

Friday Night Concert

Donna Will, one of Virginia Storytelling Alliance's (VASA) founding members, is a retired school librarian. She began telling stories instead of reading them to the 100s of students she served as a librarian. She has been sharing stories in schools, around the community, and for VASA ever since. Donna grew up in Roanoke and currently resides not far from the Chesapeake Bay. She describes herself as a short woman who tells tall tales, a flatlander who tells mountain stories, and a real person who tells fairy tales.



Lynn Ruehlmann has told stories in schools and to adults from Virginia to Alaska. The Virginia Commission for the Arts has awarded her grants for her programs every year since 2002. Lynn's recording, "Spy! The Story of Civil War Spy Elizabeth Van Lew," won a "Storytelling World" and Parents' Choice award. Her CD, "It Happened in the White House: True Tales of the Eight Virginia Presidents and Their Wives" was named 2008 Storytelling World Winner and won a NAPPA Award. Lynn's very new CD, "Mischievous" has just been released to rave reviews.

Mack and Joan Swift, "Tales in Tandem," have rich backgrounds in storytelling, dramatic arts and education. A teacher by profession, Mack is a natural-born storyteller who has been telling tales for as long as he can remember. He knows about 940 stories and will tell them to anyone who will listen. Joan is also a teacher. She began telling stories out of self-defense and studied storytelling at East Tennessee State University, where she earned an MA in Reading and the Story Arts. They are both charter members of the Virginia Storytelling Alliance (VASA) and they helped charter the Shenandoah Valley Storytelling Guild. Joan is a past president of VASA. Mack co-authored the play, The Spirit of Augusta which won the 2009 National Association of Counties Achievement Award. For their tandem storytelling. The Folk Arts Revival Society awarded them the **Fiddlin' Frog Award**.



WORKSHOP 1 Put Flesh on Old Bones Ellouise Schoettler

This workshop is a combination of genealogy, oral history and storytelling. It offers ideas and new approaches for family history researchers, storytellers and anyone who is gathering ideas for their work



WORKSHOP 2 - Turning a Singing Tale into a Told Tale Susanna Holstein

This workshop will feature background information on at least three Appalachian ballads, key sources of ballads and suggestions for developing a ballad into a told tale through discussion, listening and hands-on exercises. Resource list and a discography will be provided.



WORKSHOP 3 -

What makes a story funny?"

Explore the elements of what makes a story funny; how we use humor in our stories to make a point; how we find the humor in real life stories and why we are drawn to funny stories. Importance of timing and how we can become better at telling funny stories. How do we find the humor in a story?



WORKSHOP 4 - Performance Showcase Shattered Silence Linda Goodman

Storytelling is a powerful medium for examining those dark places that we are reluctant to discuss. Linda presents stories of child abuse, based upon the experiences of three women who survived it.

Massanetta Springs Conference Center is a rustic retreat. Rooms have no telephone or television. Meals are buffet style. Special dietary needs can be met. The Center is located 3 miles east of I-81 in Harrisonburg, Va. Take Exit 247A from I-81 to Route 33 East. Go about 2.5 miles to the 5th Stoplight and turn right on Massanetta Springs Road (Route 687). One mile down the road is the Conference Center.

Massanetta Springs
Conference Center:
www.massanettasprings.org
or 1-888-627-7774

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Roommate _____
Address _____
Phone(s) _____ cell _____ VASA member _____ yes _____ no _____

Lodging Preference: New Lodge or Richardson _____ Single or Double _____

*Please note any special dietary needs _____

Costs: _____

Session I: Workshop 1 _____ Workshop 2 _____ Workshop 3 _____

Session II: Workshop 1 _____ Workshop 2 _____ Workshop 4 (Showcase) _____

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AT THE SAME TIME:

\$25 for 1 year \$45 for 2 years

If you don't know when your membership expires, email tellspeuce@cox.net (Norris Spencer)

VASA MEMBERSHIP

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Please cut this panel from brochure and mail in an envelope with check payable to

Virginia Storytelling Alliance with proper postage to:

Virginia Storytelling Alliance Membership, 5771 Hill Top St., Crozet, VA 22932