

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



(NEVER FEAR! ...JOYCE IS UNMASKED IN THIS PHOTO , BUT SHE'S OUTSIDE, 12 FEET AWAY FROM OTHERS, AND SITTING BEHIND A VERY CLEAN SHEET OF PLEXIGLASS SHIELDING..)

"The world is shaped by two things stories told and the memories they leave behind."

Vera Nazarian,
 Dreams of the Compass Rose

Hello to everyone,

I like to quote my father on Spring. "Spring has sprung, the sap is riz', I wonder where the flowers is." It is an anonymous little ditty, but I loved hearing him recite it. He is gone but his stories and his sayings and his songs live on. Isn't that what we all want? So, when the flowers bloom, I think of him. Spring has given me daffodils. The irises are poking through the dark earth. There are buds on the trees. It makes me think happy thoughts. It is rejuvenating.

We need this rebirth as we begin to see each other face to face. My husband and I are fully "vaxed". I know it isn't the end of this disease for the world or even the USA, but it is a positive step forward for us.

I like to remain positive in all I do. I am looking forward to being outside. I am anxious to work in the garden in the warmth of Spring.

This last year has been so difficult for so many of my friends. I hold them all close. Our stories will reflect our journey this past year.

Keep telling stories and I hope to see you soon.

Joyce Slater President, MO-TELL

WHEN APRIL SHOWERS COME YOUR WAY THEY BRING THE MO-TELL STUFF TO WEAR EACH DAY!



EMERGE FROM YOUR DWELLING WITH NEW DUDS THAT SHOW YOUR MO-TELL PRIDE!



For Your Fridge



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

GATEWAY

APRIL 2021

Gateway Storytellers Monthly Meeting featuring special guest storytellers Sue Hinkel & Marilyn Sue Warren along with a potpourri of stories from our Zoom gallery of tellers

April 20 th, 2021 7:00-8:30 P.M. hosted by Ric Vice on Zoom

https://zoom.us/j/5697508785? pwd=dG9xdVZzNmFVSXU3V0tJMm8zMmx5QT0

Meeting ID: 569 750 8785 Passcode: gateway

RIVERWINDS

RIVERWINDS IS CURRENTLY IN HIBERNATION.

SOTO

SOTO IS CURRENTLY IN RADIO SILENCE.

APRIL 2021

Thursday April 1, 2021 7:00 pm – First Thursday Meeting Workshop: Successful Virtual Storytelling by Ric Vice Story Theme: What do April Showers Bring You?

Saturday April 10, 2021, 2:00 pm – Second Saturday

Meeting

Featured Teller: Rich White Story Theme: April Showers

Saturday April 24, 2021, 10:00 am – Fourth Saturday Meeting

Thursday May 6, 2021 7:00 pm – First Thursday Meeting Workshop: Extemporaneous Stories by Linda Kuntz Story Theme: Tulip Petals Opened and Inside...

Saturday May 8, 2021, 2:00 pm – Second Saturday Meeting Featured Teller: Fran Stallings

Story Theme: May Day!

If not on RAPS Mailing List,

Contact: RAPS.Secretary@gmail.com for Zoom links.

AT THE WOODNEATH -

Woodneath Library Center 8900 NE Flintlock Road Kansas City, MO 64157 816.883.4780 sthompson@mymcpl.org

SCROLL DOWN ONE PAGE FOR DETAILS OF OFFERINGS.

WHAT THE WOODNEATH IS OFFERING...

Performance Showcase and Masterclass (ZOOM) Tue, Apr 6 2021

6:30pm - 8:00pm Central

Story Center Event - Virtual Event

Never worry about losing the thread, forgetting plot points, or keeping track of the details of your story again.

Woodneath Library Center 8900 NE Flintlock Road Kansas City, MO 64157 816.883.4780 sthompson@mymcpl.org

Story Swap (ZOOM)

Thu, Apr 15 2021 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central

Story Center Event - Virtual Event

An open-mic storytelling event that's 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.

