



2009

Communication No. 290/291

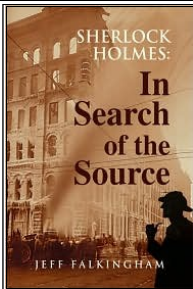
The Pleasant Places of Florida

From the Sundial...Time has just been flying by on me. No sooner than I had #290 done, things occurred preventing me from getting to the printer, then the Spring Gathering came up, vacations, obligations...well, you know. At any rate, rather than send out two issues (I try to work on them simultaneously), I decided to combine these two into one. Hope you enjoy.



<http://paradise-mysteries.blogspot.com/2008/11/faces-of-crime-fiction.html>

This wonderful cartoon is on the front page of *Swedish Crime Writers' Academy* (Svenska Deckarakademin). Do you recognise all of these famous sleuths? **Back row from the left:** Lord Peter Wimsey, Gideon Fell, Jules Maigret, Sherlock Holmes, Charlie Chan, Ellery Queen **Front row from the left:** Jane Marple, Father Brown, Auguste Dupin (Edgar Allan Poe), Hercule Poirot, Nero Wolfe



Sherlock Holmes: In Search of the Source

Type of material: Trade Paperback Publisher: Xlibris Corporation Year: 2009 Author: Jeff Falkingham Price: \$19.99

This is the author's second Sherlockian pastiche. The earlier book, "Sherlock Holmes and the County Courthouse Caper," was set in rural

Minnesota in the 1880s while this one is set in St. Paul, in 1896.

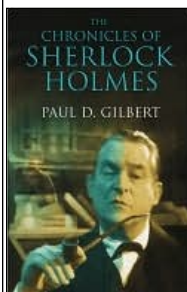
While I found the earlier book interesting, this second novel is a distinct improvement. Once the reader grows accustomed to Holmes' presence in St. Paul and to the absence of Dr. Watson, the entire situation becomes much more comfortable. The earlier book had something of an adventure story about it while this one feels like a normal, urban Sherlock Holmes case. The

author has included a good deal of historical fact and a number of historical characters in the narrative and Holmes seems to absorb the history and the background quickly and thoroughly, yet he remains always an English outsider, detached, observant and analytical.

It is quite odd to find Holmes at ease with a foreign environment, yet it is also natural, given his professional detachment and his observer's view of the world. He always seems to accept the society around him at face value and to see the current situation as a modestly interesting example of Genus Homo in action. The author has perfectly captured this aspect of Holmes so that he never seems appalled, affronted or shocked by behavior, but rather mildly curious and interested in this particular set of eccentricities. His investigation is careful, thorough and conducted with as much cooperation with the local police as can be managed.

The historical characters that wander through the book are true-to-life without being idealized. Their achievements come along with their oddities and even the several fictional characters seem as alive and as real as the historical ones. The mystery is well constructed and not easily solved while the characters are interesting and have a reality about them that is rare in a Sherlockian pastiche.

Reviewed by: Philip K. Jones, April, 2009.



The Chronicles of Sherlock Holmes

Type of material: Hard Cover Publisher: Robert Hale, London Year: 2008 Author: Paul D. Gilbert Price: \$24.95

This is the author's second collection of Sherlockian tales. His first, "The Lost Files of Sherlock Holmes," is difficult to find at any reasonable price and I have not been able to acquire a copy. The present collection contains seven tales, each based on one of the Untold Tales mentioned in the Canon.

The first tale is a novella titled "Baron Maupertuis." This case is tied in with the final case in the author's earlier collection and involves an attempt on the life of Mycroft as well as a confidence game by the Baron in the title. It is probably the least satisfactory tale in the collection.(cont. on page 2)



(cont. from page 1) The second tale is a short story titled "The Remarkable Disappearance of James Phillimore." This is probably the most sensible and realistic explanation for this untold conundrum that has seen print. That includes thirty one of the thirty seven versions listed in the database of Sherlockian pastiches, parodies and related fiction.

"The Affair of the Aluminum Crutch" is another short story, but it is, sadly, unsatisfactory. There is little or no feeling in the tale that one is watching The Master at work. "The Adventure of the Abominable Wife" is another novella. It is sad and depressing, but it does have the 'feel' of Canonical tale. "The Adventure of the Cutter Alicia" is a novella that is well crafted and ingenious. It is probably the best tale in the book. "The Adventure of the Red Leech" is another novella that is depressing, but reasonably well written. It certainly is worth reading and inventive. "The Mystery of the Mumbling Duelist" is the final tale, another sad novella, with some interesting characters and plot twists. In common with the other stories in the book, it does not provide the reader with any "warm fuzzies." The general impression of the book is that life in Late 19th Century England was hard and sad, which is not necessarily wrong, but is also not really pleasing to those looking back at "The Golden Age of Gaslight."

