WE WANT YOU!

Would you like to help preserve storytelling as an art form? Do you want to encourage new storytellers? Take advantage of opportunities for entertainment or education in storytelling? Want to be proud of making a contribution to a worthy cause?

Do you like planning special events - are you a great host or hostess? (or great partygoer?!) Are you good with money? Have a talent for publicity? Do you have ideas about new and different venues for storytelling events, or ideas for enhancements to the newsletter or the website? Thoughts about how to improve Guild member services? Would you like to meet other people dedicated to storytelling, including internationally known tellers?

We bet there are lots of you who might answer "yes" to one of those questions. So here's the last question: Why not consider coming on Board? The Seattle Storytellers Guild Board, that is. We want your talents and your enthusiasm to help us promote storytelling in the Puget Sound area.

The Guild, as do all nonprofit organizations, relies on volunteers to guide its business and direction. Qualifications for Board members include a love of storytelling, good ideas, enthusiasm and willingness to take on a little extra work. Previous board experience is not required. To be considered for a position, you should be an active member of the Seattle Storytellers Guild.

All positions (see list on page 8) are open for election and are held for one year, beginning in June. Board members take an active part in the events of the Guild and are asked to attend monthly meetings.

All members can vote on board positions at the Annual Meeting held in June. This year this meeting will be held June 15th, 7 pm, at All For Kids Bookstore in Seattle, right before the Story Swap.

If you are interested in being on the Board, please send an email indicating your interest, including your first choice for board position, by June 1. You may send it to any of the board members listed on page 8. If you would like more information, call the Guild at 206-621-8646 and leave a message, and someone will return your call.

Northwest Folklife Festival
by Cherie Trebon

Memorial Day Weekend, May 25-28, is fast approaching so plan to attend this FREE festival of the folk arts, including storytelling.

Storytelling events, co-sponsored by NW Folklife and The Seattle Storytellers Guild, take place every day of the festival, with three major concerts, new teller's showcase and story swap, and the "almost world-famous" Liars Contest. If you are not scheduled to perform, but would like to do so, please consider signing up for the Story Swap or Liars Contest (10 minute limit for each) which are open-mike events. You can sign up one hour prior to each event at the venue where it will be held. If you would like to volunteer, judges for the Liar's Contest are needed. Please contact Cherie as seajay@isp.com if you are interested. All events will be held in the Center House except the Liar's Contest which will be held in the Intiman Theatre. Please note that locations and times are subject to change until the schedule is printed. Please refer to the festival schedule which will be available on-line by late-April (www.nwfolklife.org). As of now, the schedule is as follows:

Friday, 5/25 7:00-9:00  NW Tellers' Showcase
Saturday, 5/26 7:00-9:00  Ghost Story Concert
          (Ages 10+)
Sunday, 5/27 1:00-4:00  Family Storytelling
          Concert
Sunday, 5/27 5:00-6:00  Liar's Contest
Monday, 5/28 2:00-2:15  New Teller Showcase
          2:15-3:30  Story Swap

Educators! Did you know that some of our workshops may offer clock hours? Be sure to ask!
COME TO THE STORY SWAP

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

“SO MUCH FUN!”

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

Honing The Steel
Intermediate Level Storytelling Class
April 10, 17, 24
6:30 - 9:00 pm
All for Kids Bookstore
2900 NE Blakeley St., 206-526-2768
$50.00 for 3 sessions

Cherie Trebon, well-known storyteller, Board member of the Seattle Storyteller's Guild and The Story People of Clallam County, and Director of the Forest Storytelling Festival, will present an intermediate level storytelling class on three consecutive Tuesday evenings in April at All For Kids Bookstore.

The class, “Honing the Steel” is for those who have some experience with storytelling and want to learn more. This highly interactive class delves into breath control and relaxation techniques, character identification and development, shaping the story, and sharpening performance skills. Class is limited to 10 participants, with a minimum of 6. Register by calling Cherie at 360-417-5031. A deposit is required to hold your place.

In The Wind
Volume 30, Number 2
April - June 2007
Publisher:
Seattle Storytellers Guild
Kim Pearson, Editor

Writers:
Kim Pearson, Marilyn Milnor,
Virginia Rankin, Jourdan Keith,
Cherie Trebon, Jill Johnson

In the Wind is published quarterly by the Seattle Storytellers Guild, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the art of storytelling. A one-year subscription is included in Guild membership. Articles and comments should be directed to storykim@comcast.net.

Change of Thursday Evening Venue:
Santoros!

