



# 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



## Thank Sherlock Holmes for the Phrase 'Smoking Gun'

*From its origins to modern day, the favorite cliché of detectives and journalists everywhere refuses to kick the bucket*

*Excerpted from: Smithsonian.com, July 12, 2017*



The evidence is irrefutable. The headlines declare a "smoking gun" has been found. But how did this dramatic image of a phrase become synonymous in everyday speech with conclusive proof? Fittingly, the origins lie with one of the world's most famous fictional detectives, and of course, a recently fired pistol.

The 1893 Arthur Conan Doyle short story "The Adventure of the 'Gloria Scott'" depicts a young Sherlock Holmes solving his first professional case. Holmes was asked by a college friend to decipher a mysterious letter that had caused his father to drop dead. It turned out to

be blackmail related to a mutiny that the father had organized on a prison ship taking him to Australia long ago. In the story's climactic flashback to the event, the father explains the mutineers were forced to quickly massacre the crew when their stash of guns was discovered by the ship's doctor. After shooting several guards, they moved to seize control of the ship:

*"[W]e rushed on into the captain's cabin, but as we pushed open the door there was an explosion from within, and there he lay wit' his brains smeared over the chart of the Atlantic which was pinned upon the table, while..."*

**Continued on Page 2**

## Bone-Up for our Study of BERY

**A Quiz on "The Adventure of the Beryl Coronet"**

**By: SOB Charlie Cook (Café Noir)**

1. Name the "madman" who consulted Holmes and the institution he represented!
2. How many Beryls were there in the coronet and how many were stolen?
3. Name the second waiting-maid employed by the client!
4. How much money had the client's son asked his father for as a loan; was it granted?
5. What three things did the client claim he lost in one night?
6. Name the client's residence!
7. Name the waiting-maid's sweetheart, and

what was his occupation?

8. What special information did Holmes discover about the maid's sweetheart?

9. What disguise did Holmes use when he left Watson to investigate the theft?

10. What was the amount of the check the client wrote for Holmes?

11. Who was the thief?

12. Who was the thief's accomplice?



**Answers may be found on Page 5**

**Volume 36 Issue 9**

**September, 2017**

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**Submitted by SOB Ann Milam**

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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.



The Summit is a joint meeting of Sherlockian Clubs—drawing attendees from throughout the Pacific Northwest and beyond—on **Saturday, November 4, 2017, Noon to 4 p.m. at the Skagit River Brewery** (404 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St, [360] 336-2884), Mt Vernon, WA. (<http://www.skagitbrew.com>).

This is a social event, so plan to meet many old friends and some new folks.

The cost is only the price of what you eat and drink!

**All are welcome, no RSVP required!!**



## Back to Our Chronology with Study of BERY

The Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at **1:30 p.m. on Sunday, September 24, 2017. THIS IS A CHANGE—WE’LL MEET ONE WEEK LATER THAN USUAL!!** We’ll still be at the Seattle Public Library, though, (Queen Anne Branch) at 400 West Garfield, Seattle (*driving directions at left*).

Says **SOB Program Manager SOB Margie Deck**: As the dog days of summer edge closer to an end in the Pacific Northwest, please join us in September for a traipse through the snow with Holmes, Watson, and *The Adventure of The Beryl Coronet*. **SOB Melinda Michaelson** will lead us through this odd case of jewelry thievery in Alexander Holder’s household—a situation that raises many questions:

- Who is this exalted name that dares to pawn state jewelry?
- How respectable is this banker that agrees to such an arrangement?
- Why bring the coronet home and then so shabbily secure it?
- Will a corner actually break off a crown holding 39 enormous gems?
- *Should these cousins really get married? Is that even legal? Ick!*



Plausibility issues aside, this story allows Holmes’ abilities to shine and we can enjoy going along as Holmes plays the hero. Unlike poor Mary, who may be punished terribly in the end, our adventure will end pleasantly.

*If you have a favourite snack or non-alcoholic beverage you’d like to share, please feel free to bring it along!*

## Thank Holmes for “Smoking Gun”

Continued from Page 1

*...the chaplain stood with a smoking pistol in his hand at his elbow.”*

“A good copy editor would have fixed Doyle’s awkward ‘in his hand at his elbow,’ and Sir Arthur chose pistol rather than gun,” wrote the late William Safire in his “On Language” column for the *New York Times Magazine* in 2003. Nevertheless, those quibbles aside, he identifies Doyle’s use of the phrase as “the start of the cliché that grips us today.”

