

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



# **THE REGISTER**

## **DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER**

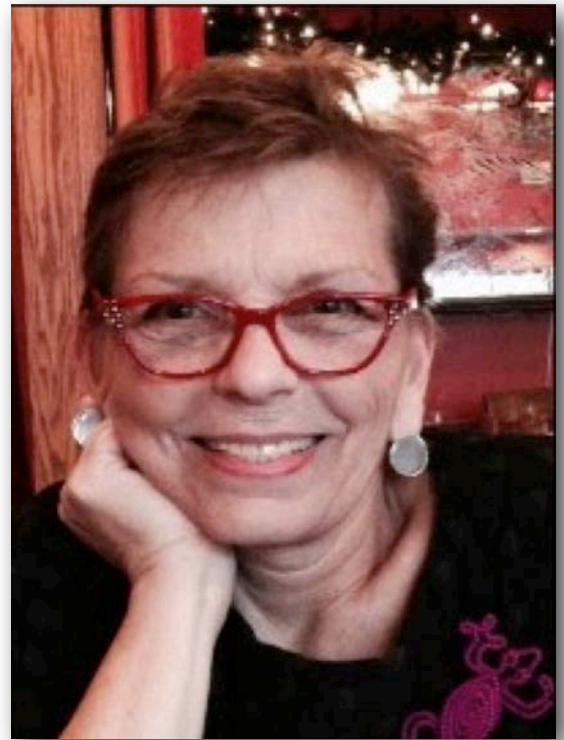
### **A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

December always goes by so quickly for me. It seems like I have just finished putting away the Thanksgiving turkey and it's time to wrap Christmas presents. It's crazy. When New Year's comes, I wonder where the time went. When I pause to reflect, I remember the times our family shared with song and prayer and stories.

December is a month for many celebrations. I hope all of yours are joyous.

Our Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 25th, 2020, at the Chicken Festival in Paola, Kansas.

Watch for updates.



A thought for Pondering over the Month:

"Those who tell the stories rule the world."  
--Hopi American Indian proverb

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**SAVE THE DATE!**

January 24, 25, 26, 2020

River and Prairie Storyweavers will host its **27th Annual Chicken Festival** at the Paola Community Center (905 E. Wea Street, Paola, KS, 66071). The Chicken Festival is a combination of community outreach & storyteller retreat. Attendees are those who love stories, whether you are a storyteller or a story listener, all are welcome. Instead of one or a few featured tellers, YOU are the featured storyteller when you tell your story.

As part of the community outreach, we will tell stories in the local schools, libraries, and senior centers on Friday, January 24, and present a community storytelling concert on Saturday, January 25. Those interested in volunteering their talents to tell in the community should contact Gary Kuntz as 816-896-8611.

Friday evening, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning storyteller will share their favorite stories and music. Yes, there is a time slot for chicken stories. Keep checking [www.riverandprairiestoryweavers.org](http://www.riverandprairiestoryweavers.org) for updates on The Chicken Festival.

The Nitty Gritty: Chicken Festival registration is \$30 for RAPS members or \$60 for non-RAPS members. RAPS annual member is \$25, \$35 for a family. Contact the Paola Inn and Suites (1600 E. Hedges Ln. Ct., Paola, KS, 66071) At (913) 294-3700 by 12/24/19 for the fabulous RAPS room discount rate of \$70 (plus taxes). Don't delay! Don't call too late for reservations to the Chicken Festival only to find yourself completely plucked.



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

# Tellabratings

## ACROSS OUR FAIR STATE

### *St. Louis*

ST. LOUIS COUNTY  
LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS

Marilyn Sue Warren Ken Wolfe Bob Jensen Kathy Schottel  
Ric Vice Mike Anderson Jan Jensen  
Carole Shelton Linda Stewart Glen Wright  
Sue Hinkel



Gary Kuntz Steve Otto Jim Wallen Rich White  
Linda Kuntz Joyce Slater



### *Kansas City*

JOHN KNOX VILLAGE



# The SIXTH ANNUAL Missouri State Liar's Contest



The 2020 Missouri State Liar's Contest, sponsored by MO-Tell (Missouri Storytelling) will take place at the Spencer Road Library in St. Peters, MO, on July 11th, 2020.



Regional judges of honor and renown (at least in the hearts of their mothers) will rank worthy contestants and you, too, in two arenas on that day: **Oral Storytelling** (up to a ten minute story) and **Written Storytelling** (up to 3,000 words).



Tellers from far & wide, from all corners of Missouri (and then some), will clash in a cloud of contrivances to fight in a field of fabrications, wielding whoppers! Join them in sanctioned deceit! Compete for the kind of notoriety that flirts with the notorious!



