



JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



“If a storyteller worried about the facts - my dear Lucian, how could he ever get at the truth?”

— Lloyd Alexander,

The Arkadians

Happy New Year,

As I look back on 2022, I am reminded of all the storytelling that took place online and in person with MO-TELL. We helped put storytellers in the Missouri State Parks, in person. A very successful Liars Contest was staged, also in person. We held several online events, including Tellabration! which was a collaboration with two other Missouri storytelling organizations, *River and Prairie Storyweavers* and *Gateway*. A fantastic newsletter was published monthly, for eleven out of the twelve months thanks to Ken Wolfe.

I want to thank the MO-TELL board for making my job so easy. Thank you to Perrin Stifel, founder of Missouri Storytelling Inc., Sue Hinkel, charter member and our Treasurer, Linda Kuntz, our Secretary, Gary Kuntz and Nancee Walker Micham, board members At Large.

Many thanks to Ken, who keeps our newsletter coming in such a brilliant fashion and to Hilary Kuntz, who takes care of our website and social media accounts.

I owe a great debt of gratitude to all our members, without whom we would have no reason to exist.

It has been, indeed, a year to remember. I look forward to 2023. The new year is full of unexpected stories, mine and yours. I will create new tales and recreate the old ones and I hope you will do the same. What a fun adventure!

Expect to hear from a new board member this year, Jackie Wright. You will earn more about that in the coming months. Please let us know how we can make MO-TELL better. We want to hear from you.

One of our focuses this year will be rebuilding our history, our story, from the beginning. We will renew our interest in the state parks and of course we will celebrate another Liars Contest.

January is the last month of the fiscal year for MO-TELL. We will have our Annual Membership Meeting on January 14, at 5 pm, in Nevada, MO. It will be in person. I hope to see you there.

Keep telling your stories and stay in touch.

Joyce Slater

President of MO-TELL



2023 CHICKEN FESTIVAL IS COMING RIGHT UP!

RIVER & PRAIRIE STORYWEAVERS

2023 River and Prairie Storyweavers 30th Annual Chicken Festival at Nevada, MO Schedule

Friday January 13, 2023

1:00 to 2:45 pm Workshop "Creating a Spoken Word Event" at Cottey College Theatre

3:00 to 4:45 pm Workshop "Creating Tall Tales" at Cottey College Theatre

7:00 to 9:00 pm Community Storytelling Concert "Ghosts and Ghoulies" at the Cottey College Theatre, 1000 W. Austin Blvd, Nevada, MO 64772.

Saturday January 14, 2023 (at the hotel)

8:00 to 9:00 am Registration/Membership/Donations
\$30 for RAPS members, \$55 for non-RAPS members, \$15 Student

9:00 to 10:30 am Chicken News and Chicken Stories
Chicken Socks Give-away
15-minute Music
15-minute Break

10:30 to 12 noon Horsing Around and Other Animal Stories
15-minute Music
15-minute Break

12 noon to 12:40 pm Lunch Catered by Domino's Pizza
Pizza, Pasta, and Salad

12:40 to 2:30 pm Auction
3 Minute Humorous Stories
15-minute Music/Chicken Dance
15-minute Break

2:30 to 4:00 pm Folk Tales and Fairytales
15-minute Music
15-minute Break

4:00 to 5:00 pm MO-TELL Annual Membership Meeting

5:00 to 7:00 pm Dinner on Your Own

7:00 to 8:30 pm Stories Under Construction/Teller's Choice
15-minute Break (PIES from Janet Manson)

8:30 to 10:00 pm Ghosts and Ghoulies/Longer Stories (up to 20 minutes)

30th Annual Chicken Festival will be held at the Americas Best Value Inn and Suites
2345 E. Marvel Road, Nevada, MO 64772 417-667-6777

Call and make your room reservation by December 31, 2022.

Email RAPS.events@gmail.com to give us a head count for food by December 15, 2022

PAY registration at the event

Sunday January 15, 2023 (at the hotel)

9:00 to 11:45 am Teller's Choice
15-minute Music
15-minute Break
Inspirational Stories
Let the Circle Be Unbroken

River and Prairie Storyweavers

RAPS.events@gmail.com



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



Sarah Poff

Sarah Poff is an award-winning educator who, over the course of the past forty-plus years, has worked with 25 principals and taught over 10,000 students, ages two to 102, through her signature mixture of history, storytelling, art, culture, costumes, music, and dance.

She has taught in public and private schools, in museums, in historical houses, in preschools, in public libraries, in basements, in dance studios, in parks, in churches, in hospitals, on kitchen tables, and even during a funeral!

