

# In the Wind

Dear SSG Members,

This has been an exciting season for the guild! We enjoyed the successful launch of our Second Thursday Storytelling Series at Haller Lake Community Club. Two new programs begin in January, a Third Friday Potluck and Story Swap, hosted by Virginia Rankin, and a Winter Storytelling Series on fourth Wednesdays, cosponsored by the Edmonds Public Library, maintaining the Edmonds Storytelling Circle legacy begun by Kate Frew and Mark Ukelson.



In October, the SSG hosted a concert and workshop by internationally celebrated author and storyteller Diane Wolkstein. With financial and volunteer support, we helped our colleagues in Port Angeles produce one of the best Forest Storytelling Festivals ever. The Seattle Art Museum provided free tickets for SSG members to attend the opening of the Salish Art exhibit (see page 7), featuring storytelling by Northwest Native tellers. We gathered to honor Vi Hilbert, the "Grandmother" of our storytelling community, and for the worldwide celebration of Tellabration! in November.

I am proud to tell you that in the last year and a half, **our membership has nearly doubled!** I thank each and every one of you for your continuing support as we do our best to provide listening, performing, and learning opportunities for our members and our community. But as we expand the services we offer, **we must look to our growing membership for volunteers.** There is a small number of dedicated folks, board members and other volunteers, who are not just wearing too many hats—they are wearing thin, and we can't afford to wear them out. The best way to take good care of our volunteers is make sure that their loads are not too heavy.



Have you heard the story of the birds caught in a hunter's net? As the hunter approached, they decided to work together. In one concentrated effort, each little bird lent its strength to the flock, and they escaped by flying away, net and all.

In the coming year, we will need volunteers with time, energy, and/or expertise to contribute to the smooth running of the guild. We are always looking for new board members, but you don't need to serve on the board to help with grant writing, web management, graphic design, and publicity. We also need help with specific tasks, such as operating the sound system at a performance, transferring cassette recordings from the guild archives onto CDs, posting flyers, making a Costco run for refreshments, or stamping the quarterly newsletters that go out to our members. May we count on you?

We always want to know how we can help you, but if you can help us out, please let us know that, too. Here's to looking ahead toward a wonderful new year with you!

Naomi Baltuck  
President, Seattle Storytellers Guild



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### COMING UP EVERYWHERE

The best-kept storytelling secret in the Puget Sound area is free!

Tune in to "Global Griot," the region's only locally produced radio program of stories and music from around the world, every Sunday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. You will hear recordings of famous storytellers, live performances from local tellers, and a few surprises each week.

Tune in, tell your friends: Global Griot, stories and music, Sunday mornings, 9 to 11 a.m., broadcasting live from the heart of Everett, Washington, on 90.7 FM, and streamed online at [www.kser.org](http://www.kser.org).



### Newsletters by e-mail, anyone?

To receive your quarterly issues of the Seattle Storytellers Guild newsletter as a PDF via e-mail, send a message to both [johnwasko@yahoo.com](mailto:johnwasko@yahoo.com) and [becwig@comcast.net](mailto:becwig@comcast.net).

You can change to e-mail or back to paper copies of the newsletter at any time.

### *In the Wind*

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Spring issue deadline: February 15



### COMING UP IN PORTLAND

#### **Spent—Drama & Conspiracy in the World Economy**

Spent is the history class you never knew you wanted. Rick Huddle is back with a new monologue combining the tales of silk-stealing Chinese princesses, evil IMF warlords, John Keynes's theory of economics, and Tanya Harding into one riveting story that's essential to living with today's economic crisis.



WHEN: Thursday–Saturday, Dec. 4–20, 8 p.m.

