



# Sherlock Holmes

C O L L E C T I O N S



"Your merits should be publicly recognized" (STUD)

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## Pipes, Matches and Tobacco

**I** have, as you know...written a little monograph on the ashes

of 140 different varieties of pipe, cigar, and cigarette tobacco." (BOSC) As Sherlock Holmes familiarized himself with the importance of information discerned from the ashes of pipes, cigars and cigarette tobacco, John Bennett Shaw collected materials pertain-



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

ing to Holmes' interest. A plain, black notebook labeled "Pipes, Matches, Tobacco" holds Shaw's tobacco-related ephemera. The notebook contents begin on page one with a grouping of six Ogden's Guinea Gold Cigarette Cards. Four of the six are of William Gillette, in different poses as Holmes. The remaining two, both labeled number 326, have identical photos of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Continued on page 6

## The Best and the Wisest Man

**E**rett W. "Mac" McDiarmid, former University of Minnesota Dean of the College of Science, Literature and Arts and University Librarian, passed away on April 27, 2000. Mac was instrumental in amassing and caring for the fledgling Sherlock Holmes Collections. He was also one of the five founders of the Norwegian Explorers, which first met in 1948. He was himself a collector and donated his Holmes Collection to the Library in 1995. Mac authored and edited a number of works, including co-editing *The Baker Street Dozen* with Pj Doyle in 1987. He received his Baker Street Irregulars investiture of "The Bruce-Partington Plans" in 1957, and the Two-Shilling Award in 1985. ♡



Bryce Crawford, Jr. and E.W. McDiarmid Dec. 2, 1999

photo by Mike McKuras

# 100

YEARS AGO

In *The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes*, 1944, Ellery Queen wrote in the introduction;

As a general rule writers of pastiches retain the sacred and inviolate form – Sherlock Holmes – and rightfully, since a pastiche is a serious and sincere imitation in the exact manner of the original author. But writers of parodies, which are humorous or satirical takeoffs, have no such reverent scruples. They usually strive for the weirdest possible distortions and it must be admitted that many highly ingenious travesties have been conceived.

One such "appellative disguise" was Hemlock Jones, who appeared in "The Stolen Cigar-Case By A. C---N D--le, Author of 'Rodney Stone and other Light Weights'." This parody was first published in the December, 1900 issue of *Pearson's Magazine*, and was listed as "the latest of the Later Condensed Novels written by Bret Harte in imitation of the style of well-known writers of fiction." John Bennett Shaw's notebook of "Periodical Material before 1903", contains a copy of this story, described by Ellery Queen as "one of the most devastating parodies ever perpetrated on The Great Man."

A gift from the Turkish Ambassador, Jones' cigar-case is missing from the "Terror of Peculators" Brook Street lodgings. Jones' old friend, an unnamed physician, calls to visit and proceeds to throw himself in his "old familiar attitude at his feet".

Hemlock Jones accuses his old friend of the theft and banishes him from the Brook Street rooms, even after the doctor finds the cigar-case stuck in a drawer. The great detective, whose superhuman insight is cause for reverence, has charged him with theft and betrayal. The doctor leaves, never to see Jones again. However, as he relates in the last line, "I often wondered, pondering on that wonderful man's penetration and insight, if, in some lapse of consciousness I had not really stolen his cigar-case!"

Francis Brett Harte was born to cultured parents in Albany, NY on August 25, 1836. In 1854, he moved to California, where he briefly visited the mining country. During his California era, Harte was a school teacher, drug store clerk, and express messenger. Later employed by the *Golden Era*, he contributed parodies satirizing contemporary writers such as James Fenimore Cooper and Charles Dickens. In 1864, he became a clerk in the California mint and served as editor of the *Californian*, where he hired Mark Twain to write weekly articles. Many of his best known works, including "The Luck of Roaring Camp", "The Outcasts of Poker Flat", and "Plain Language from Truthful James" were published in the *Overland*

*Monthly*, which Harte helped establish in 1868. His descriptions of the mining camps are regarded as classics of American regional literature, despite his short exposure to the camp life he wrote about. He was appointed a Professor of Recent Literature at the University of California, and signed with *The Atlantic Monthly* in 1871, becoming the highest paid American writer up to that time.