Plus, earlier in the day veteran storytellers will offer **FREE** workshops, open to ALL who love telling stories!



## For details, submission regulations & contest rules visit [MO-TELL.org](http://MO-TELL.org)



Whether or not you intend to personally compete in either or both of the contests, please be sure to attend on July 11th, 2020!



It's one of the most creative storytelling events in our fair state and, most importantly of all, we need witnesses.



# STATE PARK STORYTELLING

Funded and sponsored by the good folks at the Missouri Arts Council and the Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources, MO-TELL is pleased to provide musical, educational, and storytelling performances in parks facilities across our fair state.



STORIES BY  
**FRAN STALLINGS**



**ROARING RIVER  
STATE PARK**

# **ALWAYS REMEMBER, NEVER FORGET**

**“Story, as it turns out, was crucial to our evolution -- more so than opposable thumbs. Opposable thumbs let us hang on; story told us what to hang on to.”**

**- Lisa Cron, Wired for Story**

"Holy shit!" "A religious experience!" "David slays!"

# GOLIATH

a new one-man show by David Wayne Reed



## Throwing Stones & Slaying Giants

**David Wayne Reed** (*Shelf Life*, *Jolly Rancher*) throws stones and slays giants in his new one-man show, ***Goliath***.

The sexual revelation of WHAM!, to the stars through difficulty with Reba, getting arrested dressed as a superhero, going "straight-edge" on a gay cruise, performing in a porn theatre on the eve of its destruction, and an epiphany at the foot of a 66 ft. tall Jesus, DWR takes you on an unexpected journey of biblical proportions.

David's Goliath is an irreverent and oddly holy journey of sexuality, sobriety, and survival.

December 27, 28, 29, January 3 & 4 8 p.m.

The Capsule 1664 Broadway KCMO

Tickets are \$20 and available now.

Sponsored in part by the generosity of Charlotte Street Foundation.

# **STORYTELLERS OF THE OZARKS**

December, 2019 schedule

Dec. 7, 9:30 a.m. light breakfast and swap at Gina's

Dec. 11, 2:00 p.m. Tell at Waterford Independent Living, holiday stories

Dec. 18. afternoon tell at Gray Elementary, kindergarten and first grades

Dec. 19, 2:00 p.m. Tell at Montclair Independent Living, holiday stories

For more information contact Nancy at

417-848-5859, [storytellersofhteozarks@gmail.com](mailto:storytellersofhteozarks@gmail.com)

## **RIVERWINDS STORYTELLERS**

No events listed

## **GATEWAY STORYTELLERS**

No events listed



# RIVER & PRAIRIE STORYWEAVERS

Most of you missed the RAPS Tellabration on Saturday, November 23. You missed a good time and lots of good stories.

I'm sure you won't want to miss what's coming next Thursday (see below). This is your last formal opportunity to break bread with all the nice people at RAPS in 2019. I know this time of year is really busy, but please make a special effort to come out to Trailside Center for the December meeting and potluck.

ALSO the deadline for getting special hotel pricing for the RAPS Chicken festival is fast approaching. December 24<sup>th</sup> is the final date to reserve your room and get the special festival room rate.

## **River and Prairie Storyweavers Trailside Meeting**

7:00pm, Thursday, December 5, 2019  
Trailside Center  
99<sup>th</sup> & Holmes Rd.  
Kansas City, MO 64131

Holiday potluck (bring an entrée to serve 4, Plus a side or dessert) Dirty Santa Gift Exchange (\$10 limit) - The challenge: Find a gift everybody wants (good, ugly or just crazy) and some will want it badly enough to steal. A little larceny always makes the holidays brighter. If you don't have time to prepare anything, come anyway. There is always plenty of food and a few extra gifts. Your presence is the best present you can provide to make this event a success.

Story Theme: Share your favorite holiday story

## **Save the Dates:**

### **Woodneath RAPS Meeting**

**2:00pm, Saturday, December 14, 2019**

Story Theme: Appreciate Family

Woodneath Library Center / Storytime Barn

8900 NE Flintlock Road

Kansas City, MO 64157

### **John Knox RAPS Meeting -**

**10:00am Saturday, December 28, 2019**

John Knox Village, Missouri Room

(Inside Lakeside Grille)

600 NW Shamrock Ave.

Lee's Summit, MO 64081

**Story Swap! 6:30pm, Thursday, December 19, 2019 at the Woodneath Storytime Barn sponsored by Mid-Continent Public Library.** Come support the library and Story Center and practice your stories. Not only is this a good place to practice, it is an excellent opportunity to meet new storytellers, provide them an audience and encourage RAPS membership.

