



A Publication of the Pleasant Places of Florida

# Communication

#227

New Series

November/December Issue, 2002

Volume 6 Issue 9

Last issue we received word that some readers are confused concerning authors of this publication. To clear this up, Wanda & Jeff Dow are The Papers on the Sundial. In your regular monthly issues, Wanda is the editor. This means that besides editing any submitted articles for clarity and punctuation, she writes the issue. Anything that does not specifically have a name attached to it, listings, info, corrections, subtitles, etc, has been written by her. In your special issues, such as last month's Special Fall Television Guide, Jeff is the editor. Unless someone has submitted an item that fits in with the special issue, Jeff writes the entire thing. Wanda may have one or two suggestions, but it is usually completely Jeff's fault, er, publication. Although this has been mentioned in past issues, it can be forgotten, misplaced or not known by newcomers, so from now on we will try to remember to give ourselves credit where credit is due, even if we don't want to always admit it. Hope you enjoy this issue.

*The Papers on the Sundial (Wanda Dow)*



FROM AN ARTICLE ABOUT D.C.'S  
SPY MUSEUM, TITLED CAPITAL  
GAINS IN THE 2002 NOV/DEC  
ISSUE OF AAA'S "GOING PLACES"

## 27th Annual Fall Gathering of the Pleasant Places of Florida

It was a lovely fall day for the gathering at the home of Dorothy Stix. members were able to attend. There was a lovely repast of Mexican foods provided by Dorothy, and then we began with our toasts. David McCallister gave a simple toast to The Master, filling in for missing member Robert Simpson. Mike Carroll toasted The Author thusly: *I've always heard that one half of all that we eat keeps us alive and the other half keeps doctors alive. So thanks to all the patients who kept Dr. Watson alive so he could pen the adventures.* Art Walker toasted The Literary Agent: *T'was a poor London agent named Doyle, For a brilliant detective he did toil. By producing great stories Of that detective's own glories, Became a Rich London agent named Doyle.* Wanda Dow toasted The Founder: *Leslie Marshall used to put through our paces, By quizzing us on all sixty cases. Once he got a phrase wrong, But we all went along, And that's why we are now Pleasant Places.* Caroline Everett toasted The Queen by listing various queens: *Queen of Sheba, Queen bee, Queen of the night, Homecoming Queen, The* (cont. on page 2)

(cont. from page 1) *Virgin Queen, Queen of hearts, Queen Mab, Prom Queen, Mary Queen of Scots, Queen of the May, Delta Queen, Dairy Queen, Queen for a day, Queen for 64 years, Mrs. Brown, The Queen!* Ed Van Der Flaes toasted The Woman: *I was confused when asked to toast "The Woman." Did you mean my wife? All the women I have met? Then it was explained that this was the woman adventuress from New Jersey. I realized there are at least two (indicating our hostess). So you can toast to either today.* Maureen Green toasted Jabez Wilson: *I was asked to propose a toast to a character in the canon who, although quite colourful on the outside, was thought to be rather average and commonplace. Well, on close investigation, I found Sherlock Holmes to be quite wrong! While spending weeks on end without putting his foot over the doormat, this character: (1.) managed to hire an employee to work for half wages, and (2) arranged a contract whereby his investment of approximately £2 for bottles of ink, quill pens and foolscap provided 93.75% gross profit. Seems to this accountant to indicate more than a British tradesman who was not an overly bright pawnbroker. Please raise your glass and join me in a toast to one of the "truly bright lights" of the Cannon, Mr. Jabez Wilson.* And Jeff Dow toasted The Fourth Smartest Man in London: *Of royal birth was John Clay, Many schemes*

*and plots he did lay. Such boldness had he, Holmes thought he were three, But settled on the fourth smartest that day. He liked to dig holes, did John Clay, When gold was an avenue away. A league of red he created, Wilson's trap was baited, But Holmes put his plans in disarray. I give you the Peter the Great of Crime - Mr. John Clay!* Donna Vaurio lead the group in *The Musgrave Ritual* and at the end of the meeting, the hostess with the mostest, Dorothy Stix, read Vincent Starrett's *221B*. Carl L. Heifetz, our other host, gave a presentation on

#### **Tunnel Detection in Victorian London**

In the 24th century, if science fiction literature and television programs are useful predictors of future progress, our descendants will be able to use remote sensing devices to scan distant planets. They will be able to detect new life forms, nutrients, energy sources, and just about anything else they are looking for.

