Don’t Miss our Joint Meeting in Mt. Vernon!

SOB Board Member Emeritus Al Nelson has made arrangements for a joint meeting of two of the Pacific Northwest Sherlockian Clubs—The SOBs and The Stormy Petrels of British Columbia!!

Meet us on Saturday, November 21, 2015, Noon to 4 p.m. at the Skagit River Brewery (404 S. 3rd St, [360] 336-2884), Mt Vernon, WA. (http://www.skagitbrew.com). This will be a social event, so plan to make some new friends!

There may be a quiz, there will be a silent auction (with our usual free raffle tickets!!), and there will be lots of fun!

Separate checks will be provided, and food and drinks will be “no host” (at your expense).

We hope to carpool as many SOBs as we can from various Seattle-Tacoma locales for those who need rides; please make yourselves known to Al (ahnelsonah3@outlook.com) or PFL David (david@soundofthebaskervilles.com)!!

Start Next Summer with a Jaunt to Minneapolis!

The Norwegian Explorers and the University of Minnesota will hold their 2016 joint tri-annual conference JUNE 17 THRU JUNE 19, 2016. The conference is titled, and will involve presentations on the subject of, “THE MISADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES”.

The cost for the conference is $215, which includes breaks, lunch and a banquet on Saturday.

Says Co-Chair Julie McKuras, “We’re going with a whole new slate of speakers, none of whom have spoken here before...Our theme doesn’t merely reflect the book, “The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes”, but anything that is misadventurous or even just adventurous...We think it will be exciting.”

The conference hotel is “The Commons”, located on the University campus in downtown Minneapolis (www.commonshotel.com).

The room rate (1 king bed or 2 queen beds) is $146 per night. Guests have until May 16, 2016 to reserve a room. To book your room, call (800) 822-6757 or (612) 379-8888 or click www.commonshotel.com and ask for a room reserved for the “Sherlock Holmes Conference”.

SOB PFL to be a Featured Speaker!

An invited speaker, PFL David’s talk will focus on how The SOBs have “held it together” during our Club’s recent growth, with the new Sherlockian Members we’ve acquired after the first several Sherlock Seattle Conventions—which will certainly include a contrast between Baby Boomer fans and Gen Y enthusiasts.

Be part of PFL David’s groupies, his fans, his hecklers...whatever!! Here’s our chance to show the world what a REAL SCION SOCIETY LOOKS LIKE!!!

Further details and some surprises will follow!!
Long Before “The Walking Dead”, a Victorian Vampire!

The November 15, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Bas-kervilles will begin at 1:30 p.m. at The Seattle Public Library at 400 West Gar-field, Seattle (Queen Anne Branch). Says PFL David:

This is our 52nd tale in the Canon (in publication date order) and, like CREE last month, this too is creepy!! It was first published in the January 1924 issues of The Strand in London and Hearst's International Magazine in New York.

There is trouble in the Ferguson household: Son Jack, physically impaired by a childhood fall isn't getting along with his stepmom, and stepmom is sucking her new baby son's blood!!! Wait...what?? Why???

Ferguson has decided his Peruvian bride must be a vampire!! Yet even before Holmes and Watson travel to Ferguson's home, Holmes has deduced what is going on, and it has nothing at all to do with vampires. Stranger still, upon meeting her, Mrs. Ferguson speaks to Holmes of needing to sacrifice herself rather than breaking her husband's heart. What a couple!!!!

Curious? Enjoy another creepy tale with a reading of “The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire”!

“Beyond Impressive”, The Sherlock Holmes Society of London Reviews The New Sherlock Collection, Part 1

By: Roger Johnson,
The Sherlock Holmes Society of London

“There have been some impressive anthologies of brand new Sherlock Holmes stories over the past 20 years or so (Thank you, Mike Ashley, David Stuart Davies, Martin Greenberg et al.), but this one goes beyond impressive. Not just in quantity—more than 60 stories in three handsome volumes—but in consistent quality. And no wonder, given the quality of the contributors. Here are some—most—of the best, most dedicated Holmesian authors working today, from all four corners of the world. Stories by Andrew Lane, Lyndsay Faye, Larry Millett, Carole Nelson Douglas, Bert Coules, Denis O Smith, Michael Kurland, Amy Thomas, James Lovegrove, Daniel D. Victor, Matthew J. Elliott, Paul D. Gilbert, John Hall, SOB Jim French, Phil Growick, Bonnie MacBird, Tim Symonds...and twice as many again. Top stuff! And there’s more: Neither the publisher, the hard-working editor, nor any of the contributors will make a penny out of it. All royalties will go towards the preserva-

