

BYLAWS (amended 3 Nov 2003)

ARTICLE I — NAME

1.01 The name of the organization will be the Jonesborough Storytellers Guild (JSG).

ARTICLE II — STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- 2.01 The purpose of JSG is the preservation and perpetuation of storytelling, and to promote the art and craft of storytelling. JSG has been organized to
- Provide assistance and support for local storytellers and to seek out and encourage a wide variety of storytellers that includes minorities, traditionalists, educators, and the clergy.
 - Raise public awareness of storytelling and storytellers as professional artists.
 - Establish a standard of excellence in JSG, giving storytellers the opportunity to perform in increasingly rewarding and challenging situations.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

- 3.01 *Charter Membership.* The Charter Membership of JSG will consist of the founding members: David Joe Miller, Leon Overbay (the Boone's Creek Bard), Jack Huebner (TreeTop Wilson), Carol A. Huebner (Carole Ann), Bob Phillips (Mountain Man Bob), G. Lee Hearl (the Highland Herald), and Linda Poland.
- 3.02 *Membership* in JSG will be open to any person upon payment of the membership dues. A member in good standing is one who is current in payment of his/her dues and abides by the bylaws and all applicable Guidelines as set by membership vote. Each prospective member must select one membership classification, described below, on his/her membership application.

JSG provides the following membership classifications: Supporting Member, Apprentice Member, and Performing Member. Any member in good standing may request a change in membership status by a written application to the Board of Directors.

- *Supporting Members* are those who do not tell stories in public venues, but who assist JSG in a number of ways connected with JSG events and operations.
 - *Apprentice Members* are those who join JSG with the intent of becoming Performing Members in public venues. Apprentice Members may tell to the general membership and, at the discretion of the Emcee, at other JSG functions. Apprentice members may apply for Performing Member status once they have met the JSG Performing Member Guidelines and auditioned once at a regular JSG meeting and once at a JSG performance venue. Applicants must be recommended to the general membership by the Board of Directors. Upon a majority vote by the general membership, the applicant will be classified as a Performing Member.
 - *Performing Members* are those already classified as such and those who complete the Apprentice Member process. Only those individuals who qualify as above, and are *active* Performing Members (as defined in the *Performing Member Guidelines*) may use the title "Performing Member of the Jonesborough Storytellers Guild" in their personal publicity material.
- 3.03 *Term of Membership.* The term of membership shall be one calendar year (from January 1 through December 31). New members joining during the last quarter of the year will be paid through December of the following year.
- 3.04 *Membership Benefits.* Each member whose dues are current may attend meetings, vote, participate in all JSG activities, attend JSG weekly venue performances free of charge, receive newsletters, and enjoy any future privilege of membership that may be established.
- 3.05 *Tellers.* JSG active Performing Members in good standing, as defined in JSG's *Performing Member Guidelines*, have performance priority for events organized and/or sponsored by JSG.
- 3.06 *Liability.* Members shall not be personally liable for debts or liabilities of JSG.

- 3.07 *Friends of JSG.* Friends of JSG are individuals who have donated money to JSG in the interest of supporting the Guild and the art of storytelling. They do not attend meetings, vote, or hold office. They may attend current JSG weekly venue performances free of charge during the year in which they offered support.

ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

- 4.01 *Officers.* The general officers of JSG shall be President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Corresponding Secretary.
- 4.02 *Term of Office.* The term of office for each officer of JSG is two years. The President, Vice President, and Corresponding Secretary shall be elected in even years. The Recording Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected in odd years. No officer may serve more than two consecutive terms in one office.
- 4.03 *Duties of the President.* The President is to preside over all meetings, shall be the principal executive officer of JSG, and shall in general supervise all business affairs and sign all contracts for JSG. The President shall serve as primary contact person for JSG. The duties of the President are not limited to the above stated duties but will include other duties as deemed necessary.
- 4.04 *Duties of the Vice President.* The Vice President shall assist the President, and will serve as Coordinator of Committees. The Vice President will appoint committee chairs and members to serve on those committees.
- 4.05a *Duties of the Treasurer.* The Treasurer shall keep records and copies of all finances, financial reports, applications for grants/funding, handle all disbursements and deposits, and furnish monthly reports to the Board and membership.
- 4.05b *Duties of the Corresponding Secretary.* The Corresponding Secretary contacts Performing Members, creates schedules for regular JSG venues, maintains membership lists, oversees all newsletters, brochures, and correspondence on behalf of JSG.
- 4.06 *Duties of the Recording Secretary.* The Recording Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings, which will be available to all members upon request. The Recording Secretary is responsible for maintaining the JSG archives and overseeing JSG's physical assets.
- 4.08 *Expulsion from Office.* Expulsion from office of any JSG officer may occur at a regular business meeting by affirmation of a two-thirds vote of the JSG members in good standing in attendance at said meeting. Such a vote may be taken only if the general membership has been given notification, including the reason for the proposed action, thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting.

