



## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Date: December 3, 2017

Berth and Port: La Madeleine's French Café, 5290 Belt Line Road, #112, Addison, TX 75254

Presiding Officer: Steve Mason, Third Mate

Time Convened: 1:07 p.m.

## CREW ON DECK

There were 18 attendees on hand.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Cindy Brown – Linda Pieper is still dealing with her injuries from the car accident and rebuilding her strength. Unfortunately, Walter Pieper, her husband, our Helmsman, is now in the hospital.
- B. Steve Mason – While distributing bookmarks for A Grimm Holmes to all present, Steve expressed gratitude to Liese Sherwood-Fabre for her gift.
- C. Steve informed the society of the December 19<sup>th</sup> auction (10:00 a.m. PST) of The Collection of Daniel Posnansky. Excited discussion resulted. To explore or order a catalogue (\$35.00 plus Shipping), visit <http://www.profilesinhistory.com>.
- D. Steve presented a copy of both The Faces of the BSJ and The Faces of ASH, profile compilations of artwork from the respective journals, as gifts to those assembled.

## OPENING TOAST

- 1) Delivered by: Steve Mason
- 2) In honor of Rusty Mason for his excellent work on “Baker Street Elementary” and the society’s website.

## THE QUIZ

- 1) Topic: “The Adventure of the Dancing Men”
- 2) Winner: Lawrence Fischman
- 3) Top Score: 8 out of 10
- 4) Awarded: The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes, Volumes I and II, by Les Klinger
- 5) Allen Osborne achieved second place, receiving a tin of Christmas cookies and The Big Book of Sherlock Holmes Stories, edited by Otto Penzler.

## PROGRAM/PRESENTATION

- 1) Presented by: Colleen O’Connor
- 2) Title/Topic: “What the Fashionable Man Will Wear”
- 3) Basic Description: Colleen explored the history of purple dye, proposing that Holmes’s robe was ultimately purple. She started with the purple dye discovery from a natural source by the Minoans and the spread of the purple dye by the seafaring Phoenicians. When the Greeks conquered the Phoenicians, Alexander the Great favored purple. Its popularity through history, purple as a status symbol, and viewpoints from one place to another varied. The specific source and method of producing the dye became lost after the Fall of Constantinople in 1453. In 1856, William Henry Perkin, an English chemist, synthesized mauve or aniline purple. The unexpected discovery affected a broad range of products and fields.



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- E. Steve Mason – Steve presented each of us a gift copy of A Study in Limericks by William (Bill) B. Beeson, deceased, former Third Mate of this esteemed society, distributing with permission from Bill’s friend and Agent, John Henson.
- F. Steve gave each attendee a 2018 calendar produced by him. Frederic Dorr Steele’s artwork in ‘The Return’ is its topic.
- G. Steve distributed copies of A Grimm Holmes, two hard copies to each of the writers and one paperback to other members of the society. Extra copies can be ordered through Liese Sherwood-Fabre. The society’s website will quickly have electronic versions available for free. There was some discussion about producing a book for 2018. One suggestion was to use true criminal cases for inspiration.
- H. Steve informed us that the comic book will be ready by the February meeting.
- I. Steve broached the topic of skipping the January meeting. It would be in conflict with the New York City trip plans of some of the members. After discussion, we agreed that the next meeting will be held on February 4, 2018. The people expecting to raise toasts or give presentations will shift from that scheduled to the following month.
- J. Steve reported that the Allen Library has given us a display case for January 2-31. It will present the Junior Sherlockian Society, sponsored by the Beacon Society. Also, the display will include the Top Ten Sherlock Holmes Movies as chosen by a group of Sherlockians. Our distant member in Gatesville, Texas, plans to send children’s books to be included. With the BSI trip conflicting, voluntary assistance in setting up the display is requested.
- K. Dean Clark – There is a 50% off sale on British shows at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore across the street.

#### DRAWING FOR THE GANGWAY PRIZES

With the coming holidays, and a sustained feeling of largesse, two books and one of Pam Mason’s artworks were given away.

#### CLOSING READING/TOAST

- 1) Delivered by: Steve Mason
- 2) Topic: All Sherlockians are friends.
- 3) Source: *Baker Street Journal*, Spring, 2001

Time Adjourned: 2:10 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by: Brenda S. Hutchison