



# Ineffable Twaddle

*"It is my business to know what other people don't know."*

The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle

A monthly publication of  
The Sound of the Baskervilles  
A Scion Society of the Baker Street Irregulars • Since March 31, 1980  
Serving the Greater Puget Sound Region of Western Washington



Volume 33 Issue 7  
July, 2014

## Remembering Our Valued Members

As many of you know, PFL David will celebrate his 31<sup>st</sup> year as our fearless leader this September. Having attended the founding meeting of this Club on March 31, 1980, his brother's death the next month resulted in a 2-year hiatus. But upon his return, he was an active member making a big impact. He was elected the Club's 5th President in 1983 and that next year, elections were forever abandoned! You can see, hear and jab him all the time!

But what about our other, long-term, quietly supportive Members? Who are they? The Sound of the Baskervilles is nothing without its valuable Members, so let's meet a few of them!

### Many SOB's Exhibit Constant Interest

Did you know that author, former reporter and long-term Boeing employee **SOB Bill Seil** is our only other remaining founding Member, who has been a Member without interruption since March 31, 1980 and has been issued Member #1? Bill was also the Club's second editor (10/1981 to 9/1982) and its 4<sup>th</sup> elected President (10/1982 to 9/1983).

What about **SOBs Peter & Kay Chelmedos**? They joined this Club in June 1980 and continue their membership to this day, even though they moved to assisted living in Edmonds a few years ago. They come when they can, and Peter became our 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer in October 1981, serving until 1994—an astounding 13 years.

Other long-term SOB's—**20+ years**—who have been faithful Members since first joining the Club include:

♥ **Kathleen Dunlap (September 1983)**, a public relations pro who's lived in Virginia the last many years caring for her aging and (now) ailing Mom. She told PFL David recently that she will keep her promise to return to Washington once she "retires".

♥ **Lisa Miller & Anne Marie Wehrer (October 1983)** have always lived in the Olympia area. They work hard and play hard, having been avid soccer players. They even managed to

avid soccer players. They even managed to keep bees for a year! We may not see them often but they are always with us in spirit!

♥ **Don Mathews (March 1984)** always made certain that we remembered and honoured both our roots—on a ferry boat in the Puget Sound—and those SOB's we've lost to death. The annual "Honour Roll" we currently read at each Wreath Throw owes much to Don's spirit. He now lives in Idaho, and we miss his quick wit!

♥ **Jean Macdonald and Terri Haugen** (nee Smith) (**January 1985**) were great friends working together at Safeco Life, when Jean spied the press release Bill Seil and Kathleen Dunlap placed in the Seattle Times for a goose dinner!! Jean attended the dinner and convinced Terri that they **HAD** to join this Club! Jean was a near-constant helper at the many Masters' Dinners held at SOB Gerrie Kasper's home, while Terri assumed the role of Club Secretary & Editor (our 4th) in October 1997.

♥ **Nola Cheff and Pat Connelly (February 1985)** were childhood friends and it shows—they're just a couple of kids at heart and always add to The SOB's fun!! They often brighten our Masters' Dinners although, since Pat doesn't drive and Nola must chauffeur them, we don't see them often. Pat even kept up her membership during the years she spent in Racine, WI living near her daughter. Nola and Pat often "manned" the kitchen handling KP at the many Masters' Dinners held at SOB Gerrie Kasper's home.

♥ **Paul Williams (September 1989)** was encouraged to join our Club and our Games committee by co-worker SOB Judy Lyen. Yep, for 10 years the SOB's participated with the two Portland, OR and the Vancouver, BC scion societies in the "International Holmesian Games"—hosted by us the first 5 years and the 10th year! Paul also hosted Club Meetings in his home for several years, after we drove many restaurants out of business. For the last 12 years, Paul has grandly filled the job of Watson Picnic Committee Chair!

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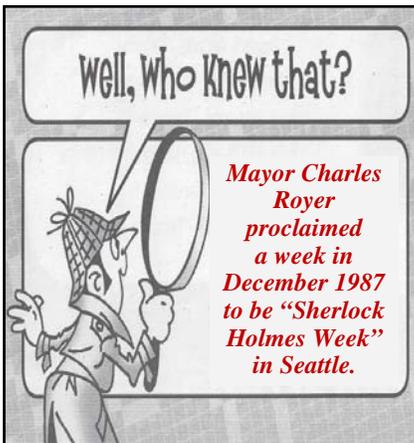
T.S. McHugh's Public House is at 21 Mercer Street, Seattle, (206) 282-1910. **Come early, order a meal, and catch up with other SOB's!**

**Important Note**

**Our July Meeting is Sunday, July 13**

—one week early!

We don't want to have to compete with The Bite of Seattle the following week!!!!



**Picnic Chair Paul Williams**

says:

**August 23** is the date for our **Annual Dr. Watson Picnic** at Seahurst Park in Burien!! The fun starts at **9:00 a.m.**, and we have the shelter until **2:00 p.m.**!!

Driving directions to Seahurst Park will appear in the August issue of *Ineffable Twaddle!*



**Holmes' Scrapbooking Interrupted!**

The July 13, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at **4:00 p.m.** at T.S. McHugh's Public House. **The social hour starts at 3:00!** The story to study is "The Adventure of the Red Circle".

**Says PFL David:** This is a tough tale to nail down. Estimates of the case's date have spanned the whole of Holmes' career—from 1881 to 1902. Most authorities, though, place it as having occurred after 1893. So too is the lead character in our story a moving target: The elusive Gennaro Lucca, with his wife Emilia, has fled Italy and New York for London in order to escape the clutches of The Red Circle—an Italian "political" society! Holmes get to invoke his knowledge of tobacco, and murder and lust ensue!!

What's not to love? Study up on "The Adventure of the Red Circle".



**...Our Valued Members**

**Continued from Page 1**

♥ **Manson & Nancy Polley (February 1990)** joined the Club when they lived on Vashon Island. Manson "wowed" the ladies at that year's Holmesian Games, when he acted as bartender in his mess dress uniform! They've been wintering in Arizona the last many years, but try to attend at least one meeting while they summer up here with their kids.

♥ **Michael Phillips & Walter Choy (January 1991)** have now been Members for 23 years. Michael—the real Sherlockian in their family—has often preferred working the night shift, so is usually sleeping when our activities occur. Being dog lovers, Walter's alter-ego in the Club is "Toby".

♥ **John & Barbara Nelson (April 1993)** joined after seeing a flyer SOB Frank Darlington had posted at their local bookstore on Hwy 99. Sadly, we lost John this past March, but Barbara hopes to stay as active as possible. She and John hosted many of our Annual Will Crakes Memorial Jollifications, as well as other ad hoc events, in their beautiful 1895 home.

♥ **Paul Naher (October 1993)** is an old pal of Don Mathews. He relocated from Idaho to KC, MO, where he met and married **Marcia** and acquired a huge family! While long distance, he's made friends with many of our local fellows who share his interest in antique firearms.



*It's been reported that 200 folks showed up for that very first meeting on the Seattle-to-Bainbridge ferry on March 31, 1980. Certainly not all of them joined the new sci-on society. Yet...did you know that—based on study of the sacred records—more than 310 people have joined this Club over its 34<sup>th</sup> year history? Many names and faces we remember well; others we don't even recognize. Sadly, many have passed on to "where it is always 1895". Many others moved*

*away, changed jobs, got married or divorced, and just plain had no more time for social activities of this sort. But others—while not able to participate continually since first joining—have still remained loyal!*

**Intermittent But Very Loyal SOB's**

Here are several current SOB's who first joined the Club more than 20 years ago, but for whom life got in the way of them staying continually active:

♥ **Becky Geis** (nee Schlilaty) (**March 1980**) was this Club's first elected President! Founder Jan Bailey had volunteered to hold that post for only 6 months, thus our first elections were held and Becky was elected in September 1980. She met and married hubby Bob and bore our two youngest members ever—daughter Katherine (now married and a mom herself) and son John (who's a Marine serving in Hawaii)—but then underwent some very serious heart ailments. She and Bob live up in Snohomish, so her presence has been behind the scenes recently: She's donated to our annual auction the last two years and hosted some amazing Sherlockian-themed 7-course dinners for our "winners".

♥ **Stephen Adkins (December 1980)** was a Member for three years before his life got complicated! He came back to us, though, with little fanfare or encouragement (i.e., pressure!) in April 2007 and has been a strong presence ever since. He's a professional drug counselor, avid photographer and, now, caretaker to his aging parents.

♥ **Judy Lyen (January 1985)** was a transplant from L.A. who told us of her Sherlockian activities there. The result: The formation of our Games committee and our hosting of the "International Holmesian Games" for six years! She lives in Tacoma, is active with public TV (KBTC), and keeps us apprised of their Sherlockian programming.



## Things to See, Buy, Do and Know

• **Seen in The Petrel Flyer** (Vol. 26-3, June), the bi-monthly publication of Vancouver, BC's Stormy Petrel scion:

⇒ **Editor Len Haffenden** is stepping down after 22 years; a huge loss and we hope they are able to fill his stellar shoes soon!

⇒ **Petrel President Fran Martin's** daughter and blogger Becky Bollwitt interviewed actor **Dan Aykroyd**, whose great grandfather, he said, had corresponded with ACD!! When asked if he was a Holmes fan himself, Aykroyd said, "Absolutely, who isn't, really? See more at: <http://www.miss604.com/2014/03/dan-aykroyd-and-crystal-head-vodka.html>

• **From SOB Bill Seil:** **Les Klinger has won the Sherlock Holmes copyright case** which confirms that anyone can write stories about Sherlock Holmes based on the first 50 stories which are in the public domain without paying a license fee to Conan Doyle Estate Ltd.—as long as they don't infringe on the last 10 stories (in the Casebook). The Seventh Circuit said people are now free to publish works that use those creative attributes of the Holmes character that appear in the pre-1923 stories, but not works that also use creative attributes of the Holmes character—whether elements of his life or traits of his character—that appear in the 1923 to 1927 stories. For more, go to [www.washingtonpost.com/news/volokh-conspiracy/wp/2014/06/16/most-of-sherlock-holmes-sherlock-holm-is-now-in-the-public-domain/](http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/volokh-conspiracy/wp/2014/06/16/most-of-sherlock-holmes-sherlock-holm-is-now-in-the-public-domain/)

• **From SOB Stephen Adkins:** In the June issue of "The Field" ("A Cracking Find", page 95), I noted the following: "It raises another interesting question, how many works, designed over a 50 year period in St. Petersburg by Karl Gustavovoch Faberge and his workmen are still missing? Based on a calculation made by **Sherlock Holmes** and **Geoffrey Munn**, managing director at Wartski, the number could be from 13,000 to 16,000. If they still exist—for much was melted down during the flames of the Russian revolution, and they may be scattered around the world...this is where the world of **Sherlock Holmes** and hypotheses take over..."

• **From PFL David and SOB Airy Maher:** UK-based online book seller "The Book Depository"—[www.bookdepository.com](http://www.bookdepository.com)—will ship any of their 10 million books worldwide for free!! Good news, as shipping from the U.K. is very costly!

• **From District Messenger Editor Roger Johnson:** ⇒ In re: the 2<sup>nd</sup> item contributed by Margie Deck last month (Vol. 33, June 2014, Issue 6, Page 3)—"I hadn't seen **that article about the 'hell**

**hound'**. Very interesting, especially as the legend of Black Shuck is known all along the east coast of England, from the Humber down to the Thames—and there have been many supposed sightings at Cromer in Norfolk...It's been conjectured that mention of Black Shuck at Cromer was what prompted Fletcher Robinson to tell Doyle about the Dartmoor legend. Seems convincing, but there's no actual evidence one way or the other. People have had great fun (though they probably didn't see it like that) unearthing possible inspirations for 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' in the Yorkshire Dales (where ACD's mother was living, and where there's a legend of a phantom black hound), in the Welsh border country (where there were Baskervilles and a legend of a phantom black hound), and even Oxfordshire (where there were Baskervilles)—but the only facts we have are that ACD and BFR took a golfing holiday on the Norfolk coast, during which BFR related the Dartmoor legend, that the two subsequently spent days exploring Dartmoor, and that their driver was the Robinson family's coachman, Harry Baskerville.

• **Squibs From Entertainment Weekly:**

⇒ **May 2:** **Martin Freeman** got his due with a cover story about his acclaimed hit "Fargo". We'll add a copy to our SOB Lending Library for all the Freeman-femmes!!

⇒ **May 9:** Featured **Showtime's** launch of a "Victorian England-set thriller" titled "Penny Dreadful" on May 11. It features Timothy Dalton and Josh Hartnett, and purports to "revisit classic literary creations we've all known and loved". If anyone is watching this show, please report in!!

⇒ **May 16:** Their Hollywood Insider column reported on the new film, "A Slight Trick of the Mind", starring **Ian McKellen** as an aging **Sherlock Holmes** and **Laura Linney** as his housekeeper. Says Linney of the movie which begins filming in July and is based on the 2005 novel of the same name by Mitch Cullin, "I was obsessed with **Sherlock Holmes** as a young kid...I loved the atmosphere of the stories. I loved the intrigue, his personality."

⇒ **June 13:** We got a "First Look" at "**Benedict Cumberbatch** Makes **Math Look Exciting**", a report on his new movie "The Imitation Game", due out on November 21, in which he plays "brilliant cryptographer Alan Turing, the British mathematician who deciphered Nazi codes during..."



**Continued on Page 4**

### The Watsonian, Spring 2014

Excitement was high as we learned at the June 15 SOB Meeting that

—**SOBs Margie Deck and Airy Maher**—

had contributions appearing in this prestigious new publication (Vol. 2, No. 1).

Margie contributed "The Pawky Puzzler Presents 'First Appearances'" —a huge crossword puzzle with 171 clues across and 163 down!

Airy's offering was an expanded version of her 2013/14 *Beaten's Christmas Annual* essay, "The Adventure of the Lion's Mane".

With input and critique from dramatic writer Burt Coules, her contribution is titled "A Dissection of the Cyanea Capillata".

We also noted Sherlockian expert **Roger Johnson's** contribution titled "The Younger Watson" and, at the back of the book, that Charter Members of the John H. Watson Society include fellow **SOBs Margie Deck, Stu Nelan, Don Hobbs, Bill Mason, Sheila Holtgrieve, Stephen Adkins, Al Nelson, and Margaret Nelson.**

### Picnic Chair Paul Williams

says:

**August 23** is the date for our **Annual Dr. Watson Picnic**

at Seahurst Park in Burien!! The fun starts at **9:00 a.m.** Get there early, as parking is limited!!



### From SOB Ginie Romnes

Wanted to share this early photo of Queen Victoria as a child!



## SOBs Weigh-In On Longenbaugh's "Assessment"

Further to the sidebar on Page 7 of our April/May 2014 Double Issue (Vol. 33, Issue 4/5) in regards to SOB John Longenbaugh's March 5 Seattle Weekly article titled, "The Sherlockians Assess Benedict Cumberbatch", we have these comments and opposing views on the two TV shows "Elementary" and "Sherlock":

⇒ **From SOB Eli Edwards:** As happy as I am to see modern adaptations of Sherlock Holmes discussed and assessed in the media, I am disappointed with the dismissal of *Elementary*. Indeed, I may be the only fan of the show within The Sound of the Baskervilles. But I am certainly not the only fan of the CBS show. No one is obligated to like *Elementary* or to consider it flawless—it is not. And if Jonny Lee Miller and Lucy Liu is not one's cup of tea, that's fine. I love *Elementary*, I like *Sherlock*, I enjoy the movies with Robert Downey, Jr., and Jeremy Brett is still my favourite Holmes, bar none. However, there are pleasures to *Elementary* that are worthy of consideration and should not be dismissed simply as mundane, procedural fare. *Elementary*'s Holmes is as brilliant, idiosyncratic and arrogant as ever, but he's also humbled by his addiction. The show's Watson gives us a smart, compassionate and stubborn Watson who calls Holmes on his cruelty, insists on being treated as an equal, and has a role in imparting advanced medical knowledge as well as a significant degree of empathy to the victims, witnesses, etc. This Holmes has learned to *SHOW* how he values the (small) number of people who apply their intelligence, will and integrity in the same direction he does, even if he is always sure they will not match his intellect. And Holmes is not just motivated by his quest for mental stimulation, his love of puzzles—he strives for justice and wants to speak for the dead, especially the innocent dead—inasmuch as he can be horrible to witnesses and suspects, he cares about victims, living and dead. So, no, M. Longenbaugh, though I respect your dedication and devotion to Doyle, Holmes and Watson, I do not accept your stipulation.