The language of the book is English, which is remarkable as so few writers seem to be famil-

iar with that obscure tongue these days. I was not even able to find any split infinitives or American slang usage, a serious deficiency in modern writing, or so I am told.

Reviewed by: Philip K. Jones, April, 2009.

NEWS FROM THE BEACON SOCIETY

COLUMBIA, MD. — Anyone who turns to Sherlock Holmes to guide young people toward good literature is wise and fortunate. The magic of the great detective and his mysterious world often can turn young minds into passionate readers.

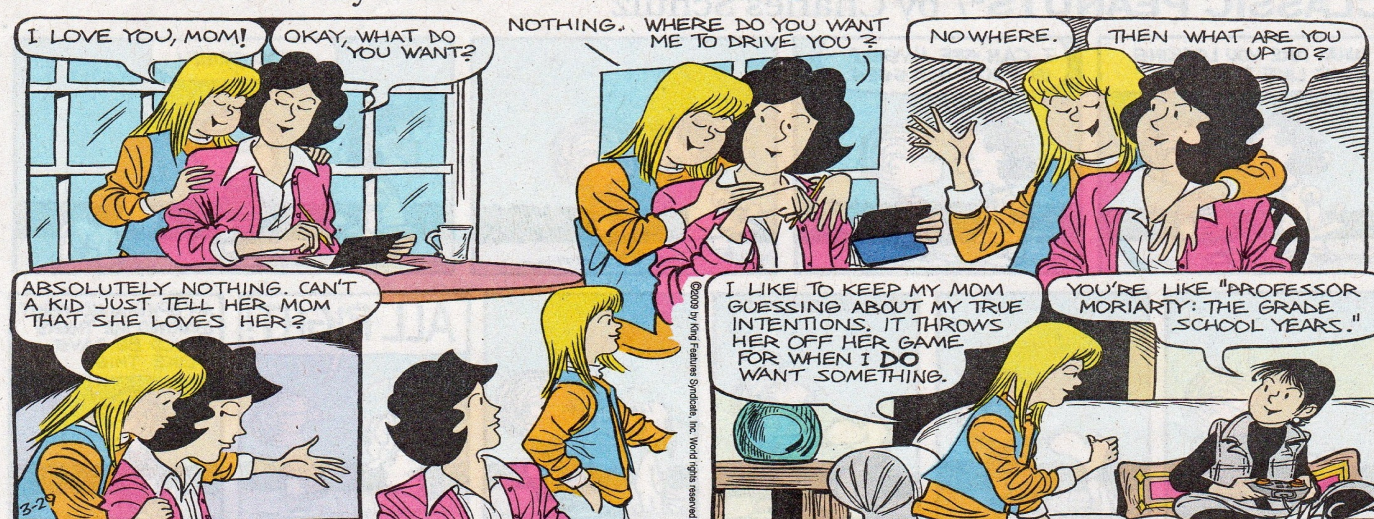
An extra financial boost from The Beacon Society, a not-for-profit affiliate of the Baker Street Irregulars, the New York City-based group of mystery enthusiasts founded in 1934, was offered this month for teachers, librarians, Sherlockian literary societies, and others to apply for its pilot funding project, called the Jan Stauber Grant.

The grant provided up to \$250 to fund the development of a project that would introduce young people to the stories about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective.

The grant honors the late Jan Stauber, a native of Verona, NJ, who for 10 years was noted for visiting classes of middle school students in the guise of Sherlock Holmes to encourage them to discover the joys of reading. Stauber, a teacher, substance-abuse counselor and computer programmer who died in 2005, was the

(cont. on page 3)

SALLY FORTH/ by Francesco Marciuliano





(cont. from page 2) first winner of the society's Beacon Award.

The grant promotes similar creative work by giving financial help to public and private school teachers, organizations, libraries, counselors and others who develop literacy projects and other educational experiences encouraging young people to read, primarily by introducing them to the stories about Sherlock Holmes.

The society's recently updated Web site also offers:

- * Ideas for using Sherlock Holmes as a teaching aid in classrooms and libraries.

