

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello my friends,

Happy New Year! 2025

I am looking forward to a brand-new year of peace and hope and the creation of new stories. First on my storytelling agenda was the RAPS first meeting of the year on January 2.

Second is the River and Prairie Chicken Festival. Put it on your calendar - January 10-12 in Clinton, MO. The chicken festival has been drawing storytellers to smaller towns in Missouri and Kansas for over 30 years. It is a time to relax, reconnect with old friends, make new friends and be a part of the storytelling world both as a listener and a storyteller. You will have such a wonderful time with music and stories, a crazy auction and lots of fellowship. Check out the agenda in the newsletter.

Third on my agenda is the MO-TELL Annual Meeting. For more news about MO-TELL, I hope you will attend the upcoming annual meeting. Every year we have an annual meeting in January because our fiscal year ends January 31st. The meeting offers an opportunity for the MO-TELL board to let you know what we have done during the year, and it gives you a chance to express yourselves about what we have done and what you would like us to do.

Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 7 pm. Check the registration on the flyer included in the newsletter.

I am so grateful to all of you who offered thoughts and prayers this year for my husband, Bob, who was in memory care with hospice. Bob passed away on December 7. We all felt the power of your thoughts and prayers. Thank you so very much.

We remember our loved ones by their stories. Keep telling your stories.

Joyce Slater President, MO-TELL



"Sometimes reality is too complex. Stories give it form."

— Jean Luc Godard



FOR YOUR FRIDGE

MAGNET HERE

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

RAPS

January 2025

Jan. 2. 7;00 pm. RAPS monthly meeting at Trailside Center and on Zoom. Gary Kuntz will present a workshop on grabbing teen's attention and the theme is "Stories of Snow."

Jan. 10 - 12. Chicken Festival in Clinton MO. (See Gary's email with details.)

Jan. 18. 10:30 am RAPS Third Saturday meeting at MCPL Story Center and on Zoom.

GATEWAY

JANUARY 2025

Continued: A continuing joint resolution to Continue Continuing the Continual Continuance to Wish You Happy Continuation of the Continually Continuing New Year from Gateway Storytellers, continued!

MO-TELL OFFERS COUSEL FOR THOSE WHO LACK DIRECTION:



THE MANAGEMENT TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MARVELOUS CHANGE IN ONE'S LIFE THEREAFTER.

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



LIVES END, LEGENDS BEGIN. ANGELA LLOYD



It is with profound gratitude and sorrow that we share the passing of Angela Lloyd, a whimsical and beloved storyteller from California, whose magic touched countless lives. Known for her delightful blend of storytelling, washboard playing, and singing, Angela enchanted audiences of all ages, especially children, with her creativity and infectious joy.

As a dedicated member of the National Storytelling Network, Angela played a vital role in fostering community and promoting the art of storytelling. She served for many years on the Oracle Awards committee and recently chaired the Youth, Educators, and Storytellers special interest group, fostering a love for storytelling in future generations.

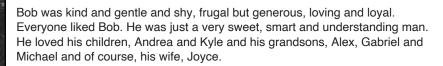
Angela's artistry earned her a cherished place on stages across the nation. She was a featured performer at the 25th National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, TN, where her vibrant spirit lit up the stage. She also emceed the festival with grace and humor and was a resident teller for Storytelling Live, spreading joy and connection through her craft.

Angela's life was a testament to the power of storytelling to connect, heal, and uplift. Her laughter, talent, and passion will live on in the tapestry of stories she shared and the lives she touched.

-Delanna Reed, NSN Chair

Click for Video of Angela Lloyd

BOB SLATER



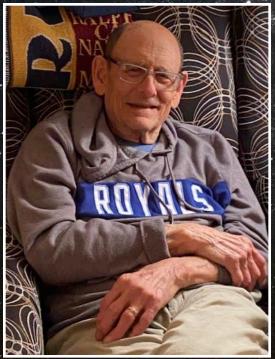
When he first saw Joyce at work, he confided to his best friend that he would one day marry her. And he did but it took a while.

He loved his MU tigers, though he would watch just about any football, basketball or baseball game. Handball was his sport until he had to have a few joints replaced.

He read everything from Mad Magazine to archeology to mysteries to his favorite German newspaper (He was fluent in German). He loved history and the funny papers.

Bob always had pets. He rescued dogs and cats, and he claimed the owls in the yard as his own. He had a particular fondness for Beagles.

