

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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# **Famed detective Sherlock Holmes to solve mystery in Cambridge, Ohio**

Cambridge, OH (April 7, 2009) – The game's afoot in Cambridge, Ohio where visitors will have a suspense-filled encounter with world-renowned detective Sherlock Holmes during the 2009-2010 holiday season, announced the Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors and Convention Bureau.

The VCB has added a special Sherlock Holmes Weekend mystery experience to the region's growing Dickens Victorian Village ([www.DickensVictorianVillage.com](http://www.DickensVictorianVillage.com)) holiday event.



“We are entering into our fourth year with the Dickens Victorian Village and wanted to add something new,” Cambridge/Guernsey County VCB Director Debbie Robinson said. “We found that a group along the east coast had put together a similar event and realized that Sherlock Holmes fits perfectly with our popular seasonal Dickens event.”

Written by local playwright Anne Chlovechok, participants to the Sherlock Holmes Weekend January 8-10, 2010, will help solve the mystery of Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Taylor Tontine. Cambridge's very own Colonel Taylor legacy is threatened by an ancient pledge with unforeseen and unavoidable contemporary ramifications.

Participants will get into the spirit by donning Victorian attire and wandering Cambridge's picturesque streets in search of clues to solve the mystery and win the grand prize of \$250 and other valuable gifts.

Robinson recently sat down with Sherlock Holmes Weekend originator Janine Bock, for a one-on-one interview.

**Q:** *"Janine, how did you first come up with the idea of a Sherlock Holmes Weekend in Cambridge?"*

**A:** My husband Jim and I attended a Sherlock Holmes weekend in Cape May, New Jersey. We are both interested in Sherlock Holmes and have read all the Sir Arthur Conan Doyle accounts of Sherlock's cases. It was exciting to 'go back in time' and try to figure out the problem and be involved on an intimate level. We were prompted to dress in Victorian period attire while at the weekend, and I got some ideas of how to dress from our own Dickens Victorian Village mannequins. All I could think of as I attended that weekend was how it could be a perfect fit for us to host the same kind of weekend here in Cambridge.

**(MORE)**

*Q: "How did you go about getting other people and organizations involved?"*

A: I had just seen "The Odd Couple" dramatized by the Cambridge Performing Arts Center of which my friend Anne Chlovechok had been the director. When we were on our way back from the Cape May Sherlock Weekend, I called Anne to tell her how amazing and exciting the weekend and the actors had been. I told her that I was sure it could work in Cambridge if we could get some different groups involved. She herself is a writer and agreed to write the script and direct the play. She is also a parent of a 7th grader at St. Benedict Elementary School and is involved in fundraising. She talked to the principal there as well as the parents and they agreed to be involved.

In order to get tickets to the Cape May weekend, I had dealt with the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts. That was the website that had posted the accommodations, costs, etc. It seemed that if we wanted to get the word out to people who were interested in Sherlock, enough to spend an entire weekend solving a case, then we would need to have the Cambridge/Guernsey County VCB and others involved. Anne and I met with the VCB, Jonette Haberfield-Co-chair of the Dickens Committee, Francine Taylor-Executive Director of the Cambridge Main Street Committee, and Pam McCauley-Treasurer of the Dickens Committee. We were met with an enthusiastic response! Everyone has been very committed and focused in helping to get this weekend together.

*Q: "How are the Dickens Victorian Village mannequins involved?"*

A: Not only will they set the tone for a Victorian weekend, they will be used as places to find clues to the case. There is a part of the weekend that participants will "Search for Clues." During this portion, participants will follow a map to places that have certain 'pre-placed' clues. Some of those clues will be contained in the Dickens scenes.

*Q: "How will people who want to attend purchase packages for the weekend?"*

A: The Cambridge/Guernsey County VCB will facilitate the information for the Sherlock Holmes Weekend in Cambridge, Ohio. Those who want to participate will contact the VCB and will obtain their accommodations, maps, and itinerary from the VCB. Information will also be available at [www.VisitGuernseyCounty.com](http://www.VisitGuernseyCounty.com).

After checking-in to their accommodations, visitors will proceed to St. Benedict Social Hall for the Act 1 of the play. They will receive a Sherlock Packet that will contain the Search for Clues Answer Sheet and more information of the Search for Clues Tour. The game will be afoot at that time!

*Q: "When will the packages be available?"*

A: Packages will include accommodations, Dickens Dollars, maps, event itinerary, and costs for the weekend. They should be available by the end of April by going to [www.VisitGuernseyCounty.com](http://www.VisitGuernseyCounty.com) and clicking on *What to Do*.