



A Publication of the Pleasant Places of Florida

Communication

#201

New Series

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Volume 4 Issue 3

ABOUT HOLMES!

We have a very interesting thing taking place in Florida right now. The good folks at the Disney Institute have seen fit to produce a new play about our beloved detective. The story, according to their website, is classic Holmes: a mystery. A man is savagely beaten and kidnapped. His distraught sister turns to Sherlock Holmes for Help. Ordinarily, a case for Scotland Yard. Except that the kidnapping is the tip of a very dark iceberg. And the sister is the only woman Sherlock Holmes ever loved.

As Holmes follows a bizarre and twisted trail of kidnapping, extortion and murder, he finds himself on the heels of the one man he would give his life to bring down: Professor Moriarty. But Moriarty has been waiting for this chance. And so the game begins, with the city of London as a playing board, its people as innocent pawns, and Sherlock Holmes faced with choices that will test his very soul.

Holmes! is a story that will draw you in when the house lights fade and surround you with the world of Victorian London. Laced with humor, and horror, it will take your breath away and not give it back until the final curtain.

This issue is mainly an informational one. It seems of late that we have been the recipients of endless details to upcoming events Sherlockiana, and so we felt that we should pass it on to you.

One very interesting thing that is going on locally is the production at the Disney Institute in Orlando of a new musical play, Sherlock! We certainly hope that some of our members are able to attend one of the shows and that they will report back to us for the next issue.

The Papers on the Sundial

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PROPOSED SCHEDULE 2000

June 9, 10, 11

Sunshine State Sherlockian Scion
Symposium II

Dolphin Beach Resort
St. Pete Beach

25th Annual Spring Gathering (inclusive)
November 4

25th Annual Fall Gathering
Palm Harbor

Hosts: Carl & Sandie Heifetz
Case: Missing Three-Quarter

The cartoon that appeared last issue of Sherlock posing in an art class was by Nancy Beiman.

To reach the Disney Institute by car:

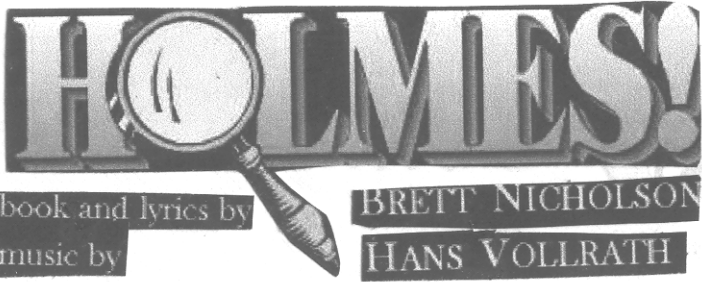
Take Interstate 4 to exit 26B (State Route 536/Epcot®)

Take SR 536 to Disney Institute exit (after Downtown Disney exit)

Go straight, onto Community Drive

Disney Institute will be on your right, past Disney's Old Key West Resort

The security guard at the gate will direct you to parking



It is with great excitement that we announce two performances of **Holmes!** for the public: **May 4 & 5, 2000**, at 8pm at the Disney Institute Performance Center in Orlando, Florida!

Admission is FREE and open to the general public! However, seating is limited and is on a first-come, first-seated basis. Doors open one-half hour before showtime. **Reserved priority seating** is available to guests dining at Seasons Dining Room the day of the performance. For information and reservations, call (407) 938-SHOW.

Following each performance, there will be a talkback session in the Performance Center. Afterward, you are invited to join the writers and cast in The Gathering Place (just a few steps from the theatre), for introductions and conversation.

The **Holmes! Online** website is your ticket to indepth information about the upcoming workshop performances. Meet the creative team, and go behind the scenes as the show comes together. **ONLINE NOW: Join the cast for the first rehearsal!** <www.holmesthemusical.com>

He's Everywhere...

