

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



THE REGISTER

APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MO-TELL has a new website. We are still listed under www.mo-tell.org but we have a new look and an easier website to maneuver.

This is all due to our web guru, Hilary Kuntz and the insight of the board of directors. The new site is still under construction but you can find lots of information on it so far. Anyone can look at the site, but members are allowed a special privilege: a page just for members and their contact information.

If you are a member, I encourage you to send us a bio and a picture. We are not an agent for you but we do allow you, as a member, to "strut your stuff."

- Go to "Find a Storyteller" on the site to see what others have done.
- To become a member, go to the website and find the page "Join MO-TELL". There is a form to complete and the all the information you need to become a member, or contact the lovely and wise Sue Hinkel at shinkel@mail.win.org for more information.

We are proud of the benefits we offer our members:

- Missouri State Parks Storytelling
- Missouri Liar's contest
- Web site presence for storytellers
- National Storytelling Network affiliation
- World Class newsletter.

If you have something you want to add to the "Blog" page, send it to me at joyceslater2o@gmail.com. Check out our calendar for upcoming events, and please let us know what you think about MO-TELL.



A THOUGHT FOR YOUR DAY:

Storytelling is the most powerful way to put ideas into the world."

- Robert McKee

MO-TELL'S MEMBER PROFILE

GREAT PEOPLE COMPOSE THIS GREAT ORGANIZATION!
EACH MONTH'S MO-TELL REGISTER FEATURES ANOTHER TO THE MEMBERS.



JACKIE WRIGHT

Jackie and her husband, puppeteer and percussionist Glen "Papa" Wright, work together as a team. They have been featured tellers at the St. Louis Storytelling Festival, the Kansas City Storytelling Festival, and the By Word of Mouth Storytelling Festival.

Jackie is a member of the National Storytelling Network and is their Missouri State Liaison. She is a member and former vice-president of Missouri Storytelling; a member of the National Association of Black Storytellers; and a member of St. Louis Gateway Storytellers. She is on the St. Louis Storytelling Festival Planning Committee. In 2014, Jackie became a first-time editor for author Diann Joy Bank's A Pot of Mizvot - 18 Jewish Folktales.

Jackie and "Papa" were featured in the January 2018 issue of St. Louis Magazine in an article entitled, "The Many Artistic Facets of Jackie and Glen "Papa" Wright" and in 2007 they were recipients of St. Louis Magazine's 2007 A-List Awards for *Best Story Time*.

What is your interest in storytelling? How did it begin?

It was July 1994. I travelled to Hannibal, MO, with my husband Glen "Papa" Wright, to the By Word of Mouth Storytelling Conference. I had no idea what storytelling was all about. Gladys Coggsell, the founder of the the By Word of Mouth Storytelling Guild, hired "Papa" to do a percussion workshop. I was really impressed with the tellers I met and the stories I heard. It was a great atmosphere of comradery and fun. I wanted to become part of it, but I didn't think I had the courage to speak in front of an audience. Nonetheless, Gladys encouraged me to try. She even sent me home with one of her cassette tapes.

But for twelve months, I did nothing toward becoming a storyteller. "Papa" was invited back to the conference again the next year and I attended with him. Needless to say, I had to tell Gladys that I wasn't prepared to perform a story. But this time at the conference, I met Diann Joy Bank, a St. Louis storyteller who taught a workshop on becoming a storyteller. So, in late September 1995, I signed up for her class.

Why did you decide it was important to be a member of Missouri Storytelling?

I decided that it was important to be a member of Missouri Storytelling because MO-Tell is keeping the oral tradition alive throughout Missouri. It creates community and opportunities for its members to spread the art and joy of storytelling.

What tellers have been influential in your life?

The tellers that have been influential in my life are Gladys Coggsell, Diann Joy Bank, and Sue Hinkel. Of course, I enjoy listening to all of them tell, but Gladys was the first to ignite the desire in me to tell.

(continued on next page)

JACKIE WRIGHT, CONTINUED

Attending her conferences and listening to her and the other tellers was inspiring. When I was ready, Gladys allowed me and "Papa" to be a part of the By Word of Mouth Storytelling Festival.

After Gladys ignited the desire to tell, Diann took me under her wings and taught me how to tell. She introduced me to the St. Louis storytelling community by taking me to storytelling concerts and storytelling guild meetings. I learned about the St. Louis Gateway Storytellers, MO-Tell, Riverwind Storytellers, and the St. Louis Storytelling Festival. Diann and I told tandem tales and presented storytelling workshops together. I learned a lot from her. To this day, I seek her advice, and she continues to encourage me.

