

Pleasant Places of Florida

[Suggested in The Five Orange Pips]

A Corresponding Scion Society of The Baker Street Irregulars

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TO ONE & ALL OF THE P.P.O.F. -

Compliments of the Season

(BLUE)

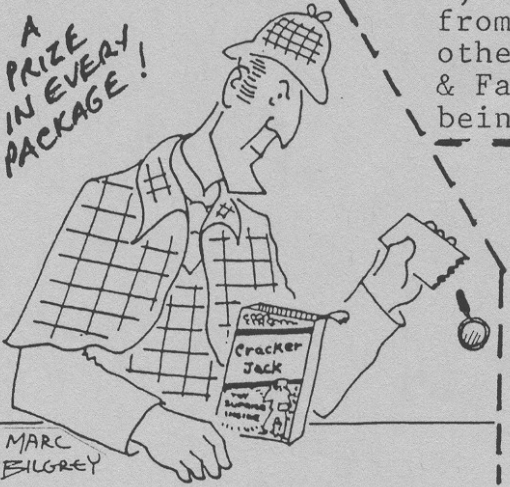


TOM STIX

1. "WE'RE OFF & RUNNING! The 1st Annual "WESSEX CUP" is set for Saturday, 9 February 1991 at Tampa Downs, Oldsmar. This will be the biggest PPoff happening since our Workshop (with John Bennett Shaw, Peter Blau & Ron DeWaal) back in 1980. Our special guest for this exciting equine extravaganza will be Tom Stix (aka "Wiggins") head of the Baker Street Irregulars. Full particulars and Sign-up procedures will be mailed to all PPoffers in a few weeks. **Mark your calendar now!** We'll need a minimum of 25 participants -- so let's all support this unique event.

2. "LUBRICANT for the WHEELS" - that's what Leslie Marshall used to call it. It's time to get our affairs in order. **New Policy:** \$10 dues* for 3 years. This saves your Recorder much time & effort by eliminating a annual dunning. Your "Hamilton" will keep your name, in good standing, on the PPoff rota, you'll receive the "Communication" (10-12 issues per year), a copy of our new "P.P.of F. Roster" booklet (to be published 1 Feb 91); and an official PPoff Membership Card with your PPoff "Investiture". Please return the enclosed yellow Form promptly. My SASE is provided for your convenience - please use it! As Holmes said: "It is simplicity itself..." (* - Only \$6 for each additional name in family)

3. STATE of the SCION REPORT: As we near year's end, the Pleasant Places of Florida's rota includes 47 Resident Members & 37 Non-Resident Members. "Communication"s #95(June), #96(July/Aug), #97(Sept), #98(Oct), #99(Nov), and #100!(Dec) have been issued with a total circulation of 84 (including 1 to Canada). The exchequer (aka "Lubricant for the Wheels") shows a balance, at this printing, of \$228. Funds have been derived from the sale of needlepoint, chapbooks, magnets, and other assorted Holmesian items. The 15th Annual Spring & Fall Gatherings were held, and Scion Reports are now being submitted to the Baker Street Journal.



MARC BILGREY

"PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS?"

One blustery November evening, as the famous Baker Street duo sat before a cheery fire, Watson chanced to ask Holmes about his recent trip to the Continent. "Did you learn any French during your travels?" he queried.

"Why, as a matter of fact, I did," replied the Great Detective. "I discovered the curious expression which describes the effects of a bomb blast in a French kitchen."

"Surely, you must be joking," said a doubting Watson. "Pray tell...what can that expression be?"

"Élémentaire, mon cher Watson. Elle est 'linoleum blownapart'."

Please direct correspondence to: Dr. Benton Wood, BSI - Recorder

Holmes sparking an interest in literature

By Rob Conahan
Staff Writer

It was elementary that Frank Smith and the famous detective Sherlock Holmes would become somehow intertwined.

Its not that Smith is a mysterious person or even a mind for catching criminals, it's just that both have a mind for solving problems. Holmes was famous for solving some of the greatest crimes ever committed. Smith hopefully will come into his own with solving problems of a different kind, literary ones.

