


Spellbinders
WWW.SPELLBINDERS.ORG
of
Broomfield, Colorado
News for FEBRUARY, 2023

MONTHLY MEETING SUMMARY

On February 17, eighteen Broomfield Spellbinders gathered at Brunner Farmhouse for our monthly meeting. **Julie Toepper** opened the meeting and invited all to introduce themselves and name their favorite college sports team. Several still follow the college/university they attended or those attended by relatives (sister, nephew, children, grandchildren, and a great-grandchild. Others have adopted local universities. Favorite sports were football, baseball, swimming, lacrosse, ice hockey, and soccer. Some prefer professional teams and a few simply do not follow team sports. No bitter rivalries were found.

Kathy Daniels thanked everyone for their work on the new bookcases and reorganization of our library—especially Julie’s efforts to obtain the shelves and organize the set-up and **Sheila Brush** (and husband Ed) and **Karen Green** for their manual labor. Kathy encouraged everyone to check out the new bookcases, and **Wynn Montgomery** suggested that everyone check out a book and find a new story to tell before the end of this school year. New lighting is needed (at least a new light bulb and perhaps a new light). **Tiffany Painter** offered to donate a lamp if there is a place to plug it in. **Karen Green** has volunteered to be our backup librarian when needed.

Kay Landers shared an enchanting story “Aunt Nancy and Old Man Trouble” (by Phyllis Root) in Appalachian dialect (“Aunt Nancy shoulda knowed” it was a great story). **Judy Kundert** shared a personal story that she calls “Don’t Get Too Big For Your Britches” which had everyone laughing. **Denny Thompson** recommended that everyone check out Judy’s YouTube channel. After a break for socializing and snacks provided by **Vanita Moore** and **Wynn Montgomery**, Linda Martyr of St. Vrain Valley Storytellers gave a presentation on “Engaging Your Audience,” that included two stories: “I’m Tipingee; She’s Tipingee; We’re Tipingee, Too” (a Haitian folktale by Diane Wolkstein) and “Sody Sallyratus”(by Teri Sloat). Her handout gave tips on including your listeners and before, during, and after your story. Then we broke out into groups to share stories we have used to generate listener participation. Linda later collated these responses and sent the list to Julie, who shared it with our members.

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NEXT MEETING: Friday, March 17 @ 12:45 pm at Brunner Farm House
Wear something GREEN; It’s St. Patrick’s Day!!!



MONTHLY MEETING SUNMMARY[continued from page 1]

Linda Martyr also mentioned the book "Twenty Tellable Tales" (by Margaret Read MacDonald) that has ideas for audience participation along with each story. She said it is available from Thrift Books, a retailer that sells used books donated from libraries. Wynn added that Abe Books is also a good source of used books. Linda then gave a copy of the book to Kathy Daniels for our library.

Julie Toepper announced the upcoming Spellbinders Annual Meeting (on April 15th in Loveland). We will have a table to display info about our LLSO, and we discussed ideas for what to include on the table, including teacher handouts and Wynn's book. See Annual Meeting details below.

Julie also announced upcoming storytelling opportunities at Anthem Ranch on March 12th and BCAH's Cinco de Mayo celebration at the Broomfield Grange. The Grange is looking for bilingual tellers and/or Hispanic stories. Denny reported that **Jan Osburn** would perform with Ars Nova Singers on March 1. **Jim Mariner** mentioned an opportunity to tell at Sunrise Senior Living in March and asked that interested tellers contact him. He will set a date once he has a team of 3-4 tellers.

LISTENING & LEARNING OPPORTUNIES

- **Friday-Sunday, March 24-26: Women's Storytelling Festival** in Fairfax, VA. presents an incredible line-up of storytellers, including local tellers **Laura Deal** and **Rachel Ann Harding**. The entire festival is being live-streamed to YouTube and ticket holders have access to the videos for one month afterwards. Get details at <https://www.bettersaidthandone.com/2022/09/01/2023-womens-story-fest-tickets/>
- **Saturday, April 15 (8:30-3:30): Spellbinders Annual Story Celebration** at Thompson School District Administration Building [800 South Taft Ave., Loveland CO 80537]. Participate in-person (\$25) or on Zoom (\$10) for:
 - Keynote: Stories by **Angel Vigil**
 - Two workshops by Spellbinders
 - A Spellbinders story circle
 - A Leaders' Forum and a Trainers' Forum

The \$25 Registration includes a light breakfast, coffee, tea, water, lunch and afternoon snacks. Details are available at <https://spellbinders.org>.

BIRTHDAYS

There are no March birthdays in our group, but an apology and BELATED good wishes go to two whose February birthdays went unnoticed in the last newsletter—**Julie Toepper** and **Ann Cress**.



Stories are like genes. They keep part of us alive after the end of our story.

-Author A. S. Byatt

Broomfield Spellbinders® is a program of

