learning exchange. Tuesdays between 5-5:30 we perform and/or Wednesday 3:45- 4:45 . Performances are for young people displaced by homelessness.

For more information on the Urban Wilderness Project and Jourdan's work, see [www.urbanwilderness.org](http://www.urbanwilderness.org).

### **FANNING THE EMBERS:** *an Event Review by Mary Brugh*

Fanning the Embers, organized by Rebecca Hom (Olympia) and Lynne Duddy (Portland) grew out of a half-day gathering in a Tacoma park of storytellers in the summer of 2005. This year we met in July at the lovely St. Andrew's Retreat Center on Hood Canal. Thirty storytellers attended from Oregon and Washington, storytelling, networking, hiking and relaxing. Food was plentiful, healthy and delicious. There was storytelling on Friday evening, Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Organized networking included group discussion of Guilds - strengths, weaknesses, problems, etc., another on The Art of Storytelling and the value of what we do.

Jill Johnson gave a short presentation/workshop on the process she used to mine local and regional history to create her story of Berte Olson, "Little, But Oh My."

On Saturday morning we got loosened up and uninhibited with some theater games led by Rick Huddle.

The stories told throughout the weekend were a wonderful mix of personal and traditional stories. Some were told outside on the deck and others inside in the great room.

Everyone agreed this was a refreshing and inspiring weekend that got our storytelling adrenalin going.

Fanning the Embers 2007 will be held on Aug. 3-5, again at St. Andrew's Retreat Center. There will be space for a limited number of attendees, so if this looks interesting to you, stay tuned to your Newsletter for more details.





## Editors Note ... by Kim Pearson

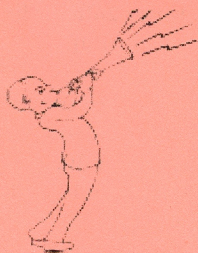
As the new Editor of *In The Wind*, I'd like to make this an interactive experience -- for me and you.

Please feel free to email me with your thoughts, ideas, opinions, and especially I'd like to hear you *toot your own horn* with regard to storytelling.

Do you tell great stories, make people laugh and cry? How do you do it? Do you have a tip or technique you'd like to share? Did you attend a great storytelling event? Tell us about it. What has storytelling meant to you in your life? Inspire us!

I'd love to feature you on Member Spotlight (see page 4.) See your words and your deeds in print!

Email me at [storykim@comcast.net](mailto:storykim@comcast.net)



## From The Storyteller's Mouth

a conversation with Jill Johnson by Kim Pearson

The Guild's new co-president, Jill Johnson, has performed and given workshops in Washington, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and overseas. A National Storytelling Competition finalist in Hillsboro, Ohio, Jill has been a featured performer with Humanities Washington and recently visited Africa, performing and giving workshops in Cameroon and South Africa. Her one woman show, "Little, But Oh My!" depicts the life of Berte Olson, the first woman ferry boat captain on Puget Sound.

### When did you start storytelling?

"I started in a deliberate way in 1996 when I moved to Jonesborough, Tennessee, the home of the National Storytelling Festival. Storytelling is a big deal there, so I got interested and joined the Jonesborough Storytelling Guild, probably one of the most active guilds in the country. They met and performed regularly, usually once a week at a restaurant downtown, plus other events in churches and for groups. Because they provided so much practice, support and encouragement, they had some mighty good tellers.

The first time I told a story in Jonesborough, I tell you, I was scared out of my head -- my knees were like jelly, my mouth full of cotton. This despite the fact that I had majored in theatre in college and was used to performing, plus I'd had a career as a teacher and trainer. But I hadn't been involved in the arts for years, and storytelling was new to me.

It would make a good story if I could say that this first attempt was a triumph, but the truth was that although I didn't bomb totally, I almost did. I got sort of a lukewarm

response. That's because I didn't know one of the basics of good storytelling -- you have to "get" your audience. Don't tell city stories to a group of farmers, in other words. It took me a long time to "get" the Jonesborough audience."

### What helped you become the storyteller you are today?

"The Jonesborough Guild taught me the best way to learn how to be a storyteller -- by doing it. And doing it again. Even if you think you're going to bomb. A support team, such as a guild, is so important. You'll receive hints and guidance, as well sympathy and encouragement. You can learn in a safe place. That's what I want the Seattle Storytellers Guild to be for all the tellers in our area -- a place to get that all-important support.

