



GATEWAY GRAPEVINE -- June 2009

St. Louis Gateway Storytellers

www.stlouisgatewaystorytellers.org

Next Gateway Meeting 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, 2009

Story Swap 7-8:30 p.m. Sign up -- Joy Nack 314-317-9061

Crown Center, 8350 Delcrest, St. Louis, MO 63124.

(Some of us eat at 4:30 or so, at Mai Lee, 8440 Delmar Blvd.)

***Gateway meets the Fourth Tuesday of odd-numbered months, July 28, Sept. 22, Nov. 24**

For info or to have items on agenda, call Mary (636)447-6760 or Marion (314)997-0250

The deadline for workshop proposals is June 15, 2009. . for fringe September 15, 2009.

2010 NSN conference July 29 - August 1, 2010 Los Angeles

Conference proposals guidelines can be found at www.storynet.org.

All is being done to make the 2010 NSN conference in Los Angeles the best ever with the goal that attendance will be the best ever. The theme is "Many Stories, One World."

Applications for the J.J. Reneaux Emerging Artist Grant are due August 3, 2010.

Gateway Picnics June 23 and August 25

Our picnics were a fun time to gather and share stories last summer, bring a story and some food to share. We will be at Tilles Park on June 23 a bit before 6 -- Lucy's family will get there early to stake out a spot under that same pavilion. Tilles is at 9551 Litzsinger Rd, just off McKnight (between 40 and Manchester). Marion is working on getting the Olivette Park for August 25.

Gateway CD Project

Gateway members will be collaborating on a CD. We estimate that we could each contribute a ten-minute story and duplicate 20 or more copies for each participant for \$100 per person. Stories will have to be either in the public domain (folk tales) or the teller's own creations because of copyright laws. We will be meeting to work on stories, and can record them on Mary Garrett's computer, or if people want to work in a sound studio, we are finding a number of not too expensive possibilities. Mike Anderson has given permission to use bits of his music between the stories. Several people signed up at the meeting and others who might be interested can let me know (by "reply" on this e-mail or 636-447-6760).

Festival Advisory Council -- Jackie Wright has agreed to be Gateway's representative to the Festival council. Thanks Jackie!

Quilt details (I asked Mary Lu who did each quilt, and this is her charming response): I made Becky's quilt, which has the ten T-shirts from her 10 years as director. Suzie (and sister) from Aviston, IL. made Nan's quilt (the turquoise one, with her 16 shirts). Edna Petty from East St. Louis made the festival quilt with the 30 shirts. Both Becky and Nan knew about the other's quilt, but not their own, so they were truly surprised

Mary Lu

...and another quote from Kevin Locke (Sue's request) "Together we can soar like the eagle."

Some Upcoming Storytelling Events (shortened from list in last newsletter)

Christian Storytelling Conference in Bloomington IL. June 19 and 20 **Rosie Willis** will be going. You may contact her for more details.

http://www.christianstorytelling.com/2009_Conference.html

June 18 – 27 University of Missouri St. Louis, Continuing Ed. “Storytelling” Three credit hours. 314-516-5948

Saturday, July 18 First Annual African Festival (details to come) United African Presbyterian Church 9407 Manchester Road Rock Hill, MO Manchester and McKnight

Story Swap May 26

It was a stormy evening, but the clouds parted (good thing, too, because Carol had fragile props), and the stories shone through.

Mary Garrett began with **“What Are You Most Afraid Of?”** from Kathleen Ragan’s OutFoxing Fear, (and shared the snippet of her review on the back cover ;-)

David Grondahl shared the story of **“The Bear That Said ‘North’”** cleverly incorporating puppetry with the story.

Jeremy Grondahl combined humor with horror in the story of **“The Stolen Liver.”**

Marion Cohen shared the story of **“The Burnt-Face Girl”** a Native American Cinderella story, with lessons on honesty and compassion and believing in oneself.

Joy Nack’s “Alice the Alligator” showed the surprisingly soft side of a scary predator, and we learned to do a new sound effect! This is a story from her new CD.

Marcia Ollinger shared a childhood story of the danger of playing **“Dress Up”** with a visitor’s mink stole, and the relief of telling the truth and being loved and understood.