Smith is an avid fan of mystery novels and this is evident by his collection of books, films and other trinkets, particularly those of the great detective character Sherlock Holmes, created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle over 100 years ago.

A portion of Smith's collection is currently on display on the St. Pete campus in the M.M. Bennett Library. Smith along with David Czar, who works at the library are members of one of the Florida scions of the famous Baker Street Irregulars. The Baker Street Irregulars are an international fan club named for 221 B Baker Street, residence of Sherlock Homes.

The two full length cases are only a small

part of what Smith has around his home. He estimates the number of pieces at about 500 and its value at \$7,500. Even though most of the individual items are not so rare they cannot be replaced, Smith placed only the empty cases and boxes for many of the items in the display cases.

Smith and Czar both decided that a display for students would be a great idea, and in turn, they approached new Head Librarian, Kim Wolff, about it.

This is not the only time Smith has come up with the idea of a display.

Where he worked at The Oaks Mall in Gainesville there was a tobacco shop called the Briar Patch. Smith recommended an idea to the owner involving some of the Sherlock Holmes books he had found. Smith suggested he sell his items such as pipes, hats, etc., along with offering Sherlock Holmes books.

Smith said he hoped the display would call attention to Doyle's novels as well as to the library itself. There are plans for Smith to move his display to other SPJC campuses and



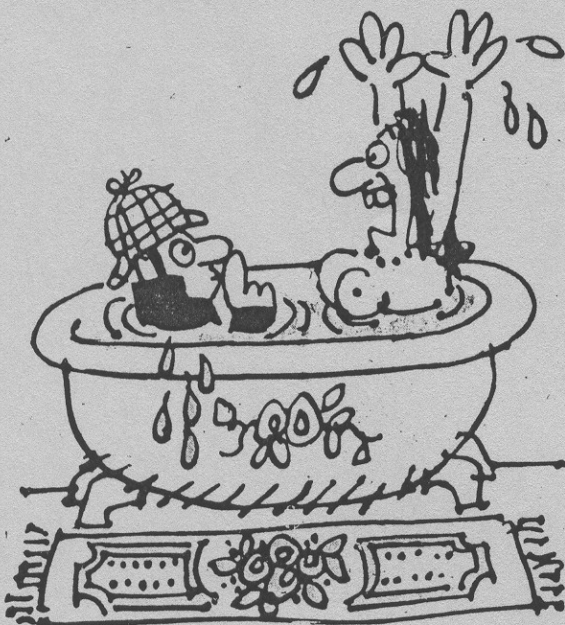
Staff photo by Aaron Bailey

Frank Smith displays his Holmes collection.

for him to display his collection on a yearly basis.

Smith will be guest speaking in several paralegal classes about the techniques and interviewing of Sherlock Holmes. Powers of observation and deduction, the human mind and nature will also be discussed.

MYSTERIES



LOU MYERS

ILLUSTRATION BY LOU MYERS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

No, No, HOLMES — YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE SEARCHING FOR THE BUSTS OF NAPOLEON!

(Au contraire! Holmes is alive & well, and IS REAL AS HE CAN BE!)

SP campus library exhibit a treat for Sherlock Holmes aficionados

"The game is afoot!" at the M.M. Bennett Library on the St. Petersburg campus. During the month of January, the library will host a display detailing the career of Sherlock Holmes, the world's greatest private detective. The Sherlockiana displayed in the lobby showcases is courtesy of Frank Smith, writing lab instructor, and member of Pleasant Places of Florida, the local branch (scion) of the Baker Street Irregulars. So, if your interests lead you to fog-shrouded London streets, the "Napoleon of Crime," "A Speckled Band" and other great mysteries, it would seem elementary to stop by the library in January.

*** ST. PETERSBURG TIMES
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1990

Sent in by
Caroline
EVERETT

Though dead and fictional to boot, Sherlock Holmes was drafted by Pulaski Furniture Corp. The 60-piece "221 Baker Street Collection," is an exercise in English Victorian nostalgia. It includes a carved mantelpiece, a tete-a-tete bench and a settee with a hidden compartment.