Even today, a wide variety of subsurface features and objects can be detected using "Surface Geophysics.". For example, the category identified as "Evaluation of Soil and Rock Properties and Man-Made Structures" includes "mapping of abandoned mines, tunnels, etc." To achieve these objectives, many technical

processes have been utilized: Ground Penetrating Radar, Frequency Domain Electromagnetics, Time Domain Electromagnetics, Very Low Frequency, Resistivity, Spontaneous Potential, Seismic Refraction, Seismic Reflection, Magnetic, Metal Detector, Gravity, Thermal, and Radiometric.

A noted Sherlockian geologist suggests that geoseismology and geomagnetic processes would be the best methods to locate tunnels. "Geoseismology involves generating sound waves that reflect back from underground strata. Geomagnetic work involves using fluctuations in the earth's magnetic field to help figure out what's deep underground."

The details of these methods will not be pursued further. They are both beyond the scope of this thesis and the technical expertise of the author. Suffice it to say that tunnels are very easily found using the technical skills currently at our disposal in the hands of people who know how to apply them.

But what has all of this to do with Sherlock Holmes? The answer to this rhetorical question jumps clearly to the mind of the experienced Sherlockian. In August 1891, readers of *The Strand* magazine were thrilled to learn that Sherlock Holmes had thwarted a daring (cont. on page 3)

(cont. from page 2) robbery of 30,000 napoleons in French gold from the Coburg Branch of the City and Suburban Bank. To accomplish this feat, Mr. Holmes needed to detect the presence of a tunnel running from the rear end of the cellar of Mr. Jabez Wilson's pawn shop to the vaults of the bank on the street behind the shop. Lacking the technological assists that are quite available today, just how did he accomplish this?

The answer, of course, resides in the fact that Mr. Holmes was a trained research scientist. As I have pointed out previously, he uses the "method of scientists" to guide his facility for observation, deduction, and hypothesis building and testing. The only "scientific instrument" at his disposal was a stout walking stick able to withstand being "thumped vigorously upon the pavement."

Let us summarize the various pieces of information that led Mr. Holmes to his scientifically valid conclusion that a tunnel was being dug from the back of the pawn shop cellar to the bank vault. The first inkling came in his interview with Mr. Wilson. Mr. Holmes easily saw through the ruse of the "Red-Headed League." He realized that this scenario was merely a clever means of removing Mr. Wilson from his place of business for long periods of time to accommodate a crime therein. The fact that this event followed shortly after the hire of a bright young man, Vincent Spaulding, for a much lower salary than the going rate, convinced Mr.

Holmes that this was the man who had plans to use the premises in Mr. Wilson's absence. Mr. Wilson's investigations, after being notified that "The Red-Headed League is dissolved," supplied the information that it was a bogus group that no one had ever heard of Mr. Wilson's description of this young man, especially the "white splash of acid upon his forehead," and the fact that "his ears were pierced for earrings" signaled that a major criminal event was being planned by the "fourth smartest man in London" and the third most daring, John Clay. Spaulding's apparent penchant for photography, and the fact that he was forever "diving down into the cellar like a rabbit into its hole to develop his pictures" convinced Mr. Holmes that a subterranean crime was about to ensue.

One more clue was all that was required for Mr. Holmes to deduce that a tunnel was involved. Upon visiting Mr. Jabez's place of occupation, Mr. Holmes observed that the knees of Mr. Spaulding's trousers were dirty, indicating that he had been digging. Thus, he was likely to be excavating for a tunnel. Since Jabez Wilson had never mentioned buried treasure and had not himself been digging for it, Mr. Holmes was convinced that tunnel hypothesis was correct. The recent closure of the Red-Headed League indicated that the crime was going to be committed very soon. After that weekend, no one cared if Jabez Wilson returned to his shop during the day or not.

