



Oral Tradition in the Classroom:

6th Annual Librarian to Librarian Networking Summit,
East Carolina University 01/29/11

Facilitator: Cheryl Esarey and C.M. Eppes Middle School students

Oral tradition serves 4 purposes:

- preserve history and verbal folk traditions in story, song, dance, ritual, speech, or poetry
- spread the news
- teach religion, vital knowledge and culture (important beliefs)
- transmit family story

We read North Carolina folklore and converted it into stories. Some of our favorite sources are:

Beck, Horace P. *Folklore and the Sea*. Mystic Seaport: The Maritime Historical Association, Inc., 1973.

Carter, Catherine T. *Ghost Tales of the Moratoc*. Winston-Salem: John F Blair, 1992

Chase, Richard *Grandfather Tales*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1948

Chase, Richard *Jack Tales*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1943

Duncan, Barbara *Living Stories of the Cherokee*. University of NC Press, 1998

Harden, John *The Devil's Tramping Ground*. University of NC Press, 1949

Johnson, Roy F. *How and Why Stories in Carolina Folklore*. Murfreesboro, NC: Johnson Pub., 1968

Kammerer, Roger and Tom Painter *Forgotten Tales of NC*. Charleston SC: The History Press, 2006

Sturgis Elleno, *Stories and Poems from the Old North State*. Durham: The Seeman Printery Inc., 1923

Spencer, Edith Toth *Drought and other North Carolina Yarns*. Winston-Salem: John F Blair, 1955

Whedbee, Charles Harry *Blackbeard's Cup / Stories of the Outer Banks*. Winston-Salem: John F Blair, 1989

Whedbee, Charles Harry *The Flaming Ship of Ocracoke*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, 1988

Whedbee, Charles Harry *Legends of the Outer Banks*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, 1966

Whedbee, Charles Harry *Outer Banks Mysteries and Seaside Stories*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, 1978

Van Laan, Nancy *With a Whoop and a Holler*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1998

NaNoWriMo

National Novel Writing Month happens every November!

It is a fun, seat-of-your-pants novel writing event where the challenge is to write an entire novel in just 30 days. That means participants begin writing November 1 and must finish by midnight, November 30. The word-count goal for our adult program is 50,000 words, but our Young Writers Program allows participants who are 17 years old and younger to set reasonable, yet challenging, word-count goals.

The thing that matters most in NaNoWriMo is output. Our high-velocity approach forces you to lower your expectations, take risks, and write on the fly.

Make no mistake: you will be writing a lot of strange stuff, and some of it will be just plain bad. But that's a good thing! For 30 days, you get to lock that inner editor in the basement, let your imagination take over, and just create!

As you spend November writing, you can draw comfort from the fact that, all around the world, other National Novel Writing Month participants of all ages are going through the same joys and sorrows of producing the Great Frantic Novel.

In 2009, 167,000 adults participated through our main site, and 35,000 young writers participated through our Young Writers Program.

You should sign up on the Young Writers Program site if you are:

- **17 years old or younger participating on your own.**
- **In a K-12 teacher-led class that is participating in NaNoWriMo.**
- **An educator facilitating NaNoWriMo in your classroom.**

If you are **13 or older**, you can sign up on the main site at www.nanowrimo.org. Just know that you will have to write 50,000 words since the adult site doesn't allow you to set your own word-count goal.

[For more information, please visit the website at ywp.nanowrimo.org](http://ywp.nanowrimo.org)