

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



THE REGISTER

MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The snow is falling and it reminds me that Winter is a time for telling stories. In some traditions, stories are only told in the period between the first snow and the last snow of the season.

During the Spring, Summer and early Fall, communities were busy hunting and growing food so there was little opportunity for storytelling. In the winter when the days were shorter and the ground was frozen with ice and snow, people stayed inside to keep warm. The gathering of family encouraged the sharing of stories. Stories entertained, shared traditions and taught morals.

Traditional stories also had a lot of animals in them. It was respectful to tell animal stories when the animals weren't around to hear them.

There were Sacred stories too. The sacredness of each tribe was embodied in their stories and these stories could only be shared by tribal members. The sacredness of all cultures and their stories should be respected. What are your sacred stories?



A THOUGHT FOR YOUR DAY:

“Stories have to be told or they die, and when they die, we can't remember who we are or why we're here.”

— Sue Monk Kidd,
The Secret Life of Bees

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



FEATURING THESE GREAT ONES:

Joyce Slater
Bobby Norfolk
Sherry Norfolk
Larry Brown
Br. John Anderson
Karen Young
Carole Shelton
Holly Robinson
Beth Horner

The MRRL Storytelling Festival will hold a public concert at the Missouri River Regional Library, in the Library Art Gallery at 6:30 pm, on Thursday, March 22, 2019 at the MRRL. The line up is Beth Horner, Holly Robinson, Br. John Anderson and Carole Shelton.

POLICY CHANGE!

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-issues-standard-mileage-rates-for-2019>

IR-2018-251, December 14, 2018

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2019 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2019, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 58 cents per mile driven for business use, up 3.5 cents from the rate for 2018,
- 20 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, up 2 cents from the rate for 2018, and
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations.

MO-TELL'S MEMBER PROFILE

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

RIC VICE



I worked in public education for 33 years as a music teacher and elementary librarian. My mom was a homemaker who worked at Ball State University as a cashier, Dad worked for car dealerships all his life, in the Service Department and Body Shops. I have one brother who's 6 years younger than me. I don't really have any particular hobbies, because my three professions: Teaching, Music, and Storytelling have kept me pretty busy all my life. My wife Kathy is from St. Louis and until recently taught 1st Grade. I have one son, Nate who is a gifted young man, currently working at Sports Port and at So Il Climb.

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

I've always led two different lives, one as a Elementary Librarian in the Ferguson/Florissant school district, where I entertained school children with stories, that usually had a funny message and as a professional musician who improvised jazz since I was in high school. Storytelling puts the two together because I'm always making something new up to add flavor to the stories, like singing a song, giving the characters voices, or doing sound effects.

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

How can Mo-Tell improve? Example: members, news, I have always tried to support the arts, I think being part of a statewide professional organization dedicated to promoting Storytelling is a good thing to do. Whatever I can do to promote and encourage tellers and audiences throughout Missouri benefits all of us in the profession.

What tellers have been influential in your life?

Well, most of my family were pretty great storytellers, even though they might not have known it. So that's what got me started. Hanging around with musicians, who were always swapping tales about the crazy characters they met, whether on the band stand or in the audience, makes you want to share your experiences with your bandmates. Then there're the folks who are professional tellers that moved me, like Bobby Norfolk, Annette Harrison, Sue Hinkel, and Ken, Wolfe. If you keep your ears open, you're certain to hear something that inspires you, either in the stories they choose, or the way they tell them. If you hang around with them enough, something is bound to rub off.

What is a favorite story, movie, song?

It's really hard for me to pick a single story, but one I dearly love is a tale from Ghana called Le Le Goro about a four year old girl who's so strong that she can throw an Antelope, Leopard, and Elephant up into the sky. It's both funny and poignant. There are way too many movies to narrow it down to one. As a musician, I truly love 1,000s of songs. Frankly I like any song that has a good story or a great melody.

