



REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Date: June 4, 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 19 attendees on hand, including 4 newcomers to the meeting.

INTRODUCTION ROUNDS AT TABLE

OPENING TOAST

- 1) Written and delivered by: Sandra Little
- 2) Title: "A Moss Rose by Any Other Name"

This toast explored and examined the names of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson from early incarnations to the present day.

- 3) Honoring: Sherlock Holmes

ANNOUNCEMENT

- A. Steve Mason – Welcomed new attendees. Reminded everyone to sign the Ship's Roster. Offered various freebies, displayed on the table, to new attendees. Spoke regarding the Trading Library.

THE QUIZ

- 1) Topic: "The Adventure of the Veiled Lodger"
- 2) Winner: Sandra Little
- 3) Top Score: 9 out of 10
- 4) Awarded: "The Woman in Green" poster and The World Bibliography of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson by Ronald Burt De Waal
- 5) Brenda Hutchison achieved second place to receive a proper prize.

PROGRAM/PRESENTATION

- 1) Presented by: Lawrence Fischman
- 2) Title/Topic: "Sherlock Holmes and The Power of Disbelief: A Study in Verisimilitude"
- 3) Basic Description: Following the distribution of copies of his paper, Lawrence Fischman introduced the basis for his paper, a question: "What are we doing here today?" Lawrence's thesis, stated on pages 2-3, is: "The Canon endures because Watson does not force his readers to suspend their disbelief." In seeking support for the thesis, he explored various aspects to account for the endurance of the Canon, its ability to remain a permanent fixture on our library shelves and to instill a passion in us. Lawrence cited



specific parts of the paper and its references. The conclusion of the paper, starting on page 7, appears to be in support of the thesis, "...we readily accept the verisimilitude of Watson's accounts." By the end, on page 8, Lawrence Fischman writes: "Or, once again applying Occam's razor, perhaps the simplest answer is that everyone has his/her own idiosyncratic reasons for reading The Canon."

- 4) Lawrence Fischman – Answered questions from the audience. Following a request, he briefly spoke of his book, The French Artillery Officer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- B. Steve Mason – Announced that Liese Sherwood Fabre and Lawrence Fischman have their books available for sale following the meeting.
- C. There will be no Movie Night this month, but possibly in July.

DECK MATE INVESTITURE

The newest official member of the Deck Crew is Rusty Mason, having dutifully accomplished the essential requirements. Of singular note, Rusty has provided exemplary service via website design and support for both the Crew of the Barque *Lone Star* and the Beacon Society. Both websites are held in high esteem.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- D. Pam Mason – Announced that she will be taking a test next Saturday for her Special Education Certification. She has a strong interest in teaching students for Life Skills. In sharing this personal goal, she received our uplifting support. We wish her out best!
- E. Steve Mason – Reminded all that the next symposium is scheduled on September 23rd at the Allen Public Library. "The Great Mouse Detective", previously chosen, could possibly be replaced by Basil Rathbone in "The Hound of the Baskervilles". This is under consideration. Additional speakers are still needed.

THE GANGWAY PRIZE DRAWING

Dorothy J. Kassanoff held the winning ticket. Her prize was the Deduction Game.

CLOSING READING/TOAST

- 1) Delivered by: Steve Mason
- 2) Title: "And So, Can Never Die"
- 3) Source: *Baker Street Journal*, 1993

Time Adjourned: 2:00 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by: Brenda S. Hutchison