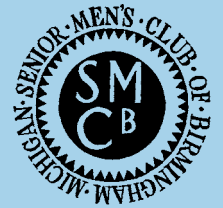


The Reminder

January 2010

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



Inside

- 2 Membership News
- 3 Irv Poston Honored
- 4 Groups
- 5 SMC Hostesses
- 6 Bob Seeley in Russia
- 7 In Memoriam



Our Dedicated Leader

Robert A. Pullar served as president of the Senior Men's Club for 2009 - an eventful year both for him and for our club. Bob valiantly and successfully overcame health problems while leading us efficiently and most effectively.

He made it his habit to arrive early for Friday meetings for planning discussions with presenters and early arrivers to ensure smooth running of every session. He skillfully and successfully led us through consideration and implementation of constitutional changes regarding attendance requirements and our meeting dress code.

The Senior Men's Club greatly appreciates Bob's efforts and leadership during his term of office. We welcome him to our Past Presidents group and expect he will wear his new pin proudly.



—Bill Reilly

JANUARY PROGRAMS

JANUARY CHAIRMAN: Dale Parker

- 1 NO MEETING
- 8 Mike Thompson, Cartoonist, Detroit Free Press*Sharpening the Focus with Creative Humor*
- 15 Patti Rodgers, Tour Director, America by Rail*The USA, Up Close and in Comfort*
- 22 Greg Grabowski, President & CEO, Leader Dogs for the Blind*Your Best Friend Leads the Way*
- 29 Timothy Wyman, CFP, JD, Center for Financial Planning*Planning Opportunities for 2010*

FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY CHAIRMAN: Dick Judy

- 5 Dick Harper, Past President, SMC *The Reminder, Then and Now*

JANUARY DISCUSSIONS

JANUARY CHAIRMAN: Jack McCuen

- 1 NO MEETING
- 8 Colonel John J. McCuen USA (Ret.)..... *Afghanistan Strategy*
- 15 Jane Erickson, DEVECO Consultants.....*Grant Writing for a Cause*
- 22 Cindy Cheaves, President, Cultural Council of Birmingham/Bloomfield*Cultural Projects in Birmingham/Bloomfield*
- 29 Ann K. Suziedelis, PhD, Chair, Clinical Ethics Committee, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland.....*Ensuring Control at the End of Your Life*

FEBRUARY DISCUSSIONS

FEBRUARY CHAIRMAN: John Slocum

- 5 Sgt. Terry Kiernan, Birmingham Police Department*Identity Theft*

New Members:



Robert A. Kennedy
4331 Karen Lane
Bloomfield Hills, 48302-1962
248-851-9355
Sponsor: Joe Steele

New Associates:

Joe K. Knollenberg (Sandie)
1130 Park Place Court, Bloomfield Hills, 48302-1459
248-642-9193; E-mail: KnollenJ@gmail.com
Sponsor: John Slocum

Life Members:

Ralph F. Lee
Edwin C. Chambliss III (LOA)

Resigned:

Lawrence E. Jeziorski
Robert W. Tanke
Associate **Malcolm S. MacDonald**

Phone Number Change:

George W. Moore III---248-645-9157

Change of Addresses:

Roy Halmhuber---41110 Fox Run Rd., Apt. 320,
Novi, MI 48370-4883

Robert C. Lendt---3601 S. Adams Rd., Apt. 204,
Rochester Hills, MI 48309-5002

George W. Moore, III---P.O. Box 528, Bloomfield
Hills, MI 48303-0528

Deaths:

James V. O'Neill (Life), joined January 1984
Robert C. Manby, joined May 2007
Edwin H. Hoagland, joined November 1984

Email Changes:

Roy Halmhuber---doro@mi.rr.com
Patrick M Deighan---PMDeighan@aaa.michigan.com
Robert C. Lendt---rlendt@att.net
George W. Moore III---MooreGW3@comcast.net

Leave of Absence:

George M. Cleland

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman
—John M. Steele, Database Chairman
—Bill Shaffmaster and Tom Booth, Photography

Christmas Dinner Dance

The Special Events Committee did it again - they planned, arranged for and conducted another very successful dinner/dance party. This annual event was held at the San Marino Club, and despite a snowy evening, attracted a record crowd of over 300 members and their lovely ladies for this wonderful event.

