

Inland Valley Storytellers

Tales told on 11/12/19

We were 13 storytellers and listeners gathered to hear and tell stories on Nov. 12, 2019: Barbara Rugeley, Chris and John St. Clair, Flip and Claudia Banando, Jayne Sjodin, Lillian & Louis Sergio, Robin and Ron Chick, Tom and Aynn Freeman. We welcomed new member Lisa Bassett.

Thank you to our next hosts, Tom and Aynn Freeman, who have offered many times before and we gratefully accept.

Ron Chick reported that he has been in Costa Rica and missed telling his favorite Halloween story, “The Tale of the Horned Witches.” A Great-Great Grandmother is home alone with her grandchildren out in the country in 1918 Kansas, when she hears a knock at the door. “Open the door,” she hears. She didn’t want to, but she did. There she found an ugly woman in a black dress with one horn sticking out of her head. The woman went and sat by the fire. Then came another knock, and another, until there were 12 witches sitting by the fire, each with one more horn on their head than the previous witch. They began carding and spinning wool and weaving on a loom. Then there came a screech and a whoosh, and they all left.

Tom Freeman shared a memory from when he was 4. I he wanted a pony so bad he could taste it. When his father came home with coconuts, the father said that they were “coconut eggs” and would become ponies when they hatched. When Tom saw the opened coconuts, his mother confessed how his father had told a tale. But now Dad’s older and needs a lot of help. I have him sitting on an eggplant, trying to hatch himself a nurse.

John St. Clair shared a Dan Keding story, “A Portrait for the Czar.” The Master Painter was called before the evil Czar who asked that he paint a picture that would take his breath away. With inspiration from Mikhail, his trainee, the Master Painter created such a picture. But the czar did not keep his word. Instead he threw the painter into the dungeon. Mikhail worked to save his mentor, with a little help from a stranger.

Louis Sergio harkened back to his UCLA days in 1948, where he found a stunning looking redhead named Lillian Langfield, who shared his major,

English Lit, his other interests, and a commute on public transportation! It was on Nov. 12, 1948, that he took her to the UCLA / Oregon football game. And 70 plus years later, they are still together.

Barbara Rugeley told the Uzbek story, “The Value of the Land,” about a man seeking a grant of a parcel of land after the fall of the Soviet Union.

Ron and Robin Chick invite us all to attend his Twelfth Night Celebration, bringing stories and side dishes to compliment his meats on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020, 4:00-?. The stories don't have to be religious, but they do need to be upbeat.

TELLABRATION! 2019 IS Saturday, Nov. 23, 7 to 9 pm, at the Folk Music Center. Bring sweet or savory treats to share. Wear warm clothing, as we are outside for refreshments. \$10 for a ticket.