

# Kentucky Storytelling Association Newsletter

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## President's Column

President Steve Lanham

Are you a member or are you a customer?

Now that might sound like a silly question for me to ask since you, as a recipient of this newsletter, are a dues-paying member of the Kentucky Storytelling Association.

So let me ask the question a different way: What mindset do you bring to your involvement with KSA? Do you have the attitude of a member? Or do you approach KSA more as a customer?

When it comes to the benefits of KSA, someone with a customer mentality is more likely to ask "What's in it for **me**?" When problems or challenges come up for KSA, a customer-minded individual usually will ask the president or other board members "What are **you** going to do about that?" When an important task critical to the long-term success of KSA needs to get done, a KSA customer will probably wonder "What are **they** going to do about that?" or "Who are **they** going to get to take care of that?"

Someone with a member mentality will ask a different set of questions? Instead of "What's in it for me?" he or she will ask "How can **I** help other people be successful in KSA?" When challenges or critical tasks arise, a member-minded person will ask "What can **I** do to take care of this challenge or this task?" instead of wondering who else will be taking care of matters.

It's all a matter of perspective. What is a member? A true member realizes that the success of KSA depends on all of us, not just a select few. A true member takes ownership of KSA as an organization. A true member looks at challenges and problems as "**our** challenges and problems," instead of "**their** challenges and problems."

Each one of you has a unique set of skills and a sphere of influence that can enhance what we are trying to accomplish through KSA. Please use your skills for the betterment of KSA. You can help in a

variety of ways such as serving on the conference committee, helping select of the winners of our Youth Storytelling Program, assisting with KSA-sponsored events, or serving on the KSA board. We could really benefit from your involvement.

The more people we have engaged in our activities—behind the scenes or on the stage—the better. I saw a sign in a doctor's office recently that said this: "Dividing the work multiplies the results." That is certainly true for KSA.

I encourage you to put the "member" in your KSA membership this year. You are unique and that person who is uniquely YOU can make the Kentucky Storytelling Association stronger. Let me or any other board member know how you'd like to help.

## **Kentucky Youth Storytelling** Gwenda Johnson & Mary Hamilton

### **New Prizes Added for Kentucky Youth Storytelling**

Kentucky Youth Storytelling Torchbearers will receive two new prizes in the 2016 competition. Each 2016 Kentucky Youth Storytelling Torchbearer will receive an admission pass to the Corn Island Storytelling Festival in Louisville and a Saturday admission pass to the Cave Run Storytelling Festival in Morehead. Your KYS Committee is thrilled with these new partners. Why? As many storytellers have discovered, the opportunity to hear others tell stories can increase our own storytelling skills. Is that because we copy other tellers by retelling their stories without their permission? Uh, no, that would be unethical! Instead we learn from them by observing how they interact with audiences, which stories they choose to tell, how they shape their stories for telling, and how they present them for listeners. Through being able to hear many different tellers, we are also exposed to a wide variety of storytelling styles. How wonderful those major storytelling festivals in our state are helping KSA support young tellers through these donations which will allow our young tellers to learn by example. Find out more about these two storytelling festivals by visiting: [www.caverunfest.org](http://www.caverunfest.org) and [www.cornislandstorytellingfestival.org](http://www.cornislandstorytellingfestival.org). Show your appreciation for their KSA support by your attendance at these events.

### **Kentucky Youth Storytelling Entries now Being Accepted**

Entries are accepted for the Kentucky Youth Storytelling competition from April 1 – June 1, so don't delay. Now is the time to spread the word and encourage tellers ages 7 – 17 to enter. New this year, entries will be accepted by mailed DVD or by submitting an electronic video link. You can read all about the KYS program on the KSA website [www.kystory.org](http://www.kystory.org). You'll find tips and guidelines, entry rules, a scoring rubric and more. You'll even find a downloadable flyer you can use to help you spread the word. If you have questions about the KYS program, or if you want to volunteer to help with this KSA program, please contact your KYS co-chairs -- Gwenda at [kys@kystory.org](mailto:kys@kystory.org) 606-207-9769 or Mary at [mary@maryhamilton.info](mailto:mary@maryhamilton.info) 502-223-4523.

## **Website Changes** by Mary Hamilton

Take a look at [www.kystory.org](http://www.kystory.org)! There's a new navigation bar on the opening page. You'll find fewer main categories, and drop down menus to lead you further into the website. Scroll to the bottom of the page, and you'll see information on how to contact KSA, including an easy-to-use link to the KSA Facebook page.

In the middle of the opening page, you'll see a photo montage, created by Communications Chair Ed Bryson, featuring KSA members and activities over the years. This is just the first such montage. The plan is to create more and change the montage showing on the website several times each year.

KSA needs your images. Do you have high-resolution photos or video of you telling a story or listening to a story? Do you have high-resolution images of you signing your latest book? Working with workshop participants? Engaging with audiences? We want to be able to show the variety that is KSA within these montages. Because photo and video files are so large, KSA has created a Dropbox for receiving them. To learn how to send high-resolution images for future KSA montages, contact [communications@kystory.org](mailto:communications@kystory.org) (Ed Bryson) He will send you the instructions for sending them to the KSA Dropbox.

## **Greeting From Wandering Storytellers** by Cynthia Lanham

### **Wandering Storytellers in Lexington**

Our January meeting was canceled due to weather.

Laughter permeated our meeting in February. Ed Bryson paved the way with the fresh humor that he brought to his folktales. And the 19 people in attendance seemed to greet our new format very enthusiastically. With the addition of the anonymous audience participation question, the meeting engaged all audience members along with the tellers who took the stage. If you weren't there, we hope to see you at our next meeting. Please bring a friend.