But where did the tunnel lead? Did it lead forward or towards the back? Using his only scientific device, Sherlock Holmes used his stick to pound the pavement looking for signs of hollowness to locate the cellar, the starting point for the dig. Seeing that the cellar was not forward of the shop, Holmes led Watson around the corner to the street immediately behind the pawnshop, the prosperous Saxe-Coburg Square. There it was! The only logical target for all of the effort put forth by the criminals was directly in line with the rear of the pawnshop - the Coburg Branch of the City and Suburban Bank. Somewhere in the underground recesses of that financial institution was a fortune worthy of the planning, cost, and immense effort put forth by the thieves.

The scene was set for the test of hypothesis - to wit, a pair of daring and intelligent criminals were burrowing under the earth, from the pawnshop cellar to the bank vault to obtain vast riches. We are all familiar with the exciting events of that evening as the *partie carree* waited silently in the dark. The emergence of John Clay through a hole in the ground into the bank's vault, provided strong support for Mr. Holmes' (cont. on page 4)

(cont. from page 3) hypothesis. Again, Mr. Holmes had utilized the "method of Scientists" to neatly solve a criminal case. .

1 Surface Geophysics by Technos Inc (Internet address: <http://www.technos-inc.com/Surface.html>)

2 Finding Caves & Tunnels, personal e-mail communication with Peter E. Blau, Oct. 12, 2002.

3 Doyle, A. C. "The Red-Headed League" In: *The Complete Sherlock Holmes* by Arthur Conan Doyle, with a preface by Christopher Morley, Doubleday and Company, Garden City, New York, single volume, 1988, p176.

4 Heifetz, C. L. 1997. Staying Focused. *Communication* (a publication of the Pleasant Places of Florida), No.173 New Series, Volume I, Issue 5, pages 3-4; Heifetz, C.L. 1998. The Scientific Detective Solves the Sign of Four. *The Wigmore Street Post Office*, Issue Number II, Spring 1998, p 3-9; Heifetz, C.L. 1998. A Study in Scarlet Yields to the Methods of Sherlock Holmes, Scientist. *The Wigmore Street Post Office*, Issue Number 12, Summer 1998, p 18-21,24; Heifetz, C. L. Sherlock Holmes Crosses a Thor Bridge to Scientific Inspiration. *Holmes & Watson Report*, Vol.3, No.4, September 1999, p 13-15; Heifetz, C. L. A "Second Stain" Saves the Day. *Holmes & Watson Report*, Vol.3, No.6, January 2000, p 36-9; Heifetz, C. L. Keep Digging until You Find it. *Holmes & Watson Report* Vol.6, No.3, July 2002, p27-31.

David McCallister presented *John Clay - Rehabilitation of a Master-mind*. Michael Bryan presented *Pawnbrokers in Holmes' London*. The Dow Family Players did a PBS version of *The Red-Headed League*.

**This is the Dow Family Players version of what would happen if PBS decided to make a children's show based on Sherlock Holmes, specifically, The Red-Headed League.**

ANNOUNCER: *The Red-Headed League* is made possible by grants from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundation, the P-U Charitable Trust, the Lucille Ball Endowment, and the Carrot-Top Philanthropic Society.

ANNOUNCER: Hey, kids, it's time for the Red-Headed League!

#### SONG

(Same tune as *Big Comfy Couch*)

Are you ready? Are you ready?

Are you ready for the Red-Headed League?

With Jabez and Watson  
And Holmes and his dachshund  
In the Red-Headed League.  
We'll do tricks and we'll jump  
around.

We'll solve a couple cases and  
arrest a clown.

We'll wiggle and we'll wriggle  
and chase away your frown  
Are you ready? Are you ready?  
Are you ready for the Red-  
Headed League?

We just need a half-hour  
To show our laugh-power  
In the Red-Headed League.

WILSON: Hello and welcome.  
I'm Jabez Wilson and we have all  
sorts of fun planned for you.

