

Journal of Tar Heel Tellers

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Fall 2011
NC Storytelling Guild
Official Newsletter



Jane Sherman performing during Wildacres concert.
(Photo courtesy, the Editor)

Why are you drawn to a story? What is in that story that calls you to listen to it a second time, to master it and then want to share it with an audience? Did you choose the story or did the story choose you?

Janice Davin, in the May workshop on Active Imagination, led us through a series of discussions and experiences that enabled those of us who were lucky enough to be part of her workshop at Wild Acres in Little Switzerland to explore these questions together.

With humor, wisdom and a light spirit, Janet led us in participating in a variety of Carl Jung's modalities of active imagination. With focus on the story that we had each been asked to bring to work on we moved in a lot of different ways, became our characters, created art, shared personal vignettes to get at the heart of our stories and the characters who filled them. These activities gave us opportunities to create openings in ourselves for the unconscious to

Wildacres Storytelling Workshop with Janice Davin by Jane Sherman

inform us with new awareness about our stories, to deepen our knowing about its characters, its time, its place.

Janice reminded us that our stories are bigger than we are, that as Jung said, "Being a part, man can never know the whole." She reminded us, even stories that we make up actually come from the greater collective unconscious and therefore as storytellers we want to remember that we are dealing with bigger forces than ourselves and what we know. Therefore, we have an obligation to thoughtfully prepare stories that are helpful and healing. We need to respect the depth of the craft by honoring the story as we prepare because when stories are handled improperly, they can go wrong and sometimes be harmful to an audience.

"Our contract with our listeners is that we will take them on a journey and bring them back safely, hopefully with a gift." Janice fulfilled her



Janice Davin stretching our minds.
(Photo courtesy, Jane Sherman)

charge to us at the end of the workshop in her moving telling of the myth of Ceridwen. Hearing her tell this story modeled for us how powerful a traditional myth can become in the thoughtful preparation and rich presentation of a master storyteller. Certainly this story and the whole weekend was a gift. Our many thanks to Janice.

An East Tennessee native, Jane Sherman lived her adult life in NY until recently returning to her roots. She works with the Alzheimers community and other organizations, facilitating support groups for those with early memory loss. "We do a LOT of recall of their stories which is wonderfully rich and very satisfying for them." Jane recently joined NCSG. Contact her at: janeshermanllc@mac.com



Teaching innovative development of story characters.
L to R: Lee Rainey, Janice and Judith Valerie.

(More Wildacres Photos
continued on page 12)

JOURNAL OF TAR HEEL TELLERS

Editor, *Sylvia Payne*
1621 Nathaniel Street,
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NCSG Website:
www.ncstoryguild.org

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letter of the North Carolina Storytelling Guild.*

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tor.

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Calendar listings are free.

Mission of the North Carolina Storytelling Guild:

- ☉ to celebrate the various cultures of NC,
- ☉ to promote excellence in oral tradition,
- ☉ to foster an appreciation and acceptance of the
art of storytelling,
- ☉ to affirm the value of story and the importance
of story listening,
- ☉ to nourish the development of emerging and
established artists.

Correspondence should be addressed to the editor
and will be considered available for publication, un-
less noted, "not for publication". The editor reserves
the right to revise contributed articles for style and
length.

Fall Cast of Characters

Sylvia Payne - Editor
Karen-eve Bayne, Janice Davin, Sandra
Gudger, Michael Reno Harrell, Sherry Lovett,
Tim Lowry, Jane and Wayne Sims, Jan
Schmidt and Jane Sherman -
Contributors



**Here's what's happening with your
storytelling friends around the state!**

Donald Davis recently published his first new book in six years, *Tales from a Free-Range Childhood*. In it you will delight at his recollections of growing up in the southern Appalachians. In June Donald told several of these stories during the Ocracoke Festival at Ocracoke, NC . . . Congratulations to the **Asheville Storytelling Circle**. They have a sleek new website designed by Karen Wollscheid. Take a look at <http://ashevillestorycircle.org/> . . . For **Marva Moss** life has been more than busy this summer, including the building of her new house. She likes to call it, "My little cottage in the woods. It's the perfect setting for lots of writing, and storytelling!" It's her little 'dream come true' . . . **Cynthia Moore Brown's** new book, *Folktales and Ghost Stories of North Carolina's Piedmont*, was published in June. While attending Schifer Publishing's annual author meeting in September she will enjoy an Amish Country tour . . . Early this year **John Golden** celebrated the completion of his new CD, "Backin' to the 50s" . . .

"The greatest tales, well told, awaken the fears and longings of the listeners. Each man hears a different story. Each is touched by it according to his inner self. The words go to the ear, but the true messages travel straight to the spirit."

- *Juliet Marillier, Sons of the Shadow*

Crossroads

from the editor's desk

I am reminded of a statement a friend recently made, "...maybe I'm just a 'late bloomer'..." This prompted me to think about the makeup of our NCSG organization. Our members come from all walks of life. We come from diverse professions that bring together an array of life experiences. I dare say that 'most' of us did not begin as storytellers. Somewhere though our individual paths have led to storytelling.

Most of us have traveled paths we never wish to walk again, though we've all learned from them. As members of the NC Storytelling Guild, our paths cross as storytellers, workshop leaders, teachers, story listeners and story lovers. We all assemble at this crossroad.

I hope each of us will take a few lessons learned and apply them in order to challenge others and ourselves in future growth and learning. I have learned so much from many of you as you have shared your knowledge and experiences at Guild events, workshops, informal discussions, one-on-one conversations, Board meetings, the *JTHT* and by email.

This is your organization. I encourage each of you to help your organization by supporting our Brevard Storytelling Festival on November 4th & 5th. See more about the festival on page seven of this issue.

My thanks to all who contributed stories and articles for this issue of the *Journal of Tar Heel Tellers*.

Submit to:

Sylvia Payne, JTHT Editor, 1621 Nathaniel Street, Newton, NC 28658. E-mail: sylpayne@bellsouth.net

Deadline for Spring 2012 Issue: March 15, 2012.

President's Message by Frankie Adkins

Hello NCSG 'Tellers!

Let me tell you a story!

What can I say? I'm thrilled to be your President. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you, work for and with you, and I promise I will do my best. This is going to be a really exciting year!

Before I forget, or you decide you've read enough, I have an idea to share with you. I'm a librarian, and I can't resist doing research, and, as far as I can tell, there has never been a Storytelling Flash Mob. I would really love to be part of the first one. I think we have a great opportunity at Brevard during the FallFest. If you would be interested in being part of this, please email me, and we'll work on the idea.

