

In the Wind

Haller Lake Storytelling Evenings

Third Fridays, 7:30–9:30 p.m.

Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21

Haller Lake Community Club

12579 Densmore Ave. N., Seattle



Haller Lake is on the rise! We're sailing out to both familiar and unknown waters.

Taking turns as captain and crew, we have charted our journey "in the wind" to shores where many more have happily stepped aboard. The decision we made to shift our sailing schedule to third Fridays at 7:30 p.m., and to take turns hosting and promoting our events, has doubled (and even tripled) attendance. Tellers and listeners from eight to eighty have come to have come from near and far to share personal stories, folktales, and songs.

Movies, TV, iPhones, and iPads can be fun, but in this expensive, tech-absorbed world, the personal touch . . . that connection . . . is often lost, leaving us stranded. But listening to stories, looking into someone's eyes, hearing a live voice, and being transported with the teller and all of those aboard, can guide us through life's stormy seas. It can take us to comforting or surprising islands, where we gather round a campfire to laugh, sing, and listen to the sound of crickets in the night, or perhaps even a lion's roar!

We have formed a North End crew that so far includes Patty Zeitlin, Norm Brecke, Cynthia Westby, Ellin Huttel, Glenn McCauley, Afifi Durr, and Judith Alexander. Please contact judith_tells@earthlink.net if you'd like to step aboard and assist. You are welcome.

December 20, Holiday tales and dessert potluck

Bring a delicious dessert and share a 5- or 6-minute seasonal story (personal or folk tale) or be a listener. Please feel free to share a song as well, and invite friends. We'd love to have you celebrate with us at this special time of year, and join our growing North End storytellers community.

January 17, "Wishes and Dreams"

New Year's resolutions?!? Already achieved or already broken? Let's hear instead about wishes and dreams—stories of poor folk and rich, dragons, devils, and magic fish. Judith Alexander (hostess for the evening) and Veronica Muskheli (originally from Russia) share their favorite folk stories, followed by an open mic, with as many stories as time allows. Please prepare a short (5-min.) contribution to our theme.



February 21, "Love Ain't Easy"

Valentine's Day has passed, but whatever your relationships, you know love demands tending and giving, compromise, and luck. Medical student and world traveler Samantha Desmond and folktale researcher Veronica Muskheli will start off the evening. Then we'll continue in

the story circle format. Bring your stories on the theme of love (easy or not), personal or from folklore (5-8 min. long). Or come as a listener.

Snacks and drinks, plus time to chat with other story lovers, will be available at all Haller Lake Storytelling Evenings. Donations to support the featured teller and the treats are requested and deeply appreciated.

Directions to Haller Lake? See page 2.

--thanks to Patty Zeitlin and Judith Alexander

2 . . . Haller Lake Directions

3 . . . Port Townsend; Vancouver, B.C.

4 . . . Scholarships & Abe Lincoln

5 . . . Jill Johnson in Jonesborough

6-7 . . . Winter Calendar

8 . . . Story Circle at the Bridge

www.seattlestorytellers.org

**Getting to Haller Lake Community Club
12579 Densmore Ave. N., Seattle**

From I-5 North

- Take exit 174 (130th St.) west to Meridian.

From I-5 South

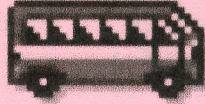
- Take Exit 175 (145th St.) west to Meridian.
- Now, both go south (left) on Meridian to 128th.
Then west (right) on 128th; go 1 block to HLCC.

From Aurora

- Turn east on 125th St. to Densmore.
- Go north (left) to HLCC at end of block.

By Metro Bus

- #346 goes right by HLCC.



Want more storytelling news?

Or want to announce a story event between newsletters?

Judith Alexander sends out the e-mail announcements generally on the Sunday before the first and third Fridays of each month. She will also forward items to the webmaster. Her e-mail address is judith_tells@earthlink.net.

Big thanks to the webmasters!

