

# in The Wind

## Seattle Storytellers

### Guild Events

First Friday Virtual  
on Zoom Story Swaps  
See Page 7

SSG StoryFests  
September 18  
October 16  
See Page 2

Tellabration™  
November 20  
See Page 6

### Inside this issue:

Storyfests with Norm and Anne Larry and Jeff	2
Vi Hilbert and Haboo In The Wind Publishing Info	3
Adventure with Green Magic The TBD Storytellers	4
Patty's Zoom Swap Hints	5
Tellabration™ 2020 Eva and MaryAnne The Timpanogos Festival	6
Trail Guides into the New Frontier: ASST and Crossroads	7
Calendar of Coming and Canceled Events	8
First Friday Story Swaps Regional Story Guilds Membership Info	9
Some Common Zoom Issues	10
Under the Rainbow Pocketgrass NSN Connected	11
Some Facebook Storytelling Groups to join or follow	12
Address Page	

## The +’s and -’s of Phase Two Virtual Storytelling



When the Special Summer Issue came out, we realized we were entering a “new normal.” I think most of us hoped that by this Fall, we would start up again as before. Sadly, we can’t. The pandemic impacted storytelling communities all over the nation. Several guilds – such as **The Clallam Country Story People**, **The Quimper Guild**, and others have basically been shutdown due to the social distancing restrictions and ongoing closed venues – live gatherings will not happen, at least well into the Fall, for many of the events on our calendars. Some Guilds like **Portland’s** and **South Sound’s** and **Fresh Ground Stories** have dipped their toes into virtual storytelling on **Zoom**, or posted recordings on **You Tube**. It has been hardest on the professional storytellers – quite a few have turned to the internet to keep storytelling alive – either with video posts, or internet events. We love telling face to face, but sadly we can see each other only on small screens.

On the plus side, our storytelling community has greatly expanded. Numbers of virtual concerts and workshops keep popping up in my Facebook groups’ news feeds. The eight **TBD Storytellers** (which includes our dear friends Norm Brecke, Anne Rutherford and Ingrid Nixon) are an example of the online concerts with some top notch tellers available though sometimes at odd hours. Almost too many to take advantage of!

The **NSN’s CONNECTED conference** successfully went virtual and some of us who wouldn’t have journeyed to Georgia got to attend concerts and workshops. And though the Forest Festival is canceled, The **Timpanogos Storytelling Festival** in mid September will be virtually available at a great price for both its concerts and workshops! It is increasing clear that online storytelling will continue even after things improve with movers and shakers like Sheila Arnold and Rachel Hedman urging us forward into the “cloud”.

The **Seattle Storytellers Guild** tested the waters with our toes with virtual **First** and **Third Friday Swaps** through the Summer, and hosted Anne-Louise Sperry for a virtual program in June. As we approach the Fall, there are minuses – **Auntmama’s Storytable** remains canceled, she is concentrating on the radio and **Pocketgrass**. **UTR** has also gone virtual. **Elder Tales** had a couple of Zoom storytellings at Merrill Gardens in the Spring (sadly the tellers outnumbered their audience). **Kat Tales** is canceled, though a baby is on the way.

The **SSG Board’s planning meeting** in late July anticipates we will be virtual through the end of the year, and possibly well into 2021. So we will have our monthly StoryFests with some excellent storytellers as zoomed events for the time being. However they will be shorter programs and earlier in the evening. It is likely that we may not be able to gather early next year and we are even open to having our March through May events online, which were postponed from Spring 2020 to next Spring, if necessary.

We will continue to have online **First Friday Swaps** hosted alternately by Briarcrest or SSG folks as well, and will explore, if there is interest, a second and somewhat different Swap evening. We hope to have a virtual workshop in October and another in 2021. And we do hope as well that our audiences will make suggested donations – we now have a Tip Jar on our website for just that purpose as we are striving to bring you some quality storytelling.

So here is **Part Two of our Virtual Storytelling Issues**. If you see too much Red on pages eight and nine, Hang in There! Storytelling is still more alive than ever!

Barry McWilliams, Editor and President

# Seattle Storytellers Guild's Virtual Friday StoryFests

## September StoryFest : **Norm Brecke and Anne Rutherford**



**ADVENTURE CALLING : Tru-ish Tales of Misadventure**

**Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 5:00 – 6:15 PM Pacific Daylight Time**  
(8 PM Eastern, 7 PM Central and 6 PM Mountain time.)

**A Zoom Online Event—Waiting Room opens at 4:30—Admitting at 4:45 PM**

You can expect tales of adventures large and small,  
hither and yon', Some true - some true-ish.  
Anne will bring "Clementine Ryder" along  
to tell a story from Washington state.