Source—MX Publishing, which notes: The MX Book of New Sherlock Holmes Stories is the #1, #2 and #3 Bestselling Sherlock Holmes book on Amazon UK today. It’s available from all good bookstores including The Strand Magazine, Amazon USA, Amazon UK, Waterstones UK and, for free shipping worldwide, Book Depository.

See also Ineffable Twaddle for October 2015, Vol. 34, Issue 10, Page 3:

 MX Publishing has announced a Kickstarter campaign to help cover the cost of creating a three-volume The MX Book of New Sherlock Holmes Stories with 60 stories whose authors have pledged all their royalties to the renovation of Conan Doyle’s home Undershaw by the Stepping Stones School. To contribute to the campaign, go to: www.tinyurl.com/nfkpnn.
Things to See, Buy, Do and Know

- **SOB John Longenbaugh’s play “Sherlock Holmes & the Case of the Christmas Carol”** will be performed at the Renton Civic Theatre from December 4 to 19, 2015. Prices run from $17 to $22. Their website is: rentoncivictheatre.org. **THANKS TO SOB DAWN KRAVAGNA**

The only matinee is for John’s play is at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 6—so let’s all plan to go!!

- You can see the new BBC1 trailer (all 90 seconds of it) for the “Sherlock” one-off Christmas special by going to imdb.com/title/tt3845232.

- The LA Times had two items in late October with updates on the “Sherlock” one-off Christmas special: “Happy New Year! BBC and PBS have finally announced the air date for the highly anticipated ‘Sherlock’ special that transplants our favorite sociopathic sleuth and his sidekick to the Victorian era.” and “Sherlock: The Abominable Bride’, a 90-minute special, will premiere on January 1, 2016, marking the first time that the series has aired simultaneously in Britain and the U.S. The American broadcast will air on PBS’ ‘Masterpiece Mystery’ at 9 p.m. and will have an encore presentation on January 10.”

- More on Otto Penzler’s The Big Book of Sherlock Holmes Stories: The stated price is $40, but both Barnes & Noble and Amazon sell it for $22. Just to confuse things, Walmart.com has it for $18.63, with a list price of $25. **THANKS TO PFL DAVID FOR THE ABOVE 3 BULLETED ITEMS**

- This item is slightly old—December 2004—but, for newer Sherlockians, here’s a link to The New Yorker article which reported on the infamous locked-door mystery of Richard Lancelyn Green’s death: http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2004/12/13/mysterious-circumstances. **THANKS TO SOB TERRY BURNS**

- For those who might want to keep abreast of such things, there is a new (?) Sherlock Holmes story—“The Opera Thief”—in the current issue of The Strand Magazine (July-October). **THANKS TO SOB DC SMITH**

- “A Bedside Book of Early Sherlockian Parodies and Pastiches” (MX Publishing, $19.95) consists of Sherlock Holmes parodies and pastiches written during Conan Doyle’s lifetime; it has a strong appeal, since most of the earlier collections are out of print. Compiled and edited by the indefatigable Charles Press, the stories and snippets range from “An Evening with Sherlock Holmes” in 1891 to “Rescuing the Mr. Chips of Yale” in 1927, taking in work by JM Barrie, O Henry, Bret Harte, Ring Lardner and others.

- “Saratoga: At The Rail, from ‘Silver Blaze’ to ‘Shoscombe Old Place’” (Baker Street Irregulars, $18.95) is the book that was published to accompany this year’s running of The Silver Blaze at Saratoga Racetrack, with essays that focus on the Canon’s two racing stories; it’s available from the BSIs at: www.bakerstreetjournal.com.

- “The Last Moriarty” by Charles Veley (Thomas & Mercer, 2015, $15.95) is set in London in November 1895, with Holmes back from the Great Hiatus (although the public’s not yet aware of his return) and, on behalf of John D. Rockefeller, J. P. Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, and Her Majesty’s government solving a crime that involves some twists and turns with regard to people from Holmes’ past.

- Ket Kopf’s “The Hound of the Baskervilles” (MX Publishing, 2014, $16.95) and “The Final Problem” (MX Publishing, 2015, $16.95) are the latest in his imaginative and attractive graphic-novel adaptations of the Canon; the second book has more than one case, and both have amusing echoes from other parts of his “Victoria Regina” series; his interesting web-site is at www.petrikolp.cz.

- You can pre-order “Sherlock Holmes”, the William Gillette Movie now at Amazon and Barnes & Noble and elsewhere on-line, but the best price is the discount offer at Amazon for $20.00. The William Gillette adaptation of the story—“The Stormy Petrels of BC is Saturday, November 21, 2015, Noon to 4 p.m. at the Skagit River Brewery (404 S. 3rd St, [360] 336-2884) in Mt Vernon, WA. (http://www.skagitbrew.com) Don’t Miss It!!!
Start Saving for Christmas!

We’ll have another small auction for a second custom-made Sherlockian-themed Christmas wreath at our November SOB Meeting! So bring your checkbooks, because the last one—auctioned off at our Masters’ Dinner in March—went for almost $60!!

From SOB Margie Deck

On September 17, Hank & I and Sheila Holtgrieve drove to Vancouver, BC to attend an audience-participation dinner theater performance at the Crescent Beach Bistro in Surrey, hosted by The Stormy Petrels. Thanks to Petrel Johnnie Johnston, who worked closely with the Bistro to develop the show titled simply “Sherlock Holmes”, it featured four characters, loosely drawn from SCAN.

Here’s a shot I took of Sheila with actress Martha Scrase, who played Irene Adler.

Pop’s Top Detective: Sherlock Through the Years


Thanks to SOB Bill Sell

One of the most prolific characters in all of pop culture, the brilliant Victorian-era detective was originally featured in four novels and 56 short stories by Scottish author/physician Sir Arthur Conan Doyle beginning in the late 1880s. But Sherlock Holmes achieved true immortality in waves of newer “media” that followed—on radio, TV, stage and in the movies. ● Early Holmes:

Holmes first appeared in the movies almost at the dawn of cinema itself, in the silent short Sherlock Holmes Baffled (1900). ● Played by the Greats:

Over the following decades, he’d be featured in newspaper comic strips, in comic books, and portrayed on radio, television, stage and in the movies by a who’s who of actors, including Basil Rathbone, Jeremy Brett, Orson Welles, Charlton Heston, Christopher Lee, Michael Caine, Peter O’Toole, Roger Moore, Leonard Nimoy, Larry Hagman and John Cleese.

Recent Movies:

Robert Downey Jr. brought the character vibrantly alive to contemporary audiences in two action-packed Sherlock Holmes movies in 2009 and 2011, both co-starring Jude Law and Rachel McAdams. This past summer, Ian McKellen brought pop’s favorite detective back onscreen in Mr. Holmes. ● Holmes, M.D.? References to Holmes, his demeanor, manner of dress and cool temperament crop up often in modern fare, from Disney’s The Great Mouse Detective (1986) to Hugh Laurie’s performance as an anti-social, maverick doctor solving puzzling medical cases in House M.D. (2004-2012). ● A British Detective in Brooklyn: Jonny Lee Miller stars as a modern-day, Brooklyn-based Sherlock in the hit CBS hit Elementary, and Lucy Liu is his Dr. (Joan) Watson. ● BBC’s Best: British actor Benedict Cumberbatch returns Holmes to his British roots in the BBC smash Sherlock, which airs in America on PBS. (A special 90-minute Christmas episode will air while the series is on hiatus.)

More...Things to See, Buy, Do and Know

...website (www.sshf.com/boutique.php), where you can see thumb-nail images showing the results of their splendid research. Former SOB Bill Mosteller tells us that Peter Blau argues that Gillette is nearly as important as Doyle in Holmes’ fame. Gillette promoted Holmes during the years he was “dead” and probably had a lot to do with his resurrection.

