



For the Sake of the Trust

The Baker Street Irregulars Trust Newsletter

Spring, 2015

ISSUE No. 15

Introducing the New BSI Trust Website

“I am weaving my web”

The Sign of the Four

BY ANDY SOLBERG, BSI, ASH

Two years after its founding in 2003, the Board of the BSI Trust decided that the Trust should have a website. Glen Miranker was kind - and skilled - enough to design one (including the logo that we continue to use) that served the Trust well for many years. Ten years later, we are pleased to announce the “going live” of our new, interactive website.

The necessity of a new website was mandated by several developments. In early 2014, the Board decided to collect all of the group photos taken at the annual BSI Dinners. In that year’s two issues of this newsletter, we asked the BSI membership to send us those Dinner photos we did not already have. The response was overwhelming. We now have original photos of all the Dinner photos except those for 1951 and 1957. Fortunately, we have scans of those two, so we now have a complete collection of all the Dinner photos that we know were taken. Then there was the phenomenal growth of the BSI Oral History Project. We now have over 100 interviews of BSI members, half of whom have agreed to allow their interviews to be made publicly available via the internet.

We asked Randall Stock, the Trust’s webmaster since 2008, how we could make the photos, interviews, and other items available. As we all know, website capabilities have changed dramatically of recent, so it was hardly surprising when Randall said that fulfilling that objective would require a complete redesign of the existing website. The Board enthusiastically agreed to do this, and Randall volunteered to design it. We were off and running.

First, however, it is important to note that the BSI Trust website is not a substitute for the wonderful resources at Harvard’s Houghton Library (including its website) where the BSI Archive is physically housed as a special collection. Instead, its purpose is to augment the Houghton’s website for both Sherlockians and researchers by presenting some of our most significant holdings in context and telling the story of the founding and growth of the BSI.

Randall began his undertaking by looking for a website that had many of the desired features and could serve as a template. He found it at *I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere* by the BSI’s Scott Monty and Burt Wolder. After consulting with Scott, Randall designed the new website, integrating related accounts and services so that it will be able to fulfill the Trust’s needs for years to come. With a tremendous amount of input from many people, the final parts of the new website went online April 27th. To see it, go to: www.bsitrust.org and you will be taken to the Trust’s Home page:



The six most recently posted items show up on the Home page. To see more, just click the number “2” underneath the listing for the sixth item. As new items are added, they will appear here, as well as on the pages in the category to which they belong. If you are visiting our Home page for the first time, be sure to look for the “Getting Started” link near the top of page. That will

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take you to the “Getting Started” page, which has tips for using the website as well as some background information on the BSI and BSI Trust.

BSI Dinner Pages

If you are using a computer, the menu bar remains near the top of every page. (On phones and tablets, it is a “menu button” and looks like  .) If you click on “Images,” you will see a drop-down menu.



Clicking on “BSI Dinner/Weekend” brings you to a page with a list of years from 1934, the year of the very first dinner, to the present. Each year in which there was an official BSI Dinner will have its own page. For example, if you click on “1934,” you will be brought to the page for the 1934 Dinner. Since there was no BSI Dinner photo that year, we thought that having a picture of Christopher Morley was most appropriate. But in all those years in which a group photo was taken, you will see a high-quality scan of the photo.

Each year page also lists that year’s Investitures, Two-Shilling recipients, *The Woman*, those mentioned in the “Stand with me here upon the terrace...,” and Morley-Montgomery Award winner (if any). Where they exist, there will be links to Dinner photo keys and attendance lists. And, of course, there are links to related material in the BSI Archive at the Houghton, including online photos of dinner menus and meeting minutes.

Oral History Project Recordings

On the menu bar, if you click on “Recordings” and then “Oral History,” you will be brought to a page that describes the Oral History Project and lists all those BSI who have been interviewed to date. Those whose interviews are available for listening to are shown as blue links. Clicking on those will bring you to that person’s interview page.

For the inauguration of the website, we have posted Dinner pages through 1955 and Russell Merritt’s interview. From here on out, we will be adding additional pages on an almost weekly basis, so please keep coming back to visit.

