

Grapevine



©Editor: Rosemary Wilson 2007

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Grapevine is published Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept & Nov by St. Louis Gateway Storytellers—a not-for-profit organization of storytellers and story listeners (founded in 1980) and dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of storytelling. Gateway is 2004 Oracle Award Winner in South Central Region of National Storytelling Network (NSN) for Leadership and Community Service.



Organization recognized by IRS in 1988 as a 501 (c) (4) group.
(NOTE: Donations to this group NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE)

St. Louis Gateway Storytellers membership is \$20 January-December (dues are NOT pro-rated)
Mail Dues check to: Treasurer Marcia Ollinger, 12840 Topping Meadows, St. Louis, MO 63131
NOTE: Updated membership roster with current contact info enclosed with newsletters in March.

Next St. Louis Gateway Storytellers Meeting Tuesday, January 23, 2007

➔ **6:00 PM Business Meeting—Vote on going to electronic newsletters only (see page 3 meeting notes)**

(*May dine on self-catered brown bag dinner 6-7 PM)

➔ **7:00 PM Storytelling**

**Do YOU want to be on the storytelling program?
Call Warren Wyman 1.636.527.5542**

****Save a stamp and bring your 2007 dues payment to the meeting.**



St. Louis Gateway Storytellers
www.stlouisgatewaystorytellers.org
% 1163 Crockett Drive
St. Louis, MO 63132-2109

Address Correction Requested
Please Forward

2007

□ JANUARY

19-21 Chicken Festival
 Clinton, MO Info 816 523 5038
23 Gateway Meeting 7:00 PM ★
 The Crown Center
 8350 Delcrest Dr, St Louis, MO 63124

□ MARCH

2-4 Riverwind Whirlwind Weekend
 Featured - Naomi Baltuck
 Info 618 234 9698
27 Gateway Meeting 7:00 PM ★

□ MAY

2-5 Annual STL Storytelling Festival
 Volunteers Needed
 Donations Needed (see insert)
 Info 314 516 5960

□ JULY

**12-15 NSN National
 Storytelling Conference St. Louis**
 Sheraton Hotels at Westport
**CONFERENCE BROCHURE TO
 BE MAILED TO YOU IN JAN'07**

STORYTELLERS WANTED:

Viva Vox—tellers & storytelling mentors
 Fee stipend Call 314.436.3292 Jane
www.vivavox.org

Rockwood Area Summer Kids
 Adventure Club June 4-Aug 3, 2007
 Fee negotiable Call 636.305.2736 Kim

**CONDOLENCES TO JIM "2 Crows"
 WALLEN:**

He lost his father recently. Jim's address—
 608 E. Kansas, Independence, MO 64050
 Or twocrows@sunflower.org
 (Jim is Youth Storytelling Coordinator for MO)

WEEKLY Storytelling on the RADIO:

On your computer: <http://www.ksvy.org>
 Sundays 5:00 PM PST
 Jackie Baldwin's broadcast on FM radio
 from California

BUSINESS SIDE of Storytelling: (\$25 fee)

SCORE offers a Saturday course repeated
 monthly on the basics of setting up a small
 business Info/schedule 314.539.6600

STORYTELL—ONLINE FORUM:

Over 500 subscribers worldwide
 Subscription instructions:
 To: majordomo@lists.twu.edu
 Subject: leave blank or if your program insists,
 insert the same message as in the message box
 In the body of message: subscribe storytell
 email_address end Send message

STORYTELLING INTERNET GURU:

Visit KarenChase's website
<http://www.storybug.net/links.htm>

SEED MONEY FOR NEW 501 c 3 ORGS:
 Volunteer Service Council seeks applications
 from new organizations Call 314 878 5451

STORYTELLING GUILDS/ORGS. OF

NOTE:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| By Word of Mouth | Info 573 784 9947 |
| Joplin Area | Contact info? |
| MAST (Mineral area) | Contact info? |
| MO-TELL Meetings | Info %636 271 7914 |
| M.I.S.T. Meetings | Info%314 867 0489 |
| MOST (Columbia area) | Info%573 449 1822 |
| RAPS (KC area) | www.StoryRAPS.org |
| Riverwind Meetings | Info%618 234 9698 |
| SOTO (Ozarks) | nanshel@sbcglobal.net |
| ST Events Nationwide | www.storynet.org |
| Springfield Area | Info mdgryphons@yahoo.com |

OTHER:
 NSN Liaison MO Steve Otto 1-888-29 I TELL

MEMBER CORNER

2006 MEMBERS=70

**BECKY WALSTROM SAYS
 THANK YOU:**

"Thank you (Gateway members) so much for the many cards, calls, e mails & gifts to the STL Storytelling Festival in memory of my mother. Your acts of kindness, words of comfort & concern, thoughts & prayers were so appreciated. I am indeed fortunate to have so many wonderful friends. My brother & I shed many tears and shared many wonderful stories over the holidays. Thank you for your love & support."

