

President's Message



They say time truly flies and now it seems that the old saying is truer than ever. We just had a board meeting this April and scheduled a final board meeting in mid-May. As I drove home from Tulsa, (where our meeting was held), I realized

the mid-May meeting would be the last meeting in which I would preside as President of Territory Tellers.

In June, at the General Membership meeting, I will turn over my gavel to the new President. It is hard to believe that two years have flown by, because it truly has gone by quickly.

I am happy with those two years. I have been able to work with some remarkable people from seasoned veterans to highly capable newcomers to both storytelling and to Territory Tellers. I have been a part of

the transition to moving to our new location at Southern Nazarene University and look forward to another great festival in June. When I leave, I will leave with a lot of great stories and a lot of great memories.

Of course, I am not totally out of the picture. I will continue to serve on the board as Past President. I will still be active in Territory Tellers, hoping to make positive contributions to the growth and development of our annual festival and of Territory Tellers itself. I look forward to the future accomplishments of our new board and thank you all for the opportunity to serve.



A storytelling class was held in Yukon this spring at the Spanish Cove Retirement Center. Chester Weems taught the class, with guest tellers Molly Lemmons, Kathy Thurman (pictured above center), and OLLI representative Sarah DeYong all providing programs for the students. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute through OSU sponsored the program. Chester noted "I was a little hesitant at first, but it turned out to be a great experience, as the students were really interested and quite sharp. I found out at the end of class it included two published authors and two PhDs, as well as several retired teachers." The class concluded with a story concert with invited guests.

Weems

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Proposed Slate of Officers for 2015-2016

Below is the official Slate of Officers and Board member candidates for election for 2015-2016, which will be up for vote at the general membership meeting at the Spirit of Oklahoma Storytelling Festival in May.

President: Cynthia Calloway

Vice President: Anita Baker

Treasurer: *Open for nomination from the floor*

Secretary: Steve Kardaleff

Immediate-Past-President: Tony Hardman

Directors At-Large: Colin Saner

Fran Stallings

Paulette Geeslin

Nancy Lenhart-Matthews

Molly Lemmons

Lorrie Robbins

Looking for Silent Auction donations

Members are beginning to respond to the need for items for the silent auction at the festival.

Please, everyone check your closets and storage areas. Find an item that would appeal to someone else and donate it for the auction. The silent auction has been a great fundraiser at the festival. This is a way for each member to contribute to the festival. While you are at the festival, don't forget to check out the items and add your bid to the list. Each year we have a few items that develop a good-natured bidding war.

Bids on items will be accepted until 3:00 pm on Saturday. Winners of items will be announced at the end of the general membership meeting on Saturday afternoon.

Vendor Tables Available for SOOSF

Plans are continuing for our Spirit of Oklahoma Storytelling Festival on June 12 and 13. We hope that you can attend. It will be two days of great concerts, swaps, workshops and more.

If you would like a vendor table at the festival, we would love to have you. Tables are \$25 or the equivalent donation to the silent auction. Please contact Paulette Geeslin if you are interested: *pdgeeslin4701@yahoo.com*

Tattler Deadlines

We want to include the information you are interested in! Please have information in by the following dates for inclusion in the Tattler:

July 15, 2015 • October 1, 2015

January 15, 2016 • March 1, 2016

Member news, notes and events

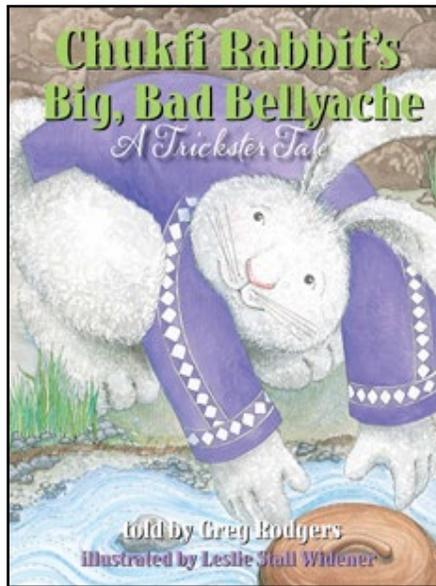
Fran Stallings reports that those of you who were unable to attend last month's Tapestry of Tales missed the chance to hear a stellar lineup of tellers. The Saturday matinee was fun and the evening show was absolutely fantastic! She was delighted to serve as emcee for both evening concerts and for the family matinée.

