



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 32, Issue 10
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More on "Sherlock Holmes: Through Time and Space"

Last month we had Webmaster **Stu Nelan's** report on this Norwegian Explorers' event. Here are excerpts of SOB **Karen Murdock's** multi-day postings to The Hounds of the Internet. (*Thanks to SOB **Sheila Holtgrieve** who gave us the reference; other SOBs mentioned are noted in bold red!!*)

• The first talk of the conference was by the Hounds' own Chris Redmond, with the title "Why the Carbuncle was Blue and the Dragon was Green: Colours, Feels and Themes for Perceptive Readers." Such research (on colors in the Canon) has become far easier since searchable texts!

• Marcus Geisser gave the second talk of the conference, "Travel in the Blood is Likely to Lead to the Most Exotic Destinations: Some Sigersonian Reflections." Lots of visuals and some very, um, speculative conclusions.

• (T)hese Sherlockian conferences happen once every 3 years here in Minneapolis. (I have) been a Sherlockian since 1999, so this is (my) 5th such conference (2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013).

• Tonight everyone is on his or her own when it comes to dinner. The moment I saw Mickey Fromkin, she asked me, "Are we going to eat yak??" This is not a joke, but a tradition. Two conferences ago, Mickey had googled exotic restaurants in the Twin Cities and had found a little place in St. Paul called Everest on Grand, which features Tibetan food. We ate there and had a good time and good food. So we went back again 3 years ago (and) are going back tonight.

The first presentation of the morning kicked off at 9:00. Marsha Pollak gave a talk titled "Anywhere He Hangs His Hat is Holmes" (in keeping with the theme of the conference). This was a history of the Sublibrarians scion, which is part of the American Library Association. (Marsha is a librarian in Sunnyvale, California). She said that Holmes does not live just in London but also in San Francisco, Chicago, Tokyo—wherever a Sherlockian scion meets! The annual meeting of the ALA attracts 20,000 people so can only be held in big convention towns like SF, Chicago, and Las Vegas. The sublibrarians scion was founded by John Bennett Shaw and Howard Haycraft in 1967 and is the oldest profession-based scion.

• The 10:00 presentation this morning was by **Don Hobbs, BSI**. He is the world's greatest collector of the foreign-language editions of the Canon. Lots of photos of book covers in this presentation. Don said there were two kinds of people—those who had the collection gene and those who do not. There are now 98 languages into which at least one story in the Canon has been translated and the 99th (Welsh Gaelic) is coming soon. Don is still looking for six of these languages, so if you have a translation into Fijian, Kazahk, Sinhi, Kurgi, Telhu or Tatar, please contact Don.

• The last presentation of the morning was by **Bill Mason** of Nashville, who I think has been to every one of the five Minnesota conferences I have attended and a lot of other Sherlockian meetings. Mason's talk was titled "Masters of the Victorian Underworld: Holmes, Moriarty and the Criminal Class." He said that, a shelf full of pastiches notwithstanding, Holmes had no contact with a lowbrow murderer like Jack the Ripper (neither did Moriarty want such a thug in his organization). He thought Holmes must have learned his burglary skills from a real professional. Finally, he said he thought the real "master of the underworld" was Sherlock Holmes, who all by himself lowered the crime rate in London by 10% to 20%.

• The first presentation of the afternoon was by Roger Johnson and his wife Jean Upton from Chelmsford, Essex, England. Their presentation was about the series "Sherlock" and especially about how Jean and Roger got to watch part of the filming of the next season. This all dated back to 2005, when Stephen Fry was guest of honor at a dinner of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London. He brought with him the young actor Mark Gatiss. Gatiss came the next year, too, then in 2006 brought Steven Moffatt with him. At this meeting the two announced their intention to update Sherlock Holmes and, rather to their surprise, instead of being booed or worse, they were applauded and urged to go ahead with the project. The rest is (ongoing) history. Lots of great photos of the stars of the show as they shot footage in London and in Wales...Roger and Jean do not know how Sherlock faked his death and, even if they did know, they could not tell us.

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Help Needed!!!

This Club could benefit in finding new Members if we had a presence on **Facebook and Twitter!!!**

Webmaster Stu doesn't have the skill to pursue this, but would be eager to follow in the footsteps of someone more knowledgeable.



idea how to maintain it, so it's been languishing!

Can someone please HELP!??

Editor Terri set up a Facebook account under our Club name about 2 years ago, but has no





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

Correction!!!

In our last issue of *Ineffable Twaddle* (Vol. 32, Issue 9, September 2013), Brit author Roger Johnson—a speaker at the Norwegian Explorers' recent conference in Minneapolis—was referred to as a Past President of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London ("*Sherlock Holmes: Through Time and Space*", Page 3).

