

GRAPEVINE

Newsletter of St. Louis Gateway Storytellers
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1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

.Add On Gateway Meeting--Dinner and Stories

Following a May 27 Gateway business meeting discussion of the interest members have in breaking bread together once again followed by a story swap, an informal potluck-picnic evening meal is planned as follows:

Tuesday, June 24, 2008
5:30 pm--??

TILLES PARK--

LOOK FOR SIGN AT PARK ENTRANCE DESIGNATING PICNIC LOCATION

McKnight and Litzinger Road in Rock Hill

For map

<http://www.randmcnally.com/rmc/maproute.jsp?t=m&id=EM20570799925799222>

Bring food and drink--enough for you and also to share with two other people
For further information, contact Lucy at 314 962 6412 (H) or 314 882 9301 (C)

."Selling the Scream"

Robert Fishbone, Gateway Member, presents

Thursday, June 5, 2008 7:00 pm-9:00 pm

at Regional Arts Commission (6128 Delmar on the The Loop)

A free, entertaining, and practical presentation about the world where art and business collide using song, percussion music, and storytelling (e.g. discussion about how to mix art and business).

Reception follows program

For further information, contact Robert Fishbone 314 997 2712

or fishbone@fclass.net

.Riverwind Storytellers Meeting Location Changed

Wed, June 11 6:00 pm

For location contact Mary Lu Bretsch 618 234 9698 or dmlbr@charter.net

.Renaissance Fair (weekends) in Wentzville

For further information contact Mary Garrett at 636 447 6760 or

mgarrett@mail.win.org

.Storytelling Courses

At Univ MO St Louis--June 17-27, 2008 (Daytime class) Credit or Audit Fees Available

For further information 314 516 5948 at UMSL

At St. Charles Community College--(Evening class) beginning August 12
For further information call Sue Hinkel 636 271 7914 or shinkel@mail.win.org

.National Storytelling Network (aka NSN) Update

Visit the Board of Directors' blogsite to learn about changes and updates in the organizational structure, headquarters location, services, issues, membership, and much more
<http://sites.google.com/a/nationalstorytelling.net/nsn-board/Home>

Visit this link for information on the NSN National Storytelling Conference in Gatlinburg, TN Aug 7-10, 2008
www.storynet.org or call 1 800 525 4514 (leave a call back message on voice mail)

2. BUSINESS MEETING

6:00-6:50 pm

Presiding--Lucy Grondahl, President Attendance: 14 members

.Minutes of the March 25, 2008 meeting were read by Secretary Marion Cohen and were approved as read.

.Treasurer's report by Marcia Ollinger--balance on hand 4/30/08=\$3038.83

.Treasurer also reported filing new IRS Exempt Organization form as required to be filed annually beginning this year (Gateway Storytellers is a 501 c 4 organization)

.St. Louis Storytelling Festival Apr 30-May 3, 2008

It was reported that Riverwind and Gateway participated in working with the 14 youth tellers. The youth will each receive \$5 cash and a discount coupon that can be used at a local bookstore.

Lucy reported that Gateway gave two (2) baskets overflowing with various gifts and gift certificates to the Festival for the fundraising auction.

There was discussion but no decision about Gateway doing a fundraising Trivia Night for the 2009 Festival.

.Gateway Storytellers Members' Sense of Community

Lucy discussed the feedback she has gotten that there is the perception amongst members of a diminished sense of community within the organizational ranks. Part of this may be due to discontinuing the long standing past practice of sharing a meal and networking while "breaking bread" since the Salad Bowl closed a couple of years ago. By consensus of those present, Lucy's suggestion to have a June 24 5:30 pm potluck-picnic evening meal at Tilles Park was approved. See details above in #1 Announcement section of this newsletter.

Also suggested was offering interested members to eat at nearby Mai Lee Restaurant around 4:30 pm before the Tuesday, July 22, 2008 meeting which begins at 6 pm. No RSVP necessary--just show up for the Dutch-treat dinner.

