



# Ineffable Twaddle

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

—The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle

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



If it's not already, get our **23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dr. John H. Watson Picnic** on your schedule **NOW!**

It's **Saturday, July 27** in the South Shelter at Seahurst Park in Burien from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Even though earlier in the day, this is still a **pot-luck lunch**, so please bring enough food—salads, main dishes, side dishes,

chips, snacks, sweets—and beverages to share! (*Haugens will provide coffee & breakfast foods to greet you and eating utensils, plates, napkins, etc.*)

And, Cameron Brandon will provide an updated version of his infamous variation on the *Twister* game!!

(*No alcohol or balloons though!*)

No RSVP required; bring your friends!!

**Volume 38 Issue 6  
June, 2019**

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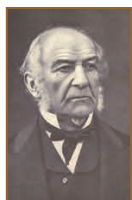
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## "The Case of the Chilly Chinchilla"

By: SOB Mike Thomas

*"The newcomers were Colonel Lysander Stark and a short thick man with a chinchilla beard growing out of the creases of his double chin, who was introduced to me as Mr. Ferguson."*

—The Engineer's Thumb



Facial hair became immensely popular in Victorian England. It's suggested that its popularity sprang from the pictures of Crimean War soldiers, most of whom were bearded and mustachioed. It could have been because of the difficulty of shaving in the field, or just because it reflected their dashing, gallant self image. Victorian men were swept away by the rugged, masculine faces staring back



at them from these adventurous photos. Famous men began to emulate them; Lord Kitchener's heroic mustache was widely admired.

William Gladstone, Charles Darwin, Wilkie Collins, Dickens, our own Conan-Doyle, and many other distinguished gentleman and trend setters sported fabulous facial hair. The era was even referred to by the BBC as the "Great Victorian Beard Craze".

But what in the world is a "Chinchilla Beard?" The Victorian Hierarchy of Beards lists no Chinchilla.

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## "By taxi now to Baker Street..."

**SUBMITTED BY: Best-Selling Author Connie Willis** ♦ **EXCERPTED FROM: Smith's London Journal, by H. Allen Smith (Doubleday, 1952)**

**Friday 21 September: By taxi now to Baker Street for a look at the Sherlock Holmes exhibition.** The taxi driver knew all about the exhibition but I was unable to talk to him until we arrived before the big

office building which stands on the supposed site of 221b Baker Street. Once there, however, he told me that he had already been in to see the Holmes show. "Mr. 'Olmes," he said, "was a very great man." Something in his manner suggested that he believed Sherlock Holmes to have been a real man rather than a character in fiction.

"Was he a real man," I asked, "or just a character made ...

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



**Library opens at 1:00, closes at 5:00. Come early, and catch up with your fellow SOBs!**

**Getting there:**

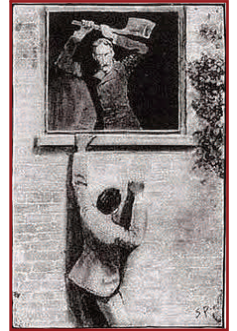
From north- or southbound I-5, exit at Mercer Street and head west. Turn right on Queen Anne Avenue and head up the hill. At the 3-way stop sign at the top, turn left onto West Galer Street. At 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, turn right. The library is one (1) block north on the northwest corner, at the cross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

## "...Hatherley's thumb holds us enthralled from the start..."

The Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at **1:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 16, 2019** at the Seattle Public Library (Queen Anne Branch), located at 400 West Garfield, Seattle (*driving directions at left*). ***If you have a favorite snack, please bring it along to share!***

**Says Program Chair Sunny Even:** "The Engineer's Thumb" is aptly named. While Holmes proceeds to unravel the activities of clandestine counterfeiters, it's the fate of poor Victor Hatherley's thumb that holds us enthralled from the start. From Watson's first description of that "horrid red spongy surface where the thumb should be," we follow Victor's narrative with trepidation, anticipating the denouement of the unfortunate appendage. A harrowing tale unfolds, from Victor's sinister midnight carriage ride to a hidden country house, to the terror of his narrow escape.