He left California for New York in 1872, where he was treated as a great writer. However, his work suffered, as did his finances. He collaborated with Twain on the play *Ah Sin* in 1877, and embarked on the lecture circuit, but further success eluded him. In 1878, he accepted a consulship to Crefeld, Germany and in 1880 to Glasgow, Scotland. He never returned to the United States, and died from throat cancer in London on May 5, 1902. In *Through the Magic Door*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle referred to Harte as "...one of those great short story tellers."

"The Stolen Cigar-Case" was reprinted in *Condensed Novels: New Burlesques* by Bret Harte, London, Chatto & Windus, 1902; *Condensed Novels: Second Series*, by Bret Harte, Houghton, Mifflin and Co., 1902; *American Detective Novels*, Oxford University Press, 1927; and *The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes*, edited by Ellery Queen, Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1944. ♣

Julie McKuras

# 50

## YEARS AGO

In "The Veiled Lodger," Dr. Watson refers to the "long row of year-books which fill a shelf" at Baker Street. Another long row of yearbooks fill shelves in Bay 6 of the caverns below the Elmer L. Andersen Library. These yearbooks, lovingly assembled over several decades by John Bennett Shaw, contain articles, cartoons, ads, and other printed references to Sherlock Holmes,

Shaw's 1950 yearbook contains a political cartoon that appeared that year in the January 27 *Chicago Tribune*. "The White House Sleuth" depicts President Harry S. Truman in Sherlockian garb peering through a magnifying glass. Truman is standing in a coal field atop a lit stick of dynamite labeled "miners' revolt" while saying in effect "What coal crisis?"

What coal crisis, indeed? Because of unresolved war-time labor dissatisfaction, in peacetime the Truman Administration faced chronic labor unrest in several key industries. By January, 1950, months of wildcat strikes and work slowdowns by restive coal miners had caused the country's coal reserves to dwindle to alarmingly low levels, threatening normal operations of railroads, steel mills, and power plants. Truman said he would act if the coal situation reached the emergency stage, but held off taking action longer than his critics thought wise. In late January, the Administration conceded that the nation was in a coal crisis. The Director of the Bureau of Mines told the Senate Labor committee that "unless there is an immediate resumption of substantially increased coal production the national economy, health and welfare ... is now or soon will be imperiled."

Truman wanted to avoid invoking the Taft-Hartley Act, which gives the

President powers to force strikers in critical industries to return to work. The Act was passed by a Republican Congress over Truman's veto in 1947, and the President called for its repeal in his 1950 State of the Union Address. Instead of forcing miners back to work, he called for a 70-day truce while a Presidential fact-finding board tried to arrange a settlement. After United Mine Workers President John L. Lewis rejected the truce, Truman reluctantly invoked Taft-Hartley. Although Lewis officially



ordered the 400,000 strikers back to the mines, most stayed home. Mine owners later charged that Lewis had secretly encouraged the miners to stay away. An informer claimed Lewis verbally passed the signal, "The whistle blew one," a prearranged code ordering miners to disregard Lewis' own telegrams to return to work.

As a last resort, on March 3 Truman asked Congress for a bill granting him powers to seize the mines. Whether due to the threat of seizure or purely economic factors, the strike finally ended March 5. Lewis signed a new contract with coal operators, gaining most of the wage and benefit concessions the miners had been demanding.

Searches of biographical dictionaries and calls to the Chicago Public Library and *Tribune* archives have failed to turn up any information about the cartoonist, H. Ford. It would be interesting to know if Ford knew of Truman's interest

in Holmes. The President likely saw and kept a copy of the cartoon, as he was known to collect political cartoons about himself—pro and con. One can surmise that the *Tribune* welcomed chances to embarrass Truman, after their own embarrassment of running the 1948 post-election day headline DEWEY DEFEATS TRUMAN. Perhaps the most enduring image of our thirty-third President shows him grinning broadly, holding aloft a copy of the *Tribune's* blunder.

Many Sherlockians know that President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was an honorary Baker Street Irregular. Fewer realize that his successor, Harry S. Truman, was also granted that honor. Upon accepting BSI membership in 1946, Truman wrote "I commend your good sense in seeking escape from this troubled world into the happier and calmer world of Baker Street. I had read all of the [published Holmes stories] before I was twelve years old." In a photograph from the January 1949, *Baker Street Journal* Truman and fellow Irregulars Elmer Davis and Edgar Smith are shown inspecting *The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*, the first book published by the BSI. (See "50 Years Ago" in the December 1998 [Volume 2 Number 4] edition of this newsletter.)