I hope you are planning on coming to Brevard to our FallFest at the Transylvania County Library on Friday-Saturday, November 4-5. If you have not been to Brevard, I have to tell you what a delightful town it is in early November. The fall colors are in full swing, the weather is glorious, and the honest-to-goodness, real, live white

squirrels are beautiful. Of course, there are also the fabulous stories told by the FallFest tellers. The Silent Auction at the FallFest is a favorite of mine also. (Last year we profited about \$1,000 from the auction.) Please consider sending or bringing something(s) to donate to the auction. I plan on putting together some kind of fabulous basket for the auction.

I also encourage you to come to the Winter Workshop at the Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell, January 27-29. Where else can you pitch in and make authentic Stone Soup for supper? The company of fellow storytellers for the weekend is something that is beyond comparison. We learn, tell, practice, laugh, cry, and just have a wonderful, unforgettable time! Oh, and the view of the Inland Waterway, and the Cape Fear River, and the Atlantic Ocean – well, you just have to see it.

We will be having Board Meetings at both of these events. The meeting at Brevard will be 2:00 on Friday afternoon



at the hotel (Hampton Inn), and the meeting at Ft. Caswell will be at 3:00 on Friday afternoon at the Baptist Assembly. You are invited to both meetings. Please feel free to express your ideas, opinions, and suggestions to me and your other board members. This is your organization and it's going to be a great year!

I just checked and found about 50 events on our Event Calendar (*on NCSG's Website*). Wow! Please check it out. I hope to see you at many of them.

Frankie Adkins
NCSG President

You may contact her at:
fadkins@charter.net

Reconciliation Stories- A Watershed Experience by Karen-eve Bayne

We all know how powerful stories are in teaching, relaying messages and healing. The definition of reconciliation varies, but generally means: To re-establish friendship; to settle or resolve a dispute; to bring one's self to accept. I have been collecting stories of reconciliation for a few years, and I knew I had my own to tell. I had to tell it. I was in the midst of physical healing from surgery and needed some personal healing too. I finally got the nerve to do it on August 21 at the Asheville Storytelling Circle annual picnic. I've been telling stories for over a decade, but this one was different. This story became a stone in my heart and a log in my throat. To complicate it, Lloyd Arneach, my friend and renowned Cherokee storyteller was in the audience- a representative of the victims. Perhaps that was for the best after all.

I told the story, Watershed by Robert Morgan (with his permission). It is a story that documents the brutal attack on the Cherokee in Henderson County circa 1810. The attack was led by one of my ancestors. I have carried the grief and shame of this story around with me for over a decade, and I had to put it down. Why did I tell the story? *Because it needed to be told and I needed to own the shame and reality of that story.* It's so easy to judge others or believe we would not carry out an atrocity. As the story says, '...we never know what we are capable of until the circumstances present themselves.' I try to not stand in judgment of others, and can only hope for forgiveness from the Cherokee. We can do only what we can do.

In bookkeeping, when one reconciles the books, things are brought into balance and harmony. When we

begin to look at reconciliation and forgiveness, they are interconnected. Forgiveness is defined as: to excuse for a fault or offense. Certainly reconciliation can move toward forgiveness and forgiveness toward reconciliation. There's an intertwining there, but also a distinction. I can reconcile what has occurred in my life (or history) and not forgive the behavior. Reconciliation is simply opening the door. It's reaching out to someone or to a group of people, and making a step. That is all I was doing, trying to say I am sorry through the story and opening the door. Tell your stories of reconciliation. It works. I thank all the listeners- I needed an audience. Healing started and I hope it continues.

Karen-eve Bayne currently serves on the NCSG Board as the Southern Mountains Representative. She may be contacted at: KarenEve01@aol.com

Kathryn Tucker Windham

By Michael Reno Harrell

The storytelling world has lost its matriarch. Kathryn Tucker Windham has passed away at 93. In doing so, she has once again changed my world. I'm sure this year's National Storytelling Festival will become a memorial to the Granddame of Storytelling. As I write this, she has only been gone since 5:00 PM yesterday and is to be laid to rest this morning at 10:00. I know for a fact that she had planned every aspect of her send off. That was her. No fuss. Get on with it.

As a matter of fact, her going had been planned by her for years. She had had her coffin, a plain pine box, built long ago by a woodworking friend. Until yesterday that simple sarcophagus sat on top of several 55 gallon drums in the shed behind her house. The steel drums contained Kathryn's collection of hundreds of antique glass power line insulators. The casket itself had for some time been used to store a set of china. Practicality and whimsy in perfect proportion, just like her storytelling.

Anyone who ever heard her came away knowing her hometown of Thomasville, Alabama and the characters who resided in that little burg as well as any Andy Griffith fan knows Mayberry and its inhabitants. Her stories were like watching wonderful little movies. I consider her my biggest inspiration. She was such a natural. She had a magic ability that allowed her to talk to 1500 storytelling fans individually. Her voice was as refreshing as sipping a tall glass of sweet iced tea with a sprig of fresh mint winking at you from in there amongst the cubes.

I mentioned that her passing had changed my world. I had the great honor of being on three festivals with her and consider them the highlight of my storytelling career. To think that I'll never sit in a folding chair at the side of a stage somewhere and be mesmerized by her at some event is akin to never being able to sit and chat with a favorite aunt again.

If anyone on the planet ever finds themselves in need of inspiration, they have to look no farther than the life of Kathryn Tucker Windham. She was a wife (widowed after only ten years of marriage) and mother of three, a newspaper journalist on the crime beat at a time when that was almost exclusively a male occupation, an author of many successful books, a playwright, a renowned photographer, a radio commentator on NPR's All Things Considered and one of the most beloved storytellers in America. For some time now, three of the most popular tellers in the world of storytelling have been invited by popular demand to perform each year at the National. They are Donald Davis, Bil Lepp and Ms. Windham. There can be no higher honor bestowed on a storyteller than that. That comes straight from the fans. No one can ever fill those wonderful little shoes of hers...or play the comb and tissue with such enthusiasm.

One evening several years ago, after a music gig, I flopped down on a motel bed, picked up the remote and searched out the local PBS channel. There on the screen was this little, white haired lady in a patchwork skirt and a floppy



Kathryn Tucker Windham

red cloth hat with an accent straight out of a Flannery O'Conner novel standing, hands clasped behind her back and a twinkle in her eye, at a microphone. She stood there on a stage in a huge tent and talked about taking piano lessons from some stuffy old relative to a large gathering of totally enraptured listeners. It was my very first introduction to the world of professional storytelling. I knew from that moment that I had to try and find a way to do that. To be able to make people laugh because you have shown them something wonderful inside themselves that they might have forgotten about is, to me, a most noble pursuit. Thank you, Kathryn for making me laugh so often. Sitting here, thinking of her, I don't know whether to laugh till I cry or cry till I laugh. Her epitaph will most likely read just as she always wanted to be introduced, simply... "Kathryn Windham, a storyteller".

