December 1 is our Annual Jollification

Kick off the holiday season with a visit to Federal Way! Food and fun to welcome the holiday season: The SOBs’ Annual Will Crakes Memorial Jollification!!

SOB Carrol Clemens has invited us to her home on Saturday, December 1 at 1:00 p.m. to celebrate our Annual Will Crakes Memorial Jollification!! Whip up your favorite sweet dessert or savory snack and bring it along to share! Your contributions are welcome and highly anticipated!!

Says PFL David, “If you haven’t attended this event before, we encourage you to start! It is a great way to kick off the holidays! There’ll be lots of fun in a relaxed atmosphere with fellow SOBs.”

Driving Directions to Carrol’s Home: From I-5 north- or southbound, exit in Federal Way at S.W. 320th Street and head west. After passing through intersections at 21st Ave. S.W. and at 26th Ave. S.W., turn left on S.W. 323rd Street. Then take the first left on 33rd Avenue S.W. Clemens’ home will be on your right at 32148—33rd Avenue S.W. If you need further, call her at (253) 838-1790.

“The Man Who Bested Sherlock Holmes”

By Joseph Baron from “My Evening with Sherlock Holmes”, compiled by John Gibson and Richard Lancelyn Green

Submitted by SOB Margaret Nelson

For a general review of this tome, refer to Ineffable Twaddle for September 2018 (Vol. 37, Issue 9, Page 1) by Ms. Nelson.

...“I don’t care what you say,” I exclaimed, enthusiastically; “my opinion is that Sherlock Holmes will be as great a favorite with posterity as Pickwick or Count Fosco, or anybody else you can name in fiction.”

“Bosh; Rot!” replied my friend. “Don’t libel posterity in that reckless manner; it never did you any harm, and the poor body cannot speak for itself. And why should you imagine it will be so easily imposed upon?”

“But look at his unique individuality—his wonderful reasoning powers,” I retorted.

“Unique and wonderful fiddle-de-dee! I could tell you a story which might somewhat alter your opinions.”

My friend Anderson was a particularly smart private detective, specially retained by a burglary insurance company, and I gave him credit for speaking with a touch of professional jealousy. Still, he had brought off some clever captures, and exposed a few people… Continued on Page 4

A Holiday Puzzle from Christmases Past

This “Christmas Anagrams” Puzzle first appeared in our Beaten’s Christmas Annual for 2011

Unscramble the clues. Each answer is a word or phrase associated with Christmas.

See if you can find three (3) terms that relate to The Sound of the Baskervilles’ favorite Christmas tale!

1. Egg insert  6. Sent reps
2. Rag men   7. Berny H. Rake
3. Lance cue blurb  8. Cog sore
5. Match sirs  10. Cost king
11. Coogs pore
12. The war
13. Pianist toe

Solution may be found on Page 7

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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 4th Avenue, turn right. The library is one (1) block north on the northwest corner, at the cross with Garfield Street.

If you have a favorite snack, please bring it along!

“I had called upon my friend Sherlock Holmes upon the second morning after Christmas…”

The Regular Monthly Meeting of The Sound of the Baskervilles will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at the Seattle Public Library (Queen Anne Branch) at 400 West Garfield, Seattle (driving directions at left).

Says this meeting’s Program-Runner Margie Deck: It is December and that means, as always, it is time to talk about ‘The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle’.

For December 2017, the SOBs enjoyed a viewing of the 1984 Granada Television production starring Jeremy Brett and David Burke, and those present voiced general approval of the adaption.

For our 2018 BLUE review, we will watch another television adaption of the tale from 1968; this BBC film stars Peter Cushing and Nigel Stock. Will we like it as well as the Granada film? Will we like it at all?

If nothing else, we can enjoy the very talented Frank Middlemas again this year. In the BBC adaption he portrayed Commissioneer Peterson, and sixteen years later he played the hapless (and hatless) Henry Baker later in the Granada film.

Adds PFL David: Come for our annual discussion of “The Blue Carbuncle”, an autograph session with Margie Deck and Stormy Petrels Fran Martin and Bob Coghill, and stay for the cookie exchange.