Register in advance for this event: <https://tinyurl.com/y6nlo5lc> (See below)

**More about Norm and Anne: <https://www.anne-norm.com/>**

**New to Zoom? Watch This Video!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zIUHmGaOZ-4&feature=youtu.be>

## October StoryFest : Spooky Tales with **Jeff Gere and Larry Hohm**



**October 16th, 2020 5:00 – 6:15 PM Pacific Daylight Time**  
(8 PM Eastern, 7 PM Central and 6 PM Mountain time.)

**A Zoom Online Event—Waiting Room open at 4:30—Admitting at 4:45 PM**

**Jeff Gere tells many scary stories from Hawai'i.**

**Larry Hohm is well known for his mysterious and dark stories.**

**Having the two together will probably send shivers down your spine,  
so lock the doors, pull the drapes and join us for an evening of tales.**

"Jeff's physical energy, wide range of voices, morphing elastic face and clear  
characterizations make his performances unforgettable events. Jeff becomes his stories!"

"Larry tells stories with an edge—compelling works of fiction written by  
accomplished authors, gripping tales filled with drama and imagination."



Register in advance for this Event: <https://tinyurl.com/y2kp89ks> (See below)

**More about Jeff : [www.jeffgere.com/](http://www.jeffgere.com/)**

**More about Larry: [www.larryhohm.com/](http://www.larryhohm.com/)**

**A Zoom link will be sent upon Registration for these events.**

**You are most welcome to invite friends, but please share the Registration link above,  
rather than the login link sent to you for these events, for security reasons.**

**A Suggested Donation of \$5 or more helps support our StoryFests and our featured Tellers!**

Donations can be made: Via our **Tip Jar** on our home page: [seattlestorytellers.org](http://seattlestorytellers.org)

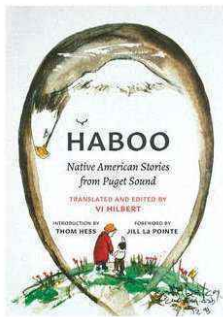
Via this **Paypal link** - [www.paypal.me/seattlestorytellers](https://www.paypal.me/seattlestorytellers)

Or you can mail a check to: **Seattle Storytellers Guild, PO Box 18361, Seattle, WA., 98118**

## HABOO

If you remember Vi Hilbert, our Pacific Northwest storytelling grandmother, you may be interested to read this article about a new edition of *Haboo*, the book of stories she translated and edited. For countless generations, the safeguarding of all this information depended not only on the ability to develop extraordinary memories but more importantly on the ability to listen attentively. The stories in this book encourage listening and learning from nature.

You may also know that Vi was instrumental in preserving the Lushootseed language. It is surprising to realize it was not until the late 1960's and early 1970's that Lushootseed was developed into its current written form. Today, when native speakers are becoming fewer, many tribes use current technology and even social media platforms to revitalize their languages. Vi's book provides another avenue.



Many of us remember her gentle way of telling stories in Lushootseed and English. She was one of our first *Golden Circle* honorees. Her memory has also just been honored with the opening this fall of a new student housing complex on the Seattle University campus named **Vi Hilbert Hall!**

A article on her Lushootseed Storytelling by Jill La Pointe is available online: <https://lithub.com/jill-la-pointe-on-the-art-and-preservation-of-lushootseed-storytelling/>

Submitted by Judith Alexander and Barry McWilliams

### *In the Wind*

Volume 43 Number 4 Fall 2020

Publisher: Seattle Storytellers Guild  
Editor: Barry McWilliams

Writers & Contributors: Barry McWilliams, Judith Alexander, Patty Zeitlin, MaryAnne Moorman, Naomi Baltuck, Loren Niemi.

*In the Wind* is published three times a year by the Seattle Storytellers Guild, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the art of storytelling. A one-year subscription is included in guild membership. See Page 9.

Articles and comments should be directed to [eldrbarry@gmail.com](mailto:eldrbarry@gmail.com) txt files are preferred, with pictures sent as separate attachments.

**Fall issue deadline: November 15**

### Seattle Storytellers Guild Board 2019-2020

[www.seattlestorytellers.org](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org)

Barry McWilliams	President
Patty Zeitlin	Vice President
	Secretary
Anne Brendler	Treasurer

#### At large members

Afifi Durr	Judith Alexander
Larry Hohm	Bergith Kayyali
MaryAnne Moorman	Eva Abram
Chris Spengler	Bu Huang

#### Auxiliary members:

Allison Cox	Epic Events
Naomi Baltuck	Under The Rainbow
Susy Irwin	NSN Liaison
Cherie Trebon	Folklife liaison

Contact information is on Our Web Site

### Want more Storytelling News

**Or want to announce an event  
between newsletters?**

Judith Alexander sends out her e-mail blast generally on the Sundays before the first and third Fridays of each month. She will also forward items to the Guild webmaster Larry Hohm and to Barry McWilliams for *In The Wind*.