We are grateful for the past three years of Storytelling programs presented by the Seattle Storytelling Guild and hosted by Ravenna Third Place Books. Attendance at that event has grown over the years, spilling the audience out of the space provided. We needed a larger space to tell in. It was time to move.

The Guild is pleased to announce that Santoro’s Book Store, an independent bookstore, has graciously offered their spare room. It is warm and cozy without any distracting noises. We are excited about the move. It is not far from our former venue and can accommodate more people. So, we have a new venue and a new name: Tales for a Thursday Evening at Santoro’s! Come and join us as the Storyteller’s Guild features a special teller, after which we will host an open mic session.

Santoros’s Books is located at: 7216 Greenwood Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103. Phone number: 206 784-2113. Check out their web site at: www.santorosbooks.com. We are so grateful to them for their support of the storytelling art.

See the next page for our first Santoro’s line up.
Changes —*In the Wind* —
Notes from the President

*by Marilyn Milnor*

I’m so excited about the changes that are happening. We have a brand-new venue for our monthly Storytelling Concert. We have moved from Ravenna Third Place Books to Santoro’s Books, an independent book store. I think you’ll like it — more space, softer chairs, nice and quiet - nestled amongst wonderful books. Come check it out! And if you want to develop your telling skills, we have workshops in the works. Or you can take a storytelling class. Our story swap, the second Friday of the month, is a great opportunity to try out your telling skills, hone your stories, or just come to spend a cozy evening listening to wonderful tales. Please consider getting involved with the Storytelling Guild. We can always use volunteers, or if you really want to get involved and join in the fun, consider a position on the Board. For those of you who want to tell tales at special events, we even offer information on opportunities for storytellers to find “gigs.” Your Storyteller’s Guild Board is working hard to bring the best to you. As always we invite your comments and/or suggestions. We’d like to hear from you. The board members and their emails are listed on the back of this newsletter. Fell free to contact them. New venues! New opportunities to tell! New opportunities to listen! New chances to get involved and have fun! And more to come! Many wonderful new things are “In the Wind” ... stay tuned.

**Tales for a Thursday Evening**

*at Santoro’s*

7216 Greenwood Ave. N.
Seattle, WA 98103
206-784-2113

Last Thursday, 7:30 pm

**April 26th**

**Judith Alexander**

**Wise or Foolish? You be the Judge**

Come hear international teller Judith Alexander as she tells us tales of that lovable Middle Eastern character Nasrudin, called Hodja or Mullah, along with other tales involving ‘wisdom.’ Judith along with being a member of the Seattle Storyteller’s Guild is a member of “Goldmund” the Storytellers’ Guild in Munich, Germany. Just back in Seattle after returning from meetings of the German guild with Scottish and Latvian storytellers, Judith will also tell us a tale in German and English. It should be a fun filled evening!

**May 31st**

**Alice Susong**

**Adventures Living with a National Park Ranger**

Back by popular demand: Alice Susong and Ranger Dunbar! Do thoughts of summer find you wanting to experience the great outdoors? Alice will tell us of her adventures living in National Parks with her husband, Ranger Dunbar. Do you get to pet the animals, help with a rescue, hear the coyotes howl, have visitors knock on you door? Come and find out! She may also tell us about the time she was locked in an outhouse wearing only her PJs. Ranger Dunbar will delight us with his original words set to traditional tunes about some of the scenic national parks. It’s great fun! Come and join in.

**June 28th**

**Jill Johnson**

**Traditional Tales Revisited**

Come listen to Jill Johnson tell some of her favorites. A recent presenter at a national writer’s conference, Jill says, “to hear well known writers talk about the power of story was so affirming. It made me remember the gems languishing in my folders. These are stories I love and once told often. To have the chance to bring them back to life is a great gift.” Listen to a lyrical Thailand tale, a gentle Native American love story, and a hilarious tale from Haiti.
Attention:
Calling all Spoken Word Artists and Basketball Players

Urban Wilderness Project wants to know - "You can SLAM, but can you Bounce?"™

BOUNCE: The Sport of Storytelling™ (Ages 13 to adult) A six-week Spoken Word and Performance Class

Dates: Tuesdays, April 10, 17, 24, and May 1, 8, 15
Times: 5:30 to 7:30 pm
Fee: $140 (6 week session)
Location: Cal Anderson Park Shelterhouse, 1635 121th Avenue, Seattle (on the north side of the Bobby Morris Playfield, 11th and E. Olive St.)
Kick-off Saturday, April 7th, 2 pm
Closing performance Saturday May 19th at 2:30 pm

Taught by Seattle’s Poet Populist, Jourdan Imani Keith, this is a fun, fast-paced program that combines the improvisation, spoken word and basketball skills required for a good game. We will play theater games, create tall tales, learn to bounce our ideas and words around to tell entertaining and funny stories. We will practice our skills to learn to tell stories as a team! Develop skills for school presentations and leadership. Earn service-learning hours by performing for the public! For more information go to: http://www.urbanwildernessproject.org/works-g.htm. Register one of two ways:
Call: Miller Community Center and register by phone at 206-684-4783 and mail or email your UWP waiver.
Check, Debit or Credit Card accepted.
Online: www.seattle.gov/parks and click on SPARCS and create an account. Debit or Credit Card accepted.

