Looking Ahead to our 2021 – 2022 Season!

Our upcoming Season of StoryFests will again be virtual. We will return to the 7 PM starting time — more convenient to us, Nor’Westers.

(I know, we hoped to have live and in-person events again . . . As most of us sadly will agree, the time is not yet right for in-person events. It’s not just us, lots of Storytelling Guilds and Festivals will remain virtual, as you will see in this newsletter - we all want to be safe!)

We are featuring Northwest Storytellers this season.

Our own Guild members will bring the stories both in September with a curated Olio of personal favorites, and for December’s Holiday Stories Swap. October brings two NW tellers with True Stories You Won’t Believe and November welcomes three neighbors from British Columbia telling Winter Solstice Myths and Fables. January is the return of the Crones – those “wise women” from Oregon and Washington whom we enjoyed so much last season. February will be our annual “cross-cultural event” with Tuaratini Ra’aa – a Cook Islander bringing us a StoryFest concert and a Workshop on the Storytelling Styles of the Moana Pacific Region. In March, we are pursuing a program of music and story with a local teller – details are yet to be finalized. And leading up to our Anniversary Celebrations, in April and May – we have significant events with two nationally known storytellers who we are excited to welcome to our Spring StoryFests. Our monthly First Friday Swaps will continue on Zoom for the moment with a 6:30 Starting Time. Workshops? Susy Irwin is teaching one in September. We have one in February. and we anticipate more workshops this season as well. Any Suggestions?

2022 is Seattle Storytellers Guild’s 40th Anniversary

In the Wind will feature a reprint of a series of articles on our guild's history by Virginia Rankin, and Anne Brendler is working on an update on the last fifteen years. She is also tackling a project to index valuable articles from our archive of many years of In The Wind on our website – and she would welcome some volunteers to help her.

The Guild has received a significant windfall of donated storytelling books and Eva Abram is working on gathering and organizing them. We are in pursuit of an accessible and useful location for our Seattle Storytellers Guild library. Contact Eva if you would like to contribute to or help with this project.

There are plenty of opportunities for volunteers—and the Board welcomes your input and help. We anticipate some even bigger Celebration events next Fall and welcome your ideas and help as we enter our fifth decade!
Seattle Storytellers Guild is featuring a “curated” members storytelling concert on September 17th on Zoom. This Zoom concert is scheduled for 7-8:30 PDT with a 10 minute intermission. Do you have a favorite story you would just love to tell to a warm and welcoming audience? Are you a member of the Seattle Storytellers Guild? (If not, you can easily click to join and then submit to us a tale to tell.)

Submit your story to us as an audio or video file to treasurer@seattlestorytellers.org. (This can even be done on your cell phone.) Stories should be no more than 8 to 10 minutes in length. Please submit your tale by 9/10 to take part. We will select 8 to 10 stories from those submitted. If you are selected as one of our volunteer storytellers, you will tell “live” on Zoom on the 17th.

You are invited to a Zoom Workshop on "You Can Tell Stories!" with Susy Irwin

When: Saturday Morning, September 18, 2021 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM PDT

Every year You Can Tell Stories! is offered at North Seattle College. This workshop is a preview of that 8 week class. In this workshop, we will add some Tools from the Storytellers’ Bag. You will learn how to tell a story by heart, and also look at that dreaded Dragon, “Performance Anxiety”.

Register in advance for this online Zoom Workshop at https://bit.ly/2VVZY2Y

Cost is $15. Please pay in the Donation Jar at https://www.seattlestorytellers.org/ and designate that it is for Susy’s Workshop. If you prefer to pay by check, an address is there

Questions? Ask Susy at livewildpuppets@gmail.com

*****************************************

Susy Irwin’s You Can Tell Stories! at North Seattle College.

We start with listening to and learning stories, and proceed to work on all aspects of creating and performing stories. This is a process oriented class where you will listen to and learn with others developing and honing storytelling skills. On Zoom. All are welcome.