Judith's e-mail address is  
[judith\\_tells@earthlink.net](mailto:judith_tells@earthlink.net)

Or visit our website for more news:  
[seattlestorytellers.org](http://seattlestorytellers.org)  
Press the [Show All Events] Button





## Adventures with Green “Magic”

*As we entered the virtual realm of storytelling last Spring, I set out to create my own “virtual studio.” I first got a magic wand – a selfie stick with a folding tripod base that extends to 40 inches for making videos with my smart phone.*

*Because I wanted to escape from my normal humdrum life – isn't that what stories are for? - I also wished for a magic carpet upon which I could travel to beautiful places and fantasy worlds – with a Green Screen and Virtual Background – I could put myself anywhere!!*

*Much more classy places than that view of an ironing board and the glare of a skylight behind me, reducing me to a featureless silhouette as I sit at my desktop. Or a view of my kitchen wall with half my face in darkness. Or my laptop gazing up at my chin from a TV Tray.*

*But to travel afar and enter those “cloud realms” – I first needed some more “magic” - like Queen Grimhilde's Magic Mirror (from Snow White) or a gazing ball that sees everywhere – I had to settle for just that “one tiny single eye” on my phone or laptop, or the Webcam, which like Odin's Raven, perches on my monitor looking at me, listening to all I say.*

*“Now who is the fairest in the Land. . . ?” For that I needed a Magic Ring as well – a light ring to illuminate my face. There are all sorts of these available from small ones that clip to my phone, to much larger 10” ones that glow behind a laptop – filled with adjustable LED bulbs to drive away the shadows and flatter my looks. I have a set of 6” Twins – adjustable for cool or warm light, brightness – even colors! Zoom now has features that adjust for low light, and can improve your appearance – with just a couple clicks on a mouse!*

*However, to see myself in far off places and fairy realms – I need my green magic carpet. It measures 5 feet tall by 7 feet wide, and hangs behind me, supported by a long 1”x 1/2” stick inserted in a sleeve sewn across the top, held up by a tall tripod stand. There are ways you can improvise these screens, and I saw a big round one that straps to a computer chair.*

*Why Green? Well, apart from the Wicked Witch of the West and the Jolly Green Giant – very few of us are green. When my magic device fills in the screen with a virtual background of scenic or fantasy images – it only fills in the green in back. Of course, any solid background may work, but as photographers and special effect folks know – green is the best!*

*So when you see me on Zoom, in those imaginative places, with perhaps a logo floating over my shoulder – you will know that all it took was a bit of creative magic and . . . some green out of my pocket!!*



*Submitted by Barry McWilliams*

**Perhaps one of the best treats this Summer** has been a cohort of eight seasoned Storytellers who are working together to inspire each other. They call themselves **TBD Storytellers** because they finally decided since they couldn't decide, their name became “**To Be Determined**”. They are special to us because our good friends, Norm Brecke, Anne Rutherford and Ingrid Nixon, are part of the group. The others are Simon Brooks, Sheila Arnold, Paul Stickland, Jeff Doyle and Antonio Rocha. All are skillful storytellers!

Every couple of weeks, four of them have zoomed in with some great telling in a Tuesday afternoon concert, followed by another concert with the other four. Most recently was the first part of a “Pants on Fire” Liars Telling - Part two will be September 29th at 5 PM.

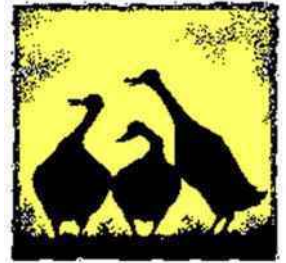
We hope that they will continue to inspire each other and us with their storytelling. Look for them on Facebook, or connect by email at [TBDstorytellers@gmail.com](mailto:TBDstorytellers@gmail.com) for more details and the links to attend. Events are free, but they can use donations!



## Hints for Storytellers at our Zoom Swaps *by Patty Zeitlin*

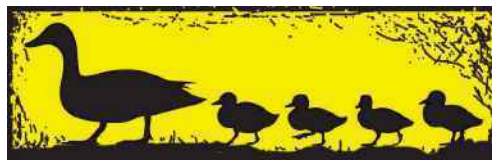
We want our First Friday Swaps to be opportunities for people to enjoy sharing stories with each other. We welcome everyone to listen. Some folks might be trying out a new story, or telling a story for the first time. Here are some reminders to make our swaps more pleasant for all

**Attention.** Having the full, respectful attention of an audience in virtual form is just as important to tellers as it is during "in person" tellings. It is common web etiquette not to walk around while holding your device, or be eating while on screen. Drinking a few sips of water now and then is not as much of a problem. Getting up and down is visually distracting, though on occasion, in home situations, it can't be helped. If it is essential that you leave for a moment, please try to do it in between tellers and please turn off your video until you return. Using the **Chat box** while a story is told shows poor attention and distracts others.