ROGER ROSE SHARES:

"This year I received \$400 for storytelling programs which were a direct result of my listing on the Gateway Storytellers website."

2007 GATEWAY

DUES:
 \$20
DEADLINE—2/28/07
 Mail to Marcia Ollinger
 12840 Topping Meadows

**OFFICERS & COMMITTEE
 CHAIRS thru 12/31/2007**

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| .Pres. | Lucy Grondahl 314.962.6412 |
| .Vice Pres. | Mary Garrett 1.636.447.6760 |
| .Past Pres. | Cathy Gregory 314.966.3153 |
| .Secretary | Marion Cohen 314.997.0250 |
| .Treasurer | Marcia Ollinger 314.567.7930 |
| .Editor | Rosemary Wilson 314.997.3474 |
| .Program Chair | Warren Wyman 636.527.5542 |
| .Membership Chair | _____ |
| .Publicity Chair | _____ |
| .Webpage Storytelling | Roger Rose 314.961.6251 |
| Directory | rogerros@earthlink.net |
| .Webmaster | Tim Butler tbutler@uninetsolutions.com |

Meeting November 28, 2006

Attendance:
Gateway Members=23
Crown Center Residents=12

BUSINESS MEETING SUMMARY :
The Crown Center, 8350 Delcrest Dr, 63124
Cathy Gregory, President Presiding

- Election of 2007 Officers: President—Lucy Grondahl; Vice President—Mary Garrett; Secretary—Marion Cohen; Treasurer—Marcia Ollinger; & applause for retiring officers
- Budget for 2007—
 - a) Consider going to electronic newsletter for members with e mail to several hundred dollars/year on printing and postage—vote on 1/23/07 (members without e mail would continue to receive US mail copy)
 - b) Vote on 1/23/07 overall budget for 2007 after issue a) (above) decided
- Treasurer report— Balance 11/28/06 \$325.60
- Announcements—Tellation (Jackie Wright) had 54 people in attendance; NSN BOD July conference site visit & meeting in STL Jan 25-28, 2007
- Storytelling Program—Commendation and applause for Warren Wyman who has been volunteer Program Coordinator 2006; both long & short stories being considered for 2007 storytelling programs at Gateway meetings
- Re July National ST Conference STL—Contact Rosemary anytime for information.
- Business Meetings—Lucy announced pilot of having business meetings before storytelling program....thus on 1/23/07 business meeting begins 6:00 PM.

STORY SWAP
Master of Ceremonies Warren Wyman

ROGER ROSE told a story by Orson Scott Carr. It was a story about Chinese Middle Woman who was granted three wishes by the Dragon. With surprising twists on her first two wishes, Middle Woman reserved her third wish till her latter days. Dragon's reminder that he too would die if she did not make the third wish resulted in her saying "I wish that you and everyone you meet have happiness."

WARREN WYMAN told a humorous anecdote about a used car salesman and a genie in an ashtray who granted him three wishes. The last turned out to be the same as the first wish —"to be irresistible to women."

EDWILLA MASSEY told a tale by Julius Lester from Black Folktales entitled "How Snake Got His Rattles." It was the story of the rattlesnake.

CATHY GREGORY told a new story—a "work in progress" about a childhood experience in which Saturday was the "best day of the week."

MARY KAY MENEES read a recent personal story about a cruise and the perspective of being interested in how people deal with their lives in the current moment rather than making wishes for their future.

RANDY SCHUPPAN told a personal story he has published in his book and entitled "The Ball." A long forgotten and discarded tennis ball brought back moments of perceived terror that proved unfounded.

WARREN WYMAN told a Japanese tale of winter and a solar eclipse, brother and sister goddess who fight, story of creation, story of imagination, and a story of ecology—"a multi-tiered story."

