



Sherlock Holmes

C O L L E C T I O N S

"Your merits should be publicly recognized" (STUD)



Contents

<i>Stix - Shaw Bolo Tie</i>	1
<i>100 Years Ago</i>	2
<i>50 Years Ago</i>	3
<i>From the President</i>	4
<i>An Update from the Collections</i>	4
<i>Musings</i>	5
<i>Acquisitions</i>	5
<i>Using the Sherlock Holmes Collections</i>	6
<i>Supporting the Collections</i>	7
<i>Remembrances</i>	8

Stix - Shaw Bolo Tie Comes to Minnesota

A very special acquisition occurred in New York during the 1999 annual Sherlock Holmes birthday weekend. Dorothy Stix, wife of the late Tom Stix (who, as 'Wiggins' headed the Baker Street Irregulars for eleven years), presented Friends President Richard Sveum with a bolo tie that had belonged to her husband, and had originally belonged to John Bennett Shaw.

After seeing a similar bolo tie belonging to their longtime friend, Saul Cohen, Dorothy Shaw had an artist in Taos, New Mexico create one for John. After John's death, Dorothy was going through his desk and found the bolo. She felt that John had intended to give it to Tom and so she did – with the understanding that upon his death it would join the rest of John's collection at the University of Minnesota.

The Sherlockian bolo tie features Holmes with a pipe. The clasp is sterling silver 2-1/2 inches high by 1-3/4 inches wide showing a right faced, head and shoulders, side profile portrait of Sherlock Holmes in Inverness Cape and deerstalker. He is smoking a meerschaum pipe, which is held in his right hand. Smoke from the pipe curls up and over the top of the deerstalker. There is a small cuff button done in a copper-colored metal. The bowl of the pipe is of an inlaid light brown stone while the rim of the pipe of inlaid with a white material.

The woven leather tie is 38 inches long with 2 inch sterling tips at each end. Hand engraved on the back of the clasp is

"Sterling, Hand Engraved Original by Ed Morgan @1983"

The Shaw legacy lives on too, as Dorothy continues to buy more Sherlockian books. "I can't stop," said Dorothy. She also keeps an eye on the papers for Sherlockian references and trims them out. She said, in a brief interview, that she's, "been doing it for 25 years and just can't quit." More than once she would catch something that John had missed and he would compliment her on her "good eye." All of the new material she is accumulating will, "eventually go to Minnesota," she said.

We would like to offer a heartfelt "thank you" to Dorothy Stix and the Stix family for presenting this special item to the Collections and also to Dorothy Shaw for continuing to enhance John's magnificent collection. ♣

Bruce Southworth



Dorothy Stix and Richard Sveum, M.D.

photo by Julie McKuras

100

YEARS AGO

The *Strand Magazine* is best known to many for printing stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The March, 1899 issue is no exception as it contains Doyle's "The Story of B24", printed on pages 243-52. However, this was not the only place within that issue where one could find the name of Dr. Doyle. In December, 1978, the Philip S. Hench family donated Dr. Hench's collection of blue-bound, hard-cover *Strand* magazines to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. In Volume 17, with the January through June 1899 issues, page 338 marks the beginning of a curious article entitled "Pigs of Celebrities" by Gertrude Bacon, featuring an original piece of artwork by Doyle.

"There is ever a fascination in collections, and ours is, perhaps, a more essentially collecting age than any other." She began her article with the above sentence to describe the art of collecting objects... "whose chief value would appear to lie in their strange character and utter uselessness." She noted that autographs had an advantage over many other collectible souvenirs. Autographed photographs perpetuated the face as well as the signature. Her article focused on collecting drawings, which she felt embodied the artist. Miss Bacon asked a number of "leading representatives of science, art, literature, society, etc." to draw a pig. An easy task to draw a pig, but how well would one complete this task with eyes shut? This was the request of the author. She felt that a man of genius and strong personality would imprint his every work with his greatness. Her collection included drawings of pigs by many notables of the day, including Sir Henry Irving and Dr.



photo by Julie McKuras

Doyle's sketch in "Pigs of Celebrities"

Arthur Conan Doyle. Of his sketch she wrote:

"Turning to the 'pig literary', he must be wanting in imagination indeed who fails to trace in Dr. Conan Doyle's spirited little sketch the resemblance to the immortal and lamented Sherlock Holmes. That pig is evidently 'on the scent' of some baffling mystery. Note the quick and penetrating snout, the alert ears, thrown back in the act of listening, the nervous, sensitive tail, and the expectant, eager attitude. The spirit of the great detective breathes in every line and animates the whole."