WHERE: Theater! Theater! Back stage, 3430 SE Belmont, Portland, Oregon

TICKETS: \$15 in advance, \$18 day of show, Thursdays pay-what-you-will, ages 18+

INFO: 503-720-0397, [info@rickhuddle.com](mailto:info@rickhuddle.com), [www.rickhuddle.com](http://www.rickhuddle.com)

### COMING UP IN BELLINGHAM

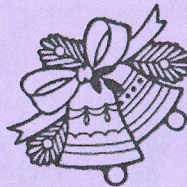
#### **Ladders to the Moon:**

#### **What Does Compassion Sound Like Through Music, Dance, and Stories from Around the World**

December 21, 2008, Firehouse Performing Arts Center, Bellingham  
4:30 to 6:00 p.m. (recommended for families with small children)  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (all-inclusive)

Suggested donation \$10 per family group at the door

In East Africa, it is said, there is a certain tribal people who, when commemorating events of collective and communal importance, call for "a night of storytelling." The traditional opening formula ought to be enough to alert one to be ready for a magical evening.



We will gather on the Winter Solstice to celebrate peace and compassion through the presentation of music, dance, and stories presented by performers representing the many cultures in our community.

SUNSET (4:30 to 6:00 p.m.) We will begin the evening with our focus on the children and their families. The entertainment will be fun, engaging, and fun for the kids as well as the kid in all of us.

EVENING (7:00 to 9:00 p.m.) The remainder of the evening will be dedicated to music, dance, and stories that are more meaningful to adults. The performances will be oriented to create bridges of understanding among the peoples who make up our community. Through the sharing of our art forms we will be able to come to appreciate the wealth of diversity that enriches our community.

This event will be a fund-raising event for the Bellingham Seeds of Compassion Initiative in collaboration with The Sound Essence Project, The Bellingham Storytellers Guild, and other sponsors.



## Announcing the Winter Storytelling Series, Starring You!

Fourth Wednesdays, 7–8:30 p.m.  
Edmonds Public Library, 650 Main Street

The Seattle Storytellers Guild and the Edmonds Public Library are cosponsoring a series of themed storytelling swaps on the fourth Wednesday of each month this winter. People are encouraged to bring in stories to share with an audience. Although each month has a suggested theme, any story is welcome. The swaps will take place in the beautiful upstairs Plaza Room at the Edmonds Public Library.

Free admission. Refreshments provided.  
For directions, call the library at (425) 771-1933.  
For program information, call (425) 776-1175.

January 28—**Winter Tales to Warm Your Heart**

February 25—**Love Stories, Sweet and Bittersweet**

March 25—**Stories and Songs for the Irish at Heart**



## Tales for a Thursday Evening

Second Thursdays  
Haller Lake Community Club  
12579 Densmore Ave. N, Seattle  
7:00 p.m., free



**December 11** Tellers from the Seattle Storytellers Guild celebrate the season as they share winter stories, solstice stories, and Christmas and Hanukkah tales. Refreshments and an open mike round out the evening.

**January 8** Allison Cox, “Bringing Back the Light.” Allison Cox will share world tales and traditional midwinter stories that celebrate bringing warmth, cheer and light into our lives. Come share in the time-honored joy of telling tales to hold the dark night at bay. Storyteller Allison Cox travels across land and sea, performing, teaching, and interviewing other storytellers for her books. She is the co-editor and a contributing author of the award-winning *The Healing Heart* books, which explore storytelling as a healing art. Allison engages audiences in old stories with modern relevancy, and since she dreams in color, she tells tales of all hues.

**February 12** Eva Abram, “Unchained Spirit.” In a celebration of African American culture, Eva Abram shares stories about strength, determination and humor developed out of the hardship of slavery. You will be inspired and moved by stories about a people whose spirit could not be chained! Eva Abram, an African American storyteller and native of New Orleans, specializes in African American history stories and multicultural folktales. Recognizing the unique power of live presentations, she turned her talents to storytelling as a way to empower students through knowledge of history. “Through stories I now help others learn about historical events and people as well as allow them to experience the cultural bridges formed by folktales that have traveled the world.”

## Seattle Story Swap Returns in 2009!

Third Fridays, starting January 16  
6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. stories  
1222 NE 100th Street

With gratitude to Virginia Rankin, former board member and continuing publicity queen for the guild, the Seattle Storytellers Guild is pleased to announce the return of a monthly Seattle story swap.

Previously held at All for Kids Books and Music until the store closed last June, the swap is a casual evening of stories told and listened to.