FLIP: Chris gonna find Ray  
Charles.

WILSON: That's my brother Flip  
and we'll be hearing from him a  
little later in the show. But first,  
here's my good friend Dr.  
Watson.

WATSON (ala Mr. Rogers): It's  
a beautiful day here in Rojo  
Corners. Well, look, here's the  
telephone man. Hello, telephone

man.

CARROT-TOP: Dial 1-800-  
CALL-ATT. It's cheap for them  
and—

WATSON: My, aren't you the  
obnoxious one. (he pulls out his  
revolver and kills Carrot-Top.  
Looks at gun before putting it  
away.) I wondered why Mr.  
Holmes told me to bring my Army  
revolver. Can you say revolver? I  
thought you could. Well now, I  
want to remind all our viewers that  
I am not taking a seven percent  
solution of anything. I'm high on  
Cardogan Sweaters. Sure. (the  
doorbell rings) Who can that be?  
Oh, it's Mr. Holmes. Hello, Mr.  
Holmes.

HOLMES: Hello, Dr. Watson. A  
pleasure to see you today.

WATSON: Why thank you. It's a  
pleasure to have you come visit.  
What sort of a case are you working  
on today?

HOLMES: Well, if you must know,  
Elmo is missing.

WATSON: Oh dear.

HOLMES: Yes, and the evidence  
points overwhelmingly to either  
Grover or Oscar.

WATSON: Really? Now why is  
Grover a suspect?

HOLMES: It is a well-known fact  
that Grover and Elmo have not  
gotten along well over the last few  
years.

WATSON: Really?

HOLMES: Yes, Grover was  
insanely jealous about the Tickle  
Me Elmo doll from a few years ago.  
I even broke into Charles Augustus  
Milverton's apartment and found  
several threaten- (cont. on page 5)

(cont. from page 4) ing letters that Grover wrote but never sent.

WATSON: Uh-huh. You know, that's a very good idea. When you get mad at your friends, what do you do? Grover wrote letters about how he felt. He never sent them, though. No. Mr. Milverton took those letters. That wasn't very neighborly. Why do you think he took them? Do you think that maybe he was trying to help Grover? Maybe he wanted to make sure that the letters were never sent. Uh-huh. What would you do with the letters?

HOLMES: Actually, I don't think that was Milverton's intention. As for suspecting Oscar, he hates everyone, so he is always a suspect.

WATSON: Sure. I see. Well, how is your dog, Lestrade?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

WATSON: Just fine, I can see.

WILSON: Mr. Holmes, I was wondering if you would have the time to look into a matter about an assistant I have. A Mr. Spaulding.

HOLMES: Let me get this straight. Your name's Wilson and your assistant is Spaulding?

WILSON: Why yes, that's correct.

HOLMES: So who's your maid? Adidas? Who's your gardener? Nike?

WATSON: That's very funny Mr. Holmes. Isn't that funny, Mr. Wilson? Let's take a little break, shall we? (he waves in another person and talks to audience) While we're gone, our

new neighbor Uncle John Clay is going to visit for a while. Okay? Okay.

(Holmes, Watson and Wilson exit)

CLAY: Hello, loves. Glad I could join you. I hope we can be friends. Hey, while the three musketeers are out, what say we have us a little party, huh? Just you and me, huh, 'cause that's all we really need, don't you think? Just us. Just us friends. Just us good friends. You know what good friends do, don't you? They help one another, don't they? You know what else friends do?

Friends also keep secrets, eh? So, this will be our little secret, eh? I want you to go into your mummy's purse, or your dad's wallet. Take out a dollar—just one, eh? Wouldn't want to be too greedy, would we now? Just one dollar. Put it in an envelope and send it to Uncle John Clay, care of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, P.O. Box 33546, New York, New York, 10017. And write Confidential on the envelope. That's C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L. Confidential. That means that this is just between you and I. Let's keep this a secret, 'cause that's what friends do. And guess what? Uncle John just taught you a new word, eh?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

CLAY: Hello there, Lestrade. How's my favorite dachshund?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

CLAY: What's the matter, there, girl?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

CLAY: Hey, stop clowning around there. What's the problem?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

CLAY: What the bloody hell is the matter with this dog?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

CLAY: Get away from me, you mangy little twirp.