This Class meets for eight online sessions on Tuesday nights, 7:00 to 9:00 PM; from 9/28/21 to 11/30/21, with no classes on 10/12/21 and 11/23/21. Cost is $135.

Completion of the course entitles you to a one-year membership in the Seattle Storytellers Guild.

Here is a Blog post about her previous class.

See: https://continuingeducation.northseattle.edu/courses/you-can-tell-stories for more Information about this series of classes.
Storytelling at the 2021 Northwest Folklife Festival

The Seattle Storytellers Guild sponsored several storytelling events at the 2021 Northwest Folklife Festival. This year’s festival was all virtual, as was last year’s, with a mix of live and recorded acts. Sarah Comer and Jo Walter told spine-tingling ghost stories, and Eva Abram told engaging folktales. Next year’s festival is expected to be a mix of on-premise and online events, and we are looking forward to participating.

Larry Hohm

The Guild feels a responsibility to our storytellers, and when we add up our commitments to our featured tellers and workshop leaders over our upcoming 2021 – 2022 Season, it comes to over $3,275. And though we won’t have venue, refreshments and insurance expenses until we again offer live programs, the Guild’s costs for using Zoom for our online events adds another $500 to this, and we have a variety of operation costs. We rely on donations to meet our expenses. So when we “pass the Purple Hat” at our events, please consider making a donation. We may offer some suggested amounts, but you certainly are not limited to those!

In the Wind
Volume 44 Number 4 Fall 2021
Publisher: Seattle Storytellers Guild
Editor: Barry McWilliams

Writers & Contributors:
Barry McWilliams, Judith Alexander, Allison Cox, Margaret Read MacDonald, Ingrid Nixon, Trish Anderson, Larry Hohm, Susy Irwin, Virginia Rankin

In the Wind is published four times a year digitally by the Seattle Storytellers Guild, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the art of oral storytelling.

Articles and comments should be directed to eldrbarry@gmail.com

txt files are preferred, with pictures sent as separate attachments.

Fall issue deadline: November 15th

Articles Welcomed!

Seattle Storytellers Guild Board
2021-2022
www.seattlestorytellers.org

Barry McWilliams President
Patty Zeitlin Vice President
Marte Fallshore Secretary
Anne Brendler Treasurer

At large members
Affi Durr Judith Alexander
Larry Hohm Colleen Bollen
Eva Abram Bu Huang
Susy Irwin

Auxiliary members:
Allison Cox NSN Liaison, Special Events
Naomi Baltuck Under The Rainbow
Larry Hohm Folklife liaison

Contact information is on Our Web Site

The Seattle Storytellers Guild is looking for volunteers in many areas.

If you are good at or want to learn to:
Create online flyers and advertisements,
Host or Co-Host Zoom events,
Manage publicity,
Learn or help to Plan events,
Emcee a Program,
Teach a Workshop,
Help index articles or books,
Write an article for our newsletter,
Or explore the Tech needs for a Hybrid Event,
Or just want to meet friendly people who love storytelling...

Then join us!

For more information
Contact Judith Alexander at judith_tells@earthlink.net

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

Or visit our website for more news:
seattlestorytellers.org

Press the [Show All Events] Button
The October StoryFest:
“**You Won’t Believe THIS!”**
Featuring Northwest Storytellers Jo Walter and Eric Foxman

Jo Walter, an unusual teller of unusual tales, plus Portland’s master teller Eric Foxman will provide us some unique entertainment on the **FOURTH Friday of October**.

**October 22nd on Zoom – 7:00 PM PDT**

*Perch on the edge of your chair, ready to cover your eyes, and be surprised!! These stories are True!!!*

**Jo Walter** visits from the Kitsap Peninsula. We have known her as a NW Folklife contributor for many years. She is a language-loving teacher who tells stories for all ages, and aims to inspire imaginations through the spoken word. Find her online at [http://jowalter.org](http://jowalter.org/)

**Eric Foxman** brings his interest in history to the fore with a gripping true story from the Oregon Trail and another favorite that transcends time and space. Eric, the past president of the Portland Storytellers’ Guild, has expanded his treasury of tales and looks forward to returning north to bring his stories to the Seattle Storytelling Guild and their friends.