Have you visited seattlestorytellers.org lately? Some things will look familiar and some are very different. Larry Holm and Arthur Hill have been reconstructing the SSG website. Check out the comprehensive calendar and browse the updated professional member listings. PayPal is still a work in progress, so you'll need to mail in your membership renewals for now. Take a look and send your feedback to any board member!

Newsletters by e-mail: Contact becwig@comcast.net to receive your *In the Wind* as a PDF.

Employer matching funds? Check if your employer will match your SSG membership donation.

Find us on Facebook. Be a fan, get updates, join discussions.

Professional memberships include guild membership and a listing on the Performing Tellers section of the guild website. Join with the form on page 9 or at www.seattlestorytellers.org. You'll be contacted for details for your web listing.

**Seattle Storytellers Guild
www.seattlestorytellers.org**

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In the Wind

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Writers & Contributors: Judith Alexander, Cynthia Westby, Pat Peterson, Mary Gavan, Brian Rohr, Norm Brecke, Patty Zeitlin, Samantha Desmond, Jill Johnson, Mary Dessein

In the Wind is published quarterly by the Seattle Storytellers Guild, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the art of storytelling. A subscription is included in guild membership. Send communications to becwig@comcast.net.

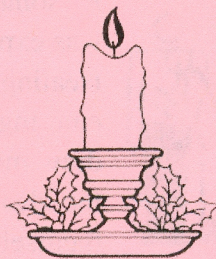
Spring issue
deadline:
February 15



Rohr Celebrates Last Storynight as Host

First Friday Storynight at BLTC
December 6, 2013 7–9 p.m.

Better Living Through Coffee
100 Tyler St., Port Townsend, WA 98368
\$10 suggested donation; no one turned away



Though the stories often teach us that each ending is in fact a new beginning, they also teach us the importance of recognizing and celebrating the endings themselves. In this spirit, the Mythsinger Foundation and host Brian Rohr invite you to come celebrate a grand ending, for on Friday, December 6, Rohr will be hosting his last First Friday Storynight after four years.

"It is with both sadness and excitement that I inform the Port Townsend community that my wife and I will be moving down to Portland, Oregon, in January," shares Rohr.

Begun by Rohr in November 2009 at Better Living Through Coffee, the monthly First Friday Storynight explores the art and ritual of the oral tradition: sharing the old myths, folktales, and fairy tales along with more modern stories and personal sharings. Each month, there are two to three featured tellers and an open mic.

"For those who love this event, don't be worried," Rohr explains. "Storynight will live on. I am pleased

to announce this monthly tradition will be handed over to a local favorite, musician and storyteller Aimée Ringle, who will begin hosting in the new year."

Joining Rohr on the stage this month as the featured teller will be renowned teacher, theater activist, and director Marc Weinblatt, who will bring playful and potent stories to the evening to make us laugh while also thinking about the world we live in. Amongst the stories he will share are "The Cannibal King" from the Hausa, African tradition and "The Hairy Toe" from the Southern United States. He will also share a tale from the Jewish tradition in honor of the Jewish holiday of Chanukah.

As always, Rohr will offer his magical tellings, sharing the old stories—the myths, folktales, and fairy tales—of long ago, while utilizing the drum to create a percussive trance state for the listener.

As is the tradition, there will also be an open mic section, so please bring your own short story, song, dance, poem, or some other performative form to share . . . the only rules are it must obviously be a story and no reading, everything must be shared in the ways of the oral tradition.

First Friday Storynight is supported by the Port Townsend Arts Commission.

BLTC is a family-owned and -operated coffee house located in downtown Port Townsend.

For more information on this event, please call 360-531-2535 or visit www.brianrohr.com.

Listen! Laugh! Enjoy! Stories for YOU!

Vancouver Storytellers www.vancouverstorytellers.ca

Third Sundays, October to May, 7 p.m. \$6 at the door 1805 Larch Street, Vancouver, B.C.

