

# Talespinner

June 2013

The Newsletter of the Story Circle of the Capital District

Editor and Publisher: Claire Nolan 11 Norwood Street Albany, NY 12203

(518) 209-6477 E-mail: cbnolou@yahoo.com

Visit our web site at [www.story-circle.org](http://www.story-circle.org)

*"Begin at the beginning and go on till you come to the end:  
then stop."*

✎ *Lewis Carrol*

## Story Circle Business News

**Meetings** - Open to the Public - from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the **William K. Sanford Public Library** (Colonie) and from 6:15 to 9:00 p.m. at the **Pine Hills Library**. At the Pine Hills Library, we will have a topic for panel/roundtable discussion.

**Upcoming Meetings:** Wednesday **June 19** at Pine Hills Branch of the Albany Public Library 6:15 - 9:00 pm. Facilitator: Bonnie Mion. Topic: Adapting a Written Story to an Oral Story and Vice Versa

Recent Meetings: Wednesday **April 17** Meeting Facilitator, *Kate Dudding*

### **Stories Told:**

*Gil Payette* - "Why Buffalo Has a Hump"--Chippewa legend plus personal story

*Adam Hoffamn* - "The Youth Who Went to Learn What Fear Is"--Brothers Grimm

*Bonnie Mion* - "The 8th House"--personal

*Eliud Nieves* - "You Can Do Better"--personal

**Listener:** *Sandy Schuman*

Meeting Wednesday **May 21** at Colonie Facilitator, *Nancy Mari Payne*

### **Stories Told:**

*Gil Payette* - Coyote's Stars - Native American

*Kate Dudding* - Remembering Marilyn - Original historical

*Bonnie Mion* - The Benefits of Belly Dance - original

*Adam Hoffman* - The Frog Who Became an Emperor - from *The Peacock Maiden: A Collection of Folk Tales from China*

**Listeners:** *Ellen Chernof, don darmer, Carol Connolly and Nancy Payne*

## Did you Know?

**2013 dues are a bargain at \$10.00 per year. Due NOW**  
**Please use the form on Page 6.**

**Story Circle Meeting Cancellation Policy:** Use the following guidelines to cancel a meeting or to check on a scheduled meeting: It is up to the facilitator to decide to cancel a meeting. The facilitator may consult with Carol Connolly or Kate Dudding. If the facilitator decides to cancel a meeting: 1) Send out an e-mail message via the Story Circle listserv (or ask Carol Connolly or Kate Dudding to do it) and 2) notify the library. Story Circle members who are planning to attend a meeting may call or e-mail either the facilitator or the library to determine if a meeting is being held.

## Ongoing Events

**Every Week** - The LANES Teller-Phone - Call 617-499-9662. A new three-minute story every week starting on Mondays.

**Adirondack Storytelling Guild** - Contact Fran Yardley at [franstory@gmail.com](mailto:franstory@gmail.com).

**Eighth Step Open Mic** on First Thursdays 7-9:30 p.m. at Proctors in Robb Alley - All welcome.

**Interfaith Story Circle of the Tri-City Area**

<http://www.interfaithstory.org/tricity/meetings.shtml> Contact Anne Snyder for upcoming meetings. [Anneveronica50@hotmail.com](mailto:Anneveronica50@hotmail.com)

**Story by Story** is our monthly TV show on Channel 16 in Schenectady County on Open Stage Media - tune in Fridays at 6 p.m. In most other counties in the Capital District, tune in the first Monday of the month at 12:30 p.m. on Public Access TV. <http://www.storycircleatproctors.org/story-by-story.shtml>


**OPEN MIC in Saratoga:** Wednesday **June 12** at Woodlawn Commons 156 Lawrence St. Directions to Woodlawn Commons: From Broadway in Saratoga, turn West on Church St. Turn right on Seward St. (if you get as far as the hospital, you've gone one block too far). Turn right again on Clement St. (at the 2nd stop sign) Look for Hospice and turn in. Woodlawn is the big yellow building straight ahead. <http://www.storycircleatproctors.org/sc/Open%20Mics.shtml> Free. At Caffè Lena 47 Phila Street in Saratoga, NY. Returns in September - Stay tuned.

## Family Programs

**June 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29** Saturdays in June 11:00 am - 12:00 noon. *Storytelling at the at the Hans Christian Andersen Ugly Duckling statue in Central Park* in New York City. June 1 "Celebrating Diane Wolksteir" with *Laura Simms and Julie Della Torre, Therese Plair and Ellen Shapiro, Bill Gordh and Michael Braudy*; June 8 "The Master Thief" told by *Mary Ann Schmidt and Youth Storytellers*; June 15 "The most Incredible thing" told by *Carol Birch*; June 22 "The Princess and the Pea" told by *Regina Hess* and June 29 "Kumba Am Ndey" told by *Charlotte Blake Alston*. Stories told, rain or shine! *The Ugly Duckling* near 72nd Street & Fifth Avenue in Central Park, New York. Free.