Bring a potluck dish for dinner at 6 p.m. and a story to share at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact Virginia at [varankin@comcast.net](mailto:varankin@comcast.net).



## Cama Beach State Park Storytelling Opportunity

*Ed Sheridan of Bainbridge Island writes:* Back in the late 1960s and early 1970s, our family was living in Seattle. On occasion we would spend a vacation at the Cama Beach Resort on Camano Island. It was then a magical place: cabins right on Saratoga Passage with views of the Olympics, and best of all very reasonably priced for a young family. Fast forward forty years, and now that same resort has become a state park. The cabins are still there (upgraded of course), as are the Olympics and the magic. The prices remain wonderfully reasonable.

On a recent stay there, I happened to talk with Tina Dinzl-Pederson, who arranges programs for park visitors. She was quite enthusiastic about storytelling programs. Tina has written up a request and invitation for storytellers to come to Cama Beach, stay in a free cabin, and tell stories to visitors.

I'm convinced that there will be other storytellers thrilled to trade a free weekend in a nearby beach cabin on Puget Sound for a few stories. It's a wonderful and unusual opportunity. I'd be happy to talk about my experiences there with any interested storyteller. 206-842-4562, [sheridan.island@msn.com](mailto:sheridan.island@msn.com)

*Tina Dinzl-Pederson writes:* Cama Beach State Park offers a variety of programs at no cost to park visitors, guests at the cabins, and local area residents. Professional storytelling is an inspirational experience that we would like to be able to offer this coming year. There is no money for compensation, but we can offer two nights' free lodging in an instructor cabin (with bathroom) for a couple of stories. We have the best audiences on weekends. We could discuss Friday and Saturday night programs, or one of those combined with a Saturday afternoon program.

Cama Beach existed as a family resort from 1934 to 1989 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is described by Ron Judd of the *Seattle Times* as "an ideal place to steal away with a good book, a stout parka—and the good sense to leave your gadget-belt of electronic devices at home." Sandra Risk Worthington, one of the former owners, observes that "this place has a magic to it." Storytellers and their art are welcome here as presenters to primarily family audiences who have come to enjoy the pace of life that was common at an earlier time. This place can refresh the energy of an artist, a poet, and those who draw inspiration from reflection and the beauty of a quiet natural setting.

Contact Tina Dinzl-Pederson, Interpretive Specialist, Cama Beach State Park, 1880 SW Camano Drive, Camano Island, WA 98282, [Christina.Dinzl-Pederson@parks.wa.gov](mailto:Christina.Dinzl-Pederson@parks.wa.gov), 360-387-3342.



## Northwest Folklife Festival

by Cherie Trebon

The deadline to submit applications to perform on a storytelling stage at the 2009 Northwest Folklife Festival was November 1. If you missed the deadline, late applications will be accepted until the end of the year. However,



stage slots for late applicants are subject to space availability. Applications can be downloaded from [www.nwfolklife.org](http://www.nwfolklife.org). Alternatively, you can call the office at 206-684-7300

to request an application in the mail. Folklife is a mainstay in the Pacific Northwest and is the largest free festival of the folk arts in the western United States and Canada. Whether you perform or attend, it's a great way to spend the Memorial Day weekend!

## Volunteer Tellers Wanted

Elder and Adult Day Services in Issaquah is looking for storytellers who would be interested in volunteering their time once a month or more. This day program serves young adults and seniors who are developmentally delayed and/or cognitively impaired.

Young adults attend the program on Monday and Thursday, and seniors on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. The young adult population is primarily developmentally impaired, in varying degrees, whereas the seniors are dealing primarily with Alzheimer's, dementia, Parkinson's disease, and/or stroke.

To have an actual storyteller involved with the program would be fabulous!



For more information, contact Melinda Pidgeon, Elder and Adult Day Services Activities Coordinator, Issaquah, 425-837-3967 ext. 5844 or [mpidgeon@eadscare.org](mailto:mpidgeon@eadscare.org).





