



Spellbinders
WWW.SPELLBINDERS.ORG
of
Broomfield, Colorado
News for FEBRUARY, 2022

MEETING SUMMARY

Twelve Broomfield Spellbinders met in person on February 19 at Brunner Farmhouse, with **Sandy Hopper** joining via Zoom in our first attempt at a hybrid meeting. Members acknowledged their favorite comfort foods during introductions. Mac 'n cheese was a clear favorite with three people (**Nancy Bradfield, Cathy Lichty, and Janny Darby**) admitting this was their guilty pleasure. While **Kathy Daniels** also mentioned mac 'n cheese, she *really* loves *anything* that is loaded with carbs. Meatloaf and (s)mashed potatoes were a popular choice for **Wynn Montgomery** (with "English" peas) and **Kay Landers. Denny Thompson** loves potatoes, potatoes, potatoes of any variety. **Vicki Tiedeman** (graham crackers) and **Sandy Hopper** (rice pudding) needed the comfort provided by sweet treats. Rounding out the choices were **Julie Toepper** with her Mom's version (noodles, hamburger, corn and a few "secret" ingredients) of the traditional Midwestern hotdish; **Ellen Klement** with ground beef in anything; **Karen Green's** grandma's fried chicken; and **Janis Lievens'** toasted peanut butter sandwich with chocolate milk. Anybody hungry yet?

During her library report, **Kathy Daniels** gave away a recipe book titled, *Storybook Stew*, and reviewed several short biographic articles that are in the library (Enos Mills, Doc Suzie, Sarah Winnemucca, and more). Kathy also distributed numerous short stories she found in the library archives that she did not want back. She reminded everyone not to buy paper goods for snacks as the library has a large supply. During this time, **Janny Darby** shared several poetry books she owns for members to peruse. **Vicki Tiedeman** reminded everyone to record their storytelling. If members don't want to record information themselves on the spreadsheet, Vicki will do it for them. All she asks is that members provide her with a list of when and where they normally tell. She will also need to know of any changes or cancellations so she can adjust the data accordingly. Please contact Vicki for more information if you are interested in her assistance.

Following the business portion of the meeting, it was time for stories. **Janny Darby** first teased with a gift-wrapped book and a riddle, much as she would to a classroom. She then read a poem from *In the Wild* by David Elliot, inviting us to guess the animal it was about (before telling us the title: *The Panda*). **Kathy Daniels** followed with her rendition of *The Mountains of Tibet* by Mordicai Gerstein, a story about life's choices and possibilities.

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NEXT MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 18 @ 1:00 PM
at BRUNNER FARMHOUSE



MEETING SUMMARY [continued from page 1]

After snacks graciously provided by **Kathy Daniels** and **Janis Lievens**, we explored Historical Fiction. **Janis** led with a story called *Dandelions*, an example of blending historical facts into a fictional account of a family's journey west. **Karen Green** told a "now you know the rest of the story" about Louis Armstrong that blended historical facts with bits of fictional details and withheld the name of the hero until the very end—an approach made famous by Paul Harvey. **Denny Thompson** "became" George Bedell, telling the story of "his" young sister, Grace, whose letter convinced Abraham Lincoln to grow a beard. These varied approaches led to a discussion of the differences between historical stories and historical fiction, and **Denny** concluded by distributing two handouts regarding historical storytelling.

Vivian Hamilton, our longest-tenured member (since 2007), is moving to Texas in June. Vivian has developed and frequently presented (in period costume) a history of Broomfield. She will offer a "farewell performance" at our March 18 meeting and hopes that someone else will take over the performance. Who is interested?

SPELLBINDERS ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendar for **Friday, April 22**—the day of the Spellbinders Annual Meeting in Aurora. The agenda will include six skill-building sessions in two time slots plus entertainment by the Legendary Ladies, who will also offer concurrent sessions on developing stories of famous people. The cost will be \$30 for in-person attendees (includes continental breakfast and lunch) or \$10 for Zoom participation. All registrations will be through Eventbrite starting on March 1. Several of our members (**Cathy Lichty**, **Wynn Montgomery**, **Denny Thompson**, and **Julie Toepper**) are helping to plan the event. Wynn will offer a session on "Crafting Historical Stories," and Denny will be the Emcee, offering "groaners" throughout the day.



**REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE WITH THE LINK BELOW
BEGINNING ON MARCH 1, 2022**

Cost of event = TBD

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spellbinders-national-annual-meeting-tickets-251661364917>

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, APRIL 22 AT 8:30AM- 3:00PM

Continental breakfast and lunch will be served

HOSTED BY
SPELLBINDERS NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES

Heritage Eagle Bend Clubhouse
23155 E Heritage Parkway
Aurora, CO 80016

Please RSVP to chair@spellbinders.org

Everybody likes to tell a story. Little children do it effortlessly. Great artists do it with talent and years of practice. Somewhere in between stand you and I.

Sylvia Ziskind, Author of Telling Stories to Children

HIGHLIGHTS from the STEERING COMMITTEE

- Spellbinders National continues to refine the website and revise the training materials to reflect the new organizational structure. Everyone is trying to remember that local groups are no longer "Chapters." We are "**Licensed Local Storytelling Organizations**" (LLSOs).
- We will continue to have **Quarterly Story Circles** (April 29, July 29, September 30, December 30). For now, these meetings will in person either at Brunner Farmhouse or in a member's home.
- We will not schedule training for new tellers until access to classrooms improves. St. Vrain Valley Storytellers has scheduled **training in Longmont** (April 5, 8, 11, and 14) with **Donna Leard** as one of the trainers. If you know of anyone who would be a good addition to our group, we probably can arrange for them to join that class. Let Wynn know.
- **Kathy Daniels** continues to organize the library and has found old books that she will first offer to members and then take to a secondhand book store.
- **Vicki Tiedeman** is willing to input recurring classroom events if we will give her the information for such activities. We will need to report (or enter) our activities in senior facilities each month because the number of listeners changes.
- **Sheila Brush** will handle "Years of Service" ribbons.
- Eleven members bought copies of Wynn's book of "Pop Tales," generating \$275 in revenue for our organization. The final copy is now in our Library.

LISTENING OPPORTUNITY

stories with spirit presents
**Fairy Tale Variations:
LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD**

One classic story
Six amazing tellers
Kristin Pedemonti
Laura Simms
Jo Radner
Laura Deal
Cooper Braun
Rachel Ann Harding

Saturday
February 26th
6pm MST
Live on **zoom**



TWO NEW RESOURCES

- From Karen Chace (www.storybug.net): While researching today I came across this fabulous blog, created by a professor who teaches folklore. If you scroll down a wee bit and look to the right of the screen you will see a list of cultures. Click any one of them and you will be treated to a feast of folktales from that particular culture. Amazing! <http://mythfolklore.blogspot.com/>
- The Earth Stories Collection (<https://theearthstoriescollection.org/en/home/>) has myths, legends, fables, and folktales from around the world. You can search the site for stories by nation, culture, or spiritual tradition or by a variety of themes