In 1997, Sue Hinkel was the president of MO-Tell. ON Diann's recommendation, Sue featured me and "Papa" at MO-Tell's annual Missouri River Storytelling Festival. I was thrilled and honored. "Papa" and I always looked forward to the festival in the Fall of the year. Since then, Sue has also encouraged me to get more involved in storytelling. I became an officer in MO-Tell; an officer in St. Louis Gateway Storytellers; and she and I have worked together for years on a couple of committees for the St. Louis Storytelling Festival. Lastly, Sue suggested that I get involved on the national level and become NSN's MO State Liaison. So, I did. So, I am.

What is your favorite story, movie, or song?

I don't really have a favorite story, movie, or song. However, I love musical theater. My most favorite musicals are *Wicked*, *Les Miserables*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Jersey Boys*, and *The Lion King*.

Favorite Trick or Treat Joke? Memory of Christmas? Valentine memory? Favorite vacation?

My favorite Valentine memory just occurred this year. "Papa" and I made a reservation at a White Castle restaurant. It was a very nice experience.

PSSST...!



**KNOW A
STORY
TELLER
WHO
DOESN'T
KNOW?**

TELL 'EM ABOUT MO-TELL!

RIVER AND PRAIRIE STORYWEAVERS

RAPS Meetings for April, 2019:

Thursday April 4, 2019, 7:00 pm -

RAPS Main Meeting

Theme for Stories: Finish this Story..."The spring rain seemed like it would never stop..."

Trailside Center

99th & Holmes Rd.

Kansas City, MO 64131

Saturday April 13, 2019, NO RAPS North Meeting

NO MEETING - Woodneath Library Center is all booked up for a special art event.

Saturday April 27, 2019, 10:00 am -

RAPS John Knox Meeting

John Knox Village, Missouri Room

(Inside Lakeside Grille)

600 NW Shamrock Ave.

Lee's Summit, MO 64081



MO STATE PARK TELLING SCHEDULE

May 5 - Big Oak Tree State Park - Larry Brown

May 11 - Hawn State Park - Marilyn & Larry Kinsella

May 18 - Hunter Dawson State Park - Carole Shelton

May 26 - Washington State Park - Marilyn & Larry Kinsella

July 6 - Echo Bluff State Park - Larry Brown

STORYTELLERS OF THE OZARKS

April 2019 Calendar

April 7, Sunday, 2:00 p.m.,

Swap at Coryell Apartment Community Room,
248 E. Monastery Rd., Springfield, MO, Hostess: Stella Sharp

April 15, Monday, afternoon tells at McBride Elementary,

Grades 3, 4 and preschool, Nancy will email individual tell schedules

April 24, Wednesday, morning tell at Field Elementary, Grade 2

Short tells at the Gray-Campbell Historic Site are on most Wednesdays,
12:30 p.m., April 17 through end of school in May. Judith Hendrix coordinates.

Contact Nancy Shelton, 417-848-5859 for additional information.

RIVERWINDS STORYTELLERS

Riverwind Storytellers will present

"Poetry with Pizzaz and Stories with Sass"
at Glen Carbon Public Library, Glen Carbon, Illinois
at 6:30 P. M. on Thursday April 11th.

Free and open to the public,
this family-friendly show will appeal to all ages.

MEANWHILE. BACK AT THE WOODNEATH...

Mid-Continent Public Library, Woodneath Story Center,
8900 NE Flintlock Rd, Kansas City, MO 64157, [Phone: \(816\) 883-4900](tel:8168834900)
Woodneath Story Center, Home of the National Storytelling Network

Get Started on a Writing Project

Tuesday, April 2nd, 2019, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Woodneath Community Hall 1 and 2

Story Center Event ***Registration Required***

"Organize your thoughts with outlines, list, mind maps, and discover tricks for getting around writer's block. Come prepared to put pen to paper!"

Story Slam!

Thursday, Apr. 18th, 2019, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Woodneath Storytime Barn

Story Center Event ***Registration Required***

"An open-mic storytelling events that's open to everyone! Put your name in the hat for a chance to share a seven-minute story or just come to enjoy the show."

Storycrafting Fundamentals

Saturday, April 20th, 2019, 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Woodneath Storytime Barn,

Story Center Event ***Registration Required***

Writer and storyteller Anthony Clark will guide participants through developing a basic structure for a new or in-progress story during this five-hour workshop.

Performance Showcase & Masterclass

Tuesday, April 23rd, 2019, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Woodneath Storytime Barn

Story Center Event ***Registration Required***

"Bring your best 7-minute story to perform and get feedback from your peers."