⇒ **From SOB Paul Williams:** I very much prefer *Elementary* to *Sherlock*. I suppose it is a combination of pace and presentation. The incredible pace of *Sherlock* gives every case the urgency of a terrorist attack. The pace is supported by the visual clues, but they are so quick. True, I think the view through his eyes is a very neat idea and I appreciate the labels, but even with the labels I must replay each view at least once and sometimes several times to see what they are focusing on. The clues are more easily absorbed in the conversation of *Elementary*, and the interaction with the police, and they are not being pointed out like highlighted text. There is more of a feeling of discovery when I sense "this is important" during conversation. The presentation in *Sherlock* is a mishmash of several stories in each episode. I prefer looking for the reference to a single story in *Elementary*. The emphasis on SH's drug use takes up lots of time in *Elementary* but it adds human interaction with meetings and sponsoring, and human interaction is almost totally missing in *Sherlock*. I enjoyed the "Best Man Toast" better than any other scene of the whole series, recognizing early that he was teasing out a perpetrator the whole time, while performing a non-optional social convention. I don't mind changing Watson to a female. It adds something that was not needed when Doyle was writing but now the balance is much more important. Friendship between species...I mean, *genders*...is now accepted without the raised eyebrows that it would have brought in 1890. And this is the type of conversation I have missed so much in not being able to attend the meetings.

**Note 1:** Apologies from your Editor for the tardiness in publishing these views. Blame it on our 5-week spring vacation!

**Note 2:** For those interested in our *informal* poll of favourite actors playing Holmes & Watson, see the Breaking News page of our website at: [www.soundofthebaskervilles.com/2013/SOBs\\_Conduct\\_Scientific\\_Survey.pdf](http://www.soundofthebaskervilles.com/2013/SOBs_Conduct_Scientific_Survey.pdf)

## Things to See, Buy, Do and Know



...WWII and was later prosecuted for being gay."

⇒ **June 20:** In its feature article, "The Fifty Best Scenes" in the last U.S. TV season, at #5 was the 2<sup>nd</sup> episode of "*Sherlock*" ("The Sign of Three"), in which Sherlock (Cumberbatch) gives his best-man speech for John (Freeman). Says EW, "Best men everywhere, the bar has officially

been raised."

• **Received from both SOBs Margie Deck and Jim Nagle:** In case you were wondering what Benedict Cumberbatch is doing between *Sherlock* seasons, according to Entertainment Weekly (June 13) and The Atlantic (June 12), here's what he's up to: He'll be heard in *The Penguins of Madagascar* as a wolf who is a part of an elite task force team. He's playing Hamlet at the London Barbican. He's playing Richard III, possibly opposite Judi Dench. He's reading radio news scripts from D-Day on BBC Radio Four. He's reading letters written by Kurt

Vonnegut and Iggy Pop at the literary Hay Festival. He's one of Time's "100 Most Influential People in the World". He's crowd-funding short films made by a production company he set up, SunnyMarch Ltd. He's starring as Alan Turing in *The Imitation Game*. He's replacing Brad Pitt in *The Lost City of Z*. He's replacing Guy Pearce as Whitey Bulger's brother in *Black Mass*. He's on BuzzFeed surrounded by photo shopped pictures of kittens. And, he's doing a fourth season of "*Sherlock*". For more, try these web links:

<http://time.com/70781/>, or [www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2014/06/how-benedict-cumberbatch-became-the-biggest-star-of-our-time/372426/](http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2014/06/how-benedict-cumberbatch-became-the-biggest-star-of-our-time/372426/), or <http://insidemovies.ew.com/2014/06/11/penguins-madagascar-benedict-cumberbatch/>, or <http://www.buzzfeed.com/elliewoodward/very-important-photos-of-benedict-cumberbatch-with-kitten>



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## It's a Contest!!!

By: SOB Lauran Stevens

Enter "The What If" contest for 2014 and win free dues for next year!!

In "The What If" contest, there are no right or wrong answers!

**The Key:** We know Sherlock Holmes is a consulting detective...that John Watson is a doctor...and that Professor Moriarty was a master criminal.

**The Rules:**

- Using your knowledge of the Canon and your imagination and wit, tell us what you think each of them would be (and why) if they were not a consulting detective, a doctor, and a criminal! Be creative!! Create a

new world!! It's easy, it's free!!

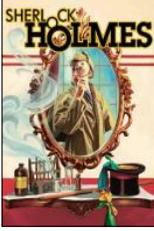
- The best set of answers will earn the winner free dues next year!! And, all the most imaginative answers will appear in our next issue of *Beaten's Christmas Annual!*

- Send submissions to me as follows: Lauran Stevens, 109 John Street, Apt. 509, Seattle, WA 98109-4920

- Your answers—with reasons why—must reach me by September 1, and the winner will be announced at the September 21 Club Meeting.

Here's a chance for **EVERYONE** to participate!! So, *Out-of-Towners, seize this opportunity!!!*

**From SOB Sonia Fetherston, BSI**  
 Noticed in the June 6 *Oregonian* that the NW Children's Theater will **stage an adaptation of "Sherlock Holmes"** September 27 to October 26 in Portland. They do a good job, so the production ought to be a treat. Show times are at 11:00 and 3:00. There is more info, including ticket prices, on their website: [nwcts.org](http://nwcts.org). *Hmmm...time for a group event or road trip???*



## A Few Words from Our Veep Kashena Konecki

The Lego Group has announced that there will **NOT be a "Sherlock Holmes" series** of Lego construction toys produced. The Denmark manufacturer has decided instead to put out a series of toys modeled on women scientists!

The **3<sup>rd</sup> Sherlock Seattle convention** will occur in January 2015, with exact dates still to be determined. Those who would like to propose suggestions for: a) the convention's theme and/or b) Sherlockian guests of honor, should contact me, as I do

serve on the convention committee. Email me at: [konecki@gmail.com](mailto:konecki@gmail.com).

A fire broke out on June 14 at **Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's former home, Windlesham Manor**, in Crowborough, which is now a home for the elderly. ☆ It appears no one died in the fire that was believed to have started in a roof space. For more, go to: [www.courier.co.uk/Crowborough-morning-home-Sir-Arthur-Conan-Doyle/story-21237018-detail/story.html](http://www.courier.co.uk/Crowborough-morning-home-Sir-Arthur-Conan-Doyle/story-21237018-detail/story.html)

## A Visit to a Stellar ACD Collection

By: SOB Airy Maher

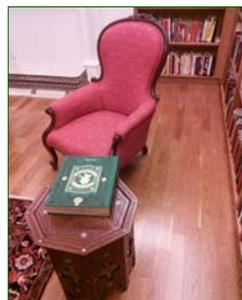
In May, I had the opportunity to visit the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection housed in the Toronto Public Library.

Newly renovated, the place that houses the collection was spacious and comfortable. There was a round study area surrounded by two floors of packed bookshelves. There was also a brightly lit area behind a transparent wall.

When I entered through the glass door, I felt as if I had stepped into 221B Baker Street: There was a fireplace with a pipe on the mantle, a Persian slipper, and a red reading chair patterned with bees. The walls were filled with books of every variety, and I spent ages browsing through them.

If a fellow SOB happens to find themselves in Toronto, then I highly recommend visiting this collection!

*For more and larger pictures and a more detailed write-up of Airy's adventure, visit the "Breaking News" page on our website, [www.soundofthebaskervilles.com/breaking.html](http://www.soundofthebaskervilles.com/breaking.html)*



**From Our Friends at Classic Specialties in Cincinnati**  
*(via e-mail from Peter Blau)*



We have information from our old friends at **Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound (REPS)** that their June 7th meeting involved a **live radio drama with a performance of a Sherlock Holmes script—by the REPS Readers.**

Thanks to REPS for choosing Sherlock Holmes!

In the Seattle area, REPS meetings are held the first Saturday of each month in the Norse Home Auditorium. Meetings are from 2:00 to 4:00 pm unless notified otherwise.

**SITU COSTUME SALE!**  
 —July 4, 5, 6, & July 12  
 —9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day  
 —Joan Hemm's house, 8015 46<sup>th</sup> Ave W, Mukilteo, WA 98275  
 —(425) 314-2314; email [hemmjoan@yahoo.com](mailto:hemmjoan@yahoo.com)



Joan is selling her collection, which includes Regency, Victorian, Edwardian, Steampunk and some 20<sup>th</sup> century styles: costumes, shoes, hats, wiglets, jewelry and purses. Most garments are sizes 8 to 12; shoes, 8½ to 9½. She suggests you call before you go!



