



### From the Papers on the Sundial:

Great fun was had by all at the 15th Annual Wessex Cup on January 29th. We had a goodly number of attendees and quite a few winners! Several races had horses with names that could be connected to Sherlock. In the first race we noted *Grecian Note* (The Greek Interpreter) but the winner was *He's So Handsome* (a reference to Watson, perhaps?). The Watson's held fast to the winner's circle in race two as *Little Miss Mary* came in first. References in other races included horses named *Dirtylittlesecrets* (Milverton?), *Rose Anthem* ("A lovely thing a rose is..."), *Searchinfodacrown* (Musgrave Ritual?) and *Top Kitty* (Winter, that is). Race Six was the Florida Wessex Cup and number 7, *Charlie Papa*, jockey Pedro A Rodriguez astride, came in first. So add that name to your list of winners to the Cup and plan to join us next year at Tampa Bay Downs!

Looks like our Spring Gathering may be a little late this year. Right now we're lookin at May 28. We know, we know, that's Memorial Day weekend, but it seems to be the only time the Court of Appeals can all attend. We'll keep you updated. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy this issue.

It is with sadness that we note the passing of Elmer L. Anderson who was a special friend of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections in Minneapolis, MN. He was a great bookman who had many interests. This is a good time to mention that remembrances can be made in the form of donations in honor or in memory of special persons to the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota, Suite 111, Elmer L. Andersen Library, 222 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

## The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

**Starring YOU as Sherlock Holmes, and your choice of character for Dr. Watson too!**

**With optionally *your* picture on the cover!**

Play the part of the famous detective in a personalized classic, and choose your assistant too! With this customized version of the classic collection of Sherlock Holmes short stories, YOU become the hero, and a friend or relative can be Dr. Watson — or vice-versa. Relive the thrill of these enduring tales with the bonus of being the crack detective, slicing through mysteries with your sheer intellect and dashing through the foggy streets of London in pursuit of dastardly foes! A classic gift or a great indulgence for yourself — you choose! Initially published between 1891 and 1892 in the *Strand* magazine, this is the first collection of Sherlock Holmes' short stories.

**Sherlock Holmes:** the famous detective

**Dr. John Watson:** Sherlock Holmes' faithful assistant

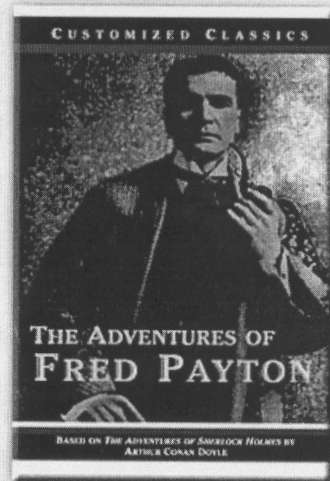
**221B Baker Street:** Holmes and Watson's cosy quarters

**Mrs. Hudson:** Holmes' long-suffering landlady

**Inspector Lestrade:** the bumbling Scotland Yard detective who can't quite keep up with Holmes and Dr. Watson

**Irene Adler:** The woman. The only female to outfox Holmes and earn his affection.

A SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA THE RED-HEADED LEAGUE A CASE OF IDENTITY THE BOSCOMBE VALLEY MYSTERY THE FIVE ORANGE PIPS THE MAN WITH THE TWISTED LIP THE ADVENTURE OF THE BLUE CARBUNCLE THE ADVENTURE OF THE SPECKLED BAND THE ADVENTURE OF THE ENGINEER'S THUMB THE ADVENTURE OF THE NOBLE BACHELOR THE ADVENTURE OF THE BERYL CORONET THE ADVENTURE OF THE COPPER BEECHES



**CALENDAR SHERLOCKIANA 2005**

(being a listing of Sherlockian events worldwide)

**March 2** - Cen Fox speaks on *Meet Sherlock Holmes* at Waverley Ladies Club and on May 5 at St. Aidan's Church Hall. You can contact him at [redacted] This notice came from The Newsletter for the S.H. Society of London, so I would assume those places are in the UK.