**What kinds of stories?** Time limits for the stories may vary, "family-friendly", and should be told, not read. They might or might not be on the suggested theme. They can be personal, historical, original or folk tales, etc. If the stories are not personal tales, please also share where you found your story. Generally, stories will be timed, and a signal given when you have one more minute. Tellers should be alert for the signal - by a bell or chime, and might acknowledge it with a nod or gesture. And wrap up when time is up. If you want to tell a story at a Swap, contact Barry McWilliams ([eldrbarry@gmail.com](mailto:eldrbarry@gmail.com)) ahead of time, and if there is time for more tellers that evening, you might still get "on the list". In order that others might have a chance to tell, those who haven't told recently at a swap will be given priority.

**Regarding feedback after each story.** Tellers can request feedback or not. If you give feedback, start with something you enjoyed/liked about a story and/or how it was presented. Or if anything was confusing, say so and ask about that. Please keep your responses on the telling and the story rather than talking about something the story reminded you of - some folks call that "bird walking." I see it as a message to yourself, that maybe what you heard has stirred up a story that you might want to tell, but at some other time.



# Tellabration 2020™

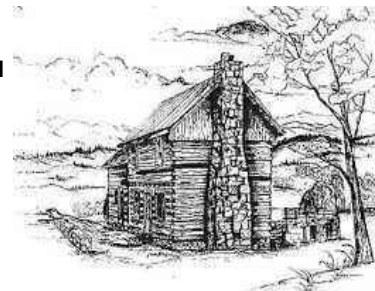
with **Eva Abram** and **MaryAnne Moorman**  
With some special music as well

November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 5:00 – 6:45 PM Pacific Standard Time  
(8 PM Eastern, 7 PM Central and 6 PM Mountain time.)

A Zoom Online Event—Waiting Room opens at 5:30—Admitting at 5:45 PM

**Eva Abram** grew up in a little town in Louisiana called St. Joe, surrounded by extended family telling the stories which seeped into and shaped her. A notable local storyteller and award winning actress, her stories are rich with wisdom and humor, and delivered with captivating grace and style.

**Mary Anne Moorman** grew up in the South and whips up silver, spit-shined, down home tales! Recently Honored as a Seattle Living Legend by the Seattle Arts Commission. MaryAnne loves combining folk music and storytelling and has a radio show on Sundays. And can she ever tell!



We will also have some Special Music—To Be Announced!

More about Eva: [www.rainwaterstorytelling.com](http://www.rainwaterstorytelling.com) — More about MaryAnne: [www.maryannemoorman.com/](http://www.maryannemoorman.com/)

Register in advance for this meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/y5869qk6>

A Zoom link will be sent upon Registration for these events. You are welcome to invite friends, but please share the Registration link above, rather than the login link sent to you for these events, for security reasons.

A Suggested Donation of \$5-\$10 or more helps support our StoryFests and our featured Tellers!

Donations can be made : Via our **Tip Jar** on our home page: [seattlestorytellers.org](http://seattlestorytellers.org)

Via a link Paypal - [www.paypal.me/seattlestorytellers](http://www.paypal.me/seattlestorytellers)

Or you can mail a check to : Seattle Storytellers Guild, PO Box 18361, Seattle, WA., 98118



Global tellers and surprise guests virtually in your own home!  
Only \$25 per household

Live September 10-12 and viewable through September 20, 2020  
For tickets and information, visit us at [www.TimpFest.org](http://www.TimpFest.org)



*Where the world sits down together!*

## The Timpanogos Storytelling Festival

in Orem, Utah is one of the biggest in the West and this year will be held virtually Thursday, September 10th —Saturday, September 12th.

Recordings will be available to ticket holders until September 20th. Prices are very reasonable—\$25 per household for the Festival—and quite a line up of tellers and \$40 for the Conference Workshops on Thursday from 9—4 PDT.

This may be a welcome opportunity for those who will be missing this year's canceled Forest Storytelling Festival in Port Angeles.

[www.thanksgivingpoint.org/events/timpanogos-storytelling-festival/](http://www.thanksgivingpoint.org/events/timpanogos-storytelling-festival/)



In the Past couple of Months, a couple of Storytellers have really stood out - helping to inspire and move us all into this new virtual Storytelling frontier.

**Sheila Arnold** has been using her talents since she was eight years old. Based in Virginia, She has been a full-time Storyteller for seventeen years, traveling in 41 states since 2003 sharing a variety of stories and historic character presentations through her company **History's Alive!** At her core, Ms. Sheila, has passion, vision and a ministry of healing hearts, unifying communities and reminding people to share their stories. A member of the **Virginia Storytelling Alliance**, Sheila has been a featured storyteller at several major Storytelling Festivals.