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

WILSON: What's going on, Lestrade?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

WILSON: Mr. Holmes, your dog is trying to tell me something.

HOLMES: She is? What is it, girl?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark. Bark. Bark.

HOLMES: He is?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

HOLMES: You don't say? Mr. Clay?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

HOLMES: You do have supersensitive hearing, don't you, girl?

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

WATSON: What is it, Mr. Holmes?

HOLMES: Lestrade here tells me that Mr. Clay is extorting money from the children.

CLAY: What? Now, how would I be doing that? Your dog, just like you, has gone daft.

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

WILSON: Hey, wait a minute! His name's not Uncle John Clay! He's Spaulding, my assistant!

HOLMES: Lestrade is never wrong. You, sir, are coming with me.

CLAY: Get your bloody hands off my suit. I'm royalty, you know.

(cont. on page 6)

(cont. from page 5)

HOLMES: Come along.

LESTRADE: Bark. Bark.

WILSON: Well, I guess we'll be getting a new neighbor, won't we? See you next time on The Red-Headed League.

(SONG) Are you ready? Are you ready?

Are you ready for the Red-Headed League?

We'll solve a new case if you get in our face

On the Red-Headed League.

Lestrade's on the trail and he won't slow down

He won't stop running 'til he gets the clown.

We'll wiggle and we'll giggle and chase away your frown.

Are you ready? Are you ready?

Are you ready for the Red-Headed League.

With Jabez and Watson

And Holmes and his dachshund,  
On the Red-Headed League.

**Wilson: Jeff Dow**

**Watson: Culver Dow**

**Holmes: Wanda Dow**

**Uncle John Clay: Jeff Dow**

**Lestrade: Elizabeth Dow**

**Writers: Jeff & Wanda Dow**

For those of you who would like to test your knowledge, the following are David McCallister quizzes:

#### **Watson Level Quiz**

1. Name or describe a woman mentioned in REDH.
2. Name the members of the partie carre.
3. How did Spaulding bring the League to Wilson's attention?
4. Name three different animals

mentioned in the adventure.

5. How long did Jabez Wilson work for the Red-Headed League?

6. How many pipes does Holmes intend to smoke while contemplating Wilson's story?

7. What book does Wilson have to copy as his work for the League?

8. What does Mr. Merryweather normally do on a Saturday night?

9. What was Vincent Spaulding's hobby?

10. What rank was John Clay for smartness in London? For daring?

11. Who was John Clay's grandfather? Where did he (Clay) go to school?

12. How many Napoleons were at the bank?

13. What does Holmes want to observe when he goes to meet Spaulding?

14. What sort of restaurant was next to the City and Surburban Bank?

15. Name two types of coins mentioned in this adventure.

16. How many policemen did Jones have on hand to guard the front door?

17. What items did Clay bring with him to the cellar?

18. Who was Archie?

19. Where would Clay be known to crack a crib? Raise money to build an orphanage?

20. Peter Jones remarks on Holmes involvement in the ?? murder and the ?? treasure.

#### **Mycroft Level Quiz**

1. Name two other adventures

mentioned in REDH.

2. Name three tints of red head mentioned in REDH

3. Name three types of dogs mentioned in REDH

4. What was the nearest underground station to the bank?

5. In what newspaper and when did the advertisement of the Red-Headed League appear?

6. Quote one phrase in Latin found in REDH.

7. Quote two phrases in French found in REDH.

8. How much did Jabez Wilson earn from the Red-Headed League?

9. What type of pipe does Holmes smoke while contemplating Wilson's story?

10. How many doors or gates did Holmes's party have to go through to get to the cellar of the bank?

11. How many Saturday nights in a row did Mr. Merryweather have his rubber?

12. Name three subjects in the letter A that Mr. Wilson had copied.

13. By what other names was Duncan Ross known? Vincent Spaulding?

14. Name three items of jewelry that Wilson wore to Baker Street.

15. What was Inspector Jones's opinion of Holmes? Holmes's of Jones?

16. How many crates of French gold were there?

17. How does one get from Wilson's Pawn Shop to the Strand?

18. Name three businesses on the same block with the C&S Bank.

19. To what artist, what instrument, what music, and in what location did Holmes (cont. on page 7)

(cont. from page 6) listen in this adventure?