According to Geraldine Beare's "Index to the *Strand Magazine*", published by The Greenwood Press in 1982, this was the first of twelve articles Gertrude Bacon wrote for the *Strand*. Her last article for the magazine was published in December, 1912, and was titled "Pigs that Fly." Bacon was born in 1874 and raised in a parsonage by her father, Rev. John Bacon. Rev. Bacon, 1846-1904, was a pioneer aeronaut. In 1907, Miss Bacon's "The Record of an Aeronaut, being the Life of John Mackenzie Bacon" was published, followed by the 1911 "How Men Fly". Miss Bacon died in 1916.

In 1967, "The Gentlewomen of Evil; An Anthology of Rare Supernatural stories from the Pens of Victorian Ladies" was published. The last story in this anthology was "The Gorgon's Head" by Gertrude Bacon. Drawing upon Greek mythology, it is a tale of young Miss Baker, who, while on a cruise near the Greek isle of Zante, hears the skipper's story of encountering the reflection of Medusa. The tales in "The Gentlewomen of Evil" were selected and introduced by Peter Haining, author of "The Sherlock Holmes Compendium" and "The Sherlock Holmes Scrapbook".

Julie McKuras

50

YEARS AGO

The *New York Times Book Review* of February 6, 1949 carried an advertisement for a recently published biography. Illustrated with photographs, and priced at \$3.50, the ad called John Dickson Carr's *The Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle* a superb biography of the man who created Sherlock Holmes. Doyle was portrayed as a "Romantic Irishman, British Patriot, Crusader, Historian, Inventor, Novelist, Doctor, Detective, Athlete, and Lover". Vincent Starrett's note in the ad stated it was "Magnificent reading from first to last".

Published simultaneously in 1949 by John Murray in London, and Harper and Brothers in New York, *The Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle* was hailed by reviewers, including Baker Street Irregulars. Edgar W. Smith, writing in the *New York Herald Tribune Book Review* of February 6, said: "John Dickson Carr has told the story of this many-sided man better than any one has told it before...Mr. Carr worked from the massive documentation made available to him by the Doyle estate out of a cache of trunks and boxes which had lain untouched since Sir Arthur's death in 1930." Other writers like Howard Haycraft and Vincent Starrett were just as enthusiastic.

Carr had spent two years, with the cooperation of the Conan Doyle family, going through the author's papers and writing this book. Many reviews of the day noted that Carr, an American, was the first biographer to have free access to Sir Arthur's letters, papers and manuscripts. Fifty years later, the cooperation of Adrian Conan Doyle and access to Sir Arthur's papers are viewed not only as two elements which made this "the standard work in the field", as Howard Lachtman wrote in "The Ideal

Storybook Hero", his assessment of Carr's biography (in *The Quest for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*, Jon Lellenberg, Editor), but also as shaping the biography into the picture of Conan Doyle that both son and biographer wanted to present to the public. But the validity of the statements regarding Carr's exclusive access to the papers has been questioned. Biographer Hesketh Pearson also had access, if somewhat more limited, to Sir Arthur's papers for his 1943 *Conan Doyle, His Life and Art*, according to Lellenberg. But because of Adrian Conan Doyle's dislike for the book and author, he denied ever after that Pearson had had any access to the family papers. In the 1950's, French scholar Pierre Nordon had extensive access to Doyle's papers, and his 1964 *Conan Doyle* is noted for its more acute critical appraisal of the writer.

A letter to the Editor appeared in the June 26, 1949 *New York Times*. Mary Conan Doyle, Sir Arthur's daughter by his first marriage to Louise Hawkins, wrote to say that although her name appeared in the foreword to Carr's biography, she had neither been shown the proofs prior to publication nor asked about her mother. She felt that Carr's biography inaccurately portrayed her mother as "negative, colourless, and ineffectual". (Apparently no member of the Conan Doyle family disagreed with the portrayal of Sir Arthur as the perfect English gentleman.)

The Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle has been an integral part of Sherlockian and Doylean libraries for the past 50 years. John Bennett Shaw's copy of the first edition, held in the Collections, contains an undated, hand written note from John Dickson Carr pasted on the first page, which states;

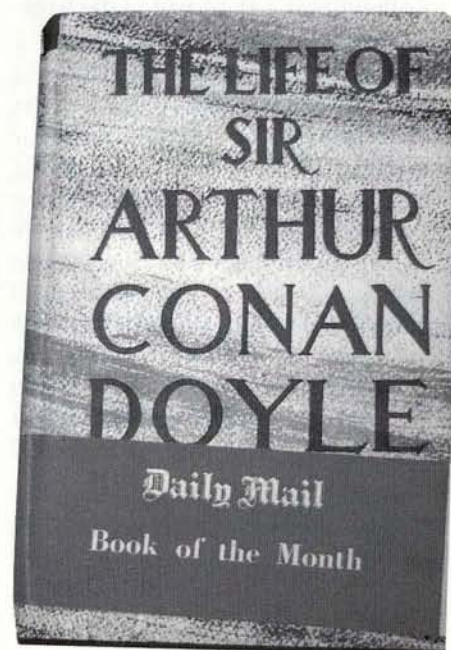
"for John Bennett Shaw, with this message: We must draw the line somewhere. I will have no traffic with those who trace the Master's income to rigged horse races or rigger matches. Let's not even mention the blasphemy that the 'villainy' of Professor Moriarty existed only in Holme's drug diseased imagi-

nation, and that a perfectly harmless old professor was murdered at the Reichenbach Falls. John Dickson Carr"

And what has become of the personal papers that played such an important role in the writing of Carr's book? Jon Lellenberg advises that Sir Arthur's papers were "tied up in a long dispute over copyrights and rights to unpublished materials between Denis Conan Doyle's widow, Nina Mdivani Harwood...on one side, and Jean Conan Doyle and Adrians' widow Anna on the other." It took years to resolve the lawsuit, but Dame Jean settled it before her death in 1997. When her own estate is settled, her portion of the papers and manuscripts will go the British Library, to other libraries and museums in the United Kingdom, and to auction to benefit charities she supported. Disposition of the portion of the papers going to the remaining heirs is not known at this time.

We would like to thank Jon Lellenberg for his invaluable assistance with this article. ♡

Julie McKuras



The Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle:
John Bennett Shaw's Copy

photo by Julie McKuras

From the President

The 1999 Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections Annual Membership Meeting will be held on August 4, 1999 at the Wilson Library. In addition to the usual business meeting, program, and fund raiser, we will be saying goodbye to the Wilson Library as Special Collections prepares to move to the new Minnesota Library Archives and Access Center. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

I want to thank all individuals who contribute to the Friends. Your contribution may be matched by your employer as pointed out in the article "Supporting the Collections". We welcome all matched gifts as well direct corporate contributions. I would like to personally thank Mike McKuras for his efforts on the Board as well as the community giving contributions of his employer, Ecolab of St. Paul, MN. The donations of materials to the Collections are always appreciated, such as the ones highlighted in Acquisitions.

The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections is a small part of the larger Friends of the University of Minnesota Library. Inez Bergquist is President of the Friends of the Library and a member of our Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections Board. The 1999 Friends of the Library Annual Meeting will be held on April 8, 1999 from 5 to 8 PM at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, located next to the Wilson Library.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions. ♡

Richard J. Sveum, M. D.
Sveum001@maroon.tc.umn.edu

An Update from the Collections

Having been a recent (and grateful) recipient of some gifts, I was set to thinking about gifts and giving in the Canon and came across a reference to an article by Susan Dalton in *The Universal Sherlock Holmes* (C6213) where it is noted that "in this case (BLUE) Holmes shows a spirit that is uncommon in his other cases. He shows the true meaning of the holiday season by giving a gift of some kind to almost every person involved." Now, we are well past the holidays, but I am convinced (as the Master seemed to be) that gifts and giving are important enterprises. Indeed, we have been the beneficiary of many gifts over the years, and for that I am extremely thankful. And on these pages you'll find a continuing testimony to the importance of gifts and giving. I am pleased that the spirit of giving is alive and well.

At the same time, I want to say a special word of thanks to a type of giving that often goes unnoticed because it operates in the backgrounds of our lives; the giving of time and talents by volunteers. It is the volunteer that makes so much happen. They work on mailing lists and directories, help process collections and assist researchers, produce newsletters, moderate online discussions, raise money, meet with administrators, schedule conferences, and organize dinners, lectures and other events. They work behind the scenes and, yet, are an important part of a "public" face. To those volunteers who make my life and work a pleasant experience, here at Minnesota (and to those I might have met in New York, or have yet to meet in person working in other Sherlockian, Doylean, or otherwise mysterious fields) I say "Thank you." I think the Master would be pleased.