In March, we are changing our format. We are offering a Story Lab, led by KSA President Steve Lanham, where tellers can receive immediate feedback on their stories at the meeting. Several KSA members have asked me, as Wandering Storytellers chair, about a forum for feedback. We hope this format will enable newcomers and veterans alike to take their stories to the next level. Come March 28th for an exciting time at our new Story Lab.

We have another significant change at our March meeting. Two ASL (American Sign Language) students from Eastern Kentucky University have agreed to interpret for the deaf community that night. Elaine Laird, one of our hearing impaired members, plans to tell that night. We are really thrilled about this addition to our program.

April will highlight featured teller Gwenda Johnson who will share tales about Appalachian women. And we will provide a time of open mic where YOU can share your stories. Come join us for some fun at Wandering Storytellers every last Monday of the month.

Wandering Storytellers will meet on May 23<sup>rd</sup> instead of May 30<sup>th</sup> because the library is closed due to Memorial Day. Same place, same time. Billy Goldsmith has graciously consented to be Featured Teller in May since he missed doing so in January. I am looking forward to hearing all of Billy's funny antics. The theme for May is School Daze. Bring all your school stories, the horrid and the hilarious. We'd love to share them with you.

### **Monthly Storytelling Starting in Madisonville**

I'm excited to announce that former KSA President Donna Slaton is coordinating a new monthly storytelling event in Madisonville the third Monday of every month at 6 p.m. starting April 18. Mike and Maggie Beville will be the featured tellers at the inaugural event.

Donna is looking for out-of-town tellers **every other month, starting in June**. Featured tellers would have 30 minutes of stage time and there will also be open mic opportunities for others in the audience.

Contact Donna at 270-871-3719 or [donna@misspockets3.com](mailto:donna@misspockets3.com) if you are interested in telling.

Future dates: **May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, and September 19**. I know she would appreciate your support.

The library is located at 425 E. Center St., Madisonville, KY 42431.

## **WANTED**

### **KSA Secretary needed to fill an unexpired term now – 2017.**

**Duties:** Taking Minutes at Board meetings. Typing up Minutes after the meetings. Submitting Minutes to the KSA President within two weeks following the meeting. Serving on one KSA committee. Additional Secretarial duties are being handled by Charles Wright, who is serving as Secretary Assistant.

**Upcoming Board meetings:** May 14 and August 6 in Lexington and November 6 in Pikeville. Board meetings for 2017 will be determined at the November Board meeting with dates and locations scheduled for the convenience of Board members.

General information on Board service available [here](#) or ask Nominating Committee to mail information to you.

**Interested:** Contact [nominating@kystory.org](mailto:nominating@kystory.org) or call Mary Hamilton or Charles Wright at 502-223-4523. Or Contact [president@kystory.org](mailto:president@kystory.org) or call KSA President Steve Lanham at 502-319-0252.

## **KSA 2015 Financial Report** by Mary Hamilton

\$8,848.97 Opening Balance<sup>1</sup>  
+ \$8,011.16 Total Income  
\$16,860.13 Balance + Income  
- \$6,567.22 Total Expenses  
\$10,292.91 Closing Balance

OR another way to look at it: Net Gain for 2015 = \$1,443.94.

<sup>1</sup>Opening balance = bank account balance minus outstanding checks and outstanding PayPal payments.

### **Where did KSA Income come from in 2015?**

\$2,925.00 Conference Registrations  
\$1,886.22 Donations (see article "Donations to KSA: Who and Why?")  
\$1,735.00 Member Dues  
    \$844.69 Product Sales (sales at Conference Story Store)  
    \$511.25 Wandering Storytellers (audience members are asked for a \$5 donation)  
    \$100.00 Teller Directory Listings  
    \$9.00 Miscellaneous  
\$8,011.16 Total Income

### **What did KSA spend money on in 2015?**

\$3,718.57 Conference Committee<sup>2</sup>  
    \$871.76 Communications Committee (includes website hosting/updates & newsletter)  
    \$754.42 Cost of Product Sold (KSA keeps 15% and returns 85% to the seller)  
    \$646.30 Youth Storytelling Program  
    \$423.16 Administration (includes postage, PO Box rental, office supplies,  
        Secretary of State Fees, National Story Network dues)  
    \$93.10 Fundraising  
    \$59.91 PayPal Fees  
\$6,567.22 Total Expenses

<sup>2</sup>Conference Committee Expenses often include expenses from the year before and the next year's Conferences. (Example: Final bills and Meeting room deposits)

### **Help from Partners**

KSA Expenses were also offset by partnerships. Many thanks to these partners:

- Knowledge Center on Deafness for Conference services of one ASL Interpreter = at least \$945. Additional in-kind services from KCD include locating and scheduling theatrically skilled ASL Interpreters.
- Dale Hollow State Park for ½ featured teller fee = \$375.00 & lodging for two ASL Interpreters = \$229.50.
- Lexington Public Library for Wandering Storytellers use of Farish Theatre = \$1,320.00 (non-profit rental fees).

## **KSA Board Meeting Announcement**

The next KSA board meeting will be May 14 at 9:30 AM at the Beaumont branch of the Lexington Public Library, 3080 Fieldstone Way in Lexington. All KSA members are welcome to attend KSA Board meetings. Questions? Contact Steve Lanham, [president@kystory.org](mailto:president@kystory.org), 502-319-0252 for details.

Dates and contact persons for other 2016 KSA Board meetings are posted on the KSA website at: [Board Meeting Dates](#).

## KSA Member Survey – What did you say? by Bob Thompson & Mary Hamilton

In August 2015, KSA Membership Chair Bob Thompson distributed a survey to all KSA members. Over 1/3 of you responded – that’s a high return for a survey. Thank you! Here’s what you had to say:

When asked which KSA goals you consider most important to you, 71% included Goal 1 “To help people of all ages develop an appreciation and understanding of the oral cultural heritage of both the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the world.” Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> with 50% of survey responders was Goal 4 “To provide instruction for people of all ages seeking to develop and improve their storytelling skills.”

