The Baker Street Irregulars "The Mind and Art of Sherlock Holmes" Chautauqua, New York ~~~ September 9–12, 2016 SUMMARY OF EVENTS

We're off to Chautauqua! The Baker Street Irregulars are pleased to announce "The Mind and Art of Sherlock Holmes", to be held on Friday-Monday, September 9-12, 2016. Set amid the wine country of western New York State, on the shores of Lake Chautauqua, this is the fourth conference in our series of memorable BSI-organized conferences. If you recall "Valley of Fear" (2004, Jim Thorpe PA); "Study in Scarlet" (2008, Salt Lake City UT; and/or "Behind the Canonical Screen" (2012, Los Angeles CA), you may wish to attend our newest offering—open to all Sherlockians and guests.

The Conference package provides the following:

- ~ over 20 experienced Sherlockian speakers & panelists
- ~ cocktail party in private residences
- ~ wine tasting party by estate vineyard owners
- ~ Chautauqua Institution grounds guided tour
- ~ seven (7) meals (breakfasts, brunch, lunch, dinners)
- ~ free parking at Chautaugua Institution

Two *options* apart from the Conference package are also available:

~ excursion to Lily Dale NY (details below)

- ~ special screenings of rare silent films
- ~ refreshments during breaks, early coffee
- ~ paddleboat lake cruise with narration
- ~ Merchants Room a la BSI Weekend
- ~ cash bars & lounges for socializing
- ~ free admission to Chautauqua Institution
- ~ shuttle service from BUF airport to conference

Transportation

Considering the location and surrounding scenic area, driving is recommended, though not required. You may fly to Buffalo Niagara International Airport (BUF) or Erie (PA) International Airport (ERI) and rent a car—driving time from BUF is 1.5 hours or from ERI is 1.0 hour to Chautauqua. Janice Fisher at Janice.Fisher+221B@gmail.com is kindly coordinating carpooling for those who want to offer a ride, or obtain a ride, from your home area or along the way. Please note if you wish to make the Lily Dale excursion, use of a car is required.

If you fly to BUF, shuttle service has also been arranged to Chautauqua (see Reservation Form). Shuttle service cost (and, to a degree, schedule) will depend on the number of attendees requesting it. A shuttle will depart BUF on Friday 9/9 at 4:00 PM (possibly an earlier shuttle as well, depending on requests); and depart Chautauqua on Monday, 9/12 at 9:00 AM—please indicate travel plans on your Reservation Form.

Lodging

Two options have been arranged, both are within Chautauqua Institution grounds: The Athenaeum Hotel (where most meals will be served and conference sessions will be held), and nearby Bellinger Hall. The Athenaeum offers 7 room configurations; all rooms are priced at a special BSI rate of \$129/night. Bellinger Hall has economical, dormitory-style, clean and well-appointed rooms, each with twin beds (no bunk beds) and private bath, at \$68/night. The walk between Bellinger and The Athenaeum is about 15 minutes.

Conference Activities

The conference starts **Friday**, **9/9** afternoon with check-in upon arrival, and a guided tour of the Institution grounds—last tour will depart at 5:30 PM. Light buffet supper will be provided. Socializing, following dinner, may be enjoyed in various hotel lounge areas.

Saturday, 9/10 will be a full day of talks, silent film screenings and panel discussions. Silents to be shown are Eille Norwood's "Musgrave Ritual" (1922) and "Stockbroker's Clerk" (1922)—our film researchers indicate there's no record of these having been shown previously in the USA—we're debuting them about 95 years later! Our Merchants Room will be open during breaks. Late afternoon we'll proceed to private residences for cocktail parties. A banquet buffet will follow, with speaker, then it's off to the historic Bratton Theater to view Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" in celebration of the film's 100th anniversary. Film screenings will have live piano accompaniment. Socializing to follow with cash bar.

Sunday, 9/11 will begin with Merchants Room activity and morning brunch. Additional talks will follow and showing of Norwood's silent "The Crooked Man" (1923), another debut! In the afternoon we'll board the "Chautauqua Belle" for a lake cruise. Upon returning, a wine tasting party will be presented by the owners of New York State's oldest estate winery. Following this will be a barbecue picnic supper, lakeside, to enjoy more glorious Fall color. We'll return to the Athenaeum for our closing speaker; socializing with cash bar and coffee service to follow.

Monday, 9/12 will be a travel day beginning with Continental breakfast and hotel check-out. Those using the airport shuttle will depart 9:00 AM with arrival at BUF about 10:30 AM. For those with a car who have registered for Lily Dale, we'll depart the Athenaeum 9:30 AM, and a talk ("Conan Doyle & Spiritualism"), viewing of a short film and the library's Conan Doyle book collection will commence at the Spiritualist Camp midmorning. We'll take a walking tour around the gated enclave to appreciate Lily Dale in its heyday--late 1880's—and learn how it became the world's largest center for Spiritualism. Time permitting, we'll visit the Lily Dale Museum. Several mediums/spiritualists will be in residence; appointments may be scheduled (in advance) for a reading (for fee). Lunch options are available in the nearby towns of Cassadaga and Fredonia, near I-90.

Odds & Ends

- If you want to set up as a vendor in the Merchants Room, please contact Ralph Hall, <u>bugmanhall@aol.com</u>, to sign up for a table.
- Dress code is casual, to include good walking shoes (rubber soles for the cruise); also a good idea to bring an umbrella and a flashlight.
- Questions re reservations should be directed to Mary Ann Bradley, <u>MABMFW@sbcglobal.net</u>. Please include your email address and phone number (cell preferred) on your Reservation Form. You will receive a confirmation by email for your reservations.

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Chautauqua Belle



Johnson Estate Winery



Athenaeum Hotel



Lily Dale



Clock Tower & Pier Building