- * Examples of projects that successfully introduce young people to Holmes.

- * Help for Holmes societies who want to get involved with teaching in their communities.

- * Information about the world of Sherlock Holmes for students and teachers of all kinds.

The Beacon Society acts as a link to affiliates – called scions – of the Baker Street Irregulars and to those working with youth, providing teachers and others in a nonacademic setting with resources to bring Sherlock Holmes to life for young people.

Since 2004, the society's annual Beacon Awards have been given to persons or organizations whose work has been outstanding in encouraging young people to read the Sherlock Holmes stories.

He's Everywhere... News of a Sherlock Holmes Graphic Novel has reached our ears. Adapted by Ian Edginton and Illustrated by INJ Culbard. The culprits? SelfMadeHero, 5 Upper Wimpole Street, London W1G 6BP for a mere £14.99 ...Daedalus DVDs lists *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, the Peter Cook, Dudley Moore film, available for \$6.98 ... In the June, 2009 issue of *The Atlantic* there is a reference in the article *The Man in Full* by Christopher Hitchens. In writing about Ernest Hemingway's *A Moveable Feast*, Hitchens states "This tactic of teasing the customer with the hint of splendors withheld - like Dr. Watson's making us wonder about the untold Holmes adventure of the giant rat of Sumatra - was rounded off with another piece of coquetry." ... The estate of Dame Jean Conan Doyle has finally closed, with various rights now registered with Conan Doyle Estate Ltd. ... The Sherlock Holmes Museum at 230 Baker Street is planning on publishing a book of letters to Sherlock Holmes, gleaned from the mail that has been delivered since Abbey National left Abbey House ...Tom Takach tells us: Cartoon network recently showed an episode of *The Brave and the Bold* (a half hour weekly animated series which teams up Batman with various heroes from the DC Comics Universe) entitled *Trials of the Demon* in which the Caped Crusader travels back through time to the London of Holmes' day. At their first meeting, Holmes correctly deduces many things about (cont. on page 4)

CALENDAR SHERLOCKIANA

2009

August 15 - *Scintillation of Scions* at Claret House, Clarksville, MD. Watson's Tin Box Scion sponsors. Contact Jacqueline Morris,

or www.watsonstinbox.org

September 26 - *The Remarkable Characters of Arthur Conan Doyle Symposium*, Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN lillylibraryconference@yahoo.com or Lilly Library Conference, Calumet Court, Zionsville, IN 46077

October 14 - *Pre-BoucherconEvent: Doyle, Bouchercon, Fleming*. Must be an attendee of Convention (see next)

October 15-18 - *The 40th Bouchercon World Mystery Convention*, Indianapolis, IN. www.bouchercon2009.com

October 30-Nov. 1 - *BSI Trienniel Silver Blaze/Chicago Silver Blaze* at Hawthorn Race Course, Cicero-Stickney, IL. Race on the 31st, brunch Nov. Hotel Oak Brook Doubletree. Email Susan Diamond at

November 7 - *Gasfitters Ball*, Curious Collectors of Baker Street. Contact

2010

February 12-14 - *Wessex Weekend* Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Florida Wessex Cup. See flyer.

A review of film historian Amanda Field's latest book "ENGLAND'S SECRET WEAPON-THE WARTIME FILMS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, published on June 30 2009 by Middlesex University Press.can be found at www.thefilmhistorian.com.

It examines the way Hollywood used Sherlock Holmes in a series of fourteen films that spanned the years of World War II in Europe, from *The Hound of the Baskervilles* in 1939 to *Dressed to Kill* in 1946."





(cont. from page 3) the Dark Knight. There are also satisfying allusions to such Sherlockian staples as an air rifle, a blind German mechanic and Moriarty. The episode teams Batsy with The Demon, a good man capable of turning into a supernatural creature with a flair for rhyming. This is preferable to the absent Robin's penchant for punning, though not by much. These two and The Master, have a friendly competition to solve a mystery which involves a highwayman (who eventually becomes a ghost, which is not really something he was shooting for) and a real supernatural baddie, who is trying to obtain ten souls (including Holmes) in order to attain unspeakable power with which to rule the world (Ed. Note: Does the Brain know about this?). In the episode, Holmes does some fine deducifyin' regarding carriage tracks and right handedness. All in all, a very pleasant showcase for Mr. Holmes... The May 2009 issue of *National Geographic* contains an interesting article on the leatherback turtle which mentions among its prey, jellyfish, in particular, the lion's mane. Guess leatherbacks are needed on the English coast... In the May 18, 2009 issue of *Time*, the beginning of an essay by Nancy Gibbs states, "Human beings have always created the heroes we need, from Hercules and Sherlock Holmes—whose supernatural gifts let them conquer mighty foes..." If you see mention of Sherlock, let us know.