Copyright Basics (ZOOM) Thu, Apr 22 2021

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.

Resources for Storytellers (ZOOM) Wed, May 12 2021

6:00pm - 8:00pm Central

Story Center Event - Virtual Event

It takes various tools to become a seasoned storyteller, including books, websites, organizations, and more.

State of Stories: True Tales of Tender Courage and Raucous Humor (Facebook Live) Fri, May 14 2021

6:30pm - 7:30pm Central

Story Center Event/Virtual Event

Beth Horner performs two of her most dynamic and renowned tales: "The Silver Spurs: A Tale of the American Civil War," a story of this tumultuous, pivotal period in American history that is drawn from

From Fact to Fascination: Telling Tales of True-Life and Historical Events (ZOOM) Sat, May 15 2021

10:30am - 12:00pm Central

Story Center Event - Virtual Event

In this participatory workshop, Beth Horner will lead participants step-by-step through taking a moment in history or an actual event and making it into a story that fascinates listeners.

From Fact to Fascination: Telling Tales of True-Life and Historical Events (ZOOM) Sat, May 15 2021

10:30am - 12:00pm Central

Story Center Event - Virtual Event

In this participatory workshop, Beth Horner will lead participants step-by-step through taking a moment in history or an actual event and making it into a story that fascinates listeners.

State of Stories: Storycoaching with Joyce Slater (ZOOM) Thu, Jun 10 2021

6:30pm - 8:00pm Central

Story Center Event - Virtual Event

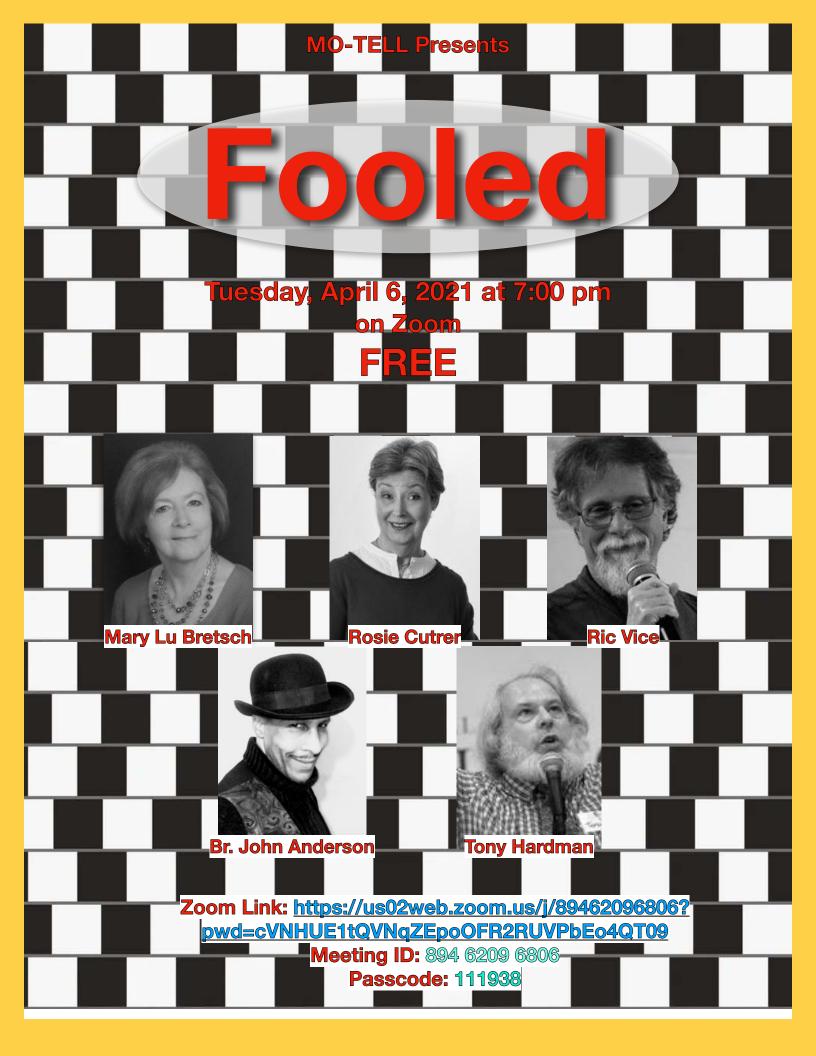
Join professional storyteller Joyce Slater for a storycoaching workshop focused on historical oral storytelling.

