



# INEFFABLE TWADDLE

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

*—The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle*



Volume 39 Issue 3 • March, 2020

The 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, USA



## Holmes and the Voltaic Battery

The Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at **our new time of 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 15, 2020** at the Seattle Public Library (Queen Anne Branch), located at 400 West Garfield, Seattle (*driving directions at right*). **If you have a favorite snack or beverage, please bring it along to share!**

**Says Program Chair Sunny Even:** One of the things I love about Sherlock Holmes stories is how they provide a peephole to technology advancements of the past. The Second Industrial Revolution brought rapid innovations in Holmes' lifetime, thanks to advances in steel production and electricity. One

of Holmes' more celebrated quotes, calling his brain "a racing engine" (WIST, DEVI) was a very contemporary comparison indeed. Consider that hardly a story skips reference to the ubiquitous telegraph offices and telegrams, a method to instantly communicate over long distances that was wholly implausible only 50 years earlier...sound familiar?

"The Adventure of the Dying Detective" provides just such a glimpse. Were you intrigued by the following comment from Holmes? "...I am somewhat exhausted. I wonder how a battery feels when it pours electricity into a non-conductor." Down the Wikipedia rabbit hole (to borrow another contemporary comparison) I went to investigate the history of batteries. I marvel at the jars of acid and relays and iron wire on wood poles that made electrification possible (even practical!) before power grids and electrical generators were ever invented. But that's a subject for a separate monograph...!

The Seattle Public Library on Queen Anne Hill is at 400 West Garfield

Library opens at 12:00, closes at 5:00. Come early, and catch up with your fellow SOBs!

### Getting there:

From north- or south-bound I-5, exit at Mercer Street and head west. Turn right on Queen Anne Avenue and head up the hill. At the 3-way stop sign at the top, turn left onto West Galer Street. At 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, turn right. The library is one (1) block north on the northwest corner, at the cross with Garfield Street.



## The SOB's Masters' Banquet: Celebrate Holmes' & Watson's Meeting and Annual Awards

Date: Saturday, March 7, 2020

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: The Old Spaghetti Factory, Tukwila

You'll have **your choice of lunch options!** Complete details—including costs for each option and what's included in each option—can be found in the [flyer accompanying this issue of Twaddle](#). **OR**, get details online—where you can print the registration form and contact Editor Terri with any questions—at: <http://soundofthebaskervilles.com/news/event/38th-annual-masters-celebration-at-the-old-spaghetti-factory/>

**The Old Spaghetti Factory** is in Tukwila, WA, several traffic lights south of the Southcenter Mall. Their facilities, the décor, the food and the parking are all *great!* We all enjoyed their hospitality last March!

Please be sure to **return the "clip-off" coupon by February 29**, with your check, to reserve your spot! Last minute reservations? Call or email Editor Terri: (253) 460-2753 or [terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com](mailto:terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com)!



Above, Sheila and Cameron

At left, Shannon and Airy



Hey, Locals!!

The March 15 Meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. and adjourn around 3:30!!



## Upcoming Events

**38<sup>th</sup> Annual Masters' Celebration, Saturday, March 7, 1:00 p.m.** at The Old Spaghetti Factory, 17100 South-center Parkway, Tukwila (on the northeast corner of SC Parkway & Minkler Blvd.)

**Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday, March 15, 12:30 p.m.** at Queen Anne Library, Seattle



March 17

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tea, Saturday, April 4, 1:00 p.m.,** in Federal Way

**Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday, April 19, 12:30 p.m.** at Queen Anne Library, Seattle

**38<sup>th</sup> Annual Wreath Throw, Saturday, May 2, 11:30 a.m.,** in Tumwater

**Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday, May 17, 12:30 p.m.** at Queen Anne Library, Seattle

## "Sherlock Holmes is Everywhere"

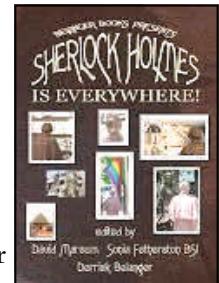
### ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Our apologies again to our new members—Arizona-based **LAUREN CERCOME** and California-based **LYN ADAMS**—that space did not allow us to include their bios in our February issue! We are happy to include them for you here!