## Creating Personal Stories

by John Wasko

At this year's Forest Storytelling Festival, renowned storyteller Donald Davis put on a great workshop on how to recollect memories for creating personal stories. For those of you who couldn't be there, I thought I'd give a quick recap.

First, don't focus on "plot." Storytelling is different than writing and is not laden with or driven by events. The elements that create the richness and texture in storytelling are "person" and "place."

Second, think of quilt-making as a metaphor for creating personal stories. You start by collecting lots and lots of little scraps. When you've collected a basketful, you sort through them and ask, "Is there a quilt here, waiting to emerge?" Just so with personal stories: the first step is gathering.

Let yourself roam the memories of early places and people in your life. What was the first house you remember living in? What was in each room? Who was there? What was unique about them? Awaken and use all your senses to recall how something looked, sounded, smelled, tasted, and felt. Also recall the emotions that place or person evoked in you, and remember the times you laughed (and why you needed to). Jot down notes of what you remember, and keep going back. Each time you do, you'll remember more detail. Don't try to look for or impose a story at this point. Just keep gathering memories. Talk to others who might have different recollections about the same person or place. You will spark each other to remember details you'd forgotten.

When you have plenty of memories to work with, then you can start the second stage of your "story quilt": putting it all together.

Donald Davis gave us a great framework for structuring stories. He said your memories create a picture of a place and people and what was normal in that world. Then comes trouble.

Something happens that turns everything upside down; some event disrupts the norm. And through the process of dealing with the trouble, transformation ensues. A new normal settles in, and in the process, someone in the story will have learned something. That's a good way to know if you have a story or just a collection of "quilt pieces." And if someone doesn't learn, that means they get to do it again. Of course, unanswered questions can be part of a good story. This structure can give you a useful framework to help you put all those memory pieces together. But first you have to spend time just collecting them.

That's it in brief. Got it? For more information about storyteller Donald Davis, go to [www.ddavisstoryteller.com](http://www.ddavisstoryteller.com).



## So Many Stars ... So Many Stories

by Judith Alexander

Indeed! The 14th Annual Forest Storytelling Festival in October 2008 had stars and stories galore!

The pre-festival session with master teller Donald Davis was most inspiring, as was his related Saturday workshop—how to find and use the pieces of your life to weave together personal stories. Those weavings he shared in the workshops and the concerts were awesome—who will forget the haircut he gave his younger brother, the snake in the car, or the clever way he disposed of the hated canned peas and carrots?



Mary Gay Ducey shared a wide variety of stories, from folklore to the very personal ones of her high-school dating activities. Her workshop allowed four volunteer tellers to receive feedback, which included Mary Gay's advice and teachings, applicable to almost all of us. These tellers, as well as the ones at the lunchtime open mike, joined the stars of the festival in my mind.

I heard that listeners carried away useful teachings from the workshops led by Anne-Louise Sterry, Alton Chung, and Diane Wolkstein. Certainly their concert pieces were powerful. Not only Alton's ghost stories, but especially the historical events he was able to portray in the persona of Japanese or Japanese Americans during World War II, are unforgettable.

Diane's use of a martial art form to show us the beginning of creation and lead us into mythology was amazing. Everyone has heard of her book *The Magic Orange Tree*, so to see her in person and hear her perform was a true gift.



Elaine Grinnell's stories from her people and her personal experience welcomed us to the Olympic Peninsula in a special way. Anne-Louise Sterry brought her music and her Aunt Lena, making us laugh and cry. The audience participation in the songs, celebrating the birth of each of us and later inviting personal memories to be shared, helped us become even more of a community.

The Story People, who opened the concerts with musical tales, African tales, and a personal memory of Christmas in Yellowstone, added another dimension of stardom to the concert lineup. And, of course, our shining star, Pat Peterson, emcee extraordinaire, kept us in line and in laughter.

Thanks so much to Cherie Trebon and all the volunteers for such a star-studded event, one I look forward to each year. Meeting and visiting with tellers from all over the region and nation is a highlight, too, so I hope to see all of you there next time!



## Gene Frieese Scholarship Leads to Forest Festival

by Anne Fitzgerald

I thank the Seattle Storytellers Guild for awarding me the Gene Frieese Scholarship. It makes a big difference to someone on Social Security.