Introduction to Personal Storytelling (Rescheduled from 1/9/19)

Wednesday, April 24th, 2019, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Woodneath Community Hall 1 & 2

Story Center Event ***Registration Required***

"Everyone has a story to tell. Learn to mine your experiences from developing story ideas and learn interviewing skill for family stories."

Writing Prompts for Memoirists

Saturday, April 27th, 2019, 10:30 am - 1:00 pm

Woodneath Community Hall 2

Story Center Event ***Registration Required***

"Use brief writing exercises and class discussion to learn new skills in there structure, and craft to use in both memoir and nonfiction writing."

Memoir: What's Your Story?

Saturday, April 27th, 2019, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Woodneath Community Hall 2

Story Center Event ***Registration Required***

A successful writer once said, "You don't have an idea for a story until you have two ideas." This might seem contrary to the point of a memoir, but a personal story needs context.

MAGNET
HERE

FOR YOUR FRIDGE

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

MAGNET
HERE

RAPS

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SOTO

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STORY OF THE MONTH



UNFAIR COMPETITION

A group of friars were behind on their belfry payments, so they opened up a small florist shop to raise funds. Since everyone liked to buy flowers from the men of God, a rival florist thought the competition unfair.

He asked the good fathers to close down, they would not. So, the rival florist hired Hugh MacTaggart, the most vicious thug in town to persuade them to close. Hugh beat up the friars and trashed their store, saying he'd be back if they didn't close. Terrified they did so, proving that: Hugh and only Hugh can prevent florist friars.

Submitted by Jim Two Crows Wallen

(Isn't Jim great, folks? He'll be here all week and, remember, tip your waitresses. They're workin' hard for ya.)

On that note of Wallen greatness, Deb Wallen has been ill but is home and doing better. Keep your good thoughts coming her way.



The St. Louis Storytelling Festival, now in its 40th year and celebrated from Thursday, April 25-Saturday, May 4, 2019, renews and celebrates this ancient art. It is the largest free storytelling festival in the world.

Throughout its history, it has won many awards for its innovative and masterful celebration of storytelling, and for its outreach to the St. Louis metropolitan community. Most recently, in 2015, it was designated as a Regional Spotlight event awardee in the South Central region by the National Storytelling Network.

In its partnership with the University of Missouri Extension Community Arts Program, this multi-day extravaganza, held at multiple venues across St. Louis City and County, has both featured storytellers from across the nation and regional storytellers from our own community. There are many family-friendly programs for all to enjoy, and most are offered **free** to the public.

Contact [Lisa Overholser](#) for inquiries or to obtain more information on the St. Louis Storytelling Festival. Or you might skip on over to the [St. Louis Storytelling Festival website!](#)

FOR 2019, MO-TELL PROUDLY PRESENTS: THE 5TH ANNUAL MISSOURI STATE LIAR'S CONTEST

The 2019 Missouri Liar's Contest sponsored by MO-TELL (Missouri Storytelling) will be held at the **Daniel Boone Regional Library** in **Columbia, MO** on **July 13, 2019**.

There will be two categories of stories (Tall Tales) for the Liar's Contest:

Oral Storytelling - up to a 10 minute story
Written Storytelling - up to 3,000 words for the story.

Rules and how to apply to enter each contest will be published later but they should be similar to the ones for previous contests.

Whether or not you intend to compete in either or both contests save the date, July 13, 2019, and plan to attend for one of the most creative storytelling events in the state of Missouri.

Deadline for entries: May 1, 2019. Details on entering to follow.



The 26th annual Kansas Storytelling Festival will be April 26-27, 2019. You won't want to miss a single story in this celebration of stories and Downs will have the welcome mat out with great hometown hospitality! The Kansas Storytelling Festival opens on a Friday afternoon and closes the following evening.

2019 Tall Tale Contestants Are Announced!

On Saturday, October 13, six fibbers contested for the rights to perform and compete again in April at the Kansas Storytelling Festival. Four finalists were selected by both the audience vote and panel of judges.

Contestants were Noah Hansen, Keyta Kelly, Vivian Ross, Rachel Kelly, Jim Lee, and Rich White. Winning the bragging rights were Keyta, Rachel, Jim and Rich. Congratulations!

Thanks to all the contestants for bringing such entertaining stories.

Celebrate stories!

The Kansas Storytelling Festival opens on a Friday afternoon and closes the following evening. Within this charmed pocket of time the Kansas Storytelling Festival offers two evening concerts and many separate sessions of stories, workshops and music. There's something for everyone; Puppets and Stories for Children, Homespun Tales, Historical Portrayals, Poetry, Music, and more.

