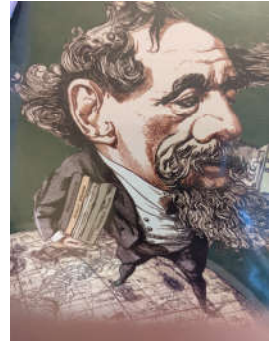


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electronic newsletter from The Cleveland Dickens Fellowship
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September 23, 2023

- **Another reminder: Time to reup for \$30.00.**
- **We meet Tuesday, October 3rd, 11:00, at **Richmond Heights County Library.** (See location specifics below.)**
- **Put more autumn meeting dates on your calendar.**
- **Catch Britbox on murder for references to our favorite novelist.**
- **Don't forget tribute to Michael Slater, Oct. 6.**
- **Feel *au courant* with Dickens references!**

Renew your membership in our Fellowship.

Bring your checkbook to this September meeting. Please pay your yearly dues in person or mail your check in later. Mail to: **Beth Bliss**, 1131 East Blvd. Aurora, OH 44202.
Make it out to the Cleveland Dickens Fellowship. Our branch needs the money. \$30.00, please.



Let's talk characters in *Dombey*, Oct. 3, 11:00 at **Richmond Heights Library, 449 Richmond Road, north of Highland Road next to Richmond Heights High School.**

Paul Siedel will lead the discussion about the Dickens characters we meet while reading our book of the year.

How many times did Florence weep? How do we define Mr. Dombey's brand of pride? Why are Carker's white teeth so remarkable? What do you make of the Game Chicken? More importantly, what does Mr. Toots make of him? Hope you've read enough by now to contribute to the discussion. Again, pick up bookmarks to distribute.



More dates fixed for Dickens meetings.

Put these first- of- the- month Tuesdays on your calendar: **Nov. 7, Dec. 5.** Beachwood Library, 11:00 am.

BritBox picks up Lucy Worsley documentary on British obsession with murder.

A BBC special, shown on YouTube for a while, but now on BritBox, Lucy Worsley's documentary frequently mentions Charles Dickens. Just when England was developing a fascination with murder, CD was including it in his novels, e.g. *Bleak House*.

Worsley, historian, writer and video maker, is no Ken Burns. But when she talks about Dickens, we're in.

https://www.britbox.com/us/show/A_Very_British_Murder_with_Lucy_Worsley_FS_p01ftz1q



Above: Lucy Worsley, historian and author .

Mark your calendar for a Zoom meeting on October 6.

Announced at the General Meeting, a Zoomed symposium broadcast in honor (honour?) of Emeritus Professor Michael Slater. Dr. Slater has been a faithful friend to our Cleveland Branch, frequently corresponding and even meeting us for a meal at one of our homes when he was in town. We won't want to miss this tribute, zoomed as well as preserved in a video recording.

<https://dickensfellowship.org/index.php/online-events/469-event-to-honour-prof-michael-slater/2023-10-06-14-00>



Feel part of the “in crowd.”

The OP Ed pages of the *New York Times* carry “The Conversation,” with Gail Collins, a liberal, and Bret Stephens, a conservative (depicted below), politely discussing current events. Here's a bit of their dance of opinions from Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

Gail: Is Kevin McCarthy leading—or not-leading—us into a government shutdown?

Bret: I love the way McCarthy keeps getting kicked around by the ultra-MAGAites: It's the most poetic bit of justice since Mr. Bumble, the sadist, married Mrs. Corney, the bigger sadist, in *Oliver Twist*.

Gail: Yippee! A Dickens reference to Kevin McCarthy. Not as if we had great expectations for his speakership.

To which Bret replies, “Touché.”

(Note the cardboard presence behind them.)

