

THE TEJAS TELLER

newsletter of the Tejas Storytelling Association



june/july 2011



NATIONAL BLACK STORYTELLING FESTIVAL AND CONFERENCE

- TONI SIMMONS

“Our Stories Are the Breath of Life”. That was the theme of “In The Tradition...” the 28th Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference. Storytellers and story listeners came from across the nation to Minneapolis, MN in November 2010 to hear the drums, to feel the spirit and to breathe the stories.

The festival kicked off with an exciting event produced by the local arts community. “The Northstar Journey: African Americans in Minnesota in Story and Song” was truly electrifying. Nationally known local gospel groups such as the Sounds of Blackness and the Excelsior Chorale Ensemble along with local storytellers presented the history of Blacks in Minnesota.

The opening gala and storytelling concert consisted of an olio of featured storytellers Shanta, Toni Simmons, Oba King, Baba Jamal Koram, “In The Spirit” and Mitch “Gran’daddy Junebug” Capel. This was followed by the traditional Mother Mary Carter Smith Love Circle, drumming and dancing.

In addition to the many professional development and cultural workshops and a scholars’ panel, a master class led by Len Cabral was held. There was also the youth component with workshops and performances for the youth of the affiliates and the community. At one of these sessions, these young people had the opportunity to combine story and technology in the production of a dvd.

Other highlights of the festival were the Zora Neale Hurston Award given to Mitch “Gran’daddy Junebug” Capel for outstanding contributions to black storytelling. The Liars’ Contest, live auction and the African American Marketplace are always favorites. This year, two Tejas members performed in the festival. Eric Strong was a special presenter teller at the Friday evening concert, and **Toni Simmons** was a featured teller for the weekend. The 29th festival will be held in Atlanta, GA November 9-12, 2011. Don’t miss it.



the prez' piece -

Elizabeth Ellis, President TSA 2009 - 2011

PASSING THE TORCH

June marks a new fiscal year, and with it we welcome new members of the Board of Directors of TSA and say a fond farewell to retiring members. Mary Ann Blue, Eldrena Douma and Mary Grace Ketner have served TSA well during their time on the Board. I thank them for their service and commitment to our organization. We have the phone numbers and know where they live, so they are not exactly riding off into the sunset. We also welcome newly elected members Tom McDermott, Lynn Moroney, and Nancy Self. I know their participation on the Board will be invaluable as we enter the next phase of being an all-volunteer organization.



I have been President of TSA for the past two years, and it is with gratitude for all we have accomplished that I pass the torch to incoming President Donna Ingham. I am happy and proud to report to you that TSA is a financially healthy organization. Two years ago we were thirty thousand dollars in debt. Today we have thirty thousand dollars in our general fund. We have much to be thankful for.

Most of all, I am thankful for our membership. We are a community of story lovers who have come together to save this organization, and I am grateful to each and every one of you for all you have done to see the vision become a reality. Every one of you has contributed to bring us to where we are today. You gave of your time, or your talent, or your money, or you emailed an idea or called a friend to come to the festival or volunteered in any number of ways, large and small, and they added up. We needed you, and you showed up!

We have a Board of Directors who are service oriented people who have TSA's highest and best as their goals. We have a group of dedicated committee chairs ready to put together working committees that will make things happen. It is with working committees that we will be able to continue to operate as a viable all-volunteer organization. I urge each of you to consider how you can best contribute your time and talent. Then send us an email, and let us know. We'll put you to work, I promise!

Thank you for your unwavering support over the last two years, as we all worked to put this organization on its feet. Thank you for your love of story and your belief that together we could accomplish great things. We just did! Please welcome Donna as our new President and support her as you have supported me. I love each and every one of you, and I am so very pleased to not be leaving things as I found them.



Over ten years ago I started writing a storytelling script based on "Beowulf". At the time I had no idea where it would lead me or how it would change me as a storyteller. Well, paths are meant to walk down and I've beaten this one to death.

A few years back I recorded the first part of **Beowulf Retold** for my CD, *Tales of Ancient Warriors*. I did some different things on that CD by adding some sound effects to help enliven the presentation. The CD sounds great and has had moderate success.

Starting about 5 years ago I began performing the first part of **Beowulf Retold** (Beowulf vs Grendel) Script at local high schools. Again it was well received and quite affective. The feedback I got from teachers was very encouraging. In fact every where I have taken this program it has been well received.