This summer, she seems to be everywhere online. And she is involved in all sorts of projects - the pandemic can't keep her down. She is one of the eight in **TBD**. She promoted an online concert, **Sacred Stories** and the recent **Bridging North America** storytelling events. Sheila [joined with Donna Washington](#) in founding **Artists Standing Strong Together**, at first a fund to help struggling storytellers, now a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit. Over the next few months, Sheila Arnold's tireless efforts made ASST the gold standard of virtual storytelling, inspiring many others to jump in with both feet. You will want to follow [their Facebook Group](#).

*"We want to keep assisting artists to find ways to bring their visions, hopes, and dreams into the world. We want to help artists as they run their own businesses. We want to financially support artists who have run headlong into one of those dry spells in the "feast or famine" life of an itinerant performer. We want to keep virtual spaces open and connecting artists from all over the world."*



**Rachel Hedman** As a family folklore expert and youth storytelling advocate, Rachel Hedman looks to the future by first looking in the home. She promoted positive communication and relationships through the **Folktales About Families** Series. Rachel started telling stories in High School and has guided storytelling organizations through leadership, blogs, and e-newsletters since 1997. She received the 2012 **National Storytelling Network Service and Leadership Award for the Western Region** (ORACLE). She completed her Storytelling Masters from East Tennessee State University. Her [adoption folktales thesis](#) was defended two days before adopting two boys with her husband, Casey. They have since adopted a girl. She kickstarted **Story Crossroads** in 2016, a Salt Lake county storytelling festival and is its Executive Director, a grassroots organization that aims to gather and unify people across generations and cultures to celebrate story and promote creative communities. Click for an article about [how they took their summer events online](#).

**Story Crossroads** has been sending a series of very useful **Blogs** on topics like "What Youth Tellers Want and Need—7 Parts" and "How to Set Up Virtual Events—5 Parts".

**Story Crossroads** is offering a series of Workshops called **All Things Story** - Learn and develop storytelling skills in all areas - professional, performance, and applied. This is a monthly series with a certificate after each time that can be used for professional development or continued education credit. It kicks off with a Zoom Workshop with Simon Brooks "*Breaking the Boundaries of the Screen*" on September 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00—9:30 PDT AM.

Starting in January, they are beginning [a virtual storytelling email list](#) with a bi-monthly newsletter.



## Fall Calendar of Seattle Area Events \*indicates Seattle Storytellers' Guild event

### September

**3 MOTH StorySLAM** **VIRTUAL** 7:15 pm, Seattle \$

**4\* Briarcrest Neighborhood Zoom Swap** 7-9 PM (See Page 7)

**14\* Under The Rainbow** Stories for LGBTQ+ **VIRTUAL** (See Page 11)

**10-12 Tinpanogos Storytelling Festival** **VIRTUAL** (See page 6)

**11 Pandemic and Protests** **VIRTUAL** KNKX and Fresh Ground Stories 7 PM

**18\* Storyfest: Norm Brecke and Anne Rutherford** 5-6 PM **VIRTUAL** (See Page 2) \$donations

**17 Fresh Ground Stories** 7 p.m., **VIRTUAL**

**18 MOTH StorySLAM** **VIRTUAL** ? Check Website

**24\* Auntmama's Story Table** 7 p.m., **CANCELED**

**29 TBD STORYTELLERS — Pants on Fire Part Two** **VIRTUAL** 5PM (See page 4)

### October

**1 MOTH StorySLAM** ? Check Website

**6\* SSG Zoom Story Swap** **VIRTUAL** 7:00 pm (See Page 9)

**12\* Under The Rainbow** Stories for LGBTQ+ **VIRTUAL** (See Page 11)

**15 Fresh Ground Stories** 7 p.m., **VIRTUAL**

**16\* StoryFest: Spooky Tales with Larry Hohm and Jeff Gere** 5 pm **VIRTUAL** (See Page 2)

**15 MOTH StorySLAM** ? Check Website

**29\* Auntmama's Story Table** **PROBABLY CANCELED**

For an Up-dated Calendar of Regional Storytelling Events

go to [Seattlestorytellers.org](http://Seattlestorytellers.org) And Press [See All Events]

Lots of Special Events are listed in Judith's Storytelling News (see page 3)

And Check the On Line Calendars of the Storytelling Communities on p. 9

### November

**5 MOTH StorySLAM** Check Website

**6\* Briarcrest Neighborhood Zoom Swap** 7 pm (Page 7)

**9\* Under The Rainbow** **VIRTUAL** (See Page 11)

**19 Fresh Ground Stories** **VIRTUAL**

**20\* Tellabration™ 2020** **VIRTUAL** 5-7 PM (See Page 5)

**20 MOTH StorySLAM** Check Website

**26\* Auntmama's Story Table** **CANCELED DUE TO HOLIDAY**

Look for Auntmama on the Radio: **KBCS's weekly show**

[airing alternating Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-12 p.m. on 91.3 FM (Bellevue)]

and Streaming at **Pocketgrass** September 10th 7 pm [Wintergrass.org](http://Wintergrass.org) (see page 10)