The Chemical Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Type of material: Spiral bound 8½" x 11" Publisher: The Journal of Chemical Education Year: 2004 Authors: Thomas G. Waddell and Thomas R. Rybolt Editor: Erica K. Jacobsen

This is a collection of tales that were published individually in the Journal of Chemical Education from December 1989 to April 2004. This journal is aimed at Chemistry students, in both high school and college and the tales are written for this audience. They have been published, annually, as short Sherlockian mysteries involving chemical-oriented problems with solutions separated from the stories and the collection has maintained that format. In addition, the physical layout is designed to be easy to copy, with teachers formally permitted to make one copy per student.

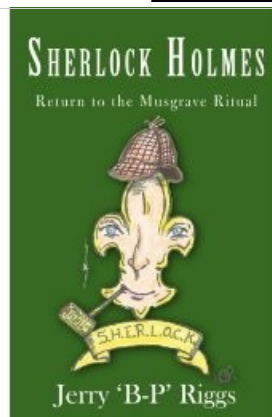
The stories have grown over time from simple problem statements into solid tales with supporting characters and authentic 'gas-light atmosphere.' That does NOT mean that they are simple mysteries. In general, they are solvable by bright high-school or college level Chemistry students who have access to reference materials. Most are not to be solved 'off the top of one's head' except by experienced Chemists. Several have been used, in somewhat adjusted form, as examination problems in more advanced college-level Chemistry courses.

The subjects range from poisons to jewelry fakery, with several interesting by-roads and involve a lot of practical chemical knowledge. A number of the problems even require some understanding of people and their motives and reactions. The solutions are not obvious and an understanding of the causes for various smells, stains and indicator chemical reactions is required. In one case, an analysis of cheating on tests is part of the solution and in another an understanding of proper scientific test procedures is a key requirement.

The book contains the first fifteen of these tales, all created by the authors. Later editions of the magazine have included three more tales, by different authors, which are available in reprint format. There is, it seems, no danger that this interesting approach to teaching Chemistry will disappear as the tradition is being well continued. I feel this would be an ideal present for any teen with a taste for problem solving and an interest in Chemistry.

The book is available through the website of the Journal of Chemical Education for about \$20, postpaid, within the Continental US. Shipment to other locations is available.

Reviewed by: Philip K. Jones; May, 2009.



Sherlock Holmes: Return to the Musgrave Ritual

Type of material: Trade Paperback Publisher: Infinity Publishing Company Year: 2009 Author: Jerry, 'B-P' Riggs Price: \$15.95

This is the second of Mr. Riggs' Sherlockian books and far the better of the two. It consists

of notes by the author and a single tale related to him by an acquaintance. This tale is directed more at an adult audience and relates the involvement of a retired Holmes in the birth of the scouting movement. It also contains a final resolution of the events originally published as "The Musgrave Ritual."

This second book is much more realistic and more 'Sherlockian' than the author's earlier effort. It also studiously avoids 'Americanisms' and inappropriate slang, so that the sense of the early 20th century (it takes place mostly in 1907) is retained. The account of Lord Baden-Powell's efforts and the rise of scouting is very well presented and the involvement of Holmes as described herein is remarkably believable, especially in light of the General's references to 'Sherlocking' as a central(cont.



on page 5) (Cont. from page 4) part of scouting. Unlike his earlier Sherlockian tales, in this one the author reins in his imagination and keeps events carefully uninvolved in the supernatural so that the whole tale emits a strong sense of deduction and inference rather than wonder.

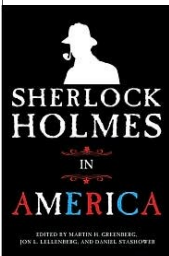
While the details of the mystery presented may irritate some Sherlockians, there is no real basis for rejection or refutation. The events described MAY have happened and the individuals involved may well have acted as described. Certainly, the original tale of the Ritual left a number of loose ends which the author has woven into a coherent sequel that is plausible and reasonable. The information about Lt. General (ret.) Baden-Powell is certainly true and presented in balanced fashion so there is little reason to doubt the parts about Holmes and his involvement, both in scouting and in the resolution of the Musgrave affair.

