Kentucky Storytelling Association

July 2011 Support and Appreciation for the Art of Storytelling In Kentucky Volume 7 Issue 3

In This Issue

- President's Message
- KSA Conference 2011
- Conference Workshops Descriptions
- Call for Conference Volunteers
- Conference Travel and Lodging Information
- Cave Run Storytelling Festival
- 2012 National Storytelling Conference in KY!
- Youth Storytelling Updates
- A Storyteller's Story

Useful Links:

KSA Website

http://www.kystory.org/

National Storytelling Network Website:

http://www.storynet.org/

Contact your Board:

President, Russ Conrad
President@kystory.org
859-654-3358

President Elect, Jeff Jones
President-Elect@kystory.org
270-993-6693

Message from our President

In the last newsletter I spent one of my paragraphs promoting "Storytelling in the Mountains". The evening of Saturday, May 21 was the fourth repeat of this KSA fundraising event. Our most recent Past President, Pam Holcomb did most of the legwork planning and preparing for the event. Pam was a very able KSA President and continues to promote storytelling throughout her region and across our state.

We had a good group of KSA Storytellers on scene who provided a wonderful evening of entertainment at the Harlan County Extension Depot. KSA member, Buck P. Creacy, was Master of Ceremonies for the evening and herded 11 storytellers on and off the platform to keep the evening mostly under control. A good time was had by all.

On that same Saturday morning Our KSA Board of Directors met for our scheduled Spring Meeting. Kentucky Storytelling Association is represented by a Board of Directors who is interested in moving our association forward. During this meeting we discussed the Wandering Storytellers held each month on the last Monday at Natasha's Bistro and Bar in Lexington. While this is a fundraiser for KSA, it provides some other real benefits to storytellers and story listeners. It gives us a chance to work on a story and get some feedback from a live audience to be sure a story is working for us and our audience. More of our membership at large should be using this event to hone the craft. The platform is available to all KSA members and there is always open mike time for anyone wanting to share a story.

Your board has set a goal of having more of the wandering events held around our state. If you have information of a possible venue, please contact me or any of our board to share that information. A different location will also allow our members and storytellers across the state to benefit from this type setting. It is also consistent with our mission to share the good news of storytelling!

Our August Board Meeting is scheduled for August 20 at Mike and Maggie Beville's home in Elizabethtown. As usual this board meeting will be open to any KSA member. On the August agenda is finalizing plans for our Annual Conference at Dale Hollow State Park. The conference dates are: Friday and Saturday, November 4 and 5, 2011. Please join us! Russ Conrad

Kentucky Storytelling Conference 2011!

Whether you love to hear stories or to tell stories, you'll want to attend the Kentucky Storytelling Conference, Friday and Saturday, November 5 and 6, 2011 at Dale Hollow State Resort Park, Burkesville, Kentucky. All of the conference events are fully accessible and interpreted for deaf and hard of hearing people.

Do you love to hear stories? Then you'll enjoy storytelling concerts on both Friday, from 8–9:30 PM and Saturday from 8–10 PM. Our Conference featured teller is Mary Hamilton. She is an award winning, nationally known Kentucky storyteller, who will tell on both nights. Learn more about Mary's work at her website www.maryhamilton.info. In addition to Mary, other tellers

Treasurer, Laura Seaman
Treasurer@kystory.org
270-543-8127

Secretary, Maggie Beville
Secretary@kystory.org
270-737-0263

Quadrant 1, Emilee Seaman
Quad1@kystory.org
270-608-1555

Quadrant 2, Octavia Sexton
Quad2@kystory.org
606-256-9796

Quadrant 3, Maryann Zoll
Quad3@kystory.org
859-339-8009

Quadrant 4, Charlie Hardy
Quad4@kystory.org
859-224-2352

At-large Board Member Charles Wright
At-large1@kystory.org
502-223-4523
The other At-large Board member position is vacant.

Contact Us:

http://www.kystory.org

Newsletter Editor Thomas Freese
thomasfreese@bellsouth.net

COMING EVENTS:
A Time for Tales, Sundays, from 4:00 - 5:00 PM, on Morehead State Public Radio, 90.3 FM, (Morehead, KY). This show is hosted by Carolyn Franzini. Each week the stories relate to a theme... "Work" "School" "Ghost stories", "Lessons Learned" and more. Listen on the web at www.msuradio.com.

will take the stage in the open mic portions of each evening concert. Concert-only admissions are $5 per person or $10 per family.