When asked which KSA benefits are most important to you, “Receiving the KSA newsletter” was Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> with 81%. Ranking 2<sup>nd</sup>, nearly 60% of you included receiving “Storyteller Wanted notices”.

Out of 38 respondents, 25 (65.8%) have attended the Kentucky Storytelling Conference and 10 of those have attended five or more conferences.

When asked what change would make you more likely to attend the Conference, comments varied greatly with few trends emerging.

Some similar comments included:

“I love the workshops. Would like to see more camaraderie.” In other words during lunch and dinner breaks eat together so we can get to know one another.” and “I would encourage more Ice Breaker type activities so members can get to know each other better.” Other similar comments included: “Storytelling is also a business and one that we can get paid for. We should have more information on how to get paid for storytelling.” and “Have semi-formal opportunities for discussion about storytelling skills, research, writing, recording, marketing, etc. These could take place in public spaces like lobbies and classrooms, but led by an experienced storyteller. Have two or three opportunities per conference to last up to 1.5 hours.” [Reporter’s note: Conference workshop topics are selected from proposals received. Business-related workshops are often requested, but KSA has not yet received proposals on this topic. Please, if you know someone who presents on this topic, encourage them to submit a conference workshop proposal.] Conflicting ideas were also presented:

“If it was in a city with other things to do, I could plan a family trip around it.” and “More likely to attend when held at state parks – the conference in Bowling Green was less engaging.”

Eighty-one percent reported receiving the KSA newsletter and 89.5% reported visiting the KSA website [www.kystory.org](http://www.kystory.org).

When asked what KSA does now that we should **absolutely** keep doing, the twenty-seven responses received included every current KSA program!

When asked what KSA does now that we should discontinue, ideas were suggested for tweaking some current programs, but no one cited any programs or activities to stop.

When asked to list three things you would like to see happen with KSA in the next 5 years, your ideas seemed to fall into a few categories:

- Keep conferences going
- Do more networking and public outreach
- Raise more money
- Create more programs like Wandering Storytellers and Storytelling in the Mountains in other parts of the state
- Promote more youth storytelling
- Shorten/change Board meetings through use of Internet resources

When asked what else you wanted the Board to know, ideas like the above were also mentioned, along with expressions of appreciation to the board for their service to KSA.

Thank you for responding to the KSA survey. How will survey results be used? Right now, a Strategic Planning Committee, chaired by KSA President Steve Lanham, is working to develop a plan for KSA’s future. Members of that committee will certainly consider information provided by the KSA member survey. If you have other concerns you’d like the Strategic Planning Committee to be sure to consider, send your ideas/concerns to KSA President Steve Lanham **now** so your thoughts can be considered in

the Strategic Planning Committee's work. You can reach Steve by emailing [president@kystory.org](mailto:president@kystory.org), calling 502-319-0252 or writing KSA President, P O Box 4148, Frankfort, KY 40604-4148.

## **Do you Teach Storytelling?** by Mary Hamilton

If you teach others to tell stories, you'll find help on your KSA website.

On the Kentucky Youth Storytelling pages, you'll find a [rubric](#) that identifies storytelling skills typical of different levels of storytelling experience: beginning, developing, proficient, and advanced. This rubric was developed for use by judges in the KY Youth Storytelling program, but it could be useful to anyone of any age who wants to improve storytelling skills. By sharing the rubric with your students you can help them evaluate their current skill level and set goals for the areas they want to improve. [Tips](#) for telling and teaching storytelling, all tied to the various areas of the rubric, will also prove useful.

The following resources are also listed on your KSA website links page:

On crafting stories:

[Pixar Story Rules \(one version\)](#) Yes, this advice comes from Pixar, the movie animation folks, and more specifically from Emma Coats via David Price. This list could prove useful for middle schoolers through adults.

[Vonnegut on the Shape of Stories](#) is a brief video of author Kurt Vonnegut talking about story structure.

On learning and retelling tales:

[How to Tell a Story](#) is the video "How to Tell a Story: Quick-Learn Storytelling Techniques!" from Sean Buvala. Appropriate for use with both youth and adult tellers. The presentation is like viewing an old-time silent movie – fun to watch and useful advice.

For activities you can use to help your students develop their skills:

[Story Arts Online](#) Created by storyteller and author Heather Forest, this site, while aimed at educators who work with children, also has plenty of ideas adaptable for use in helping adults develop storytelling skills too.

To justify the importance of teaching the storytelling craft in educational settings:

[Guideline on Teaching Storytelling](#) *a position statement from the National Council of Teachers of English Committee on Storytelling eloquently and clearly explains why storytelling matters in the classroom.*

To find complete texts of folktales for retelling:

[Folktexts](#) an easily navigated electronic text library of folktales, folklore, fairytales and mythology edited and/or translated by D. L. Ashliman, University of Pittsburgh. Please note: This site includes some stories not appropriate for children.

## **Donations to KSA: Who and Why?** by Mary Hamilton and Steve Lanham

### **Who donates to KSA?**

You and the people who know you. That's true – strangers do not donate to KSA. Instead KSA donors are KSA members and people who know KSA members. The people who know you and know what you love and support are the people who are willing to donate to organizations like KSA. In 2015, here's where KSA's \$1,886.22 in donations came from:

- \$870.00 from KSA members
- \$580.00 from non-members
- \$136.22 from Kroger Rewards, Amazon Smile, Good Search/Shop programs
- \$300.00 from the Storytelling in the Mountains event

### **Why do people donate to KSA?**

Because they are asked. According to information on non-profit fundraising, the main reason why people do not donate is because they are never asked.

### **How can you as a KSA member help?**

1. Donate.

If you can afford to do so, please make a donation in addition to your dues. Any amount is welcome. Truly, no donation is too small.