Each year I think this year's festival was the best, but this year I really mean it! I loved all the tellers and was hard-pressed to choose a workshop. I learned much about the richness of simplicity from listening to Donald Davis. I learned how awkward other immigrants (besides my British parents) are from Anne-Louise Sterry's hilarious story about her Italian aunts. I am still amazed at Mary Gay Ducey's variety of repertoire.

Something deeper came to me this year. I belong to a local discussion group led by Cecile Andrews, who has authored several books including *Circle of Simplicity*. Cecile has taught me to look for examples of the simpler, slower life wherever I go. We already knew that telling and listening to stories is much better than TV, but I realized this time that it's about speed—TV gives information in flashing little bits and bytes, which don't allow the mind to reflect or interrelate and barely allow the heart time



to feel anything. Sometimes those rapid flashes feel almost like violence. Stories, on the other hand, move along at human speed and, while telling or listening, require absolute absorption. One must trust the story, let go and fall into it and live within it—listening or telling. That is why stories are so refreshing and healing. Each story is a minivacation. Stories mend our jaggedness and make us whole again. We need stories today more than at any time in previous history!

I came away reinspired. My next telling will be at Halloween here at Fremont Place where I live. I will darken and “spookify” the Community Room and tell stories, mostly about spiders. I've learned a lot about telling to seniors—their attention span is short and they are easily distracted, so shorter pieces work best. They like humor and will laugh till the tears run down their cheeks. They love stories about a couple in which the wife trumps her mate. They don't mind if it gets a bit raunchy. They remember the forties and fifties better than the sixties or seventies. I usually include a trivia quiz.

In exchange for the Gene Frieese Scholarship, the experiences at the 2008 Forest Festival, and my renewed storytelling inspiration, I send you gratitude and an insight!



Check out this fine article from Scientific American on why storytelling is such a basic part of being human.

<http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=the-secrets-of-storytelling>





## Storytelling at the Seattle Art Museum

by Ellin Huttel

To celebrate the opening of a special exhibition, S'abadeb—The Gifts: Pacific Coast Salish Art and Artists, an event for families brought many to the Seattle Art Museum on October 25 to hear stories told by our native neighbors, elders Pauline Hillaire and Elaine Grinnell as well as Roger Hernandez and Johnny Moses. Their stories were offered as gifts, in keeping with the exhibition's focus. A pervasive theme spoke to the achievement of harmony, whether it be the achievement of inner strength by learning from experience or the harmonies found in our natural environment.

The Seattle Art Museum has an extensive collection of the stories of our native peoples, especially those speaking Lushootseed. There are a number of editions of *HABOO*, a collection of thirty-some stories in English transcribed by Vi Hilbert, published by the Lushootseed Press and also an edition from the University of Washington Press. *Our Stories: Skagit Myths and Tales* contains more than 100 story narratives, collected and recorded from ten Skagit storytellers by Sally Snyder (a UW anthropology degree candidate) in the 1950s. On a lighter note, go check out Vi Hilbert's *Lady Louise Lived There* (Lushootseed Press, 1996). You'll have a chuckle.

The Bullitt Library at the downtown Seattle Art Museum is open to the public. Anyone can access a book by request and can use it in the library (circulation is only for staff). Library hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. S'abadeb—The Gifts exhibit runs Tuesdays through Sundays until January 11, 2009, at the Seattle Art Museum, 1300 First Avenue, Seattle, [www.seattleartmuseum.org](http://www.seattleartmuseum.org).



### An Afternoon with Helen Oyeyemi

by Jill Johnson

On Saturday, October 4, I was gathered around a rehearsal table at Whidbey Island Center for the Arts (WICA) with Deana, the program director, and two other performers. Just days before, I had been recruited to participate in a new program, the Literary Series, a collaboration between WICA and Hedgebrook, a women writers' retreat here on Whidbey Island. I was to read a piece of *The Icarus Girl*, the first book of British novelist Helen Oyeyemi.