In addition to Tapestry, Fran had a busy spring performance season, including many Tulsa area schools. She will do the "Coffeyville circuit" in Kansas in late May, then have summer library programs in Miami, Bartlesville, Tahlequah, Sapulpa, Ponca City, Tonkawa, and Stillwater. June 10 & 11 Fran will do two storytelling performances for families plus two recommended just for adults at the OK Mozart Festival in Bartlesville. But her big news this summer will be publication of a total of 90 rare Japanese folktales in two books from Parkhurst Brothers Publishers.

Shaun Perkins attended the Oklahoma Arts Day at the capitol to help send a message to legislators about the benefits of the arts. Her table at that event was divided between ROMP brochures and TT brochures. Shaun participated in the Locust Grove Arts Alliance's Spring Art Tour on April 18. The Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry celebrated April's National Poetry Month by hosting their second Poetry Festival. At the end of April, Shaun presented her interactive, multimedia show detailing an often comic journey through life described with the metaphor of poetry as a criminal act, *Poem Life*. The show involved the audience in 7 crimes of poetry at the Comedy Parlor in Tulsa.

The 30th Annual Texas Storytelling Festival's Fringe Concert on Saturday, March 14th, featured four of our own TT

members. **Jeanette and Phillip Harjo** shared "Grandmother Wore Spurs, Grandfather Wore Moccasins" and **Steven and Pat Kardaleff** presented "Eastern Europe Meets Western Oklahoma" to the lucky audience.



Our late, wonderful member **Greg Rodgers** was awarded an Oklahoma Book Award for his children's book *Chukfi Rabbit's Big, Bad Bellyache: A Trickster Tale* (Cinco Puntos Press). We all knew Greg as a storyteller and a writer, and we all benefited from his love

of sharing his Choctaw heritage with people of all ages.



Kyle Dahlem was in Mount Dora, Florida earlier this spring to attend a local festival.

June 12 & 13, 2015

Festival Schedule

Friday, June 12

10:00 am **Registration opens.**

Noon-1:00 pm..... **FREE Story Swap 1**

A story swap is an impromptu gathering where you can sign up to tell a story or just come to listen or both. An emcee facilitates the sign-up and the hour of telling. This Swap is emceed by Chester Weems.

1:00 pm.....**Silent Auction/Vendors Open**

Help support Territory Tellers and its storytelling mission in Oklahoma and the region by bidding on items in our auctions and supporting the festival vendors.

1:15-2:15 pm..... **Evolution of Tale-Telling**

This is a special workshop with our festival headliner, Mary Hamilton

2:30-3:30 pm..... **TT Memorial Service**

This memorial service will remember and celebrate the lives of TT members and supporters that we have recently lost. Steve Kardaleff and Pat Kardaleff will preside over the memorial.

3:45-4:45 pm..... **Finding Your Story, Making It Your Own**

Tony Hardman

3:45-4:45 p.m.....**Mini-Concert A**

A Mini-Concert is an hour where each featured storyteller shares one story. Storytellers include Liz Parker, Bonnie Smith and David Titus. The emcee is Barbara Jones.

6:30-7:00 pm..... **Pre-Concert Music: TBA**

7:00-9:00 pm..... **Evening Concert**

Mary Hamilton, Straw Berry, Steve Kardaleff, and Lorie Robins

Join our featured storyteller, along with special guest regional TT tellers, in a nighttime story concert that will be sure to entertain and intrigue. The event emcee is TT Vice-President Cynthia Calloway.

9:15-10:30 pm..... **FREE Ghost Tales in the Pavilion**

Tellers Anita Baker, Tony Hardman, Nancy Lenhart Matthews and Fran Stallings, with Kathryn Thurman as emcee
FREE CONCERT: In the pavilion outside, come get your bones chilled with all manner of scary stories under the stars.

Saturday, June 13

8:00 am **Registration opens.**

8:30 am **Silent Auction and Vendors Open**

9:30-10:30 am **Story Basics and Beyond**

A story workshop with Barbara Jones and Molly Lemmons.

9:30-10:30 am **Table-Telling**

Hosted by Nancy Lenhart Matthews. Table-telling is an informal storytelling session around a table.

