



JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



The storytelling gift is innate: one has it, or one doesn't. But style is at least partly a learned thing: one refines it by looking and listening and reading and practice - by work.

Donna Tartt

Hello my friends,

July 10th is the new deadline for sending in your entries for the Missouri Liars Contest.

There is time to tell your story, enter the contest and win the prize! I am so excited for the contest this year. It is the tenth anniversary of MO-TELL's Annual Missouri Liars Contest. Ten years ago, Anthony Clark set this in motion. We have him to thank for starting us on this path. It has been a sweet ride these past ten years. Hurray to Anthony and thank you.

Let's all meet in Columbia and celebrate our time together. I want to thank our team, Linda Kuntz and Jackie Wright, who organized this year's event. Many thanks to Ken Wolfe for promoting it in the newsletter, Columbia Public Library for their generous donation of space and advertising, our board of directors and of course the members and storytellers out there who keep storytelling alive. Thank you, everyone.

Keep telling your stories,

Joyce Slater

President, MO-TELL

Together Again!

NSN
Conference

July 11 - 14, 2024



Duane Bay Center on Puget Sound
Washington State

2024 NSN CONFERENCE VIRTUAL OFFERINGS

Tickets: \$75

THURSDAY JULY 11th

6:45 pm-8:45 pm
Pacific Daylight Time

Pacific Northwest Regional Showcase

Opened by Gene Tagaban. Regional tellers: Eva Abram, Tobey Anderson, Eric Foxman, Ken Iverson, Ingrid Nixon, Joy Ross

FRIDAY JULY 12th

9:00 am-10:30 am
Pacific Daylight Time

Untold Narratives and Restorative Programs--Sharing Program Models for Individuals who are Incarcerated and Restored Citizens.

Kevin Cordi, Ellen Munds, Michael D. McCarty, Kendra Hovey, Blakk Sun and zoom guests.

10:45am-12:15pm
Pacific Daylight Time

Using Storytelling to Plant the Seeds of Social Change.

Jo Radner, Eva Abram, Milbre Burch, Heather Forest

1:15pm-2:45pm
Pacific Daylight Time

Vividness, Verve & Vigor -- Word Play for Stronger Stories

Ingrid Nixon.

3:00pm-4:30pm
Pacific Daylight Time

Strong Like Bamboo: Stories of Resilience in the Era of Anti-AAPI.

Nancy Wang, Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo, Eleanor Clement-Glass, Bowen Lee, Alton Chung, Lilian Shoji.

4:00 pm-5:15 pm
Pacific Daylight Time

Together Again Virtual Gathering Space-- courtesy of Healing Story Alliance

Host: Heather Forest

On Zoom

6:45 pm-8:45 pm
Pacific Daylight Time

National Teller Showcase:

Elizabeth Ellis; Eth-Noh-Tec; Adam Booth; Antonio Rocha; Angela Lloyd.

SATURDAY JULY 13th

9:00 am-10:30 am
Pacific Daylight Time

The Malaga Ship: A Story of Maine and the Middle Passage.

Antonio Rocha.

10:45 am - 12:15 pm
Pacific Daylight Time

Vulnerability: Your Storytelling Superpower

Elizabeth Ellis

1:15 pm -3:15 pm
Pacific Daylight Time

NSN Annual Meeting.

This session is free to all Virtual Ticket Holders and all NSN members.

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Pacific Daylight Time

Asian American Storytellers in Action: A Tapestry of Braided Stories

Linda Yemoto, Anne Shimojima, Karin Amano, Roopa Mohan, and Tobey Anderson

6:45 pm - 8:45 pm
Pacific Daylight Time

Oracle Awards

Includes concert by Oracle winners and SLAM winner. This session is free to all Virtual ticket holders and NSN members.

MAGNET
HERE

FOR YOUR FRIDGE

MAGNET
HERE

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

RAPS

July 2024

Thursday July 4, 2024, NO
MEETING - First Thursday Meeting
Enjoy the Fourth of July!!!!!!!