Mr. Bert Courles' first two scripts in a series of five 'apocryphical Holmes cases' are currently being written for the BBC. Four of the five shows, starring Michael Williams and Clive Merrison will be released on tape in 2001... M.J. Trow is at it again with Volume number 10 in the Lestrade Mystery Series, *Lestrade and the Magpie*... Catalogues recently spotted with Holmes/Doyle material can be had from *Adrian Harrington*,

The Mysterious Bookshop, 129 West 56th Street, New York, NY 10019, *Nigel Williams Rare Books*, 22 & 25 Cecil Court, London, WC2N 4HE, *Black Cat Bookshop*, 36-39 Silver Arcade, Leicester SE1 5FB, *Crime In Store*, 14 Bedford Street, London WC2E 9HE, and *Janus Books*, P. O. Box 40787, Tucson, AZ 85717... The recreation of 221B that was in San Francisco is not in the care of Chuck Kovacic in Los Angeles and can be viewed by appointment. Phone or email

... Do you like the statue of Holmes which now stands outside of Baker Street Station? Well, the Nautilus Art Foundry has been commissioned to case another which will stand pointing over the Reichenbach falls.... *Murder Rooms: The Dark Beginnings of Sherlock Holmes* is scheduled to air on *Mystery!* on May 18 & 25 ... *Classic Specialities* is interested in collecting true stories about how Sherlock Holmes has affected the (cont. page 4)

Calendar Sherlockiana

May 5-7 - *Malice Domestic XII* held at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington, D.C. Guest of honor is Simon Brett. Ghost of honor is Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Contact Malice Domestic, Box 31137, Bethesda, MD 20824 or website <www.erols.com/malice>

May 11- 14, 2000 - *Mayhem in the Midlands* - Sponsored by the Omaha Public Library and the Lincoln City Libraries. Cocktail May 11, evening; panels on May 12 and 13; Sunday brunch (and perhaps some other things) on May 14. Registration \$65 (this does not include the brunch) until February 1, 2000 and \$75 after February 1. Omaha Sheraton (402) 342-2222. The conference rate is \$99 (plus taxes) per night 1-2 people. Request the Omaha Public Library Mystery Conference. Contact Jennifer Kirchmann

June 2-4 - *The Second Bimetallic Colloquium* at McGill University in Montreal. Contact The Bimetallic Question,

CANADA

June 9-11 - *Sunshine State Sherlockian Scion Symposium II* (see flyer)

October 27 - 29 - *Magna Cum Murder VII Weekend* at Ball State University in Muncie, IN. Contact Kathryn Kennison, Ball State U., Muncie, IN 47306 for info on one of the midwest's finest mystery author conferences.

September 7-10 - *Bouchercon*. Adam's Mark Hotel, Denver, Colorado. "**High Crimes.**" The oldest and largest annual convention of mystery fans, authors, publishers, book dealers, agents and others. Named for the late author and *NY Times* critic Anthony Boucher. Three-track panel programming, special events, films, book dealers room, signings, reading, cocktail party. Attendees vote for the Anthony Awards, which are announced at the Anthony Banquet. Guest of Honor: Elmore

Leonard; Lifetime Achievement: Jane Langton; Toastmaster: Val McDermid; Fan Guest of Honor: Steve Stilwell. **Registration:** \$100 (will increase later) **Information:** Rebecca Bates, Bouchercon 2000, PO Box 17910, Boulder CO 80308-0910, 303-444- 8410, RWBates560@aol.com <http://www.bouchercon2000.com/>

October 13-15 - *The Mid Atlantic Mystery Book Fair & Convention*. Wyndham Franklin Plaza, Philadelphia, PA. Registration fee is \$125. Friday night Dinner and Reception; a Book Room Private Preview and Sunday "Toast to a Special Guest" Lunch; panels and workshops. Those in the mystery community who would like to be a panel participant are invited to send picture, bio and any suggestions to: Deen Kogan - Mid Atlantic Mystery