2. Ask others you know to donate.

When your KSA Board asks you for assistance in sending KSA fundraising appeals to people you know, please help. In 2015, we received \$520 in donations because **just one** KSA member sent out appeal letters to friends, relatives, colleagues, and acquaintances who were not KSA members. Did they all donate? No. In fact, most did not, but those who did would never have done so had they not been asked. While some of you might be reluctant to ask those you know to donate to our cause, the KSA board has found that it doesn't hurt to ask. Sometimes those unlikely donors do see fit to contribute to the ongoing support of storytelling throughout Kentucky. Remember, others cannot help us if we do not ask them.

### **Why does KSA need donations?**

Yes, KSA has money in its bank account now; however each year, your KSA Board works to help KSA earn the money that will be needed to cover the next year's expenses. If you look at the financial report in this newsletter, it's easy to see that without help from our partners that KSA would have lost money in 2015 instead of showing a net gain.

In addition, your KSA Board must consider the long term financial future of KSA, not just immediate expenses. In 2014 KSA received a \$2,500.00 restricted donation to begin an endowment. Eventually interest from a KSA endowment fund could be used to fund KSA programming, but financially your KSA Board has not yet been able to add to the endowment fund.

Also, many KSA members have ideas for expanded KSA programming, but launching new programs requires both volunteers and funding.

You can help!

## **2016 Call for Proposals for the Kentucky Storytelling Conference**

by Betsy Fleischer

In order to fulfill our mission and goals we are seeking **all ideas for workshop sessions on any aspect of the art of storytelling**. To see our mission and goals, go to <http://www.kystory.org>. Select "about KSA" to view the mission and goals. To see our 2015 Conference Workshops, select "Conference" then "Workshop sessions." Have an idea? Send it on!

We would like to offer a beginner's teller workshop; that has been requested by our attendees. We have offered it at previous conferences, so it is one that is popular. Suggestions for workshop topics from past conferences include: turning a written story into an oral story, adapting a family story, deaf culture storytelling and how it can inform the hearing culture, how to develop voices for stories with multiple characters speaking together, how to start a youth storytelling group, African American, different styles of telling, stories for leadership, ending a story, creating a story from a nursery rhyme, healing stories, developing promotional material, tandem telling, marketing, website development, using stories at work, workshops specifically for youth tellers.

The conference dates are Friday and Saturday, November 4, and November 5, 2016. The conference location is Lee Avenue Branch of the Pike County Public Library District, 126 Lee Avenue, Pikeville, Kentucky, 41501 in eastern Kentucky (Pike County borders West Virginia and Virginia).

Workshop presenters receive free conference registration and are paid a \$175 honorarium for a 70-minute session and a \$300 honorarium for a 135-minute session. All workshops are ASL interpreted if requested by a conference registrant. Any expenses, including travel, food, and lodging are your responsibility. Lodging is available in the area.

Your proposal needs to include the following information (1-13):

1. Name of Presenter(s):

phone number(s)  
email(s)  
website or other online resource (if applicable)

2. Title of Workshop:  
Written how you would want it on the KSA website and in other publicity materials  
(maximum 10 words)
3. Brief Workshop Description:  
Written how you would want it on the KSA website and in other publicity materials  
(maximum 25 words)
4. Workshop Presentation Method:  
Describe how you plan to conduct your workshop – what percentage of time will be  
lecture? discussion? active audience participation? other methods?  
(maximum 100 words)
5. Workshop Goals:  
What will participants know or be able to do as a result of your workshop session?  
(maximum 100 words)
6. Intended Audience:  
Is your workshop appropriate for young storytellers, ages 8-17?  
What level of storytelling experience do participants need – beginning, intermediate,  
advanced, or appropriate for any level?  
Are there specific groups for whom this workshop would be especially appropriate?  
Please list them – for example, teachers, librarians, preachers, business people,  
therapists.
7. Maximum Number of Workshop Participants:
8. Workshop Length:  
70 minutes or 135 minutes?  
If you believe your workshop is appropriate for *either* length, tell us what will be  
included in a 135-minute session that is not included in a 70-minute session, and what your  
participants will know or be able to do that they will not know or be able to do from a 70-minute  
session.
9. Short Bio of Yourself:  
Written how you would want it to appear on the KSA website (maximum 100 words)
10. We have easels, large pads, and markers in each room for your use.  
Please list any technology you will be bringing.  
LCD projectors will be available
11. How do you want the room set up?
  - Classroom (chairs and tables)
  - Theater (chairs in rows)
  - Open space (chairs only around the edges of the room)Some rooms are large enough for both theater and open space, but we need to know your needs  
now, please.
12. References:  
Please provide contact information for three people who can comment on the quality of  
your work as a workshop presenter.

13. Local Contacts for Publicity:  
Your local newspaper  
Your local radio station

Proposal deadline is May 15, 2016

Send your proposal to Betsy Fleischer at [conference@kystory.org](mailto:conference@kystory.org) or 305 Cole Lane, Harrodsburg, KY 40330-7715

## Upcoming Storytelling Events

The KSA Calendar lists public storytelling events in Kentucky and adjoining states. To be sure your event will be included, submit your listing by the 1st of the month before your event. For example: For August programs, submit information by July 1. **Events happening in Kentucky and broadcasts originating in Kentucky are highlighted.**

Types of events are designated as follows:

**ASL** – American Sign Language Interpreted

**B** – Broadcasts

**C** - Competitions (any storytelling event awarding prizes)

**D** - Deadlines to know

**F** - Festival

**K** - Events offered by the Kentucky Storytelling Association

**O** – Open Mic/Story Swaps, where anyone may tell a story

**P** – Performance

**W** – Workshops, classes, courses, retreats

**Y** - Events pertaining to youth storytelling

Please note that some events offer more than one type of activity.

