

“Time Well Spent”
by Chuck S. Richards

Chuck Richards has served as President from 2002—2004

As my term comes to an end this month, I find myself very thankful for all the efforts of Guild members and friends who filled the past three years with so many successes.

The major effort that was so well-supported was the expansion of our Guild Conference audiences into the Inland Northwest with the October, 2003 Conference in Pasco WA. It never would have happened without the energy of Jacque Sonderman, director of the Franklin County Historical Museum, and a half-dozen volunteers who persevered with her.

The Guild’s first anthology, *More Voices, New Stories* was already in production when I came on board, capably edited by Mary Wright, our past president. So the major remaining event left to the Board was the Book Signing, and our First Guild Reunion that brought together so many of the early founding members.

It was the Guild Ramble to Tokeland in October, 1998 when I first connected with Guild friends, and the Rambles continued much appreciated, through the Spokane Ramble of September 2002 organized by Judi Vozka.

Later that fall, The Guild co-sponsored a graduate research seminar with CSPN at the U of W, with a day-long multi-session series of panels organized largely by Judy Green.

In 2001, the web page was redesigned by Carrie Mickleborg as our first webmaster, so ably followed by Vania Bochnakova Mihova.

Our newsletter was redesigned, and edited for the first year by Walter Neary. Most of the praise for the *Northwest Historian* we now receive is due to his eye for graphic design.

Among those responsible for lining up such good speakers for our Second Tuesdays meetings were program coordinators Eric Flom, Cathy Lykes and John Daughters. And thanks go to our hosts at the National Archives these past years, especially Candace Lein-Hayes.

Other thanks to Jackie Williams who has lined up Guild book tables; Chuck LeWarne, who has convened the annual PNW History Award committee; to Judy Bentley, who navigates us through bookings for the Annual Banquet; and, of course, to the Board of Trustees, past and present!