### Ongoing Events : Seattle Area

*Please check before you go! Details may change.*

Second Mondays Under the Rainbow **VIRTUAL** Stories from the LGBTQ community— See Page 9 for changes in Fall Schedule

First Thursdays. Moth StorySLAM themed, open mic. 8 p.m., **VIRTUAL** [\\$">themoth.org/events](http://themoth.org/events) \$

Second Thursdays. North Seattle Storytellers Meetup, **CANCELED FOR NOW**

Third Thursdays. Fresh Ground Stories. 7 p.m. **VIRTUAL** [www.meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/](http://www.meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/)

Last Thursdays. Auntmama's StoryTable, **CANCELED FOR NOW**

First Fridays SSG Story Swaps Months **VIRTUAL** See page 9 for details

Seattle Storytellers's Guild Story Fests. **VIRTUAL**. \$ Donations, Sept.-May, **See Pages 2, and 6 for Fall dates!!**

Third Fridays Moth StorySLAM themed, open mic. **VIRTUAL** \$

Saturdays— Children's Storytelling at 3rd Place books, Ravenna, **NO EVENTS NOW** [thirdplacebooks.com](http://thirdplacebooks.com)

First Saturdays Island Books Family Story Time. **VIRTUAL** [Mercerislandbooks.com](http://Mercerislandbooks.com)

Second Saturdays Kat Tales **CANCELED**

### Regional Ongoing Events

Fourth Fridays. The Story Today, Featured tellers and open mike. **CANCELED FOR NOW.** [vancouverstorytellers.ca](http://vancouverstorytellers.ca)

Second Mondays. Fireside Story League of Tacoma **CANCELED FOR NOW** (Unknown). Stories at Fern. **VIRTUAL**., \$. [victoriastorytellers.org](http://victoriastorytellers.org)

Third Tuesdays. Story People of Clallam County **CANCELED FOR NOW** [www.clallamstorypeople.org](http://www.clallamstorypeople.org)

First Tuesdays. Ellensburg Storytellers- The Yarn Spinners, **CANCELED FOR NOW**

Second Wednesdays. South Sound Storytellers Guild **VIRTUAL—CHECK WEBSITE** (Sept-May)

Third Wednesdays. Stories on Tap and Open Mike **PRIVATE—CLOSED TO PUBLIC**

First Friday Quimper Guild StoryNight, 7-9 pm **CLOSED FOR NOW**

First Fridays Urban Tellers at the Fremont **POSTPONED TILL 2021** [www.pdxstorytheater.org/shows/urban-tellers/](http://www.pdxstorytheater.org/shows/urban-tellers/) (Oct-Jun only)

First Saturdays Portland Storytellers Guild Themed Shows **VIRTUAL**

Second Fridays Portland Storytellers Guild Swaps **VIRTUAL** (Sept-May)

Third Fridays The Bellingham Storytellers Guild: Storytelling for the Love of It. **CANCELED FOR NOW** [BellinghamStorytellersGuild.org](http://BellinghamStorytellersGuild.org)

This reflects the status of these events as of September, as best we can determine. If venues open, things may change. Check websites.

**FGS Storytelling Workshop, ZOOM event** usually first Sunday of the month in the Afternoon

Bring a story up to eight-minutes long to work on; give and receive feedback.

More info: <https://www.meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories-Storytelling-Workshop/>



## First Friday Night Zoom Story Swaps

This Fall, we are alternating the hosting for our First Friday of the month Story Swaps between the Briarcrest Folks on odd numbered months and the Haller Lake Folks on Even numbered months.

Of course, everyone is welcome to listen or tell at either swap. Stories are 8 minutes max, family-friendly and told, not read.

The Swaps are Seven to Nine PM on Zoom. Waiting room at 6:45 Each will have a unique sign in link — so if you would like to attend, or have a story to share, contact Barry to get your email added to our invitation list. A zoom link will be send out about a week before.