Do you love to hear and tell stories? Well, anyone can sign up to tell in the open mic portions of both evening concerts. Three hats labeled "never told before, but I'd like to try," "tell sometimes," and "tell all the time" are used to select open mic tellers. Would-be tellers put their name in the appropriate hat, and the concert emcees pull names from all three to welcome tellers to the stage. Additional open mic sessions are scheduled throughout the day on Saturday.

Do you enjoy competitive storytelling? Friday night also features the Story Slam which is a storytelling contest from 10:00–11:30 PM. Story Slam participants are limited to five minute tales. Judges assign scores, and listeners cheer on the tellers. Ties are broken with ever-shorter tales to eventually determine the Story Slam winner. Story Slam admission is included in the Friday night concert admission.

Do you love to tell stories and want to learn more about the art of telling? During the day on Saturday November 6, 2011, from 8:30 AM to 6:15 PM, both storytelling workshop sessions and open mic telling sessions are available. Each workshop session runs 75 minutes. Workshop topics include: helping young people learn to tell stories, story development basics, creating a life story worth living, using the senses to enhance storytelling, weaving music and story together, creating story characters, using storytelling to nurture the human spirit in children, and how storytellers can be successful telling in school settings.

To register for the conference—full Conference Registration includes workshops, evening concerts, the open mic sessions, the story slam, door prize entry (yes, we give away door prizes throughout the conference too), and lots of conversations, networking, and fun for just $50 for individuals; $120 for families of three or more. You can save money by pre-registering by October 24th! That would be only $40 for an individual and $100 for families of 3 or more. KSA member pre-registration rate is $30 individual and $75 for families of three or more. Register online (and become a KSA member too!) at www.kystory.org or by mail at Kentucky Storytelling Association, P O Box 4148, Frankfort, KY 40604-4148. Go to the website after August 10 for all the information on the workshops, presenters, and schedule.

For more information: Contact Betsy Fleischer, Conference Chair, 859-734-3194 or betsycat2@yahoo.com.

Workshop Schedule and Descriptions All workshops are 75 minutes long.
10:10 – 11:25 a.m.
1. *Growing Young Storytellers* with Mary Hamilton & Betsy Fleischer in the KYR room. Receive practical advice; easily duplicated activities, coaching tips, and a resource bibliography to assist you in helping young people learn to tell stories.

Mary Hamilton, our featured teller, draws upon years of experiences helping beginning tellers overcome common hurdles. Betsy Fleischer is the Gifted/Talented Specialist for the Mercer School District where she has worked with middle school children in storytelling. She has told stories from Kentucky to Peru and England.

2. *Weaving Music and Stories Together* with Otto & Katie Ross in the Old 53rd room.
Let "Stories by the Score", a musician/storyteller duo, teach you how to creatively incorporate music into your storytelling presentations.

Spanish teacher Katie Ross and her math instructor husband Otto have been performing together for twenty years. Katie is the voice while Otto shares music on the accordion, banjo, or guitar. Katie specializes in inspirational, personal, and multicultural stories. She came in first at the Oakland, Maryland Liars' contest and second place in the Ohio Storyteller of the Year Contest.

3. *Story Development* with Don "Buck P." Creacy in the Baker Street room.

The Art of Storytelling Show Podcast and Blog is a national conversation from all perspectives on the profession of storytelling with children. It is recorded as a biweekly conference call, broadcast on Tuesdays at 7 or 8 p.m. It is hosted by Eric Wolf, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Each show features a specific guest and topic. You can join in the conference call conversation, subscribe to the podcast via iTunes or listen on the website: http://www.artofstorytellingshow.com. On the website, you can also learn details on upcoming shows.

July 25, August 29 September 26, October 31, November 28 and December 26—If you love stories, hearing them and/or telling them, then you'll want to join us at Natasha's Bistro, 112 Esplanade, Lexington, Kentucky. Stories begin at 8:00 PM and run until 10-ish. The cover charge is $5.00. This event raises funds to support Kentucky Storytelling Association programs and projects. For more information and reservations, not required, but helpful, then visit http://www.kystory.org/progs-and-activs/wandering.shtml.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The 2011 Kentucky Storytelling Conference has been approved for 10.75 Contact Hours for Kentucky's Public Librarians. So, if you are a Kentucky public librarian, or if you know

Learn the fundamental elements of creating a breathing story. Isak Dinesen said, "To be a person is to have a story to tell." Well, Buck P. Creacy always has a story to tell. With that slow Southern drawl in his voice, it's quite evident that he hails from West Texas. By weaving threads of his heritage with those of his life experiences, Buck entertains and enthralls his audiences.