ARTICLE V — BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 5.01 *Membership on JSG Board of Directors.* The Board shall consist of the five elected officers of JSG. In addition, the immediate past President shall act as an ex-officio advisor without voting privilege.
- 5.02 *Vacancies.* Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by election from the membership and shall serve the remaining term of the vacancy.
- 5.03 *Meetings.* The Board of Directors shall meet as deemed necessary. A quorum shall consist of three of the five members of the Board. Meetings will be open to all members of JSG.
- 5.04 *Records.* The Recording Secretary shall be charged with keeping a current and complete record of all of the Board's proceedings. All records shall be maintained in the JSG archives and be open for review by any member.
- 5.05 *Powers.* The Board of Directors shall have complete control over and management of the property, business, and affairs of JSG. No contract or grant shall be made or expenses incurred on behalf of JSG without prior approval of the Board of Directors. Any expenditure over five hundred dollars (\$500) must be approved by the JSG Board and the membership.

ARTICLE VI — MEETINGS

- 6.01 *Quorum.* Eight (8) members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for general and Annual meetings.
- 6.02 *Parliamentary Rules.* The proceedings of JSG meetings shall be governed by and conducted according to the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*.
- 6.03 *Annual Meeting.* The Annual Meeting of JSG shall be held each year at a time and place determined by the Board of Directors. The main purpose of this meeting shall be the election of officers for the forthcoming year. The membership of JSG shall be notified by mail of the time and place of said meeting at least thirty (30) days in advance.
- 6.04 *General Meetings.* JSG will hold meetings the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Board will have the option of calling additional meetings as required to conduct the business of JSG. Business meetings may be followed by workshops, auditions, rehearsals, and story development and critiquing.

ARTICLE VII - FUNDS

- 7.01 *Monies.* Monies received from membership fees and other sources shall be deposited into a local bank account. There shall be three (3) signatories on file with the bank. All funds will be dispersed by check, signed by the Treasurer and one other officer.
- 7.02 *Membership dues.* The amount of the annual dues shall be set in November of each year. The Board shall make a recommendation to the membership and the membership shall vote on the measure. In order to be eligible for the status of "member in good standing," members must pay their dues by January 1.
- 7.03 *Compensation.* Members shall not receive any compensation for their participation in JSG performances.

ARTICLE VIII — COMMITTEES

- 8.01 *Committees.* Committees will be appointed by the President. Members will be expected to volunteer according to their talents. The committee chair will be responsible for the execution of matters considered within the realm of that committee.

ARTICLE IX — AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

- 9.01 *Bylaws Amendments.* The JSG bylaws may be amended at a regular business meeting by affirmation of a two-thirds vote of JSG members in good standing in attendance at said meeting. Such a vote may be taken only if the general membership has been given notification thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which it is to be acted upon.

ARTICLE X — DISSOLUTION

- 10.01 *Funds.* Funds in the JSG treasury will be disbursed to non-profit storytelling organizations upon dissolution of JSG.
- 10.02 *Assets.* Books, tapes, audio equipment, etc. owned by JSG will be disbursed to non-profit storytelling organizations upon dissolution of JSG.

Jonesborough Storytellers Guild Bylaws passed on November 20, 1995 for a Tennessee State Charter as a non-profit organization.

Amended August 18, 1997
Amended December 1, 1997

Amended November 6, 2000
Amended November 3, 2003