My goal from the very beginning has been to bring Beowulf to life for modern day audiences, young and old alike. That meant I needed to make it understandable and accessible to my audience and yet still retain some of the sound and feeling that a English translation brings to it. I poured over it again and again. I threw away at least a dozen or more efforts in dealing with the opening scene. It eventually became obvious to me that I had to approach the work from a different angle if I was to succeed in the fashion that I desired. So then I deviated from the usual storytelling contrivances.

I had to find a new door.

I battled with myself on how to present the story and how much needed to be presented and of course how the material should be brought together. I tried dozens of approaches. Finally I realized that the beginning of the story did not elaborate enough in regards to the early attacks on Hrothgar's Hall and needed to be expanded. This way the audience would grasp the depth of the horror of the king's situation and realize the horror of the monster itself. I needed to bring Grendel alive. Then one day it all fell into place with a phrase, "It dwelt in the darkness." Then like dominoes lined up on a path they all came tumbling down after the first one was pushed. Weeks later I had a working script but it needed refinement and so week after week I came back to it and whittled it down.

Beowulf, Redux

**Gary Whitaker,
the Storyman**



Still after the 1st part was done I needed to know. Will it work? This text was so word specific in order to achieve the sound that I wanted I was forced into a corner I had not previously considered. To capture the feeling that I had created in my script I had to deliver it pretty much as I wrote it. So I did something I haven't done since I began performing. I memorized it or at least most of it.

Thus I started bringing the program to High Schools and the program has been very well received.

So my next question was how do I bring a program like this to audience (high schools) who can't afford to haul me across country, especially for such a selective limited audience program.

My wife who runs the computer lab at her elementary school had the answer. Put it on film, stream it because that is where schools are going today

So about 8 months ago I started the process of putting Beowulf Retold on film. It has been a grueling process but also a very educational one. Until we are done I really won't know if I will be able to afford to stream the final product. I am recording the entire program which is one hour long. So I will start by selling the DVD's from my website and work my way up. The story behind the filming of Beowulf Retold is another story all to itself.

At the **2011 TSA Festival in Denton** I was given the opportunity to open the first **Fringe stage** ever with my **Beowulf Retold** Program (Part 1 only). I go at Beowulf full steam ahead and with a vengeance. I am passionate about this program and the audience ate it up. In fact they were caught flat footed by my presentation. They really liked it. That is my goal.

If I can make adults and teen agers like Beowulf and find it interesting then imagine what other doors we could open to storytelling venues.

So, I push forward, to open doors.

Céad míle fáilte

go

Comhaltas

Ceoltóirí

Éireann*

US Celtic Tellers Shine at Irish Convention in San Antonio

It took a certain amount of persuading to convince the good folks at Comhaltas Ceolteoirí Éireann (CCE) that storytelling would be an important fourth pillar of the organization's convention, scheduled for March 2011 at San Antonio's Airport Hilton Hotel. Golden tongues prevailed and the idea of storytelling quickly grew from an afternoon of storytelling to two days of stories, with a workshop and a number of story sessions, culminating in a CCE Storytelling Championship on Saturday afternoon.

Celtic tellers were canvassed throughout the Tejas Storytelling Assn. and beyond, and the final lineup included Jo Brown, Veronica Gard, Jane McDaniel (all SASA, San Antonio), David Thompson (TSA), and Lucinda Wise (SASA, San Antonio, and Austin), Lorene Stillwell (Austin), Irish scholar Sarah Gallagher (Houston), and Fiona Siobhan Powell (Pennsylvania).



(left to right) Fiona Siobhan Powell, Veronica Gard, Susan Gallagher, Lorene Stilwell, David Thompson, Johanna Brown, Lucinda Wise

The sessions and workshop were well attended, and the word must have gotten around that there was something special going on in the Rio Grande Room because by 4 pm Saturday the anticipation in advance of the storytelling competition was palpable in a room filled to capacity. There were two categories of competition: the best Celtic/Irish Tale and The Biggest Irish Lie, and 9 minutes allotted for each teller to shine. Jo Brown kicked off the contest with a dramatic and lively rendering of "The Poet's Curse", taken straight out of Celtic annals. She was followed in quick succession by Veronica Gard, with "The Cow of Plenty", Susan Gallagher, with a mesmerizing selkie story titled "Webbed Toes", and Lucinda Wise, with "The Piper and the Puca", a story used for centuries to put fear into Irish children's hearts. David Thompson grabbed hold of the audience's attention from the first line in his story of WW I, titled "The White Horse of the Ardennes", a well-crafted story combining Celtic mysticism and historical realism, and Lorene Stillwell donned a hat and a Scots accent to tell the Big Lie of "One-Eyed Jenny's Trip to Penzance", a story which became more and more unreal and hilarious as the allotted nine minutes progressed. Fiona Siobhan Powell brought up the rear with "When Too Much is Enough", a familiar tale about a poor farmer, made new with humor and perfect timing. The judges did not have it easy. The audience stayed to see who would walk away with titles and glory.