Sound and Music for Spirituality and Well-Being
A Workshop offered by Jennifer Waldron, PhD.
First & third Thursdays beginning April 5

One way to improve the sound of your voice is with specific vocal skills and techniques. Another way is to capture the innate power of your voice through chanting and toning. Using sound, making sound, and exploring sound through music are all ways of centering and balancing. This 6-part workshop introduces you to music and sound for each of the energy centers (chakras) of the body. This will be taught in a compassionate group setting. You will experience:
- the power of your voice joined with others
- specific music, tones and chants for each of the energy centers
- movements, postures or mudras to enhance your experience
- a guideline for choosing music from your personal library

A side benefit to this workshop is a stronger voice, fuller resonance, and a chance to spend time with your Self.
Dates: April 5 & 19, May 3 & 17, June 7 & 21
Time: 7-9 pm
Location: Bainbridge Island
Cost: $120 for entire series

Please call to register ASAP @ 206-855-1088
Maximum enrollment 15
Editors Note ... by Kim Pearson

Online – it’s not just for geeks, you know

Storytelling, as the most ancient art of all, conjures images in our minds of sitting around a fire, or gathered around grandpa’s armchair, spellbound as a magical tale pours into our ears. Storytelling does not usually conjure images of being hunched over a keyboard or staring into a computer screen.

But wait – the old-timey art of storytelling is now being successfully adapted to this brave new technological world found online. The Internet now offers storytellers many great opportunities to tell and listen. You can learn to hone your skills, share your art, appreciate talented storytellers, and encourage newbies.

As a matter of fact, our own Guild will soon (by this fall, maybe sooner) be unveiling exciting new features to our own website, which will give our members and visitors new ways to access information and resources, deepening their understanding and appreciation of storytelling.

And in the meantime, here are some other online storytelling experiences – both listening and telling – that you might want to check out.

A new website is www.iTales.com. This is an online community of storytellers and listeners. The vision for the site is to provide a vast array of stories from around the world, harnessing the talent of both amateur and professional storytellers. Stories for people of all ages and interests can be enjoyed with a click.

iTales is just getting started, and they are looking for storytellers. When iTales members download your story for a fee, you receive a commission on each sale. It’s easy and free to sign up as a storyteller. All you do is record your original or public domain story and upload it to iTales.com. You provide story details for their searchable database. Story ownership and any copyrights remain with the storyteller. You can greatly expand your storytelling audience, while practicing your skills. I highly recommend you check this site out.

Here’s another thing to check out: Talk Story Radio Podcasts. Jeff Gere hosts Talk Story Radio, a weekly show sponsored by the City and County of Honolulu’s Parks Department featuring the tales and tellers of Hawaii, and others. You can subscribe to the show, or download individual stories. Check this out by going to http://feeds.feedburner.com/TalkStoryRadio.

Bottom line: Online storytelling is not an oxymoron!

Save These Dates!
Previews of Coming Attractions

The Fireside Story League
will be hosting the 2007 Western District Convention of the National Story League at the King Oscar Inn and Convention Center in Tacoma, on July 12th thru the 15th. Share tales on the theme of Tide, Timber, and Totem. For further information, please contact Eileen Beckowitz, 253-759-0941 or Penny Tennison, 253-265-21131. Presenters/performers will include: Tom Rawson, Folk Singer and Storyteller Ruthie Reinert, aka Thea Foss Karen Haas, Historic Re-enactor Workshops will include: George Shannon: Making the Listener Part of a Story Maggie Bennett: The Ballad: Telling Stories in Song

Fanning The Embers III:
A Storyteller’s Retreat
This popular Weekend Retreat for Regional Storytellers including Idaho, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and Alaska, will be back again this year, on August 3, 4, and 5th at St. Andrews House on Hood Canal. More information will be coming in the next newsletter. In the meantime, direct any questions to Rebecca Hom at rebbhome@reachone.com.

