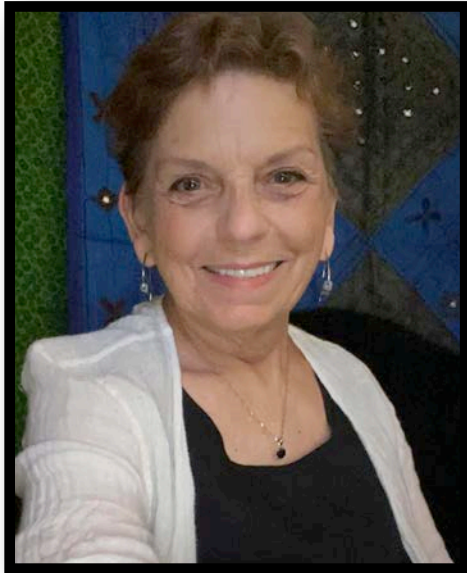




NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello my friends,



I love Halloween and I have usually spent the night sitting on my front steps with a bucket of candy to hand out to the hundreds of tricks or treaters we get in our neighborhood. I missed all that although I didn't miss the chilly weather. We celebrated my sister's birthday this year. She was in town this year, so we partied. I remember the night of her birth. I was six years old and eager for treats. Our mother, who was nine months pregnant, took us Trick or Treating. We had only walked about eight blocks when she ducked into a house of some friends and made a call to our dad. Dad came quickly. We rushed home in the family auto. Dad took Mom to the hospital and two hours later baby Gloria Jean was born. Not so much candy that year but a beautiful baby sis. We don't often get to celebrate her birthday in person because she lives half the year in Arizona. We had a rare treat.

November ushers in colder weather, Tellabration! Thanksgiving and Gratitude. I am thankful we have stories to share.

I want to thank the board members of MO-TELL for all their hard work this year keeping Missouri Storytelling Inc alive. Many thanks to Ken Wolfe for the beautiful newsletters he creates. Thank you to our members and the tellers who shared their stories on our behalf at the Missouri State Parks and our online events.

MO-TELL will kick off the week before Tellabration with a program on November 12 featuring Bil Lepp. There is a live in person Tellabration in St. Louis. River and Prairie Storyweavers will also have Tellabration. Check out the events.

“Stories tell us of what we already knew and forgot, and remind us of what we haven't yet imagined.”

- Anne L. Watson

Love to you all,

Joyce Slater

President of MO-TELL

MAGNET
HERE

FOR YOUR FRIDGE

MAGNET
HERE

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

RAPS

NOVEMBER 2023

Thursday November 2, 2023, 7:00 pm First Thursday Meeting Hybrid* meeting at Trailside Center AND on Zoom Workshop: “Komishibai Board Storytelling” by Ric Vice Story Theme: “Cooking Mishaps or Planned Poisoning?”

Friday November 17, 2023, 2:00 pm Tellabration!® In-person ONLY at John Knox Village (open to the public)

Saturday November 18, 2023, 7:00 pm Tellabration!® Hybrid* meeting at Trailside Center AND on Zoom (Advanced registration required to attend on Zoom.) (No meeting at Woodneath this Saturday morning.)

Thursday December 7, 2023, 7:00 pm First Thursday Meeting In-person **ONLY** meeting at Trailside Center

Story Theme: “Winter Blues”
Dessert Bar & White-Elephant gift exchange
*Hybrid meetings will be held in-person at:

Trailside Center 99 th & Holmes Rd. Kansas City, MO 64131	Woodneath Library Center 8900 NE Flintlock Road Kansas City, MO 64157
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If not on RAPS Mailing List,
Contact: RAPS.Secretary@gmail.com for
additional info and Zoom links.

GATEWAY

NOVEMBER 2023

You are Invited to Gateway Storytellers' end of the year potluck party at the Jensen's home in Swansea, Illinois.

Date: Saturday, November 4th.
Address: 2413 Rand Lane ,
Swansea, Illinois

Time: try to arrive by 2 P.M. please bring a snack or dish of food to share. Bring a friend who loves to hear stories. We hope you will want to share *your* stories. Listeners are needed too!

Please RSVP so we will know how many people to expect.

You can respond by phone or text at 262-894-6580

Hoping you can come!

