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The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota May 2018 Notice

Membership Renewal

If you've not already done so, please renew your annual membership. You can renew online with PayPal or a credit card or use the form available on the web site. Dues have not changed for 2018 (\$15 individual or \$20 family) but additional contributions are always welcome. The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota, Inc. is a valid Section 501(c)(3) organization. Any contributions beyond your membership dues should be deductible as a charitable contribution.

Study Group

Saturday, May 19 at 2:00 p.m.

The group will discuss "The Three Students" at the St. Anthony Park Public Library, 2245 Como Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108, 651-642-0411. See the last page of this Notice for discussion questions to ponder.

Upcoming Dates and Stories

The group normally meets the third Saturday of the month at 2:00 p.m. In keeping with tradition, the June 16 discussion will focus on a non-Canonical work. This year the group will take on two non-Canonical Arthur Conan Doyle works: "The Lost Special" and "The Man with the Watches." Location TBD. Then the group will take its Summer Hiatus and reconvene in September with "The Solitary Cyclist."

Red Throated League: RESCHEDULED to Sunday, May 27 at 4:00 p.m.

The Norwegian Explorers' Red Throated League will again present another Sherlock Holmes radio drama at the Pavek Museum, 3515 Raleigh Ave., St Louis Park, MN 55416. This year's performance, "Death on the Scottish Express," first aired March 6, 1944. A goodwill contribution will be appreciated to help defray our costs for the use of the Pavek space. The previously scheduled April 15 performance was cancelled due to extreme winter weather and has been rescheduled. Note that May 27 is Memorial Day Weekend.

Movies:

"Sherlock Gnomes" opened in theaters March 23.

After a string of garden gnome disappearances in London, Gnomeo & Juliet (first introduced in the 2011 movie) look to legendary detective Sherlock Gnomes to solve the case of their missing friends and family.

"The Lost World" at the Heights Theater Sunday, June 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Forget the cold CGI of modern dinosaur movies, you haven't seen anything until you've witnessed the stop-motion animated beasts from Harry O. Hoyt's 1925 long-lost silent classic "The Lost World." Based on the novel by Sherlock Holmes author Arthur Conan Doyle, The Lost World is the story of the eccentric Professor Challenger, convinced of ancient beasts in Venezuela, who forms an expedition that finds itself trapped on an enormous plateau, surrounded by dinosaurs. Willis O'Brien's special effects are so remarkable that they even fooled Harry Houdini, who believed the creatures to be real. Originally, the prints for The Lost World were destroyed four years after its initial release so that no one could screen the film in competition with the newly released special effects extravaganza King Kong. Through the efforts of Flicker

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"The Adventure of the Empty House"

Alley and Lobster Films, a startling new 2K restoration, involving newly discovered material, was created, and the result is the incredible spectacle you'll see in the Heights Theater on June 24. This special screening will feature Karl Eilers at the keyboard of the Heights Mighty Wurlitzer! We are working to see if we can get a block of seats and attend as a group of Sherlockians and Doyle fans.

Theater:

“Postmortem” June 1-24 at Theatre in the Round. It's April, 1922, and actor William Gillette, famous for portraying Sherlock Holmes for 30 years, has invited the cast of his latest play to spend the weekend at his castle home in Connecticut. When a late-night séance reveals a murder, Gillette must solve the case using everything he's learned from playing the great detective. Popular playwright Ken Ludwig mixes suspense and humor in a show that has delighted audiences nationwide.

“Ken Ludwig's Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery” at Park Square Theatre June 15 - August 5. The game's afoot in this hilarious thriller that's anything but elementary! From the award-winning mastermind of mayhem, Ken Ludwig (Lend Me a Tenor), comes a fast-paced comedy about everyone's favorite detective solving his most notorious case. Five actors play over 40 comical characters, filling the stage with suspects, allies and heirs. When the wealthy Henry Baskerville is threatened by the fable of a bloodthirsty hound on the moors, Holmes and Watson are on the case to sniff out the culprit.

“Holmes and Watson,” Jeffrey Hatcher's latest play, opened at Pittsburgh's Kinetic Theatre February 16 and ran through March 4. It's now scheduled to run at Indianapolis' Indiana Repertory Theater September 25 - October 21. Can a trip to a Minneapolis stage be far behind? “Summoned to a remote asylum on a rocky island, Dr. Watson investigates three inmates who all claim to be the late master sleuth Sherlock Holmes. This eerie new puzzler by award-winning playwright Jeffrey Hatcher will stir your blood and tease your mind.”