Hobbies: historical researching, painting folk art, genealogy and going on adventures with her granddaughters.

Family: She is married to Alec Poff, her husband of 44 years. She has two adult children, John Poff and Mary Ellen Lohmann. Plus, two icings on the cake of life, otherwise know as grandchildren. Their names are Annaleigh and Lydia.

Sarah has a passion to keep history alive and believes this is the best way for her to do it. She has researched one of her Revolutionary ancestors. His name is Henry Haynes. When telling historical stories, she often brings her wooden Henry Haynes with her. She tells the audience that Henry is watching her and reminding her of the importance of telling historical stories.

Sarah used to stand at the knees of Grandmother Effie Thompson and listen to Grandmother's fascinating stories about our ancestors. She wanted to be like her grandmother and carry our stories to the next generations. She was an elementary art teacher for many years and storytelling worked very nicely in her classroom. She found that it helped gain and keep the attention of her students. They never knew when the next story would pop up.

Sarah thought it would be good to learn from other storytellers that have been telling longer than she had and knew more about Storytelling than she did.

Sarah has traveled all over the state of Missouri telling historical stories at museums, libraries, schools, Daughters of the American Revolution Chapters, Sons of the American Revolution Chapters, Children of the American Revolution Societies, churches, YMCAs, Colonial Dames and other organizations. She has even told a few in Texas and Kansas.

Sarah says her Grandmother Effie Thompson who told family stories to her during childhood. Joyce Slater who helped her fine tune her storytelling and a lady who called herself Mother Nature.

She loves telling folks that she is nearly famous and then explaining why she feels that way!! You should see the looks they give her with that statement! Sarah's favorite song is "What a Friend I have in Jesus."

Her favorite lavation was a genealogy trip to Louisville, MS. Sarah and her daughter stood with toothbrushes in hand and a bottle of bleach in tow in the middle of a graveyard on a hot Mississippi sunny day in August. They were just out to do their duty! Their Civil War ancestors tombstones needed cleaning and they were there to make it happen. What a great moment that was, after the tombstones were cleaned enough to read their ancestor's name. The names were fully visual and ready to stand up to coming years of the weather. Sarah says it was a thrill that hot sultry summer to walk where five generations of her family had walked, to research ancestors and find documents with their names on them in the local count house. Sarah's grandmother Effie had grown up there and now her daughter and she stood under the very trees that her grandmother had played under as little girl. Sarah said her heart was filled to the brim that vacation week.

Sarah Tucker Poff M. Ed.

Multimedia-Storyteller.com

816-225-3824



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, January 14, 2023
4:00 PM Central



In-person

RAPS Chicken Festival
America's Best Value Inn & Suites
2345 E Marvel Road
Nevada, MO



On ZOOM

Contact Joyce Slater for the ZOOM Link
joyceslater20@gmail.com

Meeting Agenda

- Reports from MO-TELL Board
- Welcome Jackie Wright
- Renew MO-TELL Membership
- Buy awesome MO-TELL swag
- Member input for 2023 events

MAGNET
HERE

FOR YOUR FRIDGE

MAGNET
HERE

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

RAPS JANUARY 2023

Thursday January 5, 2023,
7:00 pm First Thursday Meeting
Hybrid* meeting at Trailside Center AND on Zoom
Teller Spotlight: Jean Hatfield
Story Theme: “New Beginnings”

Friday January 13 – Sunday January 15, 2023
RAPS CHICKEN FESTIVAL
In-Person ONLY

Americas Best Value Inn & Suites
Nevada, MO

Saturday January 21, 2023, 10:30 am Third Sat.
Meeting
Hybrid* meeting at Woodneath AND on Zoom

Thursday February 2, 2023, 7:00 pm First
Thursday Meeting
Hybrid* meeting at Trailside Center AND on Zoom
Workshop: “Adding Humor to Your Story”
Story Theme: “**What I Love About**”

*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: RAPS.Secretary@gmail.com for additional
info and Zoom links.