### 24/7

**B – A World of Storytelling Radio** - A worldwide internet radio station just for storytelling. Find it at <http://www.live365.com/stations/storytellingradio/>. You can also download a free radio player to put on your desktop or access the station from your iPhone.

**B – Kentucky Voices and Views** - a podcast about interesting people, places and activities around Kentucky hosted by Tom Hailey from Lexington. Topics vary & include interviews with storytellers. <http://www.kentuckyvoicesandviews.com/>.

### Weekly

**B – A Time for Tales, Sundays**, - 3:00 p.m. Morehead State Public Radio, 90.3 FM. (Morehead, KY), hosted by Carolyn Franzini. Each week the stories relate to a theme... "Work," "School," "Ghost Stories," "Lessons Learned" and more. Listen on the web at <http://wmky.org/programs/time-tales>.

**B – Kentucky Homefront, Saturdays**, 8:00 a.m. on WFPK 91.9 FM, Louisville, KY. Radio show, taped in front of a live audience. All live tapings include storytelling and music; half of broadcasts include storytelling. Details: [www.kentuckyhomefront.org](http://www.kentuckyhomefront.org).

**B - Kentucky Homefront, Saturdays**, 2:00 p.m. streamed on Crescent Hill Radio. Details: [www.CrescentHillRadio.com](http://www.CrescentHillRadio.com). and [www.kentuckyhomefront.org](http://www.kentuckyhomefront.org).

**P –Teller In Residence, May – October, Jonesborough, TN.** Tuesday – Saturday, 2:00 Matinee Performances, Mary B. Martin Storytelling Hall, International Storytelling Center, 100 W. Main Street, Jonesborough, TN. Tickets: \$12 for adults and \$11 for seniors, students, and children under 18 years of age. Season Tickets: \$175 includes entrance to one matinee performance each week - a 44% savings over regular adult admission! For tickets or more information, or to request a brochure, call (800) 952-8392 or (423) 913-1276. Tickets go on sale April 1st.

### Monthly

**O – River Town Story Tellers, 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays**, 6:30 p.m. Business, 7:00 p.m. Storytelling and Story Listening. Ohio Township Central Library, **Newburgh, IN**. Information: 1-800-213-0527, [www.rivertownstorytellers.com](http://www.rivertownstorytellers.com) or Mary Jo Huff, 812-455-1558.

**O – SpeakEasy, 1st Thursdays**, 7:00 p.m. \$5.00. An open-mic event for adults co-sponsored by Storytellers of Central Ohio (SOCO) and Wild Goose Creative, 2491 Summit Street, **Columbus, OH 43202**. Wild Goose Creative believes everyone has a story to tell. To give those stories a voice we're proud to offer, Speak Easy, Columbus's premier event for live storytelling! It's simple: an audience, an open microphone, and great stories. Hilarious, gripping, poignant, you'll hear it all. Come to listen or come to tell as people from across Columbus offer their stories live on stage! Always something unexpected—a different topic every month! For more info contact Sarah Fulmer: [SpeakeasySarah@gmail.com](mailto:SpeakeasySarah@gmail.com)

**O – As I Recall Storytelling Guilds, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays**, Hancock County Public Library, **Greenfield, IN**, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Information: [www.StorytellingArts.org](http://www.StorytellingArts.org).

**P – Jabberwocky, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays**, September – December & February – May a gathering of people willing to share and listen to life stories based around a theme. Doors open 5:30 p.m., stories begin at 6:00 p.m. Indy Eleven IndyFringe Theatre, 719 E. St. Clair St. **Indianapolis, IN** 46202. Information: [www.StorytellingArts.org](http://www.StorytellingArts.org).

**P – Kentucky Homefront, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays**, February – June and August – December, a radio show, taped in front of a live audience. All live tapings include storytelling and music. Live tapings happen at 7:30 p.m. The Clifton Center, 2117 Payne Street, Louisville, KY. Admission: \$12.00, season ticket discounts available. [www.kentuckyhomefront.org](http://www.kentuckyhomefront.org) At least half of broadcasted shows include storytelling. Broadcasts can be heard **weekly** on Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. on WFPK 91.9 FM, Louisville, KY and at 2:00 p.m. streamed on Crescent Hill Radio.

**K, O, P – Western Kentucky Wandering Storytellers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays**, Hopkins County Madisonville Public Library, 425 E. Center, **Madisonville, KY** 42431. 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Stories for and by adults and older teens – humor, inspirational, emotional, history, and more. Featured tellers for 30 minutes every other month followed by open mic. Open mic storytelling every month; 8 – 10 minute story length. FREE Details: Ashley Buchanan, 270-825-2680.

**O – Tale Talk, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays**, Tale Talk, a gathering of storytellers and listeners in **Louisville, KY**, 6:30 p.m. Participants come tell stories, try out new stories, or listen to stories. Locations vary, but all within the Louisville area. To learn the next Tale Talk gathering location, contact Jamie “Thorny” Eiler 812-725-5229 or visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Tale.Talk/>.

**O – As I Recall Storytelling Guilds, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays**, Glendale Library in **Indianapolis, IN**, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Information: [www.StorytellingArts.org](http://www.StorytellingArts.org).

**O – Traditional Storytelling Guild, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays**, Nora Library, **Indianapolis, IN**. 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Information: [www.StorytellingArts.org](http://www.StorytellingArts.org).

**P, O (sometimes W), Wandering Storytellers, last Mondays, Lexington, KY**. Details: 7-8:30 p.m., in the Farish Theatre at the main branch of the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main Street.

**O, The Moth, last Tuesdays, Louisville, KY**. Details: 7:00 p.m. door open, 8:00 p.m. stories begin, Headliners Music Hall, 1386 Lexington Rd., Louisville, fee charged.