December 15: Still Waters Run Deep

Philomena Jordan, Jennifer Martin, Kira Van Deusen, Gael Whelan

January 19: Castles in the Air

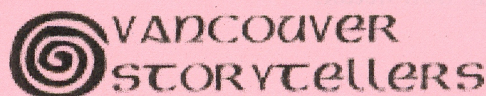
Abegael and Aidan Fisher-Lang, Doreen Giesbrecht, Chen Ha, Priscilla Jones, Larry Matier

February 16: Playing with Fire

Mary Gavan, Erin Graham, Philomena Jordan, Bryant Ross

Contact: Mary Gavan

mary@marycelticstory.ca



Samantha Desmond wins NSN “Next Generation Scholarship”

This summer I had the opportunity to embark on my own storytelling journey to the National Storytelling Network conference in Richmond, Virginia, being fortunate enough to win the Next Generation Conference Scholarship. The scholarship covers conference registration and lodging for adults age eighteen to thirty who are interested in using storytelling in their professional field.

Arriving in Virginia I was immediately welcomed by the kind-hearted and open community of storytellers from across the nation. The conference was a whirlwind of information and new ideas, and I loved every minute of it, not a second wasted. Everything from performance tips to the application of story in marketing was investigated.



Personally, the greatest part of the conference was exploring story in a healing context with the Healing Story Alliance, since I am currently entering my third year of medical school. What drew me into storytelling in the first place was the idea of how people's stories can be healing to themselves and their communities. It was an eye-opener to be around those who are using story in this way already.

I am very grateful to those who made the Next Generation Scholarship possible, since without it I would not have been able to go and be exposed to those ideas. I also feel very fortunate to have been given this opportunity and plan to use the knowledge I gained in the future, both in my practice and in life.

Thank you!

--Samantha Desmond



Gene Frieze Scholarship Awards

by Pat Peterson

This year the Gene Frieze Scholarship Committee awarded two scholarships to longtime Seattle Storytellers Guild members Ellin Huttel and Glenn McCauley.

Ellin and Glenn serve on the SSG board and have provided years of valuable service and participation in guild activities. They used the scholarship funds while attending the Forest Storytelling Festival in Port Angeles this October.

Gene Frieze was a much-loved member of the storytelling community who passed away in 1995. The scholarship fund was created to honor his memory.

Look for another scholarship to be awarded in 2014. Details will appear in the spring newsletter.



Norm Brecke presents “The Lighter Side of Lincoln”



Learn about the humorous side of Abraham Lincoln as banjo-playing storyteller Norm Brecke performs a lively program of stories, songs, and anecdotes as told by or about Mr. Lincoln during his time as a traveling lawyer in Illinois. Abe was not only honest—he was funny, too.

- February 12, 7 p.m., Olympia Community Center, 222 Columbia St. NW, Olympia (confirmation pending)
- February 13, 7 p.m., Couth Buzzard Books and Cafe, 8310 Greenwood Ave. N., Seattle
- February 15, 11 a.m., Shoreline Library, 345 NE 176th St., Shoreline (in association with Shoreline Historical Society)
- February 15, Renton, location and time TBA
- February 16, Netherhall, 1014 Sherrett, Portland, OR
- February 18, Emeritus at Orchards Village, 10011 NE 118th Ave., Vancouver, WA
- February 22, Bend, OR, location and time TBA



More shows to be added soon.

For current information, check www.normbrecke.com.

Jonesborough – 2013

by Jill Johnson

Almost twenty years ago, I landed in Jonesborough, Tennessee. Several months later, I joined the Jonesborough Storytelling Guild—and launched my sixth career. During the four years I lived there, I watched the little town of Jonesborough come alive in preparation for the National Storytelling Festival—and now I was doing it again.



Flags and bunting were already up and the spaces cleared, blocked off, and ready for the big tents. Merchants were putting the finishing touches on their displays; “The Appalachian Crafters” had some lovely handmade work. I watched as a farmer and his wife grabbed huge cornstalks from the courthouse steps and tied them onto the antique lampposts.

I dropped by the International Storytelling Center. It’s a handsome building—devoted to storytelling. Teller photos—and quotes (wonderful quotes!)—adorn the walls. The auditorium is small but well equipped. I was to tell there that evening. I was bringing “Rebecca,” my one-woman show, back . . . to my storytelling home.