1:50 – 3:05 p.m.

4. *Nurturing the Human Spirit of Children through Storytelling* with Paschal Baute & Charlie Eyer in the KYR room.

Learn how folk & fairy tales nurture imagination and wonder, instill a sense of mystery in children and are vital to their healthy development.

Paschal Baute ("Paschal the Rascal, the Story Wizard") and Charlie Eyer are Spellbinder storytellers who have performed for thousands of school children. They have led workshops at three KSA conferences and they teach storytelling in the UK Olli program. Paschal is a certified Spellbinder trainer and is completing a book on storytelling. Charlie is a photographer and LSU cancer researcher.

5. *Making Sense of Storytelling* with Pam Holcomb in the Old 53 room

This session will focus on using the five senses to enhance and improve story and it's telling.

Pam Holcomb was born and reared in the hills of Southeastern Kentucky sandwiched between the Pine and Black Mountains. Many of Pam's fondest memories were of sitting at the feet of her parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles listening to them tell tales of old. She grew up with a heritage full of traditional mountain tales and music.

6. *Creating a Story Worth Living* with Octavia Sexton in the Baker Street room

Are you ready to re-discover and re-story your life? Open your life's possibilities. Learn how to release limiting beliefs and patterns to create your new life story.

By the time Octavia was 18 she was married and had a daughter. Her story was one of poverty and hopelessness until she changed it. She created a new story for herself and graduated from Berea College. A professional storyteller and teaching artist, Octavia has been presenting workshops and storytelling concerts for over 20 years. Her website is: www.octaviasexton.com

4:25 – 5:40 p.m.

7. *Q & A with our Featured Teller* with Mary Hamilton in the KYR room

You decide what this session will cover through the questions you ask, and yes, she will also tell a story or two.

Mary Hamilton, a professional storyteller since 1983, can't imagine she will ever stop pondering just how the art of storytelling works. A 2009 recipient of the National Storytelling Network Circle of Excellence Oracle Award and a multiple award recipient for her recordings, Mary's in-person performances and workshops have taken her throughout the USA. Learn more about her work at www.maryhamilton.info

8. *Who are these people?* with Emilee Seaman in the Old 53rd room

Learn how to both improve your observational skills and use those skills to develop believable story characters.

Emilee Seaman is a 19-year-old Psychology major living in Owensboro, KY. Since winning 2009 National High School Torchbearer, she has told at various venues around the KY, IN, and TN area and taught a workshop at the KSA conference in 2010. Her first storytelling CD was released fall of 2010 and she runs a small photography business on the side.

9. *How to Make a Great Impression on Schools* with Jim Flanagan, Baker Street room

Want to tell stories in schools? Learn who & when to call, helpful hints, and mistakes to avoid from a retired principal and professional storyteller.

As someone inside schools, Jim will have plenty of helpful hints that may help artists in schools. He has given this workshop at OOPS, Greater Columbus Arts Council and the Storytellers of Central Ohio. Jim is an award-winning

a Kentucky public librarian, please tell them about this professional development opportunity. More info will be on the KSA website www.kystory.org by August 10th.

Conference Brochures Giving Way to Post Cards
Next month you will be receiving post cards to help you publicize the 2011 Kentucky Storytelling Conference. The post cards will briefly describe the conference and direct folks to the KSA website for details and registration. Printing postcards instead of brochures makes it possible to print many more items which your conference committee hopes will reach many more people. Some of you have already told Conference chair, Betsy Fleischer, how many conference brochures you could distribute (you will soon receive that many conference post cards). Everyone else please let Betsy know how many post cards you can distribute: email conference@kystory.org or call 859-734-3194.

Knitting Time
Mary Hamilton
One summer night in 1858, a terrific rain fell. The next morning the residents of Frankfort, Kentucky discovered a vacant lot covered with knitting needles - each needle stuck straight into the ground as if placed there by hand. No one could explain where the needles had come from.

storyteller and author. He has been telling for 15 years at schools in Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., and Ireland.