**SOB Lauren Cercone**, a consumer market researcher, lives in Phoenix with her husband, two cats, and a view of South Mountain. She founded *The Transfixed Correspondence of Phoenix* in August 2015. A transplanted Bostonian by way of the Central Coast of California, she is intent on making the Sherlockian desert bloom.

**SOB Lyn Adams**, of Livermore, CA and recently retired, is a member of *The Holmes Hounds at Baker Street West* in Jackson, CA. Her favorite pastimes are walking, reading, quilting, and collecting books.

Both Lauren and Lyn (and her husband, Bill) joined The Sound of the Baskervilles while attending the Left Coast Sherlockian Symposium in Portland, OR in October, 2019 and we are most happy to welcome them to our Scion!



## Prep Yourself for Holmes' Tomfoolery with Cook's Quizzery!

1. What were the first two words Mrs. Hudson said to Watson upon visiting his home?
2. Where was Holmes working when he fell ill?
3. What did Holmes tell Watson his illness was?
4. What other two diseases did Holmes bring to Watson's attention?
5. What did Watson take off the mantelpiece causing Holmes to emit a horrible scream?!
6. Who was the man Holmes asked Watson to send for, and what was his occupation?



By SOB Charlie Cook

7. Name the policeman who asked Watson how Holmes was!
8. Where did Holmes tell Watson to hide when the visitor arrived?
9. Name the person that Holmes accused the villain of murdering!
10. Holmes told Watson that among his (Watson's) many talents, what finds no place?
11. Holmes considered writing a monograph on which subject?
12. Where did Holmes want to go after he and Watson left the police station?

Answers may be found on Page 5

## One Last Reminder: Dues Increase Effective April 1

As most Members will recall, we renew our dues each springtime, with a call for dues being renewed each year before March 31. That's because our Club's fiscal year begins each new year on April 1.

We explained in the January issue of this newsletter that, "While The SOBs dues have not been altered since 2005, the purpose for raising dues at this time is to: a) provide additional financial flexibility,... and b) certainly to hedge against rising costs of printing and mailing our publications.

So, effective with our 2020/2021 fiscal year, which begins April 1 and for which payment is due by March 31, 2020, **our annual dues will increase to \$25 for Individual membership & \$35 for family membership.**

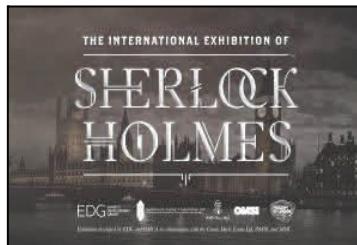
We hope—if you haven't done so yet—that you'll get your dues renewed **today**, but certainly no later than March 31, either through the PayPal option on the "Join" page on our website (<http://soundofthebaskervilles.com/news/join/>), or by check—payable to The Sound of the Baskervilles—and mailed to: Treasurer Melinda Michaelson at P.O. Box 7633, Tacoma, WA 98417.



## Things to See, Buy, Do & Know

⇒ **From SOB Charlie Cook:**

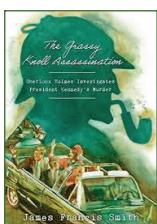
Our State Museum (South Carolina) advertised the opening on January 18 of a “new blockbuster exhibit”—THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF SHERLOCK HOLMES—so I logged on at [scmuseum.org](http://scmuseum.org) and it looked great! I headed to Columbia the next week and, learned this was to be the final stop of this now-years-old Exhibition (which continues to April 19). I attended and enjoyed the display immensely but abashedly, was unable to solve the crime! *Editor's Note: This Exhibition launched back in 2013 in Portland, OR, did the U.S. for a couple of years before ending its first U.S. tour here in Seattle in 2016, then went on to Australia, as we recall, even went global for a while; and now seems to have returned to the U.S. It is great fun and if you have kids or grandkids... especially young ones...they'll really love it! Our Club, of course, attended both events. The 2013 event was recorded in the November 2013 issue of Twaddle, which you can find on the website under "Publications" (<http://soundofthebaskervilles.com/news/publications/>) in the listings down the page in date order. The 2016 was recorded as a "blog post" on the "Home" page of the website (<http://soundofthebaskervilles.com/>) and can be viewed by paging down to the area for 2016 postings.*



⇒ **SOB VP Kashena Konecki posted this on Facebook on 2/5/2020:** New comic drops today! Take a look. ADLER #1 TRAILER! CLASH OF THE HEROINES! ON SALE FEB 5TH. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6waeYL3uk8&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR3JKFD0g30RBtp2eG64MHgdeps-AXVr9vaXKL\\_Bx9RG-lU1iXVvk7tEmY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6waeYL3uk8&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR3JKFD0g30RBtp2eG64MHgdeps-AXVr9vaXKL_Bx9RG-lU1iXVvk7tEmY) Adds SOB Marc McDaniel: In this comic her background was that of an ambulance driver in the South African War (Boar War). I have found no reference yet of women drivers in St. John's Ambulance Brigade that supplied 2,000 men and orderlies to care for the sick and wounded, however women ambulance drivers are well documented as serving in WWI.

⇒ **Received at our Website**

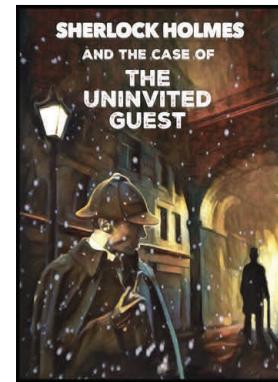
**Email:** Did you ever wonder if Sherlock Holmes, using logic, could solve President Kennedy's murder? **“THE GRASSY KNOLL ASSASSINATION:**



**SHERLOCK HOLMES INVESTIGATES PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S MURDER,** a new book released in December, gives you that opportunity. It's available on Kindle (\$16.99) and from Amazon in paperback (\$19.99). “You won't be disappointed,” says author James Francis Smith himself who contacted us directly!

## 2020 Writing Contest

**“Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Uninvited Guest”**



YES, THAT'S THE TITLE ABOVE AND THIS IS THE COVER AT LEFT!

HOW EASY CAN IT GET?  
WE GIVE YOU A TITLE AND A COVER!

NOW, WHAT IS THE PLOT?  
EVEN BETTER, WHAT IS THE OPENING PARAGRAPH?

**THIS IS YOUR CHALLENGE FOR 2020:**

YOU MAY ENTER THIS WRITING CONTEST IN ONE OF TWO (2) CATEGORIES, OR IN BOTH:

**CATEGORY 1:** IN 200 WORDS OR LESS, GIVE US A BELIEVABLE PLOT AND HOW HOLMES SOLVED IT!

**CATEGORY 2:** IN 200 WORDS OR LESS, INTRODUCE THE “UNINVITED GUEST” TO US AND HAVE HIM/HER/THEM HOOK HOLMES INTO TAKING HIS/HER/THEIR CASE!

OK? READY, SET, GO!  
YOU HAVE UNTIL NOVEMBER 1!  
MORE DETAILS WILL FOLLOW!  
AND, YES, THERE WILL BE PRIZES!!!