He will be greatly missed because he was greatly loved.



NOW, FOR ANOTHER ROUND OF ...

NAME THAT STORYTELLER!





Due to a scheduling conflict with the Henry County Museum the date of the 2025 RAPS Chicken Festival has been changed to Jan 10, 11,12 (Fri, Sat, Sun), 2025. More information about the 2025 festival will be sent out when the Chicken Festival information on the RAPS website -

<u>riverandprairiestoryweavers.org</u> - is updated.

Hotel Information

Local hotels include: Parkfield Inn, 506 Kansas Ave, Clinton, MO 64735 (660-890-6188); Hampton Inn, 900 Kansas Ave, Clinton, MO 64735 (660-885-4488); or Westbridge (Best Western), 106 S Baird Ave, Clinton, MO 64735 (660-885-2206).

In 2024 Most of the attendees stayed at the Parkfield Inn with some staying at the Hampton Inn.

Gary Kuntz

THE MO-TELL ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE ON THESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 AT 7 PM (CDT) ON ZOOM.

Register in advance for this meeting: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/ register/2skagX4GRQSluzm3eLerlw

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

A BIT OF MO-TELL HISTORY MO-TELL MEMORIES OF THE GOLDENROD SHOWBOAT DAYS SUBMITTED BY JOYCE SLATER

Donnis Rogers was a storyteller in Kansas City. She and Jim Two Crows Wallen were professional tellers and considered top in the field. I didn't know of too many other tellers at the time. I figured I could learn a lot from them. I became friends with them after I took a storytelling class with Susan Sylvia Scott.

Donnis, later, held a master storytelling class and I signed up for it. It was filled with a lot of tellers who became my friends, Steve Otto, Tim Manson, Shirley Long, Melva Hargett, Jackie Rozine and Geneva Greenfield to name a few. She knew a storyteller in St. Louis named Perrin Stifel. He was the founder of MO-TELL or Missouri Storytelling, Inc., a big storytelling organization in St. Louis. MO-TELL had started a storytelling festival in St. Charles, MO on a riverboat. I think Donnis' goal was to get us to tell a story so well we could tell it on the Goldenrod. It would prove she was a good teacher.

We worked hard on our stories, and seventeen of us traveled to the event. They had an open mic and some of us had signed up to tell. I had never been to an event like that. It was exciting. We met nationally known storytellers and regionally known tellers. They had workshops that would help all of us get better at this new craft.

We ate together at the dinner held right on the boat. We were rubbing elbows with famous people, and it was okay. One hundred and twenty-five people attended the dinner and the concert that night.

We learned so much and went home with our pockets filled with tapes of stories and our heads filled with ideas for new stories to tell. It was exhilarating. We vowed to travel to St. Charles every year for this spectacular event, and we did. I am so grateful to MO-TELL for this introduction to storytelling festivals.

It changed my life.

Joyce Slater

Friday, February 21, & Saturday, February 22, 2025





Featured Teller

Event Schedule



Friday, February 21

Winter Winds Annual Storytelling Concert
Featuring Kevin Cordi, Jim Two Crows Wallen, and Katie Kerr
Auditorium at Woodneath Library Center
7:00 – 8:00pm, In Person and Online

Saturday, February 22, 2025

9:30am - 4:00pm, Auditorium at Woodneath Library Center

Workshop: The Personal Is Powerful: Share Your Experience in Story
Kevin Cordi
10:00am – 12:00pm, In Person



Kevin Cordi

Open-Mic Storytelling and Lunch 12:00-1:30pm, In Person

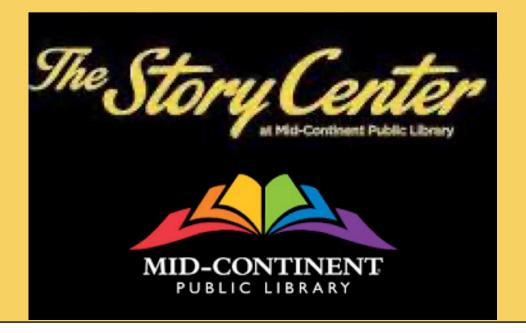
Workshop: Permission to Play:
Discovering the Story You Want to Tell
Kevin Cordi

Book Sales and Networking 3:30-4:00pm

Storyweaver

For more info, please visit:https://www.mymcpl.org/storycenter/events/winter-winds-storyfest





Performance Basics (Zoom)

Wed, Jan 8 2025 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event Virtual Event

Discover how to unleash your potential and connect with your audience in this interactive workshop with award-winning storyteller and teaching artist Sherry Norfolk.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

Ida's Journey in America Exhibition

Mon, Jan 13 2025 9:00am - 5:00pm Story Center Story Center Event

Created by visual artist and oral storyteller Karen E. Griffin, the textiles in this exhibit represent the career of Ida B.

