

## Crew of the Barque Lone Star Virtual Meeting

April 12, 2020

19 were in attendance

Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Crew will be meeting through Zoom for the foreseeable future.

The Third Mate began the meeting by welcoming everyone.

Cindy Brown followed with a toast to the Crew of the Barque Lone Star.

Steve Mason then gave everyone a brief update on the 2020 Symposium at the Allen Library. The event is scheduled to be November 7, 2020, from Noon until 4:30 pm, and will be called The Science of Sherlock Holmes. Allen Osborne will be in charge of organizing the event and has already been in touch with Tom the library director. Tom has requested that all materials, presentations, pictures, posters, etc. be sent to him with a deadline of September 1, 2020. So far, we have Liese Sherwood Fabre and Cindy Brown as giving the opening presentations. These presentations will be The History of Sherlock Holmes and How Sherlock Holmes used Science to Solve his Cases. Others should let Steve and Allen know if they would like to give presentations or help with the mystery portion of the program. We currently need someone to volunteer to develop the mystery hands on program which should last no more than 30 minutes.

We also discussed the upcoming 2021 Symposium that the Crew will be co-hosting with SMU. This conference will be from October 22-24, 2021. The conference is tentatively titled "The Collecting Mania, A Collection of All Things Sherlockian." Don Hobbs has lined up an impressive group of speakers. Currently we are asking for volunteers to be "handlers" for the speakers, to be sure than have whatever they need once they land in Dallas.

Steve reminded attendees that we are still taking stories developed from lines in the Agony Columns from the London newspapers of the late 1800's. The 3,000 to 5,000-word stories should be submitted to Steve by the **end of August 2020**. The stories should be family friendly and will only be edited for grammatical correctness by Steve and Liese. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> book published by the members of the Crew.

Steve then announced the winners of the Joel Senter essay contest. Two of the winners are from the Crew. Elenore and Thomas Heber each won for their age category, winning a plaque and a check.

Steve reminded people that over 100 people have successfully completed the first 3 levels of exams for the Fortescue Exams attaining the level of Doctorate. The Beacon Society is now offering a 2020 recertification to update and refresh your Sherlockian knowledge. A number of people in our society have completed the exam and all agreed that this is a good way to spend extra time some of us may have on our hands now.

Another Sherlockian pastime could be to tune in and listen to the IHOSE series and the Triffle series both available as Podcasts.

This month is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Crew of the Barque Lone Star and we had planned to have a celebration at the home of Karen Olsen. However, the current Covid-19 virus has caused up to

postpone the event and hopefully we can celebrate in the Fall. Karen said her home would be available then also.

Steve mentioned that the Nashville Scholars have put together a great video to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and recommended to all. He also explained that a lot of the Crew's older documents are now in the possession of the library at the University of Minnesota and Tim Johnson has offered to review the files and scan copies for our records.

George Vanderburgh is looking for a copy of the Prescott Series, Volume 2, number 2. He is trying to complete his collection and make them available online.

We then had a virtual quiz with Steve giving us 11 stories from the canon and we had to determine what were the disguises used in each story by Holmes.

Denny Dobry was in attendance by Zoom and announced that the next Joel Senter essay contest would be wrapping up in February 2021, and hopefully we'll have even more great essays at that time.

The Closing Reading was from the Baker Street Journal from July 1954, entitled The Days We Envy.

We have not yet determined if we will have a May face-to-face meeting, or continue on with a virtual meeting.