As we chatted, Helen walked in the door. She was pretty, rather soft-spoken and shy, with huge brown eyes and dreadlocked hair. Born in Nigeria and raised in London, she wrote this novel while studying for her final high-school exams. On a whim, she sent twenty pages to a publisher—and was offered a two-book deal. Her second novel, *The Opposite House*, was published after graduation from Corpus Christi College in Cambridge. We got a chance to ask her some questions: me about the novel, the others about a scene from her play "Victimese," which they were to read.

I had spent the last few days frantically reading the novel, rehearsing the scenes, researching Helen's bio and career online, and reviewing my sources on Yoruba mythology. The

novel's theme is closely linked to stories and beliefs that Helen learned from her Nigerian family, especially her grandmother. It tells the story of eight-year-old Jessamy Harrison and her magical companion, Tilly-Tilly, who is, in reality, a ghost of her twin sister who died at birth. As I rehearsed the piece, there were two conflicting challenges: to create and sustain the voice of Jessamy and to honor the very adult language and insights of the novelist. Also, I had been told that representatives from the Seattle Rep and Intiman were going to be at the presentation. So the pressure was definitely on!

But the actual presentation on October 5 turned out to be much more relaxed. We all sat onstage—author, performers, and audience—and were invited to sample the wine and cheese whenever we wished. Amy, the Hedgebrook program director, interviewed Helen. I read from the novel, the other two read their scene, and Helen read a short story she had just finished.

What a wonderful opportunity it was to rekindle and reuse my African experiences, to interpret the words, images, and ideas of a rising young artist, and to use my storytelling skills in an entirely new way.

*The Icarus Girl*, by Helen Oyeyemi.  
Nan A. Talese, Doubleday: a division of  
Random House, Inc., 2005.







## Storytelling and Life in Tennessee

by Mary Brugh

Tennessee has been my new home since early June. This move was the beginning of my retirement, and my first retirement project is a master's degree in storytelling at East Tennessee State University. I

started full-time with the fall semester. My class is small; in addition to myself, there is a woman from Taiwan and a woman from Korea. Both of them will return to their homes and use storytelling in their teaching of English as a Second Language. There is a man with impaired hearing, so ASL interpreters are also a part of our class. There is a woman who is a private investigator attending part time. Some of the second-year students overlap classes, and we all get together as Tale Tellers, performing at local schools.

Schoolwork includes LOTS of reading, papers to write, and other projects. Another time-consumer is my graduate assistance project, working with personal narratives of cancer patients. I see semester break in December as my first free time to finish unpacking. Don't hear this as a complaint, though; I love school, and Joseph Sobol, who teaches two of my three classes, is a brilliant teacher. The one-and-a-half and three-hour classes whiz by.

Most of us go weekly to hear the Teller-in-Residence at the International Storytelling Center, and with prearrangement, some of the tellers meet with us to talk about their process and whatever else comes up.

Of course, there was the National Storytelling Festival in October with a wide variety of tellers—something for all preferences. Most told personal stories or stories crafted from actual events. My favorite teller was Ben Haggarty from Britain, who told folktales—in particular, stories he had learned from the Travelers. He said that in Britain, folktales were more common than personal stories. The weather for the weekend was perfect, and I understand the crowds were smaller than previous years.

Jonesborough is a delightful town. In addition to the programs at the International Storytelling Center (last night I saw a group from California do a Playback Theater program of stories from veterans or families of veterans in the audience), there is music and readings from local writers in a funky coffee shop on Main Street. They have a monthly old-time music jam session that I will check out next month. There's a farmers' market that just closed for the season and contra dancing twice a month. There's Music on the Square every Friday evening all summer and probably lots more I haven't discovered yet.

Fall color is approaching its height, and mornings—even some days—are cool. Oh, and last week a real Natural Food Market (not just vitamins and supplements) opened to the delight of a store full of shoppers.

This is a most interesting adventure!

--Mary is a SSG member and former board secretary who headed cross-country this summer for new life adventures.