EVENT DETAILS

Story Swap (Hybrid)

Thu, Jan 16 2025 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 (Zoom)

Wed, Jan 22 2025 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event Virtual Event

Writer and storyteller Laura Packer will explore character development, story structure, point of view, understanding your audience, and other storycrafting techniques.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

<u>Ida's Journey in America Exhibition</u>

Mon, Jan 27 2025 9:00am - 5:00pm Story Center Story Center Event

Created by visual artist and oral storyteller Karen E. Griffin, the textiles in this exhibit represent the career of Ida B.

EVENT DETAILS

Stories by the Hearth

Wed, Jan 29 2025 6:30pm - 7:30pm The Auditorium at Woodneath Library Center Story Center Event Registration Required

Join us for a batch of cozy, family-friendly stories. This program will feature storyteller Mary L.

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW



2025 River and Prairie Storyweavers 32nd Annual Chicken Festival Schedule

Friday January 10, 2025 – Telling in the Community during the day

10:45 am to 11:30 am Telling at the Senior Center, 970 E Sedalia Ave, Clinton MO

11:30 am to 12:45 pm Student Programs at Henry County Museum (5th grade – High School)

5:00 pm Dinner on the Town

6:00 – 7:00 pm Teller's Choice 7:00 to 7:45 pm Music and Stories

8:00 to 10:00 pm. Ghost Stories and/or Longer Stories (up to 15-min)

2025 River and Prairie Storyweavers 32nd Annual Chicken Festival Schedule

Saturday January 11, 2025 at Henry County Museum Theater

8:00 to 8:45 am Early Bird Stories – Teller's Choice

8:45 to 9:00 am. Music

9:00 to 10:00 am Chicken News and Chicken Stories

10:00 to 10:45 am Henry County Museum Tour OR

Horsing Around or Other Animal Stories

11:00 to 12:00 Folktales or Fairytales or Foolish or Wise stories

12:00 to 1:00 pm Lunch on the Square

1:00 to 2:00 pm Auction and One Minute Stories

2:00 to 2:30 pm. Music

2:30 to 3:00 pm Setup for Community Concert at the Museum Theater

3:00 to 5:00 pm Community Concert with Intermission

5:00 to 6:30 pm Soup and Chili Dinner at Museum (Donation) or Dinner on the Town

6:30 to 7:00 pm Music

7:00 to 8:00 pm. Potpourri – Choose an item from basket at 6:30 pm and create a new story

that uses that item as an integral part of the story

8:00 to 9:00 pm. Food Stories and Pies

9:00 to 10:00 pm Ghost Stories and/or Longer Stories

Sunday January 12, 2025 at Henry County Museum

8:00 to 8:45 am Early Bird Stories – Teller's Choice

9:00 to 9:30 am. Music

9:30 to 11:00 am Inspirational Stories

11:00 to 11:30 am Closing Circle – Song – May the Circle be Unbroken

11:30 to noon Clean-up and Put Tables and Chairs Away

MO TELLERS! YOUR BELOVED STATE CALLS YOU! BOOK A STATE PARK GIG TODAY!

Please send your information to joyceslater20@gmail.com by January 31, 2025 or sooner.

MO-TELL has been involved with storytelling in Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites since its inception. This tradition was initiated by Missouri Storytelling, Inc. (MO-TELL's) founder, Perrin Stifel.

MO-TELL works with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to provide 12 storytellers to 12 different parks or historic sites each year. We are working on our list of storytellers for the Spring and Fall 2025 now.

Please consider applying for these positions. Put together a bio of 200 words or less, your contact information. Send a good picture of yourself that can be downloaded.

Let us know if you have travel limitations. It is especially important to let us know your restrictions. For instance, if you only want to travel within 100 miles from your home, we need to know. If you only want to stay in your area, we need to know. I will relay that information to the person in charge of this project. You can say no if called and it is too far away.