## Quarterly

**Louisville Storytellers events – specific dates to be announced.** Louisville Storytellers, a Courier-Journal newspaper sponsored event to be held at various venues including bars, restaurants and theatres, is meant to provide a forum for both notables and neighbors to share personal stories on topics about which the community is passionate. Unlike story slams or competitions, each Louisville Storytellers night will be curated by a team of C-J storytelling reporters and will focus on Louisville-centered themes.

Below are descriptions of upcoming events. For more information or to join a mailing list: [Louisville Storytellers](http://LouisvilleStorytellers.org)  
**Upcoming Louisville Storytellers Events** (As specific dates and locations become available, information below will be relocated within the Event Calendar.)

**Summer 2016** – Adventure: Tales from Louisvillians who climb mountains, row oceans, survive disasters, bring aid and migrate from far-flung part of the world.

**Fall 2016** – Entrepreneurs: Triumphs, flops and hard-won wisdom from the world of entrepreneurs, from risk-taking money makers to millennials redefining the notion of a career.

**Winter 2017** – LGBTQ: Personal stories from the gay, lesbian and transgender community in the wake of high-profile legal and cultural battles.

## April 2016

**C, D, K, Y – Friday, April 1 – Wednesday, June 1**, Entries accepted in the Kentucky Youth Storytelling Contest. Details at [Kentucky Youth Storytelling Program](http://KentuckyYouthStorytellingProgram.org).

**O – Wednesday, April 6, Newburgh, IN**. River Town Story Tellers. Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**O – Thursday, April 7, Columbus, OH**. Speak Easy. Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**B – Saturday, April 9, Louisville, KY**. Kentucky Homefront. Details: [www.kentuckyhomefront.org](http://www.kentuckyhomefront.org).

**P – Saturday, April 9, Indianapolis, IN**. “Bottle Rockets & Spider Veins” told by Bil Lepp. Details: [storytellingarts.org/Lepp](http://storytellingarts.org/Lepp), 317-232-1882.

**F – Friday – Saturday, April 15 – 16, Fincastle, VA**. Sounds of the Mountains: Storytelling and Music Festival. Details: [www.SoundsoftheMountains.org](http://www.SoundsoftheMountains.org), 540-992-2940.

**K, O, P – Monday, April 18, Madisonville, KY.** Western KY Wandering Storytellers. Featured Tellers: KSA Members Mike and Maggie Beville, plus open mic. Hopkins County Madisonville Public Library, 425 E. Center, Madisonville, KY 42431. Details: Ashley Buchanan, 270-825-2680.

**O – Monday, April 18, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: See listing under "Monthly".

**P – Monday, April 18, Louisville, KY–** Louisville Storytellers: Derby: Stories from the heights and depths of the Kentucky Derby, with storytelling from jockeys, millionaire owners and those toiling behind the scenes of thoroughbred racing's most vaunted event. Kentucky Derby Museum, 704 Central Avenue. Details: [LouisvilleStorytellers](#).

**K, O, P – Monday, April 25, Lexington, KY.** Wandering Storytellers. Theme: Appalachian Life. Featured Teller: KSA Member Gwenda Huff-Johnson, plus open mic. Details: 7-8:30 p.m., in the Farish Theatre at the main branch of the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main Street.

**P – Monday, April 25, Cincinnati, OH.** True Theatre: true stories told by real people. Theme: trueGAY. Know Theatre, 1120 Jackson Street. Details: [www.cincinnati storytelling.com](#).

**C, O – Tuesday, April 26, Louisville, KY.** The Moth Story Slam. Theme: Jokers. Details: See listing in "Monthly".

**P – Friday, April 29, Indianapolis, IN.** "Sharing Hoosier History Through Stories: T. C. Steele" told by Lou Ann Homan. Details: [storytellingarts.org/homan](#), 317-232-1882.

**P, W – Friday – Saturday, April 29 – 30, Fairmont, WV.** A storytelling concert and workshop featuring Lyn Ford. Workshop title: TELL IT! Developing Language Arts Skills through Interactive Wordplay And Storytelling Experiences. Details: [West Virginia Storytelling Guild](#).

## **May 2016**

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, May 3 – 7, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Bil Lepp. Details: See listing under "[Weekly](#)".

**O – Wednesday, May 4, Newburgh, IN.** River Town Story Tellers. Details: See listing under "Monthly".

**P – Wednesday, May 4, Cincinnati, OH.** #CincyStorytellers: Living and Dying. Details: [CincyStoryTellersMay](#).

**O – Thursday, May 5, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: See listing under "Monthly".

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, May 10 - 14, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Megan Hicks. Details: See listing under "[Weekly](#)".

**B – Saturday, May 14, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: [www.kentuckyhomefront.org](#).

**K – Saturday, May 14, Lexington, KY.** Kentucky Storytelling Association Board meeting, 9:30 a.m. at the Beaumont branch of the Lexington Public Library, 3080 Fieldstone Way. Details: Contact [President@kystory.org](#).

**D, K – Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.** Last day to propose a workshop for the 2016 Kentucky Storytelling Conference. Details: <http://www.kystory.org/conference/intro.shtml>.

**K, O, P – Monday, May 16, Madisonville, KY.** Western KY Wandering Storytellers. Details: See Western KY Wandering Storytellers in "Monthly".

**O – Monday, May 16, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: See listing under "Monthly".

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, May 17 – 21 Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Adam Booth. Details: See listing under "[Weekly](#)".

**K, O, P – Monday, May 23, Lexington, KY.** Wandering Storytellers. Theme: School Daze. Featured Teller: KSA Member Billy Goldsmith, plus open mic. Details: 7-8:30 p.m., in the Farish Theatre at the main branch of the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main Street.

**C, O – Tuesday, May 24, Louisville, KY.** The Moth Story Slam. Theme: Escape. Details: See listing in "Monthly".

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, May 24 – 28, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Dolores Hydock. Details: See listing under "[Weekly](#)".

