



NEWSLETTER

March 2019 Volume 23 Issue 6

Our Next SOCO Meeting

Our next SOCO meeting will be March 9 in St. Matthias' Reading Enrichment Room. St. Matthias is located at 1582 Ferris Rd. in Columbus.

One of our own at the Southern Ohio Storytelling Festival

Terri Lott has been selected to be a featured teller at the Southern Ohio Storytelling Festival in Chillicothe this year, so mark your calendars to attend this year's festival, September 5, 6, and 7th. The Storytellers Of Central Ohio have been actively involved in this festival since the beginning. It is one of the best bargains around.

Erin Oneil, Our new Web Master, Asks:

In Updating our website I would like to add headshots to the members page. And, if anyone wants to update their bio they are welcome to send that along as well! They can email submissions to erin7oneil@gmail.com.

Ohio Storytelling Meeting March 23, 2019



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Florida Storytelling Festival

I (Bizzie) attended the Florida Storytelling Festival. It was a four day festival than ran from the 24th to the 27th. It was really awesome. I was impressed with the Featured Storytellers, the Florida Storytelling Association, the funding and the organizational skills of the festival committee. Over the four days, they must have had four to five hundred people. So far it's the largest festival I have attended outside of Tennessee.

The festival was held on the grounds of the Lakeside Inn which is in Mount Dora on Lake Dora. We stayed at the Gables which is a separate building from the Inn. We could see the pool, the lake and the sunrise from our room.

The main stage was in a huge tent about 6 feet from the porch of our hotel. The FSA held workshops, storytelling and dinners at the Inn.

The featured storytellers were Sheila Arnold who shared Folktales and personal stories. She is a gifted teller who drew us in and kept us there.

(www.mssheila.org) Sam Payne who has "A fill-the-room stage presence" plays jazz guitar, and sings both original and traditional songs. Woven amid the notes and stanzas are his stories.

(www.sampayne.com.) Ingrid Nixon whose cd, "Grimm's with a Twist", is a Storytelling World award winner. She is a champion liar and a very impressive 6ft, tall. (www.ingridnixon.com)

Shawn Welcome is a performance poet and author. He created "Diverse Word", Florida's longest running open mic. (www.shawnwelcome.com)

We really need him to come to Ohio. I never felt so much through poetry before.

There was a real change in storytelling style when Margaret Kaler took the stage in her Union Army uniform portraying Emma Edmonds. She portrays other strong women from history. Look for her online.

The FSA partners with local schools to promote storytelling to children through a program called "Youthful Voices". The festival committee chose seven children from that

program to tell at the festival. These storytellers in grades 3 to 7 took the stage and preformed like pros. But they were shorter and cuter.

There were workshops by the featured presen-

and Judy Sima. There were Fringe storytelling programs like, Front Porch Storytelling, Ghost Stories, a Story Swap, a Story Slam. And because it was Florida, they had a "Story Cruise". Their funding was impressive. Listed in their booklet were local banks, schools, restaurants, inns, hotels and the Economic Development & Tourism Department of Lake County. Apparently you can accomplish great things with good funding. But, at the top of impressive things was the organizational skills of the people who put this thing together.

If you wanted something with the event logo on it like a t-shirt, chair cushion or bag, all you had to do was visit the area of the tent labeled "Storystore." You could buy cds and cd baby cards, books and drinks at the store too.

All in all, it was a great weekend.

Bizzie Vunderink.



Get your calendars out and put these activities on it!

Storytellers of Central Ohio - March 9, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Matthias School at 1566 Ferris Rd. Share with other storytellers or story listeners. Plan "next steps." Find out what's new in Storytelling.

Plan to attend the next **Ohio Storytelling Network meeting** at the Bexley Public Library from 9:30a.m. - 4 p.m on Saturday, March 23. Have some breakfast and then punch later. Share a couple of hours with each of our two exciting workshop leaders. Share a story at the story swap. Make decisions at a sort business meeting.....Watch for the next flyer being sent with more details.

Planning way ahead - **Central Ohio Folk Festival** with tellers, music, dancing, lots of action and excitement May 4-5 at Highbanks Metro Park.

Columbus Arts Festival downtown Columbus on the River - stories, music, art, food.... June 7-9

Ohio Storytelling Network gathering in Dayton with all of its historic locations and lots of stories and workshops starting on the evening of June 21 for fellowship and story sharing followed by varied events all day Saturday, June 22 and maybe deciding to stay overnight and going home after Sunday morning stories and historical visits.

BUT save some pennies (and \$\$\$) to head off to California for all or part of the National Storytelling Network Summit with pre-conference events and Master Classes starting July 24, and the final part of the Summit which ends Sunday, July 28. Registration and more details are actually coming soon!

Fuller details to come - or ask Joyce or other members of SOCO, go on line, read the Storytelling magazine which you receive if you are an NSN member (with 10% off the individual membership since SOCO is a group member.)

Oh, and don't forget to tell as many stories as you can on your own and with CSA (again more details to come).

Joyce Geary

Do you have something to add?

All members are welcome to submit articles for our newsletter. This newsletter belongs to **all** members. Deadline for next issue is March 21. Please send it to me, Frank McGarvey at frankmgarvey@gmail.com





Storytelling Gathering

Here we invite you to discover the art!



Saturday March 23 2019

9 to 4

\$15.00 Non-members

\$10.00 members



Bexley Public Library at 2411 East Main St., Bexley, OH 4

Sponsored by Ohio Storytelling Network and Storytellers of Central

Ohio