Writes Roger, "I've never been President or held any office except that of Commissioning

Editor of the *Sherlock Holmes Journal*." **Thanks for the clarification, Roger!!**



More New Members

⇒ In May 2013 we welcomed new SOB, **Erika Carlson**.

She lives with her parents Jenny & Lars Carlson in Seattle, and is granddaughter of SOB's Geoff Jeffery & Cara Cross!!!

⇒ September brought us our newest SOB, **Donald Hodge**. He lives in Tacoma and found us on the web!!!

Welcome to you both, Erika and Donald!!

International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes at OMSI

Elementary? Maybe for the brilliant master of deduction, but how will you fare solving a captivating mystery in true 19th century London fashion? \$18 adult, \$13 youth/seniors for non-members.

For tickets, go to www.oms.edu.

Club Members will carpool to Portland on Saturday, October 26!

Take a Walk on the Wild Side!!!

The October 20, 2013 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!**

Says PFL David: While visiting Port Townsend, John Longenbaugh spoke with a fascinating individual with an abiding interest in weapons, including Victorian—Gordon Frye.

Gordon has always been fascinated with both history and weapons. Found "talking guns" with some "Old Timer" in Death Valley when he was 3, he hasn't changed much. Gordon's interests led him to film work where he has assaulted the Alamo, commanded horse cavalry, and portrayed soldiers, sailors, cowboys and even an Afghan Freedom-fighter. He earned a Master's Degree in Western History and teaches U.S. and naval history at the Navy College at Naval Base Kitsap in Bremerton.

At our October Meeting, Gordon will discuss the firearms used in Sherlock's time and bring several (unloaded) examples with him.



SH: Through Time and Space

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...Also, interestingly, Una Stubbs (who plays Mrs. Hudson) has known Benedict Cumberbatch since he was a baby. She was good friends with BC's parents, who were also actors. So the chemistry between Una and Benedict on the show is not made up and not of recent vintage.

• The last presentation today was by Mattias Bostrom on "How Sherlock Holmes Conquered Scandinavia." The main reason was

that the Scandinavian countries did not sign the Berne Convention of 1886, which established international copyright. Therefore, Scandinavian publishers could publish ACD stories very cheaply, only paying for a translator and a cover illustrator. Mattias also showed us some shots of his new 12-week-old daughter, Molly—in Sherlockian gear, of course!



Librarian's Corner

"It is a great thing to start life with a small number of really good books which are your very own."—

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

I recently came across, in Joel and Carolyn Senter's "Sherlockian E-Times", mention of John Bennett Shaw's recommended listing for a basic Holmesian library. Hmm...I am your Club Librarian, so I was interested. How does our SOB Lending Library stack up, if you will excuse the pun?

Shaw, by the way, was a well-known Sherlockian and BSI. He made his list of 100 books, pamphlets, and periodicals to provide a person with an in-depth view of the entire Holmesian culture, to paraphrase his words in the introduction to the list. He made the list in 1983 and revised it in 1988.

So, taking just the section of the list titled "Holmes, General Writings about" which contains 58 items, how, indeed does our Lending Library compare? Note that I am including in our library the Lloyd Hedberg Collection—Stephen Adkins, caretaker—which is available to SOB Members on request.

Mini-Bio on John Bennett Shaw

- b. 1913, Tulsa; d. 1994, Santa Fe, NM
- Owner of the largest private collection of Sherlockiana in the world (until his death)
- Author, "The Basic Holmesian Library" (known as "The Shaw 100"), a valued bibliography among collectors
- Arranged transfer of his collection in the mid-1980s to the University of Minnesota, where it is now held in the Elmer L. Andersen Library in Minneapolis, MN

You will be interested to know that we have 20 of the 58 books—one third! The SOB's over the years have created a Lending Library that is very rich for its size in our beloved Sherlockian world. Kudos to us!

Let me know if you would like a copy of Shaw's list, and please check our catalog (on the Club website) and the Hedberg catalog for a book of your interest.

Sheila Holtgrieve, SOB Librarian,
sheilaholtgrieve@gmail.com

Things to See, Buy, Do and Know

● **From SOB Jean Macdonald:** The Bellevue Library's Friends of the Library are having their **once in a blue moon vintage and rare books sale soon**. There are over 500 books and 112 from a private estate. Some are just a dollar or two. The sale is at the library (downtown Bellevue) October 11 through 14 from 12 to 4 p.m. each day, in meeting room 3.

● **From SOB/author Bill Seil:** **Northwest Bookfest** will be held November 2 & 3 at Northwest University in Kirkland. I'll be on the "Mystery" panel at 2:30 on Sunday. For more, go to: www.nwbookfest.com.