Victor laments at the end, "I have lost my thumb and the fifty-guinea fee. What have I gained?" Holmes' usual Victorian compassion is in short supply when he responds, "Experience." And proceeds to suggest Victor could dine out on his sensational tale for years to come.



## Try Charlie Cook's Quiz on "The Engineer's Thumb"

1. What are the only two cases which Watson says he brought to Holmes' attention?
2. How many years after its occurrence did Watson wait to bring this case to the public?
3. What kind of engineer visited Watson's surgery?
4. How much did the engineer tell Holmes his gross takings were?
5. Who was the engineer's client and what was so distinctive about his appearance?
6. How much did the client offer to pay the engineer for his service?
7. What two things did Holmes ask about the horse drawing the carriage from the train station in Eyford and what were the responses?
8. Name the woman who helped the engineer!
9. What was the name of the engineer who was listed in Holmes' cuttings from his commonplace books?
10. Name the Scotland Yard inspector who accompanied Holmes to Eyford!
11. Who owned the house where the engineer was taken and what was going on there?
12. What two things did the engineer say he lost and what did Holmes say he gained?

**Answers may be found on Page 6**

## The SOBs Join SITU Members for Gillette Viewing

**By: SOB Judy Lyen**

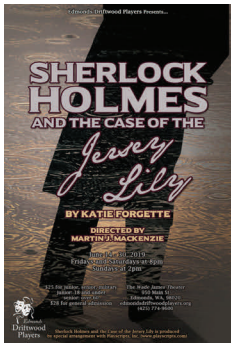
Members of The Sound of the Baskerville Cameron Brandon, Melinda Michaelson, Allen and Margaret Nelson, Judy Lyen and PFL David Haugen joined members of Somewhere in Time Unlimited (SITU), a local historical costuming group, for a showing of the William Gillette silent film "Sherlock Holmes" on Saturday, April 27 at the Grand Cinema in downtown Tacoma. The event was billed as the film's "premiere", and SITU members wore a variety of styles from Sherlock Holmes' time. There were several SITU members who dressed as specific characters: Holmes, Dr. Watson and Henry Baskerville! Allen, Margaret and Judy wore Victorian/Edwardian garb; David wore his deerstalker. The film was followed by a tea and luncheon at a not-far-away venue.

The morning started at the Theatre with coffee and light snacks. PFL David then gave a very interesting talk about the origin of the film and the play it was based on. There was a lively interchange with members of both groups participating with questions and comments. The movie was screened in a 74-seat auditorium, so that members of ...



**Continued on Page 6**

## Things to See, Buy, Do & Know



⇒ **From Edmonds' Driftwood Players:** JUNE 14 TO 30, 2019, WE WILL PRESENT "SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE CASE OF THE JERSEY LILY", BY KATIE FORGETTE. As our advert explains: "The wit of Oscar Wilde meets the cunning of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle when Wilde brings his dear friend, Lillie Langtry, to Baker Street. Someone has stolen the highly intimate letters Lillie exchanged with the Prince of Wales, and now she is being blackmailed. Only

Holmes can solve the case, ...going so far as to disguise himself as an early version of Lady Bracknell from Wilde's latest play, "The Importance of Being Forthright", while Watson falls head-over-heels for the Jersey Lily and a wicked professor attempts to bring the Crown to its knees." \$25 for juniors, seniors, military; \$28 general admission. At the Wade James Theater, 950 Main Street, Edmonds; (425) 774-9600. For days, performance times, directions and to purchase tickets, go to: <https://edmondsdriftwoodplayers.org/2018-2019-season/sherlock-holmes-and-the-case-of-the-jersey-lily/>

⇒ **Says SOB Cara Cross:** I have a large selection of Sherlock Holmes items for purchase at MY SPACE IN THE PACIFIC RUN ANTIQUE MALL IN TACOMA UNTIL JULY 1, 2019. Included in the display are games, puzzles, photos, posters, statues, pins, watches, teddy bears,

dolls, and more. New items will be added periodically. Don't



forget to bring your coupon to receive a 15% discount on any item above \$5 in my space #40.