To Register for this Online Event: [https://bit.ly/3m9TOqL](https://bit.ly/3m9TOqL)
Free, Suggested donations of $10 encouraged.

---

**The November StoryFest & Tellabration™**

**HARVEST AND THE COMING DARK OF THE YEAR**

Three of our Canadian Tellers sharing Myths and Fables inspired by the coming of Winter’s Solstice.

**November 19th on Zoom – 7:00 PM PDT**

**Philomena Jordan** personifies the Irish Gift for telling stories, reciting poetry and spontaneous singing. Born into a large family on a small farm in the West of Ireland, she grew up in an atmosphere rich in the Gaelic culture and traditions of the Irish Countryside. Now living in British Columbia, she keeps this rich culture alive by sharing these wonderful stories, songs and poetry with audiences of all ages.

Free, Suggested donations of $10-15 encouraged.

**Nan Gregory** was raised in Victoria, BC and now lives in Vancouver, BC. She is, among other things, an actress, an honored children’s author, and storyteller. Now she plays all the parts of the tale — something she always wanted to do when in a play. Writing stories came naturally out of telling them. Nan tells folk tales and fairy tales, myths, legends, stories from history, literary stories and stories from my own life, to audiences of all ages.

**Abegael Fisher-Lang** is a longtime, acclaimed BC storyteller widely known for her repertoire spanning the everyday amazing to the mythopoetic. Abegael is passionate about storytelling because “There is no power greater than our collective imagination, and story continually builds and strengthens it.” Fisher-Lang, a longtime professional storyteller, was a featured teller at the 2012 Vancouver International Storytelling Festival, has been artistic director for various festivals and World Storytelling Days.

Free, Suggested donations of $10-15 encouraged.
October is the Month of Virtual Festivals

**The Forest Storytelling Festival**
will be held virtually from October 15-17th, 2021.

Welcome to the Annual Forest Storytelling Festival in Port Angeles, WA! World class storytellers will make you laugh uproariously and will tug at your heartstrings. Everyone — from preteens, grandparents and everybody in between — will find stories of love, comedy and inspiration. $70, $80 after 10/1

**Featured Tellers:** Beth Horner, Sam Payne, Eva Abram, Heather McNeil

More details, the Schedule and Registration Information: [https://www.clallamstorypeople.org/storytelling-festival/](https://www.clallamstorypeople.org/storytelling-festival/)

---

**The 2021 Timpanogos Storytelling Festival and Conference**
BOTH live at the Thanksgiving Point Ashton Gardens AND available virtually!

The Festival and Conference can be attended live September 9-11
And Virtual Recordings will be available from October 4, 2021 – January 4

Festival Tellers include: Adam Booth, Alton Chung, Andy Offutt, Bil Lepp, Bill Harley, Carolina Storyteller, Donald Davis, Geraldine Buckley, Pippa White, Rev. Robert Jones, Shelia Arnold and Susan O’Halloran. The Conference features nine workshops.

Each online participant will be able to enjoy the Festival or Conference for a 14-day block beginning when they first log on. This will allow all participants access to the Conference when it is most convenient for them. Tickets will be available for all three scenarios. For half the price of an in-person ticket, you will have the opportunity to see every single performance after the Festival.

Information at [https://timpfest.org/conference/](https://timpfest.org/conference/)

---

**The International Storytelling Center - Jonesbourough, TN**
offers a virtual National Storytelling Festival, October 1-2, 2021

You can still experience the world-class storytelling you have come to know and love—from the comfort of your home. You can enjoy 20+ hours of storytelling over Festival weekend with continued viewing access for up to 14 days following the final show. Cost is $75 for a household.