Story Swap (ZOOM Thu, Jun 17 2021

6:30pm - 8:00pm Central

Story Center Event/Virtual Event

An open-mic storytelling event that's 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.



JOIN & THRIVE!

IERE'S HOW...

RAS

River and Prairie Storyweavers (RAPS) Dues: \$25 per year for Individual (\$35 per year for Family - any number)

Membership gives you access to a supportive audience for gaining storytelling experience, and makes you part of a group of really nice storytelling supporters. Requests to RAPS for storytellers are only shared with RAPS Members. Membership also gives you the opportunity to serve on the RAPS board and set the direction of future RAPS endeavors.

Contact: RAPS.secretary@gmail.com

Mail dues to: RAPS Treasurer

c/o Alice Nathan 840 NW North Ridge Ct. Blue Springs, MO 64015

Website: https://

www.riverandprairiestoryweavers.org/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/

raps.storyweavers

Meeting times: 1st Thursday of each month - 7:00 pm 2nd Saturday of each month - 2:00 pm

GATEWAY

Website: gatewaystorytellers.wordpress.com

Membership, February 1- January 31 Annual dues-\$25

Send to: Robert Jensen, 3413 Rand Ln., Belleville, IL 62226

rmjensen1016@gmail.com

Monthly meeting-Third Tuesday of each month, 7:00 PM Bi-monthly mini workshops and feature teller slots Membership includes participating in and telling on our monthly Story Slams

MO-TELL SWAG CAUGHT IN THE WILD!

WANNA BE IN THE NEWSLETTER?
WEAR YOUR MO-TELL GEAR OUT IN THE WORLD!



AND THE SUBJECT LINE: SWAGTRAVELS

MO-TELL MEMBER OF THE MONTH



Raelene Crotser

My name is Raelene Crotser. I live with my daughter and her son in Mt. Vernon, Missouri. Most of my working years were spent in commercial printing and the hospitality industry. I learned to love events of every type as a child and continued to be involved in a variety of events as an adult. At times, having worked with carnivals, rodeos, horse shows, girl scouts, craft shows, community events and various parks and historic sites, I feel as if I've become a professional volunteer.

In my formative years storytelling was not well known. At the age of eight I was introduced to stories by my great grandmother. She was my designated babysitter that day and was desperate for a way to entertain me on a hot summer day in S.E. Kansas. As a last resort, she brought out a hand pieced quilt and covered us with it. She then began to point out various quilt blocks saying, "This was part of the shirt worn the day... and then tell me what had happened that day. In my foolish youth, I was so focused on the miserable heat that I missed more than I remembered.

During my junior high school days I was introduced to family history as a school project. My grandmother was a fountain of information and some of it was fascinating. That's when I became the family historian.

Decades later, after moving to Springfield, MO, I found a group called Storytellers of the Ozarks and learned that grandma was telling me personal stories. A totally new concept for me.

In the course of my volunteering, I learned that history of all types was slowly but surely being forgotten. I decided to preserve some small piece of that history. Unfortunately I had no idea what to preserve or how to go about it. Then a small historic site where I was volunteering, commandeered me as their storyteller. I hated speaking in front of groups of people and was terrified. My stage fright lasted for several years. Finally before one performance I was especially nervous and thinking of cancelling, when my daughter said, "For crying out loud mom, just put on the dress and quit worrying. It will be fine."

