

WE'VE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE...WE REJOICE IN THE RETELLING.

THE REGISTER

AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

ALAS! DUE TO NEWSLETTER ISSUES,
OUR BELOVED PRESIDENT'S PICTURE IS
NOT AVAILABLE THIS MONTH.

SO, MO-TELL'S ART DIVISION WILL
NOW DRAW HER PICTURE WITH WORDS!
IT'S WHAT WE'RE GOOD AT.

LOVELY
SMART
CLEVER
CRAFTY
LOYAL
DEDICATED
RESPONSIBLE
TALENTED
STYLISH
WELL-READ
CHARMING
PRESIDENTIAL
ARTICULATE
COSMOPOLITAN
AND HUMBLE.

Hello everyone,

I know I do not say this enough so I will say it now, thank you, all of you, so much for supporting MO-TELL. We have wonderful members and followers on our team, and I am so grateful. Many thanks to the board, Sue Hinkel, Jim Two Crows Wallen, Gary Kuntz, Linda Kuntz and Perrin Stifel and to our volunteers. We would not be where we are without them. Thank you, Ken Wolfe, as creative director of the newsletter. We would love to have more followers so if any of you are interested in joining the board or volunteering for MO-TELL, let me know.

The Liar's Contest on July 11, proved that Missouri Storytelling is important to a lot of people both in and out of Missouri. There was a great audience in attendance from all over. Even our judges came from a variety of states, Missouri, Kansas, Massachusetts and Hawaii. Our tellers were from Missouri and Illinois. What a day! Thank you for being there.

For now, storytelling in the Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites is on hold, but we are talking to the parks personnel and making plans. Thanks for your patience.

Schools all over are opening up again either virtually, in person or a hybrid method. Please stay safe and healthy. Let us hear from you.

"THINGS WORTH
TELLING - TAKE
TIME"

— NICHOLAS
DENMON

MO-TELL PRESENTS THE DUBIOUS RESULTS OF THE MISSOURI STATE LIAR'S CONTEST 2020 Zoom Edition

SPOKEN CATEGORY:

First Place - Ken Wolfe with "Bad Dog"

Second Place - Lee Giezentanner with "Portable & Collapsible"

Third Place - Rich White with "Hang Gliding"

WRITTEN CATEGORY:

First Place - Roger Rose with "High in the Ozarks"

Second Place - Alice Nathan with "My First Surgery"

Third Place - Joe Bubenik with "Brazil, '86"

A HEARTY THANKS

to all our contestants who honored us with their deceptions,
to our wide-ranging Zoom audience who sat still through the
waves of outright fibbing, and our esteemed judges who
waded through and pulled out the most nefarious & suspect.

A NOTE FROM OUR HONOREE

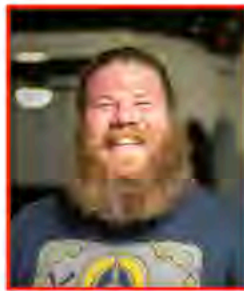
*I thank the board for honoring
me with the gift of Lifetime
Membership in MO-TELL.*

*MO-TELL has always been
very dear to my heart and I
hope it lives in everyone's
heart.*

Thank you.

Sue Hinkel

MO-TELL MEMBER OF THE MONTH



Joseph Bubenik met Ken Wolfe as officers in the *Saint Louis Beard and Mustache Club*. As their friendship grew Ken shared his love of story with Joseph and encouraged him to submit an entry for the 2020 MO-TELL *Missouri Liar's Contest*. On his first try he placed third in the written category. Joseph thought the *Missouri Liar's Contest* was fun and is already planning his next entry for 2021.

Joseph relishes writing stories. He likes to pick and choose his words with care. He may twist or curl a sentence to achieve his goal to express his thoughts as carefully as he styles his beard and mustache. In school he wished he had more opportunities for creative writing and now, as a thirty-something, Joseph doesn't need to wait for an assignment, he can be creative whenever he wants.