⇒ **Seen in Parade Magazine, May 19:** "FAREWELL TO ELEMINTARY". Starting May 23, it's the farewell season for Sherlock Holmes (Jonny Lee Miller) and Dr. Watson (Lucy Liu) on CBS. They'll leave Scotland Yard to face off against their greatest foe, tech billionaire Odin Reichenbach (James Frain), and they promise the show will go out with a bang. "So proud to have been part of this family. Thank you," Miller posted on Instagram. Ed. Note: Word is the final season takes place in London and Dr. Watson sports blond hair!



⇒ **Put a deerstalker on a Pokémon character and what do you get? WHY...DETECTIVE PIKACHU, OF COURSE!** At a theatre near you since May 10, Ryan Reynolds is "the wise-cracking voice of Pikachu". *Entertainment Weekly* gives it a C+ and says, "Pikachu? Gesundheit!" Whoa, no need to go see the film! Kris H was able to catch PFL David with Pikachu at our May 19 Meeting!!



⇒ **News from SOB Sonia Fetherston, BSI:** Though she's first, foremost and always an SOB, SONIA FETHERSTON HAS SOME NEW INITIALS IN HER LIFE: SBB. On May 3 she was inducted into the Speckled Band of Boston (one of the BSI's oldest scion societies) during that group's 79<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner at the historic Tavern Club, adjacent to the "Old Burying Ground" on Boston Common. A formerly all-male bastion, Sonia and three other women were the first females ever inducted into the group. Sonia was also honored that evening for delivering the best paper of the year, "Physician, Heal Thyself," about Dr. Grimesby Roylott's mental illness; she was the first woman ever to win the award—an engraved silver bowl presented in a wicker cobra (yes, as in "snake") basket. Eeek! And, Kudos!

⇒ **And, news from President Fran Martin of The Stormy Petrels of Vancouver, BC, Canada:** Here is the link to OUR LATEST PETREL FLYER: [http://bit.ly/Petrels\\_2019\\_1](http://bit.ly/Petrels_2019_1) Hope you enjoy it.

⇒ **SOB Sheila Holtgrieve let us know: SHERLOCKIAN IMPROV COMES BACK TO SEATTLE'S TAPROOT THEATRE!!** "Sherla Clomes: An Improvised Twist on Sherlock Holmes" will appear at the Isaac Studio Theatre, June 7–15, 2019: *Sherla Clomes is hot on a new case! But the world-famous detective needs your help creating her esteemed associate and deducing clues to identify a prime suspect in this delightfully funny improvised mystery. Join our illustrious detective and a line-up of hilarious characters for a surprising sleuthing adventure. Together you'll unravel a thrilling puzzle that reaches hysterical new heights every night. Laughs are afoot!* \$15, General Admission.

⇒ **From SOB Bill Seil:**

● **UPDATE**—The Northwest Chapter of the Mystery Writers of America is sponsoring A HALF-DAY FORENSICS WORKSHOP ON "TRACKING THE CRIME SCENE" ON JUNE 8. It will be held 12 to 5 p.m. ... Continued on Page 4

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

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at the Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church in Bremerton, WA. For more & to register, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northwest-chapter-june-special-event-registration-60551299567>

● **"THE ARDLAMONT MYSTERY: THE REAL-LIFE STORY BEHIND THE CREATION OF SHERLOCK HOLMES"** by Daniel Smith is now out. (\$24.<sup>95</sup>) Notes Publishers Weekly, "Smith posits that besides Dr. Bell there was another person who displayed his observation powers. The name of this person was Henry Littlejohn. To allow him to continue his work for the police, Doyle kept his influence silent until after he died in 1929." *Note from Sheila H:* This book is available on Kindle for \$8.79.