## 2008 National Storytelling Festival

by Chari-Lynn Koppel

Imagine walking down the cobblestone streets of a little town nestled in the Smoky Mountains, where the Sweetshop churns freshly made ice cream and a local woodmaker on the corner busily transforms lumber into furniture.

It is magical. It is the perfect setting for a story. Many stories.

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual National Storytelling Festival took place October 3-5, 2008, in Jonesborough, Tennessee.

Here you'll find six enormous tents within a 5- to 10-minute walking distance from one another. All weekend long, you can listen to stories of every kind. There are the traditional ones, stories of the Wild West, and tales from East Asia and Africa. More than thirty-one tellers ages seven to ninety performed. Donald Davis told a heartwarming story about segregation, Kathryn Windham shared her traditional "porch-style" wisdom, Bil Lepp delivered his trademark tall tales guaranteed to make you laugh and smile, and Carmen Deedy used her quick-witted humor to tell stories of her mischievous childhood days.

When darkness falls, scary stories are told under the stars. The storyteller speaks from a pavilion lit by torches.

The festival provides an opportunity for aspiring storytellers at the "Swappin' Grounds." Anyone can tell a story in an open-mike format to an audience sitting on haystacks, a tradition that dates back to the first festival in 1973. Only sixty people attended then. Today, Jonesborough has been transformed into a storytelling mecca. The festival attracts about 10,000 visitors from all over the world and has had a tremendous economic impact in revitalizing the town.

The power of a story. Just imagine what it could do for your community.

--Chari-Lynn is a SSG member who lives in New York and plans to move to Seattle when the right teaching, mediating, or storytelling job comes up.





## December



8 **Karen Haas** in "So Many Things To Do Yet: The Saga of Thea Foss." 7 p.m., Theater on the Square, Tacoma, middle-schoolers & older, \$5. Tickets at 253-472-3738.

11 **Seattle Storytellers Guild** tells seasonal stories at Tales for a Thursday Evening. 7 p.m., Haller Lake Community Club, free.

**Maggie Bennett** tells "Lore, Legends, and Lyrics of the Winter Holidays." 7 p.m., free.

18 at Shoreline Sons of Norway

19 at Emerald Heights, Redmond

21 **Bellingham Storytellers Guild**, "Ladders to the Moon: What compassion looks like through music, dance, and story from around the world." 4:30-6 p.m. families with small children, 7-9 p.m. all ages, Firehouse Performing Arts Center, Bellingham. Suggested donation \$10 per family. bhamstoryguild@comcast.net or 360-714-9631

## January



8 **Allison Cox** tells "Bringing Back the Light" at Tales for a Thursday Evening. 7 p.m., Haller Lake Community Club, free.

16 **Story Swap**. 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. stories, 1222 NE 100th St., Seattle, free. Virginia at varankin@comcast.net

24 **Naomi Baltuck and Bea Garrard** tell "She Can! He Can! We Can!" 11 a.m., Snohomish Public Library, free. 360-568-2898

28 **Winter Storytelling Series**. 7-8:30 p.m., Plaza Room at Edmonds Public Library, free. Story swap with theme "Winter Tales to Warm Your Heart." 425-771-1933

## February



7 **Jill Johnson** tells "Ferry Tales." 3 p.m., Sound Waters (one-day environmental education university program), Coupeville High School. 360-341-2063 or story@whidbey.com

12 **Eva Abram** tells "Unchained Spirit" at Tales for a Thursday Evening. 7 p.m., Haller Lake Community Club, free.

20 **Story Swap**. 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. stories, 1222 NE 100th St., Seattle, free. Virginia at varankin@comcast.net

25 **Winter Storytelling Series**. 7-8:30 p.m., Plaza Room at Edmonds Public Library, free. Story swap with theme "Love Stories, Sweet and Bittersweet." 425-771-1933



## Ongoing Events



**Sundays. Global Griot**, KSER 90.7 FM or online at [www.kser.org](http://www.kser.org), 9-11 a.m.

**Third Sundays. Vancouver Cric? Crac!** 7:30 p.m., 1805 Larch, Vancouver, B.C., \$5. [vancouverstorytelling.org](http://vancouverstorytelling.org)