Restive coal miners recall to mind the Scowrers in *The Valley of Fear*. The Scowrers, based on the real-life Molly Maguires, had terrorized Pennsylvania coal-mining companies circa 1875, going so far as to assassinate recalcitrant owners and managers. Although two Puerto Rican Nationalists were blamed for the attempted assassination of Truman on November 1, 1950, could this actually have been the work of zealous organized miners? 🐾

John Bergquist

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## From the President

The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections Annual Membership Meeting has been scheduled for August 2, 2000 at our new home in the Elmer L. Andersen Library. In addition to our usual business meeting and program, we will have tours of the underground caverns. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

I want to thank everyone who worked on the opening of the Elmer L. Andersen Library in April. I would like to extend a special thanks to our Friends representative Julie McKuras who served on the steering

committee. In his opening comments at the April 8 Gala, Governor Andersen noted the need for both public and private support of libraries. "It falls to the universities in our culture to preserve information, knowledge and culture, so it can be found and passed on." This quote was hand-set and duly printed at the opening, using Governor Andersen's printing press which now resides in Special Collections and Rare Books.

The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections will miss E. W. McDiarmid. He was the inspiration

for founding both the collections and the Friends group. He served on the Board of the Friends from the beginning and attended all of our meetings until his health failed. The fund raising program "Campaign Minnesota" will soon launch a special effort in cooperation with the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. ♥

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## Acquisitions

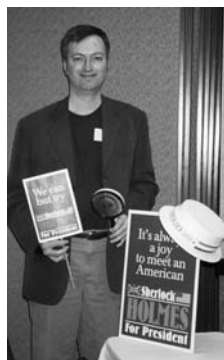
"Sit down' he said; 'have a cigar?'" Hemlock Jones asks in "The Stolen Cigar-Case" by Bret Harte.

C Us 4 Cigars, in Aurora, Illinois asks this same question, and has donated a box of their new 221B Baker Street Collection to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. This set of six cigars includes a Churchill, Torpedo, Pyramid, Lonsdale, Corona and Grand Corona. They invite you to check out their cigar set, with Holmes cigar bands, at their website [www.CUs4Cigars.com](http://www.CUs4Cigars.com)



221B Baker Street Collection

photo by Julie McKuras



Brad Keefauver with Sherlock Holmes for President

photo by Julie McKuras

Brad Keefauver has jumped into the election year frenzy with a spirited campaign. "Sherlock Holmes for President!" was the title of the talk he presented at the Dayton

Symposium in March. He donated items from the election campaign.

Philip Sherman of Baltimore, Maryland recently donated correspondence he received from John Bennett Shaw. These seven letters covered the period of May 10, 1985 through July 15, 1985. Also included were The Brothers Three Moriarty Programs for November 7, 1985 and June 12, 1986, as well as the John Bennett Shaw Big League Card from 1985.

Geoff Jeffrey of Tacoma, Washington donated a copy of the November/December 1999 issue of *World*, the Journal of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Within the journal is an article entitled "A Sherlock Way of Knowing: Five Spiritual Teachings of a Fictional Detective." The article was written by Rev. Stephen Kendrick, and was adapted from his book [Holy Clues: The Gospel According to Sherlock Holmes](#).

Ted Bergman, B.S.I, sent two booklets to the donations. One was "Krondiamanten", his Swedish translation of Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Crown Diamond*. The second booklet was *Hundra Holmesianska Haikun*, a collection of poems written in Swedish by five members of the Holmesian society The Fierce Badgers in Ystad.

John Bergquist returned from the Millenium Congress of Holmesian Societies, held May 4-7 in Switzerland, with souvenirs from the conference as well as publications from Les Quincailliers de la Franco-Midland and The Reichenbach Journal. ♥

# An Update from the Collections

**I**t feels very good to be in our new home, the Elmer L. Andersen Library. And did we ever have a great housewarming party!

We were the last of the eight special collections and archival units to move into our new offices, which we did during the first week of March. During the next weeks we unpacked, got to know our new neighbors a little better, and made final preparations for the Gala Opening weekend of April 7-9. In the midst of unpacking and planning we continued to meet with the cataloging staff as they moved into the third month of the Hubbs/Holmes cataloging project, talked with the Norwegian Explorers about future conference plans, worked on grants proposals for both Holmes and non-Holmes collections, planned for a new exhibit on Holmes and architecture, and dealt with the ongoing and general business of running one the Libraries' units as the University sprinted toward the end of its first academic year under the semester system.