Closer to home, we're moving nearer and nearer to the "gift" of a new building. Construction continues on the new Minnesota Library Access Center, future home of The Sherlock Holmes

Collections. A year from now we should be in the new facility. In the meantime we continue to plan for various aspects of the move, all the way from space allocations and shelving arrangements among the various archival and special collection units to the more mundane administrative tasks of patron registration, accounting procedures, and photocopy policies. I'll continue to keep you informed of events as we move closer to the actual moving day and introduce you to any new gifts that might come our way, including the gift of a new professional cataloger that will coordinate and oversee the many projects that will make our collections (and the others housed in the new building) more accessible to our very interested users.

For those of you who have Internet access, you may wish to point your Web browser to the home page of the Special Collections and Rare Books Department at the University of Minnesota and view our new addition of *The Universal Sherlock Holmes*. (If your browser can handle frames use this address: <http://www.lib.umn.edu/special/rare/noframes.html> Just click on the links for the various volumes and navigate your way through the bibliography. We've tried to make it as easy as possible to move through the various pages, but if you have suggestions on how we might improve the navigation or appearance, please drop me a line or give me a call. Soon we will be adding annotations for items held in our Collections in order to make it a useful tool to our Collections. ♡

Timothy J. Johnson, Curator
Special Collections and Rare Books
University of Minnesota,
Twin Cities Campus
466 Wilson Library
309 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Phone – 612-624-3552
Fax – 612-626-9353
Email – johns976@tc.umn.edu

Acquisitions

The spirit of John Bennett Shaw is evident each time a donation is made to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Every item is welcomed, and takes its own special place in the Collections. Several new donations indicate the extent and variety of the gifts.

- 1) The Collection of the late St. Paul, MN. Attorney William Essling. Essling, who once served as a special prosecutor for U. S. Attorney General Robert Kennedy, taught law and served in private practice, passed away in November, 1998. His widow, Margaret, herself a graduate of the Library School at the University of Minnesota, donated his books which include twelve books by Emile Gaboriau, creator of the detective Lecoq.

- 2) St. Paul author Larry Millett donated his new manuscript for "Sherlock Holmes and the Rune Stone Mystery", the third of his Holmes pastiches. The Collections also hold the manuscripts and first editions of his "Sherlock Holmes and the Red Demon" and "Sherlock Holmes and the Ice Palace Murders".
- 3) A recording of the 1999 B. S. I. Dinner, from Francine and Wayne Swift.
- 4) Sherlockian clippings and back issues of "Sherlockiana", the journal of the Sherlock Holmes Club of Denmark, from Robert Katz.
- 5) Lapel pins and a program from the 40th Anniversary meeting of the Japan Sherlock Holmes Club from Masamichi Higurashi.

- 6) Thomas Stix's bolo tie, with more details in this issue.

- 7) Morgan Malm's "221B En studie I Baker Street".

Donations of scion society journals continue to arrive, and ensure the growth of the Collections. With this generosity, we will meet our goal of making this the world center for the study and research on all things Sherlockian. ♡

Julie McKuras

Musings

Activity at the Sherlock Holmes Collections is ever increasing. There have been visitors and researchers from around the world and material continues to be donated and acquired. The first volume of the *Universal Sherlock Holmes* is up on the University's Special Collections website (www.lib.umn.edu/special/rare/rare.html) and the second will follow soon. It will probably be available by the time you read this.

There is a strong emphasis on giving in this issue. The Collections have benefited greatly from the generosity of many people. Some are noted in this issue; all are very much appreciat-

ed. But such donations are not the only way the Collections can benefit from the generosity of our Friends. Julie McKuras details several ways including corporate programs, planned giving and the United Way. Special Collections Curator Tim Johnson (who will now be offering his view from *inside* the Collections in each issue) takes up the theme of giving as well, noting the, "continuing testimony to the importance of gifts and giving."

But not everything is so serious. Julie McKuras describes the curious incident of the pig sketches in the Strand magazine 100 years ago and the publication 50 years ago of the John Dickson Carr biography of Sir Arthur

Conan Doyle. 50 years later, the life of Sir Arthur continues to generate interest, as a new biography, *Teller of Tales* by Daniel Stashower, will be published this April.

