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Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections

"Your merits should be publicly recognized" (STUD)

Contents

The Friends of The Sherlock Holmes Collections Annual Meeting

By Soren Eversoll

On a brisk October evening, a few dozen Sherlockians trundled into the meeting room of Andersen Library for the annual meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota. The cold fall night could do nothing to dampen the spirits of those in attendance, however, as friends old and new reconnected over snacks and drinks before the presentation. One of the most exciting pieces of news going into the night was the relocation of the late Minnesota Sherlockian Allen Mackler's 221B Baker Street recreation from the Wilson Library of the University campus to the Andersen. As a fellow recreator myself, I was especially excited to see how the room would look in this new space.

The meeting began with the state of the Collections, presented by Friends president Gary Thaden and the other members of the board. The overall consensus of the report was overwhelmingly positive, indicating the Collections' strong financial stability and continuing development in the future. This sentiment was reinforced by a following speech from Tim Johnson, its head curator and longstanding friend to many Sherlockians in attendance. It was amazing to hear how the collection has updated itself into the 21st century and continues to serve as a resource for both scholars and those just dipping their toes into the world of Sherlockiana, or the numerous

Photo by Julie McKuras

Tim Johnson

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An Update from the Collections

By Timothy Johnson

Tonight, [Ed. Note – The Meeting was held on Oct. 23rd] I have the distinct pleasure of offering you two talks rolled into one: my annual state of the Collections address and a keynote speech. For a brief moment I thought of taking an easy way out by recycling the keynote address I gave for the "Holmes in the Heartland" conference in St. Louis this August. But since I've already posted that talk online—so you can read it—and because it contains stories many of which you've heard before, I decided to take a different track.

I have been your Curator for twenty years. So tonight it seems appropriate for me to reflect on the past two decades, on what I've done as Curator, on what we've done together, and on what remains—or to put it into the words (or near enough) of Dr. Watson: on "*researches which led to results so striking that they may be the subject of one of my future narratives.*" (3STU)

As I've shared elsewhere, my interest in applying for the position of Curator was not because of the Sherlock Holmes Collections. I had designs on other collections, most notably the Tell G. Dahllöf collection of Swedish-American imprints. During my day of interviewing for the job, especially during my afternoon public presentation, I thought I was sunk, especially after Allen Mackler fell asleep on me in the front row minutes into my presentation. It didn't help my cause that in a later congratulatory telephone call from Dick Sveum – only a few years my senior but prematurely greybearded – I referred to him as "the elderly gentleman in the back row."

But you persisted, and here we are. You got your hooks into me earlier on. With the 1998 "Founder's Footprints" conference celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Norwegian Explorers, you found ways to introduce me to a world hitherto unknown to me. I read the Canon prior to the conference, and, like Watson struggling to learn everything about the Ming dynasty, I tried to bone up on everything there was to know on what we might call Holmesian pottery. Still, there were moments of failure along the way. I clearly remember one such moment when Dr. Paul Martin called me out during one of his presentations to identify "a certain gracious lady." I coughed and sputtered and finally Paul took mercy on me by making the link with Queen Victoria.

One of the things I'm most thankful for—a valuable resource for anyone coming into a new position—was the opportunity to rekindle my relationship with E.W. "Mac" McDiarmid, to have the chance, if ever so briefly, to move into the orbit of Dr. Bryce Crawford, and to enjoy a renewed friendship with Austin McLean. My conversations with Mac provided occasions to move from my accidental encounter with him during graduate school to a fuller understanding of this group we call the Norwegian Explorers and the larger Sherlockian universe. In a similar fashion, Bryce offered me a window into those early days, of collegial friendships and shared interests, be it over books, bridge, golf, or tennis. He provided me with a link to Dr. Hench's adventures in the late 1950s and the establishment of a plaque commemorating that "titanic struggle" at the Reichenbach. Every time I see that plaque I pause for a brief moment, look at the date of this commemoration—25 June 1957—and reflect that it would be another four months before I entered this world and that the Game was already very much afoot! After Mac and Bryce moved beyond the Reichenbach, I still had Austin to rely on for any question that might arise. Now they are all gone, and I continue to be thankful for their friendship and support.