**June 15** Saturday check Schedule for times. **Children at the Well Youth Storytellers for Peace & Understanding** will be telling stories at the Story Grove of the 2013 Clearwater Great Hudson

River Revival Festival in Croton-on-Hudson. Look for *Emily Hebert, Adah Hetko, Ritam Mehta, Aditya Agashe, and Ben Russell*. <http://www.clearwaterfestival.org/lineup/stage-schedule/>

**July 20** Saturday 6:30 pm Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center. Gather round the fire and enjoy s'mores and entertaining tales with storyteller  *Claire Nolan*. The stories are FREE the s'mores are \$2 per person. Please call 872-0800 to register or for more information.


**July 28** Sunday 6:00 pm *21<sup>st</sup> Annual/Not Just for Kids* Storytelling series with *Beth Horner* "From Tabouli to Cremation: The razor sharp workings of my Mother's mind" at the Visitor Center Schoharie Crossing State Historic. Information: [Janice Fontanella](mailto:Janice.Fontanella@storycircleatproctors.org) (518) 829-7516 129 Schoharie Street, Fort Hunter Site <http://www.storycircleatproctors.org/hv/notjustforkids/index.shtml>.

**July 31** Wednesday at 10:00 am *Tales 'n Tunes* will perform "Just Dig It!" at the Coburn Free Library, Owego, NY. The family program is part of their Summer Reading Program and is free and open to the public. For more info, call the library at (607) 687-3520.

**July 31** Wednesday at 2:00 pm *Tales 'n Tunes* will perform "Just Dig It!" at the Mary Wilcox Library, Whitney Point, NY. The family program is part of their Summer Reading Program and is free and open to the public. For more info, call the library at 607-692-3159.

**August 4** Sunday 6:00 pm *21<sup>st</sup> Annual/Not Just for Kids* Storytelling series with *Sandy Schuman* "The Goldarndest Liar and the great American Hoax" at the Visitor Center Schoharie Crossing State Historic. Information: [Janice Fontanella](mailto:Janice.Fontanella@storycircleatproctors.org) (518) 829-7516 129 Schoharie Street, Fort Hunter Site <http://www.storycircleatproctors.org/hv/notjustforkids/index.shtml>.

**August 7** Wednesday at 6:30 pm *Tales 'n Tunes* will present "Once Upon a Tune" in the program room at the Malta Community Center, Malta, NY. The family program is free and open to the public. Call 899-4411 for information.

**August 10** Saturday 6:30 pm Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center. Gather round the fire and enjoy s'mores and entertaining tales with storyteller  *Claire Nolan*. The stories are FREE the s'mores are \$2 per person. Please call 872-0800 to register or for more information.

**August 10** Saturday 1:00 pm *Tales 'n Tunes* will present "Just Dig It!" at the Rensselaer Public Library, Rensselaer, NY. The family program, which is part of their Summer Reading Program, is free and open to the public; for more info, call the library at (518) 462-1193.

**August 14** Wednesday 6:30 pm *Tales 'n Tunes* will present "Just Dig It!" at the Mechanicville Library, Mechanicville, NY. The family program, which is part of their Summer Reading Program is free and open to the public; for more info, call the library at 664-4646.

## Adult Programs

**July 8** Monday at 4:00 pm "Julia Child: Cook and Nifty Wench". *Julia Child* made French cooking accessible to American cooks, was the first person on PBS to win an Emmy, and enjoyed a passionate marriage. Listen as storyteller *Kate Dudding* describes how this Smith graduate worked for the OSS during World War II, married a sophisticated man 6" shorter than herself, and taught millions everything they needed to know to produce delicious meals. Dinner following the presentation will be inspired by some Julia Child recipes. Wiawaka, Lake George, NY [www.wiawaka.org](http://www.wiawaka.org)

**August 28** Wednesday 7:00 pm *Eileen Mack* will present her one woman show "Voice of the Mountains: Jeanne Robert Foster, an Adirondack Legacy" at the Lake George Land Conservancy. She will present the same show for the Empire State College's A.L.L. Lunch and Learn program on Oct. 4.

## Opportunities for Storytellers

**Storytellers** are sought for the 2013 - 2014 season of *Word Plays: Storytelling at Proctors* (Schenectady, NY). The program of contemporary and traditional stories runs on Sunday afternoons at 2:00 pm from October - March. This program is aimed at boomers and younger audiences, one event per month, \$16 per ticket, \$12 with coupon.

Each program in this series will include a 50/50 mix of contemporary and traditional stories and feature six storytellers, for a total of up to 90 minutes of stories, not including the intermission. The contemporary stories are important; they are the easiest stories for new audiences to relate to.