*trans: 100 thousand welcomes to
Comhaltas Ceolteoirí Éireann



Legendary local CCE chief, Tom Macken, came to present the awards which were:

Best Irish/Celtic Story: (1) Jo Brown (San Antonio), (2) Fiona Powell (PA.), (3) Susan Gallagher (Houston).

Biggest Irish Lie: (1) David A. Thompson (Austin), (2) Susan Gallagher (Houston), (3) Lucinda Wise (Austin).

It being an Irish convention, we all repaired to the pub afterwards to celebrate/drown our sorrows.

Slainte!!!!!! - Jane McDaniel

Dr. Trudy L. Hanson to receive the Colson-Herndon Educator's Award



Trudy L. Hanson, currently serves as Chair of the Department of Communication at West Texas A&M University. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Speech/English Education and her Master's in Public Address from Louisiana State University. She completed her doctorate in Higher Education, with a minor in Communication Studies at Texas Tech. She has served as President of the Texas Speech Communication and the Southern States Communication Association, and as editor of the *Texas Speech Communication Journal*. At WTAMU, she teaches graduate and

undergraduate courses in communication studies, coordinates the instruction of the Basic Speech Communication course, and directs the annual storytelling festival. Her research has been published by *Women and Language*, *Storytelling*, *Self, and Society*, *Communication Quarterly*, *Journal of the Association of Communication Administration*, *Texas Speech Communication Journal*, *Louisiana Communication Journal*, and *Storytelling* magazine. Her articles about teaching and teaching ideas have been published in *Communication Teacher*, *Online Classroom*, and *Teaching Ideas for the Basic Communication Course*. She has received the University Educator of the Year award from TSCA, been named a CORE fellow and a Presidential Teaching Fellow at WTAMU and recognized as the Outstanding Gender Studies Scholar by the Southern States Communication Association. She is active in the local (Amarillo/Canyon) storytelling guild, Storytellers of the High Plains. She recently published a collection of stories that she has written for the Texas University Interscholastic League Storytelling Competition, entitled *Fractured Fairy Tales, Texas Style*. Trudy and her husband Mike are the parents of four children and the grandparents of six of the most adorable grandchildren in the world.

The Colson-Herndon Educator's Award is presented to educators, who give of their time and talent to mentor an individual or group in Storytelling or have been instrumental in promoting storytelling in their field.



Trudy's Students



Dr. Hanson's research interests include popular communication (she has analyzed the "Survivor" reality series and NBC's "The West Wing"), gender issues and storytelling (her cover story, "The Twelve Dancing Cowboys," appeared on the cover of *Storytelling Magazine*.) **She is involved in a service learning project with Bushland Elementary, matching college students and third graders for a storytelling**



[Call for Performers - National Storytelling Network Conference Fringe, July 2012](#)

Fringe Performance Opportunity
NSN Conference – June 28 through July 1, 2012
Cincinnati, Ohio

The Fringe @ the NSN is back for its 6th Season! Explore the limits of storytelling at the National Storytelling Conference.

Want to present 55 minutes of your most compelling, riskiest, experimental or work in progress storytelling? How about a mini-fringe event with you and a friend in a pair of shorter performances? Just think of the possibilities: 55 minutes of folktales, autobiography, performance art, stand-up, puppetry, dance or your favorite long form story!

What is the Fringe? The NSN Conference Fringe follows the Fringe Festival model giving artists freedom to create and audiences "the ability to decide for themselves the truly great productions from the good, the bad and the gloriously disastrous." In keeping with the Fringe principle of an un-juried selection process, Fringe performers for the 2012 National Storytelling Network Conference will be selected by lottery.

Growing networks of performance venues all over the world have adopted this model and many storytellers are taking advantage of these venues to reach new audiences. The Conference Fringe encourages more storytellers to participate in American and Canadian Fringe Festivals by providing the opportunity for you to experience many aspects of a typical Fringe Festival including the selection process and performance framework.

