



Talespinner

March – April 2013

The Newsletter of the Story Circle of the Capital District

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Visit our web site at www.story-circle.org

*“Is it better to out-monster the monster
or to be quietly devoured?”*

Nietzsche

Story Circle Business News

Meetings - Open to the Public - from 7:00 to 9:00 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: Tuesday **March 19** at Colonie.

Wednesday **April 17** at the Pine Hills Branch of the Albany Public Library at 6:15 pm

Recent Meetings: **January 15** Meeting Facilitator: *Carol Connolly*

Stories Told:

Joe Doolittle--"Shared Joy"--personal

Gil Payette--"Hidden Gifts"--Ojibwa legend

Pat Niles--"Wild Night, Wild Dream"--legend (Ticonderoga)

Eliud Nieves--"The Ruby"--Indian folktale

Bonnie Mion--"The Right Question"--personal

Adam Hoffman--"Origin of the Violin"--Gypsy folk tale

Listeners: *don darmer, Eric Randall, Meredith Nieves* and *Dave Ross*

A wonderful circle! Powerful stories and excellent feedback! Financial report was not available. It will be published in the *Talespinner* when available.

Meeting **February 20** Meeting Facilitator, *Joe Doolittle*

Stories Told:

Gil Payette - We have people names - Original
Bonnie J. Mion - The Amulet - Historical
Adam Hoffman - The Clever Student - Spanish folktale
Eric Randall - The Green Door - Original
Eliud Nieves and *Meredith Nieves* - Anniko - African Folktale

Listeners: *Claire Nolan, Louise Koenig, and Joe Doolittle*

We had fun with a storytelling exercise that *Joe* suggested: Describe your week in one word!

Did you Know?

2013 dues are a bargain at \$10.00 per year. Due NOW

Please use the form on Page 4.

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.

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

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 Monday March 11 at Caffè Lena 47 Phila Street in Saratoga, NY.

Featured Teller: *Joe Peck* and Wednesday **April 10** 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.

Family Programs

April 16 Tuesday 5:30 pm Potluck; 7:00 pm Stories. Interfaith Story Circle of the Tri City Area - Youth Circle. Niskayuna Reformed Church 3041 Troy Schenectady Rd Niskayuna, NY 12309, Contact Paula Weiss paulabweiss@gmail.com or call 518 785-7842.

April 21 Sunday **Call or e-mail for the time.** Student Storytellers of Children at the Well will perform at Bulmer Auditorium, Hudson Valley Community College Troy. A reception will follow the performance. Contact Paula Weiss paulabweiss@gmail.com or call 518 785-7842.

Adult Programs

March 3 Sunday 2:00 pm Word Plays. "Unforgettable: Stories of Wonder and Awe." Come hear stories of fools, ghosts, earth-bound angels and miracles told by some the area's most dynamic tellers! *Siri Allison, Claire Beetlestone, Fran Combs Berger, Betty Cassidy, Marni Gillard, Stephen W. Leslie and Ben Russell.* Come enjoy the stories and the Proctors experience. The Farmers' Market is open 10:00 am - 2:00 pm! Shows start at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$16 per person per show. To purchase tickets, go to Proctors web site, or visit the Box Office at Proctors, or call them at (518) 346-6204. Proctors now has **free parking** in the Metroplex Parking Garage, 220 Broadway, near the bakery Villa Italia.

https://tickets.proctors.org/TheatreManager/95/online?btnSelectEvent=Buy&PB_SEQ=14941

March 17 Sunday 5:00 - 8:00 pm. "Gaelic" Stories: *The Storycrafters.* But more importantly, **the entrees:** Corned Beef and Cabbage; Crisp Potato and Herb Crusted Salmon with Chef's Choice Vegetable; Vegetarian Stuffed Cabbage Rolls with Tangy Tomato Sauce. At the Glen Sanders Mansion 1 Glen Avenue, Scotia, NY, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. \$32 per person (includes entertainment, dinner, tax and tip) *Bring someone new and you each save \$3 (only one discount/person).*

Reservations: (518) 384-1700 or sc@katedudding.com

March 27 Wednesday 7:00 - 9:00 pm "Touching the Edge". Stories for Inquiring Minds at the Inquiring Mind Bookstore and Café with *Janet Carter and Claire Nolan.* Stories for Inquiring Minds will celebrate three years in May! 65 Partition Street, Saugerties 12477 (845) 246-5775. Free!

April 27 Saturday 8:00 pm. *Jeannine Laverty* at Caffè Lena. <http://www.caffelena.org/events-calendar/?month=4&&year=2013>

Workshops and Classes for Storytellers

March 7, 14, 21 7:00 - 9:00 pm. During the Fall, storyteller, story teach and story coach, *Marni Gillard* worked with a small group of tellers, sometimes from prompts, sometimes on developing work. She would like to expand this group. During each session, the tellers will decide: What exactly do I want help with? How can I grow as an artist? 10 Thursday evenings at Marni's home for \$120. Package deal paid January 10, 2013, opening night. *Drop-in-when-you-can fee = \$15 per session.* (Lower than the \$20 previous class fee). Class location: 833 Parkside Ave. Schenectady, NY 12309 7-9 p.m. Feel free to come 10 minutes early to for tea and chat. Class starts promptly at 7:00. If you cannot attend every week, take the \$12-per-class *series* rate by paying on or before January 10 for the classes you can make. Drop-in fee will take effect after January 10. *Why the deal? To build community as working tellers. No matter what kind of tales YOU are working on. Read on.*

How does a class differ from a swap/story circle? The participant arrives at each session with a goal or the participant accepts that evening's prompt. Each class involves telling to a partner in an

exploratory way. We listen deeply with a belief in the teller's progress and a willingness to take artistic risks. We go deep, loving the questions more than "fixing" the tales. We give and accept specific appreciations and ask: What IS working? What lives? What awakens our hearts, challenges our stuck places? We interview more than critique. Why this particular tale? What surprises you in this tale? Where are you challenged? We notice and develop uniqueness. The relationships we build make all the difference in a weekly ONGOING class.

How does Marni teach? In an ongoing committed community we create the kind of listening that pulls unexplored tales and technique out of hiding - that unconscious place where we tuck away our vulnerability, the gold of our artistry. As a community, we both support and challenge in new ways. We will help each other fly, being brave - whether tentative or fierce. This level of community promotes confidence and flow, honoring experimentation. We may fall on our faces, but we laugh, feeling the support of the group. We trust re-telling, finding new ground because of the quality of listening. We allow both ripening and ripping apart in order to make discoveries. We grow stronger and clearer about how our stories work in our lives and in the world. We talk about the process. We tell stories for self-discovery and purpose. Our world needs brave stories, told well, and risk-taking artists confident that our tales can make a difference. Will you join me?

Festivals

April 5 - 7, Preserving Culture, Creating Community, Sharing the Fire Storytelling Conference at the Marriott at Sable Oaks South Portland, Maine <http://www.lanes.org/sharing-the-fire-2013>

And as Carol Connolly says, "Let the Stories Begin!"

All meetings are held from 7:00 to 9:00 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 (usually) the Pine Hills Branch of the Albany Public Library.

Addresses and DIRECTIONS: **(March 19)** Meeting 7:00 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. 7:00 - 9:00 pm.

(April 17 meet at 6:15 pm) at the **Pine Hills Branch** of the Albany Public Library 517 Western Avenue Albany 12203. (Please Note the place!)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

() I want to be a member of Story Circle, enclosed is a check for the ridiculously low price of \$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