**K, P – Saturday, May 28, Harlan, KY.** Storytelling in the Mountains, The Depot, 110 River Street. Details: Contact Pam Holcomb [pfolcomb@msn.com](mailto:pfolcomb@msn.com).

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, May 31 – June 4, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Willy Clafin. Details: See listing under "[Weekly](#)".

## **June 2016**

**C, D, K, Y – Wednesday, June 1**, Entry deadline for Kentucky Youth Storytelling Contest. Details: [Kentucky Youth Storytelling Program](#).

**O – Wednesday, June 1, Newburgh, IN**. River Town Story Tellers. Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**O – Thursday, June 2, Columbus, OH**. Speak Easy. Details: See listing under ‘Monthly’.

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, June 7 – 11, Jonesborough, TN**. Storyteller in Residence: Anne Rutherford. Details: See listing under “Weekly”.

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, June 14 – 18, Jonesborough, TN**. Storyteller in Residence: Olga Loya. Details: See listing under “Weekly”.

**K, O, P – Monday, June 20, Madisonville, KY**. Western KY Wandering Storytellers. Details: See Western KY Wandering Storytellers in “Monthly”.

**O – Monday, June 20, Louisville, KY**. Tale Talk, Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, June 21 – 25, Jonesborough, TN**. Storyteller in Residence: Rev. Robert Jones. Details: See listing under “Weekly”.

**K, O, P – Monday, June 27, Lexington, KY**. Wandering Storytellers. Theme: All Things Jack. Featured Teller: KSA Member Octavia Sexton, plus open mic. Details: 7-8:30 p.m., in the Farish Theatre at the main branch of the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main Street.

**C, O – Tuesday, June 28, Louisville, KY**. The Moth Story Slam. Theme: Fathers. Details: See listing in “Monthly”.

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, June 28 – July 2, Jonesborough, TN**. Storyteller in Residence: Corinne Stavish. Details: See listing under “Weekly”.

## **July 2016**

**W – Tuesday – Thursday, July 5 – 7, Johnson City, TN**. “Exploring Ancient and Epic Tales”. Instructor: Heather Forest, PhD. East Tennessee State University. Details: [ETSU Summer Storytelling Institute](#).

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, July 5 – 9, Jonesborough, TN**. Storyteller in Residence: Motoko. Details: See listing under “Weekly”.

**O – Wednesday, July 6, Newburgh, IN**. River Town Story Tellers. Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**O – Thursday, July 7, Columbus, OH**. Speak Easy. Details: See listing under ‘Monthly’.

**B – Saturday, July 9, Louisville, KY**. Kentucky Homefront. Details: [www.kentuckyhomefront.org](http://www.kentuckyhomefront.org).

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, July 12 – 16, Jonesborough, TN**. Storyteller in Residence: Diane Edgecomb. Details: See listing under “Weekly”.

**K, O, P – Monday, July 18, Madisonville, KY**. Western KY Wandering Storytellers. Details: See Western KY Wandering Storytellers in “Monthly”.

**O – Monday, July 18, Louisville, KY**. Tale Talk, Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**P – Monday, July 18, 2016 Cincinnati, OH**. True Theatre: true stories told by real people. Theme: trueANIMAL. Know Theatre, 1120 Jackson Street. Details: [www.cincinnati-storytelling.com](http://www.cincinnati-storytelling.com).

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, July 19 – 23, Jonesborough, TN**. Storyteller in Residence: The Storycrafters. Details: See listing under “Weekly”.

**C, O, P, W, Wednesday – Saturday, July 20 – 24, Kansas City, MO**. National Storytelling Conference and Pre-Conferences, Details: [Conference](#).

**K, O, P – Monday, July 25, Lexington, KY**. Wandering Storytellers. Theme: When I Was Young. Featured Teller: KSA Member Jerry Young, plus open mic. Details: 7-8:30 p.m., in the Farish Theatre at the main branch of the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main Street.

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, July 26 – 30, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Andy Offut Irwin. Details: See listing under [“Weekly”](#).

## **August 2016**

**W – Monday – Wednesday, August 1 – 3, Johnson City, TN.** “Telling Stories with Wit” Instructor: Andy Offut Irwin. East Tennessee State University. Details: [ETSU Summer Storytelling Institute](#).

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, August 2 – 6, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Noa Baum. Details: See listing under [“Weekly”](#).

**O – Wednesday, August 3, Newburgh, IN.** River Town Story Tellers. Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**P – Wednesday, August 3, Cincinnati, OH.** #CincyStorytellers: My Biggest Mistake. Details: [CincyStoryTellersAugust](#).

**O – Thursday, August 4, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**K – Saturday, August 6, Lexington, KY.** Kentucky Storytelling Association Board meeting. Contact [president@kvstory.org](mailto:president@kvstory.org) for meeting details.

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, August 9 – 13, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Bobby Norfolk. Details: See listing under [“Weekly”](#).

**B – Saturday, August 13, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: [www.kentuckyhomefront.org](http://www.kentuckyhomefront.org).

**K, O, P – Monday, August 15, Madisonville, KY.** Western KY Wandering Storytellers. Details: See Western KY Wandering Storytellers in “Monthly”.

**O – Monday, August 15, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk. Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, August 16 – 20, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: David Holt. Details: See listing under [“Weekly”](#).

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, August 23 – 27, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Dovie Thomason. Details: See listing under [“Weekly”](#).

**K, O, P – Monday, August 29, Lexington, KY.** Wandering Storytellers. Theme: Cowboys. Featured Tellers: KSA Members Mike and Maggie Beville, plus open mic. Details: Details: 7-8:30 p.m., in the Farish Theatre at the main branch of the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main Street.

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, August 30 – September 3, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Jim May. Details: See listing under [“Weekly”](#).