But ‘smoking gun’ wouldn’t reach cliché status until some 80 years after the short story was published, Safire notes. That’s when the Watergate crisis lodged it firmly into the American lexicon. A *New York Times* article written during the height of the scandal on July 14, 1974, notes the main question members of Congress were asking as they considered impeaching President Richard Nixon was “Where’s the smoking gun?”

In the 40 years since then, the phrase has found use in investigations of world politics, the tech industry and even reality

television. For political columnist Jonah Goldberg, the phrase has become so enduring that it’s created an unrealistic standard of the proof required for a scandal.

Cliché or not, it’s clear that for writers everywhere, when it comes to surefire evidence, guns will keep on smoking.



#### Ed. Note: In Safire’s original words:

*“(The phrase) was made famous during the Golden Age of Political Coinage. The Watergate era coined or popularized Saturday night massacre, stonewalling, cover-up, dirty tricks, straight arrow, expletive deleted, third-rate burglary, plumbers, Deep Throat, Big Enchilada, enemies list and my personal favorite, twisting slowly in the wind. That was when Doyle’s smoking pistol, which had changed in occasional usage over 80 years to smoking gun, blazed its way into dictionaries.”*

#### In post 9/11 WMD parlance, Safire added:

*“The Security Council, then, will soon be seized with the question made famous by restaurant hostesses: smoking or non?”*

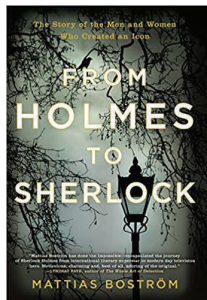


## Things to See, Buy, Do & Know

⇒ **Notes PFL David:** In my May minutes I mentioned [From Holmes to Sherlock](#) by Mattias Boström (\$27, Mysterious Press) and Peter Blau's comment "Well-written and recommended."

**For the English translation out on August 1, SOB Bill Seil forwarded a review by Publisher's Weekly, which says in part:**

*"This exhaustive study of the 130-year Sherlock Holmes phenomenon spans Arthur Conan Doyle's earliest inspirations up to today's two successful Holmes-inspired TV shows. Boström begins with Conan Doyle's pre-Sherlock life, explaining how the fledgling author struggled to place his early fiction in the popular magazines of the day... The keepers of the flame have been the "Sherlockians", the individuals who analyze Conan Doyle's works and collect memorabilia... The book occasionally bogs down in their legal skirmishing, but always gets back on track as it explores the world's continuing fascination with fiction's leading detective hero."*



⇒ **From our friends at MX Publishing:**

- [The Practical Handbook of Bee Culture](#) (by Paul Ashton, \$28.<sup>95</sup>, HC) is the journal kept by Holmes from 1904 to 1912. '04 was the year he retired from active investigation and moved to a farmhouse in East Dean... The journal is, of course, principally the record of his bee-keeping activities, but Holmes has also included a wealth of astonishing information—some of it highly indiscreet—like: —his marriage to Mrs Hudson and their social life in Sussex; —his meetings with Lenin, Picasso, Edward VII... and other distinguished figures; and —the steady deterioration of his health over the period.

- Now available is [Return to Reichenbach](#) by Geri Schear. When a half-naked man is found gibbering on the moor, Sherlock Holmes uncovers a series of bizarre murders. At their heart lies a shadowy figure known only as The Sorcerer. He can talk to the dead, they say. He can bend any will to his own. Even a will as formidable as the detective's. The investigation leads from Dartmoor to Ireland and, ultimately, back to one of the most terrifying scenes of his career. Can Holmes survive the Reichenbach Falls a second time?

- [A Guide to Deduction](#) by Hannah Rogers is the ultimate handbook for any aspiring Sherlock Holmes or Watson. Building on the massively successful [aguidetodeduction.tumblr.com](#), the book includes not only advice on deducing aspects of an individual, but a wide range of skills every detective needs.