In summary, this is a good book for older scouts or for adults interested in scouting and/or Holmes. It tells an interesting tale well and it fits neatly into the Canon.

Reviewed by: Philip K. Jones; June, 2009.

Sherlock Holmes in America

Type of material: Hard Cover Publisher: A Herman Graf Book, Skyhorse Publishing Year: 2009 Editors: Martin H. Greenberg, Jon Lellenberg, and Daniel Stashower



This anthology consists of an Introduction, fourteen stories, three essays (one by A. C. D.) and notes about the editors. Each tale is preceded by a short note about the author. The Introduction calls this "a collection of new stories ... in which Holmes and Watson strike out for the United States" and that more or less describes the theme of the book.

The fourteen tales included begin with an account of "The Case of Colonel Warburton's Madness," by Lyndsay Faye, as cited in ENGR. In this tale, Watson tells Holmes of a mystery he encountered in San Francisco years before and Holmes provides an explanation. It serves as a good introduction to the book's theme in addition to being an interesting narrative. Lloyd Rose's "Ghosts and the Machine" recounts

a visit, with their father, of the youthful Mycroft and Sherlock to America. They encounter Colonel Henry Olcott investigating some 'psychic' events shortly before he met Madame Blavtsky and they founded the Theosophical Society. The Holmes boys were not impressed by the events but did find Colonel Olcott admirable.

Steve Hockensmith's "Excerpts from an Unpublished Memoir..." gives us an interesting glimpse at Sherlock's career on the stage. Robert Pohle's "The Flowers of Utah" tells of a trip Holmes and Watson took to Utah financed by by an English Mormon following events in STUD, "to solve the case, once and for all." Their findings, of course, upset the Doctor's comfortable view of the resolution of that tale. Lauren Estleman's "The Adventure of the Coughing Dentist" introduces Holmes and Watson to another pair of prominent companions, Wyatt Earp and 'Doc' Holliday. Then, Victoria Thompson tells us of Holmes solution to the disappearance of a prominent Minister's daughter at the request of Theodore Roosevelt, then Commissioner of the New York City Police Department in her "The Minister's Missing Daughter."

Gillian Linscott's "The Case of Colonel Crocket's Violin" treats us to the sight of Holmes being asked to identify the 'real' violin of Davy Crocket from three possible competitors. Bill Crider renews Holmes' acquaintance with 'Buffalo Bill' Cody, Frank Butler and Annie Oakley in "The Adventure of the White City" at the Columbian Exhibition, where Holmes shows an amazing grasp of recent events in the 'Wild West.' In her "Recalled to Life," Paula Cohen tells us of a fascinating sidelight to one of the tasks Sherlock performed at Mycroft's request during "The Great Hiatus." Daniel Stashower spins another tale of "The Great Houdini" as detective in his "The Seven Walnuts." As usual, brother 'Dash' (cont. on page 6) (cont. from page 5) steers Harry into finding the truth, this time by asking him to write to Holmes about a disputed point.

In Matthew Pearl's "The Adventure of



the Boston Dromio,” Holmes and Watson investigate the murder charges against the Doctor who saved Watson’s life in Afghanistan. Carolyn Wheat describes a unique method of murder in “The Case of the Rival Queens” while Holmes and Watson explore a Theosophist community. Jon L. Breen teams Holmes with a former acquaintance, Clive Armitage, in “The Adventure of the Missing Three Quarters.” He also treats us to a close-up view of Amos Alonzo Stagg, an icon of College Football. In “The Song at Twilight, Michael Walsh tells us the long-awaited story of the creation of Altamont, the beginning of “His Last Bow.”

In general, the tales are well done. There are few outright contradictions of the Canon and most of the ‘Americanisms’ are appropriate. Unfortunately, none seem to stand out either. The most powerfully written tale was also the least ‘Sherlockian,’ while few offered any new insights into either Holmes or Watson. The historical characters were either unpleasant or, for the most part, uninteresting, although Estleman’s Earp and Holliday seem to be an exception to this generalization. In fact, Thompson’s ‘minister’s daughter,’ who never appears in person, seems to be the most interesting character in the lot.

Reviewed by: Philip K. Jones, May, 2009.

**Papers from the 34th Annual Spring Gathering
In Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the
birth of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle**

**The Magic Door: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle on
Books and Reading
By Michael Bryan**

“It is a great thing to start life with a small number of really good books which are your very own.”