.Crown Center Staff Contact Change

The new contact to arrange Gateway meetings is Jan Meyers according to Marion Cohen. Marion quotes Jan as saying, "Having the Gateway Storytellers meeting here at the Crown Center is a win/win situation (e.g. Crown Residents and Gateway members and guests)."

.Story Swap Tellers New Policy

Motion made by Rosemary Wilson and seconded by Mary Garrett to immediately have the Swap Emcee distribute and collect a 3x5 card with the tellers. Tellers are to write down their names, contact info, title and source of story to be told.
MOTION PASSED (Emcee will give cards to Editor after meeting.)

.New Story Swap Emcee/Coordinator Appointed

Lucy announced that Joy Nack begins here term as Emcee/Program Coordinator this evening. Joy's contact info to sign up to tell is 314 317 9061 or joy.nack@yahoo.com

.Retiring Grapevine Editor Receives Recognition

Members present gave a standing ovation to Rosemary Wilson for her 7 years of excellent volunteer service as Grapevine Editor and Publicity Chair. Rosemary will conclude her term with the publication of the July, 2008 Grapevine. Rosemary will continue her membership and meeting attendance with Gateway. Mary Garrett has agreed to be the new Editor.

.Riverwind Newsletter Editor Change

Marilyn Kinsella, former Riverwind Editor, will be handing over this position in the near future to another member. This person's name is unknown at this time.

.Introductions

Everyone present (members and Crown Center residents) introduced themselves.

3. STORY SWAP

Emcee Joy Nack Attendance 27 (includes 8 Crown residents) 7-8:10pm

GEORGY ROCK told a story entitled "SaDah". (She is currently studying in the Maggid Program with Yitzhak Buxbaum.) In the story, SaDah drank a large portion of wine at the Festival of Freedom. In her stupor, she fell asleep with her donkey's lead rope tied around her ankle. When she awoke and abruptly yanked on the lead, the donkey bolted and drug her into the village where she was rescued by being separated from her tether to the beast. At issue was the dream she had had in which the Messiah was heralded to be coming down the dusty road and her need for a 'good plan' in this eventuality. SaDah's dilemma was in knowing if it was the Messiah or her donkey that had propelled her from her bed down the actual dusty road.

MARY GARRETT told three personal teaching stories entitled "Time/Place/Love."

Content varied from a Jamaican seashore collecting seashells to a student overdosing on parental prescription medicines and coming to class to the hardened heart of a 4th grade student being melted when told he was loved by a former teacher. Mary then added the story of "Two Polite Babies" in which in utero twins spent decades unborn as they each were too polite to be the firstborn.

JOY NACK told "Early Memories" and "My Family." These are two personal stories she will be performing in the Fringe Festival at the August, 2008 NSN National Storytelling Conference.

MARION COHEN told a King Solomon story entitled "The Princess in the Tower."

Despite the King's Herculean efforts to prevent his daughter's prophesied marriage to a commoner, an incredible scenario literally dropped her intended pauper husband in sequestered world. "When it is your destiny to marry somebody....."

ROGER ROSE told his original adaptation of "Cinderella." In summation, the gender ambiguity problem of the characters was solved by the traditional ending of the royal wedding.

ROBERT FISHBONE told an original story entitled "The Drummer." In this tale, he was first tantalized and then personally compelled to join in the cadence on an improvised drum with the 'master artistic level' mystery percussive rhythms he heard when walking between a New York hotel trade show towards his overnight accommodations. The twist in the story is in the last line when he discovers at dawn, after a night spent in reciprocal drumming, that the origin of the percussive music was a building site tarpaulin furling and unfurling itself against the high-rise steel infrastructure.

4. NEXT GATEWAY MEETING

Tuesday, July 22, 2008 at Crown Center, 8350 Delcrest Dr, St. Louis, MO 63124

6:00 pm Business Meeting

7:00 pm Story Swap---Contact Joy Nack to tell a story 314 317 9061 or joy.nack@yahoo.com