⇒ **From SOB John Longenbaugh:** **"SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE CASE OF THE CHRISTMAS CAROL"** WILL BE PRESENTED NOVEMBER 27 TO DECEMBER 31 AT THE HARLEQUIN THEATRE IN OLYMPIA, WA. The advert: "Presumed dead for three years, a hardened Sherlock Holmes resurfaces, turning his back on the people who need him most. After an ominous warning from his nemesis Professor Moriarty, three unexpected callers arrive on Christmas Eve uncovering clues from the detective's past, present and future. Can they save Holmes and his world from a dire end? Seattle playwright and SOB John Longenbaugh deftly steers us through this magical holiday mystery, one clue at a time." # Current ticket prices are \$50 general admission, \$48 for seniors. (Group Rate [6 or more] = 20% off; i.e. \$40 general admission, \$39 seniors.) Time: 7:30 p.m. Evenings, 2:00 p.m. Matinees. ↗



## Welcome!!

**Our 2020 Masters' Celebration**—our annual awards banquet which commemorates the meeting of Holmes & Watson back in March of 1881—will, for the first time, feature "swag bags"—gift bags filled with handouts collected from Members (and others) to be given out to each attendee!!

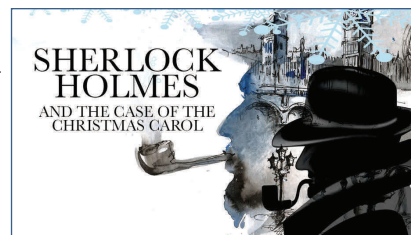
**SOB Nancy Holder** volunteered to chair this activity!!

**Anyone else interested??**...in working on the committee or contributing stuff? It should be a fun project!!

Please email Nancy at: [nancyholder123@gmail.com](mailto:nancyholder123@gmail.com)

The theater is located at 202—4<sup>th</sup> Ave. East (at the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> & Washington, one block east of Capitol Way) in downtown Olympia. For box office hours and purchase tickets:

<https://harlequinproductions.org/box-office-info>



**A Note from Playwright John:** Harlequin's new artistic director, Aaron Lamb, was in BOTH the Taproot productions in Seattle, playing several different characters including young Holmes and Moriarty, so I'm really excited to see what he does with it!

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

● Variety reported in February that a **NEW EIGHT-EPIISODE TELEVISION SERIES BASED ON UMBERTO ECO'S "THE NAME OF THE ROSE"** WOULD BEGIN ON MAY 23 on Sundance-TV in the U.S. at 10 p.m. Eastern/9 p.m. ...

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## Left Coast SHERLOCKIAN SYMPOSIUM

## A Quartet of SOBs on Symposium's Agenda!!

Friday, October 11, 2019, 6:00 p.m. to  
Sunday, October 13, 2019, 1:00 p.m.

University Place Hotel & Conference Center,  
310 S.W. Lincoln Street, Portland, OR

Call: 1.866.845.4647

**UPDATE:** Noted Sherlockians Norwegian Explorer Julie McKuras, BSI and SOB Sonia Fetherston, BSI will collaborate on a discussion of women in Sherlockian traditional fandom. For more details, check out:

<https://www.leftcoastsherlock.com/news/julie-mckuras-to-speak-at-icss>

Head to: <https://www.leftcoastsherlock.com> for all the details you'll need about this exciting event including the schedule, speakers, conference venue and hotel.

When booking your hotel room, **the code for special room rates is: GROUP**

◆ With proud support of THE SOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES and its Members! ◆

## “...the Chilly Chinchilla”

Continued from Page 1



However, we have two clues to follow. One is an old Limerick about a Chinchilla:

*“When they catch a chinchilla in Chile,  
They cut off its beard,  
willy-nilly,  
With a small razor blade,  
Just to say that they’ve made,  
A Chilean chinchilla’s chin chilly.”*

The other is the appearance of the Chinchilla itself (or a chinchilla coat, if you have one handy).

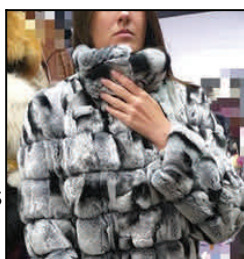
Their fur is distinctive for its darker and lighter gray banding or patches.