Michael Reno Harrell, Burke County, North Carolina...a fan. Michael is a frequent contributor to the JTHT. He will be performing at Saturday's Midnight Cabaret during the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough. Contact him at: mike@michaelreno.com

LOOKING FOR A NEW CHALLENGE?

I recently came across an unusual story in Germany's *Spiegel Online International Coverage*. The 'bare bones' of the story is this:

A German thief who broke into an angling shop had some bad luck when he fell and sat on a number of fish hooks. He was quickly caught because he was in too much

pain to run. Police said their job was made even easier because the store's price tags were still attached to the hooks embedded in his bottom.

JTHT would like to challenge anyone who is man or woman enough to accept this challenge and develop your own story. Take the bare bones from this German thief story and run with it. Maybe you need a short 5 to 8 minute filler

somewhere in your story repertoire. Embellish it however you wish. If you accept the challenge and want to share it, please send a copy to sylpayne@bellsouth.net. (Deadline is December 1, 2011.) We may even publish one or two of the most creative entries in the Spring 2012 JTHT.



Gary Mitchell (of Molasses Creek), Donald Davis, Marcy Brenner (Molasses Creek), Louis Allen (Warren Bodle & Allen), Trent Wagler (Steel Wheels), John Golden and Jamie Tunnell (Ocracoke Opry).

Ocracoke Festival by Sylvia Payne

Whee! Now we were truly excited. To make a long story short we spent 12 fun days on and near the Outer Banks, including seven days at Ocracoke, before returning home. We attended most of the Ocracoke Festival, which was thoroughly worth every moment we spent there.

Donald Davis who lives on Ocracoke and

John Golden were among the line-up of performers. Donald and Rodney Kemp, historian and storyteller from Morehead City, were featured storytellers. Donald

and Rodney's performances were sandwiched between the musicians on Saturday, creating a pleasant balance between music and storytelling. Donald performed stories on two separate stages during the day on Saturday. Of course we took in both performances. Several of his 'growing up' stories may be found in his newly published book, *Tales from a Free-Range Childhood*. Whether or not you've

heard Donald enthral a crowd with his stories, you would definitely enjoy reading his new book. We bought our copy while at the festival.

I realize how fortunate we southerners are to have so many festivals, including storytelling festivals around the state. I met five or six people

during the Ocracoke Festival who moved here from other states, particularly northern states. They told me they had never seen or heard storytelling until they moved here and discovered this festival. Most of them presently live in the eastern part of our fine state. Each professed to have fallen in love with storytelling and with the style of music performed during this festival.

A few of our favorite musical groups that performed were the *Ocracoke Jazz Society* (and I'm not the greatest jazz fan), *Molasses Creek* (from Ocracoke), the *Steel Wheels* (from Virginia), *Beleza Brasil*, and of course John Golden. Both John and Donald Davis shared their musical talents during the day on Sunday with the morning and afternoon Gospel Singing.



Gary Mitchell (of Molasses Creek), Trent Wagler (Steel Wheels), John Golden and Jamie Tunnell (Ocracoke Opry). (Ocracoke Photos, courtesy Jim Payne)

The Ocracoke Festival is definitely recommended if you have never been. The dates for 2012 are June 1-3rd. I warn you, make your reservations early. Check out the festival website at: <http://www.ocracokefestival.org/>

Sylvia Payne is a storyteller and the Editor of the JTHT.

For several years I've had a yearning to attend the *Ocracoke Music and Storytelling Festival* in Ocracoke, NC. Well, life kept getting in the way. So this spring my husband and I decided that we must take action and do something about it, despite other commitments. Otherwise we could grow old and wake up one day only to realize we never got there.

While I busily worked on the Spring JTHT storytelling publication for the Guild, Jim began to make call after call searching for reservations for the festival held on June 3-5th. He discovered that places were either booked or we must make a commitment for one week's lodging going from Saturday to Saturday. This was absolutely impossible. Our plans were to arrive several days prior to the festival and stay through part of the following week and enjoy the quaint village of Ocracoke. After all, we hadn't visited there for many years.

Finally, after more brainstorming we had the answer. We'll stay somewhere close. Well - as close as you can by taking a ferry to Ocracoke and back each day. That left one area - Hatteras Island near Hatteras Village. After more calls, he found our place, which was only five minutes from the ferry dock.

Congratulations to NCSG's webmaster, Karen Wollscheid, for being honored with the 2011 National Storytelling Network ORACLE Award for Distinguished National Service.

The Distinguished National Service Award is presented to those individuals, members or groups who contribute their time and energy in an exemplary manner on the national level to forward the work of the National Storytelling Network.

Toe River Storytelling Festival by Sherry Lovett

Thrilled and terrified are two words that often go together when one is doing something for the first time, and certainly applied to me as I took the stage at the Toe River Storytelling Festival in Spruce Pine.

I had been telling stories for about twelve years, mostly for schools, when I moved to Little Switzerland, NC and decided I wanted to take my storytelling to the next level. Shortly after we moved to Little Switzerland I heard about the Toe River Festival and got in touch with Kay Goins, the organizer of the event, to see if she needed any more tellers. Little did I know what a big festival it was with big name storytellers - David Holt, Michael Reno Harrel, Kim Weitkamp... She told me they had all their tellers lined-up, but I gave her my number for future reference. Well, as fate would have it, her emcee had to cancel at the last minute, and she called



Lloyd Arneach and Sherry Lovett

me to do the job and my connection with the Toe River Festival began.

I was in complete awe that year. It was exciting to meet such skillful tellers and have the honor of introducing them. Each teller that year was gracious and friendly as I conversed with them. I learned much by watching their performances and thought, "Man, I'd like to be up there telling." Be careful what you wish for...

This year I was Kay's assistant and she was assisting the new Main Street Director as she had retired several months prior. Kay's love of storytelling and the festival compelled her to give of her time to make sure the Toe River

Fall 2011



Ellouise Schoettler, Donna Washington and Sherry Lovett

Festival continued and went well this year.

I put my name in to be the first teller, the opener, if you will, as well as the emcee. I was excited to be accepted and my excitement grew as we lined-up the tellers for the year - Mitch Capel, Donna Washington, Ellouise Schoettler, and Lloyd Arneach. I could hardly believe I was going to get to share the stage with these incredible tellers.