⇒ This year’s Christmas card from the Sherlock Holmes Society of London will show Sidney Paget’s portrait of Arthur Conan Doyle—exhibited this year in Britain for the first time during the exhibition at The Museum of London—in full color and in packs of ten (10); there’s an order form (and much more of interest) at the Society’s web-site: www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk.

⇒ Randall Stock continues to expand his “The Best of Sherlock” website page for Sidney Paget by adding memorabilia associated with Paget’s Sherlockian illustrations as well as related treasures, such as the silver cigarette case Paget received as a wedding gift from Sherlock Holmes (who had it inscribed for the occasion). View it at: http://bestofsherlock.com

THANKS TO PETER BLAU’S SCUTTLEBUT FROM THE SPERMACETTI PRESS FOR THE PREVIOUS 7 BULLETETED (⇒) ITEMS

• FROM EDITOR TERRI: Of the season 4 premiere of CBS’ show “Elementary” (November 5, 10 p.m.), Entertainment Weekly’s Fall TV Preview issue said: “In the wake of Sherlock (Jonny Lee Miller) falling off the wagon, his father (John Noble) is finally coming to town—but it’s not a joyful reunion. ‘Sherlock mistrusts the man and dislikes everything that he stands for,” Miller says. Also, for those who care, season 2 of Cinemax’s “The Knick” premiered on October 16.
• The Seattle Rep’s Bagley Wright Theatre will feature “Sherlock Holmes and the American Problem” April 22 through May 22, 2016. This world premiere by R. Hamilton Wright is described as, “The American Wild West and Victorian England collide in this original adventure tale. The year is 1887, the occasion is the Queen Victoria’s Jubilee, and the coincidences are suspiciously piling up. The creative team behind 2013’s hit ‘The Hound of the Baskervilles’ is at it again with more thrills, more laughs and more unbelievable deductions.” For dates, times and ticket pricing, go to: http://seattlerep.org/Plays/1516/
Abdul-Jabbar’s New Novel, “Mycroft Holmes”

Source: TIME Magazine, Sept. 28, 2015
“Mystery: Holmes is Where His Heart Is.”
Reviewed by Daniel D’Addario

In his first novel, “Mycroft Holmes,” Kareem Abdul-Jabbar uses the Sherlock story as a way to explore race and history. The former NBA star (who’s written several nonfiction books and is a TIME columnist) takes us to Trinidad with Sherlock’s elder brother Mycroft as he attempts to deduce who or what has been making locals disappear.

The book, co-authored by Anna Waterhouse, lends itself to Abdul-Jabbar’s interests: Mycroft Holmes, who travels across the globe at the behest of his friend, is more agile sleuth. Mycroft, whose mind is as keen as Sherlock’s but who is lazy and dull, “un-Sherlockian-like traits”???

Sherlockians rejoice! The new tale of the detective’s mysterious older brother, Mycroft Holmes, is about to be told—by NBA legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Anna Waterhouse! “Mycroft Holmes” sees Sherlock’s mysterious brother fresh out of university, and already proving himself as a shrewd player in the British government. His best friend is Cyrus Douglas, a man of African descent born and raised in Trinidad, where Mycroft’s new fiancée, Georgiana, also was raised.

Cyrus hears troubling news from home: mysterious disappearances; strange, backwards-facing foot prints on the sand; spirits enticing children to their deaths. Soon the action moves to Trinidad, into a web of dark secrets that grow more insidious and baffling with each.

“Mycroft Holmes” (ISBN: 9781783299805) was released by Titan Books on September 22.
Limited edition (500) signed copies were offered for $100.

Even More...Things to See, Buy, Reviewed by Daniel D’Addario

Source: Titan Books (Publisher) in Sept. 23, 2015 promotional email broadcast
Thanks to SOB Bill Seil

Continued from Page 4

Do and Know

- **FROM OUR BRITISH PAL ROGER JOHNSON:** Jean and I had a lovely few days in Switzerland (this summer)—Meiringen, we deduce from the photos—from which we returned to an appropriately alpine mountain of e-mails. Just to prove that we weren’t in fact simply hiding inside our own house with the curtains drawn, here’s a photo.