So, what do we surmise about how these characteristics could be applied by Dr. Watson’s fertile imagination to the appearance of a beard?



Elementary, my dear reader.

The wearer’s chin was bare, and the beard had the appearance of lighter and darker shades of gray mixed together. What would such a thing look like? I would say that John Walter, the editor of *The Times* would present a fair facsimile.



## “...now to Baker Street...”

Continued from Page 1

...up by somebody?”

“Oh, no, Sir,” said the driver. “’E was real enough—old Sherlock ’Olmes. A very great man, too. Great plain clothes detective, ’he was. Lived in another period. Solved many famous crimes that Scotland Yard couldn’t ’handle.”

In the lift I fell into conversation with a small, birdlike lady who was bound for the Holmes exhibit and she assured me that her father was a personal friend of the great detective and often told stories about their association. She said this was her third visit to the exhibition—she just loved standing and looking into the room that was fitted out exactly as it had been when Holmes and Dr. Watson occupied it and when her own father visited it. Once inside she escorted me directly to the balcony from which Holmes fans view the Baker Street lodgings. She assured me that most of the furnishings in the room were the originals. After that I inspected the rows of cases containing manuscripts and letters and books—most of which seemed to

indicate that a man named Conan Doyle was important to the Holmes picture, and then I talked to one of the attendants. He said that a great many visitors, people who had lived in London all their lives, believed the detective was an actual person—that Conan Doyle was writing straight biography. One recent woman visitor had said she went to school with Sherlock and described the kind of person he was in his younger days; another lady said Holmes had solved a case for her sister, but she was mysterious about the details. And just a few days back a letter had been written to *The Times* saying that Holmes and Watson had decided to come out of retirement and see the exhibition for themselves. The letter designated the hour at which they would arrive at Victoria Station and a large group of Londoners gathered at the station to welcome them, but they didn’t show up.

Sherlock Holmes must surely be one of the greatest creations of mortal mind—so many of his fans want to believe that he really lived and may still live. I myself have seen him, within the last year and at my home in Westchester.

One afternoon I was mooning on the stone wall out by the garage when a tall old man came walking up the driveway, wearing a deerstalker cap and carrying a couple of valises. He introduced himself as Sherlock Holmes and said Professor Moriarty was close on his trail and would I give him shelter for a brief interval? I was immensely thrilled, to be sure, and ushered him into the house and made him comfortable. He said he needed a little time to deduct some stuff and then he’d turn on that boulder Moriarty and rid the world of him forever.

This was a tremendous thing for us—sheltering the world’s greatest detective right in our own home—we waited on him hand and foot and I spent hours chasing into the village to get him all manner of things he wanted. Then after about a week I began to wonder when he’d be getting along. He’d loll around the living room scraping on that goddam fiddle. He had a good supply of cocaine with him, and his needle, and day after day he’d lie on the couch, giving himself occasional injections of the drug, and he wouldn’t let us have the television set on, and bawled the dog out whenever he barked, and complained about American cooking. He had his Persian slipper in which he kept his pipe tobacco and he insisted that the slipper stay on the floor beside the fireplace. I had to go to the ironmonger’s and buy a coal scuttle, in which he kept his cigars. He had me fetch twelve different brands of American cigarettes and he’d sit around for hours smoking them a bit and then examining the ash, sniffing at it and peering at it through his magnifying glass. He said he could already distinguish between a hundred and forty different kinds of tobacco ash, but that American cigarettes had him baffled and he was determined that he would learn the difference between them. He never did, and cursed America for it. He would permit me to play my electrified ... [Continued on Page 7](#)

## A Charlie Cook Crypto Puzzle

Holmes' opinion of the efforts of one of the Yard's finest and what a detective should primarily consider.

**Hint z = d**

Ebvmgyn Rcfqjme'e pybrcze zc mcb lcpymz brypeygwyw  
bc py. J vp zjevffcjmybz jm Ebvmgyn Rcfqjme. J rvz rcfyz  
tco iybbyo brjmse tocp rjp. Cmy ercdgz vgavne gccq tco v  
fceeigjy vgbyomvbjwy, vmz focwjzy vsvjmeb jb. Jb je bry  
tjoeb odgy ct lojpjmgv jmwyebjsvbjcm.