20. Where was Watson living at the time of this adventure?

Before the festivities officially closed, Wanda Dow requested submissions of various words (nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, etc.) to fill in a Sherlockian *Mad Lib*. For those of you unfamiliar with this "game," an article of writing is taken and various words from the article are removed. Requests for replacements are made, with the giver only aware of the type of word that is needed, such as a noun. Herewith is the completed Sherlockian *Mad Lib*:

Here sink together still two atmosphere's of note, Who never (were) gone and so can never run. How very terrible they seem, yet how loving That Jurassic era before the world went all spritely. But still the toilet's afoot for those with torsos Attuned to catch the distant mooing. Venezuela is Burma yet, for all our fears Only those things the toe believes are true. A mournful dog swirls past the el As head drinks upon this red street: A hairy hansom splashes through the clock, The beautiful gas lamps jump at seventeen feet. Here, though the delineation jumps, these two survive, And it is always the 12th of September.

Brings a tear to the eye, doesn't it?

**ADDRESS CHANGES**

Zuczek, Bob & Holly,

**BASKERVILLE BASH INFO**

Now would be a good time to make your reservations for the Baskerville Bash. Please make your check payable to Maribeau Briggs Shrawder. No checks can be accepted that are made out to The Baskerville Bash Committee; they will be returned. Please mail your check for \$75.00 per person to P.J. Perry,

And, as before, please 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 your scion/organizational affiliation.

This year's BASH takes place on January 10, 2003, at 6:30 PM at the Manhattan Club, located at 201 West 52nd Street (between 7th Av. & Broadway), New York, NY. It is wheelchair accessible.

The Dr. John H. Watson Fund offers financial assistance to all Sherlockians (membership in the BSI is not required) who might otherwise not be able to participate in the weekend's festivities. A carefully pseudonymous John H. Watson presides over the fund and welcomes contributions, which may be made by check payable to John H. Watson and sent (without return address on the envelope) to Dr. Watson, care of The Baker Street Irregulars, at

Your letters are forwarded unopened, and Dr.

Watson will acknowledge your generosity. Requests for assistance may also be mailed to Dr. Watson at the same address.

**Sherlock Holmes in Chicago  
by Joe Fink (via *Pound Notes*)**

One of the most intriguing mysteries in the canon is the whereabouts of Sherlock Holmes during his stay in Chicago when he was engaged in the Von Bork affair noted in his "Last Bow." Recently I made a trip to the windy city to visit its celebrated stockyards. This visit was in order to do research in preparation for the writing of my Mangus opus entitled "An Illustrated History of Corned Beef Consumption in the United States."

It was then that I made an astonishing discovery that may shed some light on this mystery.

Acting upon a tip from a former student of mine Dominic David Dill, heir to the Dill pickle fortune, I visited a notorious delicatessen on the south side of Chicago that promoted itself as providing the best pickled corned beef east of the Mississippi. Curiously the owner of the establishment was named Adolph Altamont. He claimed to be a descendent of a gifted corned beef chemist who was celebrated for his recipe of vinegar and honey as an additive to achieve the perfect pickled corned beef. When asked to describe his grandfather, Adolph said he was about six feet tall, had a hooked nose, raised bees and played the violin. This man of mystery (cont. on page 8)

(cont. from page 7) was considered an eccentric who was given to musical sprees on his instrument. Oddly he produced his own honey from dancing bees who excreted a superior product after gyrating, rhythmically, to their masters accompaniment. Mysteriously he disappeared from Chicago just prior to World War I and was never heard from again. Although this character seems to fit the description of Sherlock Holmes making such a blatant assumption is impure conjecture.

