

*"Light-houses, my boy! Beacons of the future! Capsules with hundreds of bright little seeds in each, out of which will spring the wiser, better England of the future."*

**THE BEACON SOCIETY**  
The Not-So-Quarterly Newsletter (In our world, being irregular is a virtue)  
VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1 – April, 2021



## From the Desk of the Head-Light

It's spring, and hopefully we've all managed to weather the dreaded transition from Standard to Summer time (sorry, folks, but "daylight savings" makes no sense to me). Vaccines are becoming more plentiful, and that gives me confidence that soon—not just yet, but visible in the distance—we'll be able to cautiously resume going out, seeing friends and family, shaking off some of the quiet desperation of this past year. With the warming weather, we can also enjoy reading the Canon outside, sharing the beauty of a rose or the serenity of a countryside ramble with Sherlock. Here at the Beacon Society, we have some exciting projects in the works. But in the meantime, go outside, smell a flower, and turn your face to sun, even if only for a moment.



## BIRTHDAY WEEKEND MEETING

The 2021 Annual Meeting minutes are available at our website at <https://www.beaconsociety.com/about-the-beacon-society-newsletters-bylaws-meeting-minutes.html>. Minutes from past meetings are also available on this page.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

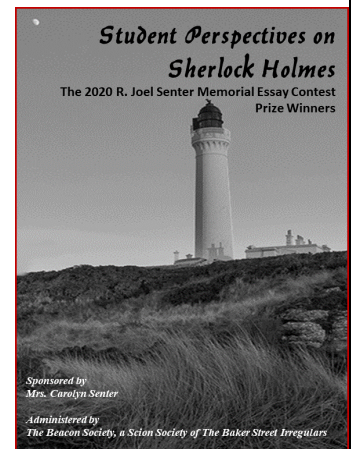
## Awards



Join us in welcoming Dan Andriacco as the new Chair of the Awards Committee. Dan is an accomplished writer, organizer, and a Master of the art of the Bow-tie. Although Art Renkwitz left a pair of large shoes to fill, I know Dan will do a bang-up job.

We're now accepting nominations for the Susan Z. Diamond Beacon Award. If you know of someone who is helping bring the Canon to young people, please nominate them at <https://www.beaconsociety.com/the-beacon-award.html>. You have until November 15th, but we encourage you to nominate early and nominate often.

The Awards Committee is in the process of evaluating the submissions to The R. Joel Senter, Sr. Essay Contest and we'll announce the winners as soon as they have finished. We're delighted that we received almost twice as many submissions this year as last. Let's hope the trend continues. Students in the 4th through the 12th grades are eligible, and more information on entering the contest is available at our website.



## Fundraising



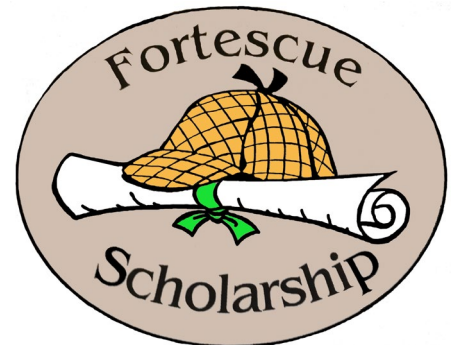
221B Con, our biggest contributor, was not held last year (curse you, Covid!), but returns this year as a virtual con. Running April 9-11, the con features fascinating panels and even a virtual dealers' room. Find out more about it at [221Bcon.com](http://221Bcon.com). We're grateful to the ConComm for designating us as their official charity.

## Communications

Our Communications Committee continues to be a hive of activity, coordinating outreach and information distribution, as well as our new e-gazette, *Sherlock's Spotlight*.

We're also emailing membership certificates to our members to thank all of you for supporting the Beacon Society.

Want to test your canonical knowledge? Consider taking the Fortescue Scholarship exams. More information is available at our website, [www.beaconsociety.com](http://www.beaconsociety.com)



## Grants



Are you an educator who would like to bring Holmes into your classroom? Does your organization want to do a project about Holmes? We can help!

Our Jan Stauber Grants provide financial assistance to educators and organizations who are bringing Holmes to young people. The application deadline is May 1st, so check our website ([www.beaconsociety.com](http://www.beaconsociety.com)) for applications and requirements.

## Junior Sherlockian Society

Shannon Carlisle reports that the JSS is working on new projects to help young people learn about and enjoy Sherlock Holmes.



Please help any student who would like to participate in the program by going to <https://juniorsherlockian.com/>

## SHERLOCK'S SPOTLIGHT

*A Quarterly Gazette for Young Sherlockians Everywhere*

Winter 2021  
*'The Red-Headed  
League'*

Artwork by Zachary  
LePlavy, Minnesota



Your original artwork could be on the cover of our next issue...

See page 2 for more details!

1 | Sherlock's Spotlight

## Programming

We hope to pilot the Library Display Case program in the near future—we'll share more details as they're decided.

Programming Chair Rob Nunn also contributes to *Sherlock's Spotlight*.

The spring has brought a renewed sense of hope and purpose, and we are excited about our new projects and look forward to sharing them with everyone once they're ready to go.

If you'd like to comment on an existing program or suggest a new project, please email me at [headlight\\_beaconsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:headlight_beaconsociety@yahoo.com). And we always welcome folks who would like to volunteer!

Keeping green the memory of the Master,

Carla Kaessinger Coupe