



Communication

#224

New Series

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Volume 6 Issue 6

HAPPY 75TH TO DR. BENTON WOOD, BSI!

(75 DOWN AND 75+ MORE TO GO!)

Hello fellow Pleasant Placers! We hope you've signed up for the Fall Gathering so that our gracious hosts, Dorothy Stix and Carl Heifetz, can make all the necessary arrangements. We are told that our date runs close to the Mexican Day of the Dead celebration, but Dorothy's not talking!

The news has been slow lately. But while this issue is smaller than usual, we've packed it with all the information we could glean from our sources. Plus we're doing a double mailing and sending along a special issue, too. Hope you enjoy them.

Let us not forget that in November, The Great American Teach-In is taking place in schools across the country. We urge you to contact a local school and volunteer to go talk to classes about Sir Arthur

Conan Doyle, Sherlock Holmes, Victorian England, the Boer War, or whatever direction in which your Holmesian interest lies. We've got to catch 'em young! It's not too early to let the schools know you'd be interesting in sharing, well, your interests. I've done this for the past several years and wound up being asked to come back and read *HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES* to the class! Several students went on to read the complete collection of Holmes (and this was 5th grade!). So go and convert, and enjoy!

The Papers on the Sundial

RADIO RETURNS AMERICA

PPoF Members Mike Bryan and Carl Heifetz were videotaped for a Public Access TV show that will appear on Public Access Cable channel 96. The program is *Radui Returns America* and is run by Patrick C. Chouinard. The interview concerned the role of Sherlock Holmes in radio and print.

BOOKS

Karen Wallace is at it again with her Sherlock Hound character in *The Case of the Fiendish Dancing Footsteps*. Get it from Scholastic Children's Books.

Sherlock Holmes and the Running Noose by Donald Thomas is due out in November. It contains 6 tales in which Holmes investigates 'real-life' crimes of his day. Pan Books of London is the publisher.

The ACD Society has published *The Haunted Grange of Goresthorpe*, a story written by Doyle and submitted to *Blackwood's Magazine* which remained in their files until 1942, when the archives were donated to The National Library of Scotland. We are told that the story "with full scholarly apparatus" has now been published in a handsome edition. We are told Calabash Press has copies.

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Sherlockian Calendar

November 2

27th Annual Fall Gathering

Hosts: Dorothy Stix & Carl Heifetz

New Port Richey, FL

Case: *The Red-Headed League*

HE'S EVERYWHERE

From an article titled "Not Out of Africa" in the August, 2002 *Discover* magazine, Anthropologist Alan Thorne has presented a theory that others in his field disagree with. To quote the article: "These days, he draws inspiration from the old Sherlock Holmes maxim: "Once you eliminate the impossible, whatever remains, no matter how improbably, must be the truth." ... If you don't do your own entertaining when you have a party, you can contact Sherlock Holmes Mysteries at <Amazing Magic@talk21.com> They have "Dr. Watson" perform close-up magic with a Sherlock Holmes theme." Looks like a UK exchange ... *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* as read by Douglas Wilmer has been released on 3 double CDs by Penguin Audiobooks ... Remember the *Ellery Queen* magazine article last issue? Well, of course Peter Blau had the answer! He wrote us "Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine did provide an answer to the contest, in the April 1953 issue: the first of nine people to solve the mystery was Mrs. Herbert S. Frisbie of Northbrook, Ill., and "The Three Knocks" was written by Edith MacVane and published in the Dec. 1913 issue of McClure's Magazine ... We recently saw the film *Finding Forrester*. In it, one of the students at a school commiserates

to another that she has to study for a test a professor is giving the following day on all the Sherlock Holmes stories. She mentions that he always asks all sorts of trivia questions, like who first introduced Watson to Holmes, "which more or less forces you to read all the stories." The hero of the film, Jamal, of course comes to the rescue with the reply that it was Stamford who introduced them. . . . Naxos AudioBooks has released *Volume Five, The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* which is available on both CD & cassette. . . . *The Hound of the Baskervilles* as read by Derek Jacobi should be out now, from Cover to Cover Cassettes; as well as a recording from Chivers Audiobooks. . . . We hear of a "splendid artist" from Edinburgh by the name of Charles Hall who is compiling quite a list of collectibles. You can write for a copy of the list at

U.K. We've heard mention of a Holmes, Doyle & fairies piece made of white metal, Sherlock Pig the Farmyard Detective and a Laurel & Hardy as Holmes & Watson. Last word was he was working on miniature wooden jigsaw puzzles actually made with original Sherlockian postage stamps. . . . *Bear & Company* (PO Box 4385, Gettysburg, PA 17325-4384) has a Duke the Detective bear dressed in inverness & (cont. on page 3)



The King Meets The Master
(sung to the tune
"Are You Lonesome
Tonight?")

