



Pink 'Un



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I Find It Recorded in My Notebook . . .

We had a turnout of nineteen people at the Palmetto Club for the October 20 meeting of the Hansom Wheels. After dinner, I blew my kazoo and announced that the game was afoot, and we stood to toast *the* woman, Irene Adler. We remained upright while **Nancy Washington** led us in the Musgrave Ritual, then collapsed into our chairs.

Next up were the Happy Hour Posers, wherein the trick is to decipher the titles of Holmes adventures from such clues as: 1. Definite article; in what way or manner; coordinate conjunction; pigeon; definite article; fish that comes in both freshwater and marine varieties; nonstraight line; diseases = the; how; and; dove; the; bass; curve; ills = *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (the Assigned Story for the meeting). 2. The Stooges go back to school = "The Three Students." 3. Evel Knievel, all by himself = "The Solitary Cyclist." 4. Hotel guest at a Colorado ski resort = the Vail lodger = "The Veiled Lodger."

Under "Any and All Other Unavoidable Scionic Business" I told the group about a scion located in the Puget Sound area of Washington State called The Sound of the Baskervilles. I held up a copy of their newsletter, *Ineffable Twaddle*, and pointed out that the Puget Sound area includes the cities of Seattle and Tacoma and has a population of nearly 3.8 million people. The Columbia metropolitan statistical area, by contrast, had a population of only 810,068 as of July 1, 2015. (Actually, I didn't mention all these population figures at the meeting; I looked them up later.) So they have a much bigger population to draw from; and yet attendance at their meetings, which is given in each issue of *Ineffable Twaddle*, is about the same as ours. So I thought we should feel good about that. On the other hand, they meet every month, whereas we only meet five times a year, and they also have several special events every year in addition to the meetings. So

maybe we *shouldn't* feel so good about *that*.

The Featured Presentation of the Evening was a talk, illustrated with slides, by **George Dinsmore** and **Frank Thompson**, who played Holmes and Watson, respectively, in the recent production of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by the Chapin Theatre Company at the Harbison Theatre of Midlands Technical College. They told us many interesting anecdotes about the play, including the strange fact that the Harbison Theatre would not allow Holmes even to *pretend* to smoke an *unlit* pipe onstage; on the other hand, they *were* permitted to shoot guns (with



George Dinsmore and Frank Thompson

blanks, of course)! This proves, in my opinion, that the National Rifle Association is much more powerful than the tobacco industry. They also said that the scenery was created by projecting slides on a screen behind the actors (a technique that I think we should steal for our Christmas plays!) and that, since the Harbison Theatre would also not allow them to use dry ice to create fog for the Dartmoor scenes (what's the *matter* with those people?), they achieved the effect by projecting the slides out of focus.

Mr. Thompson read Vincent Starrett's Sacred Sonnet, "221B," and we wandered out into the night.

For December: **The Christmas Party!**

The Hansom Wheels Christmas Party will begin at **7:00 P.M. Thursday, December 8**, at **The Palmetto Club, 1231 Sumter Street**. Since this is a special occasion, the price for dinner will be a *wee* bit higher than for a normal meeting: **\$35.00** per person. There will also be a cash bar. After a one-year hiatus caused by the 2015 flood, we will once again have Sherlockian door prizes! *That* ought to get you there! There will also be Christmas music and, of course a play: *The Blue Carbuncle*, by our late Program Chairman **Bob Robinson** (with some additions by **your Editor**).

This is the event for which we always have

the biggest turnout of the year, and why not? It's a lot of fun! (Not that the regular meetings aren't, but this is extra special!) And there is no Assigned Story to worry about and **NO HAPPY HOUR POSERS!** Just eating, drinking, singing, door-prize winning, and play watching! Did I mention drinking?

Please make **reservations** with **Kathy Newman** at **(803) 776-9499** or by email at **katnewman@aol.com** just **as soon as possible**, but **no later than December 6**. If you reserve by email and do *not* receive a confirmation within one day, please call the number above. See you there!

The Adventures of Myrtle Robinson

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Sherlockian & Times

We recently received this message from Shannon Carlisle, member of The Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem:

This past month, I was contacted by Ms. Myrtle T. Robinson, ASH, of Columbia, SC. She was hoping to meet while visiting Franklin, TN. In her letter, she shared that she is also a member of The Beacon Society and was Program Chair for 6 years in the early days of the organization. She even had a hand in developing the original by-laws. I asked if she would be willing to let my 4th graders interview her while she was in town. She said, "Yes!"

Below is a summary of our meeting with Ms. Robinson and her daughter, written by two of my students.

On September 30th, Ms. Myrtle T. Robinson and her daughter, Dr. Linda Robinson, visited 221B Baker Street of Moore Elementary. While they were visiting the Franklin, TN area, they took time from their vacation to let us interview them about their Sherlockian adventures. To begin with, we asked Ms. Robinson about her involvement in Sherlockian societies. She described the early days of The Beacon Society. On our Promethean board, we projected photos we found online of her 2005 Beacon Award win. While looking at the photos, she described the 8th grade *Hound* reading project her local scion supported. She also described her adventures in ASH [The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes] and The Hansom Wheels of Columbia, South Carolina. She also told us how she picked her ASH name. She chose "Vixen Tor" because it is a location from her favorite story, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. While we projected photos of the 1986 and 1995 BSI dinners, she shared stories about her husband's, Dr. Robert E. Robinson's, BSI investiture. She also described the "The Woman" award she won in 1995. We appreciated her willingness to be interviewed that day.

Kaylee and Eve, members of Mrs. Carlisle's 4th grade literacy class



Shannon Carlisle, Linda Robinson, and Myrtle Robinson at Moore Elementary School in Franklin, Tennessee



Shannon Carlisle's classroom door at Moore Elementary School