⇒ **From Jean Upton, The London Society's District Messenger:**

- The UCLA Film & Television Archive and the Baker Street Irregulars have mounted a **WORLD-WIDE SEARCH FOR MISSING SHERLOCK HOLMES FILMS—“SEARCHING FOR SHERLOCK: THE GAME’S AFOOT.”** More than 200 films are missing or lost, or are in need of restoration. If you wish further information about the project or know where the Archive might direct an enquiry (or if you think you know where a film might be found), contact the project coordinator, Barbara Roisman Cooper at [peninc1@aol.com](mailto:peninc1@aol.com).
- If you are (or have been in the teaching profession, Rob Nunn has started a **NEW PROFESSIONAL SHERLOCKIAN SOCIETY, THE PRIORY TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION.** Contact him at [robertanunn@gmail.com](mailto:robertanunn@gmail.com) or at 12 West Pickett's Crossing, Edwardsville, IL 62025.

Continued on Page 4

## More Things to See, Buy, Do & Know

*Continued from Page 3*

- Reader Oscar Ross has alerted us that **TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN IS SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR A FULLY-FUNDED FOUR-YEAR PROVOST'S PH.D. PROJECT DOCTORAL AWARD FOR "SITUATING SHERLOCK: MAPPING SPACE AND PLACE IN ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S SHERLOCK HOLMES"** to begin in September 2020 or March 2021. The award comprises the student's full tuition fees (EU or non-EU) and an annual stipend of €16,000. If you're interested in obtaining a Ph.D. in Sherlock Holmes, you can learn more here: <https://www.tcd.ie/English/assets/pdf/provosts-phd-award-2020-cc-final.pdf>

- On 18<sup>th</sup> August, **ROYAL MAIL WILL ISSUE NEW STAMPS UNDER THE TITLE "SHERLOCK"**—but no other information is given at this time. You can keep an eye on the Royal Mail's Special Stamp Calendar for more details as they become available: <https://blog.postofficeshop.co.uk/special-stamps-calendarfor-2020/>

⇒ From SOB PFL David:

- If you missed **THE SUPER BOWL TV AD FOR A COKE ENERGY DRINK**. It starts with Martin Scorsese at a costume party trying to contact actor Jonah Hill. Dancing just behind Scorsese is a **MAN IN A SHERLOCK HOLMES OUTFIT**. He is wearing a deerstalker hat and you can get glimpses of him and his caped coat throughout the commercial. Here is the web address, on the off-chance that it's still posted: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/video/super-bowl-special-2020/coca-cola-energy/vi-BBZwLyZ?ocid=iehp>



- Some fonts are pleasing to the eye, while others irk readers for one reason or another. But it turns out that the fonts we like (*and don't like*) influence us more than we may know. In an experiment for *The New York Times*, readers who were shown **AN ESSAY IN THE BASKERVILLE FONT WERE MORE LIKELY TO AGREE WITH THE ARGUMENT** than if it was presented in any other font. Readers were least likely to agree with statements made in fonts like Comic Sans and Helvetica. For more: [msn.com/en-us/lifestyle/smart-living/125-facts-that-will-make-you-feel-instantly-smarter/ss-BBXk7QI?li=BBnb7Kz&cid=iehp#image=25](https://www.msn.com/en-us/lifestyle/smart-living/125-facts-that-will-make-you-feel-instantly-smarter/ss-BBXk7QI?li=BBnb7Kz&cid=iehp#image=25) **Editor's Note:** Did you know that 90% of our Beaten's Christmas Annual is published using the Baskerville Old Face font??

⇒ From Peter Blau's **Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press**:

- The **FIRST PERMANENT GRANITE STATUE HONORING SHERLOCK HOLMES ERECTED IN THE AMERICAS** (*right*) has now been unveiled in Chester, IL, according to Michael McClure ([www.baskervilleproductions.com/statue](http://www.baskervilleproductions.com/statue)). Mike was interviewed earlier this year by Scott Monty and

## A Message from PFL David

Dear SOB Members:

Re: PayPal Processing Fee Change

The Club has offered both new and renewing Members the convenience of dues payment through PayPal since 2017. Back at that time the decision was made to pass the PayPal processing fee on to you.

With our upcoming dues increase taking effect April 1, 2020, however, the Board has determined that henceforth the Club will absorb the PayPal fee and not pass that cost on to you.

Webmaster Shannon has rebuilt and updated the "Join" Page on our website (<http://soundofthebaskervilles.com/news/join/>) for the new individual & family dues rates, the new mid-year prorated rates, and to remove the PayPal processing fee.

Many thanks for your loyal membership, and we hope this change is a pleasing one rather than any inconvenience to you!

Kind regards,  
PFL David Haugen  
January 27, 2020



Burt Wolder on the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog ([www.tinyurl.com/tu8l4py](http://www.tinyurl.com/tu8l4py)) discussing "Sherlock, Popeye, and More" (yes, Popeye has a connection to Chester). **Ed. Note:** You really should check out the Baskerville Productions website); it's a hoot!

● The game's afoot as Noveltease Theatre stages a new literary **BURLESQUE ADAPTATION OF "THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES" ON MARCH 27 & 28 AT THE AUDITORIUM AT UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS CENTER**. The Company has devised a trio of adventures from the Holmes canon that will feature a different actor in the title role for each story. Additionally, each featured story is adapted, choreographed, and directed by different Company members to further emphasize how creators have interpreted Holmes throughout his long literary life. At the heart of this nesting trio of mysteries is what happens when the world's most perfect reasoning machine is tested—or bested. Drawing on the historical format of scripted literary adaptations of 1880s burlesque, and infused with contemporary striptease choreography, Noveltease reworks the literary canon for contemporary audiences through feminist, queer, and sex-positive standpoints. Noveltease Theatre productions are suitable for persons over 18. Tickets: [novelteasetheatre.org](http://novelteasetheatre.org) or 206.527.4278. The Auditorium at University Heights Center is at 5031 University Way NE, Seattle.

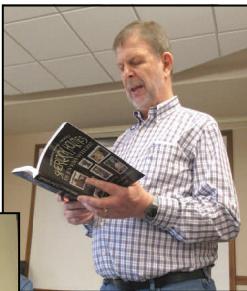
## Author Readings & Signing at February Meeting

Our February 16 Meeting featured readings from the new book, "Sherlock Holmes is Everywhere", by the SOB contributors who live locally and on behalf of our other SOB contributors who live elsewhere.

Locally were: **PFL David Haugen** (University Place, WA), **Sonia Fetherston, BSI** (Salem, OR), **Margie Deck** (Spanaway, WA) and **Nancy Hold-er, BSI** (Port Townsend, WA).



**PFL  
David**



**Sonia**



**Margie**



**Nancy**



On behalf of our out-of-town SOBs were Kris Hambrick reading for **Ron Lies** (Denver, CO), Cameron Brandon reading for **Lauren Cercone** (Phoenix, AZ), and Terri Haugen reading for **Lyn Adams** (Livermore, CA).

**Kris**



**Cameron**



## More New Members!!

We had two new individuals join the Club in January!

They both seem to have read the article published about us in The Seattle Times on Sunday, January 19!

**Patti Hulvershorn** read the Times that morning, came to the January Meeting and sure seemed to enjoy herself! She lives nearby, so we hope to see a lot of her!

**George Lenes** lives in Kent and has already chosen his Canonical alter-ego: Mr. Melas from *The Greek Interpreter!*

*Welcome to you both!!*

## Change is Afoot...Already!!

A guest speaker has been added to our 2020 line-up, so our Meeting Content (see January Twaddle) is updated as follows:

April: FINA	July: NORW	Oct: WIST
May: EMPT	Aug: SECO	Nov: 3STU
June: SOB Kris Hambrick's Movies Talk	Sept: GOLD	Dec: BLUE

To translate the 4-letter abbreviations for the 60 Holmes stories, we suggest:  
<http://www.bestofsherlock.com/ref/rfab.htm> Reference: Jay Finley Christ, *An Irregular Guide to Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street*, New York: Argus Books, 1947.