—From The Adventure of Iglvq Fybyo

**Solution on Page 7**

## SOB Dawn Kravagna Adds to Mike Thomas' Essay in Last Twaddle!

Interesting fact about Diocletian, relating to the below from Mike Thomas' essay in the May 2019 issue of *Ineffable Twaddle* (Vol. 38, Issue 5, Page 1):

*"St. Vitus was martyred around 303 AD. Legend has it that he cured Emperor Diocletian's son of an 'evil spirit,' but would not sacrifice to the Roman gods, was declared a sorcerer, but miraculously survived torture."*

In 2009 I took a tour to Croatia and Slovenia and visited Split, the city that Diocletian retired to. He built a special temple with a mausoleum in the City for his body/casket to reside in. He was responsible for the murder of many Christians. In later years Split became a Christian city. Diocletian's body was removed from his tomb and disposed of, and no one knows where. His tomb is now the resting place of a Christian Bishop. *Payback, baby!!*



### "Dark Places, Wicked Companions, and Strange Experiences"

**August 8 through 11, 2019**, The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota, the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota, and the University of Minnesota Libraries will hold **a conference to surprise and entertain attendees with the many dark places, wicked companions and strange experiences that Mr. Holmes and other characters have encountered** at The Graduate Hotel on the U. of M. campus with an accompanying exhibit at the Elmer L. Andersen Library, home of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota. Registration fee of **\$240 per person**. Make your check payable to "The Norwegian Explorers" and return it—with **your completed PDF registration form no later than July 19, 2019**—to the address on the form. **For registration via PayPal and the PDF registration form—including information on programming info, lodging and transportation—go to:**  
[www.norwegianexplorers.org/2019\\_conference.html](http://www.norwegianexplorers.org/2019_conference.html)

## ...Gillette Viewing

**Continued from Page 2**

...both groups could enjoy a comfortable viewing. The meal that followed was held at the very Victorian Olive Branch Café on D Street in Tacoma, familiar to SOB's as the location of our Masters' Dinner three years ago.

The Historic Grand Cinema was a lovely setting for the film and the Olive



Branch Café and Tea Room lived up to its reputation. Perhaps there will be some future joint events?

## More Things to See, Buy, Do...

**Continued from Page 4**

...Central. The series stars John Turturro as William of Baskerville, Damien Hardung as Adso of Melk, and Rupert Everett as inquisitor Bernard Gui. The book is set in Italy in 1327, but nevertheless was nicely Sherlockian. **PFL Note:** Sean Connery played the role of William of Baskerville in the 1986 film version.



● **SLOT MACHINES** have come a long way since the days of the one-armed bandit! Tom Horn Gaming has just released **"SHERLOCK: A SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA"**: "Sherlock Holmes and his loyal partner Dr. Watson reunite to engage in a battle against all the odds as they try to get hold of a ... **Continued on Page 7**

### Answers To Cook's Quiz on ENGR on Page 2:

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. That of Mr. Hatherley's thumb and Colonel Warburton's madness. | 7. The color of the horse and |
| 2. Two years.   | 6. 50 guineas.                |
| 3. Hydraulic.   | 5. Colonel Lysander Stark;    |
| 4. £27, 10s.  | 4. his thinness.              |
| 5. Dr. Beecher; they were   | 3. coining; forging coins.    |
| 6. Inspector Bradstreet.  | 2. His thumb and his fifty    |
| 7. Jeremiah Hayling.  | 1. Dr. Beecher; they were     |
| 8. Elise.   | 12. His thumb and his fifty   |
| 9. glossy.  | guinea fee; experience.       |
| 10. Chestnut and fresh and  |                               |
| 11. was it tired or fresh;  |                               |

## “...now to Baker Street...” Continued from Page 5

...organ and he forbade our turning on the radio—arguing that such a thing as the radio didn’t exist—he didn’t believe in it so that made it definite. After a while he got out some trick pistols and started shooting inside the house, shooting the initials of Queen Victoria in the dining-room wall and driving the dog nuts in the bargain. Not to mention my wife and me. After that he instructed me to go somewhere and get him a few hives of bees, which I did, and he fooled around with them for a couple of days then got bored and went back to the cocaine. He’d stay up most of the night, thumping around downstairs and keeping us awake, and one night he picked up one of my books and read it and the next morning asked me if I knew the idiot who wrote it.