Do you think it was right
That I woke you tonight
And then told you the game was
afoot?
Should enigmas I break
Be called art for art's sake?
Do you think that they can be so
put?
When I'm harsh on my Boswell,
you are quick to forgive.
You have weaned me from cocaine
so I can still live.
When I've thought out each thread
Till a whole problem's read,
Should I tell you the game is afoot?
-John McDonnell
(sent in by Carl Heifetz from the
Welcome Holmes list. Sung upon
request by Wanda Dow if the
words are available.)

**OKAY ALL YOU DUDES AND
DUETTES OUT THERE!
LET THIS BE AN
INSPIRATION TO YOU!
SEND IN YOUR ORIGINAL
SONG LYRICS TO THE
PAPERS ON THE SUNDIAL!
ALL ENTRIES WILL BE
PUBLISHED AND MEMBERS
WILL VOTE ON THEIR
FAVORITES! WE'LL THINK
OF AN APPROPRIATE
REWARD WHEN THE
VOTING IS TABULATED.**

(cont. from page 2) deerstalker. Accessories available include a book of his first case and a child's detective outfit, complete with Inverness, deerstalker & magnifying glass. . . There's another Internet discussion group out there - *The Wimsical Sherlockians*. You can contact them at <groups.yahoo.com/wimsicalsherlockians> . . . If you're online, you can visit <www.oneact.org> and listen to The One Act Players perform their audio theatre adaptations. You have to register with MP3 (media player), but it's simple to do. . . We hear of a tv movie from England, *Sherlock*. Roger Johnson of *The District Messenger* reports that while it takes a lot of liberties with the Canon, it is nonetheless "exciting, fast-moving and not unintelligent." Locations were filmed in Romania and helped by computer-generated scenery and the costumes were good. . .

2022-2003

Calendar Sherlockiana

October 13-17 - The Society of Forensic Toxicologists will hold a Sherlock Holmes Workshop on the 17th on The Adventure of the Devil's Foot. Five eminent forensic toxicologists will present their opinions on the true identity of Tadix pedis diaboli. Hyatt Regency in Dearborn, MI.

October 17-20 - Bouchercon 33 will be at the Renaissance Austin Hotel in Austin, TX. GOH: Mary Willis Walker. Toastmaster: Sparkle Hayter. Fan GOH: Bill

Crider. Contact 2002 Bouchercon,

October 25-27 - Magna Cum Murder IX Mystery Convention in Muncie, IN at the E.B. Ball Center Call 765-285-8975 or email

November 1-3 Sherlock Holmes Weekend in Cape May, NJ with the mystery, *Sherlock Homes and the Eye of Venus* includes a tour of the town's Victorian homes. Contact Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts, Box 340, Cape May, NJ 08204 or call (800) 275-4278.

November 2 - 27th Annual Fall Gathering of the Pleasant Places of Florida at the home of Dorothy Stix, New Port Richey, FL. Case for study: *The Red-Headed League*. Contact Carl Heifetz,

November 2 - Gasfitters Ball (the ball where Holmes & Watson fraternize with the lower class) presented by the South Pasadena Woman's Club. Contact Jerry Kegley,

or call

January, 2003 - A Sherlock Holmes Celebration is being planned to take place at the Frank Lloyd Wight Civic Center Library in Marin County, CA. Contact Carol Russell by email at carolrussell@ix.netcom.com. They promise "an exciting variety of events and displays"

mainly thanks to the efforts of volunteers from various societies (*The Scowers and Molly Maquires* to name two).

