



of  
**Broomfield, Colorado**  
**News for NOVEMBER, 2020**

**CORRECTED VERSION**

**CHAPTER MEETING SUMMARY**

On November 20, fifteen members “Zoomed” into the monthly chapter meeting. **Kay Landers** welcomed all and invited everyone to introduce themselves and to respond to one of three questions. Eight members chose to name their favorite author(s), and the list included a few children’s authors—Patricia Polacco (twice), Pleasant DeSpain, and Robert Munsch—and many other writers, including Melissa Gates, James Herriot, Garrison Keillor, Barak Obama, Tom Robbins, and one father. Nobody named any specific new stories they had learned, but seven talked about how their storytelling is different this year. One relatively new teller who has not yet told in a school is going to tell to her grandchildren. Another, who is accustomed to co-telling, has learned to introduce herself and to answer questions. One is adding poems to her repertoire; another is personalizing her stories. A couple are learning to tell at different grade levels, and another is honing her virtual presentation skills by doing weekly video announcements for Anthem Ranch.

**Kathy Daniels** shared “The Pumpkin Giant,” which she had revised based on feed-back offered at the Story Circle, and Kay provided an update on the Broomfield Council of the Arts and Humanities (BCAH). She reported the sudden, unexpected death of Sherill Bunetta, BCAH’s President and Treasurer, and then provided an overview of BCAH, explaining the support we receive and encouraging everyone to financially support BCAH. For an annual contribution of at least \$25 you receive the quarterly newsletter. Details are available on the BCAH webpage ([www.artsinbroomfield.org](http://www.artsinbroomfield.org)). When you visit that website, click on “Programs” and check out the Spellbinders webpage. Kay also announced that Sherill’s death has delayed our planned BCAH-sponsored Webinar; it will no longer be part of the world-wide Tellabration. Instead it will be called “Stories for the Season” and will be presented on **Saturday, December 12 from 4:00-5:00 PM**. We already have almost enough volunteer tellers to fill the hour, so if you want to be part of the program, contact **Wynn Montgomery** immediately.

*[continued on page 2]*

**MEETING SCHEDULE**  
**STORY CIRCLE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2020 at 1:00 PM**  
**NO CHAPTER MEETING IN DECEMBER.**  
**NEXT CHAPTER MEETING: FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021**  
**(Probably via ZOOM)**



## MONTHLY MEETING SUMMARY [continued from page 1]

**Kathy Daniels** gave us a "Library Moment," suggesting a few books of stories suitable for adults. They included *A Treasury of Western Folklore* and collections of Jack Tales and stories by James Thurber. We do not have access to our library during the Covid shutdown, so Kathy will deliver them to anyone who expresses interest. She also reminded us that the library contains many issues of *Storytelling* magazine that contain one- or two-page stories that she can copy and send. Let her know if you are interested.

**Vicki Tiedeman** used "Screen Share" to walk us through the data sheet and noted that few members have reported their activities. She reminded us that she also can provide a simple worksheet and will post data for members who prefer that approach. Kay emphasized that having accurate data on the number of listeners we serve is essential. ***If you have not yet reported your activities, please do so at once!***

Three groups of four or five members then teamed up for an improv exercise that we called "Round Robin Stories." The challenge was for the team members to create a story built on either an opening line or a story title with no time to prepare. One team member would begin the story and tell for two minutes followed by the other team members in sequence, each picking up the story and adding his/her "two minutes worth." The story starters were: (1) "T'was the Day After Christmas" and (2) "Once there was a near-sighted young witch..." and (3) "It was a dark and stormy Christmas Eve..." Each story took odd twists and turns and none are likely to ever appear in print, but we had a few laughs (which are much-needed in these trying times).

**Marylin Bittner** shared "The King's Thanksgiving," a story she found at [www.apples4theteacher.com](http://www.apples4theteacher.com), and enhanced with visual props. Kay then encouraged all to send "get well" wishes to **Judy Lloyd**, who is recovering in ICU following extensive emergency spine surgery that will be followed by a lengthy rehab period. **Cathy Lichty** encouraged everyone to support Spellbinders financially on Colorado Gives Day (<https://coloradogives.org/cogivesday>). Go to the website between now and December 8, click on "Donate," and search for "Spellbinders." Your donation will support the work of the Council of Trustees (all of whom are volunteers) who continue provide our organization with valuable services such as the Spellbinders website (that includes our own webpage), a standardized training design, and story resources. Kay closed the meeting with a reminder that there will be no December chapter meeting and wished all a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

**NOTE:** Your support of BCAH can also be done through Colorado Gives Day.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

These Broomfield Spellbinders storytellers celebrate birthdays in December:

- **Ed Winograd (12/11)**
- **Gail Erwin (12/25)**
- **Donna Whitaker (12/27)**



Let's all offer them a virus-free virtual hug and congratulations for weathering the current storm. May their future be filled with fun, fast friends, fine food, and LOTS of stories with happy endings.

## EXCELLENT LISTENING OPPORTUNITIES



**Saturday, November 28 at 6:00 PM:** local storytellers Cooper Braun and Rachel Ann Harding (aka "Stories with Spirit") join forces with three other nationally-known tellers to bring us five variations on the story of Snow White. It should be a fun evening. The cost is "Pay What You Can." These stories are for **ADULTS ONLY!**

For tickets, visit

[www.eventbrite.com/e/127082450029](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/127082450029)

**Saturday, December 26-Monday, January 3: TIMPANOGOS ENCORE.** If you did not "attend" this year's virtual Storytelling Festival (or even if you did), for a bargain price, you can watch almost the entire event--and you will have nine days to do so. This is an opportunity to watch performances by some of the best storytellers in the world (Charlotte Blake Alston, Donald Davis, Ed Stivender, Tim Tingle, Donna Washington, Kim Weitkamp, and many more!). Order your ticket before December 22, and it will cost \$25. Afterwards, until December 30, the cost is \$30. For more information and to order tickets, visit:

<https://timpfest.org/product/encore-benefit-festival-ticket/>

There is something primal about oral storytelling. We humans have been listening to stories far longer than we've been reading them. Sound matters. The written word excels at conveying information, the spoken word at conveying meaning. The written word is inert. The spoken word is alive and intimate. To hear someone speak is to know them.

-Eric Weiner, *The Socrates Express: In Search of Life Lessons from Dead*

## BOOKS ABOUT BRAVE WOMEN

Multiple responses to a recent inquiry on NSN's storytell-request ListServ generated a long list of resources for stories featuring brave and resourceful females. Here are some of them:

- Suzanne Barchers-*Wise Women*
- Virginia Hamilton- *HerStories*
- Ethel Phelps-*Tatterhood and Other Tales*
- Suniti Namjoshi- *Feminist Fairy Tales*
  - Alison Lurie- *Clever Gretchen and Other Forgotten Folktales*
  - Rosemary Minard- *Womenfolk and Fairy Tales*
  - Kathleen Ragan- *Fearless Girls, Wise Women, and Beloved Sisters*
- Steffani Raff-*The Ravenous Gown*
- Angela Carter- *Old Wives Fairy Tale Book*
- Jane Yolen-*Not One Damsel in Distress*
- Jack Zipes-*Don't Bet on the Prince*

*In Memoriam*

**SHERILL BUNETTA (1945-2020)**  
Beloved BCAH President & Treasurer