River and Prairie Storyweavers Presents:

TELLABRATIONTM

Featuring:

Bob
Daniels

Ramona
Crawford

Connie
Jones

Ric
Vice

Rich
White

Saturday, November 18, 2023
7:00pm - 9:00pm , Central



Trailside Center
9901 Holmes
Kansas City, Missouri 64131

This event is free, in-person and on zoom, and open to the public. Zoom link is on <https://www.riverandprairiestoryweavers.org/>

This is the registration link for the Nov 18 RAPS Tellabration event.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvd--ogzliEtXX24HSrJNILBWnEI3dJwDO>

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



A BIT OF MO-TELL HISTORY

MO-TELL MEMORIES

ANNETTE HARRISON



I have to confess that that I thought MO-TELL was a great idea and was amazed as Perrin got it off the ground and made it happen! But I don't have a lot of memories of the concerts, overnight workshops, and Tellabrations but I will share what I remember.

I thought having the MO-TELL storytelling concerts aboard the Goldenrod Showboat was a brilliant idea, although somehow Al and I always got lost getting there, every time! St Charles was on another planet for us. But once we got there, WOW, what fun it was. I remember getting such stellar tellers to perform and the food was always extra yummy! One of my fondest memories was when we walked onto the showboat and there was Jimmy Neil Smith and Judith Black just sitting there at a table! This was storytelling royalty!

Jimmy Neil was the executive director of the National Storytelling organization, called NAPPS at that time. Judith Black was an amazing, zany & "tell it like it is" teller. She was one of my favorites. We always had a nice appreciative crowd.

In the old days, we would have weekends at Cuivre River State Park. I am a city slicker though and had only been camping once, but I loved these weekends! A women cook, Carol Potter and her relative Violet Beaver made such good food. OMG! They became like members of the storytellers, so warm and fun. The workshops were enlightening and interactive. The weekends left a warm, fuzzy feeling as we reluctantly left our new community of friends and storytellers. We might have gained a few pounds too!

I think I was part of the first Tellabration Concert at Perrin's church. I loved sharing my Jewish Heritage with an enthusiastic audience.

Kudos to Perrin for having the brilliant vision to go statewide with our storytelling! State parks have benefited for years from tellers all over the state. Still happening!

I am so happy that I could be part of MO-TELL through the years!



Thanks,
Annette!



FROM BISON TO BINGO, TURKEYS TO STREAM TEAMS,

MISSOURI STATE PARKS HAS IT ALL

JEFFERSON CITY, MO, OCT. 27, 2023 – The weather may be changing, but there is still a lot to do in Missouri state parks and historic site

- **Wednesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 28: Community Fly Tying Demonstration at Bennett Spring State Park**
Join park volunteers Danny Goldsmith and Donald Ohler at 9 a.m. at the Bennett Spring Church of God annex building for a community fly tying demonstration. This program will provide instruction on tying a basic fishing fly and will give participants an opportunity to visit, share stories and see the art of fly tying. The demonstration is presented by the Friends of Bennett Spring State Park and is open to all ages. The church annex building is located directly across for the park office, behind the park restaurant at 26332 Highway 64A outside of Lebanon.
- **Saturday, Nov. 4: Stream Team Cleanup at Bennett Spring State Park**
Everyone is invited to help improve the environment at Bennett Spring State Park. Stream Team #5462 will clean up the area in and around the park's namesake spring. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to participate, but children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. All scuba divers will be coordinated by James Presley and must preregister by calling 417-883-5151 or emailing james.presley@diventures.com. Volunteers helping with trash pick-up on land can check in at the nature center on the day of the event to obtain gloves and trash bags. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 26250 Highway 64A in Lebanon.
- **Saturday, Nov. 4: Guided Bison Saunters at Prairie State Park**
Celebrate National Bison Day, a day set aside to honor the bison as our national mammal, with a guided hike. This 1-ton beast once roamed the plains and prairies of North America 60 million strong before they were nearly wiped out. Due to the tremendous response of past years, there will be two saunters on this day: one at 10 a.m. and one at 1 p.m. Registration is required and the event is limited to 25 participants per saunter. To register, call 417-843-6711. Participants should meet at the Regal Tallgrass Prairie Nature Center at 128 NW 150th Lane in Mindenmines.
- **Friday, Nov. 10: Wild Turkeys at Prairie State Park**
Have you ever seen a flock of wild turkeys feeding in a field? Or heard one “gobble, gobble, gobble” in the woods? What’s life like for these large, native beauties? Children five and older can come learn about the world of Missouri turkeys. Class is limited to 35 and participants must complete registration by calling 417-843-6711 by Nov. 3. The class runs from 10 a.m. to noon at 128 NW 150th Lane in Mindenmines.