She was right and that was when I realized what I should be preserving: stories. I suspect I've been a storyteller all my life and didn't realize it.

I joined Mo-Tell as a way to learn from other more experienced storytellers and to find storytelling events. We, as tellers, need to concentrate on finding more ways to connect with people. I have found, in my area especially, most people don't know what to expect when you invite them to a storytelling event. In an effort to break through that barrier my family, prior to covid-19, put on two storytelling events. Both drew very small, but attentive crowds.

I've learned a lot from watching/hearing other storytellers. My favorite teller is Donald Davis. He has a remarkable repertoire of personal stories. I love them all and hope to follow in his footsteps as a teller of personal stories.

If I have any advice to share with all storytellers it would be, don't save your stories for performances, share them at every opportunity. One of my favorite ways to share my stories is to tell them to the family. We have a tradition of telling family stories while we are decorating the Christmas tree, in this way it is almost as if many generations are there helping us celebrate. Remember: Story lives matter.

WE SAID IT. WE MEANT IT.

WEAR YOUR MO-TELL GEAR IN A PICTURE AND, BOOM! YOU'RE IN THE NEWSLETTER!





THE ALLEGED SEVENTH ANNUAL

MISSOURI STATE LIARS CONTEST

JULY 10TH, 2021

SEE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR DETAILS

THE ALLEGED SEVENTH ANNUAL

MISSOURI STATE LIARS CONTEST JULY 10, 2021

It's that time again, so they say.

The Seventh Annual *Missouri State Liars Contest*, founded and sponsored by MO-TELL (Missouri Storytelling) will take place on July 10th, 2021.

Regional judges of esteem and import with rank worthy contestants as they spar with their yarns for title prestige & glory, shiny, medals of significant heft, and fabulous cash prizes! They'd be glad to hear your story, too, and rank the flammability of your dungarees in two arenas: Spoken Storytelling (ten minutes) and Written Storytelling (up to 3k words).

Watch as tellers from the farthest reaches of Missouri and slightly beyond as they demonstrate their complicated relationship with the truth. Join their ilk to pass off your own invention as reality, impress the judges, and emerge triumphant! Plus, earlier in the day veteran storytellers will offer FREE workshops, open to ALL who love telling stories.

Y'oughta compete! But even if you don't, be sure to attend on July 10th to see it for yourself.

The 11th will be too late.

And by then, it'll all be hearsay. Which, as you know, is inadmissible.

For details, submission regulations & contest rules visit MO-TELL.org.



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- APRIL 10: EARTH UP (WEEKEND: WORKSHOPS, PERFORMANCES, SLAM, FRINGE, MASTER CLASS, SOCIAL TIME, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, SHOWCASES & KID SCHOOL PROGRAM) APPLICATIONS OPEN JANUARY 2021
- MAY 15: CAUGHT IN A BIND (SLAM + FRINGE)
- JUNE 12: AMPLIFY (SLAM + FRINGE)
- JULY 21-25, 2021 NSN'S 'CONNECTED' VIRTUAL CONFERENCE & FESTIVAL - MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW! APPLICATIONS COMING SOON.
- AUGUST 21 HOT (SLAM + FRINGE)
- SEPTEMBER 18 SCHOOLED (SLAM + FRINGE)

MO-TELL SAYS, "THANKS!"

SOME MEMBERS HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES WITH WITH SERVICE & DEVOTION AND RECEIVED A LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP.

Anthony Clark Heather Harlan Jean Hatfield Sue Hinkel Gary Kuntz

Linda Kuntz Marsha Stifel Mellendorf Joyce Slater Perrin Stifel Jim Two Crows Wallen Ken Wolfe

AO-TELL'S BEEN TELLING! YOU WERE THERE! (RIGHT?)

THE STORY SO FAR...

OCTOBER = HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER = TELLABRATION

DECEMBER = HOLIDAY STUFF

JANUARY = MO-TELL MEETING

FEBRUARY = LOVE STORIES

IND THE STORY CONTINUES...