"Founder's Footprints" taught me something else—that the Sherlockian world is vast indeed, and intertwined. Before long I was traveling to New York and being introduced to the world of the Baker Street Irregulars. I discovered, or was apprised of, intersections between the Irregulars and Explorers, of Friends advisory board meetings, of the importance of our Friends and its newsletter, of false starts, and new possibilities. Here I think it is important to put down a marker: all of this was happening while we planned moves and advised on design of what was being built before our eyes: the Elmer L. Andersen Library. It took two years to plan and choreograph the move and another six months to execute it. It is may be fair to say that those two years, 1998-2000, were some of the most exhausting and exhilarating of my career.

Two other markers should be added here: In December 1999, the Margaret Hubbs Family Foundation gave the University Libraries $150,000 to catalog the books and periodicals in the Holmes Collections. And not quite four weeks after the Andersen Library opened, Mac McDiarmid died, on April 27, 2000. Both these events significantly altered our landscape. The Hubbs gift allowed us to make our holdings accessible to anyone in the world. Careful arrangement of the collection by De Waal number worked reasonably well for local use, but the world was blind to what we had to offer. Three years of careful cataloging work by members of our technical services staff and contract catalogers from Minitex brought the collection to light. It was our first step in uncovering a magisterial but hidden collection.

As strange as it may sound, Mac's passing offered us a chance to dream. I remember the moment clearly, at the conclusion of Mac's funeral. I was talking with Don Shelby and Dick Sveum—somewhat distracted by Don's pierced earring and his amazingly clear skin—about the possibility of creating a fund in Mac's honor. [Ed. Note: Don Shelby is a well-known local journalist]. Both were agreeable, as I remember, to approaching the family with this idea. It was a longtime dream of mine to create an endowed curator's position somewhere in the realm of our department, Archives and Special Collections.

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The Allen Mackler Room

One of the highlights from our annual meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections in late October was to "recommission" the Allen Mackler 221B Baker Street Sitting Room in its new location on the second floor of Andersen Library. A number of steps and frequent discussions were required in order to move the room from its former location on the fourth floor of Wilson Library. Our good editor of these pages thought you might like a brief outline of "the process of getting the Mackler room up and running" and I'm more than delighted to oblige.

First, I need to say thank you to the University of Minnesota Libraries administration, including University Librarian Wendy Lougee and those staff responsible for facilities and space, for providing the initial spot in Wilson Library—and now in Andersen—for the Sitting Room. Space, as many of you know, is often at a premium, especially in libraries with growing needs for student, staff, and collection areas, so for the Libraries to offer us continued use of a space dedicated to permanent exhibition is highly commendable and a sign of their ongoing commitment to the mission and vision of the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Thank you!

Finding a new location in Andersen Library was not easy. I provided administrators with a document detailing specifications of the room as it existed in Allen's home, its location in Wilson Library, and four possible venues in Andersen. The fourth option, a former staff office, proved ideal, offering slightly more square footage than in its original site or the Wilson location. We needed to wait until the staff office was vacated as part of the move into the new Wallin Special Collections Research Center before we could populate the room with Sherlockian artifacts. In the meantime, we packed up the Sitting Room and moved everything into temporary storage.

After spending January through early April moving 97,000 rare books from Wilson to Andersen, and with the Wallin Center now open for business, attention returned to re-establishing the Mackler Room. The goal was to have it ready in time for the annual meeting of the Friends. Our exhibits designer, Darren Terpstra, had some ideas on how the new room might look. Perhaps the greatest change, but one in keeping with the Victorian feel of this abode, was the wallpaper. Allen's original room featured a pale green paper, one that Darren replicated in the Wilson space. As a way to mark a change to the new venue, and in accord with the color palette already present in Andersen, Darren proposed a red or maroon wallpaper for the new flat. After experimenting with a number of designs and shades, we settled on a final pattern and color. We trust Allen would approve.

