

Crew of the Barque Lone Star Meeting

May 5, 2019

Attendees: 15

We opened the meeting with a toast given by Cindy Brown that she will also present at the MN Conference in August. It was entitled Dark Places, Wicked People, and Strange Experiences.

This was followed by a tribute to Susan Diamond, the late Sherlockian who was also the Chairman of the Beacon Society Grants Committee. Susan resigned her post last year as a result of serious illness, and Cindy Brown has taken her place as Grants Committee Chairman. Steve and Cindy took this opportunity to give the Crew an explanation of what the Beacon Society does and how it enhances young people's knowledge and understanding of Sherlock Holmes and encourages reading in general.

We then had our quiz about this month's reading, "His Last Bow". The first place went to James Robinson, and Cindy Brown got second prize.

Under announcements, our First Mate, reminded everyone about the upcoming deadline of August 31, 2019, for the limerick's publication.

Steve Mason also reminded people that on June 1, 2019, the Crew will be participating in a panel at the downtown Dallas Public Library to discuss Sherlock Holmes and Kids. The symposium starts at 9 AM and the Sherlock Holmes discussion starts at 1 PM.

Since this year had so few submissions for the Beacon Society Grants it is being discussed among the committee about another way to make the most of the grant program and the potential grant awards. We asked the Crew to give us any ideas that may benefit the grant program. We also discussed the possibility of putting a copy of the canon in school libraries as well as public libraries across the Country. In addition, discussed how the online access could affect this effort.

Jen Liang was the guest presenter today and her topic was The Animals of the Canon. Her presentation spanned a number of different animals many of which were familiar to those who frequently read the stories of Sherlock Holmes, and other animals with which we are not so familiar, including cats, horses, a goose, a swamp adder, a mongoose, a jellyfish, a lion, etc.

Jen also discussed the animals of the untold tales of the canon. For example, the giant rat of Sumatra, a trained Cormorant, a giant leech, and a few others.

The final reading was from the Baker Street Journal of Autumn 2008, and was entitled "Dream a Little Dream of Me."

Allen Osborne won the Door Prize.

Allen also mentioned that the next meeting would focus on the first four chapters of the novel "A Study in Scarlet".