

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hello my friends,

How are you all doing? I am swell. This season keeps me very busy. I have programs to do, taxes to mail and gardens to grow. It seems like I get busier and busier. It is so much fun.

The Liars Contest will be here before you know it. We have a few changes in the rules for this year. Members spoke to us about the rules, and we listened. The rules will be on the website, so take a look. The deadline is still June 1, 2023, for entries. Our event takes place on July 8, 2023, in Webster Groves, Missouri. We have scoped out a venue and found a great one. There will be a workshop again. This year we have engaged the wonderful workshop leader, Sherry Norfolk.

We will have lunch together and a story or two before the contest. Once again, there will be a silent auction and a book sale.

Come for the contest, the tales and to meet up with friends. It will be so good to see everyone face to face. Bring a story to tell at the swap.

"The power of storytelling is exactly this: to bridge the gaps where everything else has crumbled."

- Paulo Coelho

Love to you all,
Joyce Slater
President of MO-TELL

THE STORY BEAST

For Story Artists, Listeners, and Dreamers

Sink your teeth and claws into our monthly publication now



A new free E-Publication the 15th of each month

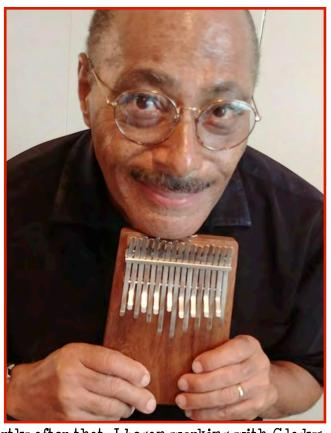
While you explore, consider submitting stories, articles, poems, and art.



STORYBEAST.ORG/ARCHIVE



MO-TELL MEMBER OF THE MONTH



Glen "Papa" Wright

How did you get involved in storytelling? There was a guy who lived down the street from me who was dressed up one day like Abraham Lincoln. I asked why he was dressed like that and he told me he was a storyteller. His name was Bert Minkin. I told him I was a percussionist and asked if he had ever thought about adding percussion to his stories and characters. Bert thought that was a good idea so we started working together. He and I were doing a performance at a community center and Gladys and Truman Coggswell were in the audience and saw our performance. During the performance, I interacted with the children and my instruments on my own. Gladys liked what she saw and introduced herself. As our friendship grew, she invited me to do a percussion workshop at her By Word-of-Mouth Storytelling Conference/Festival. That was around 1994.

Shortly after that, I began working with Gladys, Glynis Brooks, and January Kiefer. At that time, I played sitting down. I did not approach playing the instruments the way I do now. When my wife, Jackie, became a storyteller, I did not freelance anymore. She and I became Tales Told the "Wright" Way and we worked at developing our own style of storytelling. I add sound effects, color, and texture with a variety of percussion instruments as Jackie tells folktales and fables.

Why did you join MO-TELL? I joined MO-TELL to support storytelling in Missouri. I was on the board years ago as Vice President. I recently became a lifetime member.

What are some of the things you like to do? Besides dining out and traveling, which I have not done since March 2020, I enjoy playing creative improvised music. It gives me a chance to use my imagination, create my ideas, be spontaneous, and release a lot of energy all at the same time. My goal as a creative improvisational musician is to perform on a national level. In June of 2022, I joined Fred Tompkins, bass flute/C flute and Greg Mills, piano/melodica to create free improvisational music. I have already recorded with Greg on an avant-garde CD entitled "KUVUKA," featuring Greg on piano and me on drum set. The Tompkins, Mills, Wright Trio just recorded one CD and another is due to be released soon. I am also working on a CD with musician Tory Starbuck.

What do you want people to know about you? I am a professional percussionist and puppeteer. I taught percussion at the St. Louis Conservatory and Schools for the Arts for 23 years. I also taught St. Louis Community College's Applied Music students for 3 years. I have performed with St. Louis Symphony musicians on various projects. I have also worked with world class jazz musicians. I have been a teaching artist with "The Wright Rhythms for Small Hands" workshops and residencies over 30 years with Young Audiences of St. Louis that is now Springboard to Learning, a national organization that sends artists into the schools for enrichment programs. I also play solo vibes or marimba for private parties and art exhibits.