All of this was nerve-racking, but we would have put up with it in exchange for the great honor that had come to us, but now there came fresh developments. Neighbors dropped in now and then and, by his instruction, we always introduced him as Mr. Watson, a distant relative. One evening a friend of mine arrived with his wife, and Holmes glanced at my friend and said, I see you were in the vicinity of Lake Mahopac at three o’clock this afternoon.” My friend denied it with some heat. Holmes then pointed out that the dried mud on my friend’s shoes was of a type only to be found in the vicinity of Lake Mahopac and he knew from the way the weather had been behaving that my friend was up there around three o’clock. That did it. My friend had been under suspicion for quite a while. His wife suspected that he had been calling on a redheaded divorcee up at Mahopac, but she hadn’t been able to get the goods on him till now. The moment she heard Sherlock’s deduction she grabbed the nearest heavy weapon, which happened to be the coal scuttle, and walloped her husband on the head with it, scattering cigars the hell and gone all over the living room. The dog, already a nervous wreck, began to screech and then took hold of the detective by the leg. Holmes started clubbing the dog whereupon my wife and I swarmed over him, beating him with heavy ash trays. My cavalier friend lay stretched out on the floor, knocked cold by the blow his wife had administered, and she had flounced out of the house and disappeared. Now suddenly I ceased belaboring the great detective, rushed out, hopped in the car and went in search of Professor Moriarty, eager to let him know the whereabouts of his old enemy.

It was a sort of daydream and it ended there, but I think it demonstrates the realism of the Conan Doyle creation.

My taxi was waiting for me down in Baker Street and we started back for the Strand.



**Connie Willis**, noted American science fiction and fantasy writer, has won more major science fiction awards (Hugos, Nebulas) than any other writer; she was inducted into the Science Fiction Hall of Fame in 2009 and the Science Fiction Writers of America named her its 28<sup>th</sup> SFWA Grand Master in 2011. She is also an avid fan of the Haugens and of Sherlock Holmes.

**H. Allen Smith**, a New York newspaperman who parlayed a dour view of the world into a best-selling career as one of the country’s most popular and prolific humorists, died at 68 in 1976, still turning out the same brand of humor that had made him one of the best-known Americans in the 1940’s. ♦ Achieving overnight stardom in 1941 with the publication of “Low Man on a Totem Pole,” Mr. Smith was rarely off the best-seller lists in the 1940’s, and though his output and his reputation had declined in his later years, his 37 book titles and numerous articles were enough to establish him in the first ranks of American humorists.

### ANSWER TO COOK’S CRYPTO:

Holmes’ opinion of the efforts of one of the Yard’s finest and what a detective should primarily consider.

*“Stanley Hopkins’ methods do not commend themselves to me. I am disappointed in Stanley Hopkins. I had hoped for better things from him. One should always look for a possible alternative, and provide against it. It is the first rule of criminal investigation.”*

—From *The Adventure of Black Peter*

## Even More Things to See, Buy, Do...

Continued from Page 6

...compromising photograph that once belonged to the King of Bohemia.” Visit [www.tinyurl.com/y3antw5b](http://www.tinyurl.com/y3antw5b) to learn more about the game and watch a trailer.



