

PUN MY WORD ***"a certain unexpected vein of pawky humour" [VALL]***

Those who frequently use puns are frequently derided by many people.

Some consider puns to be the lowest form of humor.

We disagree; we can find many other forms of humor that are low. (Many happen daily in our household that includes two teenage boys.)

When you consider it, a pun -also known as paronomasia, a form of word play that exploits multiple meanings of a term, or of similar-sounding words -is a high form of humor, as it requires not only an understanding of the English language, but also a quick wit when sparring with other punsters in real-time.

We've run across a number of Sherlockians who enjoy torturing entertaining others with their puns.

The sport seems to have two elements: self-satisfaction in being so deft with words, and the pain inflicted on unsuspecting and unwilling participants.

There is even a level of competition, as punsters try to one-up each others.

We once entered ten puns in a contest, hoping one would win.

But no pun in ten did.

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"a certain unexpected vein of pawky humour"
[VALL] (continued)

Take care, as you never know where a pun may hit you (hopefully your funny bone).

As you seek them out and happen to get hit in the head with a book, you'll only have your shelf to blame.

*A late Baker Street Irregular, Norman Davis ("The Grosvenor Square Furniture Van") used to issue a newsletter called **Pun My Word** from The Pawky Humorists.*

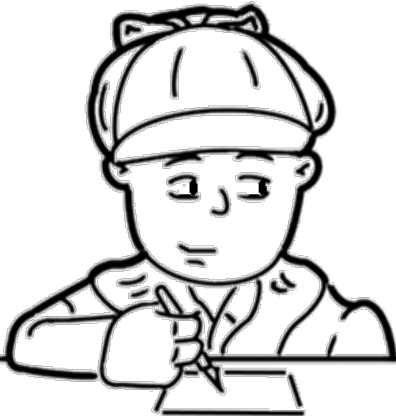
You can probably find mention of it in past

issues of Peter Blau's newsletter Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press (which itself is a pun).

*And the astute searcher might even be able to find old copies of Davis' book **Amusing, Holmes!**, filled with all kinds of Sherlockian humor.*

Meanwhile, the boys are yukking it up at Baker Street Elementary...

**MA'AM, DID YOU APPRECIATE MY USE OF
A PUN FOR THE ANSWER TO QUESTION
NUMBER TWO ON THE QUIZ TODAY ?**



ACTUALLY MASTER STAMFORD, I AM A PROONENT OF THE STATEMENT, "PUNS ARE THE LOWEST FORM OF HUMOR," UNLESS SOMEONE CAN CONVINC ME OTHERWISE.



**MA'AM, I BELIEVE OTHERS SUBSCRIBE TO THE
THEORY THAT ONLY THOSE CAPABLE OF
CREATING 'GOOD' PUNS APPRECIATE PUNS TO
THEIR FULLEST EXTENT...**

THAT WOULD BE ME...



ALRIGHT, MASTER SHERLOCK, PROVIDE ME WITH YOUR BEST EXAMPLE OF A 'PUN' AND I WILL DETERMINE IF IT COMEDIC OR NOT...

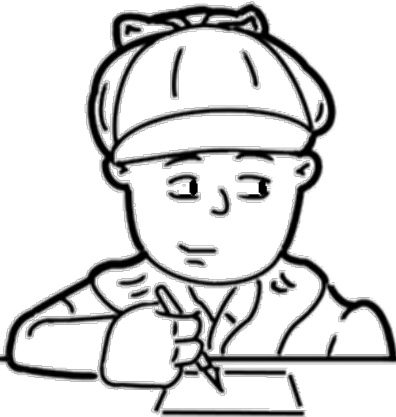


DID YOU EVER WITNESS A FRISKY DOG IN A GLOOMY FAMILY, OR EVEN A SAD DOG IN A HAPPY FAMILY... THE LATTER WOULD BE A MELANCHOLY...

THE FORMER SMILES FROM EAR TERRIER...



I BELIEVE I SAW A SMILE JUST THEN, MA'AM...



**THOSE WERE CUTE, BUT JUST REMEMBER,
"DOGS DON'T MAKE MISTAKES—THEY'RE
NEVER DOGMATIC..."**

