



A Publication of the Pleasant Places of Florida

Communication

#184

New Series

July/August 1998

Volume 2 Issue 6

Summer greetings to one and all. We hope you enjoy this issue, which is a little later than originally planned, but still well within our framework. Should we ever get completely organized, we'll be a dangerous scion with which to be reckoned! You should all be receiving an updated copy of the club's member roster again. Of course, the moment it was done, all the "813" area codes in Pinellas County, Florida, were changed to "727". It is our hope that this roster will be better suited to updating, with spaces left for so doing. Anyone who has renewed this year and has not received a new membership card, please notify the Papers so we can rectify the situation. This issue covers our Diogenes meeting in July which was arranged by member David Scott, as well as reports from our seasoned-traveler Carl Heifetz on his Sherlockian doings in Europe and the Fourth Occasional Sherlockian Cruise. We've been notified that Carl's article "Regarding the True Aetiology of the Skin Lightening in the Adventure of the Blanched Soldier" is being distributed for discussion at the next meeting of "The Blanched Soldiers of NOAH," which is a Sherlockian group of dermatologists. This article was first discussed at our November 1997 Fall Gathering. Please make note of the next Diogenes in September, and enjoy your summer.

The Papers on the Sundial

**DIOGENES MEETING ON SEPTEMBER
12 IN SARASOTA!! CONTACT CHARLES
& MARILYN AMICK AT**

FOR

DETAILS!!



A page from *The Mystery Anti-Coloring Book* by Susan Striker copyright 1991.

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Canonical/Club Calendar

July/August

During the first week of July, Sherlock Holmes had been absent so often from his lodgings that Watson knew he had something on hand (BLAC). Small and a volunteer corps of clerks and merchants went out to meet the rebels (cont. page 3)

Cassadaga Diogenes

by David Scott

On Saturday, July 11th, fourteen members of the PPoF gathered at Cassadaga, FL for one of our more unusual Diogenes meetings. We met in this 104 year old Spiritualist colony to hear about the role of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in the history of Spiritualism.

THE HISTORIC CASSADAGA HOTEL

Est. 1927



The venue was the Cassadaga Hotel, a 1927 structure that may be the only hotel in the country with psychics on the room service menu. In the hotel's Lost In Time Cafe, we enjoyed a variety of delicious hot sandwiches, soups and salads for lunch.

Once the body was taken care of, the mind and spirit were nourished by Ben (cont. page 4)

Published PPOFers

Wanda Dow has had two cartoons accepted by *The Baker Street Journal*, one which was published in the June, 1998 issue and the other to be published at a future date.

Look for Carl Heifetz's articles about Sherlock as a scientist in *The Wigmore Street Post Office*. Latest is "The Scientific Detective Solves the Sign of Four" in No. 11, Spring 1998.



He's Everywhere

In a flyer for *A Mother's Touch*, a local business which throws theme parties for children, a picture of Sherlock in Inverness & Deerstalker with magnifying glass (see above) is used to advertise their "Secret Agent" parties ... *Golden Books* has a coloring book out called "Gonzo's Silly Classic Bits" with a 2-page illustration of "Classic Theater of Whales presents Sherlock Holmes" ... Spotted now on laserdisc: *Young Sherlock Holmes* (1985 Rowe/Cox) and *Ship in a Bottle*, the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* episode with Moriarty ... Ask your local public radio station if they have any plans of airing "Imagination Theatre." It's a weekly series written by Jim French and has been reported that two shows (cont. page

1998 P.P. of F. CALENDAR

September 12

Diogenes Meeting

Sarasota

Hosts: Charles & Marilyn Amick

November 7

23rd Annual Spring

Gathering

Dunedin

*Hosts: Jeff & Wanda Dow
The Red Circle*

1999 Proposed Calendar

January 16

Sherlock's Birthday

Celebration II

February 13

Wessex Cup

March 6

Diogenes Meeting

May 8

24th Spring Gathering

July 9

Diogenes Meeting

September 11

Diogenes Meeting

November 6

24th Fall Gathering

Anyone wishing to volunteer to host one of the 1999 events, please contact *Representative* Carl Heifetz. Entertainment is not required for the *Diogenes* meetings, but we would like to see some interesting places. Some past examples of *Diogenes* have been dinner & a brewery tour, lunch and a museum exhibit, lunch at an antiques/tea house, and various meals at local restaurants and member's homes.