November 4 - *25th Annual Fall Gathering of the Pleasant Places of Florida*. Contact Carl Heifetz,

2001 Events

August ? - A 12-day cruise to the Baltic for *The Sherlock Holmes Society of London Golden Jubilee*. Details available from Arena Travel, Freepost 1H 1037, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 7BR, England or <holmes@arenatravel>

November 1-4 - *Bouchercon World Mystery Convention*. Hyatt Regency Crystal City Washington, D.C. The grand-daddy of all mystery conventions, Bouchercon offers four days of varied programming featuring an international array of writers, publishers, critics, booksellers, fans, etc. Author signings, book dealers room, pre-convention Halloween party, Nick and Nora Charles Martini Happy Hour, gala Anthony Awards Banquet among other special events. American Guest of Honor: Sue Grafton; International Guest of Honor: (Cont. page 4)

(cont. from page 3) Peter Lovesey; Toastmaster: Michael Connelly; Fan Guests of Honor: Lew and Nancy Buckingham. <info@bouchercon2001.com> or Bouchercon 2001, P.O. Box 11700, Washington, DC 20008. Also, you can download the registration form at <http://www.bouchercon2001.com>

(cont. from page 2) lives of his modern "fans." Has Holmes influenced anyone's choice of professions or jobs? Has Holmes brought about friendships, associations, or even business relationships? They are particularly interested in any additional accounts (we already have a few) of romances which might have been kindled or nurtured by the participant's joint interest in Sherlock Holmes. Any factual anecdotes? Please e-mail to them at <sherlock@sherlock-holmes.com>. They also have an ambition to assemble a collection of audio tapes containing original materials of a Sherlockian nature. Will you be doing a play or program? Do you have a speaker coming to your meeting with a topic which you feel might be of interest to the Sherlockian Community at large? If so, and it is possible to procure a high quality tape recording, they'd appreciate hearing about it and reviewing the tape for possible future inclusion in our proposed collection ... Kel Richards, that fine Australian author who brought you *Sherlock Holmes and the Curse of the Pharaoh*, *Sherlock Holmes and the Vampire Serpent*, and *Sherlock Holmes and The Headless Monk*. Mr. Richards now brings you his Sherlock Holmes mystery trilogy *Footsteps in the Fog and Other Stories*. Something mysterious lurks beneath the inky waters of Loch Ness where the top secret Bruce-Partington submarine is being tested in *The Waters of Death*. Does Holmes uncover sabotage by spies - or something much more terrifying? In *Footsteps in the Fog*, Colonel

Sebastian Moran has escaped from the prison for the criminally insane! Holmes is on the Colonel's "hit list." The famous Professor Challenger joins forces with Sherlock Holmes to help solve the mysterious "fog murders" on Baker Street! In the third story, *The Wolfman of Dartmoor* find out if there can be any Dartmoor horror worse than the hound of the Baskervilles. Join Holmes and Watson as they battle the man who can become a wolf! 304 pages, colorful coated cover, perfect binding. US\$16.95... A recently released (1999 by Ravenstone/Turnstone Press) book *Chronicles of the Lost Years* by Tracy Cooper turns out to be the 1995 winner of the Sherlock Holmes Society of Western Australia's Best Pastiche Award. The author has a website at <http://www.sashaproducts.com/chronicles.html> ... *Critics Choice Video* is offering (cont. page 5)

For Hungry Irregulars

221B Baker Street is a restaurant located at 10063 Dixie Highway in Clarkston, Michigan, north of I-75. Owners Fran and Ed Avery rehabilitated an atmospheric building and decorated it from their own collection of Sherlockobelia. A large silhouette on the highway beckons the traveler to enter the olde English pub-like structure.