We, the Editorial Board, hope we are giving you, the members of the Friends and the driving force behind making the Collections ever better, what you are looking for in these pages. All comments, pro or con, are welcomed. We'd be pleased to hear from you. ♡

Bruce E. Southworth, B. S. I.
Editor

Using the Sherlock Holmes Collections

Researchers and visitors continue to visit, telephone and write to the Collections for Sherlockian queries. Recent inquiries have concerned such topics as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Spiritualism in Puerto Rico, Vincent Starrett and Arthur Machen, and “The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet”, in Polish. The Collections recently hosted two international visitors.

Masamichi “Mitch” Higurashi, B. S. I., of Tokyo, Japan paid a two day visit to Minneapolis, on his return from the

birthday festivities in New York during the first week in January. While visiting the Collections, he was given a tour by Collections Specialist Jamie Hubbs. Mitch’s area of research was the artwork by Frederic Dorr Steele, done not only as an adult but as a child as well, other illustrations, and pre-1920 pastiches, such as *The Double Barreled Detective* by Mark Twain. In addition to his own interests, Mitch advised that he is approximately half-way through the translation from English to Japanese of Larry Millett’s

“Sherlock Holmes and the Red Demon.”

Doug Elliott, MBt., from Toronto, Ontario, Canada was given a tour of the Collections by Curator Tim Johnson. Doug was very interested in all aspects of the holdings of the Collections. ♡