“The Play That Goes Wrong,” at the Orpheum Theater May 7-12, **2019**. Broadway's funniest and longest-running play is a hilarious hybrid of Monty Python and Sherlock Holmes. Welcome to opening night of ‘The Murder at Haversham Manor’ where things are quickly going from bad to utterly disastrous. With an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can't play dead, and actors who trip over everything (including their lines), it's “A Riotous Explosion of Comedy!” (The Daily Beast) and “Tons of Fun for All Ages!” (HuffPost).

Mystery writer in Rosemount: Thursday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Minnesota mystery writer Jeff Falkingham will bring his “Elementary, My Dear Watson!” (Investigating Sherlock Holmes) multimedia program to the Robert Trail Library in Rosemount. The library is at 14395 S. Robert Trail, Rosemount, MN 55068.

The free, hour-long event is part of the Meet the Author series co-sponsored by the library and the Rosemount Area Arts Council. The public is invited to attend.

The program will open with “An Arthur Conan Doyle Primer,” a costumed skit in which Holmes and Watson discuss the work of their creator. The presentation also includes slide shows about the many faces and the science of Holmes, sandwiched around a discussion about the challenges and rewards of writing historical fiction. A short question-and-answer session will follow.

Falkingham, of Eden Prairie, has published two works of historical fiction that bring the world's greatest consulting detective to Minnesota: “County Courthouse Caper,” set in 1886 in the author's hometown of Browns Valley, Minn., and “In Search of the Source,” a sequel set in 1896 in St. Paul. In March, both adventures were released in a new two-in-one bundle under the title of “MURDER in Minnesota!” All three books will be available for purchase at the event. More about the author is at www.cccaper.com.

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CALL FOR PAPERS: Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual

It's not too early to starting thinking about penning an article, poem, review, joke or other writing for the 2018 Christmas Annual. This annual compilation of Norwegian Explorers' writing is distributed exclusively to attendees at the Norwegian Explorers Annual Dinner, the Baker Street Irregulars Annual Dinner, and the Gaslight Gala. This year's theme is "War and Peace." See the attached flyer for more information.

HELP NEEDED: Movie and Theater Group Organizer

We're seeking a person interested in organizing group outings to movies and theater events. Activities would consist of communicating with venues and arranging for a group opportunity to sit together, obtain any group pricing discounts, or provide a chance for a discussion after the show with actors or gather as a group in a nearby pub after the show. Communication would be coordinated via this Notice or other email distributed by me. Coordinating dates, locations, RSVPs and headcounts would also be included. If you have interest please contact me. We did this a few years ago for the movie "Mr. Holmes" with a fairly large group and it made the experience more enjoyable seeing it with fellow Sherlockians.

BSI Weekend January 9-13, 2019

It's not too soon to start planning for the Baker Street Irregulars New York City "BSI Weekend." The events begin on Wednesday and run through Sunday. The only event not open to all is the Friday night BSI dinner, which is limited to BSI members and invited guests. It's a great series of events and a chance to take in non-Sherlockian New York City sights, plays and other events as well. For more information go to www.bakerstreetjournal.com/bsiweekend/schedule.html. A contingent of Norwegian Explorers typically attends so you will be among good company. See the latest edition of *Explorations* for two articles by first time attendees at the 2018 weekend for a good summary of the experience.

Triennial Conference August 9-11, 2019

Save the date and mark your calendars for our next conference hosted jointly by the Norwegian Explorers, Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections, and the University of Minnesota Libraries. The conference theme, quoting from some words and phrases in the Canon, is "**Dark Places, Wicked Companions, and Strange Experiences.**" Gary Thaden and Julie McKuras are co-chairing the planning committee and will be looking for volunteers for a variety of tasks and projects. Please let them know if you're interested in assisting.

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The Three Students - Questions to Ponder

The problem of the nervous tutor, the careless servant, and the three enterprising students

1. It's no wonder Holmes was reluctant at first to get involved - a case like this hovers dangerously near to the "zero-point" he mentioned in "The Copper Beeches," of "recovering lost lead pencils and giving advice to young ladies from boarding schools."
2. Are there other examples in the Canon of Sherlock Holmes' preference to stay home rather than travel?
3. "Come if you want to." Note Holmes's thinly veiled insults: "Not one of your cases, Watson - mental, not physical," and "There are others."

Does this story tell us of a certain fraying in the relationship between Holmes and Watson? There are many times when Holmes gives Watson a zing, but he does it with wit or a certain amount of gentleness - or at the very least he waits until Watson does or says something wrong, which is not the case for these two remarks.

4. Is there a university library in England that is most likely to be the location of Holmes' research?
5. Is it odd that someone as apparently fastidious as Mr. Soames should leave the examination papers unsecured?

"Mr. Hilton Soames, tutor and lecturer at the College of St. Luke's... was a tall, spare man, of a nervous and excitable temperament."

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