As the months went along I did what I could to prepare - telling, telling, telling, going to the Asheville Storyteller's Circle, attending a summer institute in storytelling with Antonio Rocha and Milbre Burch at East Tennessee State University, and attending workshops at Wildacres with Janice Davin and Janice M. Del Negro organized by Dianne Hackworth.

Finally, the day arrived, drizzly, rainy, and cold, but it arrived nonetheless. Someone once told me



Sherry with Mitch Capel

excitement is nervousness without fear, so I tried to remember that. I focused on helping get everything ready for the day and sending good thoughts out to the Universe that people would come despite the weather. As I worked thoughts like, "Oh, I hope I remember everything" and "Oh, I hope they like my stories" and "Oh, I hope I'm ready for this," flitted through my mind.

People did brave the drizzly, rainy, cold and we had a couple of hundred people in attendance. I greeted everyone, made some announcements, introduced myself, and took the stage for the first time at a festival. What a feeling! I shared my stories, remembered them, relaxed, and let that magic thing happen when the story world takes over and both the teller and listener live in the story, outside of time, and in connection. It is a powerful place. Before I knew it my set had ended, but I knew my memories of the day would go on, and I hoped there would be many more opportunities to make memories with storytelling.

The rest of the day was a delight. Each teller brought a unique style - Ellouise, a funny and touching, sitting around your kitchen table kind of feeling; Donna, a vibrant and energetic, mesmerizing performance; Mitch, a heartfelt and soulful eclectic, entertaining array; and Lloyd a traditional and historical, tender telling of Cherokee stories. I watched them all with joy and interest, hoping to learn from the masters, and, once again, felt thrilled that I had shared the stage with them.

Sherry Lovett has been a storyteller for twelve years, starting when she taught middle school. She lives with her family at the Wildacres Retreat Center in Little Switzerland, NC. She may be contacted at thelovetts3@gmail.com.

Dates to Remember

November - National American Indian Heritage Month

November 13-19 - American Education Week

Brevard Storytelling Fest



Sponsored by
Friends of Transylvania County Library &
North Carolina Storytelling Guild Inc.

November 4 & 5



SHEILA KAY ADAMS



SOUTHERN VOICES



SHERRY LOVETT



DAVID JOE MILLER



CHARLOTTE ROSS



TERRY ROLLINS, MC

Free Admission

Concerts & Workshops 9:AM - 9:30 PM

NOVEMBER 4: Headliners Concert 7:30 PM

Transylvania County Library

INFO: 828-884-3151 or 828-274-1123

Schedule Online: <http://www.ncstoryguild.org/events.htm>

Festival Information

Dear NCSG Members,

I hope you can attend the Fall Festival at Transylvania County Public Library in Brevard, November 4th and 5th. The tellers will be Sheila Kay Adams, Southern Voices duo of Glenis Redmond and Scott Ainsley, and NCSG tellers Sherry Lovett, David Joe Miller, and Charlotte Ross. Terry Rollins will emcee.

A **Board meeting** will be held at **2 pm, Nov. 4th, at Hampton Inn** and is open to **all members**. Then, at 5 pm we will gather for dinner at Twin Dragons Grand Buffet for our customary feast, Tell the hostess you are with the storytelling party; we will be in the back room. At 7:30 pm Sheila Kay, Glenis and Scott will perform in the Library's Rogow Auditorium. The Festival resumes at 9 am on Saturday morning at the Library with Glenis and Scott presenting a workshop, "Poetry and the Blues: Using the External Landscape to Paint the Internal Landscape". At 11 am, Sheila will present a workshop, "Come Go Home With Me". The Afternoon Concert for Families begins at 1:30 pm and will feature all the tellers as well as Youth Tellers from the Library (these kids were great last year). The Evening Concert for adults and older youth begins at 6:30 pm and will again feature all the tellers, with the exception of the Youth Tellers. All events are free.

Please remember to bring an item for the Silent Auction. Books, CD's, crafts, and items pertaining to storytelling are particularly popular. An item doesn't have to be new, but it should look new. All proceeds from the Silent Auction are split

(Continued on back page)

NCSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS - July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

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Send your **articles**, stories, storytelling news and upcoming public storytelling performances for the Spring 2012 *Journal of Tar Heel Tellers*. **Deadline:** March 15, 2012.

Have You Met the Storytellers' Devil?

By Janice Davin



Hee, hee, hee, hee, heehh!

I am convinced that there is a special devil whose assigned task is to provide challenges for storytellers. He is the one who whispers reasonable but devastating ideas into the ears of those who hire you. Have you met him yet? I am sure you have.

This mischief-maker is the one who inspires the event planner to put the fire pits between you and your audience so that children can roast marshmallows as they listen to the story. Then he whispers into the children's ears, "That long, sharp, pointed stick would make a great sword." He simultaneously sends a fog over their parents as they enjoy the wine and cheese buffet producing amnesia regarding the fact that they have children. Thus, the only adult who notices young children poking sharp pointed objects at one another's eyes is you. Your challenge: Break up the sword fights as part of the act.

This fiend persuades the festival organizer to put Dottie, the face-painting clown, and the storyteller in the same tent so that the storyteller can entertain the children as they wait to get their faces painted. Sounds reasonable, right? Ah- but the fiend is not finished. He gives Dottie a terrible cold that causes temporary deafness and loud sneezing. He tells the organizer that the tent is too small for a microphone for you. And he inspires you to do interactive stories with puppets. The result: Dottie's speech and sneezing is five decibels louder than your story and the kids that volunteer to join you on stage abandon their puppets to join Dottie before the story is over. Your challenge: Resist the urge to kill someone.

The challenge devil even has the audacity to persuade Bible School planners to make storytelling the last

event- after the crafts, the soccer games, the three-legged races, the cookout, and the ice cream sundaes. He advises the planners to use the semi-dark, warm sanctuary for the sacred story. Your challenge: Ignore the fact that half of your audience is snoring loudly.

If you have not met this devil yet, you will soon because he is out there. But he won't prevail. We storytellers are a hardy, ingenious troop. Every time he sends us a challenge, he inadvertently provides us with another story.

Janice is a member of the NCSG Board.

You may contact her at:

janice@janicedavin.com



Books, Kazoos, and Movies or "What I Did Over Summer Vacation" by Tim Lowry

Early this morning (August 15, 2011), I stood on the sidewalk in front of my house and handed out pencils to the boys and girls walking to our neighborhood school just around the corner. It was my little way of encouraging them on the first day of the 2011/2012 school year. I joked that they could use the pencil to write the obligatory "What I Did Over Summer Vacation" essay that every teacher assigns on the first day of school. As I look back at my summer "to do" list, I find that I could write an essay of my own. Here is my report . . .