It’s been a year, so refresh your memory on “The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle” with SOB Charlie Cook’s following quiz:

1. When did Watson call upon Holmes at 221B Baker Street?
2. Holmes told Watson he received what from commissioneer, Peterson?
3. For whom was a discarded Christmas goose intended?
4. Who is the owner of the Blue Carbuncle?
5. What reward was offered for the return of the gem?
6. Who was arrested for the theft of the gem and what was his profession?
7. Where was the gem originally found?
8. Where did the owner of the hat purchase his goose?
9. From where did proprietor obtain his geese?
10. What did Holmes tell John Robinson his (Holmes’s) business was?
11. What was John Robinson’s real name?
12. What special feature did the goose with the Blue Carbuncle have?

Answers may be found on Page 5

Coming to the Pacific Northwest in 2019

A Weekend of Scholarship and Camaraderie:
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

• Free Wi-Fi for Guests and Attendees of Events
• Plenty of parking – $3.00 an hour – $13.00 daily – $18.00 overnight
• Microwave, mini fridge, coffee maker and flat screen TV in every room
• All overnight guests receive a complimentary full service hot breakfast in our on-site restaurant and is always open for dinner.
• Downtown dining options: Blocks away from a wide array of quality eating establishments—including Portland’s famous food carts!
• Keep up with the news on Twitter (@LCSherlockian) & Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/leftcoastsherlockian/

With proud support of THE SOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES and its Members!
Things to See, Buy, Do & Know

⇒ SOB Geoff Jeffery let us know:
• THE BOOTMAKERS OF TORONTO SCION will host their last meeting of the year on December 1 with presentations on “The Adventure of the Crooked Man.” Also included will be special guest Joe Lapello, author of “Murder Lost to Time,” about a 100-year-old Toronto murder mystery that was never solved until now. For more or to register, email: meyerstroronto@yahoo.ca

⇒ For those of us who have not been following “ELEMENTARY”, there’s been a dramatic change: Both Sherlock and Joan find themselves in London at the finale of season 6. Where do they live? Joan is in 221A and Sherlock in 221B on Baker Street.

tainment/books/a-century-after-the-end-of-world-war-i-a-

to Sherlock Holmes-influenced IQ series. The author shows off his screenwriting chops in “Wrecked,” the 3rd novel in the series; the dialogue is clever and Ide knows how to stage an action scene. Ide spent almost a decade as a Hollywood screenwriter, selling scripts, doing rewrites and never getting anything produced. But he did learn a few tricks that have served him well as a crime nov-

⇒ Editor Terri received this announcement at her SOB inbox: TIM SYMONDS is one of the many authors on the MX PUBLISHING LIST. He lets us know recently about his newest offering, “Sherlock Holmes and the Ninth-Dragon Sigil.” Tim’s other titles include “Sherlock Holmes and The Mystery of Einstein’s Daughter”, “Sherlock Holmes and The Case of The Bulgarian Codex”, “Sherlock Holmes and The Dead Boer at Scotney Castle”, and “Sherlock Holmes and The Sword of Osman”. To contact the author: http://tim-symonds.co.uk

⇒ From SOB Vice President Kasanova Konecki:
• GO TO: https://www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2018/oct/31/theater-anti-why-we-adore-sherlock-holmes/# to learn “Why We Adore Sherlock Holmes” and about the new play, “Holmes & Watson”, that just closed at the North Coast Rep (CA) on November 18.
• CHECK OUT Canadian PM Trudeau in his Halloween costume for this year at: https://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2018/10/31/justin-trudeau-family-halloween-2018-sherlock-holmes-a_23577256/
• THE DETECTIVE AND THE WOMAN TRILOGY by Amy Thomas is also now available (SRP $34.95). They summarize it this way: This Trilogy follows Sherlock Holmes and Irene Adler to the shores of Florida, the Sussex Downs, and the streets of London, where they combine wits to solve crimes and save their friends. An association formed out of personal adversity, the relationship between Holmes and Adler is that of equals but also, in many ways, opposites.

⇒ From our Friends at MX Publishing:
• THE FURTHER CHRONICLES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES—VOL. 1, by Denis O. Smith is now available (SRP $14.95). They summarize it this way: From the curious clauses in a miser’s will, to a plea for help on a tiny scrap of paper, these six cases, from the early years of Holmes’ career in the 1880s, present a singular collection of mysteries for the world’s first consulting detective to resolve. Ed. Note: Smith is known for his ability to write in ACD voice.

⇒ The Washington Post noted the 100th anniversary of VETERANS’ DAY with an essay by Michael Dirda titled “A century after the end of World War I, a new look at forgotten masterpieces of the era”, in which he makes note of Conan Doyle’s contribution to the literature! To read it, go to: https://www.washingt

⇒ Joe Ide brings cinematic focus and action to Sherlock Holmes-influenced IQ series. The author shows off his screenwriting chops in “Wrecked,” the 3rd novel in the series; the dialogue is clever and Ide knows how to stage an action scene. Ide spent almost a decade as a Hollywood screenwriter, selling scripts, doing rewrites and never getting anything produced. But he did learn a few tricks that have served him well as a crime nov-

⇒ A Package Came from SOB Charlie Cook: Sending a couple of items for the SOB Library or whatever, hoping the group enjoys them! The first item is a Classics Illustrated “featuring stories...
“The Man Who Bested Sherlock Holmes”...

...who had attempted to defraud his company, so I was compelled to regard him as an authority. I invited him to proceed with this wonderful yarn of his.

“Well,” he began, “I was just putting the finishing touches to my breakfast one lovely morning—it was the beginning of July—when I heard the sound of wheels in the street, and looking through the window, I saw a neat little dog-cart pull up at my own door. The driver got down and rang the bell, and a minute later my servant brought in a letter, which I opened. It was brief, and ran as follows:

Luton Square, E ---, 5th July, 1892.

Dear Sir,

I shall be glad to see you as early as possible. A burglary was committed at my house late last night or early this morning, and very valuable property stolen. If you can make it convenient to accompany the bearer, so much the better.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. McDonald.

“The driver is to wait for an answer, sir,” my servant reminded me as I stared at the letter.

“Say I will be with him in less than five minutes,” I replied. So I finished my breakfast, and after referring to the directory for information respecting McDonald, who was, it appeared a retired army captain, I went downstairs and entered the dog-cart.

On arriving at Luton Square I was shown into the drawing room, and the captain joined me almost before I was seated. I noticed that his agitation was very great.

“Good morning, Mr. Anderson,” he said, giving me his hand. “I am exceedingly obliged by your prompt compliance with my wishes, and I trust—but before going any further—may I ask if you have any objection to working, if necessary, with a fellow-expert in matters of this kind?”

“None whatever,” I answered. “Who is he?”

“A Mr. Sherlock Holmes,” he said. “I understand he is a specialist.”

“He is a remarkably clever man,” I replied.

“Then perhaps you will kindly follow me,” he said, and he led the way to the dining-room and unlocked the door.

“You see,” he explained, “I thought I’d better lock the room up, so that nothing could be disturbed until your arrival…”

“Morning, Kitty darling,” interrupted a voice, the exact counterpart of the captain’s, finishing with the unmistakable sound of a kiss; then, “How are you, papa?” in a feminine voice. A moment’s reflection convinced me that it was a parrot speaking, and looking up, I found my surprise to be correct.

“Aha, Poll, old woman,” returned the captain, and motions me to be seated, he began:

“First of all, Mr. Anderson, my small household consists of six persons—myself, my wife, my daughter Kate, a cook, a general servant, and the driver who brought you here. The three servants have been in my employ for years, and I would trust them with untold gold. Now then, yesterday afternoon I received from Messrs. H- - - and C- - -, jewelers of Bond Street, a brooch set with a particularly precious stone—precious to me—and of priceless value by reason of old associations and circumstances connected with it, but I need not trouble you with them. The intrinsic value of the gem may not be more than five hundred pounds and, that of its setting, perhaps another thirty.”

“Keep your hair on, old chap,” said the parrot.

“S-sh, Poll! Well,” continued the captain, “I showed the brooch to my daughter only—for it was a surprise gift to my dear wife, on her birthday, and such a gift as she would prefer to anything this world contains, simply on account of the associations I hinted at just now. After hearing Kitty’s rapturous expressions as to its beauty, and her assurance that for a similar present on her twenty-first birthday she could be as agreeably surprised as I could desire, I locked the trinket in a private drawer of that cabinet in in the corner. On coming downstairs this morning, the first thing I did was to go to the cabinet, to feast my eyes with a sight of the brooch, for I had been strangely anxious about it up to going to sleep and had driven myself to dreaming of it, I suppose, by my anxiety, and ugly dreams they were, too, and you would fully appreciate my anxiety if you were acquainted with the history of the gem, and how it has been endeared to us for a quarter century. Mr. Anderson,” and his voice quivered, “imagine my dismay, my agony, when on opening the drawer, I found it empty! The brooch was gone!”

“The brooch, the brooch,” muttered the parrot.

“I cannot describe my feelings at my loss, and though I am not a rich man, I will willingly pay five hundred pounds for the recovery of the brooch.”