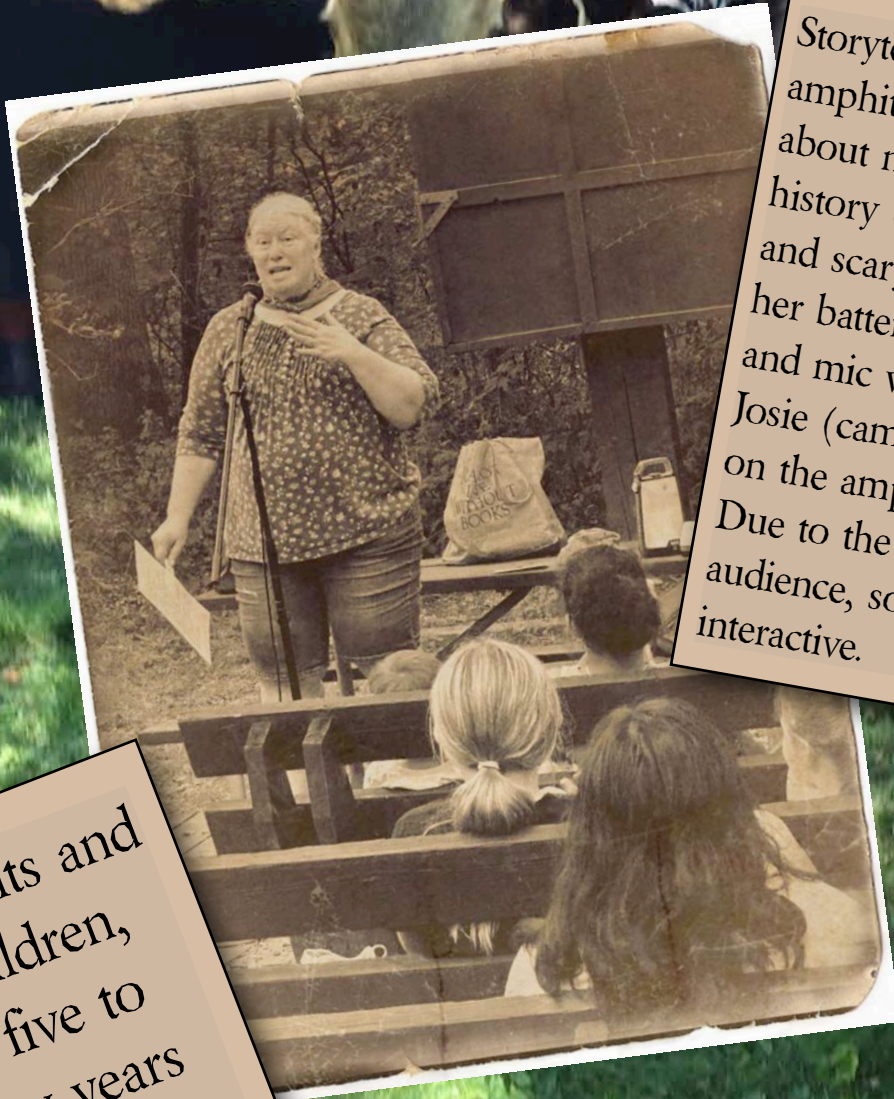
For detailed information on any of these activities, please visit mostateparks.com/events.

For more information on state parks and historic sites, visit mostateparks.com. Missouri State Parks is a division of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

FROM THE MO-TELL ANNALS OF STORYTELLING
A DATE OF IMPORT

SEPTEMBER 2, 2023

LINDA KUNTZ
WALLACE STATE PARK



Storytelling at the campground amphitheater with stories about nature, history (Jesse James), folktales and scary stories. She brought her battery-operated amp and mic with a mic stand. Josie (camp personnel) turned on the amphitheater lights. Due to the age range of the audience, some stories were interactive.

23 adults and
21 children,
ages five to
eighty years
old.

MO-TELL HISTORY PROJECT INVITES YOU!

YES, YOU!

We are gathering any and all history of Missouri Storytelling, Inc. from the very beginning in the mid 1980s to the present. We, the Board, are asking you to be a part of that history. Send a memory and a take a moment to tell about you and MO-TELL!