Deadline: August 31, 2011

NSN Fringe Lottery and Eligibility Information at:
<http://storynet.org/conference/index.html>

MEET THE BOARD -

**ALICE EVERGREEN,
MEMBER AT LARGE**



Alice Evergreen loves to tell stories that evoke a sense of wonder in the listener. Her repertoire includes folktales from around the world, and a series of fantasy stories she has crafted herself. She is fond of wisdom tales and stories about people who use their wits or sense of humor to get out of a tight spot.

Alice has lived in the Houston area most of her life, and began telling stories as a part-time professional in the late 70s. She is a Life member of the Houston Storytellers Guild and has served several years on the HSG Board.





And now, the story is yours

**Mary Grace Ketner,
TSA Board 2008 - 2011**

Welcome, welcome, welcome to new board members **Tom McDermott, Lynn Moroney, and Dr. Nancy Self**. And thanks to everyone who voted! This is *our* organization; we select our leaders from among ourselves, and many of us take a shift at the challenging job of leadership. Be thinking about how you would like to help with TSA on a committee or other initiative. Let our new president **Donna Ingham** or any handy board member know what you would like to do! Oh, and *Muchas Gracias* to outgoing board members **Mary Ann Blue, Eldrena Douma, and Mary Grace Ketner** and outgoing president **Elizabeth Ellis**, all of whom are continuing to serve in some way.

Many thanks to **Ann Marie Newman** for creating an original purse for TSA to donate to the Greater Denton Arts Council fundraiser "It's In the Bag!" They raised over three thousand dollars for Denton arts organizations with their silent auction and high tea.

Dru Woods and the East Texas Storytellers held their annual *Azalea Tales* April 1-2 in Tyler. **Sheila Phillips** provided a Doc Moore Educational Outreach workshop there and headlined a story-filled evening concert. *Azalea Tales* receives support from the Tyler Public Library and the Texas Commission on the Arts as well as from Tejas' Doc Moore fund. Congratulations to 21 Tejas members who have been selected for membership in the Texas Commission on the Arts Touring Artist Roster:

Gwen Caldwell of Richardson, **Margaret Clauder** of Arlington, **Decee Cornish** of Fort Worth, **Eldrena Douma** of Canyon, **Elizabeth Ellis** of Dallas, **Donna Ingham** of Spicewood, **Mary Grace Ketner** of San Antonio, **Kim Lehman** of Austin, **Tom McDermott** of Fort Worth, **Bernadette Nason** of Austin, **Sheila Phillips** of Sugarland, **Jiaan Powers** of Dallas, **Consuelo Samarripa** of Harker Heights, **Don Sanders** of Houston, **Toni Simmons** of Dallas, **Tom Taylor** of Belton, **Tim Tingle** of Canyon Lake, **Shelly Tucker** of Denton, Twice Upon a Time Storytellers (**Gene & Peggy Helmick-Richardson**), and **Dru Woods**. You represent us well!

We are proud of member **Ted Parkhurst**, who has just accepted the role of serving as President of the National Storytelling Association for 2011-2012. The board will present a panel discussion, and several NSN board members are presenting workshops at the conference, giving a good opportunity for what some have called "cross-pollination" of ideas with storytellers from all around the USA. **Ted** will be presiding over his first official NSN board meeting in San Antonio immediately following the conference. **Ted** is also the "Artist on Duty" for this year's Holiday Greeting Card, which will feature a holiday story by **Elizabeth Ellis**.

DeeCee Cornish will serve as president of the Texas Library Association's Storytelling Round Table for 2011-2012. Storytelling Vendors at TLA this year were **Amy Bluemel, Willie Braudaway, Margaret Clauder, DeCee Cornish, Elizabeth Ellis, Dan Gibson, Gene and Peggy Helmick-Richardson, Donna Ingham, Mary Grace Ketner, Kim Lehman, Lucas Miller, Bernadette Nason, Jiaan Powers, Consuelo Samarripa, Don Sanders, and Tim Tingle**.

Welcome new Storytellers to TSA's Storyteller Directory (www.tejasstorytelling.com/directory): **Cathryn Fairlee, Gary Whitaker** and **Pippa White**. We are well on our way to making this Web page "the place to be" for storytellers in Texas. To join this esteemed group, send your \$20 annual listing fee to TSA, and attach your photo, text, and even a Web site link onto an email to tsa@tejasstorytelling.com. Pro-rate your annual fee the first time around at \$2/month so that your listing fee will fall due at the same time as your regular membership; then you can send one check a year to pay for both.