I spent a good part of the summer in the cool air conditioning with my books. Just like a tall glass of lemonade quenches thirst, so my reading list was refreshment for the storyteller's soul. I read bible stories, fairy stories, and Laura Ingalls Wilder. The devotional book *Life Interrupted* by Priscilla Shirer proved to be a spot on, practical application of the biblical story of Jonah. I learned much about the Assyrian culture that serves as a backdrop for the story and some fascinating shark trivia, too! The

classic *Irish Fairy & Folk Tales* by W.B. Yeats has given me lots of new stories and plenty of "fairy facts" to share with audiences. For instance, did you know that fairies are most active three nights out of the year—May Eve, Midsummer Eve, and November Eve? And it's that third eve when they can be a bit surly, so watch out! I also read *The Young Hans Christian Anderson* by Karen Hesse. Each short episode from Hans' life coincides with one of his wonderful tales. The book shows how his work was often auto-biographical and is the perfect illustration for why Mr. Anderson was quoted as saying "Life itself is the most wonderful fairy tale of all!" Finally, I read the collected essays and farm journal articles of Laura Ingalls Wilder (*Little House in the Ozarks* edited by Stephen W. Hines). These short works were published before her timeless "Little House" series and show a different side of the famous author. It was interesting to learn that she too considered stories of faith and fairies essential to the storyteller's soul!

As the saying goes, all reading and no play makes for a dull storyteller. I put my books down long enough to practice my kazoo skills and worked up a kazoo version of "The Seven Goat Kids" (Grimm). I

took the idea from Beth Horner at last year's festival in Brevard. This has proven to be a really great technique for re-telling a familiar tale. When young audience members shout out, "Tell it again!" I can oblige them in a whimsical and entertaining way that satisfies their need for repetition and my need for creativity. I've even had adults say, "The kazoo was my favorite part of your show!"

And of course, just before my summer break came to an end, I went to see the very last Harry Potter movie, in 3D! Merlin's Beard! What an explosive ending to such a fantastic series. I again was reminded how every generation has its mythology and its myth makers. J.K. Rowling is one for the ages! Just as an experiment, I plan to tell one of the *Tales of Beedle the Bard* this Halloween during a folklore program and see if anyone in the audience even realizes that it is a *new* old tale. If you come to the show, be sure to notice my Deathly Hallows ring. All the Gryffindors are wearing them.

Tim Lowry is an active member of the SC Storytelling Network and the NC Storytelling Guild. He performs around the country sharing his storytelling talent and animated character voices. You may contact him at timlowry@bellsouth.net

Kid's Storytelling Camp by Sherry Lovett



Sherry Lovett with Penland Kids

Penland School of Crafts (www.penland.org) is synonymous with creativity – creating art of all varieties: pottery, metalwork, bookmaking, fiber arts, glass blowing... and, in the summer, they extend the opportunity to create to children through their kid camp program organized by Wendi Gatz and Stacy Kline. For this year's kid camps I submitted a proposal to teach a storytelling camp, and it was accepted. Storytelling, after all, is a marvelous craft, a craft that brings people together, creates connections, and enriches lives.

Teaching this class helped me hone in on the craft even more. If you have ever taught anything, you know that through teaching you gain an even better understanding of your subject. The children, who ranged in ages from nine to twelve, and I explored what storytelling is, how you learn a story, and how you tell a story. We worked from 9 am until 12 pm for five days, a fairly short time, and in that time the kids selected a story, learned it, and told it at a student concert for family and friends at the end of the week.

We began class with warm-ups to help the kids get to know each other and to feel at ease. Next we would listen to a professional storyteller and explore what made the story and the telling good. We played games to practice with developing characters and using our bodies. We used visualization and art techniques to imagine the story – the setting, the action, the characters... and we

practiced, practiced, practiced.

At the end of the week each child shared his or her story, and I was like a proud parent bursting at the seams to see their progress. I had watched all week as the stories took shape, watched characters come alive, the refinement of movement, and the fine-tuning of language. They all did a great job, and I hope there are now seven more storytellers to inspire the world with their newfound craft.



Penland Storytelling Kids Camp

See page six for more about Sherry.

Invitation to the Spoken-Word Tell-Off - Guild Challenge

The STORY SPINNERS GUILD Invites You to the Spoken-Word Tell-Off - Guild Challenge – Are you Ready to Win?

October 29, 2011, the first SPOOKEN-WORD GUILD TELL-OFF WILL BE HELD AT THE STORYTELLING & ARTS CENTER IN LAURINBURG, NC FROM 1:30 – 5 PM WITH AN EVENING SPOOKEN-WORD STORYTELLING PERFORMANCE AND SPOOKY STORY SLAM STARTING AT 7 PM.!

The Story Spinners, a SACS guild, is offering a challenge to guilds from across the Southeast to a scary story showdown, the 1st annual **SPOOKEN-WORD** Tell-Off. Storytelling guilds *are invited* to select tellers to represent their guild, and register their names in priority order. Tellers will face off on October 29, 2011, in Laurinburg, NC. This is a wonderful opportunity for guilds to be recognized and for guilds to grow their group by recruiting new members.

The **SPOOKEN-WORD** Guild Tell-Off will be judged by a nationally acclaimed storyteller and spooky gal, Kim Weitkamp, two other impartial judges

and the audience. **Stories must be suitable for a family audience.** No profanity or off-color content will be accepted. Stories may be up to 7 minutes long. The winners will be announced at the end of the **Tell-Off** and they will tell their stories at the evening performance. **The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, place winners will receive prizes at the beginning of the evening performance and the Guild they represent will be awarded a trophy.**

Kim Weitkamp has appeared in Laurinburg at the Storytelling Festival of Carolina and the Intensive Storytelling Workshop. She is a popular teller, sharing her wonderful tales at festivals and other venues across the nation. Kim will soon have available a new CD of scary stories. She will share those spooky tales as part of the Spoken-Word evening program. For more information and application forms, call 910-277-3599 or 910-706-3266 or the web at www.storyartscenter.org.

Hope to see you there. **Contact: Jan Schmidt: 910-706-3266/910-277-**

3599. The Storytelling & Arts Center of the Southeast, 131 South Main Street, Laurinburg, NC 28352.

Lodging Offer for Durham Arts Market November 7-9 , 2011

Donna Washington, who lives in Durham, is extending a first come first bed offer to anyone who might be involved with the Arts Market there. She has an air mattress, two pull out beds and a couch. Two rooms are good sized if people want to come in pairs. Her phone number is: (919) 471-3036

The Storytelling Sims: A Tandem Twosome

By Jane & Wayne Sims

"Dialogue is probably the biggest part of their delivery. It is the words they use and the manner in which they say them that grabs the audience. I found myself totally absorbed in an hour and a half of tales and tributes . . ." — Entertaining U, Jacksonville's weekly entertainment newspaper.



