

Since our last board meeting in February 2016

1. We had our sixth annual San Diego Storytelling Festival at the Encinitas Library on March 19. According to the library count, attendance was 560. All sessions were well-attended, although the concluding concert was more lightly attended than in some previous years. The “Food, Glorious Food” session was especially well-received with cooking and snacks by Rosie Huffman. The “Real People, Real Stories” sessions with the Olympians and the vets from “So Say We All” were great. The children’s events were excellent. The God Save the Cuisine food truck was a hit. Our collaboration with the Friends of the Library was the best yet; they were invaluable with the opportunity drawings, welcoming and directions, the green room.
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.
3. Our grant proposal for the City of Encinitas was recommended for 80% funding, \$3500, which will enable us to do school assemblies and possibly conduct a storytelling club. We are continuing to investigate further grant funding. We have received funds from La Jolla Kiwanis for both the festival and for school programs, and smaller amounts from the Point Loma Credit Union, the North County Federal Credit Union and former board member Carolyn Funes.
4. Donations for our opportunity drawings were received from Chinaberry, Barnes & Noble, Hot Spot Pottery Painting, St. Tropez Bistro, The Spice Way, Coast Highway Traders, Sprouts, Trader Joe’s, Costco and many more. The drawings netted over \$400.
5. Marilyn McPhie is now 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. She has conducted a demographic survey for NSN and is promoting membership.
6. We have posted regularly on facebook, and have received "likes" and membership from the social media.
7. We have had growing traffic to our website. Jim Dieckmann keeps the website current and it serves as an excellent resource for informing the public and promoting Storytellers of San Diego.
8. Jim Dieckmann sends out monthly news and events to subscribers through Mail Chimp. He monitors the responses.
9. Advisory board member Lindsay Hanlon set up an Instagram account. She posts regularly on it. We have more than 1000 followers.
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. Patti Christensen performed with Panchita Acevedo several times for Mexican Dia de los Ninos.
12. 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.
13. Future events include a storytelling concert before the San Diego Highland Games (with James Nelson-Lucas, Aunt Li-Anne, Marilyn McPhie and fiddler Rachel Amov), storytelling at the Sam Hinton Folk Festival in July, performances by individual tellers at libraries for Summer Reading Program.
14. Mindy Donner was featured in a future One-to-One column in the San Diego UT with a photo and interview, including great information on our festival.

15. A planned house concert with Darci Tucker was cancelled due to scheduling issues. However, we are considering future house concerts, featuring visiting storytellers.
16. We have continued open story swaps at the Barnes & Noble in Mira Mesa. They are lightly attended, but will continue.
17. Continued collaboration with Encinitas Library, Barnes & Noble, Young Audiences, Rebecca's Coffee House, San Diego Folk Heritage, KPBS, La Jolla Kiwanis. We are working on developing connections with CSUSan Marcos Arts & Lectures series organizers and others.
18. We are planning our seventh annual San Diego Storytelling Festival on March 17, 2017. We will feature the World Storytelling Day theme of "Transformation."
19. Li-Anne represented Storytellers of San Diego at an AERO arts event and will report on her experience.
20. Marilyn McPhie and Li-Anne Mufson will attend the NSN conference in Kansas City in July.