## For our Newer Members

Now's a good time to think about  
**your Canonical name!!**

If you have chosen an alter-ego but don't know if your choice of a person, place or thing is already taken by another of our active Members, please phone or email Editor Terri to find out in advance if your choice is already taken. **Be creative!**

To contact Editor Terri: call (253) 460-2753, or write to [terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com](mailto:terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com)!



Our fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31! That means that renewal dues are due by March 31!!

Renew using PayPal, or find a renewal form on the "Join" page at our website to pay by mail!!!  
[www.soundofthebaskervilles.com](http://www.soundofthebaskervilles.com)

## Answers To Cook's Quizzery on DYIN on Page 2:

1. "He's dyin'."
2. Rotherhithe
3. A cootie disease from Scotland Yard.
4. Tapauuli Fever and the his bed.
5. A black Formosa Corruption.
6. Culverton Smith, a box with a sliding lid.
7. Inspector Morton of Scotland Yard.
8. Behind the head of Sumatra.
9. Victor Savage.
10. Dissimulation.
11. Malingering.
12. Simpson's



## The Sound of the Baskervilles

By appointment  
of Her Majesty,  
Queen Victoria

### Ineffable Twaddle

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

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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.*

*\$25 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. Location of the meetings may vary.*

*Regularly scheduled additional events throughout the year include: "The Masters' Celebration" honoring 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, or to renew your membership, send your check for dues—\$25 for individuals, \$35 for families (U.S. funds only)—payable to The Sound of the Baskervilles—to:  
SOB Treasurer  
P.O. Box 7633 • Tacoma, WA 98417*

## Member News & Notes

Our **February 16, 2020 Regular Monthly Meeting** was presided over by **PFL David Haugen**.

- SOB Members present were:

Shannon Wallace	Sheila Holtgrieve	Terri Haugen
Chris 'Bear' Berwald	Cameron Brandon	Dawn Jaekel
Kashena Konecki	Alexander Snow	Al Nelson
Margaret Nelson	Kris Hambrick	Judy Lyen
Melinda Michaelson	Nancy Holder, BSI	Margie Deck
Sonia Fetherston, BSI	Juanita Jones	Sunny Even
Ben Fetherston	Jennifer Yoakum	Stephen Adkins
Patti Hulvershorn	Mel Briganti	Brent Michaelson

- We welcomed several guests: **Randy McCrory**, who lives in Bellevue; **Michael Lanier**; and **John**, who's new to Seattle and his friend **Michelle**—they all found us through the article that appeared about our Club in The Seattle Times Pacific Northwest Magazine on January 19! ★ **VP Kashena** was back from a business trip to Switzerland, and **Webmaster Shannon** was back from a vacation to Seoul! Wow! ★ It sounds like the **swag bags** planned for the Masters' Celebration on March 7 are coming along nicely, as reported by **Chair Nancy Holder**! ★ Nancy also let us know that she attended the **Beacon Society** meeting at the BSI Weekend event in NYC in January, that she joined the Society and that she'll be giving us a report soon about ways The SOBs will be able to contribute to their efforts. ★ We devoted our February Meeting to meeting the local **SOB contributors to the new "Sherlock Holmes is Everywhere"**, listening to them read their essays, quizzing them about their essays, and getting their autographs! See the photos on P. 5!
- Remember: **March 31, 2020 will mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Sound of the Baskervilles**. Both our Masters' Celebration (March 7) and our Anniversary Tea (April 4) will be some-

thing special!  
Please put some thought to this, and let's see what we can do to make this—our 40<sup>th</sup>—year's celebrations extra special.

● **Masters' Celebration Registration Forms** should be returned by **February 29**, please! To make any special payment arrangements, please email Secretary Terri at [terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com](mailto:terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com) ASAP!!

● **2020 / 2021 Dues Forms** should be returned to Treasurer Melinda by **March 31**, please!

● **SOBs Paul & Marcia Naher** lost their kitty Rose over the holidays but gained their Pyredoodle Tilly!

● Here's **SOB Sheila Holtgrieve** at the beach with her grandkids, twins Hazel and Felix!