**CALENDAR SHERLOCKIANA**

**December 29, 2002 - Blue Carbuncle Luncheon** at An American Bistro in Crestwood, NY by The Three Garridebs of Westchester County scion.

**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

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 9, 2003 - Christopher Morely Walk** begins the festivities for Sherlock's 149th birthday celebration in NY, NY. At 9:00 AM at the Hotel Algonquin, Jim Cox will lead the walk which ends with lunch at McSorley's. THE BSI Distinguished Speaker (Douglas G. Greene - *John Dickson Carr: The Man Who Explained Miracles, Detection by Gaslight*) Lecture begins at 6:15 PM on the 6th floor of the Williams Club, 24 E 39th St. Reserve early - \$10. Contact Mike

Whelan (see below)

**January 10, 2003 - Martha Hudson Breakfast** will be from 7-10 AM in the Oak Room or the Hotel Algonquin, 59 W 44th St.; \$17 Reservation form from Mike Whelan,

Due by 12/15. **The William Gillette Memorial Luncheon** starts at noon at Moran's Chelsea Seafood Restaurant, 146 10th Ave at 19th St.; \$37 to Susan Rice, 125 Washington Place #2-E, NY, NY 10014). Otto Penzler will hold his traditional open house from 11 AM to 5 PM at **The Mysterious Bookshop**, 129 W 56th St. and **The Baker Street Irregulars** will begin their dinner at 6 PM at the Union League Club, 38th E 87th St #4-A.

**January 10, 2003 - Baskerville Bash** 6:30 PM at the wheelchair accessible Manhattan Club, 201 West 52nd Street, NY, NY. (see info on page 7)

**January 11, 2003 -** A wide variety of Sherlockiana will be offered in the dealer's room at the Algonquin's 2nd floor, the Clients of Adrian Mulliner will hold their Junio Bloodstain gathering in the lobby at 12:30 PM. Let Anne Cotton

know if you plan to attend. **The BSI annual reception** (open to all) will be from 2:30-5:30 PM at the National Arts Club, 15 Gramercy Park \$45 (until 12/15, then \$55)

**January 12, 2003 - The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes** will hold an informal brunch at 11:30 AM at the Baker Street restaurant, 1152 1st Ave., reservations to Marina Stajic,

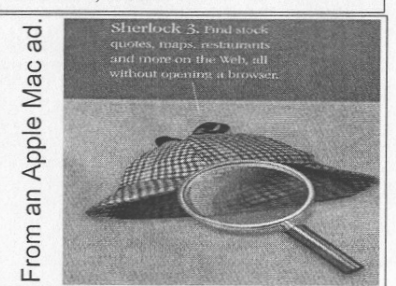
**Due to the decreasing number of participants, there will be no PPOF birthday gathering for 2003.**

**June 18 - July 20, 2003 - The Sign of the Four**, a new dramatization by Dr. Shanghai Low is being produced at the Appletree Theater in Highland Park, IL. The box office address is 595 Elm Place, Highland Place, IL 60035 or call 847-437-4335.

**October 11-13, 2003 - Gaslight and Fog**, an autumnal weekend of Sherlockian fun and frolic at the Nevele Grande Hotel in Ellenville, NY, arranged by The Sign of the Four. You can reach Ron Fish (1 of the 4) at or call

The eccentric genius is especially familiar to readers of detective fiction, in which such titans as Sherlock Holmes and Nero Wolfe best their plodding competitors by sheer force of mind and gift for idiosyncrasy. Holmes, with his pipe, his violin, his cocaine habit, his melancholy, his diverse and erudite publications (topics from motets to shag tobacco, from the ancient Cornish language to bee culture), his avoidance of women, and his disdain for ordinary police work, is a classic embodiment of the genius, as is Wolfe, a portly polymath, didact, gourmand, beer drinker, and orchid fancier, who also avoids women and ordinary investigative methods of the police. "I have no talents," Wolfe declares with customary insouciance. "I have genius or nothing."