**March 10-13** - *A Capital Idea, Watson*, the London Mini-Festival of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London kicks off at 7:00 pm with the Marylebone Mews Walk and concludes on Sunday at 10:30 am with a walking tour of St. James's and Mayfair. In between will be tea at the Diogenes Club, lectures, a visit to the British Museum, a visit to the Turkish bath (men only) a trip aboard an 1896 steam launch and an evening at a Victorian Music Hall.

**March 21-27** *The Baskerville Beast*, a musical by Teddy Hayes will be staged in full at the Questor's Theatre at 12 Mattock Lane, Ealing, London W5 5BQ, UK. Mr. Hayes and his co-producer John Elnaugh are looking for backers to take the show on tour. Prospective Angels can call 020-8876-3984.

**April 16** - *The Real Sherlock*, the play by Cenarth Fox, will be at the Phillip Island Arts Society and continue to tour Victoria, Australia, re: May 6 - Donvale Village Performing Centre, May 25 - Burwood Terrace Village, June 4-6 - Cathouse Players Inc, Craigieburn and June 16-19 - Peridot Theatre, Mr. Waverley. Get details from [redacted]

**April 28 - May 15** - *The Demons of Sherlock Holmes*, a one-man play by Tim Evers, at The Strand Theatre in Galveston, TX. You can reach Tim at [redacted]

**April 29-May 1** - *Malice Domestic XVII* will be held at the Crystal Gateway Marriot Hotel in Arlington, VA. Go to [www.malicedomestic.com](http://www.malicedomestic.com).

**April 29-May 1** - *2005 STUD-Watsonian Weekend* includes dinner on the 29th with speaker Henry Zewcher (Talk & slideshow on Wm. Gillette), viewing of the Chicago Silver Blaze race from a private sky box with a short program before, and the Fortescue Honours Brunch on Sunday. Contact [redacted]

**May 20-22** - *Holmes Under the Arch II* is a symposium planned by The Parallel Case of St. Louis. The theme will be *The Sign of Four*. Write to Barb Roscoe, [redacted] or email [redacted]

(I've also seen this listed as A

*Sign of Four Mystery Weekend*)

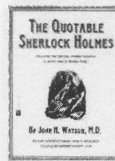
**May 22** - Alan Barnes' *Sherlock Holmes Suite* will be performed at the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, UK.

**May 28** - (Tentative date) *30th Annual Spring Gathering for the Pleasant Places of Florida* to be announced.

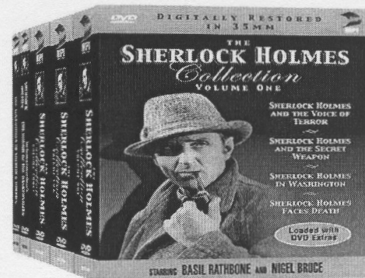
**June TBA** - *Making a Bee-Line for Switzerland* The Sherlock Holmes Society of London will visit Meiringen and other parts of Switzerland, including the Museum in Lucerne, concluding with the traditional enactment at Reichenbach. Contact Judi Ellis at [redacted]

**June 8-18** - *The Final Problem for Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson*, a play by David Fletcher at the Loft Theatre in Lemington. Go to [www.loft-theatre.co.uk/shows/sherlock.php](http://www.loft-theatre.co.uk/shows/sherlock.php)

**June 11-13** - *An Excellent Voyage: Twenty Years on the Hotspur* celebrated by The Sydney Passengers. Contact Bill Barnes, Captain of the Passengers about the activities at [redacted]



You can now download Gerar Van der Leun's book for free by going to <http://americandigest.org/mt-archives/004817.php> We found we had to just go to [americandigest.org](http://americandigest.org) and use the search mode to get there.

**Mystery of leaking toilet solved using food coloring from the *Arizona Republic*,**

1/22/05 James &amp; Morris Carey, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In one Sherlock Holmes story, the famous sleuth solved a mystery at Baker Street. Entering the study, Watson declared: "I say, the toilet is dripping water onto the bathroom floor."

"Indeed," said Holmes, getting up and heading for the kitchen, "Are you sure?"

"Yes, it's definitely leaking."

"Is it now?" asked Holmes, grabbing some food coloring and going into the bathroom.

Holmes noted the puddle. After lifting the tank lid, he poured in some food coloring. Blotting up the moisture on the floor, he said, "Let's give it some time, old chap." Later, Holmes noted the puddle was back. It was clear water - with no color.