Saturday July 20, 2024, NO
MEETING - Third Sat. Meeting
Hope to see you at:
**MO-TELL Liars Contest
in Columbia, MO**

Thursday August 1, 2024, 7:00 pm
First Thursday Meeting
Hybrid meeting at Trailside Center
AND on Zoom
**Officer Elections: Director, Events
Coordinator, Secretary**
Story Theme: "Stories of Service"

*Hybrid meetings will be held in-person at:

Trailside Center	Woodneath Library Center
99 th & Holmes Rd.	8900 NE Flintlock Road
Kansas City, MO 64131	Kansas City, MO 64157

If not on RAPS Mailing List,
Contact: RAPS.Secretary@gmail.com
for additional info and Zoom links.

GATEWAY

July 2024

**Continuing to Wish
you Happy
Continuation of the
Continually
Continuing
New Year from
Gateway
Storytellers,
continued!**

Sue Hinkel presents: Tips for Telling

TIPS for storytellers from Linda Kuntz

Have a written contract in hand before the performance, spelling out ...

When you are telling stories.

Where you are telling stories.

Who you are telling stories to. (This can change)

Clear directions to the performance site.

Where you are to park your car, do you need a parking tag?

Who is going to meet you and/or introduce you?

What do you need to bring? Portable amp? Mic and stand?

Canopy? Chair? Water?

What will they provide? Amp? Mic? Chair? Seating for the audience? Canopy? Water?

How much you will be paid?

How you will be paid?

Who do you submit your invoice to?

When will you be paid? (Sometimes you receive at check after your performance or it may take 6 months for you invoice to be processed)

Will photographs be taken?



www.MO-TELL.org

MISSOURI STORYTELLING, INC (MO-TELL) ONLINE AUCTION

[WWW.32AUCTIONS.COM/MO-TELL](http://www.32AUCTIONS.COM/MO-TELL)
AUGUST 15, 2024 TO AUGUST 30, 2024

This money raised will help MO-TELL continue to support storytelling in Missouri through storytelling at Missouri State Parks and Historic sites, Zoom events, workshops and festivals.

To donate an item or service please email Lindakkuntz@yahoo.com the following by August 1, 2024.

1. A picture of the item. If it's a service, perhaps your photo or business card.
2. Description of the donated item or service. Up to three sentences.
3. Approximate value (minimum of \$25)
4. Starting bid price
5. Name of donor, mailing address, email address and telephone number.

MO-TELL is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization and your donation is tax deductible. After the auction closes and payments are received, you will be notified who has won your item or service and their mailing address so you can ship it to them.

Thank you for supporting MO-TELL.

Joyce Slater, President
Missouri Storytelling, Inc (MO-TELL)



NEWS BLAST

Together Again!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[HTTPS://STORYNET.ORG/EVENTS/NSN-2024-CONFERENCE/](https://storynet.org/events/NSN-2024-conference/)

NSN Conference

July 11 - 14, 2024



Dumas Bay Centre on Puget Sound
Washington State

2024 MISSOURI LIAR'S CONTEST

CASH PRIZES!

FAME & INFAMY!

JULY 20, 2024

COLUMBIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

SPOKEN & WRITTEN CATEGORIES

IN LIVE PERFORMANCES

DETAILS OF ENTRY SUBMISSION COMING SOON!

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION - JULY 10, 2024



2024 Missouri Liars Contest

The deadline to submit a spoken or written work is July 1, 2024!!

Columbia Public Library
100 W. Broadway, Columbia, MO 65203. (573) 443-3161
Friends Room, Conference Room A and B
Saturday, July 20, 2024

Columbia Public Library opens at 9 am

9:15 am Participants/audience sign-in with name and contact info. Prizes will be awarded from this list later—t-shirt, button, or MO-TELL bag. Library is offering coffee, juice, and pastries for the morning workshop.

9:30 am to 11:45 am Workshop (2 ½ hour). Workshop leader Larry Brown.

Lunch on your own from 11:45 am to 1 pm.

1:00 pm Seating opens at 1:00 pm. Contestants check in for sound check. Judges check in to review rules. Timer checks in. Teller order is pulled from a hat.