MAGNET  
HERE

# FOR YOUR FRIDGE

MAGNET  
HERE

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

## RAPS

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## RIVERWINDS

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## GATEWAY

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# MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE WOODNEATH...

CLASSES FOR STORYTELLING CERTIFICATION!

## DECEMBER 2019 CALENDAR

(And slightly beyond . . .)

Sat, Dec 7 2019 1:30pm - 4:30pm Woodneath Community Hall 1 and 2 Story Center Event [Registration Required](#)

Join The Story Center and Metropolitan Community College as we recognize the participants that have earned their certificate from The Storytelling Certificate Program.

**EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW**

**Effective Branding Strategies**

Tue, Nov 12 2019 6:30pm - 8:30pm Woodneath Community Hall 2 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

**EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW**

**Storycrafting Fundamentals**

Sat, Jan 25 2020 12:00pm - 5:00pm Woodneath Storytime Barn Story Center Event [Registration Required](#)

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

**EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW**

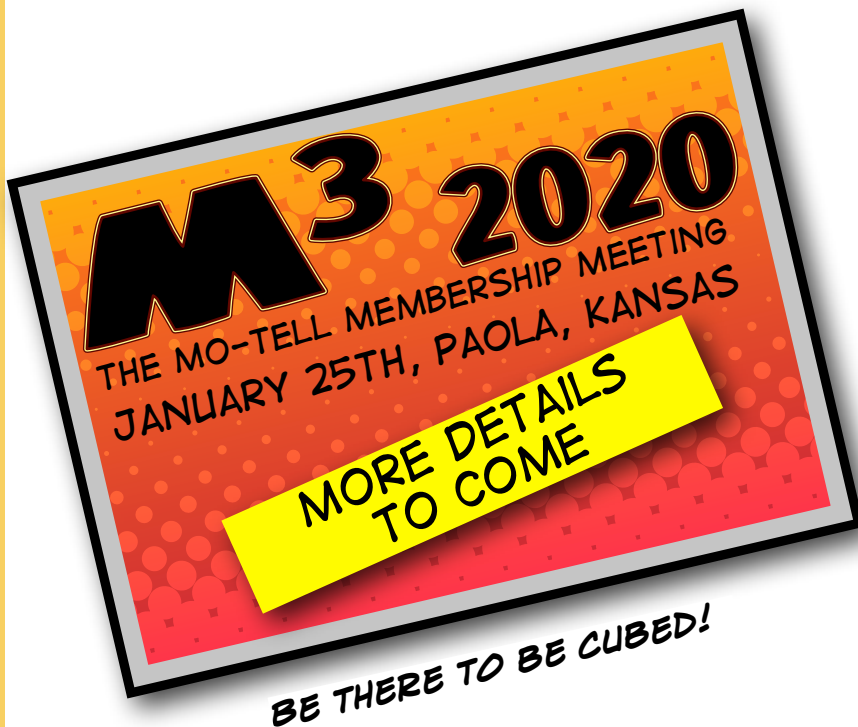
**Story Swaps!**

Thu, Dec 19 2019 6:30pm - 8:30pm Woodneath Storytime Barn Story Center Event [Registration Required](#)

Thu, Jan 16 2020 6:30pm - 8:30pm Woodneath Storytime Barn Story Center Event [Registration Required](#)

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.

**EVENT DETAILS REGISTER NOW**



The St. Louis Storytelling Festival's Story Lounge has a new home. It is the High Low.

High Low is the Kranzberg Arts Foundation's literary arts café at 3301 Washington Avenue.

The first Story Lounge event there is December 19th at 6:30 pm. It features Mike Anderson (Jacksonville, IL) doing a one man show as Hugo Kringle, Kris's little brother. This program is family friendly, so bring all the youngsters in your life. Hugo Kringle sings Christmas songs and tells stories of growing up with the boy who would become Santa Claus.

Admission fee: Adults: \$10

Children 8 & under: Free

**LOOK! LOOK!**



**ONE  
CAN'T.**

No matter how mythic.



**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.

# THE 13TH ANNUAL UMSL STORYTELLING MINI-FESTIVAL

THE LARGEST FREE ONE-NIGHT, UNIVERSITY-TELLER STORY FESTIVAL IN AMERICA ON THAT NIGHT!

THIRTEEN STORIES SPUN AND TOLD BY THE THIRTEEN TELLERS IN UMSL'S STORYTELLING: THE ORAL TRADITION COURSE. THESE TELLERS HAVE BEEN HONING THEIR CRAFT ALL TERM AND THIS IS THEIR FINAL EXAM PERFORMANCE!