⇒ **From Jean Upton of the London Society's District Messenger:**

- A facsimile edition of the handwritten manuscript of [The Adventure of the Creeping Man](#) has been published by Winchester University Press in partnership with Portsmouth City Council. The original manuscript is part of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection Lancelyn Green bequest. Edited by Professor Neil McCaw, the book features the carefully photographed manuscript and a transcribed, annotated

version of the story. An introductory essay examines the critical history of the tale and the manuscript, as well as a history of Doyle's time spent in Portsmouth. The facsimile is available for £35 (including postage and packing) within the UK; £50 outside the UK. For more details and to purchase the book go to: <http://www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/conandoyle/thecreepingman>; you can also browse through the collection.

- We all think that Sherlock Holmes is amazing, but someone has taken the sentiment quite literally. [Wistow Maze in Leicestershire](#), which changes its configuration from year to year, is now in the shape of Sherlock Holmes' profile. The maze reportedly covers eight acres with three miles of paths to follow. To view it: <https://twitter.com/wistowmaze>

- Doylean & Sherlockian Articles Wanted: Luke Kuhns (author of "Welcome to Undershaw") is working on a project for Undershaw/Stepping Stones School and is looking for other authors to participate. The intention is to publish two articles a month on the school's website [www.steppingstones.org.uk/](http://www.steppingstones.org.uk/) on the themes of Doyle and his life and writings, Holmes, Hindhead, and other relevant subjects. Articles should be a minimum of 500—1,000 words; maximum of 3,000—5,000. The project will kick off with items by David Marcum and Luke Kuhns. If you would like to participate or need more information, contact Luke at [lukebenjamin Kuhns@gmail.com](mailto:lukebenjamin Kuhns@gmail.com)

⇒ **Says SOB Associate Editor Lauren Messenger:** **Anglicon 2017 "The Day of the Doctors" is December 8 to 10 in Seatac, WA** and will feature Doctors Peter Davison and Sylvester McCoy. 

⇒ **SOB VP Kashena Konecki says:** **Sherlockian Chris Redmond's** sequel to last year's [About Sixty](#) has contributors express their feelings and experiences [about being a Sherlockian](#) and is due in November. **Ed. Note:** *VP Kashena herself has an entry in this new tome!! We must have a signing party in the new year!!!*

⇒ **From Peter Blau of the Spermaceti Press:**

- **The Norwegian Explorers** are planning to hold their **next triennial Sherlockian Conference in Minneapolis August 9 to 11, 2019**, and you can get on their mailing list by contacting Julie McKurras at: [mike9750@aol.com](mailto:mike9750@aol.com).

- **Factoid from "The Arthur Conan Doyle Encyclopedia" website:** Michael Conan was the grand-uncle, godfather and namesake for Arthur Conan Doyle. Conan was a journalist and art critic in Paris, where young Arthur visited and met him (writing about the meeting in his [Memories and Adventures](#) [1923]). There is much more about Conan on the web at [www.tinyurl.com/ydhkgos9](http://www.tinyurl.com/ydhkgos9), which is maintained and edited by Alexis Barquin. It's a detailed and delightful source of information about Sir Arthur.

- **The MX Book of New Sherlock Holmes Stories: Part VI—2017 Annual** (\$48.95) is the latest in the series edited by David Marcum, and an excellent companion to earlier volumes, with almost three dozen traditional pastiches, a poetic tribute, and a radio script; the authors, old hands and new, ably...

**Continued on Page 5**

## Chapter 4: Sarajevo and The Spirits

Excerpted from **LIFE Magazine: Sherlock Holmes, The Story Behind The World's Greatest Detective** (LIFE Books, New York, ©2016 Time Inc. Books)

(B)eginning with 1921's "The Mazarin Stone", the 12 Holmes stories written in the last decade of Doyle's life were darker and more cynical than their famed predecessors. In "The Retired Colourman" for instance, Holmes says, "We reach. We grasp. And what is left in our hands at the end? A shadow. Or worse than a shadow—misery."

Doyle, of course, believed there was far more.