Correspondence

But that’s not all! Clicking on “Images” and then “Correspondence” on the menu bar will bring you to a page listing those letters that have been added to the website with the most recent additions at the top. If there is a large number, just click on the blue down button to show the others. Currently, there are letters from Morley and Starrett. If you click on one of them, it will bring you to the corresponding page, which shows the letter and tells you its history.

Memorabilia

Similarly, if you click on “Images” and then “Memorabilia,” you will be brought to a page listing all the Memorabilia items that have been added to the site. Currently, you can see the Two-Shilling Award that Julian Wolff presented to Bill Hall in 1966, and Hall’s stock certificate for the BSI, Incorporated.

If you click on “About/Contact” on the menu bar, you can find pages about the Trust, how to donate either material or money, a list of the Trustees, a list of links, and Frequently Asked Questions.



If instead, you click “News” on the menu bar, you will see PDF versions of all the Trust newsletters published to date. In the future, we will be posting other BSI Trust news here.

On the right side of every page (not shown in the prior photos) is another handy means of navigating the website. (On phones or small tablets, it appears below the main column.) For example, you can navigate to introductory pages such as “Finding Information on this Site,” “A Brief History of the BSI,” “Explanation of BSI Honours & Terms,” “Material at Harvard,” how to donate, and links to *The Baker Street Journal* website.

Sign up to be notified of news and material posted to the site

With our new website, you don’t have to remember to check in irregularly to see if we have added any news or new material. Just click on the “Email Updates” link that’s on every website page, or go directly to www.bsitrust.org/2015/01/email.html, and follow the instructions for submitting your email address and activating the notifications.





You will receive an email only when there is something new. We expect to post new material about once a week, though some weeks there might be several items and other weeks there might be none. You can choose either daily summaries or weekly summaries. With the Daily Summary, if we post two items on one day, you will get a single email that mentions both. And if we haven't updated the website, you won't get an email. So with our Daily Summary you'll typically get one or two messages per week.

You'll also be alerted when the latest BSI Trust newsletter is published so that you can read it online or download the PDF file. You'll also be notified when we've added a new BSI Dinner photo or posted a new Oral History Project recording.

Desktop, laptop, tablet and phones

Our new website was designed to both look better and work better on a wide range of devices. To that end, it automatically adjusts to fit best on your screen. On iPad tablets and larger screens, you will see a sidebar column on the right with links to useful material. On smaller tablets and phones, that sidebar gets pushed down to the bottom of the page. To see it, simply scroll down.

Donate money online

You can now make a financial contribution to the BSI Trust online using either a credit card or a PayPal account. You will receive the usual acknowledgment from the Trust expressing our appreciation.

Volunteers (for the website)

Many people have helped make the new website a reality. Randall Stock designed both the website and most of the initial pages, assisted by Scott Monty and me. Tamar Zeffren drafted many of the BSI Dinner pages and has volunteered to draft future Dinner and Oral History pages. Burt Wolder prepared the first Oral History interview for posting on the server and has volunteered to prepare and post future audio files. Jenn Eaker has agreed to improve the sound quality of audio recordings before we send them to Burt. Chris Music has volunteered to post new material (such as Dinner and other pages) on a regular basis. The Board is tremendously grateful to not only these people, but all involved. If you have expertise in this area and would like to help, please contact me at chair@bsitrust.org.

Come visit us online!

Gifts to the Treasury

The following list of highly-valued donors to The Baker Street Irregulars Trust covers the period from April of 2014 through March of 2015. The BSI Trust is deeply grateful to all Irregulars and friends whose names appear below for their generous and frequently long-standing support.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Peter Accardo | Lou Lewis |
| John Baesch | C. Paul Martin |
| Alan Bradley and | George McCormack |
| Colin Coterill | Don McDonough |
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| Ralph Hall | Steven Rothman |
| Evelyn Herzog | Franklin Saksena |
| Sheila Holtgrieve | James Saunders |
| <i>(in honor of Ben and</i> | Maggie Schpak |
| <i>Sonia Fetherston)</i> | Paul Singleton |
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| Michael Kean | Ben Vzoskie |
| Francine Kitts | Richard Wein |
| Les Klingler | Michael Whelan |
| John Knud-Hansen | Burt Wolder |
| Art Levine | |



“The Game is Afoot”

The Baker Street Irregulars and Sherlock Holmes Fandom in America

BY GEORGE MILLS, B.A. HARVARD, 2015

One of the requirements for Harvard undergraduate George Mill's Bachelor's Degree in History and Literature was the submission of a senior thesis. George's was on the BSI as a pioneering fan community, research for which involved extensive work with the BSI Trust Archive at Harvard's Houghton Library.

