



of
Broomfield, Colorado
News for NOVEMBER, 2023

NOVEMBER MEETING

On November 17, eighteen Broomfield Spellbinders and one guest (David Spiro) gathered at Brunner FarmHouse for our monthly meeting. **Julie Toepper** opened the meeting by asking attendees to introduce themselves and to name their favorite Thanksgiving food. The answers, of course, were varied with pies (many different kinds) and cranberries being mentioned most often. Potatoes (sweet & mashed) and stuffing also were mentioned frequently, including one member who hates sweet potatoes. Some items (3-bean salad and real whipped cream) were mentioned only once, as was combining turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, etc. into a Thanksgiving sandwich. **Sonja Wendt** received her certificate of training completion and was welcomed to the team. **Karen Green** distributed sign-up sheets for stories and snacks for future meeting and announced that all slots have been filled. **Janis Lievens** discussed story-telling opportunities, and Julie reminded everyone to report their activities. **Sheila Brush** distributed an updated Membership Roster and reported that members will be receiving "Years of Service" ribbons.

Julie reported that Broomfield Spellbinders and St. Vrain Valley Storytellers are considering co-hosting the 2024 Spellbinders Annual Meeting sometime in April or May. The group agreed that we should co-host the meeting. [See page 2 for more info.] **Sandy Hopper** and **Carla Randall** then shared a hilarious poem--"The Turkey Shot Out of the Oven" by Jack Prelutsky—standing behind a wonderful turkey they made out of a pineapple! We then took a break for socializing and snacks also by Sandy and Carla.

Julie Toepper introduced our program ("Cinderella Variations") by sharing "Rinderella" – a totally twisted tale by Shane Sody. Next, **Wynn Montgomery** offered "Rusty, the Red-Headed Stepchild", his reworking of "Bubba, the Cowboy Prince" by Helen Ketteman and James Warhola. **Kathy Daniels** shared a Native American version ("The Rough-Face Girl" by Rafe Martin) and **Karen Green** offered a different point of view with *Seriously, Cinderella is So Annoying!*--the story of Cinderella as told by the wicked stepmother--by Trisha Speed Shaskan. Julie then showed a few of the many versions of Cinderella she has collected.

(continued on page 2)

NEXT MEETINGS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 (1:00 PM): COOKIE EXCHANGE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 (12:45 PM): INTERACTIVE TELLING (Karen Culver)

BOTH MEETINGS ARE AT BRUNNER FARMHOUSE



NOVEMBER MEETING [continued from page 1]

Kathy Daniels gave the library report and showed three cut-and-tell books, *The Art of Storytelling*, and several other books donated by **Tom Tjarks**. **Denny Thompson** reported that there is still no news about a memorial service for Judy Lloyd and shared that he will be in another radio show ("A Christmas Carol") on December 17. **There will not be a regular meeting on December 15**. Instead, we will have a cookie exchange and fellowship with stories about our cookies or holiday traditions or whatever comes up. It will be at our regular meeting time (1:00-3:00). Please bring two dozen cookies to share and a container to take other cookies home.

TELLABRATION: THURSDAY JANUARY 18

Janis Lievens has arranged for a "Tellabration" at Coyote Ridge Elementary School (13770 Broadlands Drive in Broomfield). The goal is to put a Broomfield Spellbinders storyteller in every classroom that day. **Let Janis know ASAP what times you are available and what grade(s) you prefer**. We hope that this demonstration of the power of storytelling will convince the Coyote Ridge teachers that they want to have our storytellers in their classrooms on a regular basis

SPELLBINDERS 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

Our Leadership Team has agreed that Broomfield Spellbinders will partner with St. Vrain Valley Storytellers to plan and coordinate Spellbinders National's Annual Meeting this year. We will need lots of volunteers to make this meeting a success. The first challenge is to find a suitable location (i.e. a building with a large room that could hold 100 people for the general session along with, ideally, three smaller rooms that could hold around 30 people for breakout sessions). The preferred dates are a Friday or a Saturday. The ideal dates are April 12 or 13, April 19 or 20, or May 3 or 4. If you can suggest a location, contact Julie at once. Also, let her know if you have ideas for workshop topics and/or presenters.

DECEMBER & JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- **Jim Mariner** (December 2)-BELATED
- **Karine Schnitzspahn** (January 3)
- **Kathy Daniels** (January 11)
- **Sheila Brush** (January 13)



FUTURE PROGRAMS

We have arranged our meeting programs for the rest of the school year. Here is what you can look forward to:

- January 19: "Interactive Telling" (Karen Culver)
- February 16: Love Stories (by our members)
- March 15: "Telling Family & Personal Stories" (Wynn Montgomery)
- April 19: "Incorporating Poetry in Your Storytelling" (Deborah Crabbe)
- May 17: Year-End Celebration/Party

The world is shaped by two things – stories told and the memories they leave behind – Vera Nazarian, *Dreams of the Compass Rose*