I asked Darren if he would share some of his thoughts about the process. He offered these insightful remarks:

We were confronted with having to put what functions as a "sitting room/living room" sort of space into a very commercial space. So my goal was to make this Sherlock sitting room as authentic as possible. Since we could only make modest changes to the room in terms of cosmetics, we had to be smart about what would give us the most visually appealing payoff. After looking through some books and on-line, I was really liking what some Sherlock fans had done in their own recreations using red as their wall color. I thought it had a rich, Victorian look, and was very different than the corporate feel in the rest of the building.

Instead of just looking for currently available wall coverings, I was aware that one of our printing vendors had a product that would function like wallpaper, and we could create our own custom design. The wall paper is a type of vinyl cling. It has a light adhesive quality, but not so much that you can peel it off and re-align if necessary. So, with some consultation from Tim Johnson, the curator, and Cheryll Fong, one of our architecture curators, we came up with a design and color palette that would have been appropriate for the time period. We had it printed up and voilà... a beautiful wall treatment that really transformed the space.

Another color choice involved wall space above a wooden molding running around the room's perimeter. The molding will anchor a hanging system—soon to be installed—used for artwork. Paint sample cards were obtained and appraised. Settling on a final shade of "Deacon's Bench," University painters came in to finish the work. Once painting was complete, Darren and his student assistant, Gunnar, installed the new wallpaper. They also covered, painted, or disguised the many power and computer outlets running along lower portions of the walls.

Once the wallpaper was in place—Darren, along with Gunnar and our building manager, Nick, having already moved the fireplace and bookshelves into position—we could install most of what remained of the furniture, fixtures, and books. By the time of the Friends annual meeting most everything was in place, save for the artwork and glasswork on the chemical table.

One of the final pieces in this enchanting puzzle that is the Mackler Sitting

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From the President

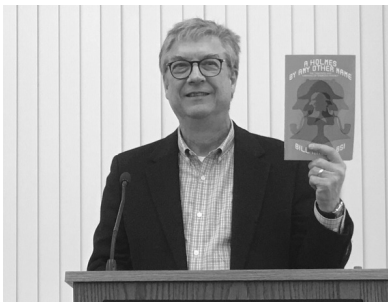

Photo by Julie McKuras

Gary Thaden

The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections held its annual meeting on October 23rd where we were updated on our membership, the newsletter, and our finances; we elected leadership and given an update on the status of the collections. A short history of significant events in the history of the Sherlock Holmes Collections that are housed at the Elmer L. Andersen Library: the 1974 acquisition of the James C. Iraldi collection, the donation of the Dr. Philip S. Hench, E.W. McDiarmid and Edith Meiser collections, the 1995 dedication of the John Bennett Shaw Collection of Sherlockiana, the movement of the collections to the Elmer L. Andersen Library in 1999, the establishment of the E.W. McDiarmid Curator of the Sherlock Holmes Collections in 2010, and the seven co-sponsored symposia.

Julie McKuras (our intrepid editor) gave a report on the membership and the newsletter. Tim Johnson outlined our financial position (good, but you can donate at https://www.lib.umn.edu/holmes/become-friend-holmes). Following a grueling election campaign, the following were elected to leadership positions with the Friends:

- President: Gary Thaden
- Vice President: Ray Riethmeier
- Secretary: Mike Eckman
- Treasurer: Tim Johnson
- Re-Elected Members-at-Large: Phil Bergem, John Bergquist, Lucy Brusic, Julie McKuras, Mike McKuras, Tim Reich, Steve Stilwell and Richard Sveum

Next, we recognized those who are members of the Sigerson Society (those who have given or pledged $10,000 or more to the collections):

- Allen Mackler (deceased)
- The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota
- John and Inez Bergquist
- The Hubbs Family
- Mary McDiarmid
- Mike and Julie McKuras
- Tim Johnson
- Dick Sveum

Julie presented the 2018 Bryce L. Crawford Award to Ray Betzner at The Sons of the Copper Beeches dinner for his wonderful article, *Reedy's Mirror*, in the September 2018 issue.

In the lead article, Soren Eversoll covered the key note address given by Tim Johnson and the dedication of the Allen Mackler 221B Room now at the Elmer L. Andersen Library. It is good to have Allen's room under the same roof as the Collections.