Two years ago, I won a grant from the National Storytelling Network, our national storytelling organization, called the Huebner Grant. The grant had allowed me to do specialized historical research for “Rebecca.” The grant was funded by the Jonesborough Storytelling Guild and named for a former guild member and dear friend, Carole Ann Huebner. I vividly remember the day I received the grant—because I burst into tears. Carole Ann and her husband, Jack, had been vital supporters in those hard, early days as I struggled to learn my craft. I remember, more than once, railing at Carole Anne, “That’s it! I quit! I will NEVER learn how to do this! I’m going back to something I know how to do!” She just looked at me and said quietly, “No, you won’t. You’re a storyteller . . . like it or not . . . now, get on with it.”

And that evening, I was going to perform an excerpt of the story the guild had funded at their weekly telling at the Center in memory of Carole Anne.

The telling went well. I saw a few old friends, but many of the old-timers were gone. Nineteen years is a long time. . . .



As I stepped out into the soft Tennessee air, the glow from those antique streetlights once again worked their magic; Main Street was transformed back in time. I could almost hear Carole Anne’s husky laugh and see the smoke from her cigarette spiraling into the air. Somehow, she was there . . . in the mist . . . beyond the trees. I whispered, “Thank you.”

Chaco Canyon Stories
Second Tuesdays, 7–8:30 p.m.
Chaco Canyon Organic Cafe
3770 SW Alaska St., Seattle
206-937-8732

6 p.m. Workshop and tips prior to storytelling. At 6:30, sign up to tell stories.

Great food and drinks (\$2.50 specials).

Contact: Nancy Calos-Nakano at
culturalart@msn.com or 206-795-0833.



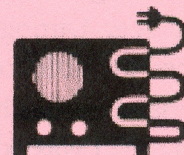
Global Griot: stories and music from around the world every Sunday from 9 to 11 a.m.

KSER 90.7FM or www.kser.org always has something going on!

The new segment, Conversations with Writers, is meeting with acclaim. On December 8, the guest will be Jill Johnson, noted storyteller, teacher, and playwright, sharing her wisdom. January 19 will find another best-selling author, Mara Purl, on the show. Mara was an actress on the long-running TV show *Days of Our Lives*, has numerous awards, and wrote the first American radio drama ever broadcast by the BBC. Tentatively, February 9 will be Reni Roxas, publisher of Tahanan Books, and editor of *Hanggang sa Muli: Homecoming Stories for the Filipino Soul*.

The shows can be listened to for two weeks after initial airing by going to www.kser.org and clicking on the archives. Join us!

--by Mary Dessein



Winter Calendar

December



1 Deadline for all 2014 Folklife performer applications! www.nwfolklife.org

6 Story Circle at the Bridge. 7 p.m. See page 8.

6 Marc Weinblatt tells at First Friday Storynight. 7 p.m., BLTC, Port Townsend, \$10. See page 3. brianrohr.com

6 Maggie Bennett tells "Winter Holiday Songs and Stories." 2:30 p.m., Vidal, Mercer Island. bennettmbh@yahoo.com

7 Margaret Read MacDonald tells at Island Books Story Time. 6:30 p.m., 3014 78th Ave. SE, Mercer Island, ages 3+, p.j.s encouraged! mercerislandbooks.com

10 Chaco Canyon Stories. 6 p.m. workshop, 7 p.m. stories. See page 5.

12 "Breaking the Rules—Stories of Doing Things You Shouldn't" at Fresh Ground Stories, a Seattle Storytelling Meetup Group. 7 p.m., Roy Street Coffee and Tea, 700 Broadway E, Seattle. meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories

20 Holiday Tales and Dessert Potluck at Haller Lake Storytelling Evening, open mic stories and songs. 7:30 p.m., HLCC, donations. See page 1.