Help Needed for Successful Conference

Hey you! Your KSA annual conference is getting closer—Nov. 4 & 5. Some have already volunteered to help make it a success. Now it's your turn. There's nothing hard to do and you can choose the one, or more, thing/s you want to do. There are still openings for:
1. Someone to set out signs for people driving in. That needs to be done by 5:00 pm on Friday, November 4, or earlier, as I will have the signs at the Park by noon.
2. Someone to be the emcee for the Late Night Story Slam on Friday, November 4 from 10:00-11:30. This job entails picking a name from a hat, introducing the person; writing down the judges' scores on the easel pad. You must be able to do a little math!
3. Three people to be judges for the Late Night Story Slam. This means you get to sit in the audience, listen, enjoy stories and flip up a number for a score.
4. Someone to be a timekeeper for the Friday Evening Story Concert. You bring your own timer and will be given signs to hold up for the teller to see.
5. Someone to be a timekeeper for the four open mic sessions during Saturday, November. You bring your own timer and will be given signs to hold up for the teller to see.
6. Someone to be a timekeeper for the Saturday Evening Story Concert. Same deal on bringing your timer.
7. Someone to be the Story Store Manager. Check-in begins at 7:45 on Saturday morning and closes after the Evening Concert.
8. Three people to take turns minding the Story Store which is open during the breaks, open mic times, after supper, and before the evening concerts.
9. Game leader for the beginning silent game Saturday morning, and also bring three silly prizes
10. Six room monitors who will keep the presenter on time and hand out the workshop evaluations and collect them at the end of the session.
Please consider the above opportunities to help make your conference a success! Contact Conference Chair Betsy Fleischer at betsycat2@yaho.com or 859-734-3194 by August 30 so she can plug you into the chart, and…take a breath.

2011 KSA Conference Travel and Lodging

Conference Location: Dale Hollow State Resort Park, 5970 State Park Road, Burkesville, KY, 42717
The 2011 Kentucky Storytelling Conference takes place at Dale Hollow State Resort Park, located on the Kentucky/Tennessee border, near Burkesville, on November 4 and 5, 2011. It's not too soon to book your lodging, and you'll want to be sure to book if before September 30th to receive discounted Kentucky Storytelling Conference rates. Some of you may recall the beautiful Mary Oaken Lodge from when the 2007 Kentucky Storytelling Conference met here. The views of the lake from the floor-to-ceiling windows along the Conference center hallway proved stunning. The dining room with its soaring ceiling and plentiful group seating was also view positively by past Conference participants. So, we've returned. To book your room, call 800-325-2282 and ask for a room with the Kentucky Storytelling Association. A rate of $67.55 includes all taxes for a room with two queen-sized beds. You can read more about Dale Hollow State Resort Park and find photos and directions at this website: http://parks.ky.gov/findparks/resortparks/dh/
Directions to the Conference location:
From the west: at Glasgow take KY 90 south (Burkesville Rd);
Or from the north and east, take KY 127 south to KY 90 west to KY 449 south

Some folks looked at the needles, cried out in fright, and ran. They believed the needles signified the end of the world was at hand. Others looked at the needles, pulled some from the ground, examined them, and concluded, "We could knit with these." They carried needles away by the basket loads.

I've thought about this brief tale now and then for several years. I ran across it at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives when I read the Franklin County files of the Writers Project American Life Series compiled during the Great Depression. Miss Elizabeth Hendrick, the worker with the Writers Project, heard the story from Mr. Frank Hutchinson, a man about eighty years old. Mr. Hutchinson said folks talked about the shower of needles for over half a century. He guessed that even as late as the 1930's some of the needles were most likely still in use.

So why has the story returned to my thoughts?

Everyone saw the needles as coming from a source that could not be explained. Some ran, certain the needles were a curse. Others stayed, looked the situation over, and saw the needles as a gift. Perhaps, even some who ran at first overcame their fear and returned to receive the gift.

Is recognizing and accepting our talents as

to State Park Rd 1206.
Or from the south take Interstate 40 east to TN 56 north to TN 53 north to KY 61 to KY 449 to 1206.
Room Rates & Booking:
Book your room by September 30, 2011, to receive conference rates for lodge rooms. There is a restaurant on site.