Joseph is a native of St. Louis. About two months ago he started working on a podcast which is similar to the film "Big Fish," where he takes stories from his life and turns them into unbelievable tales. Having five children, he and his wife Alison have lots of material to choose from. Making it a family project, his children help Joseph with sound effects on his current podcast *Downright Lies* which you can find on Apple Podcasts, Spotify or Google Podcasts.

Professionally Joseph is a house painter but his creativity spills out in all areas of his life. He has written and published a children's Christmas story *Believer: Book One of the Yuletide Tales* which is available on Amazon or Kindle. *Book Two, Wonderworker*, is in the works.

Joseph is just dipping his toe into the world of storytelling and wonders what MO-TELL is doing to reach out to younger generations—20 to 40-year-olds who may not even realize they have a story to tell.

STATE OF STORIES

COMMEMORATING THE MISSOURI BICENTENNIAL

State of Stories is a series of free public programs commemorating the Missouri Bicentennial. Developed by The Story Center at Mid-Continent Public Library and the University of Missouri Extension, programs will celebrate and teach Missouri history and culture through storytelling performances and workshops, book conversations, lectures, a publication, and podcasts.

Programs will begin in August 2020, continue through August 2021, and engage branches throughout the MCPL system as well as virtual spaces.

August 2020

• Friday, August 28, 6:30-7:30pm.

Red Bridge Branch [SC FB Live].

Performance: Shadowball: The Negro Baseball Leagues.

Performed by Bobby Norfolk, "Shadowball" takes the audience on a fascinating journey through the heyday of the Negro Baseball Leagues, a time when this country was segregated by Jim Crow laws, and America's "National Pastime" wore two faces, the whites-only Major Leagues and the upstart Negro National League. Historical slides and period music enhance this emotional performance, illustrating the clash of race, sports and culture.

• Saturday, August 29, 10:30am-12:30pm.

The Story Center, Woodneath Library Center [ZOOM]. Workshop:

Teaching History Through Storytelling: An Introductory Workshop.

Following the previous evening's performance, Bobby Norfolk discusses the basics of historical storytelling, from a general overview of researching and using resources for finding good stories, drawing on historical narratives to find engaging and inspiring characters, and transforming story and character into a tell-able historical tale.

September 2020

• Wednesday, September 23, 6:30-7:30pm.

North Independence Branch [MCPL360].

Lecture: The Story of Latinos in Kansas City.

Sandra Enriquez, Assistant Professor of History & Director of Public History
Emphasis at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

AND NOW, A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR...

SPOILER: TECHNICALLY, YOU'RE OUR SPONSOR.



STORYTELLERS & STORY LISTENERS!

Missouri Storytelling, Inc. celebrates storytelling and Missouri history around the entire state of Missouri, with members from all over the region. Our membership includes storytellers, listeners, and enthusiasts alike.

We are proud of the benefits we offer our members: Missouri State Parks Storytelling, the Missouri Liars's Contest, website presence for storytellers, National Storytelling Network affiliation, and a world class newsletter replete with snazziness.

Our fiscal year runs from February 1st through January 31st. We're glad to offer flexibility in memberships as single or dual, the dues of which we collect annually or biennially by January 31st. (Ahem. Has it passed without your dues?)

Whether you're a...

- New member
- Current member whose 2019 dues are expiring
- Current member with dues expiring in 2020
- Former member with an eye to re-enlist

...we want to keep you as a member. We want to hear from you.

(Like it'd kill you to call every once in a while....)

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING OR REJOINING MO-TELL TODAY.

WHAT HAVE YOU TO LOSE BUT YOUR ANONYMITY AND THAT VAGUE, HAUNTING SENSE OF NOT BELONGING?

HUZZAH! REVIVAL IS A-COMIN' DOWN THE PIKE!

MISSOURI STORYTELLING INC ANNOUNCES A NEWLY REVIVED STORYTELLING SERIES FOR A DIGITAL AGE!