I am a member of Puppeteers of America and the Puppet Guild of Greater St. Louis. I was the President of the Puppet Guild from 2005-2015. Together with Jackie, we formed our business called The 'Wright' Entertainment for Children. We offer puppet shows and puppet workshops, children's percussion workshops, and storytelling. We published a children's story-coloring book based on one of our puppet shows.

Besides being an artist. I am a former marathon runner. I ran 100 miles a week to train for marathons. My best marathon time is 2 hours and 41 minutes for the 26.1 miles. When I was 30 years old, I ran the Alton, IL Ten Mile Run in 54 minutes flat. Now, I am too busy to run like that; so I only jog slowly for an hour every day; and I do not miss a day.

In 2018, I was featured in an article in St. Louis Magazine about my work as a performing artist. I was honored in 2012 by receiving the Luminary Award from Springboard to Learning for my percussion work with young children in St. Louis City and County Schools. Jackie and I were recipients of St. Louis Magazine's 2007 A-List Award for Best Story Time. In 2006 I received the Progressive Youth Connection's World of Children Award for my work with children through Young Audiences of St. Louis. I received the 2005 Pillar Award given by the Intercommunity Housing Association for dedication to serving the poor of St. Louis.

Website: www.jackieandpapawright.com



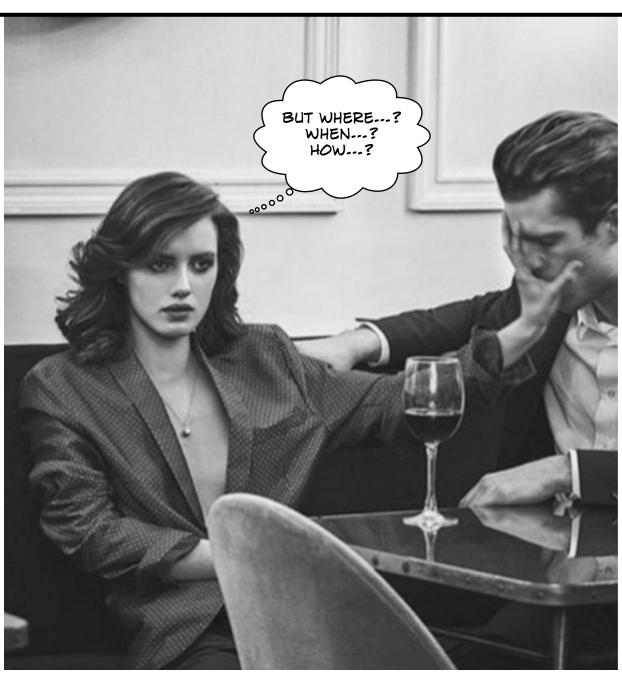
THIS WEEK WE HAD TERMINEX COME FOR OUR TERMITE PROTECTION. NO, WE DON'T HAVE TERMITES PROTECTING OUR HOME, WE ARE TRYING TO KEEP THEM AWAY.... WELL, SEAN FROM HANNIBAL, MO COMES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF CYLINDERS AND HE SAYS THAT HE'S FROM HANNIBAL. I SAID THAT'S QUITE A DRIVE.

HE AGREES. I SAID, DO YOU KNOW GLADYS COGGSWELL? HE SAYS YES AND HE ALSO KNOWS ANGELA WILLIAMS. HE LOVES THEM BOTH. HE SAID HE'D MOVED THEM TO KANSAS CITY. (AND NOW THEY'RE BACK IN HANNIBAL). THEN HE TELLS ME THAT HE WAS A FOSTER CHILD IN ANGELA'S HOME GROWING UP. THEN HE SENT A VIDEO OF ME ON MY PORCH TO ANGELA. SHE SAYS, "SMALL WORLD." HE LOVES STORYTELLERS!