10:45-11:45 am **How to Conduct Storytelling Slam Events**

This workshop by Ryan Howell of the group Ok, So Tulsa Storytelling Slam will tell you all about putting on your own Slam.

10:45-11:45 am **Mini Concert B**

Oklahoma African-American Stories hosted by Cynthia Calloway

Noon-1:00 pm..... **FREE Story Swap 2**

A story swap is an impromptu gathering where you can sign up to tell a story or just come to listen or both. An emcee facilitates the sign-up and the hour of telling. Join emcee Chester Weems in a lunchtime story swap.'

1:15-2:15 pm **FREE Children's Concert**

Join emcee Valerie Kimble and tellers Paulette Geeslin, Tony Hardman, Nancy Lenhart Matthews and Fran Stallings in a concert of stories designed especially for children.

2:30-3:30 pm.. **Matinee Concert: Mary Hamilton**

3:00 pm..... **Silent Auction ends.**

Make sure you have your bids in!

3:45-5:00.m..... **General Membership Meeting**

All Territory Tellers members are invited to participate. Potential members are also welcome to attend.

6:30-7:00 pm..... **Pre-Concert Music: TBA**

7:00-9:00 pm..... **Evening Concert**

Mary Hamilton, Tim Couch, Marilyn Hudson and Chester Weems

Join our featured storyteller, along with special guest regional TT tellers, in a nighttime story concert that will be sure to entertain and intrigue. The event emcee is TT Vice-President Cynthia Calloway.

9:15-10:30 pm..... **Closing Reception**

All events take place in the Webster Commons building on the campus of Southern Nazarene University; Bethany, Oklahoma.

Please bring a light wrap to events as it is difficult to make the room temperatures comfortable for everyone.



June 12 & 13, 2015
 Southern Nazarene University, Bethany
Registration Form
DEADLINE: May 26

Name _____

Complete Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Where did you hear about our Festival? _____

NOTE: You can purchase a Festival Pass or a Saturday Pass or you can pay per event.

| | | | |
|---|-------------|----------|-------|
| FESTIVAL PASS (Includes all events) | TT Members | @ \$50 = | _____ |
| | Non-Members | @ \$70 = | _____ |
| SATURDAY ONLY PASS (Includes all Saturday events) | | @ \$20 = | _____ |

FRIDAY – INDIVIDUAL EVENT PRICING

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------|
| Mini Concert A | @ \$5 = | _____ |
| Evolution of Storytelling Workshop | @ \$20 = | _____ |
| Workshop | @ \$20 = | _____ |
| Evening Concert | @ \$10 = | _____ |
| Senior Citizens or Students | @ \$5 = | _____ |

SATURDAY – INDIVIDUAL EVENT PRICING

| | | |
|---|----------|-------|
| Story Basics & Beyond Workshop | @ \$20 = | _____ |
| Storytelling Slam Workshop | @ \$20 = | _____ |
| Finding Your Story, Making it Your own Workshop | @ \$20 = | _____ |
| Mini Concert B | @ \$5 = | _____ |
| Matinee Concert | @ \$5 = | _____ |
| Table Telling | @ \$5 = | _____ |
| Evening Concert | @ \$10 = | _____ |
| Senior Citizens or Students | @ \$5 = | _____ |

Saturday Box Lunch *(not included in the Festival Pass)*
 _____ vegetarian _____ turkey _____ salad @ \$10 = _____

Join Territory Tellers/renew your membership @ \$25 = _____

TOTAL DUE _____

Territory Tellers Membership *Please complete your personal information above and mark one of the selections:*

I _____ am a professional teller and set my own fees _____ will tell for small fee
 _____ like to listen to a good story

Please send this form and payment made out to Territory Tellers to
 Paulette Geeslin, 5505 S Villa Ave, Oklahoma City OK 73119



*Spirit of
Oklahoma
Storytelling Festival*

June 12 & 13, 2015

Campus Housing Request Form

Deadline: May 26

You can have an economical stay in the Hills Dorm on the SNU campus.

Name _____

Complete Address _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Number of persons requesting housing on this form _____

_____ Female(s) _____ Male(s)

(Please check if two of you are coming as a couple _____)

Requesting room(s) for _____ Friday _____ Saturday

Check Out is 1:00 p.m. Sunday.