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm Emcee welcomes all to 10th Annual Missouri Liars Contest (Written and Spoken Category).

3:30 pm to 4:00 pm Written contestants introduced, and the winning piece read. Award audience prizes from sign-in list.

4:00 pm to 4:30 pm Award the 3rd, 2nd and 1st place Spoken Word winners.

Columbia Public Library closes at 5 pm.

[Spoken Contest Rules](#)

[Spoken Contest Registration Form](#)

[Written Contest Rules](#)

[Written Contest Registration Form](#)



THE MISSOURI STATE LIARS CONTEST - 2024 OFFICIAL RULES – SPOKEN CATEGORY

The following rules pertain to the Spoken Category of the 2024 Missouri State Liars Contest, sponsored by MO-TELL (Missouri Storytelling, Inc.).

Each entrant in the **Spoken Category** of the 2024 Missouri State Liars contest must:

- Submit a video or audio file (or web link to such) of the complete story he/she is entering to Joyce Slater at joyceslater20@gmail.com.
- Submit a **\$15 entry fee for MO-TELL members**, or a **\$30 entry fee for non-MO-TELL members** with the registration form to MO-TELL Treasurer, PO Box 28994, St. Louis, MO 63132-8994
- Each entrant may submit up to five (5) stories. Each additional story submitted must be accompanied by a separate \$15 entry fee. Note that each entrant may submit up to five (5) stories in each category, the Spoken Category and the Written Category. The same story *may* be submitted in both categories, i.e., as an entry in the Spoken Category *and* the Written Category. If 2 or more stories are selected in one category, the entrant must choose which one to keep in the competition. If the same story is selected in both categories, the entrant must decide in which category the story would remain for competition.
- **Deadline for Entering** Story entries will be accepted until **July 1, 2024**. A panel of judges will choose up to 10 finalists from among the entrants in the Spoken Category to compete in a live event in July. Finalists will be notified on or around **July 8, 2024**, of their selection for the final round. Finalists in the Spoken Category will be invited to compete in person at the final round on July 20, 2024. A panel of judges will select the winner of the Spoken Category and the winner will be announced at the event that day. Cash prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in both the spoken and written categories.
- **Eligible Stories** Eligible entries for the Spoken Category of the 2024 contest include any story that's *not completely true*. Entries may be original compositions,

or they may be based partially or wholly on folklore or other material from the public domain. Copyrighted stories are not allowed in the contest unless the contest entrant is the copyright holder. **Stories must be 10 minutes or less with a one minute allowance. Stories must also be PG-rated—i.e., appropriate for an all-ages audience. Any story entered in the contest which fails to meet these requirements, as deemed by the judges, will be disqualified.**

Judging Criteria: Although the performance of each entrant will be evaluated, the technical quality of the video or audio recording will not be a factor in the judging, if the story can be clearly heard and/or seen by the judges.

Judging will be done by a panel of three storytelling experts who will score each contestant in the following categories:

- a. Technique - Delivery, confidence, general stagecraft
- b. Story Development - Good development of the tale (beginning, middle and end) in time available
- c. Originality - New material or fresh handling of a familiar yarn
- d. Effectiveness of the story as a lie - In judges' opinion, taking audience response into consideration

The three judges will score each of the four categories on a scale of 1 to 5, with a maximum of 20 points per competitor.

- **If an individual wins the Liars Contest (Spoken) 5 times, then they are no longer eligible to compete (in the Spoken category) and are elevated to the rank of Most Accomplished Liar in Missouri rank.**
- Any individual involved in collecting entries or arranging judges will be deemed a contest director and will be ineligible from entering the 2024 contest. Immediate family members of contest directors or contest judges are also ineligible. Additionally, professional politicians (defined as individuals who earn the majority of their income from elected office) are ineligible from entering the contest while in office.

DEADLINE EXTENDED!
JULY 10



**A WORKSHOP WITH MASTER STORYTELLER,
LARRY G. BROWN**

**"TWISTS, TURN, AND TERMINATE:
TECHNIQUES FOR THE TELLING TRAJECTORY"**

THIS WORKSHOP WILL EXPLORE THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING A NARRATIVE PLOT LINE (STORY ARC) FOR ORAL STORYTELLING IN ORDER TO ENHANCE LISTENER ENGAGEMENT.