Send any and all memories in writing to Perrin Stifel, 636 Elmwood Ave., St. Louis, MO 63119. Old-fashioned handwriting is fine. Or send an attachment (Word document) or email to pstifelstl@earthlink.net or call Perrin at 314-413-2858 to set up a verbal interview with him or another board member. Some of us like to write, others like to share verbally. Text is also fine! Please consider the 5 W's--Who, What, When, Where, Why--as you write a memory. That will help us the most. Please send any old photos, programs, tickets, or MO-TELL Register newsletters (printed only). We will compile this history for folks to read and reminisce.

Your current information is very important!

Name, address, phone, email

Here are some questions to jog a memory. The most important thing is to share a memory and have fun with it!

Were you there when MO-TELL began? David Schlamb and I gathered at my home to propose a state-wide organization. Ruthilde Kronberg was there from the start to support the idea of MO-TELL. Lynn Rubright and Annette Harrison mentored many of us. We have the names of all the charter members. There were 35 people included as Charter Members.

Were or are you an officer?

Title – Years

Were or are you on the board? Years

What was your first MO-TELL experience?

Did you attend any Workshop Weekends? Who was featured? Did you tell? They were at Cuivre River State Park and Lake of the Ozarks State Park. Remember Nora Gilman? Jackie Torrence? Richard Renner? Pleasant de Spain? Kevin Locke? Etc., etc.

What Missouri River Storytelling Festivals do you remember? Was it on the Goldenrod Showboat or elsewhere in St. Charles? Do you remember the tent on the shore? Depot?

Most vivid memory ever

Funniest memory ever

An AHA! Memory

Tellabration: What year did you attend? Did you tell? Where? At one of the churches?

Did you ever tell at one of the Missouri State Park Storytelling Series events? Or attend and hear someone tell for the first time?

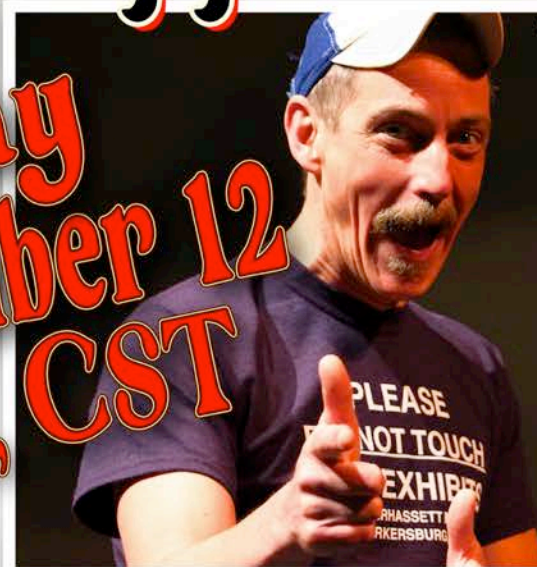
Above all, we want to hear from you...

Thanks, Perrin and the MO-TELL board.

Invite a Liar into Your Living Room for **Tellabration '23**

MO-TELL profoundly presents:
Bil Lepp on ZOOM

**Sunday
November 12
6 PM, CST**



The Award-Winning
Teller in Your Very Home

2019 NAPPA Award winner for The Princess & the Pickup Truck
2018 Vandalia Award- West Virginia's highest folk arts award
2018 Parents' Choice Silver Award- Raised on Hoewater, CD
2017 City Beat Critic's Pick- Cincy Fringe Festival
2016 Parents' Choice Silver Award- Beetle Beasts, CD
2015 Parents' Choice Gold Award- Wally! Come Down Right Now! CD
2015 Anne Izzard Storyteller's Choice Award- The King of Little Things
2015 Storytelling World Award- Egg Babies, CD
2015 Parents' Choice Gold Award- Wally! Come Down Right Now! CD
2014 PEN Steven Kroll Award for Picture Book Writing
for The King of Little Things, Book
2014 National Book Festival- The King of Little Things
selected by WV Library Comm. to represent all books by WV authors
2014 Irma Black Award Honoree- The King of Little Things
2014 Kansas Reading Assoc. Bill Martin, Jr. Picture Book Award Finalist
for The King of Little Things
2013 Parents' Choice Gold Award- The King of Little Things
2013 Kirkus Starred Review -The King of Little Things
2002-2016 Featured Performer at the National Storytelling Festival
2013 Parents' Choice Silver Award - Egg Babies, CD
2012 Number 1 Best Seller in its category on Amazon/Kindle
for Madling Through, parenting book
2012 Comedy Central Stage on Hudson
2011 Storytelling World Awards- Vampire Sams, CD
2011 National Storytelling Network Circle of Excellence Award
2010 Parents' Choice Silver Award - Vampire Sams, CD
2009 Parents' Choice Approved Award- King of Little Things, CD
2008 NAPPA Honors Award- Mayhem Dressed Like an Eight Point Buck, CD
2008 Storytelling World Awards Honoree - Teacher & The Divine Boyon, CD
2006 Parents' Choice Approved Award - Teacher in the Patriotic Bathing Suit, CD
2003 Featured Storyteller at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival
2000 Storytelling World Award - The Monster Stick, Book
2000 PLAYALLS Best New Books for New Adult Readers - The Monster Stick, Book
1992, 1996-1999 Five Time Champion - WV Liars Contest

