



# Pink 'Un



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

Secretary/Treasurer: **Myrtle Robinson**; mtr@lindau.net

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

**The Hansom Wheels Website** (which includes *The Pink 'Un*): <http://www.hansomwheels.com>

---

Volume 44, No. 4, October 2020

---

## I Find It Recorded in My Notebook . . .

The August meeting of the Hansom Wheels was held virtually via the Zoom teleconferencing app because of the coronavirus pandemic. Taking part were (below, top row, left to right) **Wayne Scott, me (The Tantalus), Twyla Tuten, and Nancy Hill**; (second row) **Jerred Metz, Alan McNeely, Linda Robinson, and Becky and Kevin Lewis**; (third row) **Pat McNeely, Allison McNeely, Mary Dematteis (Mrs. Tantalus), and Carlina de la Cova**; (bottom row) **Jamie McCullough and Joseph Matheson**. **Tom Elmore** came in a little later.



When most of the folks were onscreen, I announced that the game was afoot; we toasted *the* woman, Irene Adler; and **Alan McNeely** led us in the Musgrave Ritual. Since this was kind of an experimental meeting, we didn't have Happy Hour Posers or an Assigned Story.

Under "Any and All Other Unavoidable Scionic Business," I asked the group whether meeting at 8:00 pm, as we were that evening, was OK with everybody, or whether they would prefer an earlier start time; at a regular nonpandemic meeting, we gather at 7:00, eat and yak among ourselves for an hour, and then start the official proceedings at 8:00. I told them that they didn't have to state their preferences right then but could get back to me by email in the two months before the October meeting. Of course, nobody ever did, so, as noted in the announcement below, we'll do it at 8:00 again.

The Featured Presentation was a PowerPoint show about the recent International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes at the South Carolina State Museum. The photographs were taken, and in some cases artistically combined, by **Pat McNeely**. She had then turned it over to me; I had arranged the slides in what seemed to me a coherent order, added a few more, and provided a commentary as we went through them.

That commentary proved to be the first difficulty of the evening: some people said that they couldn't hear me very well on my fancy \$35.00 webcam microphone. That had never been a problem when I had done practice Zoom sessions with me in one room and one of our dogs watching on an iPad in another room. On the other hand, some people said that they had no trouble hearing me. I therefore conclude that those who did need to invest in hearing aids. (Actually, I've fixed the problem.)

The second problem was that I had been offered a free unlimited session by the Zoom company, and I had chosen to use that session for the Hansom Wheels meeting. Imagine my surprise, then, when about forty minutes into the meeting (the length of time you ordinarily get for free if you have three or more participants) a notification popped up on my monitor telling me that if I didn't go ahead and take out a monthly subscription *right then and there*, we would be cut off. I tried frantically to figure out how to do it, but before I could, down it went.

Luckily, **Alan McNeely** is an old hand at this stuff, and he took over as "host" and emailed everybody to come back. Almost everybody did, and we resumed where we had left off. Once again, though, the forty-minute clock was ticking away, so I wrapped up the presentation, and instead of taking the time to call on somebody else to end the meeting by reciting the Sacred Sonnet, Vincent Starrett's "221B," I did it myself. As you know, the last two lines are "Here, though the world explode, these two survive, / And it is always eighteen ninety-five." What people heard, though, was "And it is always eighteen ninety—" as we were cut off again.

## For October: Skulduggery!

**The Hansom Wheels** will meet again via the Zoom teleconferencing app at **8:00 p.m., Thursday, October 15**. We shouldn't get cut off this time, because we now have a **paid account!** If you don't already have the free Zoom app, you will need to download it to your desktop PC, laptop, or smartphone, whichever you plan to use. It will ask you to sign up and create a password. Several times over the next week or so, ending about 7:30 on the 15th, I will email you an invitation; all you need to do is

click on the link in the message and wait to be admitted to the meeting. The Featured Presentation will be **Carlina de la Cova's** "'I Covet Your Skull . . .' Anthropology's Bumpy Ride in the Canon." The Assigned Story, naturally, will be *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. The Happy Hour Posers can be found on page 2 of this issue. If you have any questions, email me at hansomwheels@aol.com. See you there!

### Happy Hour Posers (Name the Adventure\*!):

1. He has to stay away from electricity when he is wearing those pants, because they're made out of a material that is an excellent conductor.
2. Well, I never! Can you believe it? That supermodel stays so slender by sticking her finger down her throat after she eats to make herself throw up! It's outrageous!
3. There are ten of these little reddish-yellow marshmallow ducks. I'll take half.
4. The elderly beekeeper wears a cover over his head and face to avoid getting stung.

\*Note: Contrary to custom, this time *none* of them are the Assigned Story for the meeting. So don't strain your brain looking for *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

### Something You Might Be Interested In (or Not):



ENOCH PRATT free LIBRARY

your journey starts here

## A SATURDAY WITH SHERLOCK HOLMES

### "My Favorite Sherlockian Character"

Saturday, November 14, 2020 – 10 a.m. ONLINE



To Register (FREE) & for updates:

[https://calendar.prattlibrary.org/event/saturday with sherlock at the pratt](https://calendar.prattlibrary.org/event/saturday%20with%20sherlock%20at%20the%20pratt)

