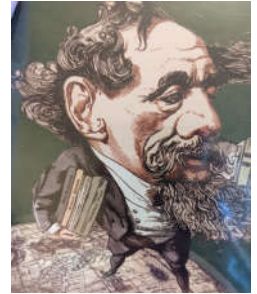


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electronic newsletter from The Cleveland Dickens Fellowship
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May 31, 2024

- **Picnic at Rear Quarry Tuesday, June 18, 12am to 2pm.**
- **International Fellowship Conference Aug. 5 –8, Portsmouth, IOW**
- **Rosenbach Museum lectures this summer.**
- **On to *David Copperfield*.**
- **Stream *The Great Fire* on PBS Masterpiece.**
- **Dickens Museum this summer.**

Memorial Picnic Tuesday, June 18, 12am to 2pm! We close out *Dombey*.

The word is out! We'll celebrate the end of another year of Dickens on a date close to his death, so call it a Memorial Picnic. Friends welcome.

Paul will bring a deli tray as he has in the past. He asks that we call or email to RSVP:
(216) 961-6033 or paul.siedel.0550@hotmail.com. **Don't Forget!**

We'll also want salads, snacks, beverages. Bring enough to share if you can.

Charla will bring a cake. She suggests a reading or two from *Dombey*. Any volunteers? This is our last get together over *Dombey*, and then we move on to *David Copperfield* for September's meeting.

Use the link below to find the map to Metro Park's Rear Quarry, the shelter we've used in the past.

<https://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/parks/visit/parks/euclid-creek-reservation/rear-quarry-reservable-picnic-area>



International Conference slated for August.

Charla Coatoam will represent Cleveland Branch. Here's a link from the Fellowship website. Use it to get a hint of what she will enjoy. She'll tell us about it in September.

<https://www.dickensfellowship.org/index.php/news-household-words/349-annual-fellowship-conference-5-8-august-2024-portsmouth-iow>

Catch the *Pickwick* Lectures—20 in a row—from the Rosenbach Museum.

You can follow these monthly free lectures on You Tube. The first was May 18, but they continue to the end of *Pickwick Papers*. Furthermore, they happen in our time zone! Thank **Paul Siedel** for the tip.

<https://rosenbach.org/events/pickwick-monthly/>

Begin reading *David Copperfield*.

Dickens called this one his favorite. See what you think.

[The opening paragraph contains some wisdom I find very useful when tempted to offer advice to someone else, especially my adult children. They are the heroes of their own stories, thank God. —K.S.]

From the Preface to the 1869 Edition:

(final paragraph) ...I can only now take the reader into one confidence more. Of all my books, I like this the best. It will be easily believed that I am a fond parent to every child of my fancy, and that no one can ever love that family as dearly as I love them. But, like many fond parents, I have in my heart of hearts a favorite child. And his name is DAVID COPPERFIELD.



For a good look at London in 1666, stream *The Great Fire* on Masterpiece.

We always trust the BBC for historical accuracy. This 4-part series portrays the medieval part of London that burned and the equipment they used to fight the fire.

Samuel Pepys (below) gave us a description of the fire in his *Diary*. He is a character in this drama, along with King Charles II and the baker who owned the shop where the fire began. A sinister Charles Dance plays the head of the King's secret service looking for a scapegoat.

You can stream Masterpiece on PBS with no extra cost if you've donated \$60 or more to Ideastream.



*Dickens Museum exhibits and talks
almost convince us to travel.
Check out the line-up this summer.*

<https://mailchi.mp/dickensmuseum/a-tour-with-a-twist-comes-to-london-1592920?e=f73544e3aa>