The first event leading up to the weekend was Media Day on Wednesday. Representatives from print, radio, and television news outlets were on hand to interview Governor Andersen, talk with any of the curators, and get a first glimpse at the opening exhibit "Time and Again: Our Collective Heritage--Our Common Future." A timeline representing the breadth and depth of all eight collections was an added element of the opening exhibit and included an image of the cover of the first British edition of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. (There is some thought of transforming this image into a poster, for sale in support of the collections or its staff.) On Friday we enjoyed the first two major events of the opening: an open house lunch for the entire University Libraries faculty, staff, and students; and an afternoon open house for the entire University community.

Saturday night, however, was the main event. The building opened at 6 to a brass fanfare, guests toured the building and enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, and ninety minutes later a second fanfare announced the beginning of the program and ceremonial ribbon cutting. Comments were made by Board of Regents Chair Patricia Spence, University President Mark Yudof, University Librarian Tom Shaughnessy, and Governor Andersen. The Governor's comments were witty, pertinent, and memorable, including his observation that "I haven't been this excited since my wedding night." About 500 attended the invitation-only event.

The concluding events on Sunday featured a Friends of the Library brunch and an afternoon open house for the public. Both were spectacular successes, especially the afternoon open house where an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 people toured the library in the space of four hours. It was truly amazing.

And it was a bit exhausting. I'm only now realizing how exhausting and traumatic the move and opening have been. This on top of what has been generally acknowledged by University and local media alike as a very stressful year with the conversion to a semester system, the continuing construction and renovation of buildings, and the academic/athletic investigations.

But, in the midst of our exhaustion and unpacking I hope you'll continue to feel welcomed and served. The new facility provides state-of-the-art environmental and security controls to house the Holmes Collections. A first-rate digital laboratory allows increasing access to collections through digital surrogates and improved finding aids. A new face-up book scanner/copier provides excellent photocopies while placing less strain or the likelihood of damage on originals. Automated registration (in development) will reduce the need of

repeated paperwork on future visits. Comfortable and well-lit reading rooms, complete with connections for portable laptop computers, afford an enjoyable research experience. Large and flexible meeting rooms, able to accommodate up to 200 guests, supply ample room for classes, meetings, and conferences. An open and inviting atrium can be used for receptions. And attractive exhibition space allows us to continue to showcase items from the Collections. If you're in town please feel free to stop by. We'd love to show you around.

And if you visit us before August don't forget to see our latest exhibit, "Better Holmes and Gardens: Sherlock Holmes, Arthur Conan Doyle, and Architectural Design 'Down Under.'" This exhibit, on display in the 4th floor exhibition space of Wilson Library, is the collaborative effort of Derham Groves, his Architectural Design and Practice students at the University of Melbourne, and the Department of Special Collections & Rare Books at the University of Minnesota. If you can't be here in person visit us through the Internet (<http://www.lib.umn.edu/special/rare/rare.html>) and view a "virtual" version of the exhibit. The exhibit features six models created by students, copies of some of the artistic designs and plans, the complete design and plan book, and a few Holmesian statues and realia from the Collections. A companion 28-page catalog of the exhibit features an essay by Groves, "Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Among the Architects," 12 images of selected student work, a listing of students and staff involved with the class, "Some Architectural References From *The Universal Sherlock Holmes*," and information about the Sherlock Holmes Collections. A photocopy-produced catalog of the exhibit, including a tipped-in color linocut of the cover design by Derham Groves, is available for \$10. Requests for the catalog should be sent to our address found elsewhere in this newsletter.

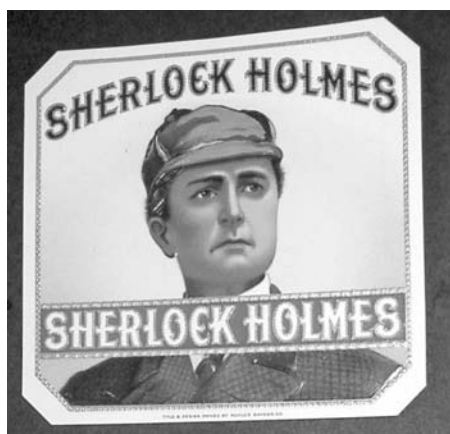
*Continued on page 8*

## Pipes, Matches and Tobacco Continued from Page 1

The difference between the two is the identification; one is labeled "Dr. Conan Doyle" and the other is "Sir A. Conan Doyle".