TODAY, SEVERAL DAYS LATER, WE CALLED UP SPECTRUM. WE WERE HAVING TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES (NOT UNUSUAL). SO, MIKE ARRIVES AT 8 TO SAVE THE DAY! HE ASKS WHAT I DO/DID IN MY WORK. AND OF COURSE I MENTIONED AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT I AM A STORYTELLER. HE SAYS, "MY MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER WAS THE BEST TEACHER AND STORYTELLER EVER! HIS NAME IS KEN WOLFE. I LEARNED SO MUCH FROM HIM." THIS IS WHILE I'M WORKING ON MY COMPUTER GETTING READY FOR THE LIARS CONTEST. CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

IT'S THE TRUTH. I, OF COURSE, DIVULGED TO HIM THAT KEN IS A GREAT LIAR.

IT IS A SMALL WORLD AND WITH STORYTELLING A BIG INFLUENCE ON OUR LISTENERS! DO YOU HAVE A STORYTELLING SERENDIPITOUS STORY FOR THE MO-TELL REGISTER? MAKE IT SHORT AND SWEET AND SEND TO PERRIN STIFEL AT PSTIFELSTL@EARTHLINK.NET. THEN, SUDDENLY, CHARLOTTE REALIZED HER LIFE WAS EMPTY AND SHE DESPERATELY NEEDED A THICK BURGER AND A GUINNESS AT A ST. LOUIS IRISH PUB AND THEN TO GO UPSTAIRS TO THEIR EVENT VENUE AND HAVE HER HEART FILLED WITH AMATEUR STORYTELLING FROM AMBITIOUS YOUNG COLLEGE STUDENTS.





For Your Fridge

MAGNET HERE

STORIES, GATHERINGS, AND STORY GATHERINGS AROUND OUR FAIR STATE.

RAPS

APRIL 2023

Thursday April 6, 2023, 7:00 pm First Thursday Meeting Hybrid* meeting at Trailside Center AND on Zoom

Workshop: Pacing and Pauses – Gary

Kuntz

Story Theme: "Tricksters..."

Saturday April 15, 2023, 10:30 am Third Sat. Meeting Hybrid* meeting at Woodneath AND on Zoom

Thursday May 4, 2023, 7:00 pm First Thursday Meeting Hybrid* meeting at Trailside Center AND on Zoom Teller Spotlight: Sarah Tucker Poff Story Theme: "Necessity is the Mother of Invention"

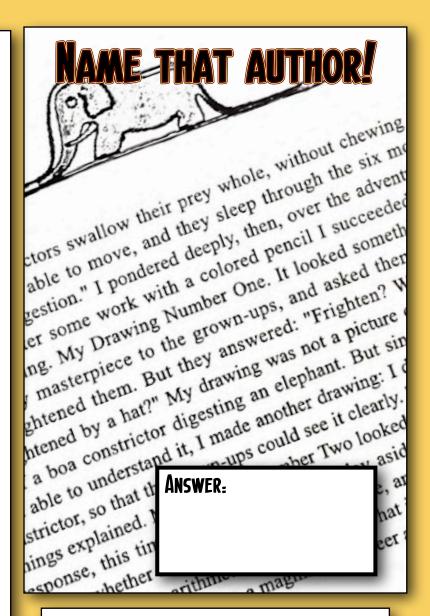
*Hybrid meetings will be held in-person at:

Trailside Center Woodneath Library Center 99th & Holmes Rd. 8900 NE Flintlock Road Kansas City, MO 64131 Kansas City, MO 64157

If not on RAPS Mailing List,

Contact: <u>RAPS.Secretary@gmail.com</u> for

additional info and Zoom links.



GATEWAY

Gateway Storytellers will send out email invitations once our next meeting date is confirmed.

BY THE WAY.

FRAN STALLINGS PROVIDED LAST MONTH'S STORY OF THE MONTH! THANKS, FRAN!



70 YEARS AGO, "ROMAN HOLIDAY," STARRING AUDREY HEPBURN AND GREGORY PECK, BROUGHT TO AMERICANS THE FANCIFUL ITALIAN LEGEND OF THE MOUTH OF TRUTH. POPULAR AND ANCIENT LEGEND HAS IT THAT LIARS IN ROME WHO PUT THEIR HAND THROUGH THE MOUTH WOULD RIGHTEOUSLY LOSE IT AS PENALTY FOR THEIR DECEIT.