**Featured Tellers** include: Noa Baum, Adam Booth, Sarah Grady, Geraldine Buckley, Raymond Christian, Donald Davis, Guy Davis, Jeff Doyle, Elizabeth Ellis, Dolores Hydock, Kevin Kling, Bil Lepp, Queen Nur, Antonio Sacre, Dovie Thomason, Kim Weitkamp and Don White.

[https://www.storytellingcenter.net/festival/main/](https://www.storytellingcenter.net/festival/main/) for more information and to purchase Tickets

---

**Federation of Asian Storytellers' FEAST FEST**
October 15-31, 2021

Promoting the Telling of Asian Tales – Multi and Cross Cultural - Streams for Adults and for Kids

17 DAYS OF STORIES: 168 Tellers, 66 Unique Themes, 51 Shows, 24 Languages (some w/subtitles), 23 Countries

A variety of Packages - Full Feast Pass (48 Shows) $ 55 - Membership specials

For Schedules: [https://www.feast-story.org/2021-FEAST-FEST](https://www.feast-story.org/2021-FEAST-FEST)

For Pass Prices: [https://www.feast-story.org/FEASTFEST_TicketDetails](https://www.feast-story.org/FEASTFEST_TicketDetails)
What's Happening with our Fellow Guilds?

The Story People of Clallam County

**Story Work:** Due to a scheduling conflict, we will not be holding a Story Work session this month. These sessions on Zoom have been a nice way for a small group of people to help each other work on stories and telling. We will keep you informed for activities in September.

**Festival Planning:** The Forest Storytelling Festival will go forward this year as a virtual festival, October 15 - 17. We have a fantastic line-up of tellers: Beth Horner, Sam Payne, Eva Abram and Heather McNeil. We will also feature a master class, workshops, opening tellers, and a story slam -- all on Zoom. We will also offer two new opportunities for tellers: New Voices and Ghost Stories. Please make your calendars and watch our website for details on how to participate and/or register: [www.clallamstorypeople.org](http://www.clallamstorypeople.org). Also, follow festival planning activities on Facebook: Story People of Clallam County.

**Seeking Board Members:** For the past few years Erran Sharpe has been wearing many hats, including President, Treasurer, and Secretary. He has announced he will be stepping down from all Board duties at the end of the year. If you would like to step in to help this organization continue, please let us know. Many hands make light work!

**In-person Monthly Gatherings?** It is still a question when the Story People will again be able to meet in person. Safety during this time of the pandemic is paramount. Take care of yourself and be safe, and we'll seek to meet as soon as it is feasible. Meanwhile, please plan to tune in for the festival!

**New PO Box:** The Story People have a new mailing address: PO Box 812, Port Angeles, WA, 98362.

— Ingrid Nixon for the Story People Board

Portland Storytellers Guild

**Member showcases** will occur on the first Saturday of the month at 7:00 PM Pacific Time. They will be presented on Zoom until further notice. If and when we are able to present live shows, they will be held in Carvelin Hall at St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th Ave, Portland, OR 97214. Check [https://www.portlandstorytellers.org/](https://www.portlandstorytellers.org/) for more information. Recommended for adults and mature teens. Adults - $10.00 for Zoom shows (live shows will be $15). Buy advance tickets online at [www.portlandstorytellers.org](http://www.portlandstorytellers.org/). Ticket holders can see a recorded show if they miss the Zoom event.

**Portland Storytellers' Guild Story Swaps,** second Fridays, 7:00pm, in the PSG Zoom Room until further notice. Got a story to tell? The swap emcee will pull names at random to fill the time allotted. (Stories to be told, not read, and are limited to 5 or 7 minutes in length.) Log-in info will be sent to dues-current members 24-48 hours before the swap. Anyone else who'd like to participate in the swap can email [psgswap@gmail.com](mailto:psgswap@gmail.com) to request the log-in. Beginners are encouraged! Email [psgswap@gmail.com](mailto:psgswap@gmail.com) to get your link to the swap or to put your name in the hat.

During the 2021-22 season, September through May, we plan to have **Guild Extral shows on Zoom** as we did last season. This is an opportunity for one of our professional tellers to present their own solo show. These shows will happen on the third Friday or Saturday of the month at 5:00 PM Pacific time, allowing folks across the country to view the show.