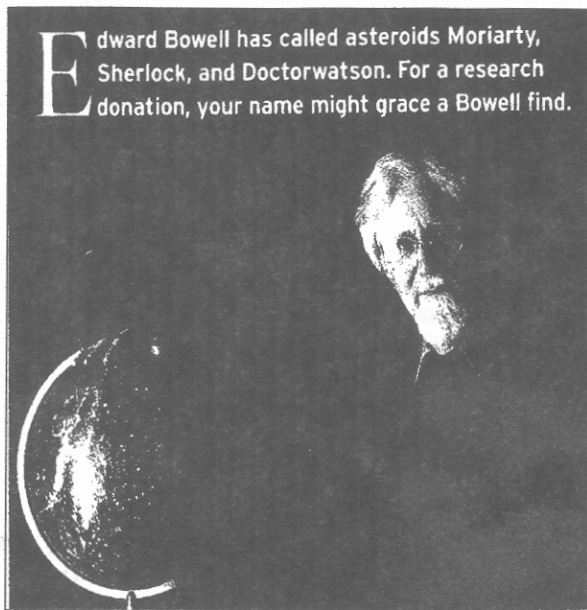
The restaurant has had favorable reviews in several local papers and was recently recommended by Mary Green in the latest *Baker Street Dispatch* (Vol.10 No.2).

She states: "There is a large stained glass window of Holmes, along with framed pictures over the fireplace of Doyle, Rathbone and even the Hound. Various artifacts lend the hungry fan to appetizing and abundant menu items. Calabash pipes and magnifying glasses abound, while Sherlock himself (in miniature) surveys the several pleasant dining areas."

"Ingenuously-named dishes carry out the theme," including Mrs. Hudson's Meat pie.

Sounds like the next best thing to Simpson's on the Strand to road-weary Michiganeans.

(cont. from page 4) John Neville's *A Study in Terror* for \$19.95, George C. Scott's *They Might Be Giants* (98 minutes) for \$14.95 and Claude Rains *The Lost World* for \$10.77. Box 749, Itaska, IL 60143 or call 800-367-7765 ... The film *The Ninth Gate* has been released, but it is reported that it has none of the Canonical echoes from the book, including a woman who calls herself Irene Adler ... The February issue of the *Geotimes* (American Geological Institute, 4220 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302 \$5) has an interesting article by Raymond Murray titled *Devil in the Details: The Science of Forensic Geology* wherein he quotes from the Canon ... One would expect just about anything from *The Howard Stern Show* except mention of Sherlock, but that's just what happened February 10. During a run through some trivia true/false statements, one such statement was "Sherlock Holmes never said, 'Elementary, my dear Watson.'" Both Stern and Robin Quivers quickly said it was true. Quivers identified the Rathbone/Bruce films as the source, followed by Stern saying, "Yeah. He said something else, like 'Hey, Watson,' or something." ... *Hammer Films*, producer of Peter Cushing's *The Hound of the Baskervilles* has been purchased by a private investment consortium which plans to take advantage of Hammer's library of more than 250 film and TV titles by relicensing remake rights as well as expanding the Hammer brand into computer games, merchandising, animation and the Internet (*Hollywood Reporter* 2/8/00) ... The butler did it. In *The Childhood of Sherlock Holmes* by Monica Morstein, the butler tells all about the history of the Holmes family. Galde Press, Box 460, Lakesville, MN 55044 \$28.95 postpaid ... Check out the lapel pins on the right being offered by Classic Specialties. You can order them from their Web Catalog at www.sherlock-holmes.com/lapel-pin.htm.



Edward Bowell has called asteroids Moriarty, Sherlock, and Doctor Watson. For a research donation, your name might grace a Bowell find.

From an article in February, 2000 *Discover* magazine.



Sunshine State Sherlockian Scion Symposium II



Yes, it's back by popular demand! *The Pleasant Places of Florida*, a corresponding Scion of the Baker Street Irregulars, will be having a repeat performance of its highly acclaimed weekend symposium in St. Pete Beach. This time, we are honoring the 25th Anniversary of our first Spring Gathering. This long-anticipated event will take place on June 9-11, 2000, on the shores of St. Pete Beach, Florida, at the beautiful Dolphin Beach Resort.