Storytellers will receive \$408.33 in compensation. This is the full amount. It covers performance, travel and lodging if necessary. In some cases, the individual state parks may provide a camping site.

Joyce Slater will put together all the information and send it to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. They in turn will contact the interested state park's personnel who select a storyteller that fits with their programming. Each park involved makes a list of their top three choices and contacts the storyteller regarding availability.

Some of the storytelling **topics** to be considered are nature, animals/birds/wildlife, Tall Tales, historic persons and events from Missouri, farming, ghost stories, the Civil War, Westward Expansion, Lewis and Clark explorations, slavery, the Ozarks, fishing and rivers, Holidays and more.

Upon completion of a program, each teller hired is required to provide us with an evaluation, a descriptive story of the event, an invoice so that you may be paid, and a photo of yourself at the park for our archives. We need this information to support our grant applications and reports.

The parks choose the tellers that fit their programs based on the information I send them. I also let them know that they can find more info about the tellers on our website. Anyone who is a member of MO-TELL can have a section on our storyteller page where you can add lots more information. Check that out on our website. www.mo-tell.org

If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Slater at <u>joyceslater20@gmail.com</u> or 816-804-2442. <u>MO-Tell Form for State Park Tellers</u>

Example Biography:

"Joyce Slater has been a professional storyteller for 30 years. She lives in the Kansas City, MO area but will travel within 250 miles of her home. She uses puppets and songs in her stories so there is lots of participation. Her story themes consist of the following: scary or ghost, nature, animals, pourquoi tales, Ozark tales, historical in third and first person, personal narratives, Holiday stories and Girl Scout camping stories. She has programs about the Civil War, including - Border Wars, Love stories of the Civil War, Civil War women in Missouri from both sides. These can be in costume. Other programs in costume are Mrs. Claus and an Old-fashioned Christmas and A One Room School house revisited."

Joyce Slater 7338 Belleview Ave KCMO 64114 816-804-2442

joyceslater20@gmail.com

www.slatertales.com



State Parks

Robert & Joyce Slater Mike & Mary Guthrie Glen "Papa" Wright, Jr. Perrin & Alice Stifel

Tellabration!

Perrin Stifel
"Papa" & Jackie Wright
Linda Kuntz

General Fund

Karen Potts
Fran Stallings
Sue Bravo
Steve & Virginia Otto
Carol Kariotis
Coisetta Wright
Ron Turner
Gary Kuntz
Ginger Fite
Nan Kammann-Judd
Carole Shelton
Sue Hinkel
Beth Horner
Rosemary Wilson

Memorials Perrin & Alice Stifel in Memory of:

Nathan Bank
Sandy Kuhn
Vernon Adams - Designated
for State Parks
Carl Polster
Diann Bank
Robert Slater

Sue Hinkel in Memory of:

Diann Bank
Carl Polster
John Wagenknecht

Joyce Slater in Memory of:
Robert Slater-Designated for

Post Office Box

State Parks

"Papa" & Jackie Wright

MO-TELL 2024 DESIGNATED DONATIONS

STORY OF THE MONTH "THE FOX AND THE HORSE"

A farmer had a horse that had been an excellent faithful servant to him: but he was now grown too old to work; so the farmer would give him nothing more to eat, and said, 'I want you no longer, so take yourself off out of my stable; I shall not take you back again until you are stronger than a lion.' Then he opened the door and turned him adrift.

The poor horse was very melancholy, and wandered up and down in the wood, seeking some little shelter from the cold wind and rain. Presently a fox met him: 'What's the matter, my friend?' said he, 'why do you hang down your head and look so lonely and woe-begone?'

'Ah!' replied the horse, 'justice and avarice never dwell in one house; my master has forgotten all that I have done for him so many years, and because I can no longer work he has turned me adrift, and says unless I become stronger than a lion he will not take me back again; what chance can I have of that? he knows I have none, or he would not talk so.'

However, the fox bid him be of good cheer, and said, 'I will help you; lie down there, stretch yourself out quite stiff, and pretend to be dead.' The horse did as he was told, and the fox went straight to the lion who lived in a cave close by, and said to him, 'A little way off lies a dead horse; come with me and you may make an excellent meal of his carcase.'

The lion was greatly pleased, and set off immediately; and when they came to the horse, the fox said, 'You will not be able to eat him comfortably here; I'll tell you what—I will tie you fast to his tail, and then you can draw him to your den, and eat him at your leisure.'