BREAKING NEWS FROM NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK (aka NSN):

NSN announced 1/12/07 the appointment of its new Executive Director, Barbara (Bobbie) Mason. She holds a Masters in Library and Information Science. (She is not related to NSN BOD Chair, Karen Morgan.) Bobbie has 18 years of work experience in public libraries in Washington, Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, and Georgia. Most recently she has been Director of Children's Services for Georgia's state library system. She made a difficult decision to leave that job saying "only a position as exciting as working with storytellers with many specialties and lovers of stories, across the nation, was enough to be tempting." Her first official trip as Exec Dir will to St Louis for NSN BOD conference site visit. WELCOME, BOBBIE! MEET US IN ST LOUIS IN JANUARY!!

Storytelling and Copyright

By Rose Owens ©2006 (article used by permission; originally published in *Storyline* Winter 2007)

A discussion of copyright as it applies to storytelling is a bit like comparing apples to oranges. Storytelling is an oral tradition. It is fluid. The words of a story change each time it is told. Copyright protects the author's words once they are captured in a tangible form in writing or on some recording media. This discrepancy is one of the reasons why copyright issues are revisited frequently on Storytell.

"The copyright law is clear; how it is applied to storytelling is unclear." (Margaret Sheehan) If you have copyright concerns, looking at what the law actually says has merit. Copyright laws are available at <http://www.loc.gov/copyright>.

Traditional tales are in the public domain and are not copyrighted. However, when an author re-writes a traditional tale, his version can be copyrighted. Original works are under copyright for the life of the author plus 70 years.

Some storytellers believe that copyright doesn't apply to storytelling. Tim Sheppard's personal belief is that since copyright protects written or recorded words and since storytellers use different words each time they tell a story, copyright has not been violated. (See The Storytelling FAQ at www.timsheppard.co.uk/story). This same philosophy would seem to indicate that telling an authored story is acceptable because you are not using the author's exact words. Lorna Czarnota reminds us that "Ethics and Law are not always the same thing. Is it legal? That's one issue. Is it the right thing to do?" That is what each storyteller needs to decide.

Tim Sheppard and Heather Forest have both reminded Storytell members that a professional storyteller needs to act in a professional way. Traditional folktales have been passed down orally for generations. If a storyteller hears or reads a traditional tale they would like to tell, it has been suggested that he/she research at least 3 versions of the folktale and develop his/her own version. If an original story or version of a traditional folktale is copyright, permission needs to be obtained from the author or book publisher. Credit to the author, original teller and the culture of origin should be given as part of the oral storytelling experience. Finding a story on the Internet with no author listed does not mean that story is not under copyright. You may need to do additional research. Tim Sheppard suggests that you "Take a non-cliché sentence from the story, enclose it in double quotes and put that into a search engine. That will find web pages that have the story, which may give an attribution if there is one."

Storytelling ethics demands that a storyteller should ask permission before telling another individual's personal stories. In addition to getting permission, a storyteller needs to credit the owner of the story and tell the listener that even though this story is being told in first person, it is not his/her own person story. This is an issue of personal integrity. A storyteller should choose carefully the stories he/she will develop and tell. Telling another's story may limit when and where a storyteller is able to tell that story in the future. Obtaining appropriate permission will free him/her to tell the right story at right time.

Paying attention to copyright is important. If your intent is to record or write down the story (thereby creating a copyrighted product), you need to research copyright on the stories. If you share stories on the Internet, this is regarded as publication. If you omit the copyright notice you may be forfeiting your right to copyright that version of your story or article in the future. As part of your copyright notice, include information on what permissions are granted to other storytellers. The title page of "*Spinning Tales, Weaving Hope, Stories of Peace, Justice & the Environment*" specifically gives permission "for any storyteller to tell these stories to a live audience and adds, 'If you want to publish or record these stories, you must get permission from the contributing storyteller.' I live the clarify of that." (Judy Schmidt).

"Storytelling is a long path," Heather Forest says. She advises developing tellers. "You should plan to still be telling in ten, fifteen, or twenty years. Stories need time to ripen with age." If, at some time in the future, you transition from volunteer storytelling to professional storytelling, you will want to be able to take the stories you have learned and developed with you. It could be frustrating if you were not comfortable telling some of your favorite stories because of copyright concerns.

A storyteller's position on copyright is a very personal one. Are storytellers taken to court for copyright violations? At present there is no record of this happening. Do you need permission to tell authored stories? Each storyteller determines the storytelling ethics that influence his/her personal decisions. Since each storyteller is an individual who tells different stories in different places, each storyteller must ultimately make his/her own decision as to how copyright relates to his/her storytelling.