**JULY 20, 2024
9:30 AM**

AT THE 2024 MO-TELL LIARS CONTEST

**GET YOUR SEAT
AT LARRY'S FEET!**

REGISTER TODAY TO LEARN FROM A MASTER!

Twists, Turns and Terminate

Techniques for the Storytelling Trajectory

Saturday, July 20

9:30-11:30 a.m.

[Add to Calendar](#)

Columbia Public Library

Friends Room

In this workshop, you'll explore the process of developing a narrative plotline (story arc) for oral storytelling in order to enhance listener engagement. Presented by storyteller Larry Brown.

Larry has been a storyteller for over 45 years, performing at numerous storytelling events and festivals around the country, and has held leadership positions for a variety of storytelling organizations. Co-sponsored by [Missouri Storytelling, Inc.](#) (MO-TELL).

Adults. Please register.

AGE GROUP: | [Adults](#) |

EVENT TYPE: | [General](#) |

TAGS: | [Writing](#) | [Workshop](#) | [Storytelling](#) |

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





The only thing worse than being blind is
having sight with no vision.

- Helen Keller



WE HAVE VISION.

DON'T MISS THIS!

NSN 2024 Conference

[Registration for Conference or Virtual Ticket](#)

[Click Here to Purchase Ticket](#)

[Conference Program](#)[Printable Virtual Ticket](#)

Contact Dot@storynet.org if you would like to post an ad in the conference program.

[Conference Information](#)

[Click Here for Details](#)

[Conference Housing and Meal Menu](#)

[Click Here for Details](#)

If you would like help finding a roommate for one of the conference hotels,

email: mrm@margaretreadmacdonald.com

[Centre Website](#)[Map of Centre](#)

Federal Way, Washington – Seattle/Tacoma International Airport (Sea-Tac) – Use UBER or Taxi from airport to Federal Way (approximately 30-min ride at \$50 each way)

A BIT OF MO-TELL HISTORY

MO-TELL MEMORIES OF GLEN "PAPA" WRIGHT

It was September of 1995. My wife, Jackie, took a storytelling workshop with Diann Joy Bank to learn how to become a storyteller. Diann told Jackie about an organization called MO-TELL. Of course, Diann had to explain exactly what MO-TELL meant. I was interested in storytelling as well. Years earlier, I had partnered with and accompanied, playing percussion instruments, a storyteller named Bert Minkin. Diann told Jackie that MO-TELL had an event coming up in October. So, Jackie and I both decided to attend MO-TELL's event.

I believe it was a two-day festival. It was called the *Missouri River Storytelling Festival*. I recall MO-TELL on one of the nights, having dinner first, then a storytelling concert followed. I don't recall who told at the first festival I attended, which was at some place called a School Mall in St. Charles, MO. Jackie and I attended so many festivals, it's difficult to pinpoint who was featured in any particular year. In the early years of our attendance, the late 1990s, I do remember seeing Jackie Torrence, Loren Niemi, Angela Lloyd, Milbre Birch, and Doug Lipman. That's all I can think of right now.

Every year, Jackie and I looked forward to going to the Missouri River Storytelling Festival. It was the highlight of our fall. We still miss it to this day. The festival had several locations over the years. I also remember attending on the Golden Rod Showboat that was docked in St. Charles on the Missouri River riverfront. Later it was at the Depot on the riverfront.

Of course, we soon became members of MO-TELL and got acquainted with the St. Louis storytelling community. A couple of years later, Diann Bank suggested to Sue Hinkel that Jackie was ready to tell on the *Missouri River Storytelling Festival* concert; and of course, I would accompany her on percussion instruments. So, Sue invited us to the October 1997 Missouri River Storytelling Festival. It was the year Milbre Birch was the featured teller. I believe it took place on the Goldenrod Showboat. Jackie and I were thrilled to be asked to be at the concert and thrilled to share the stage with Milbre Birch and the other tellers, Karen Young, Deb Swanegan, Joyce Slater, Pat Baker, and Donna Merz. Later, we were on the festival concert with Doug Lipman on the Golden Rod Showboat.