SINCE THIS FAMOUS SCENE CHARMED THE PANTS OFF MOVIEGOERS AND LIARS ALIKE, THE MOUTH OF TRUTH HAS BECOME A FAVORITE SITE VISIT FOR TRUTH-TELLERS TO BE VINDICATED.

IT'S ALMOST AS POPULAR AS THE BLARNEY STONE OF IRELAND, BUT STRANGELY, THERE'S LITTLE TOURISM CROSSOVER.







COMING IN JULY! DON'T MISS IT OR YOU'LL HAVE MISSED IT!

SO MANY TALENTED LUTHIERS WILL BRING THEIR PASSION FOR THE TENSIONED INSTRUMENTS TO GO FOR HEAD-TO-HEAD HARPISTRY!

MANY WILL ENTER. BUT ONLY ONE WILL EMERGE INTACT AND IN TUNE!

DON'T MISS THE DANCING FINGERS,, BROKEN NAILS, AND FINGERTIPS BLISTERS OF THIS SAVAGE CONTEST OF WILLS AND SKILLS!

SPECIAL GUEST: PERRIN STIFFEL WILL PERFORM "THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH" ON HIS ANTIQUE ZITHER AND BRAND NEW KAZOO. TRULY A SIGHT TO BEHOLD!

THIS IS THE EVENT THEY'LL ALL BE TALKING ABOUT ON MONDAY!



OKAY, YOU'RE RIGHT. WE WERE JUST FOOLING'. APRIL FOOLING, YOU MIGHT SAY.

WE'LL TRY AGAIN.





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Silent Auction Event 2023 Annual Fundraising

Missouri Storytelling, Inc., MO-TELL, is a 501C3 storytelling organization dedicated to spreading the joy and art of storytelling throughout the state of Missouri.

On July 8, 2023, MO-TELL will celebrate the 9th Annual Missouri LIARS CONTEST in Webster Groves, MO. Contestants come from all over the state and beyond. Listeners come to hear the wonderful stories! The event is free and open to the public.

This will be a grand event with storytelling, swapping ground, story workshop, as well as the LIARS CONTEST. There will be a Silent Auction to support the MO-TELL mission.

We are asking for donations to the auction. The funds support storytelling in Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites as well as festivals. Our goal for 2023 is to raise \$2,023. We can then bring storytelling to people throughout Missouri. We are asking for a donation valued at just \$20 or more. Last year we had auction items valued up to \$100. If you donate, your name will be listed in the program. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is a partner in this mission. Our board and MO-TELL members donate as well. Your donation is tax-deductible.

Thank you for your donation! Call or text Perrin Stifel at 314-413-2858 with any questions. Keep this copy for your donated item.

Donor name	Date of donation
Item donated	Value
Item donated	Value
Donation accepted by	(signature of member)
Thanks for your support of storytelling in Missouri	

Joyce Slater, President, Missouri Storytelling, Inc. 7338 Belleview, Kansas City, MO 64114



Silent Auction Donations, Page 2 MO-TELL LIARS CONTEST 2023

This page is to be returned with donated item (s) to Perrin Stifel in the St. Louis area or Joyce Slater in the Kansas City area for Silent Auction. Please mail any gift certificates to Perrin at 636 Elmwood Ave., Webster Groves, MO 63119. We will set up the auction the morning of July 8, 2023, at the event at the Webster Groves Masonic Temple, 12 E. Lockwood Ave. 63119.

Donation to Missouri Storytelling, Inc., MO-TELL.

Dear Friend of Storytelling,

Thank you for your generous donation to MO-TELL. MO-TELL is a 501C3 organization devoted to spreading the art and joy of storytelling throughout the state of Missouri. Your gift helps to continue this mission in Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites.

Please list the value of your donation here for tax purposes.

Item	Value	
ltem	Value	
Donor name	Date of donation	
Donation(s) accepted by	(signature of member)	
Again, thanks.		
Missouri Storytelling, Inc.		

Call Perrin at 314-413-2858 for questions or email at pstifelstl@earthlink.net

IET MO-IEL GING

THOSE LOVABLE MUCKITY-MUCKS AT MO-TELL ARE BEGINNING A HISTORY PROJECT.

