

Minutes from the Crew of the Barque Lone Star

November 1, 2015

There were 19 in attendance at the monthly meeting held at La Madeleine in Addison, TX.

Don Hobbs gave the Opening Remarks in a Toast to "Boscombe Valley and Oleo"

Steve Mason gave a presentation of Sherlock by the Numbers detailing the shortest and longest stories and novels in the canon. It was noted that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's short stories got shorter as he got older bringing up the discussion of various possible reasons (boredom with the character, etc.)

Most of his stories were written on the 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade level of reading. Doyle wanted to keep his stories at a level of junior high reading to attract a younger audience. However, it was pointed out that the 7<sup>th</sup> grade reading level in Victorian England would probably equate to a 10<sup>th</sup> grade level now, because getting an education was fairly rare.

A discussion also ensued relating the "canon" of Sir Arthur to the Holy Bible which also is called the canon and believed to be inspired by God and closed to additional public revelation. Both the Doyle canon and the biblical canon are believed to have been inspired by one author.

The quiz was given and ended in a tie between Cindy and Sandra. (Again.)

November 14 is the next scheduled movie night at Walter Pieper's home. We will be watching "The Mask of Death" which is the last of the Peter Cushing appearances as Sherlock Holmes.

Tim Kline gave a brief update of ordering new badges for the society. The cost will be approximately \$9.00 per badge.

We were also reminded to sign up for the Christmas card exchange if we are interesting in getting a card and giving a Sherlockian/Victorian card.

The Sherlock Holmes symposium will take place next Saturday between 9 am and 3 pm at the Allen Public Library. We got a write-up in the Dallas Morning News about the upcoming symposium. Our guest speaker will be Carol Nelson Douglas, famous local author of Sherlockian pastiches.

We plan to show a one hour movie during the lunch break at the symposium.

Steve made a call for door prizes which we would like to give out at the symposium, so if anyone has something Sherlockian that would be a good door-prize please contact Steve Mason.

Members are reminded to wear their Sherlock ID clothing.

Stu reminded folks that the series "The Librarian" which is on Sunday night on USA will air an episode called Moriarty tonight.

Steve Mason closed the meeting with a reading from the Baker Street Journal from October 1959 entitled "Arthur Conan Doyle, the anniversary of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday".