

An Old Scrooge & Child Epiphanies

A SEI CHRISTMAS EVENT



Samuel + Erasmus institute

ideas • conversation • friendship

A CHRISTMAS EVENT FOR STUDENTS (OF ONE SORT AND ANOTHER)

Merry Christmas! On behalf of the Carantis, you are invited to join us for a special SEI Christmas event for college students (and some high school students).

Continuing with that goal of *being* merry, and in keeping with a SEi tradition, we shall have a Christmas evening with Mr Scrooge on Thursday, January 4th at the lovely Caranti home.

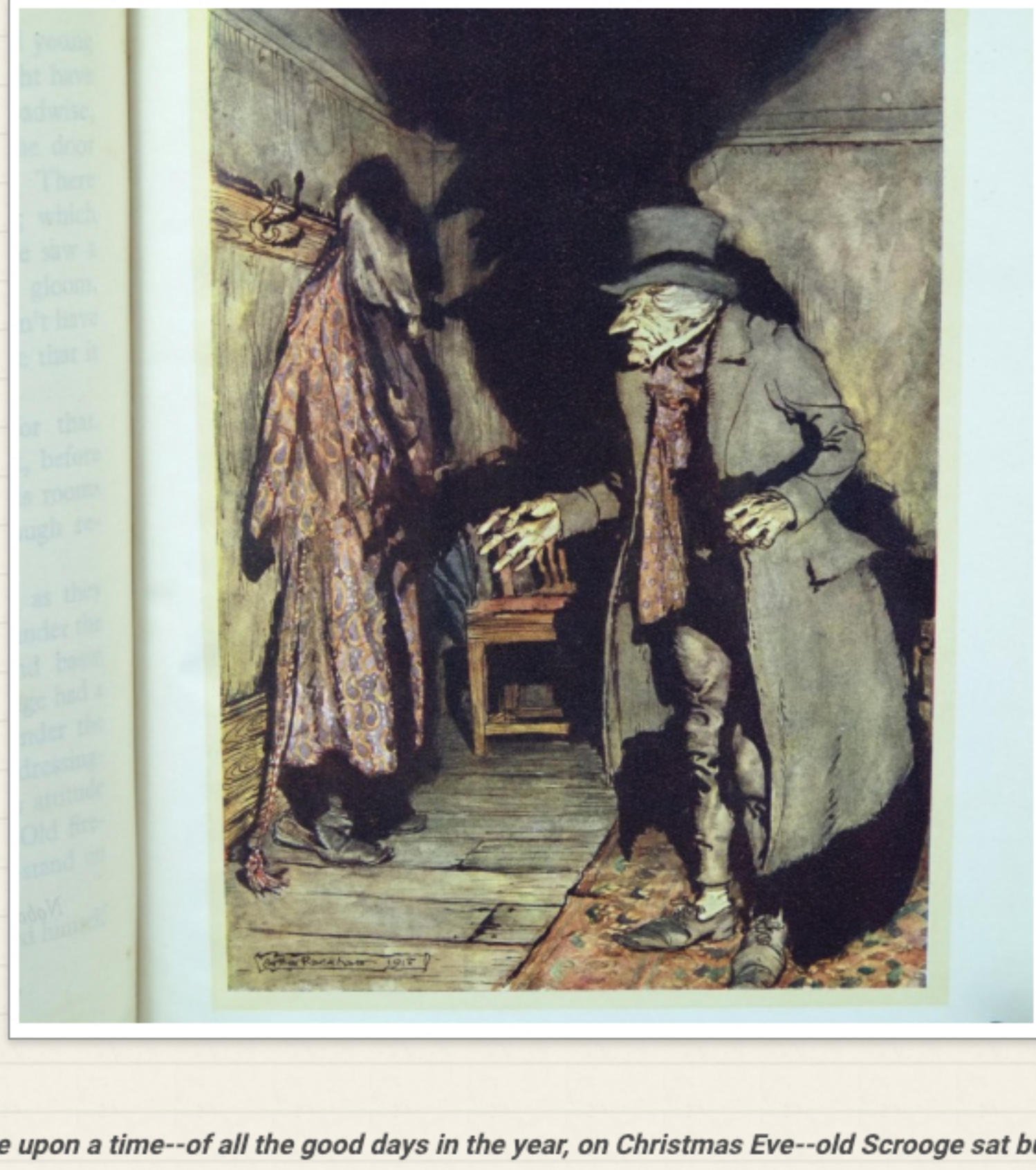
The evening shall feature a brief exploration of happiness and covetousness, and, of course, a dramatic reading and discussion of *A Christmas Carol* (abridged). We should expect other surprises.

