

# Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem

Investiture  
January 20, 2018

"Let me have the Hotel Directory," said Holmes. "Thank you! Now, Cartwright, there are the names of twenty-three hotels here, all in the immediate neighbourhood of Charing Cross. Do you see?"

"Yes, sir."

"You will visit each of these in turn."

Sherlock Holmes challenged the young page to canvas the hotels in search of data as the Great Detective began his dissent into the story of the "The Hound of the Baskervilles. We know from this and other stories that hotels such as the Charing Cross, the Langham as well as the Northumberland provided a dramatic platform for many of the good Doctor's memories of his friend, Mr. Holmes.

Much like Cartwright, our soon to be Nashville Scholar has worked his way through many hotels and up the hospitality industry ladder in search of data and adventure which has landed him in our midst.

From an early age, this hotelier found the Master and was drawn to his techniques and his cerebral abilities to be clever and insightful as he solved the mysteries which stumped Scotland Yards' finest and baffled the masses of Victorian era London.

A native of Massachusetts, he frolicked as he grew throughout New England. A family friend introduced him to the hotel industry when he joined the staff of a Cape Cod resort during the summers. His career has become undergirded with degrees from the University of Massachusetts as well as Florida International University. He made the Sheraton chain proud through 22 dedicated years of service in hotels from Florida to Ohio to Georgia and finally Tennessee.

However, a certain historic hotel, the Hermitage, called his name and to the good fortune of Nashville's Sherlockians, he accepted the call from Nashville's "original hotel proudly providing true Southern hospitality since 1910." His individual efforts in discovering the hotel's history has served as an example of why all Scholars should put service before self with a vision of the bigger picture. He has helped save what might have been otherwise lost.

Today, this individual has demonstrated that he meets the criterion of what makes a Sherlockian.

Tom Vickstrom joins our society as the Northumberland with a tip of the deerstalker to that great hotel which played a significant role in the Canon. So today, we ask him to join our group along with his pledge to keep green the master's memory.