MO-TELL is announcing a new storytelling series to take place in the coming months of October, November, December and February.

This follows an old tradition of MO-TELL's from its inception. In the beginning, there was *MO-TELL*, then there was an *October Riverboat Festival*. *Tellabration!* followed in November, Holiday stories in December and Love stories in February.

There was a retreat in April which led to the St. Louis Storytelling Festival in May. In our circumstances today, we cannot have a festival on a riverboat in October or in-person events anywhere, but we can get people together for storytelling online events. We are not sure when or where we will be with storytelling in the state parks so we will create our own events.

Each event will feature 3-5 storytellers, who will receive a small stipend for their story. The events will take place on Zoom so people all over the world can attend. A MO-TELL board member will act as gratis Artistic Director for each event but supported by the whole team of board members. Each program will be unique because there will be some new voices, some new faces and some new stories and a new Artistic Director.

October - Ghost or scary stories for children and adults

Artistic Director - Linda Kuntz

November - Tellabration! A night of storytelling for adults

Artistic Director - Sue Hinkel

December - Holiday stories of all kinds

Artistic Director - TBD

February - Love stories

Artistic Director, TBD

Watch for updates & more information from the board members.

STORYTELLERS OF THE OZARKS

No information supplied.

RIVERWINDS STORYTELLERS

No information supplied

GATEWAY STORYTELLERS

The Gateway Storytellers are meeting on Zoom at 1 PM on the 4th Sunday of each month now.

The log-in is <https://umsystem.zoom.us/j/99769505700>

Gateway will have another zoom story swap on Sunday August 23 rd at 1:00 - anyone wanting to tell contact Ric Vice at ricvice@att.net - the more the merrier!

RIVER & PRAIRIE STORYWEAVERS

Thanks to COVID-19, River and Prairie Storyweavers is going virtual on Zoom again in August.

Thursday, August 6, 2020, 7:00 pm - RAPS Main Meeting
Annual Election of Officers

Story Theme: **The Ants Came Marching 2 by 2**

Saturday, August 8, 2020, 2:00 pm - Second Saturday Meeting
Story Theme: **Hot Town - Summer in the City.**

Saturday, August 22, 2020, 10:00 am - RAPS South Meeting

Contact: RAPS.Secretary@gmail.com

for Zoom Meeting ID and Password for each meeting.

(If you are on the RAPS email list, meeting ID and password for each meeting will be sent to you automatically.)



**THREE GREAT ORGANIZATIONS
BRINGING STORYTELLING
TO OUR GREAT STATE!**

MAGNET
HERE

FOR YOUR FRIDGE

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

MAGNET
HERE

RAPS

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SOTO

No info supplied.

RIVERWINDS

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MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE WOODNEATH...

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

Thu, Aug 20 2020 6:30pm - 7:30pm 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.

[Storycrafting Fundamentals: Part One \(ZOOM\)](#)

Wed, Aug 26 or Aug 27 2020 6:30pm - 7:30pm Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

Writer and storyteller Anthony Clark explores character development, point of view, the difference between showing and telling, and other story crafting techniques.

[Storycrafting Fundamentals: Part Two \(ZOOM\)](#)

Thu, Aug 27 2020 6:30pm - 7:30pm Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

Writer and storyteller Anthony Clark explores character development, point of view, the difference between showing and telling, and other story crafting techniques.

[Storytelling Performance: "Shadowball: The Negro Baseball Leagues" \(Facebook Live\)](#)

Fri, Aug 28 2020 6:30pm - 7:30pm Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

Shadowball takes the audience on a fascinating journey through the heyday of the Negro Baseball Leagues, a time when this country was segregated by Jim Crow laws, and America's "National Pastime" wore

two faces, the whites-only Major Leagues and the upstart Negro National League. Historical slides and period music enhance this emotional performance, illustrating the clash of race, sports and culture.