PSST!

Take a look at all this . . .

Youth Storytelling Workshop

June 25, 2011

10:00 am-2:00 pm

Presented by:
The Heart of Texas Storytelling
Guild of Waco

Sponsored by:
Tejas Storytelling Association
Doc Moore Outreach Project

**Featuring
Librarian & Storyteller:
Janet Latham,
Denton, TX**

Learn storytelling basics; share
tips and techniques in small
group sessions
Ages 8 & up; lunch provided

FREE

South Waco Library
2737 S. 18th st.
Waco, TX

Limited seating
RSVP

For more information call
254.717.1763

email:

vivian.rutherford@thestorylady.org



NORTH TEXAS STORYTELLING GUILD GATHERING

It all started with Reagin Hults. She wanted Guild spokespersons to meet and figure out how to cross publicize Guild events. That was the beginning. From there it blossomed. So now what we have is a North Texas Storytelling Guild Gathering on **September 24, 2011 from 4-10 pm at River Legacy Park in Arlington, Texas.** This is a day for meeting, eating and swapping guild news and stories. The Elm Grove Pavillion has been reserved. (It can hold 65 people.) It is close to the playground and restrooms. Members of the North 40, Dallas, Denton and TAGS have been informed. But all are welcome. Bring a picnic, drinks (an alcohol permit has been purchased), your own comfy lawn chairs and whatever else you can think of, and a story. Be ready to meet, greet, eat and listen. Put it on your calendar and be ready to make the trip and travel to Arlington. You might check www.riverlegacy.org for map and location. Remember the date: Saturday, September 24, 4-10pm. If you have questions: email jayemclaughlin@hotmail.com. She might have an answer!

PREMIERE -

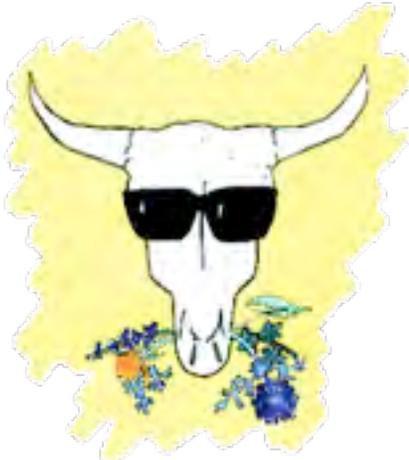
David Thompson, TSA board, will be premiering his original "Two Song Birds - Farinelli and Piaf" November 2011 (actual date to be arranged) at St. Edward's University Austin TX. The program will present the lives of 2 disparate artists, Farinelli, the first European superstar (18th century), and Edith Piaf, the Little Sparrow of Paris. Through the use of music, visual projection, and storytelling, the hopes, dreams, triumphs and tragedies of these 2 incredible artists will be shared. More information to come.

Shawn Small awarded Silver Medal for "The Via Advent."

TSA member, **Shawn Small**, was awarded the Silver Medal for his book "The Via Advent" by the Independent Publisher Book Awards, known as the IPPY. The IPPY recognizes authors who exhibit the courage, innovation, and creativity to bring about change in the world of publishing. The medalists were honored at a gala awards ceremony in New York on May 23rd.

Shawn, from Coppell TX, said, "Winning the Bronze for *The Via Crucis* in 2009 was exciting . . . but to be recognized by my peers and win the Silver two years later? I'm flabbergasted. To be honored in this way for doing something you're passionate about is very cool."

Congratulations to Shawn can be sent to him at:
shawn@wondervoyage.com



*Need a cure for
burnout?*

We've got it! TSA's 2011 Summer Conference, July 8 – 10 in San Antonio, takes on the issue of burnout and more... with two of the people in our field who have had the most opportunity to burn themselves out but have not! Instead, Bill Harley and Elizabeth Ellis continue to burn with passion. Both have been successfully working within our art form for over three decades, creating, teaching, accepting leadership roles in our professional organizations and taking on other initiatives. Each continues to create new astonishing works that are as fresh as their first exciting projects, yet deeper, more timely, even more compelling. Perhaps Elizabeth and Bill have something to teach us all about burnout and passion!

