

Since our last board meeting in September 2015

1. For the 25th year, we celebrated Tellabration. This time, we had two concerts instead of our usual one. Aunt Li-Anne coordinated the concert at the Chalice UU in Escondido; Fred Laskowski coordinated the one at the Summit UU in Santee. The program was the same at both concerts, and we felt that it was a very strong program. Attendance was lighter than desired or expected at both concerts.
2. We have continued our monthly performances at Rebecca's Coffee House in South Park. Different tellers have coordinated and participated. Audience has varied, but we have been happy with the continuation of this series. A couple of community tellers have been invited to participate with us in this series.
3. We are continuing to investigate grant funding and planning to submit a proposal for the City of Encinitas. We have received funds from La Jolla Kiwanis, and smaller amounts from the Point Loma Credit Union and the North County Federal Credit Union.
4. We are gathering donations for a silent auction at our festival, and donors to date have included Chinaberry, Barnes & Noble, Hot Spot Pottery Painting, St. Tropez Bistro, The Spice Way, and Coast Highway Traders.
5. Fred Laskowski and Marilyn McPhie told stories, along with musicians, for a concert sponsored by San Diego Folk Heritage.
6. Marilyn McPhie has agreed to be the National Storytelling Network Regional Director for the Pacific Region, filling out the last year of Steven Henegar's term. Steven is now the director of NSN. Aunt Li-Anne has agreed to take over the California state liaison responsibilities for San Diego and Imperial Counties.
7. We have posted regularly on facebook, and have received "likes" and membership from the social media.
8. We have had growing traffic to our website. Jim Dieckmann keeps the website current and has updated the content to make it more effective.
9. Jim Dieckmann sends out monthly news and events to subscribers through Mail Chimp. He monitors the response
10. We have continued regular performances by our storytellers: Patti Christensen, James Nelson-Lucas and Linda Whiteside at the Rady Children's Hospital; Marilyn McPhie at the Children's Discovery Museum; Harlynn Geisler at the Timken Museum.
11. Karen Dietz continues her very popular curated blog for storytelling in business. Her book, Business Storytelling for Dummies, is still in print and has new versions available.
12. Future events in planning or developing stages include a storytelling concert before the San Diego Highland Games, storytelling at the Sam Hinton Folk Festival, performances by individual tellers at libraries for Summer Reading Program.
13. Patti Christensen and James Nelson-Lucas were featured in an article on applications of arts in hospital settings in the December SKY magazine, distributed by Delta Airlines. Mindy Donner will be featured in a future One-to-One column in the San Diego UT.
14. We are considering future house concerts, featuring visiting storytellers.
15. We continue to post regularly on Facebook. Board member Lindsay Hanlon set up an Instagram account for Storytellers of San Diego, and within the first few weeks, it has more than three hundred followers.
16. We have continued open story swaps at the Barnes & Noble in Mira Mesa.
17. We have strengthened our collaboration with the Encinitas Friends of the Library. Kathleen Warren is helping with our upcoming festival. Continued collaboration with Encinitas Library, Mission Trails Regional Park, Barnes & Noble, Young Audiences, Rebecca's Coffee House, San Diego Folk Heritage, Write Out Loud, KPBS, La Jolla Kiwanis. We are working on developing connections with CSUSan Marcos Arts & Lectures series organizers and others.
18. We are planning our sixth annual San Diego Storytelling Festival on March 19th. This year it is on World Storytelling Day with a theme of "Strong Women."