● **From SOB Librarian Sheila:**
⇒ Seattle's Town Hall (1119-8th Avenue), as part of its Short Stories Live series, will hold a **tribute to the wide-ranging career of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle** featuring readings of two of his pure horror stories (*The Case of Lady Sannox* and *The Brazilian Caf*), along with one of his mysteries—one that's so mysterious they won't even name it in advance! That's November 3, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. For more, <http://townhall.seattle.org/short-stories-livesir-arthur-conan-doyle>.

⇒ Seattle Magazine for July contained their **annual best doctors in Seattle article**. One of their reporters asked contributors to the issue to write a blurb about their personal favorite fictional doctor. Here's what Sheila McKool, a journalist and the editor of Seattle Health said: "Sherlock Holmes' sidekick is complex and endlessly fascinating. Part sleuth, babysitter (someone has to keep Holmes out of trouble), enlightened physician, keen observer, naturalist and philosopher, he's one of my all time favorite characters." To make an awful pun, pretty cool, huh?

⇒ Time Magazine's July 29 issue featured a review of J.K. Rowling's new book, "The Cuckoo's Calling", with an **accompanying caricature of her in Sherlockian dress!**

● **From SOB Elliott Black:** Found items in the September 15 and 20 issues of The Guardian (telegraph.co.uk) with updates on **Les Klinger's battle with the ACD estate** regarding American copy rights. The estate has now responded saying, "...Klinger is trying to 'create multiple personalities out of Sherlock Holmes, next to the true character Sir Arthur created.'" Get Les' side and more updates at www.freeshellock.com.

● **Posted by our pal Bill Barnes on the Hounds of the Internet, sent to us by SOB Sheila Holtgrieve:** Wow, SH fans—remember Jim Morrison and Ray Manzarek of The Doors? Check this out!! A **groovy rock-n-roll-y, bluesy tune** from the late

Ray Manzarek (ex-The Doors) and blues guitarist Roy Rogers: <http://somethingelse.com/2013/06/19/exclusive-stream-ray-manzarek-with-roy-rogers-just-like-sherlock-holmes-from-twisted-tales-2013/>

● **From Peter Blau:** CBS Consumer Products has announced that they have licensed Titan Publishing Group to **create a series of original novels**, that will be released in 2014. The novels will be new stories—with tie-ins to the CBS television series "Elementary".

● **Both SOB Webmaster Stu Nelan and SOB Elliott Black** remind us (see Vol. 32, May 2013, Issue 5, Page 3 of *Ineffable Twaddle*) that any day now we should hear about a date for the airing of "How Sherlock Changed The World"—the 2-hour PBS special that will reveal for the first time the astonishing impact that Holmes has had on the development of real criminal investigation and forensic techniques. Dr. Henry Lee—forensic scientist in such famous murder trials as those of OJ Simpson, Phil Spector, Scott Peterson, etc.—will host.

Amazing, Stupendous, Fabulous!!!

Have you heard that The SOB's team has won??? Some of us already knew, but here's what Peter Blau told the World in his monthly newsletter!!!

"The John H. Watson Society has announced the names of winners of its First Annual Treasure Hunt (Jun 13 #6): the Open Team competition was won by **The Sound of the Baskervilles** (of Seattle) with a perfect score, and the Open Individual competition by Denny Dobry with 98 out of a possible 100. You can find details at the society's web-site (www.johnhwatsonociety.com) and see the questions and answers; the questions for the Second Annual Treasure Hunt will be posted next spring."

The SOB's team consisted of Margie Deck, Sheila Holtgrieve, PFL David, Al Nelson, Stephen Adkins and Margaret Nelson.

● **From SOB Geoff Jeffery:** When next you're in Leavenworth, look in at the Innsbrucker Inn. We didn't get to stay there on our visit, but you might want to reserve their Sherlock Holmes room. They describe it as follows: "The mystery author just stepped out of his study to run with 'The Hound of the Baskervilles'. This room gives you the feeling that you're really there complete with antique typewriter."



Important Weekend Events through Year-End 2013

⇒ **October 4 to 6:** Sherlock Seattle Convention 2013, Broadway Performance Hall in Seattle, \$45.

Authors Les Klinger, BSI and Laurie King and playwright Lee Shackleford are featured; for more, go to: www.sherlock-seattle.org.

⇒ **October 13:** "The Hound of the Baskervilles" at the Port Gamble Theater, 2:00 p.m. \$15 (\$12 seniors); call (360) 977-7135 for tickets.

⇒ **October 26:** "The International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes", at OMSI in Portland. For tickets, go to: www.oms.edu. Call PFL David at (253) 460-2753 if you: a) will drive, b) can take a rider, and/or c) need a ride! See sidebar on Page 2 for more!

⇒ **November 23:** "The Hound of the Baskervilles" at the Bagley Wright Theater, 2:00 p.m. For tickets, call (206) 443-2210 or go to www.seattlerep.org.

⇒ **December 7:** Will Crakes Memorial Jollification at Haugens' home, 1:00 p.m. FREE!

