



of  
**Broomfield, Colorado**  
**News for DECEMBER, 2021**

**HOLIDAY COOKIE SWAP: A New Tradition?**

Historically, Broomfield Spellbinders has not met in December, choosing instead to let members focus on families during the holiday season. This year, however, **Cathy Lichty** suggested a Holiday Cookie Swap, and we scheduled it for a week earlier than our usual meeting date, and on Friday, December 10, five members and two of Cathy's neighbors (Kim and Cris) met at Brunner Farmhouse. Cathy brought a container of coffee, and everyone brought a platter of lovey, luscious cookies (see below). Of course, as you would expect from a group of storytellers, each of the cookie choices came with a background story usually involving family tradition.

- **Shelia Brush** used her mother's recipe from a San Francisco cookbook, which immodestly called it "The World's Best Cookie." These cookies won Sheila recognition as first runner-up in a cookie contest, perhaps not first because the contest coordinator renamed them "Cornflake Cookies." The recipe makes a lot so they are great for bake sales and cookie parties.
- **Kathy Daniels** made pecan "tassies" (small pecan pies) that are popular in the South.
- **Kay Landers** brought "spritz" cookies in three colors. Her mother always made them at Christmas, and Kay likes to continue that tradition.
- **Cathy Lichty** brought an assortment that included Austrian Almond Triangles, Browned Butter Pecan Cookies, and Butter Horns. All of the recipes come from family members.
- **Wynn Montgomery** had made Mincemeat Bars in honor of his grandmother, who always made three pies for Christmas—pumpkin, pecan, and mincemeat (a combination of chopped dried fruits, spices, sugar, nuts, and distilled spirits—but no longer any meat as in the old days.)
- Kim and Chris contributed a fancy chocolate-chip cookie made using the recipe from a daughter who is a professional baker/chef.



While sampling these treats, we shared our holiday plans and family traditions, including a discussion of fruitcake. Based on our small sample, fruitcake is either loved or hated; nobody is neutral. We ended our gathering by collecting cookies to take home to share (or not) and agreed that we should consider making this an annual event.

**NEXT MEETING: FRIDAY, January 21, 2022 at Brunner Farm House: 12:45 PM**

## LISTENING OPPORTUNITIES

On **Saturday, December 18** at **6:00 PM**, Cooper Braun and Rachel Ann Harding will present live on Zoom "Stories for a Winter Solstice." This duo of talented local storytellers is celebrating their seven years together as "Stories with Spirit" with their 8<sup>th</sup> Winter Solstice show. Whether you are a long-time fan or have never experienced these two wonderful tellers, this is a great opportunity.

On Sunday, **December 19** at **2:00 PM**, Storysmith® Susan Marie Frontczak will appear on Zoom as Clara Barton, a role that she debuted at High Plains Chautauqua in 2014. Susan has now given more than 800 "living history" presentations in 43 of the United States and abroad in a variety of roles that also include Marie Curie, Mary Shelley, Eleanor Roosevelt, Irene Castle, and Erma Bombeck.

You can get more info and order tickets for both events at <https://www.eventbrite.com/>. To find these events, search this site. Go to the very bottom of this webpage and choose "Virtual Events" under "Find Events." Then search for "Stories with Spirit" or "Frontczak" or both. The price for both events is "Pay What It's Worth" (to be paid later), but you need to register to have access.



### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

These Broomfield Spellbinders celebrate birthdays in January:

- **Larry Reisberg (01/02)**
- **Kathy Daniels (01/11)**
- **Sheila Brush (01/13)**

**May those days be special for them and may there be many more.**

Biological life-forms need to live, eat, and have babies. Tales need to be adapted and evolve through being told. It is not in the nature of folktales to stay in one culture. They move around promiscuously, like trade goods.

All folktales are adapted. If the tales are learned from a text, that text is neither original nor strictly authentic. It was not the tale as performed, or it would be unreadable...All folktales are contemporary, in that they are told in the present time, by people of that time, to people of that time, all of whom embrace the tales' deep roots in time, and the timeless quality that they contain when rendered well.



**Timothy Jennings, Storyteller**

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