Contact Barry McWilliams at [eldrbarry@gmail.com](mailto:eldrbarry@gmail.com)  
For other information contact Patty Zeitlin at [pattipaz.z@gmail.com](mailto:pattipaz.z@gmail.com)  
about the Haller Lake Swap or Afifi Durr at [afifidurr15@gmail.com](mailto:afifidurr15@gmail.com)  
about the Briarcrest Neighborhood Story Swap



### *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 \_\_\_\_

#### Linking up with nearby storytelling communities

##### Fresh Ground Stories

Seattle Meetup Group  
[meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/](https://www.meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/)

##### The MOTH : True Stories told Live

Seattle and Portland  
[themoth.org/](https://themoth.org/)

**Seattle Public Library: Calendar**  
[spl.org/calendar-of-events](https://spl.org/calendar-of-events)

##### Story People of Clallum County

Port Angeles  
[clallamstorypeople.org/](https://clallamstorypeople.org/)

##### Quimper Story Guild

Port Townsend  
[facebook.com/QuimperStoryGuild](https://facebook.com/QuimperStoryGuild)

##### South Sound Storytellers Guild

Lakewood  
[southsoundstory.org/](https://southsoundstory.org/)

##### Fireside Story League of Tacoma

[firesidestoryleague.org/](https://firesidestoryleague.org/)

##### Bellingham Storytellers Guild

[BellinghamStoryTellers.org/](https://BellinghamStoryTellers.org/)

##### Storytelling Club—Yarn Spinners

Ellensburg - See Facebook

##### Portland Storytellers Guild

[portlandstorytellers.org/](https://portlandstorytellers.org/)

##### Portland Story Theater

[portlandstorytheater.com/](https://portlandstorytheater.com/)

For More info on Local and Regional Events  
visit: [www.seattlestorytellers.org](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org)

**To join the SSG** You can fill out the form below and send it to:  
*Seattle Storytellers Guild*  
P.O. Box 18361  
Seattle, WA 98118  
Or go to [www.seattlestorytellers.org](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org) Click on "Join Now" at the top of the page. From there you can join or renew online using PayPal. By clicking the "Pay Now" button or you can print and mail the form with a check.

**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](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org). You'll be contacted for details for your web listing.





## Some Common Zoom Control and Tech Issues

**Please Update Zoom in your browser to the latest version 5.2.1!**

(Update is found in your settings)

Here is a short video for those new to using Zoom: <https://youtu.be/zIUHmGaOZ-4>

**Joining a meeting** sometimes is a problem. The usual approach is to simply to click on the **Web Address Link** sent via the **Invitation Email**. Sometimes that includes the meeting number and passcode and just clicking will take you right into the **Waiting Room**, but it may require you to click on **Open Zoom Meetings** in the pop up box.

But if that fails, you may need go to **zoom.us** in your browser, and click on **Join a Meeting** without signing in. Then enter the **Meeting ID** and **Passcode numbers** which were also included in the **Invitation email** when you are prompted for them. That should take you into the meeting. With a smart phone you may need to install the **Zoom App** first.

**If you experience Tech issues with your Device...**like no sound, video issues, vocal echoes, or low bandwidth, it works best to chat with just one person about this rather than involving the meeting in the problem. Be patient. We are all still learning how to use this media in these tough times.

**Mute and unmute.** Use buttons on your screen to **mute** and **unmute** as needed. The Tech host may at times **Mute All** on occasion, and he may **Request Permission to Unmute** as you join the meeting. Otherwise, you will have to Unmute yourself,

**Your Video Appearance.** There are some new controls over how you look on Screen. Click on the ^ beside your camera icon in lower left for the menu. **Virtual Backgrounds** can be only be used if you have a “green screen” or solid background. In Video Settings. you can turn HD on or off if your bandwidth is low. You can mirror your image. And you can improve your appearance and adjust for low light with sliders. **Filters** – many rather silly – are also now available.

**Screen Views** At the top right of your screen, you will see either the words “**Speaker View**” which allows you to see the teller/speaker in a bigger window and “**Gallery View**” which enables you to see everyone, and a pair of [ ]'s that click for **Full Screen**. **Speaker View** is best for listening to a storyteller. For group discussions and sharing feedback switch to **Gallery View**. However, if you are viewing in **Full Screen**, you will see there **lines** and **small squares**, The single square is for **Speaker View** and the one with many dots is for **Gallery View**. Try toggling back and forth a couple of times.

**A very common problem is Bandwidth.** Insufficient Bandwidth causes blocky video, poor and garbled audio, frozen screens, and sometimes, disconnection. You can test your audio or video connection on the Zoom test site at [zoom.us/test](https://zoom.us/test) – you’ll need at least 2 Mbps upload and 2 Mbps download. You could try closing other open windows on your device. Turning off HD video or turning off your video entirely may also help improve audio quality. If you are connecting from a laptop try plugging the laptop into wall power.. Or move it closer to your WiFi router, or connect to it directly to the router with a ethernet cable.

Here are a couple of helpful web pages with advice on how to fix common problems:

<https://www.pocket-lint.com/apps/news/152307-common-zoom-problems-and-how-to-fix-them>.

<https://uit.stanford.edu/guide/telecommuting/bandwidth>

## Under the Rainbow LGBTQIA+ Storytelling Series

**Second Mondays: Live Streamed on Zoom.**

6:00 p.m Socializing; 6:30–7:45 pm — featured and open-mic storytelling;

Each story followed by group conversation. Ages: teens and adults. No admission fee  
LGBTQIA+ tellers prioritized; allies welcome in the audience and in post-story conversation.

