

— Toast to Sherlock Holmes
April 21, 2017

By Don Hobbs, BSI

I am honored to be here tonight, among such an august group of Sherlockians. I was asked to give the toast to the Master, not the easiest task but one I accepted whole heartedly. What could I possibly add to all the words spoken before me about Sherlock Holmes? Everyone knows he is the master of disguises, the final word of the highest court and he observes what others only see. His ratiocination is flawless. His trust for the fairer sex is iffy at best. His knowledge of geology is practical but limited; he is familiar with 144 varieties of ash. His knowledge of literature, philosophy, and astrology are nil. He is feeble in politics (aren't we all nowadays). He has a variable knowledge of botany. He is profound in chemistry. He is accurate but unsystematic with anatomy. I could go on but again, what would I add to what is already known about our hero, unless it is to reveal to you that his exploits have been translated into 108 different languages. I have never had a visitor to my house in Flower Mound, Texas who could not read about Our Hero in their native language, and this includes a teacher from China who is Uighur. So, I raise my glass to Mr. Sherlock Holmes, the original man of mystery.

Don Hobbs
(221 words!!)