January 10, 2003 - Baskerville Bash 6:30 PM at the wheelchair accessible Manhattan Club, 201 West 52nd Street, NY, NY. Judith Freeman informs us that "The Baskerville Bash Committee is thrilled and delighted to announce that this year's BASH will cost exactly the same as last year's. Not only that, but we've once again reserved the convenient yet cultivated Manhattan Club, the setting of the last several smashingly successful Bashes." It's not too early to make your reservations for 2003. Please note: Make your check payable to Maribeau Briggs Shrawder. Checks made out to The Baskerville Bash Committee will be returned. As before, please mail your check for \$75.00 per person to P.J. Perry,

Include your email address so we can acknowledge receipt of your check. We would also appreciate it if you would let us know the name of scion/organizational affiliation.


Published PPOfers

TOAST TO DR. WATSON by Carl L. Heifetz, presented at the 27th Spring Gathering of the P.P. of F., in Sarasota, Florida, 5/4/02 has been Published in *The Formulary* (The Journal of the Friends of Dr. Watson) No. 12, June 2002, p 29.



"I prescribe this for all Holmesians."

Just What the Doctor Ordered!
(Watson, that is)



SHERLOCKIAN
CALENDAR
Noting Red-Letter Days
2003
Designed & Printed by
Dr. BENTON WOOD, BSI
("A Scandal in Bohemia")
&
recipient of the coveted
"TWO SHILLING" Award

*"The game's afoot; follow your spirit,
and upon this charge, cry - 'God for
Harry, England, and St. George!'"*
[Henry V; Act III, Sc. 1]

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Order Form

Send To: Dr. Ben Wood, BSI

Dear Ben,

Please send me, postpaid, **2003 SHERLOCKIAN CALENDAR**.
Find enclosed my check for \$2.50. (Payable to Benton Wood)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ City

_____ State

_____ Zip



Sherlockian Items for Sale

Offered by: Dr. Benton Wood, BSI



ITEM A. - **"ALL MY LIFE"** - An Autobiography by Leslie Marshall, BSI,
founder of the P.P.of F. and BSI's 1st Chaplain. 46p. .. \$ 5.00

ITEM B. - **"SHERLOCK on STAMPS"** - A Presentation Folder illustrating all
Sherlockian stamps in vivid colour \$ 3.00

ITEM C. - **"PHILATELIC & NUMISMATIC HOLMES"** - Handy reference
guide to Sherlockian Stamps & Coins. Colour Illustrated. .. \$ 15.00

NOTE: All Items Sent POSTPAID. Please make checks payable to: Benton Wood.

27th Annual Fall Gathering of the Pleasant Places of Florida

Come one! Come all! Please fill in the reservation form below if you are planning on attending the 27th Annual Fall Gathering of the Pleasant Places of Florida on November 2. We gather at 11:30 AM at the residence of Dorothy Stix,

in the Heritage Springs Subdivision of the Trinity Development in Pasco County. Directions & a map will be sent to registrants. Lunch at noon. (Thanks to Dorothy Stix & Carl Heifetz!)

Our case this time is *The Red-Headed League*. Please be sure to review it and prepare yourself for David McCallister's Watson and Mycroft quizzes!

Cost is \$8 per person to cover the costs of programme and wine for toasts. Lunch will be from the menu. You may also enclose a donation to the Marshall/Wood Fund in the same check if you so desire. We are requesting volunteers for additional presentations as well as toasts. Please mark the appropriate lines on your reservation form.

Count me in for the **27th Annual Fall Gathering!** I'll be there at 11:30 AM, ready to digest a delicious repast and facts on **The Red-Headed League!**

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone/E-mail _____

_____ I am willing to volunteer for a toast. (Even if you don't, you may be assigned one.)

_____ I desire to make a presentation on _____

I understand that you'll be sending me details on how to get to the meeting place and will let me know if I have an assigned toast.

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ reservations.

I've also enclosed \$ _____ as a donation to the Marshall/Wood Fund.

Mail reservations to: **Carl Heifetz,**
checks payable to same.)

(Make

The Pleasant Places of Florida

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

Recorder Emeritus: Dr. Benton Wood
<BWSCANnu51@aol.com>

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,

Mike Bryan, The Unopened Newspaper,

If you see a red check here , this is your **LAST COMMUNICATION!** To continue your membership, send **US\$12.00 (US/CAN)** or **US\$13.00 (INTL)** to Carl Heifetz,

**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**