On Friday afternoon and all day Saturday, storytelling sessions are held simultaneously at different locations, all within comfortable walking distance. Stories continue almost until the evening storytelling concerts. For your convenience, local organizations provide food options at the festival as well as local restaurants, and opportunities to sit down and exchange stories with a friend abound.

Downs, Kansas, is called the "The Town of Many Stories," and rightly so. We tell stories. We listen to stories. We save stories. Each April since 1994 we honor stories by hosting the Kansas Storytelling Festival.



Break a Leg!

INFORMAL REVIEWS OF EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCES

Joyce Slater, our Fearless Leader, says:

"I did a workshop in March for teens at a library. They were shy at first but then we started talking about the characters in our stories and in our lives.

One of the participants told us a story about her dad. It was so beautiful and wonderful, I wished he had been there to hear it. She completely opened up about her feelings for him. We all listened in awe."

What about you?

What performance have you heard or seen that you found noteworthy or exceptional? Hide our beloved art under a bushel? NO! Let it shine, all the time! Let it shine! Tell us all about it (motellnews@gmail.com) and we'll show it off here.

TRUTH IS STRANGER...

Here are actual newspaper headlines, circa 1996.
What mighty stories could come of these!

Stolen Painting Found by Tree
Enraged Cow Injures Farmer with Ax
Red Tape Holds Up New Bridge
Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft
Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half

What a story you could make up about each headline!

*Thanks, Perrin,
for the concept!*

YOU'RE GONNA JOIN ONE OF THESE TWO...

WHO'S IT GONNA BE?



Seize the day! Don't let the sun go down on your non-membership!

Join MO-TELL right now, because it's so easy.

MO-TELL memberships:

Single Memberships -

\$25 for year year or \$45 for two.

Family Memberships -

\$35 for one year or \$50 for two.

Your membership will not be active until the home office receives and clears your payment, but it will change your life in small but significant ways once it blooms!

Send a check or money order, payable to MO-TELL, to:

MO-TELL
c/o Sue Hinkel
2236 Highway N
Pacific, MO 63069

AN ORGANIZATION WITHOUT MEMBERS IS ONLY A GOOD IDEA IN AN EMPTY ROOM.

MO-TELL LOVES ITS MEMBERS!

NEXT UP ON STAGE:

(BRAND NEW MEMBERS)

Tim Manson
Denise Grow
Siobhan Chanp-Backwell
Geneva Greenfield
Sue Bravo
Jean Hatfield
Tangles
Raelene Crotser
Flavia Evermen
Linda Kram
Marilyn Kinsella

ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING:

(RENEWED MEMBERS)

Nancy & Michael Micham
Rebecca Everly
Fran Stallings
Carole Shelton
Joyce Slater

Larry Brown
Carol & Justin Watkins
Gary & Linda Kuntz
Carol Kariotis
Rich White
Roger Rose
Marilyn Sue Warren

WORTH THE PRICE OF ADMISSION:

(DONATIONS & MEMORIALS)

Donations:

Gary and Linda Kuntz - \$350
MO-TELL thanks you!

In Memoriam:

To the memory of Micah Harlan Bacus
Alice & Perrin Stifel
Joyce Slater

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Mission Statement:

Missouri Storytelling, Inc. ("MO-TELL") is an organization of storytellers and other interested persons dedicated to spreading the joy and the art of storytelling throughout Missouri.

Vision Statement:

We envision that every Missourian will hear and share stories and keep the oral tradition alive.

Currently, You're Enjoying the Benefits of MO-TELL Membership!

1. Newsletter
2. Annual meeting
3. Telling in the State Parks
4. Reduced entry for the Liar's Contest
5. Reduced membership fee for the National Storytelling Network

YES! YOU CAN HELP MO-TELL FULFILL ITS MISSION!

There are several ways to help MO-TELL move its mission forward:

1. Become a member
2. Renew your membership each year
3. Encourage others to join
4. Make a donation
5. Make a memorial donation
6. Volunteer your services

OUR ESTEEMED BOARD MEMBERS

(And the other ones, too.)

President: Joyce Slater, joyceslater20@gmail.com

Treasurer: Sue Hinkel, shinkel@mail.win.org (Membership)

Secretary: Jim Two Crows Wallen, jimtwocrows@att.net

At Large: Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com

At Large: Becky Walstrom, becky.walstroms@gmail.com

Emeritus: Perrin Stifel, pstifelstl@earthlink.net

www.mo-tell.org

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Our mailing address is:

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