

They solved that problem by putting bottled water containers in each of the tents, as well as in strategic locations on the grounds. They also improvised drinking fountains by attaching drinking fountain heads to hose spigots.

However, locating portalets is not an item most hostesses need to think about. Usually nearby restrooms are enough--but not in an outdoor setting with thousands of people needing a facility. "We had to have portalets," said Karen. Most of us didn't even know where to go get one."

The first year, Janet Low recalled they really went overboard and had more than enough portalets.

Another year, after the festival had moved to the Olmsted, Janet and some other volunteers were walking around the grounds taking out the trash, straightening and generally cleaning things up



*"Portalet Row" during the 1991 Timpanogos Storytelling Festival at Ashton Gardens.*

after lunch the first day of the festival.

Suddenly a woman burst out of one of the portalets as they passed by. "My purse! I dropped my purse!" she cried in panic.

One of the volunteers with Janet, Sandy Call, immediately came to the rescue saying, "Oh well, let's see what we can do." Sandy assessed the situation and said, "I'm going to get a stick." She reached under some nearby bushes and trees to pick up a stick, only to have it slither away from her.

Regrouping herself emotionally for the second time in just moments, Sandy continued her search for a real stick. Upon finding one, she fished the woman's purse out of the latrine and then helped her find a nearby facility with running water so the woman might salvage what she could from her purse.

*"Each time we gave somebody an opportunity to really listen to a good storyteller, we had a convert to the idea that storytelling is really for everyone."*

*--Karen Ashton*

*"As a performer (and former festival director), it's always a pleasure to be invited to Timpanogos. What makes your festival such a jewel is the quality and integrity of the people behind the scenes."*

*--Susan Klein*