One day after class about five years ago, I approached my 11th grade history teacher. Dr. J, as we called him, was a mustachioed Philosophy Ph.D. and a favorite throughout the entire school. His lectures inspired me. In his class I didn't feel like a mindless automaton, writing five-paragraph essays and marching towards college in lockstep with my peers. When Dr. J spoke, I felt as if my studies could help me to grow as a person by challenging my preconceptions and forcing me to decide what I value as an individual. On that particular occasion, I asked Dr. J to recommend a book for me to read over Thanksgiving vacation. Without hesitation, he handed me Christopher Morley's *Parnassus on Wheels*.

That novella floored me. Lighthearted and whimsical, *Parnassus on Wheels* introduced me to the world of Morley—where a good book and a good friend are more important than any “bunkum in higher education.” Morley's outlook framed how I approached the rest of high school. I studied what I enjoyed and focused on building relationships with the people around me.

As Robert Katz wrote in the Fall, 2014 issue of this newsletter, “[t]he Sherlockian World is full of wonderful coincidences and twists of fate.” Four years after reading *Parnassus*, I was a junior at Harvard studying History and Literature. In my search for a suitable topic for my senior thesis, I benefited from one of those wonderful Sherlockian coincidences. One long weekend, I went to visit my grandmother. Amongst her tall bookshelves, I found a dusty copy of *Parnassus*. She, too, had been inspired by Morley's words while pregnant with my mother in 1953. Our cross-generational love for Morley's work reignited my interest in the book. I ran to my computer to Google whether Harvard held any Morley documents in its archives.

My jaw nearly hit the floor when I saw that not only did Harvard have such documents in its Baker Street Irregulars Archive, but that that collection amounted to over 20 linear feet of letters, meeting minutes, business records, memorabilia, and more. While reading the description of this organization I knew that I had found the topic for my thesis.

For the first few months I threw myself into the world of the early Irregulars. I read the correspondence between Morley and Edgar Smith, attempted to puzzle out what happened to Bill Hall's deerstalker cap at the December 1934 dinner, and cringed at Alexander Woollcott's derision in *The New Yorker*. As I engaged with the vast and diverse source base available at the Houghton Library, I felt myself being tugged, through Morley and his compatriots' nostalgia, into the world where it is always 1895.

The nine months I spent working in the Houghton Library was a constant joy in my weekly schedule. The kind staff helped me care for the documents as I observed them, but also encouraged me to ask more insightful questions and draw deeper connections. I particularly benefited from the guidance of Peter Accardo. Peter's kindness, fluency with the archive, and breadth of knowledge on the subject matter allowed me to pinpoint elements of the collection that would prove key to my research - including the beautiful and ornate investiture certificates in the collection as well as the fascinating maps of Julian Wolff.

My research dealt mainly with contextualizing the Irregulars within current ideas surrounding fan theory. A growing body of research has attempted to treat fans with respect and dignity rather than derision or via Freudian analysis of their passions. I attempted to add to this more reasonable discussion of fan theory by providing an institutional history of the Irregulars' founding years as a case study.

Specifically, I discussed the tension between founding Irregulars such as Elmer Davis and Vincent Starrett and the contemporary academic theories of literary appreciation. Men like Davis, Morley, and Smith lived in what Starrett called “a romantic chamber of the heart.” They based their serious, scholarly investigations into the Sherlockian Canon on the premise that literature that could be appreciated was worthy of study. My work discussed how this affective approach to Sherlockian scholarship flew in the face of the principal academic theories of literary study in the 1930s and 1940s, especially the New Criticism. I showed how the Irregulars directly paralleled academic structures to show that though they enjoyed playing “the game,” they also took it seriously and desired legitimacy. My institutional history of the group traced those early Irregulars from the mid twenties through the early fifties with particular attention to the founding of *The Baker Street Journal*, the character of the early BSI dinners, and the nationwide growth of scion societies.