Because theater audiences have come to expect it, it is important to have all the stories relate to a specific theme. The goal is to lure theater audience members to our shows.

### THIS SEASON

The producers have come up with program titles that they think will attract new people to Word Plays. Indicate which programs you want to participate in, and which stories you would tell. We'll combine the stories into a group program.

### Seventh Season - Sundays at 2:00 pm

2013		2014	
Oct. 20	Life and Death	Jan. 5	Betrayal and Beyond
Nov. 24	Journeys	Feb. 16	Love: Lost and Found
		Mar. 23	Second Chances

### Submitting Stories

Please send your submission by June 10 to [kate@katedudding.com](mailto:kate@katedudding.com) or [aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com](mailto:aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com). You may submit stories to be included in one or more programs - even all of them. For each story submitted, please list:

The title of the program

The title of the story

The type of story: folktale (with region of origin), personal, historical, literary

The length of the story

**Last year**, some people submitted a story for one program, others submitted stories for all programs. In the end, to achieve balanced participation, each person told at a maximum of 3 programs, even if they submitted stories for all 5 programs.

### Business Model

Proctors is charging us \$100 (regularly \$200) to rent The Gallery at Proctors (seats 100) plus \$140 for a house manager/sound tech plus \$1 per ticket. Proctors handles the box office, promotes Word Plays via their web site and brochures, as well as sets up the chairs and provides a mic and a stage. Last season, patrons donated a total of \$2,000 which paid for 98% of the costs at Proctors: \$235 for each Word Plays and \$823 for Tellabration. There will soon be a round of fundraising for Story Circle's upcoming season.

**An example** based on 40 tickets at \$12 or \$16 = \$500 (assuming most people use a coupon):

\$5 net to Proctors (\$100 + \$140 - \$235 from patrons' donations)

\$346.50 to be split among the tellers (70% of net profits (\$495) )

\$49.50 to Kate and Joe (10 %) or 5% to Kate (for publicity activities) and 5% to emcee

\$92.80 to Story Circle at Proctors (20% for postcards, flyers, advertising)

## Workshops and Classes for Storytellers

**July 14 -19** Sunday - Friday Annual Women's Writing Retreat - Open to Adults. Spend your mornings attending workshops in journal writing, fiction, storytelling, poetry, travel writing and creative non-fiction. Spend your afternoons hiking, contemplating, writing, boating, swimming, reading and relating. Spend evenings listening to published writers read from their works or hearing workshop participants share their writings. For additional information, contact the PLC registrar.

<http://www.pyramidlife.org/programs/>. Pyramid Life Center, Paradox NY, Exit 28 of I 87 Northway. Stay for the Storytelling weekend! (see below)

**July 19 - 21** Friday supper to Sunday lunch \$130.00 (*for everything!*) *Storytelling Weekend at the Pyramid Life Center* A gathering for experienced and beginning storyteller; teens welcomes. The weekend will include workshops, coaching, a campfire concert and story swaps. Teen tellers are welcome. Presenters: *Kevin Brooks, Marni Gillard and Laura Packer*. Bring linens or a sleeping bag, soap/shampoo, flashlight and bathing-suit; lamp or fan optional.

<http://www.pyramidlife.org/programs/>. Pyramid Life Center, Paradox NY, Exit 28 of I 87 Northway. Questions? Marni 518-381-9474 [marnigillard@earthlink.net](mailto:marnigillard@earthlink.net). See website for registration and fee. Teens welcome! A gathering where experienced and beginning storytellers explore ancient tales and the stories within. The weekend will include workshops, coaching, a concert and story swaps. Teen tellers are welcome.

Let the Stories begin!

All meetings are held from 6:30 to 8:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday or Wednesday of the month alternating between Tuesdays in odd numbered months at the William K. Sanford Library and Wednesdays in even numbered months at the Pine Hills Branch of the Albany Public Library. Addresses and DIRECTIONS: **June 19 from 6:15 pm - 9:00 at the Pine Hills Branch** of the Albany Public Library. 517 Western Avenue Albany, NY 12203 near North Allen Street at "the Point".

**July 16 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at The William K. Sanford Library** located at 629 Albany Shaker Road, just off Northway Exit 4, and 1/4 mile east of the intersection of Wolf Road and Albany Shaker Road on the left side.

\*\*\*\*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I want to be a member of Story Circle, enclosed is a check for \$10.00 for the newsletter and a roster of members. Renewal is in **January** of each year.

List my name among performing storytellers for referral.

Send my newsletters via US mail.  Send my newsletters via E-mail.

Membership renewals are due each January and are good for one year. Please make checks payable to "Story Circle" and send to *Carol Connolly*, 1100 Niskayuna Road, Niskayuna, NY 12309