The Moriarty Principle commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Norwegian Explorers (Twin Cities) with a range of essays, a video script,

a radio drama/stage play, plus "Sherlock Holmes Prepares for the Final Problem" in both short story and dramatic format. \$19.95 from Galde Press, Inc., PO Box 460, Lakeville, MN 55044 1-800-777-3454

A Brixtoni Rejtely, a Hungarian translation of STUD is available in paperback from Pannonia Books, Box 716, Station P, Roronta, ON M5S 2Y4. <www.panbooks.com>

Order a **Sherlock Ink** fingerprint pad for \$6.00 plus shipping from 43039 London Drive, Parker, CO 80138 <sher_ink@ix.netcom>

Agony Column



Red Apple Publishing, Box 568, Vaughn, WA 98394 <redapple@aol> is offering David Scott's **Holmes Redux: New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes** for \$9.95. Check your local bookstore.

The Wigmore Street Post Office is available on the Prodigy computer service electronically, or on paper. You can subscribe for \$10.00 a year (3 issues) to Mel Hughes,

Issue #11 (Spring) focuses on SIGN and is available for \$5.25.

Bibliotective has a new catalogue out of 308 items relating to Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle. Ask for Cat. #12, 1998. from Box 47347, Oak Park, MI 48237.

Classic Specialties, P. O. Box 19058, Cincinnati, OH 45219 is offering fine writing paper featuring an "antique" map of Victorian

London with matching envelopes. 25 sheets (8.5 x 6"), 20 env. in gift box. Order Item Paper/Bker St. \$11.95 US \$3.50 post/handl.

The 16th annual **Autumn in Baker Street** will be held at the Tarrytown Hilton in Tarrytown, NY from October 31 to November 1. Register at the hotel by calling 914-631-5700 M-F between 9AM and 5PM, or write The Tarrytown Hilton, 455 South Broadway, Tarrytown, NY 10591. Cost is \$170 per person (dbl occ) and \$225 per person (single occ). This includes overnight accommodations, 3 meals, the conference, refreshments at each session, all hotel facilities.

Douglas Moreton's latest book, *The Unrelated Adventures of Clewlow Holmes* is now available from **Hugh Scullion** of

U.K. for \$20.00.

(cont. from front page) at Shahgunge early in July (SIGN) Watson notes SECO, NAVA and The Adventure of the Tired Captain in his July notes (NAVA). In this month Miss Fraser and her maid first met Lord Brackenstall (ABBE). 7/2 The Professor became angry that his secretary touched his box and Roy, the wolfhound, attacked the Professor. (CREE) 7/7 Mary Morstan's letter requesting to meet was thus postmarked. (SIGN) 7/11 Roy attacks Professor. (CREE) 7/20 Roy attacks Professor and is banished to the stables. (CREE)

7/1907 Holmes became involved in LION.

8/4/1860 John Ferrier died. (STUD)

In August of 1883, Patrick Cairns witnessed the death of Neligan at the hands of his skipper (BLAC). It was a blazing hot day in August when Holmes became involved in CARD. Holmes crawled about the lawn at Deep Dene house with an August sun on his back and got up an hour later no wiser. August 1914 was the safe combination used in LAST.

8/2 Nine o'clock at night began a case during the most terrible August in the history of the world. (LAST)

8/26 There was a period of excitement. (CREE)

7/2/87 Ninth Round Robin Pastiche, *Mystery of the Pale Ontologist of Meltdown* published.

7/15/93 Benton Wood gives talk on S. Holmes to approx. 100 youngsters at Venice library

7/94 *Sound of the Basket Hills* published.