26 Auntmama's Storycorner. 7 p.m., Madison Park Starbucks, free. www.auntmama.com

January



3 Story Circle at the Bridge. 7 p.m. See page 8.

3 First Friday Storynight. 7 p.m., BLTC, Port Townsend, \$10.

14 Chaco Canyon Stories. 6 p.m. workshop, 7 p.m. stories. See page 5.

17 Judith Alexander and Veronica Muskheli tell "Wishes and Dreams" at Haller Lake Storytelling Evening with open mic. 7:30 p.m., HLCC, donations. See page 1.

30 Auntmama's Storycorner. 7 p.m., Madison Park Starbucks, free. www.auntmama.com

February



1 Judy Bordeaux tells at Island Books Story Time. 6:30 p.m., 3014 78th Ave. SE, Mercer Island, ages 3+, p.j.s encouraged! mercerislandbooks.com

7 Story Circle at the Bridge. 7 p.m. See page 8.

7 First Friday Storynight. 7 p.m., BLTC, Port Townsend, \$10.

11 Chaco Canyon Stories. 6 p.m. workshop, 7 p.m. stories. See page 5.

Norm Brecke tells "The Lighter Side of Lincoln." See page 4 for more details. normbrecke.com.

12 Olympia Community Center, 7 p.m.

13 Couth Buzzard Books and Cafe, Seattle

15 Shoreline Library, 11 a.m.

15 Renton, WA

16 Portland, OR

18 Vancouver, WA

22 Bend, OR

21 Samantha Desmond and Veronica Muskheli start the story circle for "Love Ain't Easy" at the Haller Lake Storytelling Evening. 7:30 p.m., HLCC, donations. See page 1.

Ongoing Events



Please check before you go! Details may change.

Sundays. Global Griot, KSER 90.7 FM or online at www.kser.org, 9–11 a.m. To tell, call 425-303-9076 during showtime or e-mail aarenex@haikufarm.net.

Sundays. Storyteller Auntmama on 91.3 FM or kbcf.fm, 8:30 a.m., in "Walkin' the Floor" program.

Sundays. The Storytelling Show, Vancouver Co-op Radio, CFRO 102.7 FM or www.coopradi.org, 9–10 p.m. thestorytellingshow.com

Third Sundays. Listen! Laugh! Enjoy! Stories for grown-ups. Featured teller and open mike. 7 p.m., Vancouver, B.C., \$6. vancouverstorytellers.ca

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

Third Mondays. Stories at Fern. 7:30 p.m., 1831 Fern St., Victoria, B.C., \$5. victoriastorytellers.org (Dec. 9)

Fourth Mondays. The Story People of Clallam County. Contact Alice Susong, 360-683-8630

Second Tuesdays. Storytelling at Chaco Canyon Organic Cafe, 3770 SW Alaska St., Seattle. 7-8:30 p.m. Sign up at 6:30 to tell stories. \$2.50 specials on food and drinks. Contact culturalart@msn.com

Wednesdays. Storyteller Auntmama, KBCS 91.3 FM or kbcf.fm in "Womanotes" program.

Second Wednesdays. South Sound Story Guild. 7 p.m. featured teller, 8 p.m. open mic, Olympia. www.southsoundstory.org or tellers2@aol.com

Thursdays. Maggie Bennett leads songfests. 3 p.m., Aljoya, Mercer Island, free. bennettmbh@yahoo.com

First Thursdays. Moth StorySLAM themed open mic. 8 p.m., Fremont Abbey Arts Center, Seattle, \$8. themoth.org/events

Last Thursdays. Auntmama's Storycorner, 7-8:15 p.m., Starbucks at Madison Park, 4000 E. Madison Ave., 206-329-3736, free. www.auntmama.com

First Fridays. Storynight at BLTC. 7-9 p.m., Better Living Through Coffee, 100 Tyler St., Port Townsend, \$10. www.brianrohr.com, 360-531-2535

First Fridays. Portland Story Swap. 6:30 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School, Portland, free. www.portlandstorytellers.org

Second Fridays. Around Town Tellers "Stories on Friday." 7:30 p.m., Nanaimo, B.C., \$5. aroundtowntellers.com

Third Fridays. Haller Lake Storytelling Evenings. 7:30 p.m., 12579 Densmore Ave. N, Seattle, donations.