- **FROM SOB BILL SEIL:** Read a first-person essay by Sherlockian Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on how and why he became the fan that he is at: http://parade.com/425018 /parade/why-we-love-sherlock-holmes/

FROM SOB JIM NAGLE

Attended the Jane Austen annual general meeting in Louisville, KY in October, and we had a relatively impromptu Sherlock Holmes meeting there. One member sent out a notice, as we were preparing for the annual Regency Ball, suggesting that anyone interested in Sherlock Holmes should be around the bar at a certain time so we could chat. I was expecting only four or five people, but there were over 30 of us! We talked about Sherlock Holmes and drank toasts to Mrs. Hudson, Mary Morstan, and Irene Adler. The person who organized it then concluded by reading the Vincent Starrett poem and I chimed in “it is always 1895” at the end.

Kudos, Jim!!
The Sound of the Baskervilles

By appointment of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria

Ineffable Twaddle

The monthly publication of The Sound of the Baskervilles
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Member News, Notes, Updates

SOBs attending our September 20, 2015 Meeting, presided over by PFL David Haugen were:

Sheila Holtgrieve  Lauren Stevens  Terri Haugen
Jean Macdonald  Paula Price  Margie Deck
Margaret Nelson  Airy Maher  Hank Deck
Kashena Konecki  Annie Becker  Laurel Becker
Lauren Messenger  Diana Couture  Al Nelson
Vivika Sundqvist  Stephen Adkins

Applause to SOB VP Kashena Konecki, who discovered the slip-up with the Library and found us space at Olympia Pizza and Spaghetti!! Airy was the only one to solve the true/false quiz that Lauran S. presented that day; you’ll get a 2nd chance, though, when you see it in our next issue of Beaten’s Christmas Annual!! Airy was the only one to solve the true/false quiz that Lauran S. presented that day; you’ll get a 2nd chance, though, when you see it in our next issue of Beaten’s Christmas Annual!! Airy was the only one to solve the true/false quiz that Lauran S. presented that day; you’ll get a 2nd chance, though, when you see it in our next issue of Beaten’s Christmas Annual!! Airy was the only one to solve the true/false quiz that Lauran S. presented that day; you’ll get a 2nd chance, though, when you see it in our next issue of Beaten’s Christmas Annual!! Airy was the only one to solve the true/false quiz that Lauran S. presented that day; you’ll get a 2nd chance, though, when you see it in our next issue of Beaten’s Christmas Annual!! Airy was the only one to solve the true/false quiz that Lauran S. presented that day; you’ll get a 2nd chance, though, when you see it in our next issue of Beaten’s Christmas Annual!! Airy was the only one to solve the true/false quiz that Lauran S. presented that day; you’ll get a 2nd chance, though, when you see it in our next issue of Beaten’s Christmas Annual!!

SOBs attending our October 18, 2015 Meeting, presided over by PFL David Haugen were:

Sheila Holtgrieve  Al Nelson  Terri Haugen
Marcia Marcy  Paula Price  Vivika Sundqvist
Kashena Konecki  Lauren Messenger

Stephanie Trasoff, who like many other SOBs is part of the Richard III Society, came to our October Meeting (encouraged by Al) and joined that day! She lives in Birch Bay!! We DID celebrate the PFL’s 32nd anniversary with lots of cupcakes! At left is Paula’s snapshot of him!

SOB Shannon Wallace let us know her email address is wrong on the Membership List! Please correct it to: shannonraewallace@gmail.com.

SOB Paul Naher gave us this update on SOB Don Mathews in late October: “His condition has improved a lot, but some infection is still cause for concern…(but) we are miles ahead of where we were two months ago!” Don’s still in the hospital, though, so continue to send get-well cards to him at: St. Mary’s Hospital, 701 Lewiston Street, Cottonwood, ID 83522.

SOB Charlie Cook reports that granddaughter/SOB Nadia Cook-Loshilov (stage name Nadia Alexander; last seen in the Ethan Hawke film, “10,000 Saints”) is filming again in Vancouver, BC. And, she’s got her own designated chair!!