**South Sound Story Guild**

Regular programs on Zoom 7pm, Second Wednesdays September to May. Each will have a Guest Teller from other locations (a benefit of Zoom), then an SSSG featured teller, followed by an open mike swap. Info: [www.southsoundstory.org](http://www.southsoundstory.org) Contact Maggie Lott [molt1256@gmail.com](mailto:molt1256@gmail.com) or Rebecca Hom, [BackRoadsTeller@gmail.com](mailto:BackRoadsTeller@gmail.com), for the ZOOM addresses for each months program.

Information about the dates and format of **Fanning the Embers 2022—South Sound Guild's Annual Retreat** is yet to be announced.

**Other area guilds** seem to have lapsed into Covid inactivity due to closed venues and continuing mitigation concerns.

The Fireside Storytelling League of Tacoma no longer has its own website, and **The Bellingham Storytelling Guild** pages show no recent or upcoming events. Likewise the **Quimper Storytelling Guild** in Port Townsend. Any members of those guilds are certainly welcome to attend our virtual events, and we hope that one day they will again be sharing their tales live or virtually again.
For many years *In The Wind* featured book reviews by Margaret Read MacDonald. Here is a new one advocating the use of Folktales. It gives you an idea of the research and researchers currently delving into the value of folktales!

**SOURCES:** *About Stories and the Folks who Tell Them*

A Review by Margaret Read MacDonald.


I just received an interesting work by Donna Schatt and Patrick Ryan. They have been examining research on the effects of story listening in the classroom. The book is very expensive but may be available via interlibrary loan eventually. I thought an overview of some of their findings might be useful. They suggest that the use of storytelling in the classroom, once standard procedure, declined with the rise of standardized testing in the 1930’s and was replaced with the newly expanding genre of picture books.

In support of the use of story, especially folktales, in the classroom, they cite Paul Zak’s study of chemicals produced by the brain during story listening. They tell us that “intense listening and engagement with an emotional story” contributes to reading comprehension and reading achievement. They cite studies by Martin-Loeches, Martinez-Conde, Suzuki, Hasson and associates and note the particular value of folktales language and structure. “The rhythm created by repetition of words, phrases and narrative episodes and the use of simple but striking formulaic language…support listener comprehension.” They discuss the story-listening trance explored by Brian Strum and Fran Stalling and the concept of “flow” used by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi. They also talk of empathy created during story listening. They cite studies by Zadbood, Hasson, Stephens, Yeshurun and others which suggest that during story listening the brains of the storyteller and listener are in sync, and they tell us that educational psychologists such as Symons and Lecce find that an empathetic and attached child has a high chance of educational success.

Throughout, the authors give many anecdotal examples of the successful use of story. Schatt taught with the University of Chicago Laboratory School and Ryan studied there. They interviewed former students who are now adults about their remembered experiences of story listening. Shared experiences from their own storytelling work, combined with the research they cite, they make a compelling case that story MUST be used in every classroom.

The book forms a useful addendum to Kendal Haven’s *Story Proof: the Science Behind the Startling Power of Story:* (2007) and *Story Smart: Using the Science of Story to Persuade, Influence, Inspire and Teach* (2014), but it focuses more directly on a call for action among educators. Unfortunately, it’s price will keep it out of the hands of many who need to hear its message.

---

The Seattle Storytellers Guild's Newsletter: *In The Wind* has been published quarterly since June of 1980 – this is now Volume 44. An archive of past issues is located on the Guild's Website – with only a couple of issues missing. I have been editing *In The Wind* since the Fall of 2015 – this is now my 21st issue. A lot of time and energy has gone into every issue.

Originally they were mimeographed, or typed and copied. The advent of word processors brought style and clip-art to issues printed on folded 11” by 17” sheets. Current digital issues have lots of color, and contain plenty of clickable links in their pdf format. And they are designed to be look good and are much easier to read printed out. The archive is full of informative articles and book reviews. A project is starting to create an index to those articles -- please contact Anne Brendler – if you are interested in helping out her on this project, you can do this at home.