Julie McKuras

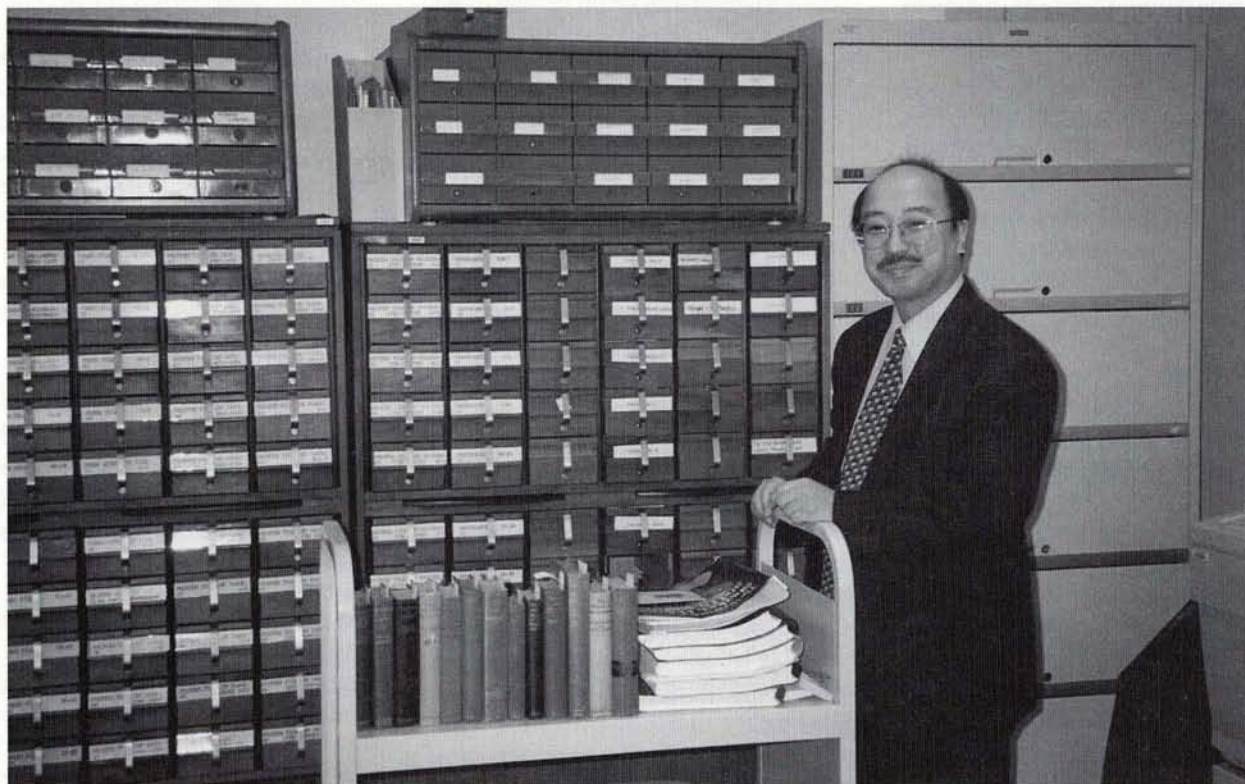


photo by Julie McKuras

Mitch Higurashi in the Sherlock Holmes Collections

Supporting the Collections

Ecolab has again show its commitment to the community with a generous donation to The Sherlock Holmes Collections. Headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota, Ecolab is the global leader in developing and providing cleaning, sanitizing, pest elimination, maintenance products and systems, and services for the hospitality, institutional, and industrial markets. With annual revenues in excess of 2 billion dollars, and over 13,000 employees worldwide, Ecolab's contributions guidelines "are designed to reflect the company's commitment to the strength and vitality of the communities in which Ecolab associates live and work." In 1997, Ecolab donated approximately 2 million dollars to non-profit organizations, focusing on youth and education, community based programs, civic and community development, arts and culture, and environment and conservation.

Mike McKuras, a Director of Information Services for Ecolab, is a board member of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota. Mike volunteered for this position, and has developed and managed a data base for the Friends group, a crucial management tool for this newsletter. As a board member, he applied for Ecolab's Community Leadership Program. The grant application states that "To demonstrate corporate support for employee volunteerism and the important role this plays in our communities, Ecolab has established a program to recognize and reward employee involvement on nonprofit boards of directors". For the second consecutive year, Ecolab made a large donation to the Sherlock Holmes Collections in response to his application.

Judy Hedin, Director of Development for the University of Minnesota Library, indicates that gifts to the Sherlock Holmes Collections may take

many forms. Individual cash donations and corporate gifts, such as the one from Ecolab, are two of the better known methods. Judy suggests that donors should check to determine if donations to the Sherlock Holmes Collections meets potential criteria for matching funds from their place of employment. In addition to such direct gifts, a method utilized on an increasing basis is the gift of appreciated property, such as real estate and securities. Donations of books and objects are always welcome, and may prove to be a charitable income tax deduction. Planned giving, such as the David Hammer Library highlighted in the December, 1998 Newsletter, can offer distinct advantages for donors and their families. If you are interested in further information about the methods of donating to the Collections, please contact Judy Hedin, University Libraries, 499 Wilson Library, 309-19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN., 55455. Judy can also be reached at her office phone of 612-624-8207 or by email at judith.f.hedin-1@tc.umn.edu

Another little known method for giving to the Collections may be donating through the United Way. For his personal donation, Mike McKuras found that he was able to designate the Sherlock Holmes Collections as the recipient for his United Way payroll deduction because of it's non-profit status. The United Way office in Minneapolis, Minnesota advises that anyone interested in making such a donation should determine with their place of employment if this is an option.

The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections would like to thank Ecolab for its generous gift. In making such a donation, Ecolab continues to show a strong commitment to the community. ♡

Julie McKuras



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.

Mail editorial correspondence c/o:

Editor

Bruce E. Southworth, B.S.I.
1621 Lafond Ave
St. Paul, MN 55104-2212
651-644-1677 Voice
651-523-0977 Fax
bruces1@mindspring.com

Editorial Board

Julie McKuras, Dr. Richard Sveum,
Timothy Johnson

Unless otherwise credited, all articles
written by Julie McKuras or
Bruce Southworth.

Copyright © 1999
University of Minnesota Library

The University of Minnesota is an Equal
Opportunity Educator and Employer.

Remembrances

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

IN HONOR OF

Kathleen Hinck
Austin McLean

FROM

Laura Kuhn
Lucy and Robert Brusich

IN MEMORY OF

Robert Hahn, B.S.I.
Thomas Stix, Jr. B.S.I.
Thomas Stix, Jr. B.S.I.

FROM

Wayne and Francine Swift
Marsha and David Pollak
Wayne and Francine Swift

For questions regarding material donations contact:

Timothy J. Johnson, Curator
612-624-3552 or
johns976@tc.umn.edu

Sherlock Holmes Collections

466 Wilson Library
309 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Telephone: 612-624-7526
FAX: 612-626-9353
email: hubbs001@gold.tc.umn.edu
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5

Timothy J. Johnson, Curator
Jamie F. Hubbs, Collection Specialist

Mailing list corrections requested—

Because of the high cost of returned newsletters, we would appreciate being informed of changes of address or other corrections.

8 *P* Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections



Sherlock Holmes Collections
466 Wilson Library
309 19th Avenue South
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Address Correction Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Minneapolis, MN
Permit No. 155