Bil Lepp is an award-winning storyteller, author, and recording artist. He's the host of the History Channel's Man Vs History series, the occasional host of NPR's internationally syndicated Mountain Stage, and a contributing columnist to the West Virginia Gazette-Mail. Bil's humorous, family friendly tall-tales and stories have earned the appreciation of listeners of all ages and from all walks of life. Though a five time champion of the WV Liars's Contest, Lepp's stories often contain morsels of truth which present universal themes in clever and witty ways. Audiences all across the country, from grade schools to corporate execs to the Comedy Central's Hudson stage, have been delighted by Bil's mirthful tales and delightful insights into everyday life. Bil's books and audio collections have won awards including the PEN Steven Kroll Award for Children's Book Writing, Parents' Choice Gold awards, and awards from the National Parenting Publications Assoc., and the Public Library Assoc. He is also the recipient of the Vandalia Award, West Virginia's highest folk honor.

"Just as New Jersey has Bruce Springsteen, West Virginia has...Bil Lepp." - Goldenseal Magazine

Convinced? Register! No Charge, No Fee

Donations gladly accepted.
Proceeds promote future events.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYofu6vrTwtGtGljsg0EbVQG48pLSZ6SDfu>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

[Story Swap \(Hybrid\)](#)

Thu, Nov 16 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](#)

[Performance Showcase and Masterclass \(Zoom\)](#)

Mon, Nov 20 2023 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

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](#)



Get Your Story On!

Tellabration '23

Live & In Person

upstairs at

O'CONNELL'S
PUB

4652 Shaw Ave, STL, 63110



Featuring

THE STORYTELLING STYLINGS
OF RENOWNED MISSOURI
STORYTELLERS:

Perrin Stifel

Sue Hinkel

Jackie &
"Papa" Wright

Ken Wolfe

Wednesday
Nov. 15, 7pm

No Charge for Admission

Donations gladly accepted. Proceeds promote future events.

MO-TELL ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**MO-TELL WILL HOLD THE
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN JANUARY
(DATE TO BE DETERMINED) ON ZOOM THIS YEAR.**

**LOOK FOR THE NOTICE
IN THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER.**

**IN THE MEANTIME, ANYONE INTERESTED
IN JOINING THE BOARD IN ANY CAPACITY
SHOULD CONTACT**

JOYCE SLATER, JOYCESLATER20@GMAIL.COM.

**YOU CAN RUN FOR A POSITION OR JOIN AT
LARGE. WE ARE OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS.**

**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 Jackie Wright, PO Box 28994, St. Louis, MO 63132-8994

Olivette Branch Post Office, 9621 Olive Blvd. 63132-9998.



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, CLIPS, 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!

Story of the Month

THE TWO GOATS

Two Goats, frisking gayly on the rocky steeps of a mountain valley, chanced to meet, one on each side of a deep chasm through which poured a mighty mountain torrent. The trunk of a fallen tree formed the only means of crossing the chasm, and on this not even two squirrels could have passed each other in safety. The narrow path would have made the bravest tremble. Not so our Goats. Their pride would not permit either to stand aside for the other. One set her foot on the log. The other did likewise. In the middle they met horn to horn. Neither would give way, and so they both fell, to be swept away by the roaring torrent below.

It is better to yield than to come to misfortune through stubbornness.

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

Vice-President: Sue Hinkel, suehinkel1@gmail.com

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

Secretary: Linda Kuntz, iharilag@gmail.com

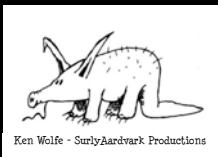
At Large: Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com
Nancee Walker Micham, walkermicham@gmail.com
Glen "Papa" Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net

Emeritus: Perrin Stifel, pstifelstl@earthlink.net

www.mo-tell.org

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Volume 6, Newsletter 11

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



THE MO-TELL BOARD