SAVE THESE DATES!

MARCH 9, 7 PM

 $({\bf BOARD\ MEMBERS\ TELL})$

APRIL 6, 7 PM

MAY 11, 7 PM

JUNE 8, 7 PM

JULY 10

(LIAR'S CONTEST)

AUGUST 10, 7 PM

TOPICS TO BE DETERMINED
TOPICS TO BE DETERMINED





OLIVE BOOKE

"I was married on the 26th of September 1799. On the first of October, without any company but my husband, I started to Missouri, or Upper Louisiana. We had two ponies and our packhorse. We arrived in St. Louis the last of October. We went to St. Charles County and located about twenty miles above St. Charles. We crossed the river at St. Charles by placing our goods on a skiff. My husband rowed and I steered and held the horse by the bridle. It was rather a perilous trip for so young a couple. I was just sixteen, my husband eighteen."

Olive VanBibber was 16 when she left her family in Ohio and headed to Louisiana territory, Spanish territory that would become the state of Missouri. She was freshly married to Nathan Boone. When they arrived in St. Charles County the newlyweds traded a horse, saddle and bridle for 640 acres, and life together. Nathan headed out further west to hunt, leaving Olive and a slave woman to set up house in a little log cabin by a spring.

Nathan Boone: "In the spring of 1800 I built this cabin. It was small, without a floor, and as the spring rains began, water came in. Occasionally the puddles on the floor were several inches deep. My dear wife, Olive, and her helper got poles to lay down for string pieces, then peeled elm bark and laid it down as a floor, the rough side up to prevent its warping or rolling up. That winter and spring she and her helper cut all the wood and fed the cattle while my father and I were absent hunting."

"When she wanted a sieve, she peeled a piece of bark from a hickory tree, bent it together to a proper size in circular shape, lapped the ends and stitched them with bark strings. She then tanned a deer skin with ashes, stretched it tightly over the hoop, and fastened it securely. Then with a heated wire she burned holes through the skin and then had a sieve which answered an exceptionally good purpose. She and her helper would gather nettles, a sort of hemp, toward spring, and when it became rotted by the wet weather, we could spin them. It was extraordinarily strong. A softer yarn was spun from buffalo wool and knitted into socks," It was quite soft and wears very well.

Olive Boone was a tough woman. She cared for the livestock, and tended the crops, and fixed anything in need of repair. She solved problems, managed the household and the farm, had a baby every other year for most of her life, 14 in all, one died at birth. She was primary caretaker for her family-all at a time when women had no legal rights.

"My wife, Olive Boone, had a loom but no convenient place to put it, so she took possession of the deserted shop while my father and I were away hunting. The weather was cold, and there was no fireplace in the old shop; the Negro girl was sent to the nearest neighbor a mile off to obtain the loan of a crosscut saw, with which Olive and the girl cut through several courses of logs until a suitable-sized aperture for a fireplace was made. Then with stones for the fireplace, sticks for the chimney and mud for mortar these lone women erected a chimney, the draft of which proved decidedly the best of any on the farm."

In December 1804, Nathan went hunting and trapping with Oliver's brother Mathias "Tice" VanBibber. They had collected 56 beaver pelts and twelve otters and were near the Kansas River when they remembered that their wives had asked them to be home for the Christmas holiday.

As they headed back to the Boone camp, when Nathan and Tice encountered 22 Osage Indians. They took their three horses and what furs they had told us we had better clear out, for there was another party hunting for us. Luckily, they had time to hide. The next morning, they were met with still another party of Indians. They were Sauks and a standoff developed. Finally, the Indians asked that if they would give them powder, balls, and flints, they could go. And so, Nathan and Tice were left with one hunting rifle and five bullets. They had no coats or blankets, and it was the middle of winter.

