



Broomfield, Colorado *News for MARCH & APRIL, 2025*

FEBRUARY MEMBER MEETING

On February 21, fifteen Broomfield Spellbinders gathered at Brunner Farm House for our monthly meeting. **Tiffany Painter** opened the meeting with information about the April 26 Spellbinders Annual Meeting in Louisville. Registration is open, and Margaret Read McDonald is the keynote speaker. Tiffany also reported that her term as Chair ends in May, and the Leadership Team has agreed to try a leadership-by-committee approach. **Sheila Brush** will be our Point Person and will coordinate with BCAH. Other roles will be:

- Spellbinders Council of Trustees: **Janis Lievens** (and **Ed Winograd**)
- Newsletter & E-Mail Coordinator: **Wynn Montgomery**
- Data Collection/Spreadsheets: **Vicki Tiedeman**
- Special Events: **Janis Lievens**
- Librarian: **Kathy Daniels**

Tiffany also announced that other key roles need to be filled. **Jim Mariner** volunteered to join the newsletter team, but three important roles remain open:

- Monthly Program Coordinator
- School Liaison/Marketing
- Assistant Librarian

Please consider volunteering for one of these important roles. Any member of the Leadership Team will be happy to provide more details.

Responses to the monthly "kick-off" question ("Do you make New Year's Resolutions?") were pretty evenly divided with "NO" winning (8:7). **Janis Lievens** announced that tellers will be needed on August 16 for Nature Fest at Metzger Farms, from 9:00 AM to noon. **Sheila Brush** got signatures on a birthday card for **Scott Carrico**, who is on a 'temporary' medical break from classroom telling. **Wynn Montgomery** shared a 1957 classroom photo found by **Denny Thompson** and shared the reactions of the students with whom he had shared it.

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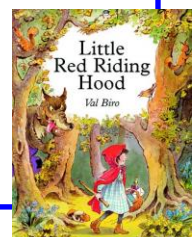
NEXT MEETING

Friday, April 18 (12:45-3:00 PM)

"An Afternoon of Stories"

A Personal Story from SANDY HOPPER

PLUS: FOUR Versions of "Little Red Riding Hood"



FEBRUARY MEMBER MEETING (continued)

Janis Lievens led off the storytelling with an interactive version of "Wombat Stew" (by Marcia K. Vaughan). **Janet Rope** then shared "How the Camel Got Its Hump" (from Rudyard Kipling's *Just So Stories*) including definitions for words (excruciating, idling, Djinn) that young listeners might find challenging. After a break to enjoy snacks provided by **Carla Randall** and **Wynn Montgomery**, our guest, Kathy Babb from Denver Spellbinders, gave an enthusiastic presentation on "Effective Use of Props," using a variety of props to enhance her ten stories. She later forwarded an Annotated Bibliography with those stories and many more. Her big point? It's fun to play with stuff! Kathy also reported that the Chief Docent at the Molly Brown House had delivered a delightful program for Denver Spellbinders. Tiffany then closed the meeting and reminded everyone that their help with clean-up is much appreciated.



Guest Presenter Kathy Babb wowed us with a variety of props to support her stories plus a song or two and an audience participation telling of Aesop's "The North Wind and The Sun" with help from (L-R) **Kari Reiquam, Janis Levins, and Vicki Tiedeman.**

MARCH MEMBER MEETING

On March 21, nineteen Broomfield Spellbinders gathered at Brunner Farm House for our monthly meeting. **Tiffany Painter's** opening question ("Do you have a favorite place to visit nearby?") got a wonderful variety of answers including Colorado History Museum, Celestial Seasonings, Liberty Puzzles, Jeffco Airport Museum, E. Simpson Coffee Company, Butterfly Pavillion, Happy Hour at Teocalli Cochina (Lafayette), Fisk Planetarium at CU, Denver Botanic Gardens, Museum of Illusions (Denver), Mile High Flea Market, Broomfield Library, shopping at Kohl's, Museum of Nature and Science, Broomfield Veterans Museum, Molly Brown House, Coors Brewery (also Budweiser), Red Queen Bookstore in Lafayette, driving on any mountain pass, Wanaka Lake at sunset, Harper Lake (sailing radio-controlled model yacht), Coal Creek, and granddaughter's house. Tiffany then reminded everyone the Annual Meeting will be April 26 at the Louisville Senior Center. **Janis Lievens** reported that tellers are needed at several places and passed around signup sheets. **Jim Mariner** needs tellers at Sunrise at 1:30 on May 29. **Denny Thompson** shared there will be an Old-Time Radio Show on March 30 at 2:00 PM at Advent Lutheran Church. **Sheila Brush** talked about a storytelling and art lesson after-school program. The story was "Monster in a Backpack;" then kids used markers to make their own drawing of the monster. After stories from **Janis Lievens** ("How the Manx Cat Lost Its Tail") and **Cathy Lichty** ("Finn McCool"), we took a break and enjoyed great snacks provided by Janis and Cathy.

Jan Osburn then provided an informative program—"Bringing Music into Your Storytelling"—where she enhanced several familiar stories ("The Empty Pot", "Three Little Pigs", and "The Barking Mouse") with music. She also demonstrated how to create a sound carpet using our hands and feet to make rain sounds. As "payment" for Kathy Babb's presentation (see above), Jan repeated this program for the Denver Spellbinders on April 14 and did an excellent job.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STORYTELLERS!!!

Although we have not conducted a class for new Spellbinders storytellers in more than a year, we are happy to welcome three new storytellers to our team. **Kari Reiquam** (pictured above in the March Meeting article) completed her training with Boulder Valley Spellbinders a few months ago, and two others (**Jane Askham** and **Marylou Dobbins**) completed training in February with St. Vrain Valley Storytellers, where **Donna Laird** is one of the trainers. Jane and Marylou completed the required observation process under the watchful eyes of experienced Broomfield Spellbinders and will receive their name badges at our April meeting. The photos below capture Jane and Marylou's debut performances. Looks like we have added some true talent. Welcome them with open arms!!!

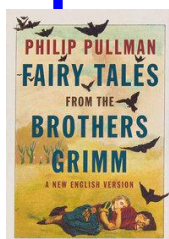


NEW TELLERS IN ACTION: (left & center) **Jane Askham** shares Pete Seeger's "Abiyoyo" with Prospect Ridge 1st graders, and (right) **Marylou Dobbins** entertains Jefferson Academy kindergarteners with a tune before sharing "The Lady and the Flute" adapted from "The Man with the Violin" by Kathy Stinson.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Many thanks to **Sheila Brush** who provided all of the photos in this newsletter as well as many others in the past for which she did not receive credit. Thanks also to **Karen Green**, whose detailed notes allow me to summarize our meetings even those I did not attend. Special thanks to **Sheila** and **Janis** and **Denny** for leading these new tellers through the required Observation Process. -WM

A BASKET OF BOOKS

The BSB Leadership Team has agreed to support BCAH's 3rd Annual Art Gala on May 2 with the donation of a "Basket of Books" that will be part of the Silent Auction. **Janis Lievens** has agreed to create the container (or containers depending on the number of books we collect). So please search your bookshelves for any new or gently used children's picture/story books. We receive lots of support from BCAH; now is the time to return the favor. Thanks in advance for your help.



Fairy tales are oral; they beg to be told.

-British Author Phillip Pullman

SEE YOU AT THE ANNUAL MEETING!!!!

Broomfield Spellbinders® is a program of