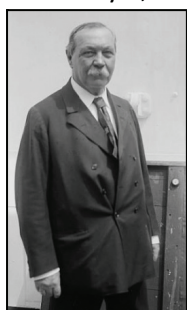


On December 3, 1926, the mystery novelist Agatha Christie disappeared from her home in Sunningdale, Berkshire. Her car had been abandoned in Surrey with its headlights still on, but she was nowhere to be found. Some thought she'd drowned herself in the nearby Silent Pool, a spring-fed lake supposedly haunted by the spirit of a woodcutter's daughter. After a week with no sign

of the writer, Surrey's chief constable turned to the man he called "the world's foremost detective mind": Doyle.

Unlike his detective, Doyle did not use his powers of deduction to search for the missing writer. Instead-armed with one of Christie's gloves—he turned to a psychic friend, Horace Leaf, who declared that Christie was still alive and that he had "some definite impression of water." Two days later, she was found in a Harrogate hotel spa, where she had checked in under the surname of her husband's mistress, having most likely suffered a sudden breakdown.

Three months after the Christie caper, Doyle published the 56<sup>th</sup>—and final—Holmes (short) story, "Shoscombe Old Place", which finds Holmes using the new science of forensics to solve a mystery involving a knight who conspires to hide his sister's death. The last words that Doyle would ever write as Watson refer to the knight's career, "which has now outlived its shadows and promises to end in an honoured old age."



Doyle, too, died in honored old age—but unlike his great creation he did not return. Though he had been diagnosed with heart disease, he embarked on a strenuous tour of northern Europe to promote spiritualism in the fall of 1929. He returned home with chest pains so severe that he needed to be carried ashore from the Dover ferry.

But he remained active, taking up painting, learning about music, and dictating letters from his sickbed. Toward the end of his life,

he drew a picture of himself as a workhorse pulling a cart piled with bags marked with words that represented his life's work—lectures, travels, poetry, plays, politics, and historical novels. But the biggest sack,



outweighing all the others, was labeled "Sherlock Holmes".

At 7:30 on the morning of July 7, 1930, Doyle told Denis, Adrian and Jean that he wanted to look out the window at the countryside. Wrapping him in a dressing gown,

they helped him to his chair.

Two hours later, at age 71, Doyle died. His last words were to Jean Jean: "You are wonderful," he said.

*"There's no mourning at Windlesham... He might have only gone to Australia."*

—Adrian Doyle on his father's death

## Mark your Calendar now!



**Last Call: The Stormy Petrels of BC are turning 30, SOBs helping them celebrate!**

- **Date:** Saturday, September 16, 2017
- **Time:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration begins at 9:30.
- **Location:** The Billy Bishop Pub (Legion), 1407 Laburnum Street, Vancouver; [www.billybishoplegion.org](http://www.billybishoplegion.org); (604) 568-4130; west of Downtown Vancouver, across the Burrard Bridge; west on Cornwall, north on Laburnum
- **Cost:** \$30 CDN per person—*payable at the door*—for lunch and swag!
- **RSVP:** To Fran Martin at: [franziskah@shaw.ca](mailto:franziskah@shaw.ca) for more info and pre-registration by August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **Accommodation:** Staying overnight? Consider the **Century Plaza Hotel**, 1015 Burrard Street; (604) 683-1399; [centuryplazahotel.reservations.com](http://centuryplazahotel.reservations.com).



## The Geologists are Coming...Again!!!

The Geological Society of America's annual meeting is in Seattle October 22 to 25, 2017.

**The Sherlockian subgroup "The Practical but Limited Geologists" will hold its semi-annual social as well—joined by The SOBs!**

- **Date:** Wednesday, October 25th, 2017
- **Time:** 7 p.m. no-host cocktails • 8 p.m. no-host dinner
- **Location:** Elephant & Castle Pub & Restaurant, 1415 Fifth Avenue, Seattle
- **Cost:** Whatever you wish to spend on food and drink!  
*All are welcome, no RSVP required*



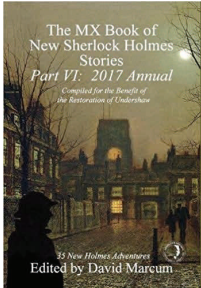
## The SOBs Host the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Sherlockian Summit in Mt. Vernon!