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

Holidays are an important time for telling and remembering stories. Vacations, even more so! My family visited Expo 67 in Montreal Canada and right out of the gate, my brother who was 10 years old at the time, won a giant stuffed teddy bear throwing a ball into a stack of bottles. We had to carry that bear all over the fair, in 100 plus degree heat, and on the metro.

RIVER AND PRAIRIE STORYWEAVERS

Calendar for March 2019

Thursday March 7, 2019, 7:00 pm - RAPS Main Meeting

Featuring a workshop by Christine Henderson: "Involve Senior Audiences at nursing homes and senior centers in story creation process"

Theme for Stories: Favorite Aesop or Just So Stories

Trailside Center

99th & Holmes Rd.

Kansas City, MO 64131

Saturday March 9, 2019, 2:00 pm - RAPS North Meeting

Theme for Stories: Lions and Lambs

Woodneath Library Center - Storytime Barn

8900 NE Flintlock Road

Kansas City, MO 64157

Saturday March 23, 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

STORYTELLERS OF THE OZARKS

March 2019 Calendar

March 9, Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Snacks and Swap at Brentwood Library Community Room, 2214 S. Brentwood Blvd. Springfield, MO. Hostess Nancy, 417-848-5859.

March 25, 10:30 a.m.

Brookhaven Retirement Center, 3400 Mt. Vernon St., Springfield, MO, 417-848-5859.

RIVERWINDS STORYTELLERS

March 18th - Riverwind Storytellers Story Swap & Meeting
6:00 dinner and discussion
7:00 Story Swap

Golden Corral
1079 Collinsville Crossing
Collinsville, IL

GATEWAY STORYTELLERS

March 26, Tuesday
Potluck at 6:00
Storytelling at 7:00

Crown Center
8350 Delcrest Dr.
St. Louis, Missouri, 63124.

MAGNET
HERE

FOR YOUR FRIDGE

MAGNET
HERE

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

RAPS

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SOTO

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St. Louis, Missouri, 63124

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE WOODNEATH...

CLASSES FOR STORYTELLING CERTIFICATION, PLUS A SLAM!

1. Storytelling as a Successful Business

Sunday, March 3, 2019

1:30 - 3:30pm

Woodneath Community Hall 1 and 2

Story Center Event: Registration Required

“Learn the fundamental of running a storytelling business from goal setting to essential professional habits such as record keeping and setting rates.”

This class is part of the Oral Storytelling Certification.

2. Effective Branding Strategies

Monday, March 4, 2019

6:30 - 8:30pm

Woodneath Computer Lab

Story Center Event: Registration Required

“Learn to cultivate a brand that speaks to your identity as a writer or storyteller and answers the question: ‘Does the marketing work for me?’”

This class is part of the Oral Storytelling Certification.

3. Social Media and Marketing

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

6:30 - 8:30pm

Woodneath Community Hall 1

Story Center Event: Registration Required

“Learn how to sell your work and connect to your audience by exploring effective marketing tactics, networking, and social media platforms.”

4. Story Slam! Woodneath Story Center and the National Storytelling Network

Thursday, March 21, 2019

6:30 - 8:30pm

Woodneath Storytime Barn

Story Center Event: Registration Required

“An open-mic storytelling event that’s open to anyone! Come to enjoy the show, or put your name in the hat for a chance to share a seven-minute story!”

Break a Leg!

INFORMAL REVIEWS OF EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCES



NANCY SHELTON SAYS:

One of the Storytellers of the Ozarks, Dixie Simpson, tells a hilarious story about getting gum stuck in her dentures. The more she tries to get it out, the worse it becomes. She has to wait over the weekend without teeth. Goes early on a Monday with a sack on her head to see the dentist. Last time she told it was probably at a retired teacher's group meeting in November. Had everyone laughing.