Jackie and I also attended Tellabration concerts every November, which included a silent auction. The silent auctions are now held during the Liars' Contest. I believe I attended a Tellabration that was held at the Union Avenue Christian Church in St. Louis on Union Avenue. I recall Jackie and I telling on a couple of Tellabtrations, including last year's Tellabration in St. Louis at O'Connell's Pub, upstairs at Jack's Joint.

I remember the annual membership meetings that were held in January and still are. Back in the late 90s and early 2000s, we usually met at Karen and Mike Potts home in St. Charles. Members came with a story to tell and a dish to share. Jackie told "Tale of the Three Trees" one year, as I accompanied her on percussion instruments. I also remember Jackie and I doing an upfront puppet show, "The Three Billy Goats" at one of the meetings.

In the early 2000s, Jackie and I were asked to be Co-Vice President of MO-TELL. We held the position until our term was up. Since 2023, I am on the board as a member-at-large and Jackie is the treasurer. Since I got involved with MO-TELL so long ago, my memory of a lot of the details has left, but I remember how I felt. I enjoyed the stories and the camaraderie of the storytellers and the story listeners, and I still do today.

A GLIMPSE OF THE MO-TELL EVENT PAPA DESCRIBES



MOTELL picture from 1997, October storytelling festival on the Goldenrod

CAN YOU NAME THE TELLERS?

- 2 5
- 1 3 4 6 7 8

GOING TO A MISSOURI STATE PARK? NOW YOU KNOW WHICH ONE & WHEN! SUPPORT MISSOURI STORYTELLING!



2024 MO-TELL STORYTELLER STATE PARK AND HISTORIC SITES LIST

PARK/SITE	EVENT	DATE/TIME	STORYTELLER
WAKONDA SP	SPOOKTACULAR EVENT	10/26/24	GARY & LINDA KUNTZ
LAKE OZARK SP	STORIES	6/15/24/ 7PM	RICH WHITE
MASTODON SP	STORIES	7/25/24/ 7 PM	ERIC HAYNES
BENNETT SPRING SP	ANNIVERSARY EVENT	10/05/24	MIKE & NANCEE MICHAM
HUNTER-DAWSON SP	FRENCH/SPANISH TRAPPERS	9/28/24/ 1 PM	SARAH POFF
ONONDAGA CAVE SP	HALLOWEEN EVENT	10/25/24	RAELENE CROSTER
ROBERTSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, HIGGINSVILLE, MO	PLANETS	7/23/24/ 1 PM	FRAN STALLINGS
HAHA TONKA SP	TBD	6/14/24	JIM "TWO CROWS" WALLEN
MONTALIK SP	TBD	TBD	HEATHER HARLAN
POMME DE TERRE SP	HALLOWEEN EVENT	10/19/24	SHERRY NORFOLK

RICH TALES & WHITE LIES

LAKE OF THE OZARKS STATE PARK



An Evening of Rich White Stories at Lake of the Ozarks State Park Campground

My wife Alice and I showed up at the Lake of the Ozarks State Park Campground in the early afternoon to scope out the venue for the 7:00 pm storytelling performance. We found the amphitheater was small enough that the PA system we had along would not be needed. We didn't see any notices about the storytelling, and I was a little concerned.

We returned a little before 6:00 pm to the Campground Store where we met Candy Hawk, the Park Specialist who was handling the storytelling. Candy informed me that she had walked the campground on Friday night and invited everyone she found outside to the storytelling on Saturday. She was in the process of repeating that walk-thru again this evening to contact as many campers as possible. A little after 6:00 pm, Alice and I drove down to the amphitheater and then walked around the campground talking to some campers and inviting them to the storytelling.