On another note, the Friends, the University of Minnesota Libraries, and the Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota are jointly sponsoring another exciting conference. Titled "Dark Places, Wicked Companions, and Strange Experiences," it will be held at The Graduate Hotel (formally The Commons) on August 8 – 11, 2019. There will be an accompanying exhibit at the Elmer L. Andersen Library running from July 18 – October 25, 2019. You can register at http://www.norwegianexplorers.org/2019_conference.html .

Confirmed Speakers Include:
Marcus Geisser, B.S.I.
Cheryll Fong
Regina Stinson, B.S.I.
Peter Calamai, B.S.I.
Shannon Carlisle
Dan Payton
Bill Mason, B.S.I.
Jeffrey Hatcher, B.S.I.
Alan Rettig
Ross Davies, B.S.I.

Panel discussion:
"Long-suffering Companions", featuring Judy Margolin, Mike McKuras and Barbara Shaw

Schedule
There will be a Thursday evening reception (cash bar) at The Graduate Hotel. Friday morning is reserved for experiencing the Conference Exhibit at the Elmer L. Andersen Library (222-21st Avenue South, the next light rail stop towards Minneapolis, or a walkable 0.8 miles).

Our conference will begin on Friday afternoon, August 9, 2019, at 1:00 PM at The Graduate Hotel. The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections annual meeting will be held late Friday afternoon with noted playwright Jeffery Hatcher as our speaker. Friday evening will be open for your personal dining choice. Presentations will resume on Saturday morning, August 10 at the hotel. A luncheon and banquet will also be held at the hotel that day, with a banquet program featuring always entertaining Bill Mason. The conference will conclude at the hotel on Sunday, August 11 by 1:00 PM. and will include the reenactment of a radio show by the Norwegian Explorers' own Red-Throated League. Not to be missed!

Gary Thaden, President,
Friends of the Sherlock
Holmes Collection

An Update from the Collections… *Continued from Page 2*

I've made the point a number of times in professional gatherings that the easiest place for a college or university library to raise money would be in connection with those things it holds dearest, its collections of distinction. Yet, as you know, it took a decade to raise the funds necessary to create the E.W. McDiarmid Curator of the Sherlock Holmes Collections endowment. I will be forever grateful to the McDiarmid family, during their time of mourning, in agreeing to the proposal allowing us to craft a campaign and ultimately name and create an endowed curatorship in his honor and memory. Likewise, I will be forever thankful to you, the Friends, who contributed to this fund.

The University speaks to and about its three main missions: teaching, research, and outreach. Governor Elmer Andersen, in celebration of opening the library that bears his name, added a fourth mission, one related to what we do and what we're about in the Libraries: to preserve, maintain, and pass on to future generations the raw materials for research and discovery. These missions sometimes combine or build on each other. In terms of course related integrated instruction, we've had modest success engaging our own classes, primarily from the English department, on detective fiction or Victorian culture. We've had much better success connecting with faculty and courses at Metropolitan State University, the University of St. Thomas, or Normandale Community College. At the same time, and crossing over a bit into our outreach mission, we've been very successful operating in instructional environments aimed at older adults such as the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, also known as OLLI. Because of our experience with OLLI, we've now branched out to other adult learning organizations outside the Twin Cities in greater Minnesota. Word spreads among groups, and following successes in Bemidji and Park Rapids we're being contacted about presentations on Mr. Holmes to other groups "up north" or "out state." Locally, I'm a regular speaker for antiques and collectible groups or senior retirement communities. Last month I was in Plymouth. Next month I'll be in St. Louis Park for a return visit and another adventure with Holmes and Watson.

I'm very proud of the fact, when we speak of research, that the Collections draw researchers from around the world. Two recent doctoral students from the United Kingdom, one from Portsmouth, the other from Cambridge, made extensive use of our materials in their dissertations. We've also hosted faculty or other researchers from other European countries, Canada, Japan, and from states closer to home. At the same time, we've not been very successful attracting applicants to the Elmer L. Andersen Research Scholars Program. This program, one of nine offered by Archives and Special Collections, is designed to support scholarly research projects using materials from any unit within the Department of Archives and Special Collections. I plan on increasing efforts to publicize this program and communicate it through the newsletter.