“I will examine the cabinet, with your permission,” I said, and I rose for the purpose of crossing the room, the bird broke forth with:

“Keep your hair on, old boy! (This in the voice of the driver). “Cook, how are we for butter? Pretty Poll!” The last two remarks in the sweet, feminine tones imitated previously; then in a delicious drawl, “For what we are about to receive, the Lo-ord make us truly thankful.”

“A very clever bird that,” I remarked casually.

“She is a wonderful talker and mimic,” he replied, and was instantly absorbed in my examination of the lock of the secret drawer.

Here the servant entered with a visiting card.

“Tell the gentleman I will be with him immediately,” and as the servant left the room the captain said:

“It’s Holmes, so perhaps you’ll excuse me for a short time. I’ll make whatever examination you like.”

He had no sooner gone than I made a complete and exhaustive examination of all that I considered bore on the case, but without result.

“Keep your hair on, old boy! Ain’t it ‘ot? Woa!” All this was in the driver’s voice, rendered with phonographic accuracy, even to the slight cockney accent, and as I looked up at the bird, and saw its head on one side and its eye fixed upon me so comically, it flashed across me all at once that it might possibly know something of the brooch.

I was lost in admiration of the parrot when Captain McDonald came into the room with Holmes, whom he introduced to me. Holmes was dressed in boating flannels and looked more like a middle-aged tradesman out for the day than one of the smartest detectives in London.

“I have given Mr. Holmes the particulars I have given you,” explained the captain, as Holmes went to the cabinet and repeated his performance. “Is there anything you would like to know before I leave the room?”

“Nothing just yet,” said my colleague.

“Just two questions,” I put in, “First, was the parrot in the cage when you were putting the brooch away?”

“Oh, yes,” answered the captain. And Holmes smiled.

“Did you leave the room for a single moment?” I asked.

“No, I simply opened the two drawers, deposited the brooch, locked them up, and went straight to bed.”

“Thank you,” I said, “that is all I require.” And, as he left the room, I turned to see what Holmes was doing. He had done with the locks of the drawers, and was engaged at the window, and looking mighty puzzled...
“The Man Who Bested... Continued from Page 4

...I can tell you, when the parrot asked, “What’re you staring at?” “Ah, Mademoiselle Psittacus Erithacus,” said Holmes. “You are very inquisitive this morning.” “And very insulting too,” I remarked. “She called me stupid just now.” “She is a very intelligent bird,” he returned sarcastically. “All right, my friend” I thought, “we shall soon see who is the stupid party. If you can come to any different conclusion to the one I have arrived at you are cleverer than I give you credit for being.”

To be continued...join us again next month for the conclusion of “The Man Who Bested Sherlock Holmes”

More Things to See, Buy... Continued from Page 3

...by the World’s Greatest Authors”, No. 52—a full color, graphic novel of Conan Doyle’s “The Hound of the Baskervilles”? The second is a playbill from “The Hound of the Baskervilles” production that Charlie attended at The Shaw Festival 18, which he & Diana attend every year! Ed. Note: This is the play by R. Hamilton Wright and David Pichette, two Seattle-area playwrights, that many of us attended several years ago at the Seattle Rep Theatre at Seattle Center!

⇒ From San Diego SOB Cliff McIlney: HEADLINED “HOLMES AND WATSON SMART, FILLED WITH CLEVER SURPRISES”, San Diego Union-Tribune columnist James Hebert’s review of North Coast Rep Theater’s (Solana Beach, CA) play “Holmes and Watson” is a good one! This is one fun, surprising and smartly crafted show. ...weaving its own absorbing mystery, complete with clever head-fakes and carefully doled-out clues. ...At NCRT, artistic chief David Ellenstein directs the piece with a rich sense of atmosphere, capturing the chills and dry-as-sherry wit that courses through (Jeffrey) Hatcher’s work. ...makes the play feel convincingly in tune with the Conan Doyle universe, and manages to keep us guessing nonstop about their characters’ backgrounds and motives.” For Hebert’s online review, go to: https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/entertainment/theater/sd-et-stage-holmes-20181005-story.html

⇒ Notes from PFL David and renowned Sherlockian Peter Blau:

• “MYCROFT AND SHERLOCK” ($25.99) is Kareem Abdul-Jabbar’s second book about the great detective and his older brother. Still a teen, Sherlock is just beginning to hone his remarkable skills. The equally brilliant Mycroft has yet to become a vital, if unseen, player in British politics. Someone is committing gruesome murders all over London while a fiendishly clever opium ring flourishes. Realizing that the two are linked, Holmes goes into sleuthing mode.