[Teaching History Through Storytelling: An Introductory Workshop \(ZOOM\)](#)

Sat, Aug 29 2020 10:30am - 11:30am Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

Following the previous evening's performance, Bobby discusses the genre of historical storytelling, from a general overview of researching and using resources for finding good stories, drawing on historical narratives to find engaging and inspiring characters, and transforming story and character into a tell-able historical tale.

[Starting to Tell Stories \(ZOOM\)](#)

Sat, Aug 29 2020 1:30pm - 2:30pm Story Center Event **Virtual Event**

You have a great story to tell, and the Library wants to help you tell it! Learn tips and tricks for brainstorming story ideas and discover resources in your community to help you grow your craft.

*This is
impossible.*

**ONE
CAN'T.**

No matter how mythic.

THIS IS NOT.

**MANY
CAN.**

No matter how human.

**MO-TELL NEEDS YOU TO PULL.
WHICH COMFY HARNESS FITS YOU?**

Serve on the Board of Directors?
Represent MO-TELL from other Missouri areas?
Coordinate, plan, and manage events?
Write grants? Help with accounting?
Contact any existing Board Member with your ideas.
Really. You've seen this page for months now.

NOT OUR PROBLEM

A story from Burma and Thailand retold by Margaret Read McDonald.

Variants may be found in *Burmese and Thai Fairy Tales* by Eleanor Brockett (Follett, 1965); *A Kingdom for a Drop of Honey and Other Burmese Folktales* by Maung Htin Aung and Helen G. Trager (Parent's Magazine Press, 1969); and *The Tales from Thailand* by Marian Davies Toth (Charles Tuttle, 1971)

The king sat with his advisor, eating honey on puffed rice. As they ate, the king leaned from the palace window and watched the street below. They talked of this and that. The king, not paying attention, let a drop of honey fall onto the windowsill. "Oh, sire, let me wipe that up," offered the advisor. "Never mind," said the king. "It is not our problem. The servants will clean it later."

As the two continued to dine on their honey and puffed rice, the drop of honey slowly began to drip down the windowsill. At last it fell with a plop onto the street below. Soon a fly landed on the honey and began its own meal. Immediately a gecko sprang from under the palace, and with the flip of its long tongue, swallowed the fly. But a cat had seen the gecko and pounced. Then a dog sprang forward and attacked the cat!

"Sire, there seems to be a cat-and-dog fight in the street. Should we call someone to stop it?" "Never mind," said the king. "It is not our problem." So, the two continued to munch their honey and puffed rice.

Meanwhile, the cat's owner had arrived and was beating the dog. The dog's owner ran up and began to beat the cat. Soon the two were beating each other.

"Sire, there are two persons fighting in the street now. Shouldn't we send someone to break this up?" The king lazily looked from the window. "Never mind. It's not our problem."

The friends of the cat owner gathered and began to cheer him on. The friends of the dog owner began to cheer her on as well. Soon both groups entered the fight and attacked each other.

"Sire, a number of people are fighting in the street now. Perhaps we should call someone to break this up." The king was even too lazy to look. You can guess what he said. "Never mind. It is not our problem."

Now soldiers arrived on the scene. At first, they tried to break up the fighting. But when they heard the cause of the fight, some sided with the cat owner. Others sided with the dog owner. Soon the soldiers too had joined the fight. With the soldiers now involved, the fight erupted into civil war. Houses were burned down. People were harmed. The palace itself was set afire and burned to the ground.

The king and his advisor stood surveying the ruins. "Perhaps I was wrong," said the king. "Perhaps the drop of honey was our problem."

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Missouri Storytelling, Inc (MO-TELL) is an organization of storytellers and other interested person 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, shinkel@mail.win.org (Membership)
Secretary: Linda Kuntz, lharilag@gmail.com
At Large: Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com
Jim "Two Crows" Wallen, jimtwocrows@att.net
Emeritus: Perrin Stifel, pstifelstl@earthlink.net

www.mo-tell.org

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Volume 3, Newsletter 8

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THE MO-TELL BOARD