Over the course of those nine months, my project took various twists and turns. The history of the Irregulars is both engaging as a story and significant as a contemporary cultural barometer. Gaining a greater understanding of the Irregulars allowed me to better discuss how we as a society interact with our passions - a question that is becoming ever more relevant in this new digital century.

More than any particular finding, however, I am thankful for the opportunity to have worked with this wonderful archive. Throughout the process I felt that I was learning and growing as a scholar, student, and individual. When I felt lost, I was lucky enough to go back into the kinder world of Irregularity and re-discover the importance of my project to me. I can only express my deepest thanks to all those who made this collection a reality - with special thanks to Dan Posnansky and Andrew Solberg for discussing the Irregulars with me and providing invaluable insights. I hope that more Harvard students, Irregulars, scientists, and researchers from around the world will dive into the gas-lit world of Irregularity contained in the Houghton Library.

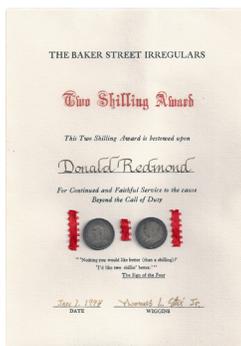
“Good Old Index” goes to Good Old Harvard

BY CHRIS REDMOND, BSI



Earlier this spring, I put a package into the mail addressed to the BSI Trust Archive at Harvard’s Houghton Library. In it were treasures that belonged to my father, Donald A. Redmond, “Good Old Index”, BSI, including a few framed certificates that hung on the wall of his study and a couple of items that were with him in the long-term care institution where he retired, including an oversized silver beaver lapel pin.

I was eager that my father should be represented in the BSI Trust Archive, in part because he was a librarian with a keen interest in the preservation and use of rare books and archival material. Most of his own papers have already been deposited with the Toronto Reference Library, with which he had close ties. His notes for *Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Sources*, for example, will be available at Toronto for future researchers to consult. (Some of his files, need I add, have settled in my own cabinets, where they glower reproachfully, demanding that I give my attention to projects like a published collection of his lesser-known Sherlockian articles.)



But as I disposed of his sprawling collections, it seemed to me that a few items were central to his identity not just as a Sherlockian, but as a Baker Street Irregular. Sent to Harvard, therefore, is his certificate of investiture in the BSI, signed in 1969 by Commissionaire Julian Wolff. (It seems such a low-key little thing compared with the certificates being issued to new Irregulars nowadays.) Beside it is his Two-Shilling Award certificate, signed in 1994 by the BSI’s new “Wiggins,” Tom Stix.

That 1994 award no doubt recognized a number of my father’s Sherlockian achievements and efforts, but particularly his work in indexing the Writings upon the Writings, as his investiture indicates. His first major Sherlockian index, covering *The Baker Street Journal* from 1946 to 1969, was in preparation for some time before it saw print in 1970. His *BSJ* indexing, with cumulations, continued until 2012. He also created many other indexes, all knocked out on a series of manual and then electric typewriters, with never a computer involved.

In 1991 the editor of the *BSJ* presented him with a plaque which I also included in the package sent to the Archive. So was the framed original of a cartoon by the indefatigable Jeff Decker, showing my father at work with a quill pen (technology he admired but never used, as far as I know), a drawing that appeared on the cover of his *BSJ* cumulated index for 1970-1993.

The final item in the package was that oversized silver beaver lapel pin, given to my father by David Skene Melvin (“The Duke of Holderness”) and his wife, Ann Rothery Melvin, ASH. Pins of the beaver (who wears a deerstalker) were given in 1994 to all Canadians who were at that time either Irregulars or members of the Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes. It’s a distinctive insignia in the Sherlockian world, and to the best of my knowledge, this is the first of them to make its way into any archives.