Some of our research requests come through Minitex in the form of requests for copies or scans. We provide the copy, Minitex handles the rest. The system works very well. Other requests come directly to us via email. We do our best to turn these requests around in a timely manner. Based on statistics we've kept over the years this averages out to about a thousand copies or scans per year. Somewhere between one and three hundred items are pulled a year for visiting researchers.

Closer to home, I'm pleased that Cheryll Fong and I continue to write and publish. No doubt our biggest accomplishment was the jointly authored article "The expanding universe of Sherlockian fandom and archival collections" published in *Transformative Works and Cultures*. In addition, I helped out with editorial duties for *The Missing Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes*, added an essay to *On Being a Sherlockian*, contributed a chapter, "The Adventure of the Unopened Box," to the book *Managing the Mystery Collection*, and wrote about the Collections' bookplate for the journal *Libraries & Culture*. Throw in the occasional online or video book review and we've done an acceptable job on the publishing front. We've both written for the newsletter and each of us can claim a Bryce Crawford Award for best article. At last count, I've written 104 columns or articles for the newsletter. Others would like us to write and publish even more. We'd be delighted to, but for the moment our writing times are limited to very early mornings, very late nights, or the occasional weekend.

Exhibits and off-campus presentations are our biggest avenues for outreach. Over the last twenty years we've mounted nine exhibitions from the Collections. One of these was a small traveling exhibit, "Treasures from the John Bennett Shaw Sherlock Holmes Library," at the National Arts Club in New York City for the Baker Street Irregulars. Our greatest contribution came in developing and promoting the International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes created by Exhibits Development Group in St. Paul in collaboration with Geoffrey M. Curley + Associates. For about three years prior to the show's debut, I served as the collection consultant. We selected over one hundred items from the Collections in a long-term loan to the International Exhibition, and those items from the Collections have now been displayed across the United States and in Canada and Australia.

That fourth mission, the archival one outlined by Governor Andersen, finds expression in the work we've done through digital delivery platforms, discovery tools, and preservation management. Interested individuals can now find around 1,200 digital objects from the Holmes Collections in the UMedia Archive. Using our Archival Collection Guides database, ArchivesSpace, folks can find information on fifteen collections and over 1,300 archival records. In the University Libraries Digital Conservancy people can find exhibit

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Annual Meeting… *Continued from Page 1*

other collections available at the University's libraries. The Sherlock Holmes Collections continue to be utilized in both touring exhibitions such as the International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes, and many conventions of enthusiasts across the country, an involvement that can only help to bring new scholars to the Canon. The Holmes Collections are far from collecting dust underground, and Tim's presentation underscored this.

Tim also served as the night's keynote speaker – a fantastic opportunity for him to relate his long history as curator of the Collections, a passion spanning decades. In this retrospective, Tim shared myriad memories beginning with his work in the extensive collection, meeting and working with figures such as E.W. McDiarmid, finding lifelong friends in the Minnesotan Sherlockian communities, and helping to expand the collection to where it is today. I loved hearing all the stories that come with being the curator of such a fantastic collection, as well as how much has changed since Tim first took the job.

After the speech, our group was ushered up a flight of stairs to get a peek at the Mackler room. The feeling of excitement was heightened by a ribbon-cutting ceremony that officially opened the 221B room to the public. It was difficult to feel anything but a sense of awe as we stepped through the door into the Victorian world of Holmes and Watson — not all the artifacts had been moved in yet, but the pipes, violin, bearskin hearthrug, and period wallpaper were all that were needed to take me back to 1895. I rushed over to the bookshelf to see one of my favorite parts of the collection — Allen's series of specially-made books displaying familiar titles such as *The Practical Handbook of Bee Culture, The Dynamics of an Asteroid*, and Holmes's many monographs on criminal eccentricities. Upon stepping back into the recreation, it was as if I had never left.