The Sound  
of the  
Baskervilles

By appointment  
of Her Majesty,  
Queen Victoria

## Ineffable Twaddle

A monthly publication of  
The Sound of the Baskervilles  
A Scion Society of the Baker Street Irregulars since March 31, 1980  
Serving the Greater Puget Sound Region of Western Washington

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*The Sound of the Baskervilles is a scion society of the Baker Street Irregulars, serving the greater Puget Sound Region of Western Washington, U.S.A., and has met monthly since March 31, 1980.*

*\$20 per year brings Members the monthly newsletter “Ineffable Twaddle”, a copy of Beaten’s Christmas Annual, and the incalculable benefits of association with a group of certifiable Holmes aficionados.*

*Meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of each month. Location of the meetings may vary. Regularly scheduled additional events throughout the year include: “The Master’s Dinner” celebrating the meeting of Holmes and Watson (March), “The Annual Wreath Throw” commemorating Holmes’ loss at Reichenbach Falls (May), “The Dr. John H. Watson Picnic” (July), and “The Will Crakes Memorial Jollification” (December). Other activities—book crawls, teas, plays and gaming events—are as announced.*

*To join, send your check for dues—\$20 for individuals, \$30 for families (U.S. funds only)—to the address shown at left.*



### Dates of Interest

SUNDAY,

July 13

This is a change!

Regular Monthly Meeting, Social = 3:00 p.m.;  
Business = 4:00 at T.S. McHugh’s

SUNDAY,  
August 17

Regular Monthly Meeting, Social = 3:00 p.m.;  
Business = 4:00 at T.S. McHugh’s

SATURDAY,  
August 23  
Annual Dr. John H. Watson Picnic

9:00 to 2:00!!  
Get there early!  
Driving directions to Seahurst Park will appear next month

## Member News & Updates

SOBs attending our June 15, 2014 SOB Meeting, presided over by **PFL David Haugen** were:

Vivika Sundqvist	Airy Maher	Terri Haugen
Kashena Konecki	Diana Couture	Anne Becker
Sheila Holtgrieve	Morag Logan	Lauran Stevens
Lauren Messenger	Jon Strandberg	Sue Reid
Pat McIntosh	Hank Deck	Al Nelson
Michelle Poitevin	Margie Deck	

● Important to note is: **We’ve moved our July Meeting to Sunday, July 13**—one week earlier! ☆ **Anne** once again brought her Mom Laurel Becker, and this time her sister Karen Becker came too! ☆ A card was circulated for **SOB Stu Shiffman** & Andi Schecter in advance of their nuptials on June 18. *Watch the Breaking News page on our website for a write-up and pix of that event!!* ☆ **Michelle** said she’s finished her needed academic courses and will enter her nursing program in January ☆ **Sheila** said her next Librarian’s Corner report will cover new acquisitions for our Lending Library ☆ Winners—who each earned fabulous prestige and honours—in our quiz on DEVI were: **Airy** in 1<sup>st</sup> place; **Lauren M., Jon** and **Diana** tying for 2<sup>nd</sup>, and **Morag** and Laurel tying for 3<sup>rd</sup>.

● **SOB Angela Day** dropped a line: “My first quarter of school was the most consuming of any I’ve had before. For the first time in my life, I am not working and it’s a bit odd but I appreciate being able to focus on school. I am studying “Couples and Family Therapy” with a focus on sex therapy. It’s a dynamic field and I am excited to be pursuing it.”

● **SOB John Longenbaugh** wrote: “On Saturday (June

7) **SOB James Romnes** and I ran a panel on “Steam Sherlock” at the Brass Screw Confederacy, **Port Townsend’s annual Steampunk Festival**. It was most excellent fun as we batted back and forth the topic of “Is Sherlock Holmes Steampunk?” in front of an audience of a couple of dozen people, having done most of our preparation on the drive up. Our verdict: Sherlock isn’t particularly Steampunk, except for some “Weird Science” speculations in stories like “The Creeping Man” (monkey glands!) and some hints of eldritch horror in stories like “The Devil’s Foot” (the lurker on the threshold!). But other stories by ACD, most notably the Professor Challenger stories, fit comfortably into the Steampunk genre and indeed helped shape it. ● **James** also repeated a version of his lecture on “Sherlock’s Arsenal” that he had previously presented with **SOB Gordon Frye** (at the 2013 Sherlock Seattle Con), who again joined him for a survey of the various guns featured in the original Canon, in particular a variety of versions of James’ favorite pistol, the Webley Bulldog. ● The weekend of June 14/15, I presented “A Straight Left Against a Slogging Ruffian: The Fighting Techniques of the Original Sherlock Holmes” at **Combat Con in Las Vegas**. This original lecture, compiled with the assistance of PFL David and James Romnes and featuring demonstrations by my bartitsu club, focused on historical reenactments of the bare-knuckled pugilism and bartitsu techniques that the Great Detective used in the original Canon.