"UNTITLED DENTURE STORY" DIXIE SIMPSON

YOUR REVIEW GOES HERE

Hey, we weren't kidding! Go on! Add your review!
What better place to give props to your colleagues?
They say storytelling is becoming cut-throat?
Nah! Let's show 'em that it's always been pat-on-the-back!

AND NOW...

A MOMENT IN MO-TELL HISTORY

WITH PERRIN STIFEL

We had our first Missouri Storytelling aka MO-TELL event at Cuivre River State Park, and I got there early on a Friday. Twelve people were coming for the workshop weekend, so I thought I should go to town, get a few things, and eat a bite of supper, so I left. But as I was leaving, I suddenly felt an owl's wings brush by my head and I thought, "Oh, this is kind of a good sign."

Then I got to town and remembered that the camp hadn't supplied toilet paper for our workshop weekend. I thought, How much toilet paper do you need for 12 people? I got a lot of toilet paper, and at the end of the weekend we were able to give everyone several rolls. We had 37 rolls of toilet paper left over.

While I was in town I ate supper at Burger Chef. A young couple in the restaurant was arguing and she said, "I've heard it all before." Then I remembered the quote that begins *Beowulf*: "We've heard it all before and we rejoice in the retelling." It turned out to be a wonderful weekend, and it was the beginning of both MO-TELL and a few traditions.

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 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!](#)

STORY OF THE MONTH

Kugterburgt

We were three brothers; two of us were silly, and neither of us had a bit of sense. We went to the bow-maker's and bought three bows, two of which were broken, and the third had no string.

In a stream without a drop of water swam three ducks, two of which were dead, while the third hadn't a spark of life. We shot one with an arrow, and taking it in our hand, set off up hill and down dale, drinking coffee and smoking tobacco, gathering tulips and hyacinths, until we had travelled the length of a barleycorn.

On and on we went, until we came to three houses, two of which were in ruins, while the third had no foundation. There lay three men, two dead and one without life. We asked the dead men to give us a vessel to cook our duck in. They showed us three cupboards, two of which were broken and the third had no sides.

In them we found three plates, two full of holes and the third without bottom. In the plate without bottom we cooked the duck.

One of us said, "I have eaten sufficient," the other, "I've no appetite," and I said, "No more, thank you."

He who said he had eaten sufficient ate up the whole duck, he who said he had no appetite ate up the bones, at which I became angry and ran away to a melon field.

Taking my knife from my girdle I cut a melon. Where my knife was, there was I. Meeting a caravan, I asked where my knife was. They answered me: "For forty years we have been looking for twelve camels we have lost. As we have not been able to find them, how you think we could find your knife?"

At this I went away in anger and came to a tree. Close by was a basket in which some one had put a murdered man. As I looked at him I saw forty thieves approaching, so I took to my heels, they after me. Running till I was out of breath I reached an old tumble-down drama, in the court of which I sat down to rest. The thieves followed and chased me round and round the court, until in my despair I sought to escape them by climbing to the pinnacle of the

minaret. One of the thieves drew his knife and came at me, when with a loud shriek I looked my hold and fell to earth.

I mortal terror I suddenly opened my eyes — to discover that I had been dreaming.





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.



MO-TELL will again be able to provide storytellers in our Missouri State Parks and Historical Sites for the Fall of 2019 and Spring of 2020. Storytellers in the region are invited to apply for these positions. MO-TELL will provide \$200 for each gig and the State Parks will provide a stipend for expenses which will be paid through MO-TELL.

To apply send the following to Joyce Slater (joyceslater20@gmail.com) by March 15, 2019:

1. Name
2. Contact information(address, email address, phone number)
3. Complete description of appropriate storytelling programs(up to 200 words)
4. No more than one (1) quality picture of yourself

The State Park and Historic Site personnel choose the storyteller for their need and contact them.