Sound Circle Center
Storytelling Workshop and Performances with GEOFFREY NORRIS, sponsored by Sound Circle Center, and held at the Seattle Waldorf School, 2728 NE 100th St., Seattle. For more information, visit www.soundcircle.org. Workshops & performances include:
Finding Your Voice Workshop Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday July 24, 25, 26, 4:00 – 5:30 pm. $60
In the High and Far Off Times: Stories of Rudyard Kipling Monday July 23, 7:30 pm, ages 6 and up, $5
The Fangs of Love: Songs, sonnets and soliloquies by Shakespeare Thurs, July 26, 7:30 pm, ages 15 & up, $5

Forest Storytelling Festival
The Story People of Clallam County are happy to announce that the Thirteenth Forest Storytelling Festival will be held October 19-21 in Port Angeles on the campus of Peninsula College. Be sure to mark your calendars so that you won’t miss this event. Full information including performers, schedule, and prices will be included in the next issue of “In The Wind”.

In the Wind
TWENTY FIVE YEARS OF THE
SEATTLE STORYTELLERS GUILD
Part I - The Early Days

by Virginia Rankin

Clare Cuddy arrived in Seattle in 1979 with a vision and a mission; she wanted to start a storytelling group, and to promote storytelling as an art form for adults. She put up flyers everywhere: schools, coffee houses, museums, libraries. Never averse to dipping into her own pocket, she placed an ad in a weekly paper looking for people interested in storytelling.

Her most brilliant strategy was to offer a storytelling class at the Experimental College at UW. She saw it as an effective way to get people involved because they “are making an investment in the art that can’t be achieved by just sitting and listening.” Once the Guild was founded in 1982, class tuition also covered participants’ dues.

One of those first students declared, “We all grew up together.” They were all, including Clare, under thirty. Early Guild members recall Clare as a go-getter, a risk taker, a champion of storytelling. She never thought, “Will we fail?” She never asked, “Will we lose money?”

Donald Braid, a young physicist with an interest in folklore, became part of the group. Early board members paint him as a complicated person, apparently combining the dreamy and the practical. They agree he had “a passion for storytelling,” and “inspired people to work with him.”

Donald had strong opinions and strong ethics, and these apparently made him both a driving force and a braking one as people tried to hammer out a mission statement. Everything was decided by consensus back then; so it’s amazing to hear the story of the lengthy discussions, and then look at the single, clear paragraph the Guild’s founders struggled to compose.

The mission statement became part of the 1982 articles of incorporation making the Guild a non-profit organization. Incorporating was necessary if they were going to apply for grants, and useful because it brought tax-free status. The consensus process was valued, despite the difficulties it sometimes caused, because when a decision was finally reached, everyone owned it.

Long time Guild members probably recall Story and Snack at Naomi Baltuck’s house. It was part of what Cathryn Wellner describes, along with the Experimental College classes, as the “connective tissue” of the Guild. “You showed up, you became involved, you were put to work.” The early public face of SSG was the monthly Sunday night performance at the Boiserie coffeehouse in the Burke Museum on the UW campus.

The UW also provided fertile soil for storytellers. Merna Hecht remembers how Spencer Shaw’s storytelling class generated excitement among his young students the Library School, Mae Benne taught a highly regarded children’s literature class, and children’s theatre was important in the Drama Department.

NAPPS, the National Association for the Preservation and Perpetuation of Storytelling connected Seattle to the national storytelling scene. Tellers who moved to Seattle from other parts of the country already knew about SSG. Seattle tellers recruited real stars to come and perform to packed houses. Jay O’Callahan, Jackie Torrance, Donald Davis, Laura Simms, and Diane Wolkstein all visited during the early 80s.

Thanks to the sources mentioned above for all the time they took to bring this period to life for me. And thanks also to Pat Peterson and Cherie Trebon for helpful leads.

The history of the Guild will continue in the next In The Wind. Please send me your memories – unforgettable characters, amazing accomplishments, the first of anything, wonderful things you wish would happen again. I also need important dates for a timeline that will go in a press packet. Send these great memories to: varankin@comcast.net

Come in out of the rain to hear...

Stories at Zippy’s

Global Griots

will tell stories for adults and kids, followed by an open mike for audience members with a tale to tell.

Storytelling is featured at Zippy’s Java Lounge on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

7:30 - 9 pm

Zippy’s Java Lounge, 1804 Hewitt Ave
in downtown Everett

for more information, contact Jim or Aarene at (425) 318-2493 or email aarenex@comcast.net

F.E.A.S.T.