And perhaps we have something to teach each other so that we might all come away with more understanding and greater power to persist and reach our personal goals in storytelling, education, and organizational capabilities.

Elizabeth or Bill will begin each day with a keynote on the topic, nuggets of wisdom to set us on the right path, then we can choose from over 25 expansive opportunities--workshops, fringes, and concerts--over the two day period. We can glean new ways of doing things, new ideas to pursue, new stories. And, to close out each day perfectly, Bill and Elizabeth will tell us stories again at our evening concerts!

The conference will be held in San Antonio at UTSA's small and beautiful Downtown Campus, home of their school of architecture. Our host hotel, the Doubletree Downtown, is right across the street.

Texas Summer Storytelling Conference

July 8 - 10, 2011

San Antonio, TX

Sustaining the Flame: Stories Fuel Life and Learning

**A Conference on Burnout Prevention ... and More!
Featuring Bill Harley and Elizabeth Ellis**



conference, cont.



To get the best conference price and the best hotel rate, complete your reservation and registration by **June 16th**. (TSA will give you a few more days on registration—‘til the 30th—but the hotel reservation date is firm!) Doubletree rooms for 1-4 people are \$85 (\$169 after June 16), including free wireless internet and free parking. (Note: at last check, the hotel Web site link still said parking is \$10 and the deadline is June 6; both of those numbers are incorrect and we hope to see a change by the time you visit the site.) For conference participants *not* staying in the hotel, the convenient hotel parking is \$10/day, or you may use the paid parking lot at UTSA for \$1.50/hour.

A unique feature of this year’s conference is the **National Storytelling Network ORACLE Awards Banquet**. We have the NSN Board of Directors plus excellent award-winning storytellers coming from all over the country to join us in our NSN Year of the Regions event. NSN has invited all of us to the awards banquet on the San Antonio Riverwalk for just \$25. (Just try finding another great dinner on the Riverwalk for that price!)

For registration and hotel information and complete descriptions of keynotes and workshops, presenters and titles of fringes and concert information, check out our Web site: www.tejasstorytelling.com. We appreciate the support of our co-sponsors, UTSA, and Gemini Ink, and are grateful for partial funding from the Texas Commission on the Arts, the National Storytelling Network, and Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Meantime, here is the short, enticing version to make your mouth water:

Keynotes: Friday—Bill Harley on “The Warrior Visits the Wasteland.”
Saturday—Elizabeth Ellis on “How Can I Strike a Spark when I’m Burned to a Crisp?”

Workshops:

Bill and Elizabeth each have topical workshops following their keynotes
Beverly Cottman: *Using Objects to Inspire Story Creation*
Cathryn Fairlee: *Epic Tellings and Telling Epics*
Valerie Kimble: *A Child’s Brain on Story*
Judy Sima: *Raising Voices: Creating Youth Storytelling Groups and Troupes*
Delanna Reed: *The Power Breath: Relax, Energize and Speak!*
Jere Pfister: *Like Shadows in the Fire: Go Deep*

NSN Board Member Panel

Professors Martinez, Harmon and Broadus: *The UTSA Storytelling Festival: Engaging Preservice Teachers in the World of Storytelling*

Willie Braudaway: *Fanning the Flames for Sales, Energy, and Enthusiasm*
Rosie Cutrer: *Telling Tales In and Out of School*
Marilyn A. Kinsella: *Memory Boxes: Unlocking the Gold Within*
Pippa White: *Mining the gold in History Books*
Noa Baum: *Peace Building & Storytelling: What I Learned Along the Way*
Kim Lehman: *Spicing Up Your Stories with Music, Chants, and Sounds*
David Claunch: *Frolicking with Fools from Folktales*
Fran Stallings: *Stealth Eco-telling: Putting Your Repertory Where Your Heart Is*

Fringe:

The Gospel According to Chubella--Darlene DuFour
The Divergent Wanderings of an Undisciplined Mind on the Brink of Organized Chaos—J. B. Keith
Voices from Ellis Island—Pippa White
Lady Lineman--Nancy Lenhart Matthews
What the Storm Brought Home—Jere Pfister
Angels in the Snow—Debra Ting

Concerts:

Friday afternoon: Youth Concert
Friday evening: Elizabeth and Bill in Concert
Saturday afternoon: Regional Concert
Saturday evening: Bill and Elizabeth in Concert



“Hey!!! Hey You!! Want to buy some magic beans?”