From the article *Our Genius Problem* by Marjorie Garber in *Atlantic Monthly*, December, 2002.





## NEW SHOWS

by David McCallister

It was brought to our attention that we completely missed some satellite/cable shows coming up. So here's a supplement to Issue No. 225.

### DISNEY CHANNEL

7:00-7:30 PM Brother/Brother - The Sholto Twins: Tad and Bart, separated at birth, are reunited to grow up in Pondicherry Lodge. The scamps get up to mischief as they dig up the grounds in their endless rounds of "trench warfare."

### THE CARTOON CHANNEL

5:00-5:30 PM Jim, Jimm, and Jimmy - The Moriarty boys, all named James, terrorize the neighborhood with their wild antics. The only thing they fear is the Cushing Gang of three weird sisters.

12:30-1:00 PM Anemone Cy RADIUS Pants - Sidney "Cy" Capillata and his pal "Rad" Pedis Diaboli have wacky adventures on the seashore - at Holmes Beach, FL, naturally.

Daily "Toonamie" 4:00-6:00 PM Baritsu-2210 - Crazy Japanimation characters in a future dystopian London use martial arts to defeat a series of alien Red-Leeches and other worms unknown to science in the colossal schemes of Baron Maupertius.

Sunday Night "Adult Swim"

11:30 PM - Midnight Calculus

Bebop - Japanese Anime neo-noir

series: The plane pain of the ecliptic is set against the angst of algebra; and the sun revolves around the earth. Translation by Melas, Inc.

### CINEMAX

11:00 PM - 1:00 AM Friday Night Fun Features - New and ground-breaking R-rated movies such as *The Man with the Twisted Zip*, *Tie Me Up-Tie Me Down at the Abbey Grange*, *Prof. Challenger's Lust World*, and *Mrs. St. Clair Models Mouseline*.

### COMEDY CHANNEL

12:00 - 12:30 PM Win Jabez Wilson's Money - Dead pan comedian, pundit, and wit Jabez Wilson hosts this wide-ranging game show and defends his own weekly income. Questions are only allowed with answers starting with the letter "A."

### ANIMAL PLANET

Ichneumon Hunter - Hank Wood, with this buddy Teddy the Mongoose, hosts trips to exotic locales to meet baboons, swamp adders, tigers, giant rats, etc. There's a thrill a minute as he twists and turns his way out of danger every episode.

### SHOWTIME: Showbox

8:00-10:00 PM In the Ring with Dixie - Matches starring Dixie Stevens taking on all comers. Featured bouts with Roaring Jack Woodley and Sam Merton.

### USA NETWORK

7:30-8:00 PM The Nanny from Notting Hill - Fiery red-head Violet Hunter wears the same

blue dress in every episode as she introduces her London ways to the bucolic Hampshire household of J.R. Rucastle and his insecticidal son.

### SCI FI NETWORK

10:00-11:00 PM The Sussex Vampire Chronicles - A series opening with "A Scandal in Anemia," followed by "Sucks in the City." Starring Catherine Zeta-Jones and Brad Pitt as Mr. & Mrs. Ferguson.

### BBC AMERICA

9:00-10:00 PM Dr. Who's Wife Is it Anyway? - A series of different avatars of the immortal J.H. Watson marry various women, featuring humorous improv sketches.

### GAMESHOW NETWORK

6:00-6:30 PM Pin the Tail on the Carcass - Contestants try their skill at harpooning a variety of items to the wall in an attempt to win stock certificates. Host Black Jim Carey and his alter ego Jim Browner, as Mr, Myself, and Irene ... Adler as the letter-turner.

### MSNBC

Sunday Noon-1:00 PM Threadneedle Street Week - An update on the week's financial activities from Hall Pycroft. Sponsored by the Credit Lyonnais.

### Sherlock Holmes, FRSC

The Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry has awarded Holmes in recognition of his pioneering use of forensic science. It is the first award given to a "fictional" character by a society that usually recognises Nobel Laureates and distinguished academics.

**The Pleasant Places of Florida**

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