Friends Eating And Storytelling Together
FOURTH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
5:00 PM POTLUCK, 6 – 8:00 PM STORYTELLING
HOSTEL AT FORT WORDEN, PORT TOWNSEND
For more info, contact Sidonie Wilson 360-732-7564 or Charise Diamond 360-379-4963/charise@hightales.com.

In the Wind
April

5  Jennifer Waldron - Sound & Music for Spirituallity and Well-Being. 7-9 pm, Bainbridge Island. See page 4.

7  Kick-off for Bounce: The Sport of Storytelling, with Jourdan Keith. 2 pm. Cal Anderson Park Shelterhouse. See page 4.

10  Cherie Trebon, Honing the Steel, 6:30-9 pm, All for Kids. See page 2.

10  Bounce: The Sport of Storytelling, with Jourdan Imani Keith. 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Cal Anderson Park Shelterhouse. See page 4.

13  Monthly Story Swap in Seattle, 7 pm, All for Kids Bookstore. See page 2.

14  Patrick Ball, The Flame of Love - the Legend of Tristan and Isolde. 7:30 pm, Dusty Strings, Seattle. $18.00. For more information, see www.dustystrings.com.

17  Cherie Trebon, Honing the Steel, 6:30-9 pm, All for Kids. See page 2.

17  Bounce: The Sport of Storytelling, with Jourdan Imani Keith. 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Cal Anderson Park Shelterhouse. See page 4.

19  Jennifer Waldron - Sound & Music for Spirituallity and Well-Being. 7-9 pm, Bainbridge Island. See page 4.

24  Cherie Trebon, Honing the Steel, 6:30-9 pm, All for Kids. See page 2.

24  Bounce: The Sport of Storytelling, with Jourdan Imani Keith. 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Cal Anderson Park Shelterhouse. See page 4.

26  Judith Alexander - Wise or Foolish: You Be the Judge. Tales for a Thursday Evening. 7:30 pm, Santoro’s Books. See page 3.

27  Urban Legends: Tales Too Good to be True. Bellingham Public Library. 7 - 8 pm. See page 3.

May

1  Bounce: The Sport of Storytelling, with Jourdan Imani Keith. 5:30 to 7:30 pm, Cal Anderson Park Shelterhouse. See page 4.

3  Jennifer Waldron - Sound & Music for Spirituallity and Well-Being. 7-9 pm, Bainbridge Island. See page 4.

5  Jill Johnson, Mining the Gold, All for Kids Bookstore, 12 - 3 pm. See page 4

8  Bounce: The Sport of Storytelling, with Jourdan Imani Keith. 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Cal Anderson Park Shelterhouse. See page 4.

11  Monthly Story Swap in Seattle, 7 pm, All for Kids Bookstore. See page 2.

15  Bounce: The Sport of Storytelling, with Jourdan Imani Keith. 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Cal Anderson Park Shelterhouse. See page 4.

Sundays  Globat Griot, KSER 90.7 FM, or online at www.kser.org., 8-11 am. Stories, music, poetry, culture, and myths from around the world.

One Sunday a Month, Frog Rock Story Circle, 3:30 - 6 pm, at 9702 Sands Ave NE, Bainbridge Island. For more information and to get on the mailing list to discover which Sunday, contact Ed Sheridan at sheridan@bainbridge.net or 206-842-4562.

Fourth Mondays. F.E.A.S.T. at the Olympic Hostel in Fort Worden, Port Townsend. 6 pm Potluck dinner, 7-9 pm Story Swap. For more info, contact Sidonie Wilson at 360-732-7564 or sidomaroon@olympus.net.

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

Last Thursdays Tales for a Thursday Evening, Santoro’s, 7216 Greenwood Ave N, 7:30 pm. See page 3.


Third Fridays Bellingham Storytelling for the Love of It, 7-9 pm, Fairhaven Library Fireplace Room. 360-714-9631 or bhamstoryguild@clearwire.net.

Second Saturdays Storytelling by Global Griots, at Zippy’s Java Lounge, 1804 Hewitt Ave, Everett. 7:30-9 pm. See page 6.
Seattle Storytellers Guild

for updated information see www.seattleguild.org or call 206-621-8646

2006-2007 Board
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Vacant, Vice-President
Mary Brugh, Secretary marybrugh@seanet.com
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Grover Partee, Membership grover@ursusconsulting.com

Membership Form
Name __________________________________________

Address _________________________________________
City ____________________ State ____________
Zip Code ________ Phone ________________
Email ________________________________

Today's Date ________________________________

NEW [ ] Individual, $20 ______
Family, $30 ______
Institutional, $35 ______

RENEWAL [ ]

Seattle Storytellers Guild
PO Box 45532
Seattle, WA 98145-0532

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