"Just condensation," he concluded.

"I see," said Watson. "If it were leaking, we'd see color, correct?"

"Indeed," said Holmes. "However, the flapper ball inside the tank is leaking."

"How can you tell?" asked Watson.

"Color in the bowl signifies a slow internal leak."

"Clever," marveled Watson.

"Elementary," Holmes responded.

*submitted by members Paul & Janet Gunning*

**Young Sherlocks in Russia**

*Intelligence Report, Parade Magazine 3/2005*

Russia is racked by organized crime, and its police are trying to combat a reputation for incompetence and corruption. How? Apparently by encouraging kids to become crime-fighters. The police adopted Moscow School No. 1862, for kids 6-17. They plan to create a "detectives section" and to give lessons in detective work and criminal law. Russia's first deputy interior minister says he hopes the school turns out a budding Sherlock Holmes or two.



**HE'S EVERYWHERE...**

There's a BBC2 drama being filmed titled *The Strange Case of Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle* that concentrates on the relationship between Doyle and his father. Douglas Henshall plays Conan Doyle, Sinead Cusack is his mother, Mary, Emily Blunt is Jean Leckie and Brian Cox is Joseph Bell. No word yet if it will be shown in the US. It will air in the UK this summer ... Watch for the fifth and final 'schoolboy Sherlock Holmes' book by Cernath Fox this June. Fox reports that the hero, Nicholas Twit, will die and not die the same way as Holmes. You can check the website at [www.twit.biz](http://www.twit.biz) ... A warning to those of you seeing the cheap Rathbone DVDs on the market. You get what you pay for. Better to shell out more cash and get a nice digitally remastered print. We've heard that UCLA has done a fine job of restoring these films and you can purchase a set that includes audio commentaries by David Stuart Davies and Richard Valley as well as production notes and a docu about the restoration project ... The British Library at St. Pancras had an exhibition of Conan Doyle papers in the Front Hall from December 3 to January 31 ... You can join *The Police History Society* at [www.policehistorysociety.co.uk](http://www.policehistorysociety.co.uk). They have a journal that is published yearly and we hear that the name of Doyle crops up quite regularly. Their ad page even mentions one, *Conan Doyle and the Bullet-proof Uniform*. There're also interesting items on fingerprinting and forensics for those so inclined ... Another interesting website is [www.shadowstalkers.net](http://www.shadowstalkers.net) wherein the business involved is to create Murder Mysteries for the party guests. You can stay at various B&Bs to do this, with your "role" being sent you prior to the mystery night. Sounds intriguing ...



A SERIES OF 25  
**CHARACTERS FROM FICTION**  
 FROM ORIGINALS BY H. M. BROCK, R.I.  
 No. 21  
**SHERLOCK HOLMES.**  
*Holmes remained in lodgings in Baker St., buried among his old books, and alternating between cocaine and ambition, the droopiness of the drug, and the fierce energy of his own keen nature. He was deeply attracted by the study of crime, and occupied his immense faculties and extraordinary powers of observation in following out those clues and clearing up those mysteries which had been abandoned as hopeless.*  
 In *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* (1891), a great popular success was achieved by Dr. (afterwards Sir) Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930). The imperturbable Holmes had previously figured in *A Study in Scarlet* (1887) and *The Sign of Four* (1889), while his subsequent adventures were described in *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes* (1895), *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (1902), and other stories.

**PLAYER'S CIGARETTES.**  
 ISSUED BY  
**JOHN PLAYER & SONS**  
 BRANCH OF THE IMPERIAL TOBACCO CO. OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND, LTD.



Picture for article *Spies Like Us* in *SmartMoney* magazine, Feb. 2005 sent in by members Paul & Janet Gunning, afar in AZ but close to our hearts!  
 The article discusses ways to use the internet to obtain information on a score of subjects.