The handwritten note accompanying these cards reads:

Ogden's Guinea Gold Cigarettes.  
Note varian (sic) A.C.D. card at right: reads Sir, not Dr., and thus cannot be earlier than 1902, the year he was Knighted.



From John Bennett Shaw's Notebook

The following pages have a variety of catalogs featuring pipes, including ones from the Tinder Box Shop and Sherlock's Haven in San Francisco's Ghiradelli Square. Shaw had copies of ads for a number of calabash pipes and tobacco, as well as business cards and stationery from tobacconists, such as Sherlock Holmes Fine Pipes and Tobacco Ltd. in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He collected cigar bands and labels featuring Holmes. One cigar band is preserved in plastic, and a typed note



Henry Lauritzen's Cigar Band

photo by Julie McKuras

states that it is a "Special Cigar Band: Designed and drawn by Henry Lauritzen for the occasion of the visit to Denmark by Edgar Smith, BSI".

Shaw's collection of matchbooks came from all over North America. These covers are as varied as the establishments and scion societies that issued them. Canada is represented by matchbooks from Sherlock's on Sheppard and the Winston & Holmes Tobacco Merchants, both from Toronto. The majority of the covers from the United States are advertisements for restaurants and bars, including:

- Baker Street Pub – Chicago, IL
- Sherlock's Baker Street Pub – Houston, TX
- Sherlock's – Treasure Island, FL
- Sherlock's Home – Oakland, CA
- Sherlock's Home – Chicago, IL
- Dr. Watson's Pub – Philadelphia, PA
- Baker Street – Orlando, FL
- Baker Street – Whiteston, NY
- Dr. Watson's – Memphis, TN
- Sherlock's Pub – Perry Hall, MD
- Watson's Family Restaurant – Frederick, MD
- Professor Moriarty's – Saratoga Springs, NY

photo by Julie McKuras

Matchbooks from The Holmes Motel in New Concord, OH and Holmes Mini Truck Parts in Orange, CA are carefully mounted among those with the more obvious Sherlockian connections. The 1973 Red Circle and 1980 Maiwand Jezails covers represent those issued by scion societies. A set of five variously colored matchbooks carry identical profiles with the notation "A Three Pipe Problem".

Kelvin I. Jones wrote in his 1981 monograph *Thank you Watson – The Matches!*

If we have a picture of Baker Street and its unforgettable sitting-room, that picture is surely incomplete without the acrid fumes of tobacco, the pipe rack and the tobacco stuffed into the toe-end of a Persian slipper.

As any picture of Baker Street would be incomplete without references to tobacco, any picture of Sherlockian collecting would be incomplete without John Bennett Shaw, B.S.I., "The Hans Sloane of My Age". ♡

Julie McKuras

## Musings

**T**he *Baker Street Journal*, volume 3, number 3, carries a poem entitled "On the Ashes of the Various Tobaccos (A Dim View by a Non-Smoker)" by Florence Clum. The poem begins with the verse:

Whenas our Sherlock hied himself  
about, Resolving London's more  
abstruse arcana,  
His daily round was marked by a  
devout Attachment to the herb  
*Nicotiana*.

The Friends newsletter this quarter is focused on tobacco, one of Holmes' vices that accompanied his contemplative moments. With the donation of a box of 221B Baker Street Cigars from C Us 4 Cigars and the 100 year old Hemlock Jones parody "The Stolen Cigar-Case" by Bret Harte, it was only natural to feature John Bennett Shaw's Tobacco notebook.