• The Seattle Times just published an article about a Garfield High School instructor who gave students a chance to go to the Elliot Bay Book Company and not just visit but buy up to $50 worth of books. He had asked the students to write him a reason why they wanted to go. In the end all students who asked to go were able to go. To read the article go to: Seattle times.com/entertainment/books/seattle-high-school-teacher-shares-the-wonder-of-books-with-students-on-a-different-kind-of-field-trip/

Some Smiling

SOB Faces

From SOB Margie Deck: Here’s a shot of guest speaker, SOB Elinor Gray, with our VP Kashena Konecki at the 4th International Sherlockian Summit on November 3! For more photos from this event, go to: https://www.instagram.com/soundofthebaskervilles/

⇒ From SOB Bill Seil:

• “Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily” is scheduled to be performed at Wade James Theatre in Edmonds, WA from June 14 through June 30, 2019.

Solution to Puzzles & Quizzes

To Quiz on BLUE on Page 2:

1. A very seedy and disreputable hard-felt hat
2. A barrett tail, James Ryder, knows no other
3. The Alpha Inn public house
4. The Countess of Morcar
5. £1000
6. John Horner, a plumber
7. In the banks of the Amoy River in southern China
8. Scotch to Scrooge
9. The Alpha Inn public house
10. The Countess of Morcar
11. £1000
12. John Horner, a plumber
13. In the banks of the Amoy River in southern China
14. Scotch to Scrooge
15. James Ryder, knows no other

To Christmas Anagrams on Page 1:

1. Egg insert = Greetings
2. Rag men = Manger
3. Lance cue blurb = Blue Carbuncle
4. Mans own = Snowman
5. Match sirs = Christmas
6. Sent reps = Presents
7. Berny H. Rake = Henry Baker
8. Cog sore = Scrooge
9. Can sled = Candles
10. Cost king = Stocking
11. Coogs pore = Goose crop
12. The war = Wreath

To Christmas Anagrams 2:

1. A barrett tail
2. James Ryder, knows no other
3. The Alpha Inn public house
4. The Countess of Morcar
5. £1000
6. John Horner, a plumber
7. In the banks of the Amoy River in southern China
8. Scotch to Scrooge
9. The Alpha Inn public house
10. The Countess of Morcar
11. £1000
12. John Horner, a plumber
13. In the banks of the Amoy River in southern China
14. Scotch to Scrooge
15. James Ryder, knows no other
The Sound of the Baskervilles

Ineffable Twaddle
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Member News & Notes
Our November 18, 2018 Regular Monthly Meeting in Seattle was presided over by PFL David Haugen.

● SOB Members present were:
  Dawn Jaekel          Sheldon Gloger          Airy Maher
  Sheila Holtgrieve    Mel Briganti           Sunny Even
  Margaret Nelson      Terri Haugen           Allen Nelson
  Cameron Brandon      Jody Holm              Alex Snow
  Shannon Wallace      Margie Deck            Stephen Adkins
  Kashena Konecki      Ben Featherston
  Chris “Bear” Berwald

● The month’s story was “A Scandal in Bohemia”. PFL David’s review was brief so that time could be allotted to SOB Sheldon Gloger. While the PFL did ask many questions, Editor Terri forgot to keep score, so everybody there was a winner!! Sheldon gave a very lively and interesting talk on his concept that “Irene Adler never wanted to marry Wilhelm”! His thesis is based on 8 probable reasons why, not least of which is her “all-consuming dream” to continue her career as a noted contralto. Watch for more on this topic in our 2019 issue of Beaten’s Christmas Annual coming this March!!

● Are you interested in attending a South Sound Meeting on Saturday, January 12th at the home of PFL David & Terri? Do you want to discuss “The Boscombe Valley Mystery” or do something else; e.g. “What Is My Favorite Holmesian Story?”

● Traveling this autumn, SOB Ariana “Airy” Maher headed to Japan to visit her Dad & step-mom and step-siblings. Her postcard featured a photo of the Great Torii of Itsukushima (Shinto) Shrine on the popular island of Miyajima! A stunning site!

● Stephen Adkins let us know that his professional practice is doing well! At his office in Bothell, WA he provides addiction treatment solutions and administers an opioid-use disorder program! Kudos, Stephen!

● Thanks to Sonia and Margie for these photos of speaker Sheldon Gloger at our November 18 meeting!