The setting was superb, the food and service outstanding, and the entertainment was memorable. Never have so many members taken to the dance floor to "cut a rug" - it was actually quite crowded with smiling attendees most of the time.

Bob Gualdoni of the committee launched the evening with welcoming remarks, followed by presidential comments by Bob Pullar before the great dinner. We heard background music while we dined, followed by the dancing and the entertainment and seasonal singing.

Congratulations to the committee - Bob Gualdoni, Mike Clement, and Roy Halmhuber - and especially to chairman John Zabriskie for such a great evening.

—Dick Harper



Bill and Lois Shaffmaster



Michaelina and Chuck Basch



Luel and Marian Simmons

Reminder by Email

Slowly but surely - actually very slowly - club members realize that receiving *The Reminder* by email means that the publication arrives much sooner (up to a week) and is dynamite in color. Hence, they decide they don't need a second copy by conventional mail.

Thanks to Jack Klein and John Stunz - the latest to make this logical and cost saving (to the club) decision. Any more out there?

—Dick Harper



The Senior Men's Club recently presented a certificate of appreciation to Life Member George Mosher, shown here with Special Events Committee chairman John Zabriskie (R) and member Jack Howell (L). George, who is best known as the founder of Oakland Community College, led our well received October tour of OCC campuses.

Dues are Overdue (almost)

President Bob Pullar announced at our last meeting in December that more than 200 members and associates had not as yet paid their club dues.

Please note that the normal dues collection period ends December 31, 2009. Dues paid after that date are subject to a \$10 late fee, and as such will be \$45 for active and associate members and \$25 for members on leave.

Dues can be paid at meetings or remitted by mail. Checks should be payable to SMCB and if mailed, be sent to The Community House, 380 South Bates St. Birmingham, MI 48009. See page 7 of this issue for a dues coupon.

We will honor letters postmarked prior to January 1, 2010 as on time payments.

—Finance Committee

Irv Poston Honored

Our incoming President, Irv Poston, recently received a most prestigious honor - the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society of Plastic Engineers.

This award recognizes Irv's many innovative accomplishments in this field. He spent 42 years with General Motors, initiated the Plastics Department and was responsible for numerous plastic "firsts." Congratulations, Irv!



Last Chance for Auto Show



Once again, the world is coming to Detroit in January 2010 and we are planning to join this global extravaganza. The North American International Auto Show will be in our town, and the SMC members will be well represented by the busload!

This annual wonder has been faithfully showing the world's finest vehicles for 93 years. Your club has been sponsoring a bus trip to the show for the last 12 years, and this January we will be doing it again. The date is Thursday, January 21, 2010.

The bus will be leaving the First Presbyterian Church (1669 West Maple) parking lot at 9:30AM and returning about 3:00PM. The bus will drop us off at the door to Cobo Hall. (Again you can leave your coat on the bus--avoid coat check fees). The cost for this great event is \$14 per person (same as last year). Senior admission to the show is \$6, but as in past years, we are trying to obtain enough complimentary admission tickets to the show to cover this expense. Perhaps you have your own source for a complimentary ticket to the show.

Tickets will be available at January meetings. Forget your driving, parking and coat check worries, and expenses, and join us for fellowship and door to door service. See you on the bus!