A Matching Follow-up

BY ROBERT S. KATZ, BSI

After my article about the BSI matchbooks and their journey to my home in Morristown, NJ, appeared in the Fall issue, I was delighted to have received an email from Dorothy Stix, who offered the following comment:

I enjoyed reading your article in the Trust newsletter about the matchbooks. In 1959 when the matchbooks were produced, we were living in Agawam, Massachusetts and Tom was working for Diamond Match. At some point those matchbooks came to reside in our home and I was not happy with the idea of all those matches in the house.

I then asked Dorothy how Edgar P. Smith came to be involved in the process, as the carton was shipped to his home in Morristown. She promptly replied:

At the time the matchbooks were produced, as previously stated we lived in Massachusetts. Therefore, the matchbooks had to be sent to Edgar so they could be distributed at the dinner. I don’t recall if Tom attended the dinner or how the matchbooks made their way back to Tom.

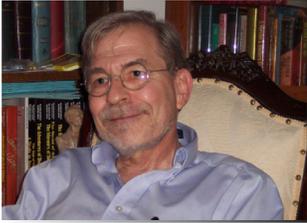
Thanks to Dorothy, we can now trace the progress of the matches. Tom Stix arranged for their production, and sent them from Massachusetts to Edgar P Smith in Morristown. They then went to the BSI Dinner. The remainder at some point went back to Tom Stix, perhaps after he had moved to Norwood, NJ. Then after many years, they and that marvelous packing label made their way to me, back in Morristown. From Morristown, the remaining box of matches and shipping label journeyed to the BSI Archive . . . in the same state of Massachusetts where they were produced in the first place! In the BSI at least, some things truly do come full circle.

From the Chair

BY ANDY SOLBERG, BSI

“I am a busy man with many calls.”

Sherlock Holmes in “The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire”



As you can see from this issue’s lead article, the Trust has been very busy since our last report. Not surprisingly, the new BSI Trust website has taken the majority of our time and energies. But there are other things upon which I also need to report.

In January, the Trust Board authorized the Houghton Library to digitize even more of its cataloged holdings. Currently, more than 600 items from the BSI Archive have already been digitized and made available on the Houghton’s website. This new commission should effectively double the number of items that will be viewable online.

Moreover, we keep sending more material to the Houghton. As I described in the Fall, 2014 newsletter, we first review each piece and “pre-catalog” it by completing a form that includes information about the item. This lowers the cost of cataloging for the Trust. Bob Coghill has been doing a remarkable job on this, and Terry and Linda Hunt have begun to augment Bob’s efforts. (By the way, Terry has just co-authored a book on Long Island and the Civil War, published by The History Press. Congratulations, Terry!) The Trust Board will soon be asking the Houghton to provide it with an estimate of the cost of cataloging much of its remaining uncatalogued material. The timeframe for accomplishing this has yet to be determined, but we hope to place the order later this year.

The Oral History Project (OHP) now has more than 100 interviews of BSI members, and we are now starting to interview recipients of *The Woman* honor. OHP Interviews have been, or are being, performed in the United States, Great Britain, and Europe, and arrangements are now being made to interview BSI in Asia, as well. Marsha Pollak has done a wonderful job expanding the program, and, in January, the Board authorized the purchase of additional audio recorders.

When it comes time for you to be interviewed, I want to request that you consider signing the approval form to allow the interview to be heard on the Trust website. The interviews represent the varied flavor and accomplishments of the BSI membership, and they should be shared with researchers and the Sherlockian community. In today’s world, that means allowing people to listen to them via the internet. If you choose not to sign the approval, the interview will still be part of the BSI Archive, but interested listeners will have to travel to Cambridge to hear it. When I speak to people about the new Trust website, one of the most frequent questions I am asked is when will the interviews be posted? Each completed interview requires some technical preparation before that can happen, and that takes time. However, people are very interested in them.

We are currently taking inventory of the BSI Dinner Packets in the collection. If you have dinner packets from, say, prior to 1980, please send them along. Otherwise, please wait until we know what we already have. As I said previously, the Archive does not have Dinner menus for 1941, 1942, 1944, and 1945. If you have these menus, please consider donating them to the Trust so that we can complete our collection. If you have information about the missing menus, such as whether or not they were even printed, please email me to share that information.