Tejas Storytelling Conference
July 8-9, 2011
Consignment Agreement Terms – Story Store



Dear Storyteller or Vendor,

It is my pleasure to offer the opportunity of selling your storytelling resources on consignment in the Story Store at the Tejas Storytelling Conference. You are invited to sell your sales materials in the Story Store. If you are interested in participating, please review the following terms and set up your consignment files. **Please carefully read all consignment terms first.**

1. **Paperwork -** Return an *Inventory Record* with your merchandise.
 - ✓ Forms provided by request via email. You may also register your consignment materials at the conference but allow 20 minutes to process your paperwork, inventory, and **price** all merchandise.
2. **Sales Terms & Payment:** Establish your final “retail” sales price for each item on *Inventory Record* submitted. The consignment revenue agreement for materials sold is **75% to Storyteller-Vendor / 25% to Tejas Storytelling Association (TSA)**. TSA will mail a check within 4 weeks of the Conference conclusion for payments owed to you based upon total sales.
3. **Bring your materials to the Conference** Or send beforehand to the address below. Make sure the materials arrive before July 3, 2011! Put your inventory record in with your materials. Or bring the Inventory Record with you when you bring your materials..
4. **Returns in Person:** Pick up your unsold materials at conference before 10pm on Saturday night. Everyone, even if you shipped your materials beforehand.

If you have any questions, please contact Consignments Coordinator Jaye McLaughlin:

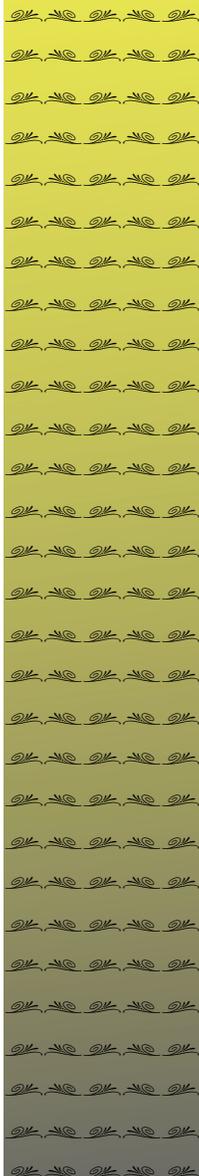
*EMAIL: jayemclaughlin@hotmail.com
*Telephone: Home: 817.320.5046

**Please note: Due to space restrictions in our Story Store, a reasonable & realistic consignment limit is 5-10 copies for best-selling titles/media, 10-15 copies for others for Featured Tellers and workshop leaders. Other folks might want to bring 5-10 items per title.

PLEASE SHIP YOUR CONSIGNMENTS TO:

Tejas Storytelling Conference Story Store
c/o Mary Grace Ketner
109 Fir Street
San Antonio, TX 78210

Sincerely,
Jaye McLaughlin
TSA Gift Shop Consignment Coordinator



LAST CALL -

David Thompson, Editor

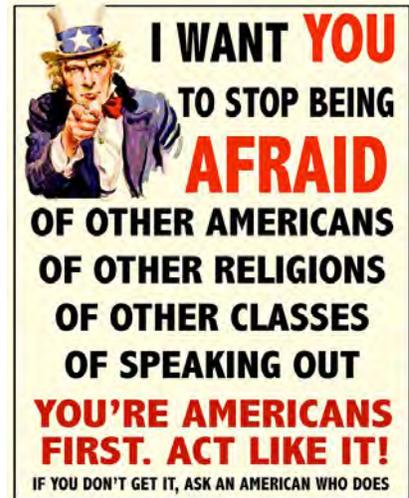
(I've decided to do something different, put the editor's column towards the end of the newsletter. That way all the good stuff comes up front.)

Please notice the graphic to the right. This is what I always want to express to university classes when going in to share the folklore and stories of American History. Our common story is one of **SHARED EXPERIENCE**. The Shared Experience is what I tell when presenting Immigrant Narrative or tales from the Civil Rights struggles in the 60s to the present. For you see, **we as storytellers have a doom to keep history alive**. Doom you say? Yes, doom (aka destiny, fate, that sort of thing). Considering the debacle surrounding the U.S. history books that have been or will be adopted (can't keep the story straight in my head), it is **we storytellers** who must, and I emphasize **must**, keep history alive. It is **our duty** to set the story straight, if you will. Otherwise, where go Thomas Jefferson or Cesar Chavez or Chief Joseph or Daniel Inoue? What happens to the great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fare, the Jewish cowboys, the Californeos? Dimly remembered (if at all) or only of interest to some specialist. "Den alles Flesich, es ist wie Gras," to quote Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*.