—Mike Clement, Tony Di Marco and Roger Struck

Groups



Classic Movie Group

On Monday, January 11 from 1:00 to 2:53PM, the Classic Movie Group's Chuck Kirkpatrick will show the musical and romantic melodrama in glorious Technicolor, "Meet Me in St. Louis." Directed by Vincente Minnelli, it features a memorable cast that includes Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien and the veteran caricatures of Harry Davenport, Marjorie Main, Chill Wills, Mary Astor and Leon Ames. With beautifully restored audio and digitally remastered video, the film became eligible for Medicare in 2009.



The setting is 1903 St. Louis, just prior to the World's Fair, and presents four seasons in the lives of a family representing Midwestern roots and values. If you don't feel good after watching this golden age classic, I will check you for a pulse.

—Augie Perrotta



Camera Group

On Tuesday, January 12 at 2:00PM, the Camera Group will present SMC member John Reddy, who will show pictures of a week-long sail on a 90-foot converted herring boat from Galway, Ireland to Bantry, Ireland, seeing the Ring of Kerry from the sea, as well as a week-long motor tour of West Ireland north of Galway.

—Jaap B. Delevie



Computer Group

John Wigman, the owner of Birmingham Computers will be our speaker on Wednesday, January 20 at 3:00PM. Mr Wigman will discuss the latest computer problems and how they can be fixed. Of course there will be time for questions and answers.

—George Nordenholt



Investment Group

On Wednesday, January 13 at 2:45PM, Bill Halbert, Smith Barney/Morgan Stanley will speak to the group for the 24th year. He always gives an excellent presentation. His title is "On the Markets: The Lost Decade."

Bring a spouse, guest or prospective member to this meeting; they will enjoy it.

Ted Chapekis still leads the Stock Game with a 25.5% gain. Bob Rossi leaped to 2nd place, Gus Grozdon is 3rd, followed closely by Frank Zernhelt, Jack Burns and Joe Samyn.

—George Miller



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, January 6 at 10:30AM we will be discussing "The Mao Case by Qui Xiaolong." This book is dedicated to the people that suffered under Mao, and this novel has more heft than the average procedural, and political complexity in lieu of action. Chief Inspector Chen Cao of the Shanghai Police Department has misgivings about Party paranoia, and the extreme circumlocutions needed to raise any issue concerning Mao convey the fragility of China's more recent liberalizations. Inspector Chen has a glass-half-empty ambivalence towards his political masters. The Mao Case offers a meditation on power, myth and the policing of history.

On Monday, January 18 at 3:00PM we will be discussing "Deaf Sentence by David Lodge." This is a lovely and beautifully written novel about a hard-of-hearing linguist trying to navigate through the noises and silences of his life. These noises and silences are at times confounding and illuminating, disturbing and comforting, and tragic and comic. Lodge takes his time telling this story and some people may not like the pace of the book, which can meander somewhat aimlessly at times. The beauty, nuance, and insight in this story lay in these perambulations, though. All in all, a lovely and fulfilling read told with humor, sensitivity, and insight.

—Ted Chapekis



Games



Winter Golf



Winter Golf continues at Oakland Yard Athletics, 5328 Highland Road, Waterford, 248-673-0100.

Time: Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30AM

Includes: All the balls you can or want to hit, plus coffee, donuts and/or sweet rolls, all for \$8.

In addition, the Golf Committee has negotiated a special deal with a local restaurant for 25% off the total bill for lunch after the dome practice sessions. See the Golf Chairman for details.

—Chuck Travers

Bowling

Either we have suddenly gotten a lot older, or the bowling lanes are much tougher, because our scores of late have slipped badly. Very few 500 series or 200 games are being recorded.

Despite the lower scores, the competition remains hot. With two weeks to go in the first half, the Steelers (Vine, Brooker, Buchanan and Beach) are in first place with 63 points, having passed the Eagles (Smiley, Smyk, Rossi and Jordan) who have 59 points. The first half is up for grabs, since we have an eight point scoring system. Anything can happen.

We will be reporting the winning team next month. Good luck to all.

