News, News, News!!!!!

...some news was received as early as January 2013 (sorry!!), the rest trickled in through June!!! But it’s ALL here, and it’s ALL good!!

So read it ALL and don’t miss a thing!!!

January 13: Our Aussie pal **Steve Duke** (President of the SH Society of Victoria—Elementary Victorians) told us: “I am travelling to Europe in the middle of the year, just as The Firm did. Like Holmes & Watson, I shall treat myself to a couple of carpet bags and encourage the manufactures of the countries I pass through. I am running a Geographical Expedition called AUSeUREX 2013—The Aussie European Expedition. I hope to meet some Sherlockians on my travels to the British Isles, Northern Italy & Turkey.”


March 1: Editor Terri delivers to SOBs Sheila Holtgrieve and Margie Deck the already-drafted and printed issues of *Ineffable Twaddle* for March, April, May and June. They agreed to mail the newsletters during Haugens’ upcoming 3-month absence!! (Terri is MOST grateful!)

March 4: Haugens travel by rail and auto to Ft. Lauderdale where, on March 14, they set sail with Holland America for their 64-day cruise of the Mediterranean Sea!!! Many SOBs share in the experience via periodic e-mail missives.

March 12: SOB Bill Seil tells us that Dale Crakes of Seattle, son of deceased SOB Will Crakes, has about 100 Sherlockian books he wants to sell. If anyone is interested, please e-mail Dale at horta_98112@yahoo.com, letting him know you are a Member of the SOBs!!!

March 13: SOB Charlie Cook let us know that his “wife Diana was lucky enough to win a place in the ceremonial 11-mile ride in the Iditarod! She rode with musher Matt Failor. Our daughter Ingrid, who lives in AK, was happily allowed to be a dog handler for Matt.”

March 15: SOB Webmaster Stu Nelan told us he went to the Washington, DC Red Circle meeting the week prior. At the meeting, Peter Blau reminded Members to sign-up at the “Sherlockian Who’s Who” website. Says Stu, “The SOBs are shown there too, but has only a few Members registered!” Go to: www.sh-whoswho.com/index.php?country=USA to do so!! (We are #250 in the alpha list of US scions!)

March 17: From SOB Webmaster Stu Nelan, “Just got a link to the blog of one of my tablemates from the Gaslight Gala at last BSI Weekend, which looks pretty good. Check out: http://philosophymom.livejournal.com/10655.html”

March 18: SOB/playwright John Longenbaugh—in PFL David’s absence—presented a reading from his upcoming novel, “The Private Library”, in which Sherlock Holmes has a significant guest appearance. (PFL David is hugely thankful to John!)

March 20: SOB Kashena Konecki tells Haugens to enjoy their upcoming stop in Casablanca, Morocco because, “I studied abroad in Morocco and it has some beautiful views!” Ask her about it!

March 22: SOB Treasurer Al Nelson reported on the March 18 meeting as follows: “We had a great SOB meeting on Monday. John’s book sounds really great, he read a chapter from the early pages and featured a lunch between a bookseller… Continued on Page 2
July Meeting Cancelled; Picnic Wins Out!!!

Yes, we are combining the July Monthly Meeting with the Watson Picnic on July 20!!!!

So, come to the Watson Picnic at Seahurst Park on Saturday, July 20, to get your monthly SOB fix! The fun begins at 9:00 a.m.—but we have the site from 8:30 to 2:00. Even though earlier in the day, this is still a potluck lunch, so please bring enough food—salads, main dishes, side dishes, chips, snacks, sweets—and beverages to share!! (Haugens will provide some breakfast foods to greet you and the eating utensils, plates, napkins, etc.)

Picnic Chair Paul Williams has ordered excellent weather!! SOB James Romnes hopes to treat us to a bagpipes performance! And, you KNOW PFL David will have a great sporting event planned! So join us!!!

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...and the PFL re the Canon and what he called ‘the game’...Sherlockian analysis etc. We had 15 Members show up and had a spirited discussion afterward.” Added Al: “Your cruise sounds great! I am following you on my atlas.”

March 22: SOB Michelle Poitevin told Haugen she wanted to hear all about Casablanca, a place she’s always wanted to visit. “In Arabic, it is called ‘bait al abyad’, which of course also means ‘white house’.”

March 27: SOB Ann Milam wrote to tell us she has moved. Added Ann: “When you get to Ephesus, Turkey, look for a sign like the one I took there in the bizarre bazaar!” (Notes Editor Terri: I got that same shot but Ann’s is way better!)

April 5: SOB Librarian Sheila told us of her sister’s trip to Seattle. They had a good time with Sheila’s kids and grandchildren Felix & Hazel, fit in a trip to the Chihuly Glass Museum in Tacoma, and were looking forward to the SOB Anniversary Tea!!

April 6: SOBs Margie & Hank Deck—in PFL David’s absence—hosted the SOB 33rd Anniversary Tea & Auction at their home in Spanaway, WA. There was silent bidding on just three very special items donated by SOBs John Longenbaugh, Becky Geis and Margie, and a quiz to honour anniversaries, with attendees contributing small plates of tea sandwiches. (PFL David thanks Margie & Hank profusely!)
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April 11: SOB Margaret sent a card with greetings from everyone who attended the Anniversary Tea at Decks’ home! Thanks for thinking of us! Added Margaret: “The SH-shaped cookies Margie provided were remarkable! Incredible! Outstanding! Great! What hosts!!

April 11: Our Aussie pal Steve Duke, as Sigerson sent an update to his European Expedition!! Said he: “Will be in Britain May and June. Shall speak with the Leicester Branch of the Elementary Vics and catch up with Roger Johnson...unlike the body on the roof, I shall be firmly inside the carriage when I go by Tube!”

April 12: Entertainment Weekly (#1254) reports, “Fans of the PBS Masterpiece series Sherlock threw their deerstalker hats in the air when Benedict Cumberbatch recently said he would star in a fourth season of the U.K.-set modern-day Doyle adaptation...While (Sherlock co-creator and exec producer) Steven Moffat adds that no decision has been made on a fourth season, fans had begun to worry that season 3 would be Sherlock’s last—due in part to the rising profiles of the series’ two stars.”

April 19: Entertainment Weekly (#1255) reports, “Jessica Chastain joins Benedict Cumberbatch, Emma Stone and Charlie Hunnam in the cast of director Guillermo del Toro’s horror movie Crimson Peak, set to begin shooting next year.

April 21: SOBs Sheila Holtgrieve and Stephen Adkins—in PFL David’s absence—chaired the Monthly Meeting, holding a discussion and quiz on “The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez”. (PFL David thanks Sheila and Stephen from the bottom of his heart)

April 21: Treasurer Al Nelson reported on that day’s Meeting: “We had a nice SOB meeting with Sheila doing the news and events and Stephen leading the discussion ala the PFL. He did a nice job. Had 14 in attendance including Margie D’s son Jeremy.” Added Al: “No spring here back home; it continues chilly and wet in the high 40’s to mid-50’s and wet. A few scattered sunny days but few thus far. It’s fun following your progress on my Mediterranean map.”

April 23: Our Aussie pal Steve Duke, as Sigerson sent another update: “A Sherlock Holmes debate is being done live on the internet from London on June 8. Just happens I’ll be meeting up with Roger Johnson & Jean Upton of the SH Society of London that day. If you see this debate, look for a South Australian flag in the audience—that’s me!”

April 26: SOB Margaret Nelson gave us this via e-mail, saying, “A friend sent these British newspaper items to me. Too funny!!” Source—The Manchester Evening News: Irish police are being handicapped in a search for a stolen van, because they cannot issue a description. It’s a Special Branch vehicle and they don’t want the public to know what it looks like. Source—The Guardian: At the height of the gale, the harbour-master radioed a coast guard and asked him to estimate the wind speed. He replied he was sorry, but he didn't have a gauge. However, if it was any help, the wind had just blown his Land Rover off the cliff.

May 3: SOBs Dwight & Gayle Holmes e-mailed saying, “The event outlined on this website will also be happening this Sunday (May 5) at 2:00 at the Woodinville Library. Check out: http://www.humanities.org/calendar/events/events/dr.-doyle-and-mr.-holmes-the-cultural-staying-power-of-sherlock-holmes-15. In brief, it says: ‘Journalist Tom Keogh leads this conversation about Sherlock Holmes, the story of his creation by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and the latter’s subsequent love-hate relationship with the character over decades. During the discussion, we’ll ask why Holmes still matters in the 21st century, and why we, as a culture, remain so attached to a character invented in 1886.’” (Editor’s Note: Tom Keogh is no stranger to the SOBs; he appeared on a panel in 2012 with our... Continued on Page 4

When Michael Phillips & Walter Choy renewed their dues, they sent it in this cute “Rachael Hale” greeting card. Her website is www.rachaelhale.com.

Reporting on the April 25 episode of “Elementary”, Entertainment Weekly (#1255) said, “Jonny Lee Miller’s Sherlock and Lucy Liu’s Watson investigate a blackmailer, while the writers continue to invoke at least some of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s spirit. Yes, this show is a plodding Holmes incarnation compared with PBS’ Sherlock, but in fairness, Elementary has to set the game afoot once a week rather than once in a blue moon.”
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...own John Longenbaugh at “The Anatomy of the World of Sherlock Holmes” Conference” we held on August 5, 2012!!!!

May 4: SOB James Romnes—in PFL David’s absence—acted as host for the day at our Annual Wreath Throw and Luncheon in Tumwater! (PFL David gives him kudos for his support!)

May 5: SOB Stevens wrote to say, “Just the usual work grind here. :-( Except maybe the 75°+ weather yesterday and today. I LOVE the sun. Tonight, on PBS, they had a visit by Sir ACD on a miniseries called ‘Mr. Selfridge’, which was fun. You will have to put it in the Twaddle when you come back.”

May 6: SOB James Romnes sent this report of the Annual Wreath Throw: “Wreath Throw day was beautiful in every sense. A blue sky with temps in mid-70’s and good friends and good feasting. Fourteen Members and guests were in attendance, including a gentleman named Roland who saw us on the website. He lives in Lacey and may attend the Dr. John H. Watson picnic and other more southerly events. Miss Emily Romnes flung the wreath into the falls and proved that sometimes a girl doesn’t throw like a girl. An afternoon of delights!” (Editor’s Note: For more of James’ report, please go to the Recent Events page on our website!)

May 6: Happily, SOB Librarian Sheila also sent a report on the Wreath Throw. Says she: “Stephen and I went, of course, to the wreath toss on Saturday. What a grand program the Romnes family put on! And, I am so glad they held it for over a half an hour, as there was a big tie up on the freeway, so we all were late...In attendance were the Romnes clan, two of Brian’s friends, Pat & Jim McIntosh, Stephen and me, Maffie & David Rafferty, and guest Roland. (Editor’s Note: For more of Sheila’s report, please go to the Recent Events page on our website!)

May 8: Treasurer Al Nelson e-mailed that he was putting together a small anniversary dinner that week to celebrate his & Margaret’s 41st wedding anniversary!! Congrats!! Added Al: “Andrew proposed to Kate while they were in Manchester so there is a wedding some time in the future!!” Congrats to Kate & Andrew too!

May 14: SOB Ann Deussen-berry wrote to say, “Here’s the website where you can catch the video of what Benedict Cumberbatch said when asked about Season 3 of Sherlock: http://www.vh1.com/celebrity/2013-05-12/benedictcumberbatch-tees-that-american-ans-will-see-new-sherlock-episodes-in-2013/.”

May 17: USA Today reported on the opening of Benedict Cumberbatch’s newest film, Star Trek Into Darkness, with the headline ‘STAR TREK’ FACES THE WRATH OF CUMBERBATCH. Go to http://usatoday.30.usatoday.com/LIFE/usaedition/2013-05-17-Cumberbatch-front_ST_U.htm for the full article.

May 19: SOB Lauran Stevens—in PFL David’s absence—chaired our Monthly Meeting. Her goal was to try to stump us once again with another fabulous quiz!! This time she titled it, “The Mostly Conan Doyle Pence Quiz!!” You can deduce correctly that it was mostly about Conan Doyle, with bits of Holmes and London sprinkled in. She even had some fabulous prizes planned!! (PFL David was truly grateful for Lauran’s help!!!) (Editor’s Note: Because so few attended the May Meeting, Lauran has graciously agreed to conduct her quiz again at the August Meeting!!!)

May 21: Writes SOB Margie Deck, “Brad Keefauver sums up beautifully why I don’t enjoy watching Elementary at: http://sherlock_peoria.blogspot.com/2013/05/love-finale-.html#comment-form. (But I’m looking forward to seeing Star Trek next week after some of the crowds thin out.)”

May 26: Haugens attended the Annual Picnic of what used to be the Diogenes Club of Dallas, but is being reformed into a new scion society—the “Crew of the Barque Lone Star”. Haugens met for the first time SOB Webmaster Stu Nelson, who gave them a lift to the event—held at SOB & BSI Don Hobbs’ home. Afterward, Haugens got a tour of Stu’s very impressive collection!!...
News, News, News!!!!!

...(Editor’s Note: For more on the Dallas Picnic event, please go to the Recent Events page on our website!)

May 26: Stu Nelan provided the info for those interested in receiving back copies or subscribing to the new version of the old magazine “Saturday Review of Literature”, a copy of which Stu showed to Haugens on their visit. It is a one-issue per year publication (BSI Weekend time) put out by Donald Pollock. Contact Don at: donaldkpollock@gmail.com.

May 28: SOB James Romnes forwarded an e-mail from SITU’s Rita Harris containing this picture of James and daughter Emily taken at Port Townsend’s Victorian Weekend event in February! What a handsome Dad and daughter!!


June 3: SOBs Ray & Greta DeGroat reminded us, when they hosted our Watson Picnic, “We had fun with my lawn ‘bowls’ one year though everyone ignored the proper rules! I’m sure you can find a set of 2nd hand bowls. If you do, the true rules are even more fun and easier on the bowls. Say ‘Hey!’ to anyone who remember us. All the best to you, Terri, David, Paul, and all the SOBs.”

June 5: SOB Ann Deussenbery wrote, Watch this! The Seattle Public Library launched the 2013 Summer Reading Program by setting a new world record for the longest book domino chain! It’s awesome”: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Np450xMSncE&feature=youtu.be. (Editor’s Note: Ann is a Librarian in Benicia, CA!!)

June 12: SOB Margie Deck wrote to say, “When you just don’t know what to give that favorite Sherlockian for Christmas, check out for custom-made Converse high-tops(!!!): www.custom-converse.co.uk/catalog/index.php/cPath/27/osCsid/43a1ad90419ae90adb49d00009692c74.

June 18: SOB Margie Deck said—to the question “Will ‘Sherlock’ Season 3 Air Simultaneously in the UK and U.S.?—‘We can only hope!’ For the full blurb, go to: www.bbcamerica.com/anglophenia/2013/05/will-sherlock-season-3-air-simultaneously-in-the-uk-and-us/.

June 21: SOB PFL David found a squib titled “Sherlock’ Season 3 Release Date: Top Spoilers For The New Season”. To see the video, go to: www.latin times.com/articles/5313/20130617/sherlock-season-3-release-date-spoilers-air.htm

And, Events Still to Come...

July 26: SOB Webmaster Stu Nelan and his wife Pat will be in Seattle just before they board a cruise ship to Alaska! Dinner is being arranged for 6:00 p.m. at Ivar’s Salmon House, 401 NE Northlake Way in Seattle on Lake Union. Please RSVP to PFL David by the Watson Picnic!