Lee Giezentanner shared his witty animal poems, including one to **“The Naked Mole Rat”** that made us want to head straight to the zoo to see them.

Cathy Gregory shared **“Heavenly Smells,”** her own variation of the multi-ethnic “Theft of a Smell.” Maybe we should meet at a bakery next time? ;-)

Carol Watkins ably took on many persona (more than I could keep count of) to tell us about Abe Lincoln’s life. If history class had been like this, we all would have liked it more!

GATEWAY OFFICERS

President Mary Garrett 636-447-6760

Vice Pres. Marion Cohen 314-997-0250

Secretary Carol Watkins 636-922-7133

Treasurer Coisetta Wright 314-962-6502

Story Swap M.C. Joy Nack 314-317-9061

Grapevine Newsletter Editor Mary Garrett 636-447-6760

Add to mailing list

Mary Kay Menees 210 North Taylor Ave#C St. Louis, MO 63122 314-966-4045

Encl. with mailed newsletters for those not at meeting: Becky Walstrom’s Definitions of Festival Roles and Responsibilities (already forwarded to members with e-mail).

LATE-BREAKING NEWS FROM NSN

2009 Year of the Region: Final YOR events will take place:

June 4-5, 2009 - Portland, Maine. Northeast Region's **"Folktales for Life Project"**

July 16-19, 2009 - Waikiki, Hawaii. Pacific Region's **Talk Story Conference** with after conference plans for a trip to Maui.

What could be nicer than Maine in June or Hawaii in July! All the information you need can be found on www.storynet.org.

2009 NATIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL- Jonesborough TN October 2-4, 2009

While the International Storytelling Center selects the tellers and produces the National Storytelling Festival, NSN will produce several events during the Festival this year. NSN receives a significant part of its income from festival revenues. Your attendance at the festival guarantees an outstanding storytelling experience for you and contributes to NSN's fiscal health. We look forward to seeing you and talking with you at the NSN events during the festival weekend. Stop by the NSN tent just west of the Court House off Main Street to chat with the Staff, and Board or lend a hand meeting and greeting new members.

National Story Night: Thursday 7:30pm. The event takes place the evening before the Festival. We've planned a very exciting evening beginning with a concert featuring Tim Tingle, Valerie Tutson, Michael Reno Harrell, Molly Catron (Jonesborough Guild), Misty and Autumn Joy Saskill (Tandem Youth Tellers). Next, we will also hold the Fringe lottery for the 2010 National Storytelling Conference in Los Angeles. Then after a brief intermission, we will honor our national Oracle Award recipients.

Proceeds from National Story Night support the **NSN Member Grants Program**. The more revenue generated through National Story Night, the more money is available to give out for member grants which fund the development of individual work, collaborative projects, community-based storytelling programs and scholarly research. Please support the NSN member grant program by making a donation and/or purchasing a ticket to the National Story Night concert. We know you won't want to miss this grand evening.

Stories Work: Special Interest groups are busy planning workshops that will take place in the Jonesborough Repertory Theater on Saturday of the Festival. More information will be posted in upcoming Board Email Bulletins.

Regional Oracle Awards: The Regional Oracle Awards will be given at the Festival Sunday morning prior to the Sacred Telling in the Tent on the Hill. The annual Membership meeting will follow the awards ceremony. Don't miss your chance to honor this year's recipients:

- Connie Neil Fisher - (Oklahoma) South Central Region
- Joyce Greiner - (Oregon) Pacific Region
- Yvonne Healy - (Michigan) North Central Region
- Bob McWorter - (West Virginia) Mid Atlantic Region
- Laura Packer - (Massachusetts) Northeast Region
- Lynn Ann Wojciechowicz - (Arizona) Western Region

****Note on Oracle award:** I don't have an explanation of the Oracle voting, as requested at the Gateway meeting. The state liaisons could not find a common time for a conference call. ("Getting storytellers all together is like herding cats," I've been told). I don't know who voted for what. Connie Neil had been nominated last year and was "carried over" to this year, so perhaps we could do the same thing for the Festival next year. -- MG