From Dallas' The Bilge Pump

(The Crew of the Barque Lone Star, Vol. 01, No. 4, September 2013) (In August), five of our (Crew) attended the late night showing of the melodrama, "Sherlock Holmes vs. Godzilla" at the Pocket Sandwich Theatre. In this spoofilicious comedy by producer/author/actor Benjamin Schroth, Holmes and his loyal sidekick Watson fight the greatest evil yet. Time travel, a fictional giant lizard and a villain from drive-in movies challenge our deductive hero with evil and seduction of every stripe. Watson helps as best he can but is distracted by the call of the wild in the form of both automaton seductresses and an unwillingly cross-dressed assistant. In the end, Holmes must face Godzilla and his own goopy inner demons to save the world from its farcical fate. It is no easy feat to maintain one's character while being swatted with kernels of popcorn, but the Pocket casts consistently do so with seasoned skill.





The Sound
of the
Baskervilles

By appointment
of Her Majesty,
Queen Victoria

Ineffable Twaddle

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The Sound of the Baskervilles
A Scion Society of the Baker Street Irregulars since March 31, 1980
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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 Holmes’ birthday (January), “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.



Member News & Updates

SOBs attending our September 20, 2013 SOB Meeting, presided over by **PFL David Haugen** were:

Stephen Adkins	Al Nelson	Terri Haugen
Sheila Holtgrieve	Margaret Nelson	Jim Nagle
Lauran Stevens	Ann Stevens	

- It was an intimate group celebrating **PFL David’s** 30th anniversary as our fearless leader—more cake (thanks to **Sheila**) for the rest of us!!! ☆ **Jim** shared details of his and Annie’s Baltic cruise!! ☆ **Al & Margaret** gave us an update on Kate & Andrew’s move to California! ☆ Kate & Andrew’s weren’t the only August wedding couple: **Ann’s** daughter Kat married her beau Perry!! (That’s why Ann missed our August Meeting!!) ☆ And, **Sheila** and **Stephen** took the top honours in our quiz on **ABBE!**

- In response to PFL David’s e-mail blasts on September 27 about upcoming book-buying events (see Page 3), **Omaha SOB Carl Wirth** replied: “Thanks for the scoop, but my used book budget does not include a trip to Washington and I’ll just have to go to our Omaha friends’ sale (as a former president, I better). I hope you and Terri find something to add to your Sherlockian library!”

- From SOB Jim Nagle:** “Just went on the Sherlock Holmes tour at the University of Minnesota. Wonderful!! Will write a blurb about it.” Jim was in Minneapolis for a Jane Austen Society conference and this special tour!

- From St. Louis SOB Ed Weiss:** “I recently attended the Sherlock Holmes conference “Through Time and Space” in Minneapolis. As Stu Nelan indicated in the September 2013 newsletter (see Vol. 32, Issue 9, September, 2013,

Page 1) what a conference it was. I already am looking forward to the next one in three years. But one of the highlights for me was coming face-to-face with my first live SOB...Stu Nelan! And, what a treat it was. In talking to Stu, I realized what a great guy he is and we both know we will be SOBs for life! So here you have a Missourian who meets a Texan in Minneapolis with their only common tie a scion organization in Washington because the game was afoot over 100 years ago. Now who was it who said that life is infinitely stranger than the mind of man could invent! Stu and I have been keeping in touch and I know a strong friendship is in the making!!! **(EDITOR’S NOTE:** And, that dear Readers, is why most of us joined and continue to belong to The Sound of the Baskervilles—the really neat people!!)

- From SOB Manson Polley:** “We are going back to Kennewick to see kids/grandkids, then on to Potlatch, ID for other kids/ grandkids, then back to Vashon long enough to winterize our RV, and then back to warm weather again. Things didn’t work out for a meeting this year, but hopefully will be better next summer. My back is doing fine, but a year of rehab to get back to normal is for the birds. If any SOBs are ever Phoenix/Tucson way, give us a holler and be sure to stop by.”

- From Bellingham SOB Jody Holm:** “Was looking for a book to read recently and tripped across this: iBooks has a FREE copy of the complete Sherlock Holmes available. The intro is by Robert Ryan, author of “Dead Man’s Land” about Dr. Watson, which was approved by the ACD estate.”



Dates of Interest

- FRI—SUN, October 4—6**
Sherlock Seattle Convention 2013, Broadway Performance Hall (see Page 3 sidebar)
- SUNDAY, October 13, 2013**
“The Hound of the Baskervilles” in Port Gamble (see Page 3 sidebar)
- SUNDAY, October 20**
Regular Monthly Meeting, Social = 3:00 p.m.; Business = 4:00 at T.S. McHugh’s
- SATURDAY, October 26**
OMSI Exhibition in Portland (see Page 3 sidebar)