Summer 1994 - *A Case of Hide 'n' Tea* published.

7/20/97 Diogenes held to discuss Roy the wolfhound (CREE) at Sips and Nibbles in Dunedin. Hosts: Jeff & Wanda Dow (cont. page 4)

4) (cont. from page 2) have been Sherlockian with another on the way ... Spotted at a pet show, a flier featuring a Sherlockian hamster ... The June 2 issue of *Business First* *Sherlock Holmes* is listed as filing for bankruptcy in Buffalo, NY ... There's an old silent film called *The Mystery of the Leaping Fish* which starred Douglas Fairbanks as detective Coke Ennyday, dressed in Sherlockian garb. We note from the latest *Scuttlebutt* you can now buy it on video from Foothill Video, Box 900367, Palmdale, CA 93590 for \$7.95 plus \$3.50 S/H ... There are reports that *The Strand Magazine* is making a comeback with A.F. Gulli as Managing Editor ... The latest issue of Japanese computer-game magazine *E-Login* features a lady in deerstalker, inverness & magnifying glass on the front cover. You can see it posted on <http://plaza15.mbn.or.jp/~limelight/TGSO.html> ...

(cont. from page 3)

7/11/98 - Diogenes held at Lost in Time cafe in Cassadaga with Lecture on Doyle and Spiritualism by Ben Cox. Hosts: Dave & Thelma Scott.

8/72 Official insignia chosen by Leslie Marshall, designed by Rebecca Hall. (replaced by different design at a later date).

8/22/77 First offer of *Exercises in Ratiocination & Mental Gymnastics*.

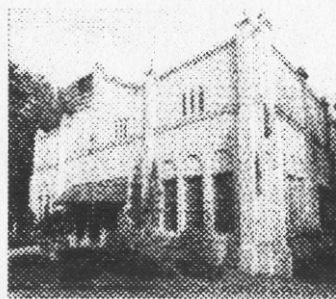
8/84 Publication of *The Adventure of the Boxing Day Murder* by Courtney Anderson.

8/92 - Benton Wood has S. Holmes display at the Palmetto library.



(cont. from page 2) Cox's program. Ben is a certified medium, a historian and a Holmes fan since childhood. He told us of Doyle's role as perhaps the greatest evangelist of the Spiritualist religion, travelling through Europe, to America and Australia promoting the cause. One of Ben's slides shows a town hall packed to standing room only with people who came to hear Doyle's message. He also wrote a two-volume "History of Spiritualism" and other works on the topic. Doyle's public advocacy of the religion was not without cost to his reputation or his personal relationships. Especially hard on him was the breakup of a long-standing friendship with illusionist Harry Houdini.

We also learned a lot about the science, philosophy and religion of Spiritualism. Ben's presentation-included spirit photographs (in which the faces of deceased persons appeared on the negative), and pictures of plaster casts (shades of Holmes' monograph on footprints!) taken from wax molds in which a spirit had dipped its hand. Ben concluded by taking us on a tour of the Cassadaga Camp's

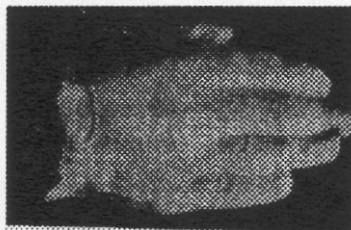


Colby Memorial Temple

church.

A rousing vote of thanks is due to Ben Cox for his wonderful program, and to proprietress Diana Morn of the Cassadaga Hotel for her staff's hospitality.

Pictures of Hotel & Temple were taken from the Program Booklet.