13th Annual Cave Run Storytelling Festival

Make plans to attend the 13th annual Cave Run Storytelling Festival, on Sept. 23-24, 2011, at the Twin Knobs Recreation Area at Cave Run Lake, near Morehead, KY. The following nationally known tellers will be telling stories: Donald Davis, Spencer Bohren, Syd Lieberman, Charlotte Blake-Alston, Dolores Hydock, Andy Offutt Irwin, and Antonio Rocha. These tellers offer great variety in their telling style and story content. The Cave Run Storytelling Festival is held in large tents in a beautiful mountain lakeside setting. "A Night of Fright" on Saturday evening is a time for ghost stories by the beach fire with Roberta Simpson Brown from Louisville, as the featured teller.
For more information, see www.caverunstoryfest.org or call Morehead Tourism at 800-654-1944.

Donald Davis telling stories at the Cave Run Storytelling Festival

2012 National Storytelling Conference Comes to Kentucky!

The 2012 National Storytelling Conference will be in our state. It's taking place in Covington, KY, on June 28 to July 1, 2012 at the Cincinnati Marriott at River Center. Now is the time to submit your workshop proposals and/or your Fringe performance entries.
Workshop proposal deadline – August 10, 2011
Fringe entry deadline – August 31, 2011
To learn details, visit the National Storytelling Network website at www.storynet.org. You'll find the links to the Workshop and Fringe entry information at the bottom of the opening page of the website.
Let's all enter to support the National Storytelling Network.
Reminder: your Kentucky Storytelling Association is an affiliate member of NSN, so you receive a 10% discount on your NSN dues – just one benefit of your KSA membership. NSN Members, in turn, receive discounted rates to attend the National Storytelling Conference!

Youth Storytelling Updates

The NYSS is held in conjunction with the Timpanogos Storytelling Midwinter Conference. The NYSS event date for 2012 is **February 8-11**. So please contact schools and festivals in your area. Let the youth programs know they

gifts, not curses, a task we must master to live a successful life? To not panic and run away from our abilities, especially if they prove different than we imagined?

Indeed, I believe it is our task to accept our gifts. But acceptance is not enough. We must then begin knitting to see what we can create with the gifts we've received.

Whatever your storytelling gifts, may your knitting bring you great satisfaction.

Need for Quadrant 3 Board Member!

The KSA Nominating committee of Donna Slaton, Charlie Hardy and Pam Holcomb, needs your help. We have a tentative slate for this fall's election but we still need one more candidate – to run for the Quadrant 3 director position.

Current Board members remaining through next year are: Jeff Jones, (President-Elect who will rise to President), Treasurer Laura Seaman and Quad 1 director Emilee Seaman and Quad 4 director Mary Ann Zoll – all who were elected last year and Octavia Sexton Quad 2 who will be appointed by the board to fill an open At Large Director position as she cannot succeed herself this year.

The slate for this fall includes - Russ Conrad for President-elect, Secretary – Mary Hamilton; At Large Director 1 – Charles Wright, and Quadrant 2 – Millicent Bond (Octavia Sexton's sister who can submit their finalists to Pam Holcomb, 83 Holcomb Road, Putney, KY 40865.

Timeline for 2012 Showcase:

•Spring, Summer, Fall of 2011 communities, schools, and states participate in local programs or festivals to learn and polish storytelling skills and tales. Schools, areas, communities all select promising tellers to submit to NYSS State Reps for review.

• All entries due to **State Reps by October 1, 2011**. Dates have been moved up to October in 2011 because of air fare and decision making. This will give finalists and Torchbearers the opportunity to secure lower flight rates.

• 5 State Finalists are submitted to the **NYSS by October 22, 2011**. A national committee will then narrow the selection to 10-15 Torchbearers.

At the event, each Torchbearer will tell one story they auditioned with. The youth tellers will attend the Timpanogos Storytelling Conference, tell at area schools, record their stories on DVD recording, and most of all meet other youth tellers and have a lot of FUN! The recording and recommendations of these national finalists will be made available for Festivals and events across the country. All State Finalists will be invited to attend the Conference if they are not selected as Torchbearers, they will not be performing but still have fun and learn with all NYSS participants.