**IT'S FREE!**

RANGING FROM POIGNANT TO HILARIOUS, EERIE TO ENLIGHTENING, THEIR TALES WILL ENTERTAIN AND EDIFY YOU AS YOU ENJOY ALL THE AMENITIES FOAM CAN OFFER. YOU'LL CHEER AFTER EACH STORY, WE GUARANTEE!

**DEC. 9, 7PM**

**AT FOAM**

3350 S. JEFFERSON AVE.  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63118

If you give a tiger a pickle,  
He's going to want a story.

If you offer him a story,  
He's going to want it twice.

If you tell it again,  
He's going to ask for once  
more.

If you tell once more,  
He's going to ask if you're a  
professional in Missouri.

If you are a professional in  
Missouri,  
He'll ask if you belong to MO-  
TELL.

If you say, "Why, no. I'm not a  
member of MO-TELL."  
He'll set down the pickle and  
stare at you intently,  
hungrily, and with no mercy.

Leave the tigers to enjoy their  
pickles.

Contact Sue Hinkel and join  
MO-TELL, for heaven's sake.

## THE TIGER AND THE PICKLE A BRAND-NEW FABLE FOR YOU

**TO CUT OUT AND GIVE TO OTHER STORYTELLERS.**



# THE ELVES AND THE SHOEMAKER

There was once a shoemaker, who worked very hard and was very honest: but still he could not earn enough to live upon; and at last all he had in the world was gone, save just leather enough to make one pair of shoes.

Then he cut his leather out, all ready to make up the next day, meaning to rise early in the morning to his work. His conscience was clear and his heart light amidst all his troubles; so he went peaceably to bed, left all his cares to Heaven, and soon fell asleep. In the morning after he had said his prayers, he sat himself down to his work; when, to his great wonder, there stood the shoes all ready made, upon the table. The good man knew not what to say or think at such an odd thing happening. He looked at the workmanship; there was not one false stitch in the whole job; all was so neat and true, that it was quite a masterpiece.

The same day a customer came in, and the shoes suited him so well that he willingly paid a price higher than usual for them; and the poor shoemaker, with the money, bought leather enough to make two pairs more. In the evening he cut out the work, and went to bed early, that he might get up and begin betimes next day; but he was saved all the trouble, for when he got up in the morning the work was done ready to his hand. Soon in came buyers, who paid him handsomely for his goods, so that he bought leather enough for four pair more. He cut out the work again overnight and found it done in the morning, as before; and so it went on for some time: what was got ready in the evening was always done by daybreak, and the good man soon became thriving and well off again.

One evening, about Christmas-time, as he and his wife were sitting over the fire chatting together, he said to her, 'I should like to sit up and watch tonight, that we may see who it is that comes and does my work for me.' The wife liked the thought; so they left a light burning, and hid themselves in a corner of the room, behind a curtain that was hung up there, and watched what would happen.

As soon as it was midnight, there came in two little naked dwarfs; and they sat themselves upon the shoemaker's bench, took up all the work that was cut out, and began to ply with their little fingers, stitching and rapping and tapping away at such a rate, that the shoemaker was all wonder, and could not take his eyes off them. And on they went, till the job was quite done, and the shoes stood ready for use upon the table. This was long before daybreak; and then they bustled away as quick as lightning.

The next day the wife said to the shoemaker. 'These little wights have made us rich, and we ought to be thankful to them, and do them a good turn if we can. I am quite sorry to see them run about as they do; and indeed it is not very decent, for they have nothing upon their backs to keep off the cold. I'll tell you what, I will make each of them a shirt, and a coat and waistcoat, and a pair of pantaloons into the bargain; and do you make each of them a little pair of shoes.'

The thought pleased the good cobbler very much; and one evening, when all the things were ready, they laid them on the table, instead of the work that they used to cut out, and then went and hid themselves, to watch what the little elves would do.

About midnight in they came, dancing and skipping, hopped round the room, and then went to sit down to their work as usual; but when they saw the clothes lying for them, they laughed and chuckled, and seemed mightily delighted.

Then they dressed themselves in the twinkling of an eye, and danced and capered and sprang about, as merry as could be; till at last they danced out at the door, and away over the green.

The good couple saw them no more; but everything went well with them from that time forward, as long as they lived.

# 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, joyceslater2o@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

Emeritus: Perrin Stifel, pstifelstl@earthlink.net

[www.mo-tell.org](http://www.mo-tell.org)

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# THE MO-TELL BOARD