● A reader has found **A NEW AND IMAGINATIVE SHERLOCKIAN ARTIST: DOMINO ERDMANN**. She is a young woman in Germany who spent six months creating something that has to be seen to be believed: The entire series of

*Sherlock* summarized in scenes using 100k fallen dominoes! Go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmHBoA-861k>

⇒ **From SOB Marc McDaniel:** If you have seen **WILLIAM GILLETTE’S “Sherlock Holmes”** AND WONDERED HOW IT MIGHT SOUND, go to this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AklHzlu0KCc> It’s part of the film, with the real voice of Gillette dubbed in from a glass disk recording he made of the play in 1936. Really gives you a better idea of what the actual play must have been like! You can also tell how much later actors were influenced by his performance, especially the tone of his voice and his rapid delivery.



## The Sound of the Baskervilles

By appointment  
of Her Majesty,  
Queen Victoria

### Ineffable Twaddle

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

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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 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—\$20 for individuals, \$30 for families (U.S. funds only)—to the address shown at left.

# 2019

## Member News & Notes

Our **May 19, 2019** Regular Monthly Meeting was presided over by  
**PFL David Haugen.**

#### ● SOB Members present were:

<b>Sheila Holtgrieve</b>	<b>Lauran Stevens</b>
<b>Terri Haugen</b>	<b>Dawn Jaekel</b>
<b>Vivika Sundqvist</b>	<b>Mike Thomas</b>
<b>Jennifer Yoakum</b>	<b>Kris Hambrick</b>
<b>Jean Macdonald</b>	<b>Margie Deck</b>
<b>Shannon Wallace</b>	<b>Lee Vann</b>
<b>Chris 'Bear' Berwald</b>	

● We welcomed **new Member Lee Vann** at this Meeting; she just joined earlier that week but was no stranger to some of our group, having attended the International Sherlockian Summit back in November 2017! Welcome, Lee! ★ **Vivika** let us know that **seamstress Bernadette Banner** is demonstrating Sherlockian costuming on YouTube starting from the skin out; she's currently working on a vest and coat. ★ As we often do, we had ties on the quiz. **Kris H** took 1<sup>st</sup> place in our study on NAVA, **Dawn J** took 2<sup>nd</sup> and while he had to leave early **Chris B** took 3<sup>rd</sup>! Not to be outdone, **Jennifer** and **Jean** tied for a strong 4<sup>th</sup>!

● **South Sound Meeting, June 1:** Yes, we will study ENGR at Haugens' but there should be some fun too! Need directions to Haugens? Email Terri (see masthead above)!

## Dates of Note Appearing in this Issue

- \* "ELEMENTARY" started its final season on May 23 with Jonny Lee Miller and Lucy Liu on CBS.
- \* A NEW EIGHT-EPISEODE TV SERIES based on Umberto Eco's "The Name of the Rose" began on May 23 on Sundance-TV in the U.S. at 10 p.m. Eastern/9 p.m. Central.
- \* Edmonds Driftwood Players presents "SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE CASE OF THE JERSEY LILY" June 14 to 30.
- \* "SHERLA CLOMES: AN IMPROVISED TWIST ON SHERLOCK HOLMES" will appear at Taproot Theatre's Isaac Studio Theatre, June 7-15.
- \* The Northwest Chapter of the Mystery Writers of America is holding a HALF-DAY FORENSICS WORKSHOP ON "TRACKING THE CRIME SCENE" ON JUNE 8 from 12 to 5 p.m. at Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church in Bremerton.
- \* SOB Cara Cross' sale of Sherlockian items at her space in the PACIFIC RUN ANTIQUE MALL IN TACOMA goes to July 1.

● It was a great day to commemorate Holmes' loss at Reichenbach and to salute our SOB Members who've gone before us to "Where it is always 1895" at our 37<sup>th</sup>

**Annual Wreath Throw in Tumwater on Saturday, May 4.**

Head on over to our website for more news of the day and lots more photos!



**South Sound Meeting, Saturday, June 1, 1:00 p.m.**  
at Haugens' home,  
University Place

**Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday, June 16, 1:30 p.m.**  
at Queen Anne Library,  
Seattle

**Father's Day is June 16; bring your Dad or kids along!**

**Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday, July 21, 1:30 p.m.**  
at Queen Anne Library,  
Seattle

**23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dr. John H. Watson Picnic, Saturday, July 27, 9:00 a.m.**  
at Seahurst Park, Burien