See below for further details. Please rsvp.

I hope to see you!

Jeff

Marley was dead, to begin with. There is no doubt whatever about that...Scrooge knew he was dead? Of course he did...Scrooge was his sole executor, his sole administrator, his sole assign, his sole residuary legatee, his sole friend, and sole mourner. And even Scrooge was not so dreadfully cut up by the sad event but that he was an excellent man of business on the very day of the funeral, and solemnized it with an undoubted bargain...



Once upon a time--of all the good days in the year, on Christmas Eve--old Scrooge sat busy in his counting house. It was cold, bleak, biting weather; foggy withal...

The door of Scrooge's counting-house was open, that he might keep his eye upon the clerk...A Merry Christmas, uncle! God save you! cried a cheerful voice. It was the voice of Scrooge's nephew...

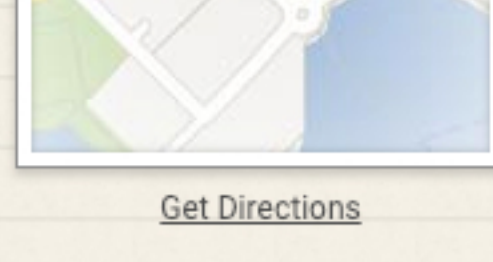
'Bah!' said Scrooge. 'Humbug!'

And so begins an unexpected "sole" journey and wonder tale...

AN OLD SCROOGE & CHILD EPIPHANIES

WHEN
THURSDAY, JAN. 4TH, 7:15-10:15PM

WHERE
12434 BOHEME DRIVE, HOUSTON, TX,
UNITED STATES



[Get Directions](#)

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Attend (RSVP)

A PLAN

7:15 gather

7:30 brief presentation and discussion

8:00 dramatic reading followed by discussion and...whatnot...

Attire: sport coat

Fees:

\$10 suggested contribution



PONDERINGS...

Covetousness here means more than the disorderly love of money and property...(it) here means immoderate straining for all possessions which man thinks are needed to assure his own importance and status...an anxious senility, desperate self-preservation, over-riding concern for confirmation and security...

...these false prudences arise from covetousness and are by nature akin to it...how impossible just estimate and decision is preservation a youthful spirit of brave and, as it were, a reckless tossaway of anxious self-preservation, a relinquishment of all egoistic bias toward mere confirmation of the self...

~~~

*Nor can man quench his thirst by his own doing and being right...The deepest thirst cannot be allayed in this way; the true expectation of the human heart will not accept such a substitute...The "Titan's" arrogance which wants nothing as a gift demands in reality not too much but too little...*

*Man, physical, historical, "earthly" man, has a basic craving to see...his make-up is such that he lives most purely as a see-er: in contemplation.*

*...the fulfillment of existence takes place in the manner in which we become aware of reality; the whole energy of our being is ultimately directed toward attainment of insight.*

*It may very well be, however, that the power of seeing itself is only stirred to full realization by love.*

~~~

...man, as a reasoning being, desires is own happiness just as the falling stone "seeks" the depths, as the flower turns to the light and the beast hunts its prey.

...joy is essentially a consequence...any attempt to acquire joy "as needed," like a drug, is hopelessly vain.

"Felicity must consist in man's attainment of the uttermost degree of being real." (Aquinas)

Love is the indispensable premise of happiness. (However, it must also be said that if one does not love one cannot be unhappy. For the essence of unhappiness is the failure to possess what one loves...)

"Where love is, there is the eye." (Aquinas)

Neither happiness nor contemplation is possible except on the basis of consent to the world as a whole. This consent has little to do with "optimism." It is a consent that may be granted amid tears and the extremes of horror.

~ J. Pieper



SAMUEL & ERASMUS INSTITUTE

jjresberg@samuelerasmus.org

832.693.2889

samuelerasmus.org

SEi is a federal 501 (c) (3) tax exempt public charity. Donations are tax deductible.

GIVE LIGHT, AND THE DARKNESS WILL DISAPPEAR OF ITSELF. ~ ERASMUS



Above paintings by H.O. Tanner, illustrations by N.C. Wyeth and Arthur Rackham