Photo by Julie McKuras

Soren Eversoll and Tim Johnson

As Sherlockians said their goodbyes, pointing out favorite objects in the 221B sitting room, I was reminded of the wonderful community that the Friends helps to create as it continues to keep the Master's memory green. ✒

Musings

The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections Meeting this year was special for several reasons. We celebrated Tim Johnson's 20 years with the Collections. We had an opportunity to visit the almost-completed Allen Mackler room and learn about the work done by the library staff and administration that went into the relocation from the Wilson Library. Everyone enjoyed walking through the room, looking at each item and remembering Allen and his passion for all things Sherlockian.

Many of you might remember local Norwegian Explorer Soren Eversoll as an attendee at our 2010 conference "The Spirits of Sherlock Holmes" or as a speaker at our 2016 conference "The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes." Even with his long-time involvement and scholastic achievements, it's difficult to believe he's a senior in high school. Soren graciously accepted my invitation to write about the 2018 Friends Annual Meeting. We wanted to include a number of photographs from the meeting, so the decision was made to skip our usual 50 and 100 Years Ago column.

As we close out the year, I hope everyone enjoys whatever holidays they celebrate and that 2019 will be a good one. ✒

Julie McKuras, ASH, BSI

Photo by Paul Martin

Relative to our last issue, we're running a photo of Al Rodin, Jack Key, Andrew Malec and Ron De Waal, taken in 1983.

An Update from the Collections… *Continued from Page 4*

catalogs, bibliographies, conference papers, and Friends newsletters. Mary Miller, director of Collection Management & Preservation at the University of Minnesota Libraries, and her team helped design and create special enclosures for some of our three-dimensional objects. They continue to advise us on preservation management issues and help to maintain an import part of the Collections.

A quick perusal of past newsletters brings other reminders of what we've been up to over the last two decades. We've

- traveled to Dubuque, Iowa to acquire David Hammer's collection
- been blessed by the contributions of volunteers Lucy Brusic and the late Fred Levin
- mounted Ron De Waal's Universal Sherlock Holmes bibliography on our website
- acquired artwork from Lynette Yencho
- helped organize, host, and participate in seven international conferences
- enjoyed presenting Holmes with local author Larry Millett at a University event
- acquired the Jennie Paton collection, the Eve Titus papers, and Shaw-Tracy letters
- met some amazing people
- and much, much more.

There are some very special moments—those times that stick in memory—over the course of a career. Happily, many of those moments are associated with the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota. Dinner with Mac and Bryce. Visiting Allen's 221B sitting room. My first meeting with Soren. A weekend visit from Haley and her grandfather. Sitting at a table of honor at a Baker Street Irregulars dinner. Celebrating my inauguration as the first E.W. McDiarmid Curator. The many Monday meetings with Julie and Dick. Meetings with friends. Welcoming Laurie R. King, Les Klinger, and Bonnie MacBird. Long conversations with Lucy. I am privileged to enter into your lives, sometimes at a sensitive moment or time of grief. I thank you for those welcomes, those openings and intersections when a shared interest in Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson comes together with what it means to live and breathe and be together in community, to be living in this land in the 21st century.

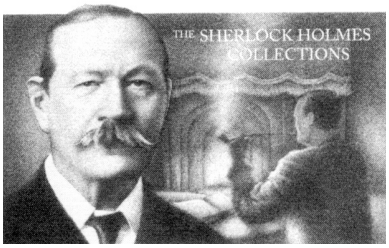
I just mentioned visiting Allen Mackler's 221B sitting room in his home in Osseo. I was only there a few times, but each visit was marked by a kind of ritual. The door to the sitting room was closed. Everyone gathered outside the door. And then you paused. It was a conscious act, one that Allen insisted on. In that briefest of moments the world stood still. Everyone knew they had just received an invitation. We were invited to step back in time, to a place where it was always 1895. And then we entered the room. It was a magical moment, a fragment of time in which everything seemed right and possible and good.

Tonight we celebrate the arrival of Allen's 221B Sitting Room at Andersen Library. Before we conclude our time here and wander up to the next floor, I want to take a moment to offer a slightly modified version of the "Musgrave Ritual" as a kind of dedicatory word.