- **Date:** Saturday, November 4, 2017
- **Time:** 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Location:** Skagit River Brewery, 404 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St, ([360] 336-2884), Mt Vernon, WA. (<http://www.skagitbrew.com>)
- **Cost:** Whatever you wish to spend on food and drink!  
*All are welcome, no RSVP required*



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

Continued from Page 3



... show how nice it can be to have new and well-written short stories. MX's websites are at [www.mxpublishing.com](http://www.mxpublishing.com) and [www.mxpublishing.co.uk](http://www.mxpublishing.co.uk).

⇒ **Seen in AARP, the Magazine: British author Anthony Horowitz**—who's written a couple of Holmesian-themed novels (*House of Silk*, *Moriarty*)—has a new Victorian-themed novel in *Maggie Murders*, summarized as, “An enchanting mystery within a mystery. A London book editor receives the partial manuscript of a murder novel. When the odious author turns up dead, the editor turns sleuth. A perfect summer read.”

⇒ **Seen in Entertainment Weekly, 7/7/2017: British author Steve Antony's “The Queen's Handbag”** is a (children's?) picture book rated “B”. “When a mischievous swan swipes the Queen of England's purse, the monarch and her trail of frantic policemen embark on an epic chase across the U.K.—from Stonehenge to Edinburgh Castle—to get it back.”



⇒ **From SOB Geoff Jeffery:**

● **Author Laurie R. King has sold the rights** to make television programs of her Mary Russell series. She will supervise the scripts when they start.

● Caught this PBS News tidbit, rebroadcast, on August 12: “In long-lost play, the author of ‘Peter Pan’ spoofs ‘Sherlock Holmes’ and the mystery genre.” For the complete story, go to: <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/art/long-lost-play-author-peter-pan-spoofs-sherlock-holmes-mystery-genre/>

⇒ **From SOB Margaret Nelson: Federal Way's 320<sup>th</sup> Library will host “Mysterious England”** on September 16 at 2 p.m. Northwest authors Marty Wingate, Candace Robb and Alice K. Boatwright will be on an interactive panel discussing their books, love of the mystery genre and England. English tea is offered afterward.

### Answers to Quiz on “BERY” on Page 1

1. Alexander Holder of the banking firm of Holder & Stevenson of Threadneedle Street
2. 39; 3
3. Lucy Parr
4. £200; no
5. His honor, his gems and his son
6. Fairbank
7. Francis Prosper; a green-grocer
8. He had a wooden leg
9. That of a common loafer
10. £4000
11. The client's niece, Mary
12. Sir George Burnwell

## Seattle's Premier Mystery Bookshop “For Sale”!

**If you missed our e-blast on August 3—sourced by SOB VP Kashena Konecki—this could be news to you:**

**From current owner J.B. Dickey:** *As of August 1st, the Seattle Mystery Bookshop is for sale. It is our hope that someone who cares deeply about this shop, and who has deep pockets, will want to see it continue as it has for the last 27 years...What this shop needs is someone who can and will invest in it. Should you or someone you know seriously want to become a bookshop owner, please let us know. Founder Bill Farley used to joke that everything in the shop was for sale, even the paint on the walls. Now that is true.*



**SOB Ann Milam provided an excerpt of an interview she did about the Shop's founder Bill Farley, which first appeared in The Skyliner, September 2015 (the newsletter of the Seattle community where Ann is a resident and Bill was a resident prior to his passing).**

“(I)n 1990, after hearing that Seattle was considered ‘the best book town in the US’, he packed up and moved west (from Philadelphia) to see for himself. Bill found Seattleites were definitely ready for and in need of a good mystery bookshop, but the city certainly didn’t make it easy for his new business. He wanted to locate his shop in Pioneer Square, the historical heart of the city, where he could reach both visitors and residents; and he wanted to be near downtown so workers could come by and browse during lunch—but WOW was shop space limited and parking expensive! Also, in “old” downtown everything leaked—walls, ceilings, utilities—and the city was so tough on approving signs—especially the neon ones he liked. Nevertheless, in spite of the challenges, Bill found his spot on Cherry Street in the heart of Pioneer Square, and he also found an ideal partner for his venture in J.B. Dickey (who in 1998 purchased Bill’s interest in the Shop upon his retirement.)”