THEY'RE BEGINNING TO CONTACT CURRENT, FORMER, AND CHARTER MEMBERS TO "PICK THEIR BRAINS" FOR INPUT AND IDEAS. YOUR BRAINS MAY JUST BE THE MOST PICKABLE OF ALL!

WE NEED YOUR THOUGHTS!

SEE BELOW ON ITS OWN PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION!

N 2023 MO-TELL MANUEL M

IN 2023 MO-TELL WILL HOST FOUR ZOOM EVENTS. ALL OF THESE EVENTS WILL BE AT 7:00 PM (CENTRAL) AND ONLY ON ZOOM.

MARCH 14 LUCK OF THE IRISH
JUNE 13 CRAZY DAYS OF SUMMER
SEPTEMBER 12 A NEW MOON - NEW BEGINNINGS
DECEMBER 12 HELPING HANDS

APRIL FOOLERY

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE! SO THEY SAY.

APRIL IS NATIONAL HUMOR MONTH! AFTER ALL, A GIANT RABBIT MIGHT BRING BRIGHTLY COLORED HARD-BOILED EGGS TO PUT IN YOUR YARD!

HERE IS A BIT OF HUMOR FOR YOU.

I WONDERED WHY THE BASEBALL WAS GETTING BIGGER. THEN IT HIT ME.

THE BUTCHER BACKED UP IN THE MEAT GRINDER AND GOT A LITTLE BEHIND IN HIS WORK.

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE GUY WHOSE WHOLE LEFT SIDE DISAPPEARED? HE'S ALL RIGHT, NOW.

A DENTIST AND A MANICURIST FOUGHT TOOTH AND NAIL.

YOU ARE STUCK WITH YOUR DEBT IF YOU CAN'T BUDGE IT.

WHO'S THE BIGGEST JOKESTER ON APRIL FOOLS' DAY?
PRANKENSTEIN

THE BIGGEST KNIGHT AT KING ARTHUR'S ROUND TABLE WAS SIR CUMFERENCE.

THE DEAD BATTERIES WERE GIVEN OUT FREE OF CHARGE.

A THIEF FELL IN WET CEMENT AND BECAME A HARDENED CRIMINAL.

SOME GUY WHO FELL INTO THE UPHOLSTERY MACHINE WAS FULLY RECOVERED.



Performance Showcase and Masterclass

Wed, Apr 5 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Story Center Programming Room Story Center Event Registration Required Bring your best seven minute story to perform and get feedback from expert storyteller Angela J. Williams. This class is part of the Oral Storytelling Certification Program.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

Story Swap (Zoom)

Thu, Apr 20 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event Virtual Event

This open-mic storytelling event is open to anyone! Put your name in the hat for a chance to share a seven-minute story, or just come to enjoy the show.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

Copyright Basics (Zoom)

Mon, Apr 24 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event Virtual Event

Learn the basics of copyright law, what rights copyright holders have, the exceptions to those rights, and the proper application of fair use from Chris LeBeau, a member of the faculty for the Univers

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

IT'S THE MINISTER 1997 THE NUMBER 1997 THE NUM

IN THE COMING MONTHS WE WILL BEGIN INTERVIEWS FOR THE MO-TELL HISTORY PROJECT.

ALL MEMBERS OF MO-TELL WILL BE ASKED FOR MEMORIES OF MISSOURI STORYTELLING, INC. FROM ITS BEGINNING UNTIL TODAY. WE LOST MUCH OF OUR HISTORY YEARS AGO AND ARE TRYING TO RECOVER IT THROUGH THE MTHP.

THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR INPUT! WE NEED YOU!!

CURRENT MEMBERS WILL BE PHONED OR EMAILED BY A BOARD MEMBER. YOU MAY CHOOSE TO RESPOND ORALLY OR BY EMAIL, BY ANSWERING SOME QUESTIONS, OR BY USPS MAIL TOO. WE WILL ALSO INTERVIEW PAST MEMBERS AND TELLERS INVOLVED WITH MO-TELL.

WE WANT ALL MEMORIES AND WILL COMPILE THEM. WE NEED ANY PAPERS: NEWSLETTERS FROM THE PAST, TICKETS, ADS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ETC.

