



The Pink 'Un



Editor, Program Cochair, Webmaster: **Phil Dematteis**, 1817 Belmont Drive, Columbia SC 29206-2813; hansomwheels@aol.com

Program Cochair: **Diane Bodie**; dwbodie@gmail.com

Secretary (for change of address or phone number): **Myrtle Robinson**; mtr@lindau.net

Treasurer and Reservations Taker: **Kathy Newman**; katnewman@aol.com; (803) 776-9499

Spokesman Emeritus: **Cap'n Billy Rawl**; (803) 739-8951

Follow us on **Tom Elmore's** Hansom Wheels Facebook Page

The Hansom Wheels Website (which includes *The Pink 'Un*) is at www.hansomwheels.com

Volume 41, No. 2, April 2017

I Find It Recorded in My Notebook . . .

Thirteen attendees attended (because that is what attendees do) the Hansom Wheels meeting at the Palmetto Club on February 16. After dinner, The Tantalus (that's me) blew the Blue Kazoo and announced that the game was afoot. We toasted *the* woman, Irene Adler, and **Hannah Timmons** led us in the Musgrave Ritual.

We moved on to the Happy Hour Posers, in which the idea is to decipher the titles of Adventures from crappyp—I mean *cryptic*—clues. This time I slipped in an *unpublished* Adventure that is mentioned by Watson: 1. A trio of young ladies is introduced to society at a ball in Indiana = the three Gary debs (short for debutantes) = “The Three Garridebs.” 2. The Budweiser child Xeroxed her American Girl = Budweis is the German version of České Budějovice, a city in the Bohemia area of the Czech Republic; to Xerox something you scan it; and American Girl is a leading brand of dolls, so: a scanned doll in Bohemia = “A Scandal in Bohemia” (the Assigned Story for the meeting). 3. Huge Indonesian fink = “The Giant Rat of Sumatra” (that's the unpublished one). 4. Thomebody thtruck me on the upper part of my nothe and now it hurth = the speaker has a lisp, and the bridge of his nose is “thore” (i.e., sore) = “The Problem of Thor Bridge.”

Having gotten through that, we were ready to sit back and enjoy **Tom Elmore's** presentation, “The Unusual Faces of Sherlock Holmes,” in which he discussed some of the many, many actors other than Rathbone, Brett, Cumberbatch, and Miller who have played Holmes (or played characters playing Holmes) in movies and on stage and TV. Among them: Reginald Owen, Leonard Nimoy, Larry Hagman, Peter Cook (in the comedy version of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, with Dudley Moore as Watson; **Tom** pointed out that Cook also played

Watson's publisher in *Without a Clue*, in which Michael Caine portrayed Holmes as a drunken doofus, while Ben Kingsley's Watson was the brains behind the operation; many people hate the Cook-Moore *Hound*, but I have to admit I kind of like it), William Shatner, Tom Baker of *Doctor Who* fame, Charlton Heston (in *The Crucifer of Blood*, with Jeremy Brett as Watson!), Daffy Duck, Russell Johnson (as The Professor on *Gilligan's Island*, playing Holmes, with Alan Hale Jr., as The Skipper, playing Watson), and Brent Spiner (as the android Lieutenant Data, playing Holmes on the Holodeck in *Star Trek: The Next Generation*). Goes to show what an iconic figure Holmes is, when such a wide variety of actors have taken on the role. One that **Tom** didn't mention was Edward



Tom Elmore speaking to a rapt audience. They unwrapped themselves later.

Woodward, the star of the movie *Breaker Morant* and the TV show *The Equalizer*, who was Holmes in the 1990 TV movie *Hands of a Murderer*, even though he was short and stocky rather than tall and lean.

It was a lot of fun, but as the old proverb says, all good things must come to an end, damn it. And so, after **Jerred Metz** read the Sacred Sonnet, “221B,” we scrambled out of there in all directions as fast as our tiny little legs could carry us.

For April: The *First* U.S. Sherlock Holmes TV Series (Filmed in Paris)!

The Hansom Wheels will meet at **7:00 P.M. Thursday, April 27**, at **The Palmetto Club, 1231 Sumter Street**. The price for dinner will be **\$22.00** per person. There will also be a cash bar. (Of course!)