So wrote the creator of Sherlock Holmes in a collection of informal essays entitled *Through the Magic Door*. In writing this series of papers Doyle explained that his idea was to “address the young man of from 17 to 22 who was asking for some guidance in literary matters.” In so doing, he adopted the device referring to a bookcase in his private library, pointing out volumes on this shelf and that, describing their covers and associations as one refers to old friends, and commending them to the reading of the hypothetical young man to whom the essays are addressed.

Doyle’s reading, like his zest for living, was broad

and vigorous. His mind devoured books like beefsteak, taking nourishment and satisfaction from reading and wanting to share with others what gave him so much lasting enjoyment.

The range of titles and topics contained in the bookcase as literary device tells us something of the man. One of the leading figures drawn from the bookshelf is Sir Walter Scott. Doyle’s immersion in the literature and lore of the high Middle Ages became the seed ground for some of his own historical writing. Standing next to the green volumes of Scott are four big gray volumes of Boswell’s *Life of Johnson*. Though Doyle thoroughly enjoyed this monument of English biography, he could not quite bring himself to be an unqualified admirer of Johnson.

Higher praise, however, could hardly be found than the good word Doyle gives to Gibbon and his *History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. “Were I condemned to spend a year upon a desert island,” he wrote, “and allowed only one book for my companion, it is certainly that which I should choose.” Yet when it came to Gibbon’s attempt at autobiography, Sir Arthur knew where to draw the line. Gibbon wrote several autobiographical efforts, none memorable. According to Doyle:

A man must have more heart and soul than Gibbon to write a good autobiography. It is the most difficult of all human compositions, calling for a mixture of tact, discretion, and frankness which make an almost impossible blend. Gibbon, in spite of his foreign education, was a very typical Englishman in many ways, with the reticence, self-respect, and self-consciousness of the race. No British autobiography has ever been frank, and consequently no British autobiography has ever been good.

After Gibbon, Sir Arthur has a word to say of Pepys and his famous *Diary*. Pepys himself, from the pages of the *Diary*, would be understood to have been a dutiful civil servant, given to noting what he had for dinner and other small daily details of home and work. Even so, in the larger sphere, Doyle recognizes in Pepys “an excellent writer, a capable musician, and a ripe scholar who accumulated 3,000 volumes – a large private library in those days – and had the public spirit to leave them all to his University.”

Moving from Pepys’ *Diary* to three volumes of “Pugilistica” may seem a leap, but for the Doylean bookcase, it presents no discrepancy. Pugilistica, or the literature of boxing, was a longtime interest of Sir Arthur. No girly-man, but a man’s man, he relished the thrill and keen edge of excitement of the prize ring, even if not as a contender himself. The blood of the Irish had a fair share in Sir Arthur’s veins as well as his creative imagination.

But what of a literary form in which he himself excelled – the short story? For Doyle the short story had several notable masters, but there was one who was master of all – Poe.

Poe is, to my mind, the supreme original short story-



(cont. from page 6)

writer of all time. His brain was like a seed-pod full of seeds, which flew carelessly around, and from which have sprung nearly all our modern types of story.... But not only is Poe the originator of the detective story; all treasure-hunting, cryptogram-solving yarns trace back to his "Gold Bug," just as all pseudo-scientific Verne-and-Wells stories have their prototypes in the "Voyage to the Moon," and the "Case of Monsieur Valdemar." If every man who receives a cheque for a story which owes its springs to Poe were to pay tithe to a monument for the master, he would have a pyramid as big as that of Cheops.

Along with Poe in the short story pantheon stood R.L. Stevenson, Bret Harte, Kipling, and Maupassant, the last of whom was perhaps Poe's closest rival in Doyle's eyes.

Novelists of the 18th century take up an honored shelf in the Doctor's bookcase. Sterne, Goldsmith, Burney, Fielding, Richardson, and Smollett all stood in well-thumbed volumes.

But if one vast field captured Sir Arthur's imagination like no other, it surely was History. The Middle Ages and the Napoleonic era especially, and the chronicles of modern historians like Parkman drew him – as long as the writers knew how to tell the story of history. It was the story of history that Sir Arthur thought "ought to be the most interesting subject upon earth, the story of ourselves, of our forefathers, of the human race, the events which made us what we are, and wherein...some microscopic fraction of this very body which for the instant we chance to inhabit may have borne a part."