" 'Whose was it?'
" 'His who is gone.'
" 'Who shall have it?'
" 'We who will come.'
" 'What was the month?'
" 'The twelfth from the first.'
" 'Where was the sun?'
" 'Eight days past the Solstice.'
" 'Where was the shadow?'
" 'Under our eyes at his passing.'
" 'How was it stepped?'
" 'Lively, in the manner of
Sarasate at St. James's Hall,
Introspective in the fashion of
Germanic song,
More to our taste than
Italian or French.
Put on your hat and come along!"
" 'What shall we give for it?'
Nothing. It is a gift to us all.
" 'Why is this so?
Out of generosity and love,
and so forever green."

You'll notice, as we go upstairs to re-dedicate the Allen Mackler 221B Sitting Room, that the art work is not yet hung, that the chemical table is bare without its glass work and apparatus. For tonight, that is as it should be. The room, like the Collections, is unfinished, a work in progress. There is always something new around the corner, another item or library or collection to add to the treasures that are the Sherlock Holmes Collections. You make this happen, in all you do. Thank you for your continuing support as together we engage in these ongoing adventures, mysteries, and tales.

Timothy Johnson



The *Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections* is a quarterly newsletter published by the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections which seek to promote the activities, interests and needs of the Special Collections and Rare Books Department, University of Minnesota Libraries.

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Jon Lellenberg, Richard J. Sveum, M.D.

LIBRARIES

The Allen Mackler Room… *Continued from Page 3*

Room also displays Darren's creative genius. A long, curving glass wall runs opposite the door to the Sitting Room. On the other side of this wall is the former reading room, now used as a processing space for incoming collections. Darren proposed mounting an imaginary London cityscape on these windows using "a translucent cling product for windows that allows light to pass through, but still is opaque." The window treatment offered privacy to those working in the processing room while providing us with a stunning entry statement. He offered some additional comments:
It's difficult to find a photo or illustration that is oriented straight-on and can be blown up to 41 some feet to create a mural that could run along the hallway next to the Sherlock Room. So, again, we had to basically create our own out of a royalty free photograph of a European street and make it look as though it's a London street, with a misty, adventurous, mysterious night scene. With clever manipulation and a heightening of the "surrealism" of the scene, I think we came up with a really cool panorama to enhance the visitor experience in what can now be called the "Sherlock Area" of the second floor!

I noted during my talk at the annual meeting that as we paraded "upstairs to re-dedicate the Allen Mackler 221B Sitting Room, that the art work is not yet hung, that the chemical table is bare without its glass work and apparatus. For tonight, that is as it should be. The room, like the Collections, is unfinished, a work in progress. There is always something new around the corner, another item or library or collection to add to the treasures that are the Sherlock Holmes Collections. You make this happen, in all you do." My special thanks to Darren, Gunnar, Nick, and Cheryll for making something magical happen on the second floor of Andersen Library. Thank you, as well, for your continuing support and interest in the Sherlock Holmes Collections! I hope you will have an opportunity during your travels to visit the Allen Mackler 221B Sitting Room. It is a very special place, full of memories, wonder, and adventure.

Timothy J. Johnson
E.W. McDiarmid Curator of the
Sherlock Holmes Collections

Remembrances

In supporting the Sherlock Holmes Collections, many donors have made contributions either in honor or in memory of special persons.

In Honor Of	**From**
Tim Johnson's lecture at "Holmes and the Heartland"	Ed Weiss
Julie McKuras	Richard Caplan
Gary Thaden	Thomas Gottwalt
Bob Thomalen	Paul Singleton

In Memory Of	**From**
Steve Clarkson	Lynn Walker
Nancy Czarnecki	Larry Czarnecki
Chuck and Peggy Henry	Raymond Betzner
Paul Herbert	John Bergquist
Paul Herbert	Joe Eckrich
Cameron Hollyer, MBI, BSI	Bruce Aikin
C. Frederick Kittle	Ann Bates Kittle
Eleonore Margolin	Jerry Margolin
Joe Margolin	Jerry Margolin
E.W. McDiarmid	Pj Doyle
Gene McGinley	Elaine Coppola
Lew Neisner	Elaine Coppola
Walter Pond	Nancy Pond
Joel Senter	Bill Mason
John Bennett Shaw	Jim Hawkins

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