

STEVE AAVANG
STORYTELLER PROGRAMS

- ❖ “If These Old Timbers Could Talk” - Stories of 400 years of life on the prairie and down on the farm, most of them true.



- ❖ “I’m in love with Freedom” - The true story of a Princess born in the darkness of Transylvania and her journey to the brightness of American freedom.



- ❖ “Poor Abe” - If you know anything about ghosts, you’ll understand the spirit of Lincoln is alive and well!

We all know how Lincoln died. Few know what happened to his body over the next 80 years.



- ❖ “So you want to be an extra?” - First hand experiences with Bill Murray and ‘Groundhog Day’. How a movie is really made.



- ❖ “Listen to the Wolves” - It’s below zero; you have no clothes, weapons, food or shelter. How do you survive?



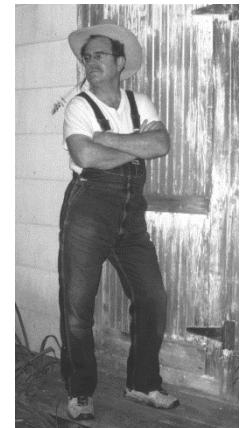
Downed by a storm in the remote Canadian bush, you hear the plaintive howl of a wolf.

Programs offered:

- ❖ Young Authors - *Inspiring students to become creative writers*
- ❖ Classroom & Workshops - *Smaller, more intimate focus groups*
- ❖ Assemblies & Conferences - *Larger groups special events.*
- ❖ Residencies & Series - *Schedule reoccurring sequential programs to cover topics in more depth or on-going pattern.*
- ❖ Seminar & Program - *Multi-topical ½ day or full day*
- ❖ Luncheon & Banquets - *Entertainment for a special group or event*



Joy Aavang



STEVEN E. AAVANG

**Aavang Family
Storytellers**

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Programs designed for
Assembly, Classrooms
and Meetings

Something for Every Age!

JOY AAVANG STORYTELLER PROGRAMS

- ❖ “I survived the Blitz” - Surviving the Blitz in WWII England. Personal experiences with visual & hands-on aids.



- ❖ “Fly the Flag for Me” – Stories of veterans’ experiences.

- ❖ “It’s in the Genes” & Other Family Stories - Stories of pre WWI life in England as told by grandparents, uncles and aunts and are mostly of humorous nature. Experiences from WWII teenager living in England throughout WWII to becoming an American wife and mother.



- ❖ Preserving Family History – Motivating & encouraging others to record their family history for future generations to learn from and enjoy.

- ❖ Holiday Fun?? – Vacation adventures under a title: “Are we having fun yet???”

- ❖ Mothering – “This wasn’t in the manual!”



- ❖ Coping – Stories of growing up with a fear, trauma, stress or guilt brought on through circumstance. Helping to deal by sharing.

Joy and Steve are a unique Mother/Son team available for your program, workshop, or residency, available individually or as a team depending upon your individual needs.



Joy Aavang has led a most interesting life, full of experiences in England both before and during WWII and later as a new bride in America. Her sense of patriotism, inspired by her WWI combat veteran grandfather and her U.S. Marine veteran husband, encouraged her to become a chronicler of veterans’ experiences available in three volumes entitled **“FLY THE FLAG FOR ME”**. Her involvement in storytelling resulted in another book entitled **“IT’S IN THE GENES”**, stories of her family (many taking place before she was born) as well as stories of her life, growing up in England, working for Lloyd’s of London and later journeying to America and adjusting to her life as a new bride in a strange country.

Her fifth book, entitled **“A LOST ADOLESCENCE”** chronicles her life during WWII.

Whether giving her audience insights into living in England before and during WWII or telling stories of those in service of their country, along with love, humor, family and human interest, Joy is inspiring, entertaining and informative.

Joy has been awarded numerous honors including the VFW Citizen Recognition Award, Mason’s Community Builder Award, Inspire by Example by National Volunteer Week, Certificate of Appreciation by the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, AmeriCorps Vista Volunteer, NMS Patriot Award, and most recently the Sue Palmore Award of Excellence from District 200 Education Foundation.



Steven Aavang draws upon a breadth of knowledge and experience from world travel; life in the business world, from laborer to president; and his unique meetings with kings,

princesses and movie stars.

Steve’s roots are from Norway, where his fraternal great grandfather emigrated in 1881 and England, his mother’s birthplace and home until 1947. His parents interest in family history and patriotism spurred his own interest. From teaching he matriculated to a Graduate Fellowship at NIU earning a Master’s Degree in Public Administration. He is an ardent student of local history.

If These Old Timbers Could Talk covers 400 years of local rural history from Indian times to the current from his unique perspective.

No music, juggling or animals; just gripping, informative, interesting stories, bringing the world into your classroom or program.

A passion for writing has resulted in award winning journalistic pursuits and publications and a novel spanning the life of a Romanian Princess who he knew personally entitled **“IN LOVE WITH FREEDOM”**. His latest saga novel of survival in the Canadian wilderness, **“LISTEN TO THE WOLVES”** combines eco-consciousness with native lore and philosophy.

Steve’s many honors are: Illinois Conservation Teacher of the Year, appointed by Governor Thompson to 3 Blue Ribbon Committees and several awards by Illinois Press Assoc. for Best Sports Story of the Year. His many memorable experiences include travel abroad, being an “actor” in a major motion picture, having an “audience” with the King of Norway, a “Liaison” with a Romanian Princess, and a business venture in Japan.