

GRAPEVINE

Newsletter of St. Louis Gateway Storytellers

Volume 26 Number 2

Published Thursday, March 27, 2008

CURRENT OFFICERS

President Lucy Grondahl Tel 314 962 6412

Vice Pres Mary Garrett Tel 636 447 6760

Secretary Marion Cohen Tel 314 997 0250

Treasurer Marcia Ollinger Tel 314 567 7930

Contents:

1. Announcements
2. Summary of Business Meeting Mar 25,2008
3. Summary of Story Swap Mar 25, 2008
4. Next Gateway Meeting Info
- *5. Annual Member Roster Publication (SAVE IT)

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

ESPECIALLY NOTEWORTHY:

.Gateway Member Karen Young's version of the story "Stone Soup" is the featured cover story in the March/April edition of NSN's Storytelling Magazine. This is Karen's first published fiction story and she is grateful to all her storytelling friends.

.The State of Tennessee has a resolution (HJR 960) pending to create the office of Storytelling Laureate and designating 'Doc' McConnell as its first appointee. "McConnell, a Rogersville native, has made significant contributions to Tennessee's celebrated storytelling heritage over a 30-year period." (www.timesnews.net)

Cape Girardeau Storytelling Festival (1st Annual)

Fri, Apr 4-Sun, Apr 6, 2008

.Featured Tellers Sheila Kay Adams, Willy Claflin, Donald Davis, Dan Keding
plus Priscilla Howe, Marilyn Kinsella, Joyce Slater, Blake Travis, Jim "Two Crows Wallen"

.Master Classes Available Fri, Apr 4--3 different classes
Contact 1 800 777 0068 or capestorytelling.com

Annual St. Louis Storytelling Festival Apr 30-May 3, 2008

.Volunteer Orientation Wed, Apr 23, 2008 Evening

.Storyteller Workshop (free) with Heather Forest Thurs, May 1 Late Afternoon

.Volunteer Dinner Fri, May 2, 2008 Evening Glen Echo Country Club
Details at <http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/conted/storyfes/> or 314 516 5948

Volunteers and donations needed still needed!

NSN National Storytelling Conference

Thurs, Aug 7-10, 2008 in Gatlinburg, TN

.Master Classes, Workshops, Panel Discussions, Concerts + More

Contact www.storynet.org or 1 800 525 4514

2. BUSINESS MEETING

Presiding Lucy Grondahl, President
Time 6:10-7:00 pm

.Minutes of February 12, 2008 meeting approved as read by Secretary Marion Cohen

**.Treasurer report by Marcia Ollinger Balance \$2932.52
.Dues paid up members for 2008=53 plus 2 more member dues received tonight**

Old Business--none

New Business

. New IRS requirement to annually file form 990 EZ as tax exempt organization

Marcia Ollinger, Treas, reports she is working with a pro bono staffer at H&R

Block to file the necessary report

.St. Charles Community College has a new course beginning in the fall, 2008

entitled "Teaching Through Storytelling" which will be taught Tuesday evenings by storyteller Sue Hinkle

.Rosemary Wilson, Editor of the Grapevine and Publicity Chair, has turned her resignation in to President Lucy Grondahl in January, 2008 effective with

the publication of the July, 2008 Grapevine Newsletter. Rosemary has

held this appointed office for 7 years. The members present gave Rosemary a round of applause in recognition of her service to Gateway Storytellers. Gateway

President is seeking a replacement Editor/Publicity Chair. Rosemary is

willing to orient the new appointee/s between now and July.

**Contact Lucy ASAP
(314 962 6412)**

.Becky Walstrom, Director of St. Louis Storytelling Festival, discussed the Festival

at length. Volunteers and donations are still needed. See website link above in

#1 section.

.Gateway Raffle Basket for St. Louis Storytelling Festival was discussed. Consensus was to do a basket again as a fund raising option for the Festival. Donations of worthwhile and tangible contributions suggested (e.g. restaurant

**coupons, movie tickets, bottle of wine, etc etc). Certificates for a free storytelling program or coaching etc. do not work well in this basket. Items should appeal to both males and females. The basket should look nice. Raffle begins at the Festival donor party Apr 30. Donations should be given to Lucy Grondahl at the Festival Volunteer Orientation at UMSL the evening of Wed, Apr 23. Arrangement to turn in a donation other than this meeting should be made with Lucy at 314 962 6412 (NOTE Lucy will be out of town Fri Apr 25 and return to St Louis Sun, Apr 27) or Marion Cohen 314 997 0250. Motion by Lucy Grondahl, seconded by Mary Garrett to authorize expenditure of up to \$50 to supplement items donated for the basket if necessary.
MOTION PASSED.**

.General discussion of storytellers producing their own CDs of stories. Mary Garrett has some recent experience doing this. (636 447 6760 or mgarrett@mail.win.org)

.Mary Garrett displayed a NSN membership application. She received a box of these from NSN. Dues are \$65/year ages under 65 years and \$50 if over 65 years. Applications are also available from NSN 1 800 525 4514 or www.storynet.org.