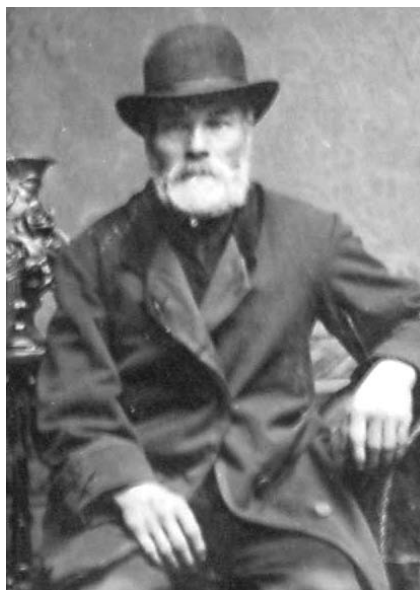
With this issue, we welcome a new contributor to our newsletter. John Bergquist has been a member of the Norwegian Explorers since 1978, and his essay "Holmes, Watson and Wine" was printed that same year in Cultivating Sherlock Holmes. John's article, "The White House Sleuth", provides interesting historical background of the conflict between Truman and United Mine Workers President John L. Lewis. Truman's relationship with Lewis was different from mine, as it was John L Lewis who came to the rescue of my family years ago. While on a short boat ride near Sanibel Island, Florida, our engine failed. After we spent the night on the drifting boat, Lewis pulled along side the next morning and offered to help. My parents recognized him from newspaper pictures, and allowed him to take my brother and me to shore, where he fed us peanut butter sandwiches. I would like to think that Mr. Lewis saved us from the fate of the castaways on Gilligan's Island.

In the March, 2000 newsletter, mention was made of the booklet, Mrs. Martha Hudson. In this 1968 Martha Hudson Memorial Breakfast keepsake, collector and author John Bennett Shaw inserted a photograph of Mrs. Hudson.

Underneath her photo was a second picture, one of a seated gentleman. I received notes from several collectors who own copies of this booklet, and neither had this second photo, raising a question regarding the uniqueness of the booklet held in the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Recently, Ted Bergman, B.S.I. sent a letter regarding his copy of Mrs. Martha Hudson, which also has only the one photo. Please see the accompanying photograph of the man behind the woman. Apparently Shaw's copy of the keepsake was as unique as the man himself.

When Mac McDiarmid passed away on April 27, we lost a friend and mentor. He was an unbelievably generous man with his time, wisdom and encouragement, and we will miss him. The September, 2000 newsletter will feature more about Mac and plans to honor him. ♡

Julie McKuras, ASH



"The Man behind Mrs. Hudson"



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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photo by Julie McKuras

## Using the Sherlock Holmes Collections

The opening of the new Elmer L. Andersen Library at the University of Minnesota was an occasion for many to tour the Sherlock Holmes Collections. During the Open House held on April 9, several members of the Norwegian

Explorers were given a tour by Curator Tim Johnson. Shown in the accompanying photo are Tim Johnson, Philip Bergem, John Bergquist, and Pj Doyle.

Courtney Andersen of Verplanck, NY visited the Sherlock Holmes

Collections as part of his research regarding Holmes Great Hiatus. As Mr. Andersen noted, he is working on a book in which he hopes to "provide plausible answers to some of the critical questions 'The Final Problem' and 'The Empty House' have posed." ❧



photo by Mike McKuras

Curator Tim Johnson, Phil Bergem, John Bergquist, and Pj Doyle

## An Update from the Collections Continued from Page 5

Finally, in the midst of our exhaustion and celebration, we were saddened by the death of E. W. McDiarmid. "Mac" held a very special place with this collection, the University Libraries, and the greater University community. I will be

writing a lengthier tribute in the next issue of the newsletter, but I want to let readers know that we have created a memorial fund with the goal of endowing the Errett W. McDiarmid Curator of the Sherlock Holmes Collections. In the

next few weeks you'll be hearing more from me about the fund and opportunities you will have to contribute to the honor, memory, and ongoing work so dear to Mac. ❧

*Tim Johnson, Curator  
Special Collections and Rare Books*

## Remembrances

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

**IN HONOR OF**  
Pauline R. Galbo  
Dorothy K. Stix

**IN MEMORY OF**  
Errett W. McDiarmid  
Errett W. McDiarmid  
Errett W. McDiarmid  
Errett W. McDiarmid  
Errett W. McDiarmid  
Dr. Al E. Rodin  
Dorothy Shaw  
Thomas L. Stix, Jr.

**FROM**  
Thomas S. Galbo  
Joseph W. Moran

**FROM**  
Joan Arndt  
Howard and Margaret Burchell  
Michael Kean  
Fred and Sunnie Levin  
Julie McKuras  
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**Mailing list corrections requested—**  
Because of the high cost of returned newsletters, we would appreciate being informed of changes of address or other corrections.