### 2023-2024 Program

#### Wednesday, 11 October, 7:00 p.m.

Reading: Chapters 1 - 10 of *Bleak House* Program: Discussion of the chapters led by Anita Fenton and skit Host/Location: Anita Fenton at Elms Library at Briarwood (co-host/refreshments: Kathy McFarland)

#### Wednesday, 8 November, 7:00 p.m.

Reading: Chapters 11 – 19 of *Bleak House* Program: Discussion of chapters led by Kit Polga and skit Host/Location: Kit Polga at Elms Library at Briarwood (co-host/refreshments: Anita Fenton)

#### Saturday, 16 December, 12:30 p.m.

Holiday Luncheon at The Publick House, Sturbridge, MA Gift exchange and skit

#### Hosts: Kit Polga and Kathy McFarland

#### Saturday<u>, 10 February, 2:00 p.m</u>. Dickens's Birthday Tea

Reading: Chapters 20 - 29 of Bleak House

Program: Essay by Fellman Prize Winner finalists Discussion of chapters led by Mike Badger

Host/Location: Joel Brattin at the WPI Library (Fellman Reading Room), Worc. (co-host/refresh.: Fellowship members)

#### Wednesday, 13 March, 7:00 p.m.

Reading: Chapters 30 - 42 of Bleak House

Program: Selection from BBC video "Bleak House" Discussion of chapters led by Carrie Corcoran and Robert Steele, and skit

Host: Carrie Corcoran/Robert Steele at Elms Library at Briarwood (co-host/refreshments: Anita Fenton)

#### Wednesday, 10 April, 7:00 p.m.

Reading: Chapters 43 - 53 of *Bleak House* Program: "Who was Harold Skimpole?" by Margaret Watson Discussion of chapters led by Anita Fenton

Host: Robert Armstrong at Elms Library at Briarwood (co-host/refreshments: Margaret Watson)

#### Wednesday, 8 May, 7:00 p.m.

Reading: Chapters 54 - 67 of Bleak House
Program: Discussion of chapters led by Joel Brattin
Host: Joel Brattin at Elms Library at Briarwood (co-host/refreshments: Kathy McFarland)
Planning 2024-25: Selection of book and nomination of officers

#### **HONORARY MEMBERS**

Babs Austin, Southsea, UK MaryKay Mahoney Barbara and Gene McCarthy Karen Sasha Tipper Virginia Woodbury

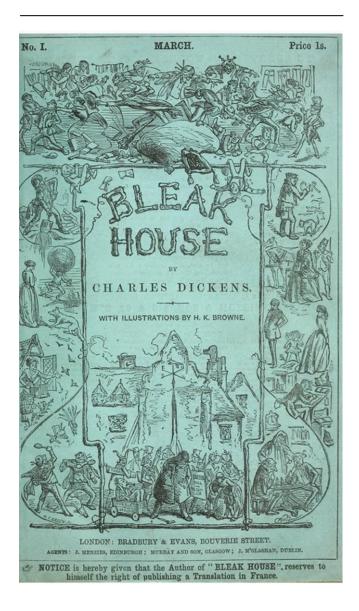
#### **ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP**

- Robert Armstrong, 61 Briarwood Circle, Worcester, MA 01606; 508-799-0644; info@oldpuzzles.com
- Michael Badger, 6 Piccadilly Way, Westborough, MA 01581; 508-340-6821; mdbadger@badgerlegal.com
- Joel Brattin, Humanities and Arts Dept., WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609; 508-831-5572; jjb@wpi.edu
- Richard and Anita Fenton, 3 Nipmuc Road, Paxton, MA 01612; 508-798-5092; rafenton.pax@gmail.com; anita\_fenton@yahoo.com
- Kathy McFarland, 50 Union Street, Holden, MA 01520; 508-631-5841; mcfamily@inveninc.com
- Jim and Kit Polga, 55 Dover Road, Longmeadow, MA 01106; 413-567-5482; kitpolga@comcast.net
- Joe and Sarah Ribeiro, 28 Briarwood Circle, Worcester, MA 01606; 774-262-9926 ; sribeiro1944@gmail.com
- Robert Steele and Carrie Corcoran, 363 Worcester Rd., Charlton, MA 01507; 508-248-6342; steele5555@gmail.com; ccorcoran10@hotmail.com
- Joan Townsend, 93 Winfield Road, Holden, MA 01520; 508-829-4555; jetjoan@gmail.com
- Margaret Watson, 94 Doyle Rd., Holden, MA 01520; 508-414-2430; MargJKW@outlook.com

# The Dickens Fellowship

Worcester, Massachusetts Branch 119 2023-2024

Book of the Year: Bleak House



## Officers and Committees

President	Richard Fenton
Vice President	Robert Steele
Treasurer	Michael Badger
Corresponding Secretary	Anita Fenton
Recording Secretary	Carrie Corcoran
Membership	Kathy McFarland
Nominating Committee	Margaret Watson
Skits	Joan Townsend (Chair), Margaret Watson, Joel Brattin, Kit Polga, Robert Steele
Librarian	
Holiday Luncheon	Kit Polga, Kathy McFarland

**Illustration:** Title page of 1<sup>st</sup> edition, volume 1, March, 1852. <u>Bleak</u> <u>House</u> was serialized from March 1852 to September 1853. The illustrator was Hablot Knight Browne (Phiz)