August 18: A vote will take place at the August Meeting to decide if we will move our Annual Master’s Dinner to March—to coincide with our Anniversary Tea & Auction and, hopefully, better weather!!

September 27 & 28 and October 4 & 5: “Sherlock Holmes: A Drama in Four Acts” will be presented by the Spotlight Players at Meridian Habitat Community Center located at 14422 Meridian East in Puyallup (on the SE corner of 144th & Meridian).

October 4—6: The Sherlock Seattle Convention 2013 with Guests of Honor Les Klinger, BSI and Lee Eric Shackleford. Programming will go to 10:00 p.m. each day! Cost is $35 before July 15, then goes to $45. Get your membership at: http://sherlock-seattle.org.

October 10: Exhibits Development Group has announced the world premiere of The International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in Portland. Go to: www.sherlockholmesexhibition.com for a full description and a link to the…

From the Los Angeles Times, May 29, 2013

A Positive Read on the Future of Indie Booksellers

After decades of decline, independent book selling has become a growth industry. For the fourth year in a row, membership has increased in the American Bookseller Assn., the independent stores’ trade group. According to CEO Oren Teicher, the association now includes 1,632 members. Teicher and others see a reversal from the peak days of Barnes & Noble and Borders. Now the problem has shifted from saturated neighborhoods to underserved neighborhoods. (An) industry analyst cites not just the fall of Borders, but also the “sharp reduction in shelf space for books at B&N…(D)emand for physical books is declining, but physical stores have been shrinking even faster.”

Independent sellers and superstores will gather this week in New York…for the industry’s annual national convention, BookExpo America. The book world meets at a moment of relative calm during an age of revolutionary change. Overall sales are steady and the e-book market is growing at a slower pace—a helpful trend for physical stores.

From SOB Margaret Nelson, June 9

“Here’s Andrew’s photo of Kate outside the Speedy’s/221B of Benedict Cumberbatch’s series’ version in late March. Al was able to show them where to go look for the spot!”
Member News & Updates

SOBs attending our June 2013 Meeting, presided over by PFL David Haugen were:

- Stephen Adkins
- Al Nelson
- Kate Nelson
- Sheila Holtgrieve
- John Longenbaugh
- Terri Haugen
- Kashena Konecki
- Sonia Fetherston
- David Rafferty
- Maffie Rafferty
- Sue Reed
- Ann Stevens

- Guests at the June Meeting included Kate’s fiancé Andrew, Sonia’s hubby Ben and Sherlock Seattle Convention Chair Mimi Noyes!! ☆ Because the July Meeting falls on the day after the Watson Picnic, we voted to cancel the July Meeting and combine it with the Picnic!!! ☆ Sonia’s discussion of the 1922 film, Sherlock Holmes, starring John Barrymore—complete with slides—gave us a behind-the-scenes look at how and why the movie was made, and how Barrymore stacked up against other Holmes actors. Her presentation was most informative and very entertaining! ☆ Said Sonia in a note she sent afterward: “Thank you so much for indulging my enthusiasm for Barrymore’s Sherlock Holmes. I absolutely love the SOBs! It was fun to see old friends there and to meet some new ones too. What a tremendous scion society!!”

Events Still to Come…

Continued from Page 5…press release on the exhibit, which will tour ten cities in North America before touring overseas. We hope to plan a Saturday excursion to Portland to see this exhibit as a group! (Thanks to Peter Blau for this item!!)

- November 15—December 15: The Seattle Repertory Theatre’s production of “The Hound of the Baskervilles” will be at the Bagley Wright Theatre. It is adapted by David Pichette and R. Hamilton Wright. Bob Wright is also no stranger to the SOBs, as he too appeared on a panel with our own John Longenbaugh at “The Anatomy of the World of Sherlock Holmes’ Conference” we held on August 5, 2012! (Thanks to Stephen Adkins for this item!!)