



REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Date: May 7, 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: 1:10 p.m.

CREW ON DECK

There were 15 attendees on hand.

INTRODUCTION ROUNDS AT TABLE

OPENING TOAST

- 1) Delivered by: Steve Mason
- 2) "The Toast to Sherlock Holmes" by Don Hobbs, BSI
- 3) Don wished to draw attention to the fact that this toast's Word Count is 221.

ANNOUNCEMENT

- A. Dean Clark jokingly expressed his weak disapproval of a particular member's absence. That member is currently on a cruise in the British Isles (*Blue skies and fair winds, friend!*), an envious holiday and preoccupation given the reactions among meeting attendees. Additionally, that member will be travelling in the USA with plans to finally return to our assembly for the August 6th regular meeting.

THE QUIZ

- 1) Topic: "The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans"
- 2) Winner: Sandra Little
- 3) Top Score: 8 out of 10
- 4) Awarded: A Broadway production playbill for The Crucifer of Blood plus The French Artillery Officer, a novel, by Lawrence Fischman
- 5) Karen Olson achieved second place with proper prizes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- B. Walter Pieper – Provided our assembly a hopeful update on his wife Linda's condition and circumstances. The possibility of her returning home in a month or so is an exciting prospect.
- C. Walter Pieper – Movie Night at the Pieper home might restart in June. Since Cindy Brown is presently out-of-town, there will be no Movie Night during the month of May.
- D. Steve Mason – Spoke positively about the Dallas Book Festival of April 29th for which several members attended/participated. Liese Sherwood-Fabre served on a panel discussion about pastiches, "The Derivatives of Sherlock Holmes", while Steve monitored the discussion. Steve estimates that 75 were in the audience even though the segment was late in the schedule.



PROGRAM/PRESENTATION

- 1) Presented by: William Slough (Owner of Sherlock Clocks)
- 2) Title/Topic: Clocks in Victorian Times
- 3) Basic Description: William Slough first offered some basic knowledge of clockworks to orient his audience. Following, he delivered a knowledgeable history of time pieces or clocks, ranging from large tower clocks down to gentlemen's pocket watches. The narration included (not limited to) information on differences between chain and spring movements, master clockmakers and apprenticeships, the change from individual manufacture toward mass production, differences in the sales market plus shifts among producing countries, and alterations among designs and functionality to provide alternatives to standardization to meet demands. Throughout his presentation, William was amenable, patiently answering multiple questions of interest from various members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- E. William Slough – The National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors Lone Star Chapter 124 (visit Chapter124.org) is hosting the NAWCC National Convention at the Arlington Convention Center in Arlington, TX. Members of the public are invited to the **Exhibit/Craft Contest** and to attend **Lectures** for **FREE** on Thursday through Saturday, June 29-July 1, 2017. Access to the Mart for buying and selling does require payment of a fee. The Exhibit is expected to be exceptional with clocks dating from the 1700's into the 1900's. HOURS: On Thursday – Lectures All Day – Exhibit/Craft Contest 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. On Friday – Lectures All Day – Exhibit/Craft Contest 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. On Saturday – Some Early Lectures – Exhibit/Craft Contest 8:00 a.m. to Noon.
- F. Steve Mason – The Lending Library has a few items exhibited on the round table for exchange.
- G. Steve Mason – The society is committed to a symposium planned for September 23, 2017, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Allen Library. The theme is “Sherlock Holmes at the Movies” with the presentation of an animated film and possibly three speakers. This is a call for anyone with an interest in speaking on the topic to please come forward.
- H. Steve Mason – There are 14 writers currently working on short stories based on tales from the Brothers Grimm. To have 20 short stories would be ideal. Easing the Word Count up to 7,000 and including Mother Goose and Aesop's Fables for inspiration might entice more writers to join the project. Additionally, anyone presently working upon a short story might consider producing two short stories. As previously stated, writers must make their choice of story inspiration known to Steve in order to avoid duplication. The deadline for submitting a completed pastiche is September 30th. Submission information will be announced closer to the date.
- I. Steve Mason – Four members of the society attended 221B Con (April 7-9, 2017) in Atlanta, GA. The obvious differences between this event and *traditional* Sherlock Holmes conferences included: a younger crowd, greater fandom orientation, and extension into other genres, such as fantasy/science fiction. Some traditional Sherlock Holmes elements and events were included in the conference, particularly, some good panel discussions. Society member Liese Sherwood-Fabre served on two panels. The conference included a vendor show. Steve allowed for comments from the other three attendees at this point.



- J. Steve Mason – Among the vendors at 221B Con was a man selling framed, autographed pictures or items. Steve learned was able to buy the entire inventory of pictures for his own collection. Since then, Steve has been able to acquire more items from the same vendor. An invitation to the society to visit Steve and Pam’s home to see this collection depends on his managing to display it.
- K. Liese Sherwood-Fabre – Upon Tim Kline’s advice, Liese plans to make her published books easily available for purchase by members of the society. She plans on providing some stock (specific titles not recorded in this record) at next month’s meeting. Visit her website to learn about her books, especially her recent releases: <http://liesesherwoodfabre.com>.

DOOR PRIZE

Karen Olson received a drawing prize of one of Pam Mason’s paintings depicting the exterior of 221B Baker Street.

CLOSING READING/TOAST

- 1) Delivered by: Steve Mason
- 2) Title: “Such People in It”
- 3) Source: *Baker Street Journal*, September, 1992

Time Adjourned: 2:50 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by: Brenda S. Hutchison