## **September 2016 – Kentucky Storytelling Month**

To celebrate [Kentucky Storytelling Month](#), this calendar includes both public and private in-Kentucky storytelling events, so let KSA know what you are doing to celebrate, and your event will be posted below. **All in-Kentucky events are highlighted.** Email your event information to [calendar@kvstory.org](mailto:calendar@kvstory.org) or submit it [here](#).

**ASL, P – Saturday, September 3, Louisville, KY.** DeaFestival 2016. Poetry, Storytelling, Theatre, Music, Art. Details: <http://www.deafestival.org/>

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, September 6 – 10, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Minton Sparks. Details: See listing under [“Weekly”](#)

**O – Wednesday, September 7, Newburgh, IN.** River Town Story Tellers. Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**O – Thursday, September 8, Columbus, OH.** Speak Easy. Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**B – Saturday, September 10, Louisville, KY.** Kentucky Homefront. Details: [www.kentuckyhomefront.org](http://www.kentuckyhomefront.org).

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, September 13 – 17, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Oba William King. Details: See listing under [“Weekly”](#).

**F, P – Saturday, September 17, Oneida, TN.** Big South Fork Haunting in the Hills Storytelling Festival, featuring Linda Gorham, Priscilla Howe, Fran Stallings, and Madafo Lloyd Wilson. Bandy Creek Campground, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, 151 Stable Road, Oneida. Free. Information: (423) 286-7275.

**K, O, P – Monday, September 19, Madisonville, KY.** Western KY Wandering Storytellers. Details: See Western KY Wandering Storytellers in “Monthly”.

**O – Monday, September 19, Louisville, KY.** Tale Talk, Details: See listing under “Monthly”.

**P – Tuesday – Saturday, September 20 – 24, Jonesborough, TN.** Storyteller in Residence: Tim Lowry. Details: See listing under “Weekly”.

**P – Friday and Saturday, September 23 – 24, Morehead, KY.** The 18th annual Cave Run Storytelling Festival featuring Kim Wietkamp, Kevin Kling, Bil Lepp, Josh Goforth, Baba Jamal Koram, Geraldine Buckley and Diane Ferlatte. Details: [www.caverunstoryfest.org](http://www.caverunstoryfest.org).

**K, W – Monday, September 26, Lexington, KY.** Wandering Storytellers Story Lab – You can bring your stories and present them and receive feedback on ideas to help make them be even better. Details: 7-8:30 p.m., in the Farish Theatre at the main branch of the Lexington Public Library, 140 E. Main Street.

## **Your KSA Board Members are:**

President, Steve Lanham, [President@kystory.org](mailto:President@kystory.org), 502-319-0252  
1064 Melody Lane, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342

President-elect, , [President-Elect@kystory.org](mailto:President-Elect@kystory.org), this position is currently vacant

Secretary, this position is currently vacant

Treasurer, Maryann Zoll, [Treasurer@kystory.org](mailto:Treasurer@kystory.org), 859-339-8009  
386 Hurt Lane, Lancaster, KY 40444

Quadrant 1 Board Member, Bob Thompson, [Quad1@kystory.org](mailto:Quad1@kystory.org), 502-553-3406  
7712 Briarwood Drive, Crestwood, KY 40014

Quadrant 2 Board Member, Cynthia Lanham, [Quad2@kystory.org](mailto:Quad2@kystory.org), 502-600-1851  
1064 Melody Lane, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342

Quadrant 3 Board Member, Ed Bryson, [Quad3@kystory.org](mailto:Quad3@kystory.org), 859-489-9417  
205 Hillbrook Drive, Nicholasville, KY 40356

Quadrant 4 Board Member, Amanda Hay, [Quad4@kystory.org](mailto:Quad4@kystory.org), 502-381-7957  
119 E Tenny Avenus, Louisville, KY 40214

At-Large 1 Board Member, Charles Wright, [At-large1@kystory.org](mailto:At-large1@kystory.org), 502-223-4523  
65 Springhill Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601

At-Large 2 Board Member, Betsy Fleischer, [At-large2@kystory.org](mailto:At-large2@kystory.org), 859-612-8275  
305 Cole Lane, Harrodsburg, KY 40330-7715

## **Your KSA Committee Chairs are:**

KSA has no paid employees, so all work is done by Board Members and Committee Members and *additional volunteers*. Want to help? Volunteer to work with a committee. Learn more about any KSA Committee by contacting the Committee Chair below:

**Conference:** Betsy Fleischer, [conference@kystory.org](mailto:conference@kystory.org), 859-734-3194

**Kentucky Youth Storytelling:** Gwenda Huff Johnson, [kys@kystory.org](mailto:kys@kystory.org), 606-207-9769

**Wandering Storytellers:** Cynthia Lanham, [wanderingtellers@kystory.org](mailto:wanderingtellers@kystory.org), 502-600-1851

**Programming:** Cynthia Lanham, [programs@kystory.org](mailto:programs@kystory.org), 502-600-1851

**Website:** Mary Hamilton, [website@kystory.org](mailto:website@kystory.org), 502-223-4523.

**KSA Facebook Page:** Cynthia Lanham, [facebook@kystory.org](mailto:facebook@kystory.org), 502-600-1851

**Newsletter:** Charles Wright, [newsletter@kystory.org](mailto:newsletter@kystory.org), 502-223-4523

**Publicity & PR Subcommittee:** this position is currently vacant

**Communications:** Ed Bryson, [communications@kystory.org](mailto:communications@kystory.org), 859-489-9417

**Fundraising:** Steve Lanham, [fundraising@kystory.org](mailto:fundraising@kystory.org), 502-319-0252

**Membership:** Bob Thompson, [membership@kystory.org](mailto:membership@kystory.org), 270-871-3719

**Nominating:** Charles Wright, [nominating@kystory.org](mailto:nominating@kystory.org), 502-223-4523 (This is the committee to contact if you are interested in Board service.)