Plaster Cast of Ectoplasmic Hand

Obtained by Dr. Geley and impossible of reproduction in any other fashion (Note the breadth of wrist as compared with hand) From *The History of Spiritualism* by A.C. Doyle



Sherlockian Quest to Bermuda

by Carl Heifetz

More than 40 Sherlockian adventurers participated in the quest that led them from great hand made New York City to the fabled isle of Bermuda. It was the good ship *Celebrity Zenith* that took 'em there, their journey to and fro' lasting from the 20th to the 28th of June last. They sought adventure at sea, their final destination being the Bermuda Dockyards. What was their quarry? None other than the descendants of the man who was the first and only legal husband of the Bristol barmaid - she who had enthralled and married the innocent young James McCarthy. What they found astonished them. Shops and restaurants stood where once only ship building supplies and equipment had been located. What were they to do? Not terribly disappointed by this turn of events, these intrepid explorers were able to turn their vast observational powers towards seeking out genuine values and a tasty lunch.

Savants say that the journey is more important than the destination. In this case, they

were right. Sherlockians participated in a wonderful fourth excursion meeting fellow followers of the Master and exploring the many facets of their obsession. The two days completely at sea were replete with both frivolous and serious Sherlockian activities as the assemblage listened to entertaining and informative expositions, prepared and presented their tableaux vivants, and competed good naturedly in quizzes, Victorian costumery, and a literary competition. The featured speakers, who all provided terrific presentations, were Kate Karlson, Marilynne McKay, Irving Kamil, Joanne Louise Zahorsky-Reeves, and Peter Horrocks. There were also cocktail parties and informal gatherings throughout the week. Those of us who attended all agreed that it was extremely well planned and carried out. The Cruise Committee, who did a wonderful job, consisted of noted Sherlockians Irving Kamil, Mary Ellen Rich, Susan Rice, and Dorothy Stix. We are grateful to them for the excellent programs that they have provided in the four seaward journeys, and note with some sadness that this last cruise was named "Our Last Bow," signaling their intent to make this their final such undertaking.

ATTENTION ALL MYCROFTIAN TALENTS!

The Mycroft Holmes Society of Syracuse is putting together an anthology of items about Mycroft Holmes. They are looking for stories, pastiches, cartoons, puzzles, quizzes ... anything about Sherlock's elder brother. Previously published selections will be considered. Material may be posted to: Joseph A. Coppola, Archivist & Publisher of the MHS Press,

. You may also e-mail to

The Papers are putting together a history of The Pleasant Places of Florida, listing all events, publications, etc. If you were a past host of an event, or gave a presentation, please let us know. While we have the usual dates, there is not necessarily a lot of detail as to what took place at each meeting. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

CAPTION THIS!

Announcing a brand new contest for members of The Pleasant Places of Florida! Come up with the most humorous caption for this picture and win a Sherlockian prize!



Captions must be submitted to The Papers on or before September 8, 1998. Mail your best shot to *The Papers Caption Contest*,

or e-mail to

Baker Street Browsings

by Carl Heifetz

The morning of Wednesday, July 8, 1998, was cold and damp - at least by Florida standards. However, just the joy of just being on Baker Street, the place where Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson and other characters that populate the Canon trod many years ago, was enough to overcome the mild discomfort that I felt.

My first stop was the Abbey National Bank, which now occupies the address 221 Baker Street. Although I was not able to penetrate to the "b" level, where Mr. Holmes personal secretary still resides and answers his correspondence, I was able to pick up a few goodies at the information desk: a post card with a color picture of Mr. Sherlock Holmes and a beautifully illustrated brochure that discusses several topics - Holmes the Man, The Letters (to Sherlock Holmes), Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and the relationship between the Bank and Sherlockians worldwide.

The Sherlock Holmes Museum was delightful, and in my opinion well worth the 5 pound entry fee. Free handouts included autographed Sherlock Holmes business cards and a small illustrated brochure describing the Museum and giving some background material concerning the former inhabitants at that (cont. page 7)

ROSTER UPDATE

Changes: Please correct the following "813" area codes to read "727": **Bryan, Michael; Carroll, Dr. Charles Michael; Cushing de Bernardo, E. Cara; all the Dow family; Edwards, George; Everett, Caroline; Fallahee, Meaghan; Heifetz, Dr. Carl L.; Hudson, Reggie (and family); Murphy-Fallahee, Mary; Smith, Frank; Stoner, David, Jr.; Suttlehan, Doris, Sweeney, Jeff; Takach, Tom; Zarr, David B.** (Special thanks to GenTel for making the roster out-of-date as soon as it was published!)