To connect to their Zoom Programs contact Sherri Sullivan at [sherri.diane.sullivan@gmail.com](mailto:sherri.diane.sullivan@gmail.com)

Or Click on [This Link](#) to join the Program



September 14th **Rico** is a Toronto storyteller and a teacher who specializes in Latinx tales and writing and telling personal and fictional stories. His stories are infused with equity and social change themes. He founded "Queers in Your Ears" a LGBTQIA+ storytelling event. Rico has facilitated workshops on how to use the art of storytelling in educational settings, Community and Health Promotion Agencies.



**Under the Rainbow** is supported by Seattle Storytellers Guild, Edmonds Library, Edmonds Arts Commission, Edmonds Neighborhood Action Coalition, and Pride Foundation.

## What Auntmama has been up to . . .

**Pocketgrass** is a 45-minute variety show scaled to fit things we love about the **Wintergrass Festival** onto a small screen. Each monthly episode will feature music, magic, a story, a lightning workshop and fun for everyone in the family. A theme built around a recipe and a story will be the core of every single episode – all designed to transport us on a sensory journey around the world and back home again. We've brought on a host of creative partners to make each episode, providing fun and a paycheck during times when inspiration and remuneration are hard to find. Pocketgrass will be streamed via the Wintergrass You Tube Channel and is free, through they are earnestly seeking donations.



**Episode 1** The first episode streams on **Thursday, September**

**10th at 7pm PST.** The theme is **Blackberries**. From storyteller Aunt Mama to Runaway Train, Squirrel Butter, magician Chris the Conjurer and Mike Block and Sandeep Das, we'll take a speedy musical trip around the world. We'll send out invitations to view each episode in our e-newsletter.

You can Subscribe to their Youtube Channel or sign up for their e-newsletter at <https://wintergrass.com/>



"When The National Storytelling Network had to cancel their physical conference, its replacement "*Connected*" – NSN's virtual storytelling conference and festival was a big success.

After concluding that the future of storytelling and of NSN in this pandemic reality was digital and with the incredible effort of Board members, volunteers, and staff, NSN brought a virtual conference and international festival from dream to reality, creating

the largest, most diverse storytelling conference in US history. *Connected* presented 253 storytellers in 82 hours of workshops, performances, and social events.

Traditionally the conference has been a primary source of income for NSN. The virtual conference brought in over \$77,500 in conference income. After offering a 75-25% split to the storytellers – the net \$42,500 went a long ways towards balancing NSN's budget.

To walk confidently into the unknown virtual future, NSN is planning on producing more, albeit smaller, virtual events. They want to continue the programming so many people loved about *Connected*: specialized and international performances, affordable workshops and panel discussions, and social time. NSN as the national advocate for all styles of storytelling and for storytellers of all ages, races, ethnicities and gender identities. The future may be uncertain but together we will continue to expand our service to the art and the artists."

Condensed from a letter from Loren Niemi, Chair of the NSN Board



## In the Mood for Some Stories?

There has been an explosion of online Storytelling Concerts and Shows this past Summer. And for good reasons! People are tired of isolating themselves and yearn for some face to face human contact. People are tired of binging on old TV shows and Netflix, and re-watching old blockbusters.

What could be better than down to earth, sitting on the porch Storytelling? Parking is no problem. Events are often in the late afternoon or early evening. You don't have to get gussied up. Many are just an hour or so long. And the Storytellers are great - people you probably only heard about in far off Festivals – are now eager to share with you face to face their tales. And your modest donations in the Tip Jars or for Tickets help support storytellers and our craft in a tough time.

There will be many more coming this Fall. But how to find them? The best place is Social Media – in particular a number of Facebook Groups where upcoming virtual events are constantly being posted. Some you can subscribe to, for others, it is easy to join.

In particular try:

**Storytellers** [www.facebook.com/groups/griots](http://www.facebook.com/groups/griots) – Private, 2.7K Members

**Storytelling Seattle** [www.facebook.com/groups/198209904060632](http://www.facebook.com/groups/198209904060632) – Public, 691 Members

**Worldwide Virtual Storytelling Guild** [www.nestorytelling.org/virtual-storytelling-guild/](http://www.nestorytelling.org/virtual-storytelling-guild/) – Private, 512 Members

**Society for Storytelling (UK)** [www.facebook.com/groups/14430125460](http://www.facebook.com/groups/14430125460) – Public 5.3K Members

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## *In the Wind*

*Seattle Storytellers Guild*

*P.O. Box 18361*

*Seattle, WA 98118*



[www.seattlestorytellers.org](http://www.seattlestorytellers.org)

**Standard Mail**