

Minutes from the Crew of the Barque Lone Star
June 7, 2020

There were 25 in attendance at this ZOOM meeting.

The meeting was opened with a toast to William Gillette by Cindy Brown. This was followed by a presentation on the silent film age and Sherlock Holmes given by Russell Merritt. Professor Merritt did an exception power point presentation, and then later discussed how the William Gillette film was found after being presumed lost for 99 years. He was instrumental in helping restore the film and getting it into availability on DVD and Blue Ray. Professor Merritt was one of the youngest investitures into the BSI and has been a member of that organization since 1960. His investiture name is Teppoff Murder.

Merritt discussed how Holmes crashed the silent film era, and was often viewed as a comedy film rather than a serious film noir. This was to get around the copyright laws which were still very much in effect for the Sherlock Holmes characters and plots. He went on to explain that more people have read Sherlock Holmes than have ever seen a movie.

The next order of business was the reminder that the short stories which involve a notice from the Victorian Agony Columns, will be due to Steve Mason by August 31, 2020.

It was announced that Ann Caddell has uploaded all of her Sherlock Holmes presentations onto YouTube. Steve will put the URL in the next newsletter.

Thomas Hebert, who was a Joel Senter prize winner for the 13-year-old age group then read his essay entitled, The Copper Beeches Macabre Mood. The Beacon Society is in the process of putting all the winning essays into a publication.

We then had a quiz on the individuals portraying Sherlock Holmes in film. Diane Tran won first place.

The closing reading was a Father's Day theme, "To Be a Sherlockian" by Steve Mason, whose father introduced him to Sherlock Holmes as a young boy.

The next meeting which is scheduled for July 5 will be another ZOOM meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Brown