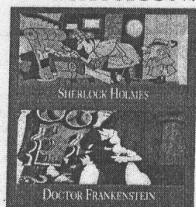
1933 Players cigarettes card sent in by member Tom Takach

Magoo's McGuffin By Tom Takach

I recently acquired a videotape featuring two episodes from the 1964 animated series, *The Famous Adventures of Mister Magoo*. In this short lived series, Jim Backus as Quincy Magoo as assorted figures from literature introduced children to some of the world's finest writing by retelling a different story each week in a 30 minute TV show. The tape I acquired contains two episodes, the first one being Sherlock Holmes and the second one Frankenstein. I thought I might just hit a few highlights of the Doyle tale for those that might be interested.

The story, in which Magoo plays the part of Doctor Watson has elements of *The Speckled Band* and *The Six Napoleons* and really captures the flavor of the canon very well indeed! You have the requisite damsel in distress at the beginning, one Helen Parkum, who is pursued on the streets of London by not one but two different villains and who opines about (cont. on page 4)

**MR. MAGOO'S LITERARY CLASSICS**







(cont. from page 3) Sherlock "He's the one man in England who can help me." Before ever laying eyes on her, Holmes tells Watson that she is a young lady with an umbrella who has lost the heel to one of her shoes. The Baker Street furnishings include the Persian slipper containing tobacco, correspondence trans-fixed to the mantelpiece with a jackknife, the Stradivarius, etc. Watson is wondering when he'll ever have time to record some of Holmes's cases such as *The Adventure of the Red Leech*, *The Adventure of the Blue Ink Forgery*, and *The Adventure of the Three Winged Parrot*. An adventure which the good and true Watson does not mention is one which the animators inadvertently authored - *The Adventure of the Now You See It, Now You Don't Pipe*. There is one scene in which Holmes is standing in front of the fireplace, his calabash reposing comfortably atop the mantelpiece. As Holmes continues talking, the pipe literally disappears. "No ghosts need apply" indeed! The good doctor also laments that he never gets to wear disguises like Holmes does, to which Sherlock replies "Your face is too handsome for disguises, dear Watson."

The young lady, who is living with her cruel stepfather and who is engaged to a sailor by the name of Joseph Tabor, has received a mysterious message pertaining to a gift given to her by her fiancé; a gold nugget on a necklace housed in a handsome box, both items having been picked up in Cape Town. Holmes examines the items as well as the cryptic message which says "The star concealed means death". The Great Detective then sends her

home with the assurance that both he and Watson will journey there shortly. After Helen leaves, Holmes shares his fears with Watson, stating that the box was certainly not purchased in Cape Town, as the wood is from Central America, the hinges are made in France, the wax is from Brazil, and the workmanship is English. On the train journey down, our keen eyed sleuth sees two suspicious characters - a grim Sikh and a sailor who is reading a penny dreadful. After investigating at her home,

Holmes has Watson place a coded message in all the papers in order to confirm some suspicions he has. A baffling reply sends our Victorian dynamic duo to the Wax Museum, where Holmes becomes The Bard of Avon while Watson disguises himself as Caesar.

Holmes and Watson aren't the only ones in disguise here and, as the excitement mounts, heads do roll! While looking for the booty, one of the villains lops off the coconuts of Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, and everybody's (cont. on page 5)

## Sherlock Holmes

**The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes** MYSTERY  
It's a long final bow for two esteemed actors. In *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, Jeremy Brett (Sherlock Holmes) and Edward Hardwicke (Dr. John Watson) return for six arduous final cases, including *The Three Gables*, *The Dying Detective*, and *The Golden Pince-Nez*. Holmes and Watson, assisted by Holmes' brother Mycroft, then turn their attention to *The Red Circle*, *The Mazari Stone*, and *The Cardboard Box*. DVD extras include an interview with Adrian Conan Doyle, descendant of Holmes' creator.  
Approx. 5 hrs. on 5 videos or 4 1/2 hrs. on 4 discs  
**VHS MMSH800 • \$119.98 | NEW DVD MMSH400 • \$39.98**

**The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes**  
Jeremy Brett returns as the inscrutable supersleuth in six thrillers from the pen of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Sherlock Holmes and faithful cohort Dr. John Watson (Edward Hardwicke) focus their joint talents on solving *The Disappearance of Lady Francis Cartax* and *The Problem of Thor Bridge*. The celebrated duo then visit *Shoscombe Old Place*, en route to a puzzling encounter with *The Boscombe Valley Mystery*. Two brain-teasers complete the collection: *The Illustrious Client* and *The Creeping Man*. Quick, the game's afoot! Approx. 6 1/2 hrs. on 5 discs  
**DVD CBSH400 • \$39.98**