By 6:45, Alice and I were at the amphitheater when two men we had talked to earlier showed up, closely followed by four women who we had also talked to. When Candy showed up, I was a little worried at the size of the audience. Then at around 6:55, the people Candy had invited started strolling in. We ended up with a nice size audience of 41 (ages 6 to about 80) thanks almost exclusively to the work Candy had put into promoting the event.

I told a variety of stories including a fairy tale, a folk tale, a tall tale and a historic story. The audience was attentive and joined in to make the storytelling a pleasure. To close out the program I asked whether they would rather hear a story of "An Owl and an Eagle", a traditional folk tale, or "Aunt Eddy", a tall tale. "Aunt Eddy" won out and proved to be a fun wrap up to an enjoyable evening.



2024 MO-TELL QUILT RAFFLE

AS A PART OF OUR FUNDRAISING, MO-TELL HAS A WONDERFUL QUILT TO RAFFLE. THIS HAND PIECED QUILT BY MARSHA STIFEL MELLENDORF IS AN IRISH CHAIN PATTERN IN RED AND NAVY WITH SQUARES HAVING MULTI-COLORED FLOWERS ON A NAVY BACKGROUND. THE FIELD IS "CIVIL WAR MUSLIN TAN" COLOR.

THE QUILT IS PROFESSIONALLY MACHINE-STITCHED IN AN OVERALL OAK LEAF PATTERN. THIS TWIN-SIZED QUILT MEASURES 52" X 80". THE BACKING IS A WHEAT PRINT, AND THE QUILT HAS A SLEEVE THAT MAKES IT PERFECT AS A WALL HANGING.

TICKETS FOR THE RAFFLE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ONE TICKET FOR \$5,
THREE TICKETS FOR \$10,
FIVE TICKETS FOR \$15,
AND TEN TICKETS FOR \$20.

MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A MAILING REGARDING THE RAFFLE. EMAIL LINDA KUNTZ AT LINDAKKUNTZ@YAHOO.COM IF YOU NEED MORE RAFFLE TICKETS.

PLEASE HELP IN THIS ENDEAVOR TO FULFILL THE MO-TELL MISSION AS WE PARTNER WITH THE MISSOURI STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES.

TICKETS ARE FOR SALE NOW THROUGH SEPTEMBER 9. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.

THE DRAWING FOR THE QUILT WILL BE AT THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 MO-TELL ZOOM PROGRAM "HAUNTINGS." THE WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED THROUGH EMAIL.

MO-TELL BOARD
JOYCE SLATER, PRESIDENT
SUE HINKEL, VICE-PRESIDENT
JACKIE WRIGHT, TREASURER
LINDA KUNTZ, SECRETARY
NANCEE WALKER-MICHAM, MEMBER-AT-LARGE
GARY KUNTZ, MEMBER-AT-LARGE
GLEN "PAPA" WRIGHT, MEMBER-AT-LARGE
PERRIN STIFEL, EMERITUS



MO-TELL MEMBERS!

IT'S SUMMER! TRAVELING?



SHOW US WHERE YOU'VE GONE THIS SUMMER FROM OVERSEAS TO OVERLAND TO JUST OVER THERE!

TAKE A SELFIE OR GROUP PHOTO WITH YOUR MO-TELL SWAG OR THE REGISTER OPEN ON YOUR PHONE AND WE'LL SHARE IT IN AN UPCOMING PAGE IN THE NEWSLETTER.

BE SURE TO TELL US YOUR NAME, THE NAMES OF THE FOLKS WITH YOU, AND WHERE YOU ARE SO YOU CAN BE A LITTLE FAMOUS IN OUR EVER-WIDENING MO-TELL CIRCLE.

SEND TO MOTELLNEWS@GMAIL.COM

DON'T KEEP YOUR ADVENTURES TO YOURSELF, SILLY.



[Storycrafting Fundamentals \(Zoom\)](#)

Mon, Jul 8 2024 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

[Storytelling in Senior Living Communities \(Hybrid\)](#)

Thu, Jul 11 2024 6:30pm - 8:00pm Story Center Programming Room Story Center Event **Canceled**

What should a storyteller expect when telling stories in assisted living and memory care units? How should they prepare? What kind of stories do the residents enjoy?