EVERY QUESTION COULD BE ANSWERED WITH THE 5 W'S. WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY WILL GIVE US A FULL PICTURE. THANKS!

--PERRIN STIFEL

PERRIN STIFEL 636 ELMWOOD AVE. WEBSTER GROVES, MO 63119

314-413-2858 PSTIFELSTL@EARTHLINK.NET



NORMALLY, WE'D SAY "DON'T LOOK DOWN" BUT, IN THIS INSTANCE, THE DETAILS FOR MEMBERSHIP ARE BELOW.

LEER PEUN B SEIN UP!

THE MO-TELL BILL OF FARE

OFTEN IMITATED, NEVER DUPLICATED

MEMBERSHIP DUES

FISCAL YEAR, FEBRUARY 1-JANUARY 31

MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL DUES	COMES WITH
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$25	MO-TELL PRESTIGE
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$40	MO-TELL PRESTIGE
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$35	FAMILY-WIDE MO-TELL PRESTIGE
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$50	TWICE AS MUCH OF THE SAME!!
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP -60	\$250	LOGO BAG PLUS MEMBER'S CHOICE OF ONE: (CAP) (T-SHIRT) (LOGO MUG)
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP 60+	\$200	LOGO BAG <i>PLUS</i> MEMBER'S CHOICE OF ONE: (CAP) (T-SHIRT) (LOGO MUG)

SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO:

MO-TELL C/O SUE HINKEL 2236 HIGHWAY N PACIFIC, MO 63069





THE BENEFITS YOU RECEIVE FOR YOUR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

- 1. MISSOURI STATE PARKS STORYTELLING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE
- 2. MISSOURI LIAR'S CONTEST
- 3. WEB SITE PRESENCE FOR STORYTELLERS
- 4. MONTHLY STORYTELLING PROGRAMS
- 5. LOADS OF MERCH (HATS, CAPS, CUPS, MUGS, BAGS, AND WHATNOT!)
- 6. NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK AFFILIATION
- 7. A WORLD CLASS NEWSLETTER (HUZZAH!)
- 8. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AND A VOICE THEREIN!)
- 9. CONNECTION TO THE OTHER STORYTELLING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REGION



Story of the Month MORNING SUNRISE

A man in one of the villages had a very beautiful daughter. She was so lovely that people called her "Morning Sunrise." Every young man who saw her wanted to marry her. Three, in particular, were very anxious to have her for their wife. Her father found it difficult to decide among them. He determined to find out by a trick which of the three was most worthy of her.

He bade her lie down on her bed as if she were dead. He then sent the report of her death to each of the three lovers, asking them to come and help him with her funeral.

The messenger came first to "Wise Man." When he heard the message, he exclaimed, "What can this man mean? The girl is not my wife. I certainly will not pay any money for her funeral."

The messenger came next to the second man. His name was "Wit." The latter at once said, "Oh dear, no! I shall not pay any money for her funeral [86] expenses. Her father did not even let me know she was ill." So he refused to go.

"Thinker," the third young man—when he received the message—at once got ready to start. "Certainly I must go and mourn for Morning Sunrise," said he. "Had she lived, surely she would have been my wife." So he took money with him and set out for her home.

When he reached it her father called out, "Morning Sunrise, Morning Sunrise. Come here. This is your true husband."

That very day the betrothal took place, and soon after the wedding followed. "Thinker" and his beautiful wife lived very happily together.

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Missouri Storytelling, Inc (MO-TELL) is an organization of storytellers and other interested persons dedicated to spreading the joy and art of storytelling throughout Missouri.

MISSION STATEMENT

We envision that every Missourian will hear and share stories and keep the oral tradition alive.

USION STATEMENT

President: Joyce Slater, joyceslater20@gmail.com

Vice-President Sue Hinkel, suehinkel1@gmail.com

Jackie Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net (Membership) Treasurer:

Secretary: Linda Kuntz, iharilag@gmail.com

At Large:

Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com Nancee Walker Micham, walkermicham@gmail.com Glen "Papa" Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net

Emeritus: Perrin Stifel, pstifelstl@earthlink.net

www.mo-tell.org

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Our mailing address: 7338 Belleview Ave, Kansas City, MO 64114



THE MO-TELL BOARD