Blau, Peter

Please check the address on your mailing label to make sure the correct information is being held by the club.

Submission Deadlines

September/October Issue

Postmark by 9/8/98

E-Mail by 9/14/98

Halloween Special Issue

Postmark by 10/2/98

E-Mail by 10/8/98

November/December Issue

Postmark by 11/2/98

E-Mail by 11/9/98

Christmas Special Issue

Postmark by 12/1/98

E-Mail by 12/6/98

January/February Issue

Postmark by 1/9/99

E-Mail by 1/15/99

Mad March Special Issue

Postmark by 2/15/99

E-Mail by 2/26/99

March/April Issue

Postmark by 3/1/99

E-Mail by 3/5/99

May/June Issue

Postmark by 5/1/99

E-Mail by 5/8/99

Father's Day Special Issue

Postmark by 6/1/99

E-Mail by 6/6/99

July/August Issue

Postmark by 7/1/99

E-Mail by 7/8/99

September/October Issue

Postmark by 9/4/99

E-Mail by 9/8/99

Thanksgiving Special Issue

Postmark by 11/2/99

E-Mail by 11/5/99

November/December Issue

Postmark by 10/30/99

E-Mail by 11/5/99

Endings & Beginnings Special Issue

Postmark by 12/15/99

E-Mail by 12/20/99

(cont. from page 6) address, which they also claim as 221b Baker Street. The Museum Gift Shop contains a plethora of marvelous items, and "she who must be obeyed" allowed me to select a few for purchase. At the connected Mrs. Hudson's Restaurant, I was able to scrounge an illustrated bill of fare.

The next stop was the Sherlock Holmes Memorabilia Company directly across the street from the Museum. Unlike the "tsotskis" in the Museum, the items for sale at the Memorabilia Company were more serious and included many magazines and books, some of which are collector's items. The other articles were quite different from those found across the street.

The most disappointing locale was the Sherlock Holmes Hotel, where I was permitted to purchase a photograph of Sherlock Holmes. I saw no displays and there were no freebies.

For the more completist Sherlockians, I recommend a visit to "The Wallace Collection." Therein, one may view a fair sampling of the works of two artists mentioned in the Canon: Jean-Baptiste Greuze (Moriarty's favorite) and Emile-Jean-Horace Vernet (Sherlock Holmes Great Uncle). Although the full scale works of art are beyond my budget, I was able to purchase four postcards for each artist's work.

Many thanks to Carl for relating his Sherlockian findings to us. Any member who makes Holmesiana discoveries while traveling is encouraged to submit a report to *The Papers*.

Diogenes Meeting in Sarasota on September 12, 1998!

Interested parties should contact members
Charles & Marilyn Amick

for time and place information.

***There will be no COMMUNICATION
mailed before this meeting, so you must
obtain the information on your own!
!!!BE RESPONSIBLE!!!***

The Pleasant Places of Florida

*Founded: 1972
by Leslie Marshall (dec.)*

Recorder Emeritus: Dr. Benton Wood

For the record:

THE LAST COURT OF APPEALS

David McCallister, Master of the House,

Jeff & Wanda Dow, The Papers on the Sundial,

Carl L. Heifetz, Representative both with the Servants and with the Tradespeople,

IF YOU SEE A RED CHECK HERE: . THIS IS YOUR LAST COMMUNICATION! USE
THE RENEWAL FORM INSIDE TO CONTINUE YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

**PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE DATE AFTER YOUR NAME ON THE MAILING LABEL.
THIS IS THE EXPIRATION DATE OF YOUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP.**

**PLEASANT PLACES OF FLORIDA
THE PAPERS ON THE SUNDIAL**