Another thing I learned, from my mentor Elizabeth Ellis, was the importance of having a foundation in traditional folktales. Elizabeth told me to read every folk tale I could get my hands on, and learn the traditional ways of storytelling, from as many cultures as I could. These tales already have a structure; they've been honed and re-honed for hundreds of years, so they have that framework that you desperately need as a beginning storyteller."

### Do you have favorite stories?

"I don't think I have favorite stories. I tend to tell stories on the serious side -- I love funny stories, but I've accepted that's just not my forte. I tell historical stories, stories about strong women, or about the environment -- stories that make you think. I guess I would say my favorite story is whichever one I happen to be working on at the moment. That's the one that I'm excited about, involved in, even wallowing in."



### What are your storytelling goals?

"I want my stories to entertain, teach, inspire, reveal, and especially connect. I want my audiences to not only hear my story, but at the same time discover their own."

### What's one of your best storytelling memories?

"I remember the very first performance of *Little But Oh My*. In the audience that evening were 20 members of Berte Olson's family, including her only surviving son, Ivan. At the end of the performance, I brought them all on stage with me to take a bow, and be introduced to the audience. After the applause had died down, I turned to Ivan and said, "So Ivan, how'd you like the show?" And he said, "Oh, I don't know how you did it -- you made my mother come alive again!"

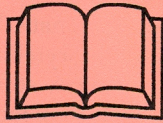
Now it just doesn't get any better than that."



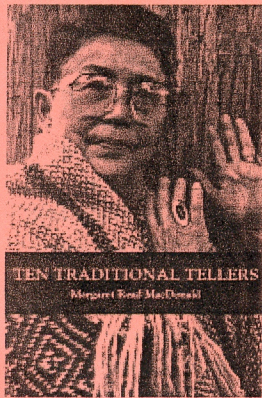
## Ten Traditional Tellers

by Margaret Read MacDonald

a review by Jill Johnson



This book, published by University of Illinois Press, is quite unlike many of MRM's other storytelling books. Years in the making, it was published only after constant pressure from the author - who is dedicated to bringing the stories of traditional tellers from all over the world to light.



It begins with a cover photo - the most beautiful photo of our own Vi Hilbert that I have ever seen - and one which perfectly captures what this book is all about. Inside are carefully drawn portraits and stories of ten tellers from Alaska, Tibet, Brazil, Thailand, Liberia, Hawaii, New Caledonia, Ghana, and our own Chehalis and Skagit cultures.

The format is a major strength of the book. Each article begins with a photo and a quote - a nice touch which pushes the reader to

approach what's coming in a reflective way. Then, there is background material on the culture - short and sweet, but very necessary - followed by background material on the teller, an interview, and then - the stories. By the time we get to the stories themselves, we have such a rich background of information that it deepens our enjoyment fourfold.

Throughout the book, the care and precision evident in the writing are perfect demonstrations of the way a skilled folklorist goes about recording and presenting material.

Following the articles on the ten tellers, there is a chapter devoted to teller motivation; a discussion of WHY each of these performers continues to do this work. I was startled at the variety of responses: for example, some began telling quite by accident; others were carefully trained in a "classic" tradition. The final chapter is an intriguing discussion of what makes a "traditional" teller with descriptions of several (sometimes conflicting) points of view.

Any serious student of traditional storytelling or cultural history or anthropology will find much to delight in on these pages. For this is no dry, academic tome. MRM has had too many years of writing lively, colorful material for her readers to sink into that hole; this book is FUN to read!

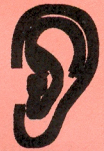
### COME TO THE STORY SWAP

Practice your storytelling skills by sharing your stories! Listen to works-in-progress from other storytellers! Everyone -- tellers and listeners alike -- are welcome.

Second Fridays, 7:00 pm  
All For Kids Bookstore  
2900 NE Blakeley, Seattle  
206-526-2768

Autumn 2006

Storytelling at  
Ravenna Third Place  
6505 20th Ave. NE  
206-525-2347  
Last Thursday, 7:30 pm



### October 26th — Rebecca Hom

Rebecca Hom has been telling stories for many years. She is a very personable teller reaching into the depths of your soul touching true meanings - a worthwhile evening indeed! Come and enjoy!