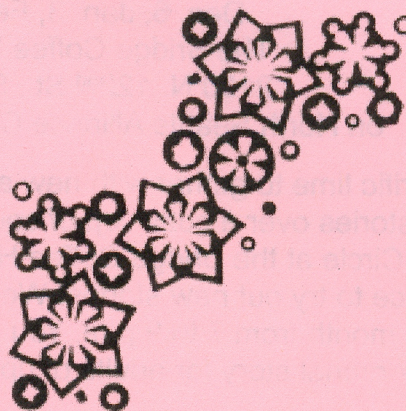
Third Fridays. Storytelling for the Love of It. Meeting and workshop, 6 p.m. Family storytelling, 7 p.m. Free, Fairhaven Library, Bellingham. bellinghamstorytellersguild.org

Saturdays. Children's Storytime, 11 a.m., Ravenna Third Place Books, 6504 20th Ave. NE, Seattle, free.

First Saturdays. Island Books Story Time. 6:30 p.m., 3014 78th Ave. SE, Mercer Isl., ages 3+. mercerislandbooks.com

Second Saturdays. Urban Tellers Showcase. 8 p.m., Tipbone Studio, Portland, OR, \$10-\$15. portlandstorytheater.com

Anytime. "A Guide To Visitors: Storytelling in Seattle" recorded programs on KUOW. Listen at <http://kuow.org>.



Seattle Storytellers Guild Membership Form

Circle one: New member *or* Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____ Today's Date _____

Individual \$25/year ____ \$70/3 years ____

Family \$35/year ____ \$85/3 years ____

Professional Membership \$75/year ____

(SSG membership plus Web listing)

Additional tax-deductible contribution _____

OK to share your data with National Storytelling Network?
name only ____ e-mail too ____

www.seattlestorytellers.org

Story Circle at the Bridge!

An Open Mic Event

First Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m.

Dec. 6, Jan. 3, Feb. 7

The Bridge Coffee House

2150 N. 122nd St., Seattle

on North Seattle Alliance Church campus



Winter is a terrific time to gather with new and old friends to listen and tell stories over a cozy cup of cocoa or coffee! Our monthly Story Circle at the Bridge Coffee House is a friendly, welcoming place to try out new stories! We gather on the first Friday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. You may tell a traditional or personal story for adults of up to 8 minutes.

Coffee and snacks are available for purchase, which supports the Bridge Coffee House's generous donation of their space. For questions or more information please contact host Cynthia Westby at cynthia@cynthiawestby.com.

Directions: From I-5, take exit 173 for Northgate Way. Head west on North Northgate Way. Take the first right onto Meridian Avenue North. Turn right onto North 122nd Street. The Bridge Coffee House is on the left.

Intrigued by all the local stories?

Become SSG's newsletter editor!

The position's still open, and we know the right person's out there ready to share the news. Starting with the Fall 2014 issue, *In the Wind* needs a new editor. The job takes several hours, mostly in a couple of weeks every three months. You get to know all sorts of local story folks and be the first to hear about their goings-on.



Questions? becwig@comcast.net

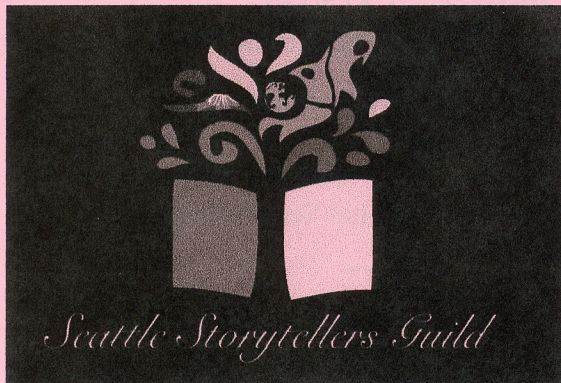
—Rebecca Kettwig

In the Wind

Seattle Storytellers Guild

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www.seattlestorytellers.org

First Class Mail