This advice pleased the lion, so he laid himself down quietly for the fox to make him fast to the horse. But the fox managed to tie his legs together and bound all so hard and fast that with all his strength he could not set himself free. When the work was done, the fox clapped the horse on the shoulder, and said, 'Jip! Dobbin! Jip!' Then up he sprang, and moved off, dragging the lion behind him. The beast began to roar and bellow, till all the birds of the wood flew away for fright; but the horse let him sing on, and made his way quietly over the fields to his master's house.

'Here he is, master,' said he, 'I have got the better of him': and when the farmer saw his old servant, his heart relented, and he said. 'Thou shalt stay in thy stable and be well taken care of.'

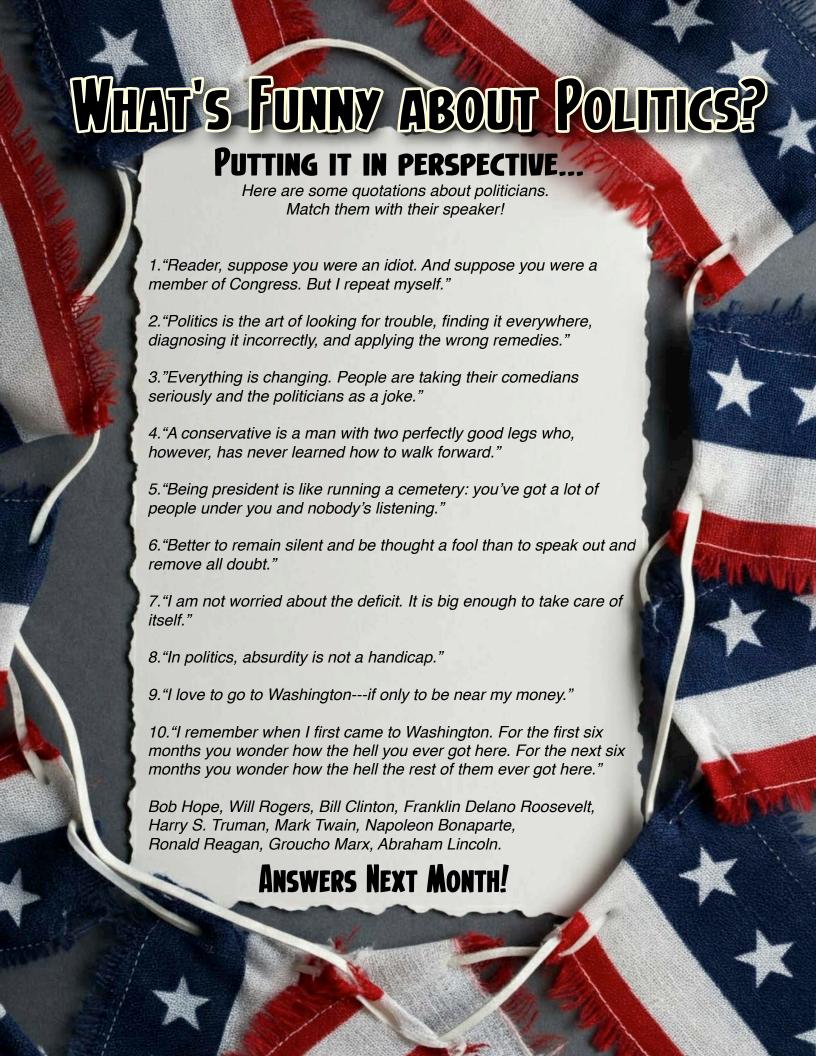
And so the poor old horse had plenty to eat, and lived -till he died.

IT ONLY WORKS WHEN WE ALL PULL TOGETHER!



LET'S KEEP THIS THING ROLLING! JOIN MO-TELL TODAY AND ENJOY!

DETAILS BELOW. CHECK 'EM OUT!



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 PLUS MEMBER'S CHOICE OF ONE: (CAP) (T-SHIRT) (LOGO MUG)

SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Missouri Storytelling, Inc. 9621 Olive Blvd. #28994 St. Louis, MO 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, 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



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

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

Secretary: Linda Kuntz, iharilag@gmail.com

At Large:

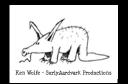
Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com Nancee Walker Micham, walkermicham@gmail.com Glen "Papa" Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net

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