**CAN YOU SPOT THE FIVE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THESE
TWO PHOTOS?**



ANSWERS UNDER THE WOODNEATH SCHEDULE

GATEWAY JANUARY 2023

Gateway, January 2023,
Time: January 10, 2023, 7:00 pm Central Time
[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81503148434?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81503148434?pwd=Vm11bTI5bjdnekFHSEncd2ZNTGZFQT09)
pwd=Vm11bTI5bjdnekFHSEncd2ZNTGZF
QT09
Meeting ID: 81503148434
Passcode: gateway



[Performance Basics \(Zoom\)](#)

Wed, Jan 18 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

In this interactive workshop, discover how to unleash your potential and connect with your audience from storyteller George Pettigrew.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

[Story Swap](#)

Thu, Jan 19 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Story Center Programming Room Story Center Event Registration Required

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

[Storycrafting Fundamentals \(Laura Packer ZOOM\)](#)

Thu, Jan 26 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

Writer and storyteller Laura Packer explores character development, story structure, point of view, understanding your audience, and other story crafting techniques.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

"FIND FIVE DIFFERENCES" ANSWER KEY:

THE CABS HAVE THEIR HEADLIGHTS ON
THE MAN IN BLACK IS HUMMING
THE VENDOR WITH THE ORANGE/WHITE UMBRELLA IS SELLING KOLACHES
THE PIZZA SHOP IS CLOSED
THE BUS HAS NO AIR CONDITIONING

DID YOU GET THEM ALL?

**NOW THAT YOU'VE FOUND MO-TELL
DON'T LET GO!**



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

**LOOK DOWN &
JOIN UP!**

THE MO-TELL BILL OF FARE

OFTEN IMITATED, NEVER DUPLICATED

MEMBERSHIP DUES

FISCAL YEAR, FEBRUARY 1-JANUARY 31

RENEW TODAY!

<i>MEMBERSHIP</i>	<i>ANNUAL DUES</i>	<i>COMES WITH</i>
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 <i>PLUS</i> 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

OR PAY VIA MO-TELL'S PAYPAL ACCOUNT: SUEHINKEL1@GMAIL.COM



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

RENEW TODAY!

CHICKEN JOKE MATCHING GAME

MATCH 'EM UP AND GUFFAW!

WHY DO CHICKENS TRY TO ESCAPE?

*IT WASN'T ON HER
BUCKET LIST.*

WHY COULDN'T THE HEN FIND HER EGGS?

TO MAKE IT CRACK.

WHY DIDN'T THE CHICKEN GO TO KFC?

*A BROKEN DRUM, YOU CAN'T
BEAT IT!*

WHY DID THE POLICE INTERROGATE THE EGG?

THEY FEEL COOPED UP.

*IT WAS STUCK TO THE
CHICKEN.*

WHY DID THE CACTUS CROSS THE ROAD?

SHE MISLAID THEM.

WHAT DID THE CHICKEN SAY TO ALL THE
STORYTELLERS ON NEW YEAR'S EVE?

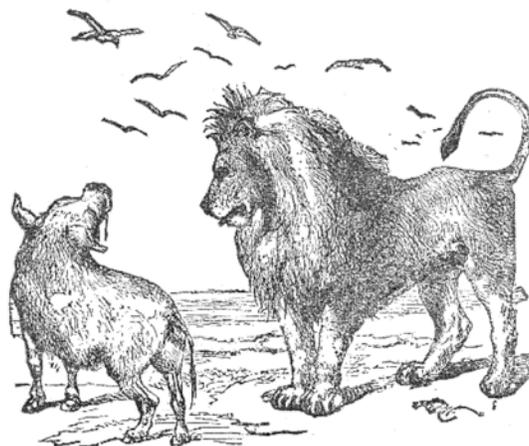
*SEE YOU AT MY FESTIVAL IN
JANUARY! I'VE GOT SOME
NEW YOKES FOR YOU!*

Story of the Month

THE LION AND THE BOAR

On a summer day when a general thirst, a lion and a Boar came at the same moment to a small well to drink. They fiercely disputed which of them should drink first, and were soon engaged in the agonies of a mortal combat. On their stopping on a sudden to take breath for the fiercer renewal of the strife, they saw some Vultures waiting in the distance to feast on the one which should fall first. They at once made up their quarrel, saying: "It is better for us to make friends, than to become the food of Crows or Vultures, as will certainly happen if we are disabled."

Those who strive are often watched by others who will take advantage of their defeat to benefit themselves.



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.

VISION STATEMENT

President: Joyce Slater, joyceslater20@gmail.com

Treasurer: Sue Hinkel, suehinkel1@gmail.com, (Membership)

Secretary: Linda Kuntz, iharilag@gmail.com

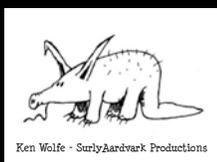
At Large: Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com
Nancee Walker Micham, walkermicham@gmail.com
Jackie Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net

Emeritus: Perrin Stifel, pstifelst1@earthlink.net

www.mo-tell.org

Copyright © 2023 MO-TELL, All rights reserved
Volume 6, Newsletter 1

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



THE MO-TELL BOARD