### November 30th — Pat Peterson

During that busy time between Thanksgiving and the Holidays, gift yourself with an evening of stories ... Travel back in time to the early '60's and meet a remarkable woman in Greenwich Village. Journey alongside an unconventional mother and her timid son as they risk it all for the joy of a quest. And there may be a new tale as well. Are these stories true?—or possible? You decide. For a brief time, we will be transported around the world, back in time, away from present cares and concerns on the wings of words, love and laughter. At the end, we will all be slightly changed. Such is the power of story.

### December 28th — Debbie Dimitre

Please join us for Northwest storyteller Debbie Dimitre sharing a delightful program called: "A Patch-Work of Favorite Christmas Tales," a collage of stories that are sure to touch the heart and warm the spirit. While Debbie is best known for her historic docu-ramas in which she brings different women in history to life, during the Christmas season Debbie especially enjoys sharing inspirational stories that emphasize the importance of family and community. An acclaimed regional teller who has been engaging audiences of all ages for the past 20 years, you won't want to miss this very special evening with Debbie.

### Call for Applications NW FolkLife 2007

by Cherie Trebon

Applications to perform on a storytelling stage at the NW Folklife Festival will be mailed to former applicants and performers by early October and are due to the NW Folklife office by Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. Audition tapes, CDs or videos are required, and now is a good time to prepare one. If you have not previously applied, or do not receive an application by Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, please call the NW Folklife Festival office at 206-684-7300 to request one.

The NW Folklife Festival is held each year over the Memorial Day weekend and is one of the largest festivals of its type in the Northwest, focusing on the traditional arts, including music, dance, storytelling, home arts, and much more. Over 6,000 performers donate their time and talents over the 4-day event. There is no admission charge for the event although donations are greatly appreciated. Since it is a free festival, performers are not paid. If you would like additional information contact Cherie at 360-417-5031 or go to the NW Folklife website, [www.nwfolklife.org](http://www.nwfolklife.org).





## Fall Calendar

### October

- 3 **Griot Works**™ workshop, 3:30-5:30 pm. See page 4.
- 7 **Debbie Dimitre** tells the Story of Eleanor Roosevelt, The Vintage Fashion Museum at the Seattle Goodwill on Dearborn Street, 1:30 pm. Free!
- 10 **Griot Works**™ workshop, 3:30-5:30 pm. See page 4.
- 12 **Jill Johnson**, "Ferry Tales" – new stories about all the strange and wonderful things that happen on ferry boats. Clinton Library, Clinton. 7pm.
- 13 **Story Swap** at All For Kids Bookstore, 7pm. See page 6.
- 14 **Scary Stories for Brave Listeners**, 7:30 -9:00 pm, Zippy's Java Lounge. See page 3.
- 17 **Griot Works**™, 3:30-5:30 pm. See page 4.
- 20-22 **Forest Storytelling Festival** in Port Angeles. See page 1.
- 23 **Scary Stories for Brave Listeners**, 7 – 8:30 pm, Shoreline Library. See page 3.
- 24 **Griot Works**™ workshop, 3:30-5:30 pm. See page 4.
- 26 **Rebecca Hom**, Ravenna Third Place, 7:30 pm. See page 6.
- 28 **Tim Tingle**, Choctaw storyteller will be one of the presenters at the Victoria Arts Symposium at the Victoria Conference Centre. See [www.victoriaartssymposium.com](http://www.victoriaartssymposium.com) for details.
- 27 **Scary Stories for Brave Listeners**, time TBA, Crossroads Mall, Bellevue. See page 3.
- 28 **Tim Tingle** Storytelling concert, Walking the Choctaw Road, Intrepid Metro Studio, Victoria BC, 8pm. See [www.victoriastorytellers.org](http://www.victoriastorytellers.org) for details.
- 28 **Bards by the Bay**, Ghost Stories and Urban Legends, Jewel Box Theatre in Poulsbo, 7-9 pm. Also open mic, prizes for costumes & stories. A family event for those over 10 years old. \$10 for adults and \$7 for children 10 to 12. For more information call the Jewel Box Theatre at 360-779-9688.
- 28 **Scary Stories for Brave Listeners**, 7 – 8:30 pm, Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park. See page 3.
- 29 **Tim Tingle** Workshop: Body & Soul: Techniques of Storytelling, Royal Roads University Hatley Castle, Victoria BC. 1:15-5:15. See [www.victoriastorytellers.org](http://www.victoriastorytellers.org) for details.
- 30 **Scary Stories for Brave Listeners**, 7 – 8:30 pm, Richmond Beach Library. See page 3.
- 31 **Griot Works**™ workshop, 3:30-5:30 pm. See page 4.

