



REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Date: February 4, 2018

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

Presiding Officer: Steve Mason, Third Mate

Time Convened: 1:10 p.m.

CREW ON DECK

There were 23 attendees on hand, including visitors.

INTRODUCTION ROUNDS AT TABLE

OPENING TOAST

- 1) Delivered by Dr. William Pervin.
- 2) Honored the writers who contributed short stories to A Grimm Holmes.

THE QUIZ

- 1) Topic: “The Adventure of the Retired Colourman”
- 2) Winner: Karen Olson
- 3) Score: 9 out of 10
- 4) Awarded: Books
- 5) Sandra Little achieved second place, following tie-breakers, to receive a proper prize.

PROGRAM/PRESENTATION

- 1) Presented by: Cindy Brown
- 2) Title/Topic: “They Deserved Killin”
- 3) Basic Description: In spite of the dark title, both the content and the delivery of this presentation were humorous. The targeted villains were: (1) Charles Augustus Milverton of CHAS, (2) Charles McCarthy of BOSCO, (3) Sir Eustace Brackenstall of ABBE, and (4) Mortimer Treginnis of DEVI. Cindy gave commentary regarding each villain while including remarks pertaining to Sherlock Holmes and dispensation of justice.

“AN EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION”

- 1) Starring: Dean Clark as Dr. John Watson and Cindy Brown as his wife Mary.
- 2) Basic Description: The premise for the skit was that Watson’s medical practice failed to support the married couple. John and Mary became music hall performers. Dean and Cindy performed a skit based on Abbott & Costello’s “Who’s on First” comedy routine, but with Sherlockian twists.

STATE OF THE SOCIETY

Steve Mason, Third Mate

Points or topics presented in this annual address included:

- The regular monthly meetings averaged eighteen attendees.
- We are glad for the return of Walter and Linda Pieper and of Diane Tran following their medical challenges.

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- Twenty-one Deck Mate investitures have been recorded to date under the current rules.
- The society's email list contains 150 subscribers.
- The Lending Library is available for book trading or borrowing at regular monthly meetings.
- The society's Fiftieth Anniversary will be celebrated in April of 2020. The designing of a 50-year pin is in the works.
- The society's website is an amazing success. In this week alone, there have been 1,700 hits. At present, A Grimm Holmes book is most popular. The "Baker Street Elementary" comic strip is second most popular. Our thanks go to Rusty Mason for his excellent work on the website.
- The positive reactions to A Grimm Holmes prompt the proposal for a second book of short stories. Suggestions as to source material are being considered.
- "Baker Street Elementary" is on the society's website, but also appears on the *Sherlockian E-Times* and *I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere (IHOSE)*. One of the handouts at this meeting is the first "Baker Street Elementary" comic book named "A Scandal in Casserole. A second handout is the third compilation of the comic strip.
- Allan Osborne is doing a great job of posting to the society's Facebook page. There are 152 Likes.
- Don Hobbs, BSI, "let his last child finally leave the house." His Sherlock Holmes collection is now in the care of Southern Methodist University (SMU).
- Having ten participants in the 2018 BSI Weekend exhibited good representation. The best news was that Dean Clark received his investiture into the Baker Street Irregulars as "Watson's Journal" in reflection of Dean's career in journalism.
- The top ten Sherlock Holmes movies and materials about the Junior Sherlock Holmes Society formed the society's display at the Allen Library during January 2018.
- Jim Webb received his doctorate. Congratulations, Dr. Webb.
- Sandra Little delivered a presentation to the Tulsa (OK) society.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Third Mate and the Helmsman were the two officers under consideration. Other positions are appointed or voluntary. For the nomination Steve Mason as Third Mate, motion seconded, motion closed, and the voting carried for his re-election. For the nomination Walter Pieper for Helmsman, motion seconded, motion closed, and the voting carried for his re-election.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Walter Pieper – Movie Night will be held February 10th (next Saturday evening at 7:00) at the Piepers' home. The movie will be the Peter Cushing television series version of "The Hound of the Baskervilles." Thank you to Cindy Brown for holding Movie Night at her home when covering for the Piepers.
- B. Steve Mason – The Preston Royal Branch Library in Dallas is having an Author Talk featuring Daniel J. Darrouzet discussing his book Stories from the Tin Box: Untold Adventures of Sherlock Holmes. This takes place on February 8th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- C. Steve Mason – The Allen Library is interested in hosting the society once more for a symposium. This could be scheduled to take place one day during the fall. Representatives of the Preston Royal Branch Library in Dallas have also shown an interest in hosting one.



- D. Steve Mason – Conferences to mention: 221B Con in Atlanta is April 13-15 in Atlanta, Georgia, Gillette to Brett V is from October 5-7 in Bloomington, Indiana, St. Louis August 10-12, and BSI Weekend in January 2019.
- E. Steve Mason – Greg Ruby of the Fourth Garrideb will be in Dallas for <https://www.money.org/NationalMoneyShow> March 8-10. He has invited us to join him at the Ranch Las Colinas <http://theranchlc.com/> on March 9th. Time to be determined.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Steve Mason proposed that we send society members into Senior Citizens' Centers/Community Centers to give an hour long presentation: (1) speak about Sherlock Holmes or ACD, (2) perform a radio play, and (3) draw for door prizes. This will help us get out into the community and spread Sherlock Holmes. The first step is to identify where we will be welcome. Please check with your local centers.

Dr. Jim Webb added that nursing home facilities should be considered too. Additionally, large-print editions of the stories/books would be good prizes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- F. Allan Osborne – “The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton” is the story for March. Milverton was #1 on Cindy Brown’s list today.
- G. Karen Olson – Karen must stick to her April schedule for her presentation. March has an opening for a presentation. Steve would like to have a volunteer.
- H. Liese Sherwood-Fabre – Bouchercon 2019 in Dallas, <http://bouchercon2019.com/>, will be held at the Hyatt Regency on October 31 through November 3, 2019. This is the World Mystery Convention.

DRAWING FOR THE GANGWAY PRIZE

There were two drawings this meeting. Allan Osborne won a print. Tim Kline won a painting.

CLOSING READING/TOAST

- 1) Delivered and written by: Karen Olson
- 2) She cleverly built a funny toast using the keywords contained in the Canon’s titles, minus the Casebook.

Time Adjourned: 2:30 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by: Brenda S. Hutchison