



Saratoga: At the Rail

From "Silver Blaze" to "Shoscombe Old Place"

Edited by Candace J. Lewis and Roger Donway

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Contributor Biographies

Charles Blanksteen is a nationally known healthcare strategist. He co-founded Active Health Management and is now Chairman of Guidewalk Health Systems.

Charles has been a Sherlockian since the age of eleven. In fact, for his high school annual photo, he adorned himself in a deerstalker, cape, calabash, and stick. In more recent years, Charles wrote the story "Sherlock Holmes on the Hudson River" for the Hudson Valley Sciontists' fortieth-year celebration (2012). He has also written several essays, including one that "discovered" the real Bruce-Partington submarine; one that examined the use and history of the single stick; one on fathers and sons in the Canon; and others on topics in "The Adventure of Black Peter," and in "The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton." He presented a paper on "Silver Blaze" at the 2012 Silver Blaze Race Weekend at Saratoga Springs, New York. Charles has also written a short play finishing "The Musgrave Ritual."

He and his wife, Joan, reside in the Hudson Valley in the Town of Washington, New York. They are members of the Hudson Valley Sciontists of Dutchess County.

Peter E. Blau has been a free-lance journalist and geological consultant, but his greatest interest has been the stories of Sherlock Holmes and the many people who share this passion. In 1970, when he moved to Washington, D.C., Peter helped to revive The Red Circle Society, a Sherlockian group that had been formed originally in 1950 by Karen Kruse Anderson, then a local high school student (later a science fiction writer). According to Blau, Washington needed a Sherlock Holmes group; hence his efforts to resuscitate and bring new life to the group. It is still strong with four meetings a year and a long member list.

Every December, Mr. Blau, invites friends to his home for a puzzle with the year-long Sherlock Holmes Christmas tree. All 60 ornaments — each related to one of the 56 stories or 4 novellas — are

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removed from the artificial tree and placed on a table. Guests must observe each ornament and guess the story it refers to in order to place the item back on the tree.

Blau is also a key member of the Baker Street Irregulars, the national group devoted to keeping alive the spirit of Sherlock Holmes. For many years during the Sherlock Holmes birthday weekend in New York City, he has run the Saturday auction.

Roger Donway is a writer and editor who lives with his wife, Alisan, in Dutchess County, New York. They are long-time members of the Hudson Valley Scientists of Dutchess County. Roger's article "Who Was Gloria Scott?" was published in the *Baker Street Journal* (Autumn 2008) and his essay "The Hunt for Grandmother Vernet" in the BSI's *Saratoga Studies* (2012), which he co-edited with Candace Lewis.

A writer and editor, Roger has more than forty years' experience researching and writing articles for venues ranging from daily newspapers to popular magazines to academic journals. He has served as editor of the *Dutchess County Historical Society Yearbook* (2011–13); and of *Navigator: An Objectivist Review of Politics and Culture* (1997–2005); as managing editor of *Orbis: A Journal of World Affairs* (1987–97); and as assistant editor of *The Middle East Quarterly* (2000–2001). He is the author of *Rich-Hunt: The Backdated-Options Frenzy and the Ordeal of Greg Reyes* (2012).

Clifford S. Goldfarb, a member of the Baker Street Irregulars ("Fordham, the Horsham Lawyer"), is a Toronto lawyer specializing in charitable and non-profit organizations. He is a former Meyers (President) of the Bootmakers of Toronto, and co-founder and Chairman of the Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Reference Library. His writing includes *The Great Shadow: Arthur Conan Doyle, Brigadier Gerard and Napoleon* (Calabash Press, 1997), the introduction to *The Complete Brigadier Gerard* (Barnes & Noble, 2005), and *Investigating Sherlock Holmes: Solved & Unsolved Mysteries* (jointly with Hartley R. Nathan, Mosaic Press, 2014). His Doylean work has been published in such places as *Journal of Olympic History*, *Finest Hour* (magazine of the Churchill Centre), and *OScholars Journal*.

Candace J. Lewis is an art historian with a Ph.D. in the field of early Chinese Art and a secondary area of specialty in Nineteenth-Century Art in Europe and America. In Chinese Art, she has specialized in ceramics and archeology, writing about the works of the Han through the Tang dynasties (209 BCE–906CE). She has taught Art History at Vassar College and Marist College, both in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Candace ("The Woman," BSI, 2007) has been a member of the Hudson Valley Scientists of Dutchess County, New York, since 1977. She is author of the essay "Setting the Scene for 'Silver Blaze': Nineteenth-Century Art and Flat Racing" in *Two Celebrations: The 50th Annual Running of The Chicago Silver Blaze and The Triennial Silver Blaze of The Baker Street Irregulars*, which she edited (2009); and "'Art in the Blood is Liable to Take the Strangest Forms': The Vernet Connection" in *Saratoga Studies: Unraveling Threads from "Silver Blaze" and "The Greek Interpreter"* (co-edited with R. Donway, 2012), published by the Baker Street Irregulars.

She is also serving as editor of the *Dutchess County Historical Society* yearbook. The Society was proud to have marked its one hundredth anniversary with *Thinking Historically: Dutchess County*

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Historical Society Centennial Celebration, 1914–2014 (2014). Candace lives in Poughkeepsie, New York, with her husband, Lou Lewis, an attorney. The Lewises have three daughters, three sons-in-law and seven grandchildren.

Lou Lewis, also a member of the Baker Street Irregulars (“William Whyte,” BSI), has served as president of the local Sherlockian scion, the Hudson Valley Scionists, for the last thirty-two years. Since 2000, the Lewises have managed the triennial gathering for the running of a Silver Blaze race at the Saratoga Raceway.

Hartley R. Nathan, LL.M., M.Bt, BSI (“The Penang Lawyer”), received a B.A. at the University of Toronto (Arts), an LL.B at Osgoode Hall Law School. and an L.L.M. at University College, London. He was Mr. Meyers (President) of the Bootmakers of Toronto on two occasions and is a member of the Sons of the Copper Beeches. He is the author of *Who Was Jack the Ripper?* and is the co-author (with Clifford S. Goldfarb) of *Investigating Sherlock Holmes: Solved & Unsolved Mysteries*. He is a partner in the Toronto law firm of Minden Gross LLP where he practices corporate law. He was made a Queen’s Counsel in 1982. He is the author of several legal texts and has published numerous Sherlockian articles.

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