**The Many Faces of Sherlock Holmes**  
Meet the men who gave life to fiction's greatest sleuth, from a rare interview with creator Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to in-depth looks at the screen stars who portrayed Sherlock Holmes in hundreds of films, including Basil Rathbone and Christopher Lee. Extensive film clips, actor commentary, and other features make this collection a must for every serious Holmes fan. Bonus movie included on DVD. Color and black and white.  
Approx. 2 hrs.  
**VHS MFSH801 • \$19.98  
DVD MFSH401 • \$19.98**

**The Sherlock Holmes Collection** MYSTERY  
Basil Rathbone, the quintessential Sherlock Holmes, returns in a dozen faithfully restored 1940s-era classics, courtesy of the UCLA Film and Television Archives.  
Each set approx. 4 hrs. or 3 videos or 2 1/2 hrs. on 4 discs

**Volume I:**  
**VHS SHH02810 \$59.98  
DVD SHH0410 \$69.98**

**Volume II:**  
**VHS SHH02820 \$59.98  
DVD SHH0420 \$69.98**

**Volume III:**  
**VHS SHH02830 \$59.98  
DVD SHH0430 \$69.98**

**SAVE \$20**  
PURCHASE ALL THREE VIDEO SETS SHH0851 • \$159.94  
PURCHASE ALL THREE DVD SETS SHH0451 • \$189.94

**Hands of a Murderer**  
Sherlock Holmes is back on the trail of his arch-enemy, Professor Moriarty, who vanished from the gallows in a wisp of smoke. But first, Holmes faces a crucial distraction: the theft of a sensitive government code which jeopardizes the safety of all England. Assisted by his brother Mycroft and the ever-faithful Dr. Watson, the great detective races against time to solve both mysteries. Stars Edward Woodward as Holmes, with John Hillerman, Anthony Andrews, Peter Jeffrey, and Warren Clarke.  
Approx. 1 1/2 hrs.  
**DVD HMURAD1 • \$24.98**

**The Return of Sherlock Holmes**  
The celebrated duo of Jeremy Brett and Edward Hardwicke are back as the masterful Sherlock Holmes and his faithful cohort Dr. Watson. Based on the original stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the spellbinding adventures of *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* are packed with mystery and suspense. Don't miss a single clue in these deadly games of cat and mouse! Includes eleven episodes.  
Approx. 9 1/2 hrs. on 11 videos or 10 1/2 hrs. on 5 discs  
**VHS RDSH800 • \$159.98  
DVD RDSH400 • \$59.98**

**Sherlock Holmes Feature Film Collection**  
The legendary duo return in five smashing feature-length films. Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson lend their formidable talents to Arthur Conan Doyle's toughest cases. Featured are *Hound of the Baskervilles*, *The Sign of Four*, *The Last Vampire*, *The Eligible Bachelor*, and *The Master Blackmailer*.  
Approx. 9 1/2 hrs. on 5 videos or 5 discs  
**VHS SHFF800 • \$99.98 | DVD SHFF400 • \$59.98**

**Dr. Bell and Mr. Doyle**  
Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional Sherlock Holmes remains history's greatest detective. But where did Doyle gain the inspiration for Holmes? Was it, perhaps, in his early days as an Edinburgh medical student? This inspired series offers a long look at Doyle's brilliant instructor, Dr. Bell, whose uncanny ability to solve crimes baffling the police seems oddly familiar—yet anything but elementary. Starring Ian Richardson, Robin Laing, and Charles Dance.  
Approx. 1 1/2 hrs.  
**VHS DBMD801 • \$19.98  
DVD DBMD401 • \$19.98**

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(cont. from page 4) favorite mad monk, Rasputin. The sailor turns out to be an unscrupulous old shipmate of Joseph Tabor's, the Sikh turns out to be Helen's stepfather (spotted as a fake by Sherlock because real Sikhs don't cut their beards and they don't tie their turbans right to left) and, just in time to save Holmes's life, a real Sikh police officer disguised-as an executioner enters the fray! Holmes returns to the Sikh's rightful possession the Star of Bengal, a fabulous diamond which had been stolen from a temple in India by Helen's intended. Needless to say, the nuptials are nixed.