Towards the end of the bookcase we come to volumes of travel and exploration – Knight's *Cruise of the Falcon*, Scott's *Voyage of the Discovery in the Antarctic*, Greely's *Arctic Service*, Bullen's *Cruise of the Cachelot*, along with Dana, Marryat, and of course William Clark Russell, known to be a favorite of a certain other Doctor.

And finally in a small but select corner is Sir Arthur's Science library. He wrote that if he were advising a young man who was beginning life, he should counsel him to devote one evening a week to scientific reading, particularly zoology, botany, geology, archaeology, astronomy.

We have come across no volumes of philosophy, theology, or the Greek and Roman classics in the bookcase, but it, after all, was but a small part of the great man's library.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was a man of action and the outdoors as well as a man of letters and the fireside. Books and reading formed an important and irreplaceable part of his life to which he witnessed in *Through the Magic Door*. The last words of the last essay say it well:

...the mere thinking and talking of books is in itself good, be the upshot what it may. For the time the magic door is still shut. You are still in the land of faerie. But, alas, though come the ring of the bell, the call of the telephone, the summons back to the

sordid world of work and men and daily strife. Well, that's the real life after all – this only the imitation. And yet, now that the portal is wide open and we stride out together, do we not face our fate with a braver heart for all the rest and quiet and comradeship that we found behind the Magic Door?

We're here today to celebrate
The birthday of a man
Who wrote mysteries and adventures
For a magazine called the Strand

The stories that evolved
Were written at such a pace
They kept the readers minds alive
They wanted in on the chase

Holmes, Watson, Moriarty, Moran
Familiar names to us all
Imagination leapt like fireplace embers
We remember Reichenbach Falls

We thank him today and gather
His friends who are so loyal
And want future generations to remember
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Bob Kimsel

THE QUIZ

1. In what year and city was ACD born?
2. What was ACD's affectionate name for his mother?
3. What was ACD's father's first and middle names?
4. What public school did Doyle attend?
5. What medical school did Doyle attend?
6. Who was the medical professor famous for his observations and deductions regarding patients?
7. Name one place ACD voyaged as a ship's doctor.
8. Name one of the first two towns in which Doyle practiced medicine.
9. Where did ACD study ophthalmology?
10. What was ACD's first wife's name and what disease did she have?
11. Where did ACD take her to convalesce?
12. What sport is ACD credited with introducing there?
13. What was the first SH novel? When was it published?
14. Who was ACD's editor at *The Strand*?
15. When and for what was ACD knighted?
16. For what borough did ACD serve in Parliament? Extra credit for his party.
17. What did ACD do in the Boer War?
18. What did ACD do in WWI?
19. Name one of the real-life cause-celebre cases ACD was involved with.
20. Who was ACD's second wife and how did he meet her?



21. Name two of ACD's five children
22. What philosophy/religion did ACD support?
23. What law reforms did ACD support? What political movement did he oppose?
24. Where is ACD's grave and what is his epitaph?

.....*Shhhhh, Shh, Sh, Sherlock,bump.*

Papers by David McCallister

A Limerick Toast

There once was a crusader named Doyle,
Whose British blood would boil,
For Edalji and Slater,
And Casement, the traitor,
But for poor Boers, he never would toil.

An Acrostic

S-piritualism was Sir Arthur's faith,
I-n the paranormal, he believed,
R-eal photo of fairy?, ectoplasmic wraith?,
A-ssured you may be that you're not deceived,
C-ome now, Sir, hear what we sayeth,
D-on't be hoodwinked by tricks conceived.

The Holmes-Boy Rap, by 'JD Mac

*My man be Sher-lock, I like his bling,
He gots an old-gold snuffbox and an 'em'ral snake ring,
His ride be a hansom, when he go to town,
An' da bad guys hide, when he be aroun',*

*If you be client, wid' no where to go,
Da Baker Street Boys'll put ya' in da know,
If you be puzzl', 'bout what to do,
Sher-lock's da shizzle; he follow you,*

*An' Doc W? He bad, 'cause he really rad,
He jes' close his ears, when Sher play da' Strad,
Ms. H.? She cool; she feed des fool'.
Inspect' LeStrade? He play by de rules,*

*When Mo'ratty and Clay, dey gets in da way,
Holmes comes right out, to save de day,
He call IL'regl'ars to be his gang,
When poundin' da' pa'ment don't be his thang,*