3. STORY SWAP

Emcee Lucy

Grondahl

**JOY NACK performed two original sketches from five that she is working on for her presentation at the Fringe Festival at the NSN National Storytelling Conference in Gatlinburg, TN in August, 2008. The theme throughout the sketches is of "one human heart."
"Hallcams Hope" (from the viewpoint of their caring & observant California school teacher) An instructive and heartwarming oral montage of detailed observations of**

classroom students from welfare recipient homes was told. The time and effort devoted to the children was amply paid for when the teacher did finally see a glimmer of hope for a better life through education in the eyes of one young woman who had been one of those classroom students.

"My Friend Cookie" (from the viewpoint of a Sunday School student about her Sunday School teacher who called herself "Cookie) Nostalgic memories mostly of out of Sunday School hours spent with Cookie were recounted. The student realizing that she was remembered by this valued adult mentor on her death bed took the form of a recognition smile in her last earthly moments.

JIMANAS SALINAS (GUEST--does anyone have contact info on her?) This school teacher indicated she was telling a story to adults for the first time.

She choose the classic story "Tia Miseria" from Olga Loya Stories. The conclusion of the story indicated that as long as death keeps its promise there will always be misery in the world.

MARCIA OLLINGER told a story entitled "Lincoln's Famous Beard" from the book of Best Loved Stories from the National Storytelling Festival. Lucille Brenneman told the story at the Festival. Eleven year old Grace Bedell wrote a letter to Abraham Lincoln October 15, 1860 in which she recommended that he grow a beard to enhance the appearance of is very thin face--especially since he was running for President of the United States. There were voters in her family who indicated that they would not vote for a candidate with a beard. Nevertheless, Lincoln on his victory cross-country train trip stopped in Westfield especially to meet Grace. Lincoln gave the child recognition as his "young correspondent" among the cheers of the townspeople at the train station. Lincoln said, "I grew my whiskers just for you, Grace."

Marcia displayed an 1860's photo of Lincoln in profile which was used for the image placed on pennies. Lincoln was the first President to have his face on US money.

MARY GARRETT told a parable about Heaven and Hell based on the idea of cooperation. The inhabitants of Hell were starving while seated at a banquet table because they could not bend their elbows

and get the food to their own mouth while the inhabitants of Heaven were well fed by feeding each other with their straight arms.

CATHY GREGORY told a farmyard tale wherein George Washington's cows were advised to enter politics given their attitude of inaction despite supplications to give milk. The pigs on the farm would do any job and the sheep were smarter than the cows. Politics seemed to be the only logical career for the bovines in the circumstances.

MARION COHEN told the J.J. Reneaux Cajun story "Marie Jolie." The desirable and aloof daughter of the Cajun family was successfully courted by an able and handsome young man who won the contest her father required. On the way to her husband's home, Marie witnessed his changing into an ugly and dangerous being. Upon arrival at the homestead, her new mother-in-law responded to her pleadings for escape and freedom from "the devil" by telling her to silently gather five dirty eggs from the henhouse. Her egg gathering awoke the devil who went after her in hot pursuit thwarted only by her throwing each egg in succession between her and him. The obstacles of a wooden, then stone fence and eventually a river resulted in the devil engaging an alligator to ferry him across to the other river bank to continue his pursuit of his wife. The amphibian dumped the devil in the river and the story ends with the devil being propelled downstream--perhaps to New Orleans. Marie never married again saying, "Once you married one devil, you don't want to marry another one!"

LUCY GRONDAHL told a story from the collection of David Lubar entitled "Cursed Campfire Weenies." A cat which had caught a leperchaun traded him for a can of tuna. When unsuccessful in being able to open the can of tuna, the cat told its owner, Oscar, that he was go hunting for mice to eat. In a sourgrapes mode the cat added, "Mice taste better than tuna anyway."

4. NEXT GATEWAY

MEETING

Tuesday, May 27, 2008 at The Crown Center, 8350 Delcrest Dr, 63124

.6:00 pm Business Meeting

.7:00-8:30 pm Story Swap Contact Warren Wyman to tell a story

(636 527 5542 or

warrenwyman@msn.com

5. MEMBER ROSTER

Gateway members and their contact information is published to

Gateway members of

record in March each year. Be sure to SAVE these roster documents for future reference. This information is not for commercial use.