

You are cordially invited to join!

**Membership dues are
\$20.00 January-December
(please note dues and donations
are not tax deductible as
organization is IRS 501 c 4)
(dues are not prorated by month joined)
Members are mailed a bimonthly
newsletter electronically or by
US mail.**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ **Zip** _____

Home Phone _____

E mail _____

**Make check payable to
"St. Louis Gateway Storytellers"**

**Mail: Coisetta Wright, Treasurer
8901 Wrenwood Ln
St. Louis, MO 63144
Tel. 314.962.6502**



St. Louis

Gateway

Storytellers

**Contact Information
on our website:**

**www.stlouisgatewaystorytellers.org
and/or call
Tel.636.447.6760 or 314.997.0250
2009**

MEETINGS

**Fourth (4TH) Tuesdays
Every Other Month
(beginning in January)**

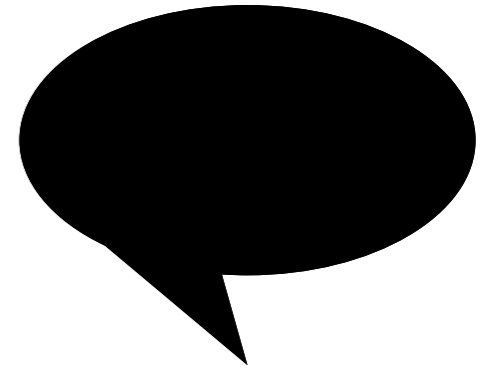
***6:00 PM Business Meeting**

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

**The Crown Center
8350 Delcrest Drive
St. Louis, MO 63124**

**STORYTELLING
PROGRAM 7 PM**

**Light Refreshments
Served Afterwards**



**YOU ARE INVITED TO
ATTEND MEETINGS
AND/OR
JOIN IF YOU ARE**

**.A Storyteller
or
.A Story listener
or
.A Story User**

***Bring a guest!**

HISTORY and PURPOSE

GATEWAY STORYTELLERS

In 1980, two children's librarians from the St. Louis City Public Library were promoted. Instead of tears of joy with their career good fortune, the two women wept tears of grief at losing their most precious assigned duty—that of telling stories.

Sylvia Duncan and Irene Eveland lamented, "We're going to be working with adults now. We'll never be able to tell stories again."

The women then had second thoughts. "We like stories! We're adults. Let's go out to dinner and go back to a library and tell stories to each other." So Sylvia and Irene invited six other librarians to dinner. After dinner the group adjourned to the Buder Branch Library and told each other stories. The informal gathering over a meal followed by story swapping in a private dining room of different local restaurants continued. The group's ranks began to grow with the attendance of a few more librarians and other interested story devotees. The group had no name, no rules, no officers, and no dues.

The group eventually found an ideal dining and meeting room facility in the Salad Bowl Cafeteria on Lindell. Meetings were held there through the end of 2005 when the Salad Bowl was sold to a land developer.

In 1981, an organization titled "St. Louis Gateway Storytellers" (a.k.a. Gateway) was founded based on the need to deal with the receipt of \$50 from the Missouri Botanical Garden for storytelling services by members of the group for children who were waiting to have their pictures taken with Santa.

Since its founding, Gateway has continued to be a group of individuals whose mission is to promote the enjoyment of storytelling as an art form. Membership dues have remained constant at \$20/year. Gateway members include professional and amateur storytellers as well as story listeners. In addition, interested guests are welcomed at meetings.

Meetings are held the fourth Tuesdays every other month beginning in January from 7-9 pm at The Crown Center, 8350 Delcrest Drive, St. Louis, MO 63124. Storytelling and light refreshments will be presented.

The following facts describe Gateway as a group in a prime state of organizational and networking health:

- .Average membership 50-80 men and women plus a few youths (all time high was 120)
- .Average attendance at meetings 20 members
- .Newsletter published bi-monthly electronically beginning in January
- .Catalyst for the founding of other local storytelling groups MO-TELL (MO) & Riverwind Storytellers Company (IL)
- .Co-host of the 2007 National Storytelling Network National Storytelling Conference in metropolitan St. Louis

Adults, and sometimes even children, from all walks of life have stood up (sometimes for the first time in front of an audience) in front of the Gateway community assembled at the meeting to swap a favorite story from folk lore or their personal life. The response of the audience at a Gateway meeting to the teller is always predictable—appreciative, attentive, and affirmative.
(adapted with permission of Sylvia Duncan and Irene Eveland Co-Founders)

Annual St. Louis Storytelling Events

In the spring—(first full weekend in May)

St. Louis

Storytelling Festival

Sponsored by the University of Missouri at St. Louis

.Venues include the Arch, city and county parks, museums

.Audiences include both children and adults

.Tellers are regionally, nationally, and internationally known

Call 314.516.5960

In the fall—(Saturday before Thanksgiving)

Tellabration

.Day of storytelling locally as well as around the globe

.Location to be announced

Call 636.271.7914

MEMBERSHIP

APPLICATION

ON REVERSE