*Lon'un jes' fine in '95.
When Holmes and Watson, dey be alive,
An' Art'er Doyle? He work his writ'in hand,
Wit ev'ry case he send to da Strand.*

*So, lis'en to me, it's all in da book,
Jes' give ole' Sherlock a good hard look,*

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ

1. Edinburgh 1859
2. The Mam
3. Charles Altamont
4. Stoneyhurst
5. University of Edinburgh Medical
6. Joseph Bell
7. Africa, Artic
8. Portsmouth, Plymouth
9. Vienna
10. Louise (Toulie). TB
11. Switzerland
12. Show Skiing
13. *A Study in Scarlet*. 1887
14. Smith
15. His book on South Africa—The War in South Africa: It's Causes and Conduct 1902
16. None. Unionist
17. Surgeon
18. Founded the Volunteers
19. Oscar Slater. George Edalji. Sir Roger Casement. Crime of the Congo
20. Jean Leckie. Nurse to Toulie.
21. Kingsley (Arthur), Mary, Denis, Adrian, Jean
22. Spiritualism
23. Supported Divorce. Opposed Women's Suffrage.
24. Windlesham, Mindstead in New Forest. Steel True, Blade Straight.
25. Professor Challenger, Sherlock Holmes, Gerard.

AND NOW, A BLAST FROM THE PAST, A LIMERICK BY DR. MIKE CARROLL....



SILVER BLAZE

Here's a story that will you amaze
Of a horse with the name Silver Blaze.
Dirty work by John Straker
Brought in the undertaker,
But none of this Sherlock did faze.

There are many strange clues I could cite,
(The Sussex vampire and its bite)
But what could be meant
By the strange incident
Of the torpidic dog in the night?



Hey, Wilbur, please take me to the Wessex Weekend. There will be lots to do—food to eat, presentations, talks, wonderful people—maybe even a filly or two. I promise I'll be on my best behavior and won't get into any trouble. Come on, Wilbur, have a heart. You still can't be mad about the Brink's Truck I accidentally stole last week and drove into the pond.



Even if Mr. Ed can't make it (Darn that cheapskate Wilbur.), you can have a great time at the 20th anniversary celebration of the Florida Wessex Cup. Come join us for the Wessex Weekend

February 12-14, 2010
Tampa Bay Downs Racetrack
Tampa, Florida

The weekend includes:

Friday night, February 12

Evening social

Saturday, February 13

Breakfast

Transportation to and from the Wessex Cup Race

Tampa Bay Downs Entrance

Buffet Luncheon

Afternoon Presentations

Banquet

Sunday, February 14

Breakfast & Wrap-Up

\$140.00 for all festivities. Please contact Wanda Dow to arrange a discount if you are unable to attend all events.

Please note, if you book early, due to ongoing negotiations with Tampa Bay Downs, reservations will not be confirmed until the beginning of November, 2009.

Hotel accommodations should be arranged through Courtyard by Marriott Tampa/Oldsmar at 4014 Tampa Road, Oldsmar, FL 34677. 813-925-8887 before January 12, 2010 to insure convention rates of \$119.00 per night plus tax. Rooms have a King size bed with a pull out or 2 Queen beds, oversized work area, complimentary high speed and wireless access dual data ports, two phone lines, refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker, satellite television, iron/ironing board & hair dryer. Facilities have a pool and fitness center. Parking is complimentary.

The Pleasant Places of Florida

(founded in 1972)

Rev. Leslie Marshall, B.S.I. 1972-1977
Dr. Benton Wood, B.S.I. 1977 - 1988
Bill Ward, B.S.I. 1988 - 1999
Dr. Benton Wood, B. S.I. 1999 -1996
The Last Court of Appeals 1997 - present

For the Record:

THE LAST COURT OF APPEALS

David McCallister, Master of the House,

(Master of

Ceremonies at most gatherings, host of the annual Wessex Cup)

Carl Heifetz, Representative (both with the Servants and with the Tradespeople),

(Correspondent)

Wanda & Jeff Dow, The Papers on the Sundial,

(Communications and Bookkeeping)

Please make note of the issue number on your mailing label. This is the final issue number of your club membership. You will not receive further Communications after this number unless you renew. Renewals should be sent, with any updates, to Wanda Dow. Make all checks payable to Wanda Dow. US\$12.00 (US/CAN) or US\$13.00 (INTL)

The Pleasant Places of Florida