The fee is \$16 per person per night (bring your own linens).

_____ (Persons) at \$16 = _____ (x 2 nights if applicable) = _____

*One-time Linen fee (\$18) = _____

Total = _____

**One-time linen fee: Only add this amount if you are not bringing your own bed linens and want SNU to provide them for you.*

Please send payment (payable to Territory Tellers) and this form to

Paulette Geeslin

5505 S Villa Ave, Oklahoma City OK 73119

Paulette will contact you about your room assignment if there are any questions. Please feel free to add a comment or question for her below:

Notable dates

.....more details can be found on our website www.territorytellers.org

May 118:00 p.m.

Ok, So Storytelling Night; Enso Bar, 104 S. Detroit, Tulsa
 Join this lively and very fun storytelling group in Tulsa, led by TT member Ryan Howell in another great open mic storytelling. The theme this month is **FIGHT**. Show up early and sign up and tell a 5-minute story. More details at the group's Facebook page.

June and July, Wednesdays

Okietales, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
 Every Wednesday in June and July, from 10:30-11:30, storytelling for kids will be presented. Stories will focus on Oklahoma history and the program is specially designed by 5-9 year-olds. \$2 per child, which includes museum admission.

June 7

Abernathy Days; Frederick, OK
 During this all-day event with a bike race, barbecue and more, TT members Jaye McLaughlin and Fred Peters will be doing two plays *I Died Twice* and *The Wolf and the Crossroads to New York City*. Contact Jaye (817) 320-5046 or (806) 204-1919 for more information.

June 9

Enid Chautauqua: Dust Bowl, Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid
 This event features storytelling representatives as local figures and as Woody Guthrie, Ernie Pyle and John Steinbeck. Workshops also included. All events are free.

June 108:00 p.m.

Ok, So Storytelling Night; Enso Bar, 104 S. Detroit, Tulsa
 Join this lively and very fun storytelling group in Tulsa, led by TT member Ryan Howell in another great open mic storytelling. The theme this month is *Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time*. Show up early and sign up and tell a 5-minute story. More details at the group's Facebook page.

June 12-13

Spirit of Oklahoma Storytelling Festival, Southern Nazarene University, Bethany
 Join the Territory Tellers for the 9th annual festival honoring all things Oklahoma and story. Mary Hamilton, Featured Teller.

Aug. 27-29

Oklahoma City Storytelling Festival, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
 This Arts Council festival celebrates the art of storytelling with nationally-acclaimed storytellers, workshops and outreach performances.

Sept. 12 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Septemberfest, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City
 Join the Oklahoma History Center and the Governor's Mansion for the 19th Annual Septemberfest. Admission to all of the activities and the museum are free for the entire day. Activities do include storytelling.

Oct. 21-22

Oklahoma Arts Council Conference, Downtown Tulsa, various locations
 Though not a storytelling event, this conference is a great way to meet storytellers, artists, poets and creative people of all kinds and to see what they are up to and how you can get involved. Storytellers can benefit through workshops about their craft and grants available.

Nov. 21 5:00-8:00 p.m

ROMP Tellabration
 Join the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry in celebrating a night of stories and poetry around a campfire. Smores, museum tours, poker poetry and more. Free and open to the public. Bring a story to tell.

April 15-16, 2016

Tapestry of Tales: Tulsa's Storytelling Festival, Boston Avenue United Methodist Church

Is your membership current? Send in your renewal today!

Territory Tellers is a growing network of individual tellers, listeners and local storytelling circles. Get connected by joining our statewide organization! Dues are \$25 for individual and \$40 for family membership per year.

Full Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Country _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

e-mail address _____

Web site (optional) _____

Are you a storyteller? _____ a story listener? _____

\$25 individual \$40 family \$40 organizational

Please complete this form and mail it with a check payable to Territory Tellers to:
 Territory Tellers · 6619 S 4382 · Locust Grove OK 74352



6619 S 4382
Locust Grove OK 74352

Address Correction Requested

Check out the Territory Tellers Store!

You can get there via our website or direct at www.cafepress.com/territorytellers

A photograph of a person from the waist down, holding up a white t-shirt. The t-shirt features the Territory Tellers logo, which includes a globe and a map of Oklahoma.