EVENT DETAILS

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

Thu, Jul 18 2024 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

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

Thu, Jul 25 2024 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event **Virtual Event**
You have a great story to tell, and the Library wants to help you tell it!

EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW

ORGANIZATIONS' COMMUNICATION, PRE-INTERNET TECHNOLOGY



**LET'S NEVER GO BACK.
JOIN MO-TELL TODAY AND ENJOY!**

DETAILS BELOW. CHECK 'EM OUT!

LITTLE BOY ON LEFT IS YOURS TRULY WITH MY SISTERS LONG AGO. - KW

THE MO-TELL BILL OF FARE

OFTEN IMITATED, NEVER DUPLICATED

MEMBERSHIP DUES

FISCAL YEAR, FEBRUARY 1-JANUARY 31

RENEW TODAY!

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

RENEW TODAY!

Story of the Month

WHO GOES FIRST INTO HEAVEN

AS RETOLD BY DIANN JOY BANK FROM HER BOOK, A POT OF MITZVOT: 18 JEWISH FOLKTALES

The gate angel in heaven stood at the entrance holding his large golden-bound book. Inside his book was a list of every soul that had lived on earth. Dressed in his white flowing gown, standing on a floor of white soft clouds, the gate angel's long white hair was blowing softly in the gentle breeze.

Standing side by side stood three souls that had just arrived at the gates of heaven. The gate angel announced, "I must decide who is the most holy to enter heaven first. It is the highest honor to go first into heaven."

The gate angel opened his book to see what was written about each soul's life on earth. The three souls stood patiently waiting to hear the gate angel's decision. Then the angel asked each soul, "Tell me, what was your highest mitzvah--good deed--when you lived on earth?"

One soul, the most learned, was a student of Torah and Talmud-- Jewish most sacred books. The second soul was the most observant in his daily way of life. The third soul, wearing a flowered apron, looked at the angel with a sweet smile and said, "I was a Bubbe--Jewish grandma--to all the children in my shtetl--Jewish village."

The learned soul wore a worn shirt and pants and carried a heavy backpack filled with books. He stepped close to the gate angel's face, folded his arms and began to brag. "I am the most pious of all. From morning till night, I studied all the Jewish books of learning. I never let anyone come into my home for idle talk. I never wasted my time to even walk outside. I deserve to be the first to enter heaven," boasted the learned student.

The next soul, the observant one, wearing his kippah--Jewish observant skullcap--and tallis-- Jewish prayer shawl--that hung down to his knees, stepped forward and stared into the gate angel's eyes. Holding his siddur,--Jewish prayer book--he shouted, "I deserve to enter heaven first. I am the most observant. Did I ever miss saying my prayers three times a day at shul--Jewish synagogue? Never!" He continued to bellow for all to hear, "I was never distracted nor spoke to anyone at shul. Did I ever miss observing each and every Jewish holiday to its fullest? Never! I am the most pious of all."

The Bubbe stood silently. Her face had soft wrinkles. There was a twinkle in her eyes, and she had a glowing smile. She spoke in a gentle voice, "I'm neither a learned soul nor an observant soul. I gathered all the children to teach them how to plant a garden to grow food for those that were hungry in our shtetl. Each day I taught them to take care of G-d's creatures. I don't need to go first into heaven." After the Bubbe spoke, the gate angel saw a joyous look in her eyes.

The gate angel closed his large golden bound book. To the learned soul, he asked, "Did you ever invite anyone to your home to teach them one of the holy books of learning?" Not speaking a word, the student held his head down, shaking it from side to side.

To the observant soul, the gate angel asked, "Did you ever invite someone from your shul for a meal at your home?" He also held his head down, shaking it from side to side, not saying a word.

Then the gate angel turned toward the old Bubbe and said, "Bubbe, you are the humblest. To learn to be humble is the highest mitzvah of all. You deserve to enter first through the gates of heaven." And so, she did.

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

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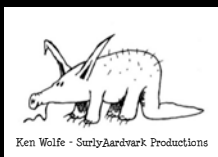
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