### November

- 1 **Tales of Mystery & Wonder**, Stories & Tea with Mary Marguerite, 601 First Street, Snohomish, 7pm. Tickets \$15, includes great tea and dessert. Call for reservations 360-568-8597.
- 3 **Jill Johnson**, "Mabuhay" – stories and song from the Philippines – Fall City Council for the Arts – Snoqualmie, 7 pm. For more information, contact Laurel Marshall 425 222 0568.
- 7 **Griot Works**™ workshop, 3:30-5:30 pm. See page 4.
- 10 **Story Swap** at All For Kids Bookstore, 7pm. See page 6.
- 11 **Jill Johnson**, "Little, But Oh MY! – Renton Historical Museum – Renton, 11am, contact Dorota Rahn 425 255 2330.
- 11 **Stories at Zippy's**, 7:30 -9:00 pm, See page 3.
- 14 **Griot Works**™ workshop, 3:30-5:30 pm. See page 4.
- 18 **Debbie Dimitre** tells the stories of Pocahontas and Sacagawea at the Langley Library on Whidbey Island, 11am
- 18 **Tellabration!** All for Kids Bookstore, 7pm. See page 1.
- 30 **Pat Peterson**, Ravenna Third Place, 7:30pm. See page 6.

### December

- 8 **Story Swap** at All For Kids Bookstore, 7pm. See page 6.
- 9 **Stories at Zippy's**, 7:30 -9:00 pm. See page 3.
- 28 **Debbie Dimitre**, Ravenna Third Place, 7:30 pm. See page 6.

### Ongoing Events

**Sundays** Global Griot, KSER 90.7 FM, or online at [www.kser.org](http://www.kser.org), 8-11 am. Stories, music, poetry, culture, and myths from around the world.

**First Tuesdays** Frog Rock Story Circle 7 pm, 9702 Sands Avenue NE, Bainbridge Island. Call Alyson 206-842-5293 or Ed at 206-842-4562.

**Third Thursdays** Tale Traders Story Swap in Bellevue, 7-9 pm. Call Jan at 425-747-6142 for more information.

**Last Thursdays** Storytelling Concerts at Ravenna Third Place, 6505 20th Ave NE, Seattle. 206-525-2347.

**Second Fridays** Monthly Story Swap in Seattle, 7PM, All for Kids Bookstore, 2900 NE Blakeley. 206-526-2768.

**Third Fridays** Bellingham Storytelling for the Love of It, 7-9 pm, Fairhaven Library Fireplace Room. 360-714-9631 or [bhamstoryguild@clearwire.net](mailto:bhamstoryguild@clearwire.net).

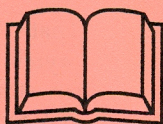
**Second Saturdays** Storytelling by Global Griots, at Zippy's Java Lounge, 1804 Hewitt Ave, Everett. 7:30-9 pm. For information contact Jim or Aarene at (425)318-2493 or [aarenex@comcast.net](mailto:aarenex@comcast.net).



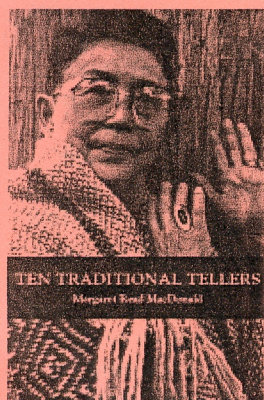
## Ten Traditional Tellers

by Margaret Read MacDonald

a review by Jill Johnson



This book, published by University of Illinois Press, is quite unlike many of MRM's other storytelling books. Years in the making, it was published only after constant pressure from the author - who is dedicated to bringing the stories of traditional tellers from all over the world to light.