Information for NYSS is found under Midwinter Conference at www.timpfest.org or at www.nationalyouthstorytellingshowcase.org. Watch for more updates.

A Storyteller's Story—Florida Slone

Editor's Note: There are many wonderful storytellers who might not belong to KSA but who inspire and who influence those in their community.

Florida Slone is a singer and storyteller who lives in Knott County in eastern Kentucky. Due to a childhood illness, she did not receive a formal education. As a child, she contracted typhoid fever. The doctor told her mother that the illness would damage Florida's brain and that she would never be able to speak plainly. Because of the doctor's prediction, Florida's mother kept her out of school to help with family crops. These early years of isolation, cut off from spoken communication with even the closest members of her family, prompted Florida to develop a keen sense of observation. Later, she was able to learn to speak, and she celebrated this accomplishment by creating stories and songs of everything around her.

In 1991, after her husband died, she went back to school and worked on her GED through 8th grade. She could not read very well growing up so she started telling stories and making up songs about the mountain way of life.

Florida Slone was featured on KET-TV. Her story is still seen on KET from time to time. Appalshop out of Whitesburg did a 30 minute DVD about her. (See below). It features some of her many stories and songs, using mountain dialect. Florida has toured with others from Appalshop to do storytelling in the public school system in eastern Kentucky.

She did a song and story cassette recording, which she sold in the area. Some of her publications include "Homemade Tales, Songs and Sayings of Florida Slone". This was done in 1993 by Anthony Slone who works for Appalshop, also a featured article in "Double Take" magazine in 1996 on pages 46 - 47. She has been featured in other Appalshop productions. Florida, now aged 82, still entertains at a local rest home, seniors meetings, through her church, family events and more.

http://appalshop.org/store/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=256

VHS Directed by: Anthony Slone and Angelyn DeBord 1993 Running Time: 28:00 Color

joined us at last fall's conference) which leaves the Quadrant 3 position open. Quad 3 is the north eastern Kentucky area, Ashland, Covington, Morehead. Although it is hoped we will have a representative from there if no one volunteers someone from a nearby county can serve so volunteer if you are interested, please. Directors and Quad representatives serve 2 year terms, attending 4 board meetings per year and serve on at least one committee. You may check out history or bylaws at our website www.kystory.org or call any current board member or the nominating committee for more information. Thanks to each of you for your time and efforts on behalf of KSA...as long as each of us do a little - we accomplish a lot together - building a better tomorrow for storytelling. Donna F. Slaton, Chair KSA Nominating Committee 2011, email to donna@misspockets3.com or call at 270-871-3719.

This documentary includes Florida's remembrances of her early years of struggle. She is shown imitating bird and animal sounds, and singing songs she has made up about the natural world around her. She tells stories about witches who lived near her as a girl, and speaks of the visions and premonitions that guided her as she raised six children.

Now that her children are grown, and her husband has died, Florida has had to become more independent. She returned to school, learned to read and write, and got her driver's license.

A note from Florida's daughter:

The older I get, the more I appreciate my mom. She has overcome many obstacles in her life while her songs, stories and faith in God have kept her going. Mom loves people and still performs at her seniors' meetings, local churches, family reunions and most any other place where she is asked to perform. She shares her life through homespun songs and stories, interwoven with a mountain dialect which is as colorful as her quilts. She is eager to share her songs and stories with others—to help brighten a day—as she also graciously entertained us kids as we grew up.

We were a musical family. Dad played banjo, Mom played guitar and us kids sang and danced—what happy memories! She taught us about life through stories and songs. As a result of that upbringing, I was inspired to become an art teacher. I love helping others find themselves through their art. Mom's songs and stories have become the composition of her life. The song that best describes her is "Keep on the Sunny Side of Life". Even with all her trials, she has managed to keep on the sunny side. I love you Mom and I'm very proud of you! Christine Durall 7-20-2011

Florida Slone

Note from Editor: I took over the volunteer position of KSA Newsletter Editor in summer of 2006, after serving as a KSA Board member. I've enjoyed getting to know KSA and its members through the fun work of creating four issues per year. It's been 5 full years of assembling 21 issues in e-format and print, but also time now to let go of the position and allow somebody new to take over. I look forward to being a "regular" KSA member for a while, and planning my next adventures in storytelling. Thanks to everyone who contributed articles and other items to the Newsletter. Sincerely, Thomas Freese