

Minutes from the Meeting of the Crew of the Barque Lone Star

March 7, 2021

Attendees: 64

This meeting focused on the story *The Adventure of the Cardboard Box* and was opened by a very creative toast presented to the "Crew" by Joe Fay.

We then went onto the first quiz of the day on the story. The winner of the quiz was Bruce Aikin. Donny Zaldin did mention that he got them all, but they were actually ALL wrong.

Bob Katz lead a lively discussion of the *Cardboard Box*, with many participants.

Steve Mason, the Third Mate reminded the attendees that later today, Sunday the John Oppenheimer Society of Houston, will be having their scion meeting at 4 PM, and all are welcome.

We then discussed the next book planned by the Crew of the Barque Lone Star. It will be about "what Sherlock Holmes Means to Me". This offering can be a story, a poem, a limerick, a picture, etc., and will be due on August 31, 2021.

Joe Eckerd of St. Louis noted that the Parallel Case of St. Louis will be holding their annual conference in person July 9-11, 2021. More details will follow shortly.

Our special guest for this meeting was Bonnie McBird who did a reading of her most recent book which will be for sale soon in the U.S. It is called "The Three Locks". We were also treated to a video that she wrote called, *The 221B Sleuth*.

She mentioned that she wrote *The Three Locks* during the lockdown in her London apartment, where she has been in quarantine for exactly one year today, with only one outing to get a vaccination. UGH!!!

We then went to the lightning round quiz for the day, and it was All Things Sherlockian. The winners of the quiz were Lola Beard and Mark Alberstat.

Next, we had a wonderful presentation given by Donnie Zaldin on *The First Short Story Written by Arthur Conan Doyle*. Christies recently sold a very large lot of Doyle belongings in May 2004, and what's left of this scrap of the story was part of the auction. The story was about a boy and a tiger. He then went on to discuss how the Bengal tigers have been hunted almost out of existence.

The meeting had lots of great discussions and we look forward to next months meeting on April 4.