It begins with a cover photo - the most beautiful photo of our own Vi Hilbert that I have ever seen - and one which perfectly captures what this book is all about. Inside are carefully drawn portraits and stories of ten tellers from Alaska, Tibet, Brazil, Thailand, Liberia, Hawaii, New Caledonia, Ghana, and our own Chehalis and Skagit cultures.

The format is a major strength of the book. Each article begins with a photo and a quote - a nice touch which pushes the reader to

approach what's coming in a reflective way. Then, there is background material on the culture - short and sweet, but very necessary - followed by background material on the teller, an interview, and then - the stories. By the time we get to the stories themselves, we have such a rich background of information that it deepens our enjoyment fourfold.

Throughout the book, the care and precision evident in the writing are perfect demonstrations of the way a skilled folklorist goes about recording and presenting material.

Following the articles on the ten tellers, there is a chapter devoted to teller motivation; a discussion of WHY each of these performers continues to do this work. I was startled at the variety of responses: for example, some began telling quite by accident; others were carefully trained in a "classic" tradition. The final chapter is an intriguing discussion of what makes a "traditional" teller with descriptions of several (sometimes conflicting) points of view.

Any serious student of traditional storytelling or cultural history or anthropology will find much to delight in on these pages. For this is no dry, academic tome. MRM has had too many years of writing lively, colorful material for her readers to sink into that hole; this book is FUN to read!

### COME TO THE STORY SWAP

Practice your storytelling skills by sharing your stories! Listen to works-in-progress from other storytellers! Everyone -- tellers and listeners alike -- are welcome.

Second Fridays, 7:00 pm  
All For Kids Bookstore  
2900 NE Blakeley, Seattle  
206-526-2768

Autumn 2006

Storytelling at  
Ravenna Third Place  
6505 20th Ave. NE  
206-525-2347  
Last Thursday, 7:30 pm



### October 26th — Rebecca Hom

Rebecca Hom has been telling stories for many years. She is a very personable teller reaching into the depths of your soul touching true meanings - a worthwhile evening indeed. Come and enjoy!

### November 30th — Pat Peterson

During that busy time between Thanksgiving and the Holidays, gift yourself with an evening of stories ... Travel back in time to the early '60's and meet a remarkable woman in Greenwich Village. Journey alongside an unconventional mother and her timid son as they risk it all for the joy of a quest. And there may be a new tale as well. Are these stories true?—or possible? You decide. For a brief time, we will be transported around the world, back in time, away from present cares and concerns on the wings of words, love and laughter. At the end, we will all be slightly changed. Such is the power of story.

### December 28th — Debbie Dimitre

Please join us for Northwest storyteller Debbie Dimitre sharing a delightful program called: "A Patch-Work of Favorite Christmas Tales," a collage of stories that are sure to touch the heart and warm the spirit. While Debbie is best known for her historic docu-ramas in which she brings different women in history to life, during the Christmas season Debbie especially enjoys sharing inspirational stories that emphasize the importance of family and community. An acclaimed regional teller who has been engaging audiences of all ages for the past 20 years, you won't want to miss this very special evening with Debbie.

### Call for Applications NW FolkLife 2007

by Cherie Trebon

Applications to perform on a storytelling stage at the NW Folklife Festival will be mailed to former applicants and performers by early October and are due to the NW Folklife office by Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. Audition tapes, CDs or videos are required, and now is a good time to prepare one. If you have not previously applied, or do not receive an application by Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, please call the NW Folklife Festival office at 206-684-7300 to request one.

The NW Folklife Festival is held each year over the Memorial Day weekend and is one of the largest festivals of its type in the Northwest, focusing on the traditional arts, including music, dance, storytelling, home arts, and much more. Over 6,000 performers donate their time and talents over the 4-day event. There is no admission charge for the event although donations are greatly appreciated. Since it is a free festival, performers are not paid. If you would like additional information contact Cherie at 360-417-5031 or go to the NW Folklife website, [www.nwfolklife.org](http://www.nwfolklife.org).



# Seattle Storytellers Guild

for updated information see  
[www.seattlestorytelling.org](http://www.seattlestorytelling.org)  
or call 206-621-8646

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## Seattle Storytellers Guild

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Look! Your membership expiration date is now printed on your mailing label, making it easy for you to renew your membership so you never miss an issue of *In The Wind*.



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