Must see TV for those who, after having seen The Skipper portray Dr. Watson in a dream sequence on Gilligan's Island, always hungered to see Thurston Howell III (Jim Backus) take a shot at that plum role!

From *The Russia House*, a novel:

"Now, Barley, what is this total nonsense you are putting about that you have come here in order to buy Soviet books, please?" Zapadny demanded by way of opening courtesies, lifting his hooped eyebrows and placing the tips of his fingers together like Sherlock Holmes.

### Le Carre' Strikes Again!

In the past we have given several quotes from the novels of John LeCarre' in which the author has made Sherlockian reference. Herewith are a few more:

From *Our Game*, a novel

I was counting money: bills, letters, cheque stubs. I was reading burned letters from banks.

"Dear Miss Stoner" - the top right corner of the page charred, writer's address incomplete, except for the letters SBANK and the words *des pays Geneve*. Miss Stoner's address 9A Cambridge Street, Bristol. "We note from the ...losed state...tha...have substan...quid...ts in...ur...urrent acc...Should you ...no immedia... call upon...may wish to...ferring them to..."

Left side and lower half of letter destroyed., Miss Stoner's response unknown. But Miss Stoner is by now no stranger to me. Or to Emma.

"Dear Miss Roylott."

Quite right: Miss Roylott is Miss Stoner's natural companion. It's Christmas evening before the big fire in the drawing room at Honeybrook. Emma wears her intaglio necklace and a long skirt and sits in the Queen Anne wing chair while I read aloud Conan Doyle's "Speckled Band," in which Sherlock Holmes rescues the beautiful Miss Stoner from the murderous designs of Dr. Grimesby Roylott.....

"Dear Miss Watson."

The writer is in Edinburgh and signs himself "Overseas Portfolio Exe..." And Watson should have been braving the wild beasts of Dr. Grimesby Roylott's private zoo with an Eley's N° 2 revolver in his pocket....

"Dear Miss Holmes."



### Pop Goes the Literature

An excerpt from an article in *TIME*, 12/13/2004 by Lev Grossman

In Michael Shabon's new mystery novel, *The Final Solution* ...

The detective in (*the book*) is almost certainly meant to be our old friend Sherlock Holmes, although Chabon never names him. Chabon's Holmes is long past his Baker Street prime: at 89, he has become a grail, eccentric, beekeeping retiree. Mystery comes looking for the aging detective in the form of a mute boy, 9, and his pet parrot (the symmetry is neat but not too: a boy who can't speak and a bird that can). Before long, the parrot is missing, a man is dead, and Holmes is back in the game.

...Solving mysteries has an existential meaning for Holmes. To him, it's the "essential business of human beings - the discovery of sense and causality amid the false leads, the noise, the trackless brambles of life."

**The Pleasant Places of Florida**

*founded in 1972  
by Leslie Marshall, B.S.I. (dec.)*

**Recorder Emeritus: Dr. Benton Wood, B.S.I.**

For the Record:

**THE LAST COURT OF APPEALS**

David McCallister, Master of the House,

(Master of Ceremonies at most gatherings, host of the annual Wessex Cup)

Carl Heifetz, Representative (both with the Servants and with the Tradespeople),

(Correspondent & Communication)

Wanda & Jeff Dow, The Papers on the Sundial,

(Communications, Bookkeeping)

Please make note of the date after your name on the mailing label. This is the expiration date of your club membership. You will not receive further Communications after this date unless you renew. Renewals should be sent, with any updates, to Wanda Dow. Make all checks payable to Wanda Dow. US\$12.00 (US/CAN) or US\$13.00 (INTL)

**PLEASE NOTE ABOVE INFORMATION! ALL CHECKS FOR RENEWAL SHOULD NOW BE MADE OUT TO WANDA DOW. CHECKS MADE OUT TO THE PLEASANT PLACES OF FLORIDA WILL BE RETURNED. WE NO LONGER HAVE A CLUB ACCOUNT AT THE BANK AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CASH SUCH CHECKS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.**

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