June 9, 2000, Friday night . . .

Reception and casual get together at 6:00pm in The Stranger's Room, featuring hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar, to meet and greet, play a meeting game, register, get handouts, sing along, and toast Sherlock Holmes. Attendees will receive an assignment to be handed in Saturday.

June 10, 2000, Saturday . . .

From 7:30am to 9:00am a continental breakfast will be supplied free of charge in Mrs. Hudson's Kitchen.

From 9:00am to 5:00pm there will be displays of commercial vendors, member and club sales, handouts, and a silent auction.

From 9:00am to Noon there will be Symposia and individual presentations.

Lunch will be on your own from Noon to 2:00pm. Many will gather across the street at the Three Lions Pub.

From 2:00pm to 5:00pm, there will be Sherlockian presentations, games, videos and music.

From 6:00pm to 7:00pm there will be a Cocktail Gathering (cash bar) at Simpson's, with the silent auction still open for last bids, and a wandering photographer.

From 7:00pm to 11:00pm, there will be the Banquet, held this year to honor the 25th Anniversary of the First Spring Gathering of the Pleasant Places of Florida. Black tie and Victorian garb are optional, but encouraged for this sit down dinner with toasts, quizzes, entertainment, including an original radio play performed live, a sing along, silent auction, favors and reminiscences of the club.

June 11, 2000, Sunday . . .

From 9:00am to Noon, there will be a Dutch treat breakfast gathering at pool side for final presentations, door prizes, awards, light talks and farewells.

Each attendee of the Symposium will receive a souvenir t-shirt upon registration Friday evening or Saturday morning. A souvenir program containing presentations, quizzes, histories of the Pleasant Places of Florida and other Florida scions, and photos will be sent out when completed.

As expected of the more low key West Coast of Florida, there will be more fun and frolic and less, but still plentiful, scholarly discourse. The hotel (only \$62 to \$82 per night) is right on the water, and it will already be warm but not yet really hot. Can you think of a better way to start your summer a few weeks earlier, than by surrounding yourself with both the "Charming climate of Florida" and Sherlockian fellowship?

Already confirmed are:
Presentations by Robert Zuczek, Bob Ennis, Rosemary Michaud and Dr. Charles M. Carroll. The Dow Family Players will be performing A Prairie Holmes Companion, and various short skits. A Sherlockian Jeopardy game designed by David Scott will be played during the day. An original radio play by Mike Bryan will be performed at the banquet.

Attention Dealers! For information on charges for table space in our vendor area, advertisements in our programs, and your logo on our t-shirts, please contact Carl Heifetz,

or email _____, or FAX or phone _____



THE PLEASANT PLACES OF FLORIDA

Registration for the Sunshine State Sherlockian Scion Symposium II

Name _____

Address _____

Phone/Email _____

I am enclosing \$ _____ for:

___ Symposium (\$30.00 per person)

___ Banquet (\$25.00 per person)

(Make checks payable to The Pleasant Places of Florida and mail to Carl Heifetz,

USA. Between 4/22 -5/6, mail to Wanda Dow, USA)

My banquet menu choices are _____ Prime Rib of Beef, Au Jus and/or _____ Chicken Marsala.

Call 800-237-8916 for reservations at the Dolphin Beach Resort at St. Pete Beach, FL. Weekend rates are \$62.00 (Standard Blvd.), \$72.00 (Superior Poolview) and \$82.00 (Deluxe Gulfview). Efficiencies are \$9.00 extra per night. All rooms have two double beds for up to four adults. Tax is 11% and cancellation policy is 72 hours. All reservations must be made and confirmed by May 9, 2000 and you must mention Pleasant Places of Florida, or give the code # G-PLEA.



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.

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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**