The Trust has also recently acquired approximately 40 videos of BSI members’ presentations at various “Autumns in Baker Street” from Bob Thomalen. The rest, we know, were made available last fall to the presenters themselves. Eventually, we would like to get copies of all of these as well. But like the Dinner packets mentioned above, please wait to send us a copy of yours until we have fully inventoried what we already have.

In the meantime, please keep donating all your other BSI-related correspondence, papers, photos, videos, recordings, and memorabilia to the Trust so that they may be preserved for future generations of researchers and Sherlockians. Your items give context and texture to our history. And, as you will read in this issue of *For the Sake of the Trust*, the Archive is being used by researchers.

Volunteers make up the backbone of the Trust. In fact, we are all volunteers; none of us is paid. In addition to the Board members, sixteen people (BSI and non-BSI) are currently volunteering on behalf of the Trust. Our gratitude to all of them is unending. (Non-BSI volunteers know that there is no quid-pro-quo for their efforts – just gratitude.) But we need more volunteers. Our three most pressing needs are as follows.

Dinner Photo Keys: Whenever I mention the Dinner photos, the question I am asked most frequently is whether we have keys to the photos identifying those pictured. We have some, and we have some attendance lists, but we need people who will take this on and put them in a format that we can then make available both at The Houghton and on the Trust website.

Other Photo – Identification: As I reported in the Fall, 2014 newsletter, Bob Thomalen generously donated thirteen scrapbooks of photos from BSI and other Sherlockian events, such as “Autumn in Baker Street,” going back to 1982. Sue Vizoski has kindly taken one of the scrapbooks in order to identify the events and people depicted. But we need other volunteers to do the same with the others.

Books: People donate books to the Trust to be sold to support the treasury. Most years, the Trust has a table in the Hucksters Room over the BSI Weekend to sell those books, other Sherlockian items, and duplicates of collected material that people donate. The Trust needs someone to take ownership of this activity. This means storing the books, pricing them, and selling them.

If you would like to help on these projects, or if you would like to join the growing army of Trust volunteers who are working on other projects, please email me at chair@bsitrust.org. A heartfelt thank you to all.

Added to the Archive

The following material donations have been received since the publication of the Fall, 2014 newsletter.

- From Carol Adams, her late husband, Charlie's toast to the Second Mrs. Watson from the 1981 dinner, correspondence with Peter Blau, Souvenir Booklet of the Tour of Gillette Castle to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Julian Wolff, and other assorted papers.
- From Denny Dobry, DVD of Paul Churchill's presentation at the 1999 "Autumn in Baker Street".
- From Francine Kitts, 1990 correspondence from Sherlockian pin maker James Duval to Kitts, and a copy of the December, 1986 issue of *Smithsonian* magazine with its five-page article on the BSI, Sherlockians, scion societies, and Sherlockian collections.
- From Don Izban, letter from Izban to Solberg; email from Susan Rice with photos from The Watsonian's 55th Silver Blaze Race; official program from the 55th Silver Blaze Race; four tickets to the Silver Blaze Race; program for the 111th meeting of the Torists International, S.S.; program for the 68th Annual Meeting of the Hounds of the Baskerville (sic); and The Beacon Society Edition of "Silver Blaze" prepared for the 2014 221bCON.
- From Chris Redmond, his father, Donald Redmond's "Good Old Index" Award (a brass plaque from *The Baker Street Journal* commemorating 21 years of developing cumulative indexes of the *BSJ*; Don's sterling silver pin commemorating 25 years as the "Good Old Index" from 1969 to 1994; Don's framed Investiture certificate; Don's framed 2s certificate; and a framed caricature by Jeff Decker of Don indexing the *BSJ*).
- From Susan Rice, papers from the collection of Robert G. Harris, BSI (The Creeping Man, 1952), including menus for the 1947 and 1948 Dinners; a page from the Feb. 14, 1948 *Saturday Review* with "Trade Winds" article by Morley about the BSI; correspondence with Edgar Smith, Roland Hammond, Russell McLaughlin, Jon Lellenberg, and Philip Shreffler; Dinner minutes for 1948, 1949, and 1951; and other assorted papers.
- From Steven Rothman, a photo of Christopher Morley with "New York Time Book Fair, 1937" penciled on the back.
- From James Saunders, cover letter, James Saunders to Andrew Solberg, material from the 1971 BSI Dinner including a manila envelope signed by Bill Abramson, Ira Wolff, Herb Salkin, and W. J. Rabe; James Saunders' menu with handwritten notes; early sample from Clarkson and Fleischauer's Canonical Compendium; signed greetings from John Bennett Shaw; "A Brief Census of the Manuscripts of the Canon" by Peter Blau; Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Archives folio signed by Lew Feldman; Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, and two quizzes.
- From Glen Miranker, a box of 27 books, one DVD, and one jigsaw puzzle for the Trust to sell to support its activities.
- From Andrew Solberg, a handwritten note to Julian Wolff written by Pola Stout, Rex's wife, accepting Wolff's invitation to be the woman at the 1966 BSI dinner, "especially being Rex Stout's woman!" in the original mailing envelope. Also, a 1975 printed slip mailed to Julian Wolff expressing thanks for the thought (presumably responding to a condolence note on the death of Rex Stout).