Now mostly distributed in digital format via email, just a few continue to receive it by mail. It costs the Guild about $8 -10 per person to print and mail one year’s issues – which adds up -- we may discontinue postal copies. Until recently, the Newsletter was intended only for active members of the Seattle Storytellers Guild as an incentive for people to join. At a recent board meeting, we felt that the Newsletter has greater value as a means of promoting our events and activity as a Guild – and current issues will now be distributed beyond our paid membership to anyone interested. Hopefully as folks see what we are up to as a Guild, they will be interested in joining us with paid memberships.

If you seem not to be receiving our quarterly issues of *In The Wind*, do check to see if your e-mail program has put them in your spam folder. Your feedback and contributions are also welcome.

Barry McWilliams, editor
Fall Calendar of Seattle Area Events* indicates Seattle Storytellers’ Guild event

**September**

- 3* Briarcrest Neighborhood Story Swap Zoom 6:30-8:30 PM (See Page 9)
- 13* Under The Rainbow Stories for LGBTQ+ Zoom (See Page 11)
- 16 Fresh Ground Stories 7 PM VIRTUAL
- 17* Storyfest: 7 pm PDT Virtual (Page 2)
- 18* You Can Tell Stories Workshop with Susy Irwin on Zoom 10-11:30AM $15
- 28 TBD STORYTELLERS Zoom 5PM
  
  For lots of other Virtual Storytelling Shows and Workshops follow the Facebook Pages of Storytelling Seattle, Artists Standing Strong Together, and Storytellers

**October**

- 1* SSG Story Swap Zoom 6:30-8:30 pm (See Page 9)
- 11* Under The Rainbow Stories for LGBTQ+ Zoom (See Page 11)
- 15-17 Forest Storytelling Festival on Zoom (Page 5)
- 21 Fresh Ground Stories 7 PM VIRTUAL
- 22* StoryFest 7 pm PDT on Zoom (Page 4)
- 26 TBD STORYTELLERS Zoom 5PM
  
  For an Up-dated Calendar of Regional Storytelling Events go to 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* Briarcrest Neighborhood Zoom Swap Zoom 6:30 pm (Page 9)
- 8* Under The Rainbow Stories for LGBTQ+ Zoom (See Page 11)
- 18 Fresh Ground Stories 7 PM VIRTUAL
- 19* Tellabration .. 7:00 PM Zoom
- 25 TBD STORYTELLERS Zoom 5 PM
  
  Look for Auntmama on the Radio: KBCS’s weekly show :Sunday Folks
  [airing alternating Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-12 p.m. on 91.3 FM (Bellevue)]

Ongoing Events : Seattle Area

Please check before you go! Details may change.

Second Mondays Under the Rainbow ZOOM Stories from the LGBTQ community—See Page 11

First Thursdays, Moth StorySLAM themed, VIRTUAL NO LOCAL EVENTS themoth.org/events $ 

Second Thursdays, North Seattle Storytellers Meetup VIRTUAL facebook.com/northseattlestorytellers/

Third Thursdays Fresh Ground Stories, 7 p.m. VIRTUAL www.meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/ 

First Fridays SSG Story Swaps ZOOM See page 9 for details (Monthly)

Usually Third Fridays Seattle Storytellers Guild Story Fests ZOOM, (see pages 2 and 4 dates, times and details!!) 