Important:

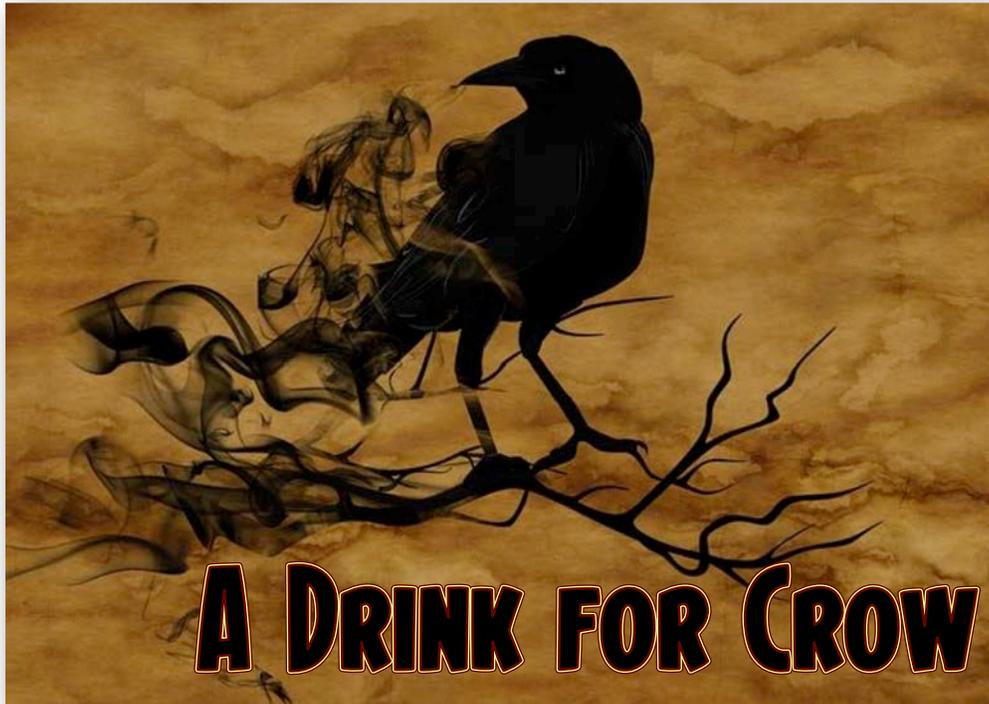
A full report/evaluation, an invoice and a picture of the event is required for payment. We want to tell your story in our newsletter.

MO-TELL is responsible for the payment.

Do not contact the park or the historic site for payment.

And now...

A puzzle answer just for you!



THE PUZZLE IN QUESTION

Once there was a crow who had grown so thirsty he could barely caw. He flew down to a big pitcher where he had gotten a drink of water the day before, but there was only a little bit of water remaining at the bottom.

He tried and tried to reach it with his beak, but the pitcher was too deep and his beak was too short.

But just as he was about to give up, he knew what to do. He flew back and forth from the garden to the pitcher until he was able to drink easily from the pitcher while sitting on its edge.

What did the crow do?

IT SEEMS TOO MANY PEOPLE SENT IN THEIR ANSWERS WITH SOME REALLY CLEVER APPROACHES THAT WE COULDN'T INCLUDE THEM ALL, SO WE'RE JUST SUPPLYING THE ANSWER.

(PERRIN, WE'RE LOOKING AT YOU AND THAT HILARIOUS CROW COSTUME! WHEREVER DID YOU FIND SUCH AN ELABORATE GETUP? AND LINDA, THAT CROW PUPPET ON THE VIDEO LOOKED SO REALISTIC! WELL DONE.*)

A DRINK FOR CROW

TURN YOUR COMPUTER UPSIDE-DOWN FOR THE ANSWER, CAREFULLY NOW...

THE CROW GATHERED PEBBLES, ONE BY ONE, AND DROPPED THEM INTO THE PITCHER UNTIL THE WATER ROSE TO THE TOP.

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.

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

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

Board Members

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 (Liar's contest)
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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