The two men used their first four bullets but killed nothing. Finally, Nathan was able to shoot a large panther. Nathan cut the skin into two pieces and we each made a vest, cutting holes for inserting their arms and wearing the fur side next to our bodies.

Eventually, they found the trail that led to a camp of American frontiersmen, including Nathan's nephew, James Callaway. The men brought them home, both on the brink of death from extreme shock. Olive remarked, it was the first Christmas Nathan had spent at home since our marriage, and I had the Indians to thank for that.

Their little log cabin was eventually replaced with a large 4 story limestone house. Quite a change from a mud filled log cabin, this home would have seen the births of several of her children, and the death of her father-in-law Daniel Boone.

When Olive and Nathan were in their 50's, they sold their big stone house and moved to Greene County, Missouri. They built a log cabin and lived out their years around family.

They are both buried near the cabin.



OCTOBER 24TH, 1901

ANNIE EDSON TAYLOR, AN AMERICAN SCHOOLTEACHER, CELEBRATED HER G3RD BIRTHDAY BY HURTLING OVER THE NIAGARA FALLS IN A BARREL.

IMAGINE THE LEVEL OF DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT IT TOOK TO BE PUSHED AWAY FROM THE SAFE SHORES OF THE NIAGARA RIVER TOWARD THE WATERY, SILENT PRECIPICE INTO THE ROARING FALLS.

SHE MADE HER DECISION. SHE STUCK WITH IT IN THE BOBBING, DARK CONFINES OF A SEALED BARREL.

SHE WAS THE VERY FIRST PERSON TO EVER SURVIVE THE EXPERIENCE.

FAME WAS HERS (SADLY, FORTUNE DIDN'T QUITE FOLLOW.)

LET US ALL ADMIRE TAYLOR'S ABILITY TO COMMIT TO A CAUSE IN WHICH SHE BELIEVED.

YES, LET US ALL DWELL WITH ADMIRATION FOR A LONG, DWELLING, ADMIRING MOMENT...

AND NOW, QUITE DELIBERATELY, A SHORT MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT ABOUT A MUCH EASIER COMMITMENT:

WE MISS SEEING YOU IN PERSON. EVEN THOUGH WE ARE UNABLE TO GATHER IN PERSON, WE HAVE ENJOYED STORYTELLING OPPORTUNITIES VIRTUALLY. WE HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH US. SOME OF THE BENEFITS OFFERED TO OUR MEMBERS ARE AS FOLLOWS?

- 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. NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK AFFILIATION
- 6. A WORLD CLASS NEWSLETTER
- ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
- 8. CONNECTION TO THE OTHER STORYTELLING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REGION THIS YEAR WE ARE ALSO OFFERING A MO-TELL BAG FOR ALL NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS. SOON WE WILL HAVE LONG SLEEVED T-SHIRTS, HATS AND BAGS FOR SALE.

(WHICH IS STILL EASIER THAN MS. TAYLOR'S FEAT.)

THE MO-TELL BILL OF FARE

OFTEN IMITATED, NEVER DUPLICATED

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND GIFTS

FISCAL YEAR, FEBRUARY 1-JANUARY 31

MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL DUES	GIFTS
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$25	LOGO BAG (1)
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$40	LOGO BAG (2)
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$35	LOGO BAG (1)
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$50	LOGO BAG (2)
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



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

THIS YEAR WE ARE ALSO OFFERING:

A MO-TELL LOGO BAG FOR ALL NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS, YOU LUCKY LUCKSTERS, YOU!

JANUARY-ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

FEBRUARY-JUNE, AUGUST-DECEMBER- MONTHLY PROGRAMS

JULY-THE ANNUAL MISSOURI STATE LIAR'S CONTEST

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

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

Secretary: Linda Kuntz, iharilag@gmail.com

At Large:

Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com Jim "Two Crows" Wallen, jimtwocrows@att.net

Perrin Stifel, pstifelstl@earthlink.net Emeritus:

www.mo-tell.org

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



THE MO-THU BOARD