- From John Schrandt, BSI Dinner Packets for 1999, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, and 2014.

And from the 2015 BSI Birthday Weekend, Paul Singleton has collected (or will shortly) the following items:

- The text of Alan Bradley's 2015 Distinguished Speaker Lecture, "Ha! The Stars are Out and the Wind has Fallen."
- The script of Andrew Joffe and Paul Singleton's skit, "The Return of Bob and Chet" that was presented at the William Gillette Luncheon.
- C. Paul Martin's toast to The Woman.
- Inez Bergquist's reply from The Woman.
- Burt Wolder's toast to Mrs. Hudson.
- Jacquelynn Morris' toast to Mycroft.
- John Baesch's toast to the Second Mrs. Watson.
- Hartley Nathan's toast to Sherlock Holmes.
- Michael Dirda's presentation on *The Valley of Fear*.
- Terry Hunt's presentation on BSI History and Christopher Morley.
- Ray Betzner's presentation on the Great Hiatus.
- David Stuart Davies' presentation "The Syndicate of Four" or "A Quartet of M's".
- The text of Francine Kitts' annual rendition of "Standing on the Terrace."
- The text of Betsy and Al Rosenblatt's annual rendition of "The Year in Sherlockian Verse."
- Also early drafts of 2012 and 2013 "A Year in Sherlockian Verse" and notes from 2014 BSI Constitution and Buy-Laws skit.

About Donations to the Trust

The Trust seeks primary materials about the history of the BSI and the Irregulars. These may consist of correspondence, photogenic and audio materials, manuscripts of historical documents, biographical material, newspaper clippings and magazine articles. It can also accept valuable Sherlockian books that can be sold to raise funds for the Trust.

The Trust does not intend to create a collection that duplicates the Sherlock Holmes Collection at the University of Minnesota or the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection of the Toronto Metropolitan Reference Library, and so does not actively seek editions of the Canon or scholarly works unless the material has a direct bearing on the history of the BSI or the Irregulars.

The Trust is a 501(c)(3) organization, and contributions are tax-deductible under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

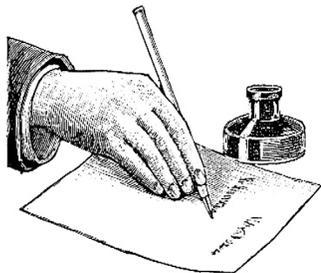
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❖❖❖ For the Sake of the Trust ❖❖❖

The Trust is a special part of the Baker Street Irregulars, the literary society dedicated to the study of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson. The Trust is the repository of the Irregulars' collective memory, and its purpose is to collect, archive, and preserve historical documents, correspondence, papers, photos, recordings, and memorabilia relating to the BSI and its members and friends.

The Trust archive is located in the Houghton Library at Harvard University, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The archival material may be used by any qualified Sherlockian, subject to the normal rules and regulations of the library. The BSI Trust welcomes all monetary gifts as well as material contributions to the archive.

Monetary donations should be sent to:

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Questions regarding **material contributions** to the archives should be directed to:

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