

The Litmus Paper

An Irregular Publication by the St. Bartholomew's Chemical Lab, a scion of The Baker Street Irregulars

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Lab Notes♦♦♦

Greetings and salutations to all the members of the Chem Lab since the last time we spoke by newsletter.

It's been a busy summer and fall, with several meetings and meeting-dinner.

In June, twelve members of the Lab met at Valente's Restaurant in north Denver for a "Red Circle" dinner; we walked out two sizes larger for all the pasta we put away, and the quiz was won by member Mary Walker. Later in the summer we met at Paul Czaja's residence for an evening of Sherlockian fun and a visit with out of town member James Perry. James filled us in on the latest activities of Wulsa's scion, The Afghanistan Receivers. To finish out the summer and get us into the fall season, there were two gatherings at the Butlers'. The first meeting's quiz was won, after much struggling and a few all-placed hits to his opponents, by Ron Lies, and at the second meeting we extended a Coloradoan (or is that Coloradoan?) greeting to Brad Sufever, visiting the area from his own scion, The Double Drilled Tiger-Cubs. The next

meeting will be held December 9th at the home of Larry and Liz Feldman, 841 S. Corona, Denver, telephone: 871-9572. Call Larry or Liz for directions or to RSVP.

Several local Lab Assistants recently hit the airwaves to discuss Sherlock and things S'ian. On September 15th, John Stephenson, Ron Lies, Irving Hale, Jim and Debbie Butler (and via phone Larry Feldman) were guests of KBXG's Alan Dumas on his radio show, broadcast from Muddy's Cafe. The members behaved themselves with great restraint and easily fielded every Canonical question tossed them, save one, which the five persons on the air obviously decided was a trick question and feel no shame in missing. In fact, the discussion went so well, and Mr. Dumas appeared to be such a glutton for punishment, that he invited three of the members back for a discussion, on October 30th, of Holmes' sometimes nemesis, Jack the Ripper.

For those members who do not live in the Denver area, we are saddened to announce the death of local Sherlockian Nancie Hunt. Nancie passed away September 2nd after complications from a lengthy

illness. Members from the Denver area remember Nancie's ever-present smile at any local S'ian gathering she could attend, despite being wheelchair-bound for the last few years. For those who never had the distinct joy of being one of Nancie's friends, she was the widow of Roy Hunt, one of the foremost Sherlockian artists of the country. It will be sad not to have Nancie at our annual functions, but we know that she has finally re-joined Roy and all the other gentle persons who have gone on before her.

On the subject of those who have "stood upon the terrace", we recently ran across, in a national publication, two references to local Sherlockians Charles Hansen and Roy Hunt. Your local library should carry "The Year's Best Science Fiction" Second and Third Annual Collections. The second volume marks the passing of Chuck, while the third makes mention that we lost Roy in 1986. Both Chuck and Roy, while active Sherlockians, were also SF fans of many years. It's nice to see past members recognized for their contributions to any field.

For the first year, and we hope for several years to come, St. Bart's Chem Lab will be having the "First Annual Blue Carbuncle Dinner". Details are sketchy at this time and, should we be able to pull it off, we will notify all members as to time, place and date. Tentatively, we will hold it at the home of Dorothy Ellis, in Lakewood. We will enjoy a goose dinner (goose will be provided; potluck on the accessories) and a showing of Mystery's "The Blue Carbuncle".

Obviously, we will try to have it as close to December 27th as as conceivable, possible Saturday, December 30th. As soon as a better picture develops, we will get an announcement to all members.

Attached is the first and official Roster of the Lab. Please look over your name, address, etc., and if there are any boo-boos, please let one of the Butlers know so we can change it.

Ta-ta for now.

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