One of the first things people ask us is, "How did you get involved in storytelling?" Probably the most accurate description would be: through a side door. Wayne enjoyed a long career in radio and sportscasting before retiring a second time to be the director of public affairs for the City of St. Augustine. Storytelling is a natural way of using his wonderful speaking voice. I, on the other hand had been an instructor at Flagler College, a community publicist, and producer of a storytelling festival in St. Augustine with the late Gamble Rogers. My background in journalism helped us form the perfect partnership.

How we actually became tellers ourselves stretches back to the time when we were part of a small, intrepid group which founded the Tale Tellers of St. Augustine in 1993 — which was, coincidentally, the same year we got married. At the time Wayne was the CEO of "Cross and Sword," Florida's state play and outdoor drama by Paul Green, and gave the group a place to meet at the St. Augustine Amphitheater. To the group we brought diverse backgrounds in business, event management and promotion and publicity. I guess you could say we became storytellers out of self-defense because everybody else was making an effort to become tellers. As any storyteller will tell you, no one hangs around tellers without saying, "You know, that reminds me . . ."

MENTORS?

Both of us would be quick to say that we've had no personal mentors of a tandem persuasion, but we have been blessed to hear the best of the upper echelon professionals. Wayne was first influenced by two storytellers: David Holt and Gamble Rogers. He says, "It dawned on me that storytelling was not

necessarily just for kids in a library setting, but was also a wonderful form of adult entertainment — something I had expertise in thanks to my 35 years in radio/television." Jane discovered "storytelling" at a smoky coffee house in St. Augustine during the early 1960s, where "we could occasionally enjoy the punctuated hilarious delivery of a tall slender young man in black who skewered the humanity of Ocklawahan Florida Crackers." That young man was, of course, Gamble Rogers. In the years since I have been drawn to and motivated by Donald Davis, Kathryn Wyndham, Andy Irwin and Michael Reno Harrell, among others. (It's always dangerous to start naming names because someone really important always gets left out!)

WHY TANDEM TELLING?

Why not? It didn't take long to realize that when you're going out doing shows, people feel they are getting more bang for their buck with tandem telling, not to mention that audience response was often nothing short of overwhelming in their appreciation. For us, as a male and female performing duo, there's always been the undeniable dynamic of two vocal ranges, speech patterns, rhythms, and body language. We've even used our tandem style to develop programs with historical characters, for example, America's first travel writers who lived in different centuries, i.e., naturalist William Bartram and author Constance Fenimore Woolson, as well as the love story of Civil War General Edmund Kirby-Smith and his bride Cassie Selden.

WHERE DO WE GET OUR MATERIAL?

Wayne says, "One of our signature stories about an outhouse was adapted

from an anecdote I read in a book at some long forgotten time. It was a natural to write since it involved a woman and her husband. The same applies to a wonderful Irish tale we do about a farmer who left home to work while his wife stayed behind to tend the homestead. On the other hand, when we rewrote the classic 'Stone Soup' into a tandem format, it was more appropriate to allow one of the tellers to become the narrator and the second to play the part of the peddler. By the same token, two of our favorites 'Old Joe and the Carpenter' naturally adapts into tandem form, as does the hackneyed vaudeville old saw 'No News.'"

Being humorists, several of our stories are nothing more than simple extensions and amplifications of one and two line jokes and Jump tales that have been around for hundreds of years. We add the characters. Other works have been commissioned creations based on historic incidents and/or people.

Most importantly the continuing theme in developing any piece is, "Will they salute when we run it up the flag pole?" Don't be afraid to be honest with yourself, or allow yourself to be so filled with self-pride that you can't bring yourself to say "NO! This isn't going to work." Those who endeavor to be successful tandem tellers need at all times to remember that success is a factor of positive audience reception — not the tellers' perception of how good they think they did the story.

(Continued on page 11)



NCSG's Winter Workshop with storyteller Gay Ducey will be held on the grounds of the Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell, Oak Island, NC.

Our new **early registration** deadline for NCSG's Winter Workshop at the Baptist Assembly at Ft. Caswell (Oak Island) will be **October 31**, rather than the end of November as we had used in the past. Prices for registration/pre-registration are as follows: If you are a **member of NCSG:**

\$210 for early registration (received by Oct 31)
\$225 for later registration (after Oct 31)

If you are **not a member of the Guild:**

\$260 for early registration
\$275 for later registration
We have these rates higher to strongly encourage nonmembers to become members of NCSG.

Contact co-chairs, Terry Rollins - bardelf@gmail.com or Dianne Hackworth - dianne@diannehackworth.com

Space is limited!

(The Storytelling Sims...continued from page 10)

HOW DO WE DEVELOP AND PREPARE OUR STORIES?

The most important factor in building a story is to have a realistic concept about how two individuals can interact with hustle and flow on stage within that particular context. Sadly, some of the best stories simply should never be transformed into Tandem Tales. One of the most critical mistakes a duo can make is to try to force tandem presentation onto a story that doesn't warrant it. It's quite simple to divide and assign parts of any story . . . but it may not fly when tossed into the air onstage in front of an audience.

Individual tellers are able to vary or change stories as the whim strikes during presentation, or to treat a memory lapse as "the pause that refreshes." As tandem tellers, the partners must at all times be responsible to the story and to one another. In tandem telling a "pregnant" pause is usually a sure-fire indication that the tellers are not prepared. So, in

spite of what many say about "memorization" being a "No-No", tandem stories require some degree of memory work and extensive rehearsal.

We commit our stories to script form. Sometimes in developing the story we will utilize mostly dialogue, or other times one of us will, in sportscaster's parlance, "call the ball" while the other "runs the play." In any case, variety is the spice of life, and may be the most important component in tandem telling. Then, we rehearse, rehearse, rehearse, revamp, and remove portions which are rough, unnecessary or unworkable. When teller #1 gives the cue phrase, teller #2 must respond timely and be able to move the plot along with alacrity. The very essence of a good tandem show is a seamless presentation. For tandem tellers especially, T-I-M-I-N-G is EVERYTHING!

Will the audience "buy into" whatever the story is? No doubt about it! They don't have to believe it literally, but they must like it. Most audiences,

even unsophisticated ones, will recognize the difference between fact and tongue-in-cheek, and they are usually even more entertained when they realize they've been had.

Tandem telling can be one of two things. Either an intriguing exchange between two professionals which yields a unique and entertaining listening experience or a ho-ho-hum-drum-see-saw line swap by two people in front of an audience glancing at their watches wondering how much longer it will last.