The Featured Presentation will be an episode of the 1955–56 syndicated half-hour *Sherlock Holmes*, starring Ronald Howard. I will discuss—briefly—some interesting facts about the series, as well as some later ramifications that include legal battles over copyright, extramarital hanky-panky, and the death (murder?) of Sunny von

Bülow! Most of the thirty-nine episodes in that series had no relationship to the stories in the Canon, but the episode we'll watch, “The Pennsylvania Gun,” is *very* loosely based (you'll see!) on *The Valley of Fear*, so that will be the Assigned Story for the evening.

Please make **reservations** with **Kathy Newman** at **(803) 776-9499** or **katnewman@aol.com** just **as soon as possible**, but **no later than April 25**. If you reserve by email and do *not* receive a confirmation within one day, please call the number above. See you there!

Happy Hour Posers (Name the Adventures, Published or Unpublished)

1. Frank Gorshin: “Riddle me this, Batman. If the Dutch artist had thrown his auricle from the top of a mountain, what would you have then?”
2. Clark, his dad, and his paternal grandpa.
3. I went on Ancestry.com and found out that I have an Italian great-grandfather who had *talipes equinovarus* and was married to a yeti.
4. I took a friend to Best Buy when I had my computer fixed so that he could translate the jargon the techs were saying.

Quiz on *The Valley of Fear*, Part 1: “The Tragedy of Birlstone”

By Quizmaster Emeritus **Charlie Cook**

1. Holmes recognized the handwriting on a message he received as belonging to whom?
2. What kind of humor did Holmes suggest that Watson had developed?
3. What two words were left uncoded in the cipher Holmes received, and what did he use to decode the rest of the cipher?
4. What Scotland Yard detective brought Holmes news of a murder, and how were his nature and his accent described?
5. Who painted the picture in Professor Moriarty’s study, and for how much did it sell?
6. What colorful policeman informed Scotland Yard of a murder, and how did he describe it?
7. What was on the dead man’s arm, and how was it put there?
8. What was the make of the bicycle found within 100 yards of the manor house hall door?
9. Whom did Holmes and his companions find taking a bundle from the moat surrounding the manor?
10. What did Holmes use to discover the owner of the bloody footprint on the windowsill?
11. Name the American intruder at the manor house.
12. At the end of Part 1, how does Watson describe the tale he is about to unfold in Part 2?

New Book! I’m in It! Maybe You Are, Too!



Excerpt from an email from the author, Michael McClure, to your Editor: “This volume [*Sherlock Holmes and the Cryptic Clues: A Grave Undertaking*] takes the reader on a tour of the resting places of over 300 creations that were brought to life by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Each Canonical cemetery represents a different adventure of the master detective, Sherlock Holmes. The illustrated tombstones found in these graveyards offer humorous epitaphs that reveal the character’s ultimate demise or particular plot in life. Whether funny, punny, poignant or just plain awkward, these cryptic clues represent the final word in Sherlockian scholarship. The late John Bennett Shaw had requested that I collect these someday, in a separate volume, after he had seen a few that I published in our society’s journals.

“Notable Sherlockians have been honored by having their likenesses used as inspiration for the effigies that adorn the tops of some monuments. These are the men and women that have contributed so much to our enjoyment of the Game, and I selected **YOU** [i.e., me] as one of my honorees. Your dedication to sharing and magnifying this unique avocation has not gone unnoticed. Sherlockian editors hold a special place in my heart, and your diligence as the shepherd of *The Pink 'Un* makes you more than deserving. This is my small way of thanking you for all that you do. [To paraphrase Holmes in *The Valley of Fear*: My blushes, McClure!]

“Your image was considered by our artists as they created the face above the engraving on one of the tombstones within our hallowed cemetery gates. I will be revealing the secret to each of the honored Sherlockian’s final resting places in 2017 on my website. I am hoping that everyone will have fun searching the marble orchards for the images. As a bonus, every BSI and ASH member is also listed on the back cemetery gate for the case from which their investiture was taken. This is the first time that all of these remarkable devotees have been sorted in such manner.

“Early each year I will publish a downloadable page(s) to update the BSI and ASH so this volume can remain current. I already have new illustrations and cartoons to include with the expanded info, so those interested should visit my website each year to get the free supplement.”

The website is <http://www.baskervilleproductions.com/books>. You can order *Sherlock Holmes and the Cryptic Clues* there for \$21.95 in paperback or \$32.95 in hardback, with dustjacket. You can also find links to sites dealing with zombies, the Scottish Clan MacLeod, and (I’m not making this up!) Popeye the Sailor Man.