Third Fridays Moth StorySLAM themed, VIRTUAL NO LOCAL EVENTS 

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

FGS Storytelling Workshop, Virtual 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

No preregistration for these Zoom events is needed


Come to share an 8 minute or less story – feedback offered
Family Friendly – Told, not Read or Come just to Listen

If you have a story to share, please let us know:
Contact Barry at eldrbarry@gmail.com
Contact Marilyn Grevstad at grevstad@aol.com
about the Haller Lake Swap

Afifi Durr at affidurr15@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 ___
(Stuart 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 Virtual
Seattle Meetup Group
meetup.com/Fresh-Ground-Stories/

The MOTH : Virtual
No Local Programs
themoth.org/events

Story People of Clallam County Virtual — Port Angeles
clallamstorypeople.org/

Quimper Story Guild
Port Townsend
facebook.com/QuimperStoryGuild

South Sound Storytellers Guild
Lakewood
southsoundstory.org/

Fireside Story League of Tacoma
See Facebook

Bellingham Storytellers Guild
BellinghamStoryTellers.org/

Portland Storytellers Guild
portlandstorytellers.org/

Portland Story Theater
portlandstorytheater.com/

For More info on Local and Regional Events
visit: 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 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. You’ll be contacted for details for your web listing.
PART 1 — THE EARLY DAYS 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. (Claire Cuddy pictured in Seattle, 2015)

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 at 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 Torrence, Donald Davis, Laura Simms, and Diane Wolkstein all visited during the early 80s. (Pictured at left, Dr. Spencer Shaw telling tales)

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 several ITW issues.]
Under the Rainbow  LGBTQIA+ Storytelling Series for Teens and adults
Second Mondays: Live Streamed on Zoom.
6:00 p.m Socializing; 6:30–7:45 pm — featured and open-mic storytelling; 
No admission fee. LGBTQIA+ tellers prioritized; allies welcome in the audience 
and in post-story conversation.

September 13th—Melanie Ray
Melanie Ray is a native of Vancouver, Canada. Since 1984, Melanie has been telling professionally for all ages, and 
in diverse venues across Canada, with forays into England, Wales and America. Many festival tents, theaters, school 
auditoriums, radio studios, grassy hollows and seniors’ dining halls have resonated with the sound of her voice, conjuring a tale. Just once, she told in the hall of a 14th Century castle. Her repertoire is filled with the stuff of legend, literature, history, personal stories and many, many folktales. It has been said of her storytelling that while she is telling you a tale, you can believe the most otherwise incredible things.

https://edmondsnac.net/2021/08/22/under-the-rainbow-features-melanie-ray-on-september-13/

Check their website for other Fall Events at edmondsnac.net/under-the-rainbow/
Zoom Link : https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83671133469

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

Gene Friese Scholarship
The Seattle Storytellers Guild announces the 2021 Gene Friese Scholarship process.
Gene was a much-loved member of the Seattle storytelling community who passed away in 1995. This scholarship fund was created to honor his memory. An award of up to $100 must be used to attend a storytelling festival, conference, workshop, or class. The recipient will be required to provide proof of the use of the scholarship (receipt, voucher, ticket stub, etc.). To qualify for this scholarship, you must be a resident of Washington or Oregon and be a member of a storytelling guild in Washington, Oregon, or of the National Storytelling Network.

The Deadline for applications is September 30th, 2021. Your application must include the following:
Your name, address, phone number, email, and the storytelling guild to which you belong, your storytelling experience (beginners are encouraged to apply), and how you would like to use the scholarship money - a description of the event, limited to 300 words. A confirmation of its use must be submitted after the event.

Send your application by e-mail to : treasurer@seattlestorytellers.org
or by mail to: Seattle Storytellers Guild, P.O. Box 18361, Seattle, WA 98118 Attn: Gene Friese Scholarship

Join NSN October 22nd & 23rd for a weekend of hauntings. Featuring fringe performers Jeff Gere and Barb Peterson and our popular SPOOKED Story Slam. Plus, catch on-demand showcases featuring talented storytellers from around the globe!

HAUNTED
Legends and Lore
October 22-23, 2021
Featuring fringe performers Jeff Gere and Barb Peterson, storytelling showcases, and the SPOOKED Story Slam.
Learn more at Storynet.org/halloween
Once upon a time
in the Land of Zoom
there was a
magic window

In the Wind

Seattle Storytellers Guild
P.O. Box 18361
Seattle, WA 98118

www.seattlestorytellers.org