Any way you look at it, being a tandem duo is definitely a challenge which we definitely enjoy!

Wayne & Jane Sims tell tales of Florida, Appalachia, and the South. The result is 18 years sharing stories and hundreds of appearances at special events, storytelling and folk festivals, retirement communities, historical societies and libraries from Florida's "River of Grass" to the Blue Ridge of North Carolina. The Sims currently serve as co-presidents of Asheville Storytelling Circle. Contact: StoryBuff@aol.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH OUR STORYTELLERS

MIMA DIXON IN NC SENIOR GAMES FINALS

Congratulations to Mima Dixon who participated in the storytelling division at the 28th Annual Greenville/Pitt Senior Games, Winterville, NC. She placed first, winning a Gold Metal. She is presently preparing for the state competition where she'll be telling at the North Carolina Senior Games State Finals 2011 at the WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary, NC.

The Opening Ceremony will kick off on Friday, September 30th at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and sell out quickly. Contact: 919-851-5456.

JANICE DAVIN ON THE GO

Janice Davin attended the ISTE Conference (International Society for Technology in Education) in Philadelphia this summer. She wanted to learn more about digital storytelling. She learned how to do videoconferencing for the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration.

Janice also learned how to add a musical score to a movie and make animated films using stop-motion technology. The conference was truly international. She met very interesting people from all around the world.

Following the ISTE Conference Janice teamed up with old buddies from her *Oral Traditions* studies at the Graduate Institute in Connecticut. (See photo above.) They embarked upon an exciting 'whale watching tour' with the *Captain John Whale Watch Tour* in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The tour went to feeding grounds off the coast.

Below is a description of Janice's tour from the boat's website: http://captainjohnboats.blogspot.com/2011_06_26_archive.html

"Today was a glorious day both weather-wise and whale-wise. Visibility was so clear that we could see Pilgrim Monument in Provincetown as soon as we



(L to R) Liz Gruber, Janice Davin, Jennie Munro, and Eric Munro. Liz, Jennie and I studied Oral Traditions together at the Graduate Institute in Connecticut. Jennie and Liz are members of the Connecticut Storytelling Center. Jennie was a new voice at Jonesborough in 2009. She will Emcee at the Festival in October.

left Plymouth Harbor. Once we cut across Cape Cod Bay, we started spotting whales just north and east of Race Point. We came across multiple groups of humpback whales, many solo Minke whales moving through the area, and even a pair of Finback whales."

Janice adds, "We also saw a mother and a calf swimming side by side. The whales were so accustomed to the boats that they swam close and dove under the boat coming up on the other side. It was awesome!"

Local Storytelling Groups in NC

The Asheville Storytelling Circle - Meets 3rd Monday of each month - 7:00pm. Asheville Terrace, 200 Tunnel Rd., Asheville, NC. Contact Wayne & Jane Sims at storybuff@aol.com

The Inner Banks Storytellers Group - Meets the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaufort County Arts Council building. Washington, NC. For more information, contact Terry Rollins at 252-402-8595.

The Regulator Bookshop, Storytelling for Adults. 2nd Monday of each month - 7:00pm. 720 Ninth Street, Durham, NC. Contact 919-286-2700 or mail@regbook.com

Story Spinners Guild - 3rd Monday of every month, Sept. through May. Storytelling Arts Center, 131 S. Main St., Laurinburg, NC. 910-277-3599.

Northern Wake Storytelling Circle - Meets twice monthly at the Storytellers Book Store, almost always the 2nd Thursday night and 3rd (or 4th) Sunday afternoon. 100 E. Roosevelt Ave., Wake Forest, NC 27587. 919-554-9146.

The Storytellers Guild of Charlotte - Meets 2nd Thursday of each month - 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble, Arboretum Shopping Ctr., Charlotte, NC. Contact 704-756-2919.

Triad Storytelling Exchange - Meets 3rd Thursday of each month - 7:30pm. CityArts suite, Cultural Center, 200 N. Davie St., Greensboro, NC. Contact Charlotte Hamlin at chamlin1@triad.rr.com

(If you want your group listed contact the Editor.)



Alisah Horne and Charlotte Ross (Photos courtesy, the Editor)

Top right photo - L to r: Alisah Horne, Judith Valerie, Jane Sherman and Janice Davin.

Lower right photo - Clockwise: Judith Valerie, Lee Rainey, Frankie Adkins, Janice Davin, Sandra Gudger and Sherry Lovett.



Sherry Lovett and Dianne Hackworth



"If stories come to you, care for them. And learn to give them away where they are needed. Sometimes a person needs a story more than food to stay alive."

- Barry Lopez, Crow and Weasel



September 2011

20- Storytelling at Todd General Store with Charlotte Ross, 6pm. 3866 Railroad Grade Road, Todd, NC. Contact 336-877-1067.

23-25 Cave Run Storytelling Festival. Featuring Donald Davis, Charlotte Blake Alston, Andy Offutt Irwin and others. Morehead, Kentucky. Go to www.caverunstoryfest.org

24- 29th Annual Storytelling Festival at Historic Oak View County Park- 11am. Bill Miller, Didgeridoo, Down Under, Lyn Ford, Tim Lowry and other professional storytellers will entertain the entire family. Food will be available for purchase. Attendees should bring their favorite blanket, lawn chair or cushion. In the event of rain, all storytelling will take place indoors. 4028 Carya Drive, Raleigh, NC. Contact 919-250-1013.

25- October 1 Donald Davis will be the *Teller in Residence* at The Swag, the Great Country Inn of the Smokies. Waynesville, NC. www.theswag.com

27- Storytelling at Todd General Store with John Ashburn, 6pm. 3866 Railroad Grade Road, Todd, NC. Contact 336-877-1067.

29 - Oct. 1 Belton Heritage Days at the Depot 2011 will feature 15 artisans and historical interpreters, including storyteller, Hawk Hurst. Belton, SC. For more information visit: <http://www.beltonsc.com/bamaheritage1.htm>

October 2011

1- Michael Reno Harrell, *Pickin' on the Square*. Franklin, NC. Saturday 6:30 to 9:30pm.

2- Marvin Cole will impersonate *Mark Twain* at Georgia Perimeter College in Atlanta, Georgia. 3pm.

3-6 Donald Davis will be *Teller in Residence* at the International Storytelling Center, Jonesborough, TN. 800-952-8392.

4- Storytelling at Todd General Store with Rhody Jane Meadows, 6pm. 3866 Railroad Grade Road, Todd, NC. Contact 336-877-1067.