Interestingly enough, in history the conquering king or general usually had the storyteller's tongues cut out or ripped from their mouths so they **could not** tell the real story. How many of our tongues have been so symbolically ripped out? Is that why we stay in our safety zone of crazy Aunt Matilda who lived in the attic or how I learned to make a lemon pie one Thanksgiving? Think about it.

AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR:

FROM THE TSA OFFICE: Directories are being updated and ready to be printed. (June 13) Your dues may be due, check your old directory. Send in your check for membership: \$35 Individual Member, \$60 Family Membership, \$75 Organization Membership, \$10 Youth Membership. If you are not sure, call or email TSA to see if you are a current member. tsa@tejasstorytelling.com or 940-382-7014. If you need to go to <http://www.tejasstorytelling.com/membership.html> to get a membership form if you need to renew or have new people to join. We'd love to have everyone in the Directory!!





TEJAS STORYTELLING CONFERENCE

A National Storytelling Network Year-of-the-Regions Event

July 8 - 10, 2011

at UTSA Downtown Campus & the Doubletree Hotel
San Antonio, Texas

SUSTAINING THE FLAME: Stories Fuel Life and Learning

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____ City / State / Zip _____

Email address: _____ (please print letters & digits clearly)

I am: current TSA member Non-member Joining now (see below)

Passes include all workshops, concerts and activities for the days purchased. Passes do not include Banquet

Qty.	Item	Price	Total
_____	EARLY BIRD Full Weekend Pass - member (before June 30).....	\$ 100	_____
_____	EARLY BIRD Full Weekend Pass - non member (before June 30).....	\$ 120	_____
_____	Full Weekend Pass - member.....	\$ 120	_____
_____	Full Weekend Pass - non member	\$ 140	_____
_____	Friday Pass - member	\$ 65	_____
_____	Friday Pass - non member	\$ 80	_____
_____	Saturday Pass - member.....	\$ 65	_____
_____	Saturday Pass - non member.....	\$ 80	_____
_____	Individual Workshop	\$ 15	_____
_____	Individual Concert.....	\$ 10	_____
_____	Individual Concert - youth 8-18.....	\$ 5	_____
_____	NSN Oracle Awards Banquet	\$ 25	_____
_____	__ vegetarian		
_____	__ other diet needs - specify _____		
Join Now or Renew your current membership			
_____	Regular	\$ 35	_____
_____	Listing on the website's Storyteller Directory	\$ 20	_____
_____	Family.....	\$ 60	_____
_____	Organization.....	\$ 75	_____
Donate to TSA - Thank you!			_____
			TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Method of Payment: Cash Check (made out to "TSA") Credit Card (use this form or call 940-382-7014)

Credit Card number: _____ Exp. date: _____

Signature: _____

Mail to:

Tejas Storytelling Assoc.
P.O. Box 2806
Denton, TX 76202
or FAX to 940-380-9329

Hotel Information:

Click to our reservation page on the Doubletree website directly from
www.tejasstorytelling.com
or call the Doubletree Hotel Downtown San Antonio at 210-274-7155.
Tejas Conference rates of \$85/night for 1-4 people (regular \$149)
not guaranteed after June 16, 2011.

Sometimes it's on the tip of your tongue... "What is it called again?" It's not always easy to remember those out-of-the-ordinary things but to refresh your memory, here're a few:

Mid-men, the male versions of mid-wives, are called *accouchers*.

The plastic things on the end of shoelaces are called *aglets*.

The apparatus used in alcohol distilleries for freeing the spirit from water is called the *dephlegmator*.

One that speaks two languages – is bilingual – can be said to be *diglot*.

Ducks are never male. The males of the species are called drakes. In a casino, however, ducks is a nickname for a pair of deuces.

The working section of a piano is called the *action*.

Shoemakers are commonly called cobblers but correctly speaking a cobbler is a shoe repairmen. A shoemaker is a *cordwainer* – they also made leather bottles and harnesses.

The device at the intersection of two railroad tracks to permit the wheels and flanges on one track to cross or branch for the other is called a *frog*.

A specific length of thread or yarn according to the type of fiber is called a *hank*. For linen, a hank is 274 metres (300 yards); for cotton, it is 768 metres (840 yards).