**Third Mondays** (except December 8). **Stories at Fern**, 1831 Fern Street, Victoria, B.C., 7:15 p.m., adults \$5, students \$3, VSG members free. [victoriastorytellers.org](http://victoriastorytellers.org)

**Second Sundays. Gypsy/Turkish tales** and Middle Eastern dances. 7 p.m., Kalia Indian Cuisine, 4520 200th Avenue SW #202, Lynnwood. No cover charge, food order requested, donations welcome. 425-771-6422, reservations advised. [marion.moat@verizon.net](mailto:marion.moat@verizon.net)

**First Mondays. Frog Rock Story Circle**, 9702 Sands Ave. NE, Bainbridge Island, free. Contact Ed Sheridan at [sheridan.island@msn.com](mailto:sheridan.island@msn.com) or 206-842-4562.

**Second Mondays. Fireside Story League** story circle and storytelling lesson, 6:30 p.m., Lakewood Library, free. Contact Eileen 253-759-0941 or Penny 253-265-2113.

**First Tuesdays. Bellingham Storytellers Guild** meetings, 7 p.m., Stuart's at the Bellingham Public Market. [bhamstoryguild@comcast.net](mailto:bhamstoryguild@comcast.net) or 360-714-9631

**First and Third Tuesdays. Storytellers Group**, 1 p.m., Ballard Northwest Senior Center, free. 206-297-0403 or [www.nwseniorcenter.org](http://www.nwseniorcenter.org)

**Second Wednesdays. DIY Stories**, 8 p.m., open mike event for adults, Urban Grind Coffee, Portland, free. [www.portlandstorytellers.org](http://www.portlandstorytellers.org)

**Last Wednesdays. Auntmama** and other tellers, 7-8:15 p.m., Starbucks at Madison Park, free. [auntmama.com](http://auntmama.com)

**Second Thursdays. Tales for a Thursday Evening**, 7:00 p.m., Haller Lake Community Club, Seattle, free. [www.seattlestorytelling.org](http://www.seattlestorytelling.org)

**Third Thursdays. Tale Traders Story Swap** in Bellevue, 7-9 p.m. Contact Jan at 425-747-6142.

**First Fridays. Portland Potluck, Story Swap, and Workshop**, 6:30 p.m., Community Room at McMenamins Kennedy School, Portland, free. [www.portlandstorytellers.org](http://www.portlandstorytellers.org)

**Third Fridays. Story Swap**. 6 p.m. potluck, 7 p.m. stories. 1222 NE 100th St., Seattle, free. [varankin@comcast.net](mailto:varankin@comcast.net)

**Third Fridays. Bellingham Family Stories**, 7 p.m., Fairhaven Library Fireplace Room, free. December, Stories of Darkness and Light; January, the New Year; February, the winter season. 360-714-9631 or [bhamstoryguild@comcast.net](mailto:bhamstoryguild@comcast.net)

**Second Saturdays. Kennedy storytelling program for adults**, 7 p.m., Community Room at McMenamins Kennedy School, Portland, donations. [www.portlandstorytellers.org](http://www.portlandstorytellers.org)



## Seattle Storytellers Guild

www.seattlestorytelling.org  
or 206-621-8646

### 2008-09 Board

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Individual \$20/year \_\_\_\_\_ \$55/3 yrs. \_\_\_\_\_

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Circle one: New member *or* Renewal

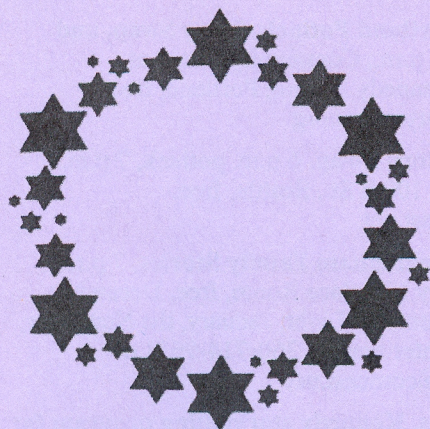
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## *In the Wind*

Seattle Storytellers Guild

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