7-9 39th National Storytelling Festival. Among featured tellers are Willy Claflin, Donald Davis, Elizabeth Ellis, Lyn Ford, Bill Harley, David Holt, Bil Lepp, Angela Lloyd and Waddie Mitchell. Jonesborough, TN. Go to www.storytellingcenter.net/festival or call 1-800-952-8392.

8- National Storytelling Festival. Storyteller/Musician, Michael Reno Harrell performing at the Midnight Cabaret. Jonesborough, TN. Saturday 10:30pm to midnight. Contact www.storytellingcenter.net/festival

11- Storytelling at Todd General Store with Orville Hicks, 6pm. 3866 Railroad Grade Road, Todd, NC. Contact 336-877-1067.

14-16, 21-30 Riverbanks Zoo Storytelling with SCSN members. Columbia, SC. Contact Mac Davis: sillyacres@yahoo.com

15- Old Salem Fall Festival. Performances & Book signings with Cynthia Brown, 11am and 1pm. Winston-Salem, NC. <http://www.oldsalem.org/harvest-day>

15- Edgar Allen Poe Back From the Grave. Hawk Hurst will present a performance art interpretation of Chief Osceola, accompanied by music and stories. Sullivans Island, SC. Contact Carol Antman at: cantman@aol.com

16-20 7th Annual Starburst Storyteller's Festival. Featuring storytellers Connie Regan-Blake, John Fowler, Sharon Cooper-Murray and others. Anderson, SC. For complete details on this year's festival, visit: <http://www.andersonlibrary.org/starburst.htm>

18- Storytelling at Todd General Store with Charlotte Ross, 6pm. 3866 Railroad Grade Road, Todd, NC. Contact 336-877-1067.

(October continued)

21- Jamestown Library Ghost Walk with Cynthia Moore Brown. Time TBA. Jamestown, 200 West Main St., NC. Contact 336-454-4815.

22- Ghost Stories in the Graveyard and Booksigning Party with Cynthia Moore Brown. 11am, Greensboro Historical Museum, 130 Summit Ave, Greensboro, NC. Contact 336-373-2043.

22- Ghost Stories in the Parlor/Booksigning Party with Cynthia Moore Brown. 7pm Blandwood Mansion, 447 West Washington St., Greensboro, NC. Contact 336-272-5003.

25- Storytelling at Todd General Store with Dianne Hackworth, 6pm (Ghost Stories). 3866 Railroad Grade Road, Todd, NC. Contact 336-877-1067.

29- Ghost Stories and Booksigning Party with Cynthia Moore Brown. 11:00am, Patrick Beaver Library, 375 3rd Street NE, Hickory NC. Contact 828-304-0500.

29-30 Storyteller/Musician, Michael Reno Harrell performing at the Mountain Makins Festival. Morristown, TN – Saturday Times TBD

November 2011

4-5 NCSG Fall Storytelling Festival. Headliners are Sheila Kay Adams and Southern Voices. Regional tellers are Sherry Lovett, David Joe Miller and Charlotte Ross. Terry Rollins, Emcee. Friday night - Headliners' Concert at 7:30pm. Saturday 9am to 9:30pm, concerts and workshops. Sponsored by the NC Storytelling Guild and the Transylvania Friends of the Library. Location - Transylvania County Public Library, 212 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC. Contact Sandra Gudger at: gudgers@bellsouth.net

11- Storyteller/Musician, Michael Reno Harrell performing at Great Aunt Stella Center - Special Concert for the Charlotte Folk Society. Friday evening.

14- Newberry Opera House features storytelling by SCSN members. Newberry, SC. Contact David Baxley at 843-412-2674; baxleydg@att.net

17- Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Progressive Tour with Tim Lowry, Summerville, SC. Email timlowry@bellsouth.net

17- Riverbanks Zoo Storytelling with SCSN members. Columbia, SC. And again on **December 30**. Contact Mac Davis: sillyacres@yahoo.com

20- Tellabration! Featured tellers are Sherry Lovett, Tim Lowry, Nancy Reeder, Wayne Sims and Ed Sacco. 3 to 5pm. Folk Art Center, Blue Ridge Parkway, Asheville. Contact information: 828-777-9177 or 828-664-1429.

December 2011

17- Stories for a Holiday Season with Donald Davis. 11am - in the Barn at Fearington Village, sponsored by McIntyre's Fine Books. Free admission...please bring a couple of cans of food for the food bank.

January 2012

27-29 NCSG's Winter Workshop with master storyteller Gay Ducey. Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell, Oak Island, NC. Contact Terry Rollins - bardelf@gmail.com or Dianne Hackworth - dianne@diannehackworth.com See page 11 for more information.

21- The Liar's Showdown. Storytelling Arts Center, 131 South Main St., Laurinburg NC. Contact 910-277-3599 or info@sloc.info

March 2012

29-31 Festival of Carolina. Featured tellers are Donald Davis, Gene Tagaban, Doug Elliott and Eth-Noh-Tec. Festival kick off Thursday at 7:30pm at The Storytelling & Arts Center of the Southeast, 131 S. Main St., Laurinburg NC. Friday & Saturday events - historic John Blue House and Grounds. Contact 910-277-3599 or info@sloc.info or go to: <http://www.storytellingfestivalofcarolina.org>



Sylvia Payne, Editor
 1621 Nathaniel Street
 Newton, NC 28658

TELLABRATION!
 A WORLDWIDE STORYTELLING EVENT

November 20



Sherry Lovett
Little Switzerland



TIM LOWRY
Summerville SC



NANCY REEDER
Franklin



WAYNE SIMS, MC
Black Mountain



Ed SACCO
Swannanoa

3:00 PM \$5

Asheville Folk Art Center / Blue Ridge Parkway

INFO: 828.667.4227 or 828.777.9177

Sponsored by Asheville Storytelling Circle in partnership with Southern Highlands Craft Guild & National Storytelling Network

(Festival Information continued from page 7)

between NCSG and the Friends of the Library to help defray the cost of the Festival. If you cannot attend, please try to send an item by someone who will be coming.

Carrie Foreman, co-coordinator of the Festival, has obtained a block of rooms at Hampton Inn for NCSG members at \$60 plus tax per night (no extra charge for double occupancy). Call 1-888-513-3001 to make your reservation. Be sure to tell them that you want to be placed in the Storytelling Festival block in order to receive the discounted rate. Please let me know you have registered so that we can request additional rooms if the block becomes filled.

If you have any questions, please e-mail me at gudgers@bellsouth.net or call 828-274-1123. I hope to see you at the Festival.

Sandra Gudger, Fall Festival Co-coordinator

Remember Silent Auction Items - Brevard Festival

Books, CD's, crafts, and items pertaining to storytelling are particularly popular. If you can't attend arrange to send your items by contacting your area representative or any Board Member - See page 7.