**SOB Bill Seil directed us to a news story about the closing that appeared in the Seattle Weekly, available at the following link:**

[http://www.seattleweekly.com/arts/anyone-want-to-buy-a-bookstore-seattle-mystery-bookshop-is-up-for-sale/?utm\\_source=Publishers+Weekly&utm\\_campaign=15fa2ad214-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2017\\_08\\_09&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_0bb2959cbb-15fa2ad214-304560817](http://www.seattleweekly.com/arts/anyone-want-to-buy-a-bookstore-seattle-mystery-bookshop-is-up-for-sale/?utm_source=Publishers+Weekly&utm_campaign=15fa2ad214-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_08_09&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0bb2959cbb-15fa2ad214-304560817)

**SOB Pat McIntosh stopped in to buy, saying**

“I got into the store today; bought 4 books on discount, though nothing Sherlockian. I mentioned about the store being for sale and the man working there said they had gotten some inquiries, so they're hopeful.”



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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Regular Monthly  
Meeting, Sunday,  
September 24, 1:30 p.m.  
at Queen Anne Library,  
Seattle

★ NOTE DATE CHANGE ★  
Details on Page 2

Regular Monthly  
Meeting, Sunday,  
October 15, 1:30 p.m. at  
Queen Anne Library,  
Seattle

3<sup>rd</sup> International  
Sherlockian Summit,  
Saturday, November  
4, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
in Mt. Vernon, WA  
See details on Page 4!

Regular Monthly  
Meeting, Sunday,  
November 19, 1:30 p.m.  
at Queen Anne Library,  
Seattle

## Member News & Notes

SOBs attending our **August 12 South Sound Meeting** at Haugens' house were:

Sheila Holtgrieve	Al Nelson	Terri Haugen
Cameron Brandon	Margie Deck	Cara Cross
Dawn Kravagna	Geoff Jeffery	Sunny Even
Margaret Nelson	Marcia Marcy	PFL David
Melinda Michaelson		

● PFL David limited himself to announcements. It was too sunny, warm and fun to study!! So we just ate, drank and yacked! See photos and comments at the blog section of our website: [www.soundofthebaskervilles.com](http://www.soundofthebaskervilles.com) ★ Good news: We saw Dawn and Sunny after long absences! Bad news: Marcia is moving to Alabama for hubby's job!!

SOBs attending our **August 20, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting** in Seattle, presided over by PFL David Haugen, were:

Sheila Holtgrieve	Terri Haugen	Chis Berwald
Kashena Konecki	Margie Deck	Alex Snow
Vivika Sundqvist	Mel Briganti	Airy Maher
Shannon Wallace	Melinda Michaelson	
Lauren Messenger	Ann Milam	

● The PFL reminded us our **September meeting will be September 24**, not September 17. VP Kashena will chair and SOB Melinda Michaelson will lead study of BERY. He also noted our Annual Jollification will be held on Saturday, December 2 at SOB Carrol Clemens' home in Federal Way! ★ Sheila reported our **2017 JHWS Treasure Hunt Team**—SOBs Sheila, Margie Deck, Lauren Mes-

## 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' Dinner" celebrating the meeting of Holmes and Watson (March), "The Annual Wreath Throw" commemorating Holmes' loss at Reichenbach Falls (May), "The Dr. John H. Watson Picnic" (July), and "The Will Crakes Memorial Jollification" (December). Other activities—book crawls, teas, plays and gaming events—are as announced.

To join 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.

senger and Francis Bond, with Charlie Cook—will be wrapping up our team entry promptly by August month-end.

● Sheila and Margie are doing a program for the Dogs in the Nighttime scion in Anacortes on October 2.

● Airy reported that the fall issue of *The Watsonian*—a publication of the JHWS online scion—is due in November. Airy is doing the design work; SOB Elinor Gray is Editor!



## Another New Member!!

Joining us in August was  
Ron Lies of Denver, CO.

Ron sent a query to our Website saying how much he's been enjoying SOB Charlie Cook's quizzes in our monthly Twaddles!! Said Ron when we wrote to him, "I live in Denver and belong to my local scion and scions around the country and a few around the world. I so want to join your group...A bound copy of Beaten's Christmas Annual, Ineffable Twaddle (I love that name) and joining you folks makes a great Christmas present for me. And, I have some papers and items I can offer to your publication if you are interested."

Of course, we're interested!

Thanks for joining, Ron!!

Ed Note: Ron is now the first to join using our fully-operational PayPal function!!