—Less Lessenthien and Dick Harper

Gratitude for Those Who Serve



Eunice Orton, Rachel Herbst, Elaine Dobson, Lillian Fregolle

As the Senior Men's Club was celebrating the holiday season, the members set aside their last meeting in December to honor and display their gratitude to the beautiful ladies who serve the luncheons at the Friday meetings throughout the year.

The gala event began with Jack Benish at the piano, Dick Hameister leading the song, and Roy Halmhuber leading the hostesses into the grand Ballroom. Greetings were extended by First Vice President Irvin Poston.

employees party, and Roger Garvelink, President of BASCC, accepted the annual BASCC donation.

Three 20 year awards were given to Rachel Herbst, Eunice Orton and Lillian Fregolle, and each hostess was presented a gift in appreciation for her years of service to the Senior Men's Club. Lillian Fregolle expressed appreciation for this great day on behalf of all the ladies.

The entertainment was arranged by applicant Ralph Bowen. Evola Music provided an organ, and organist Paul Manners played a well-received variety of seasonal and other musical numbers.

The festive luncheon was once again served by Roy Halmhuber and his SMC waiters.

This is a Christmas tradition that hopefully will never end!

—Bill Reilly



Lillian Fregolle



John Horiszny escorting SMC Hostesses

Reminder Delivery Delays

As reported last month, we are aware of recent delayed delivery of *The Reminder* and have been discussing this problem with postal authorities. Despite paying for first class handling, our publication has been late arriving at too many members' homes.

The Post Office is certainly now aware of this situation, and has examined the handling process. We are told, however, that first class postage does not guarantee next day delivery. They are tracking the handling process by the Birmingham Office via the addition of the mail office in Troy to our distribution list.

In the interim, we ask that members receiving *The Reminder* by mail keep us advised as to any delivery delay.

—Dick Harper

Endowment Fund

The Townsend Hotel "Romantic Encounter" package lucky winner is Bill Crabtree. The Fund gained \$670. Thanks for your support.

—George Miller

Bob Seeley in Russia

Our own Bob Seeley, along with playing partner Bob Baldoni, went to St. Petersburg, Russia last November for an incredible show of boogie, stride and blues piano music.



Bob Seeley and Bob Baldoni

Their performances and reception were dynamic. Bob tells us that boogie woogie is very popular in much of Europe - especially Russia and Germany.

The two Bobs were seen as cultural ambassadors, playing authentic American roots music in the tradition of boogie masters like Pete Johnson, Albert Ammons and Meade Lux Lewis. Their reception was not unlike that received by Louis Armstrong many years ago (Ambassador Satch).

—Dick Harper

President's Award

Augie Perrotta received the prestigious President's Award from President Bob Pullar in recognition of his outstanding and multi-faceted contributions to our club. Congratulations, Augie!



Tour of the Walter P. Chrysler Museum and General Motors Heritage Center

Following the SMC trip to the Detroit Auto Show in January, we are offering an opportunity in February to see two wonderful automotive historical collections.



Chrysler has maintained a retrospective of their products for many years, and docents will be on hand to guide us through the exhibits. General Motors has recently assembled their special concepts and show vehicles in one building. Stu Shuster and retired GM designers will be available to explain many of the GM products. In both cases, you will see cars never before viewed.

On Thursday, February 11, the bus will be leaving the First Presbyterian Church (1669 West Maple) parking lot at 9:45AM and returning about 3:00PM. The bus will arrive at the Chrysler Museum at 10:00AM and leave for the GM Museum approximately at noon. Box lunches will be handed out during the drive to the GM Museum. We will have The Community House prepare a complete box lunch for your eating pleasure; two selections of sandwiches, chips, cookie, fruit and soda or water. This will be a first, as we are attempting to lower our food costs. Tour of the GM Museum is to begin at 1:15PM. Coats may be left on the bus at both museums.

We will start selling tickets the middle of January. See you on the bus!

—Stu Shuster and Roger Struck

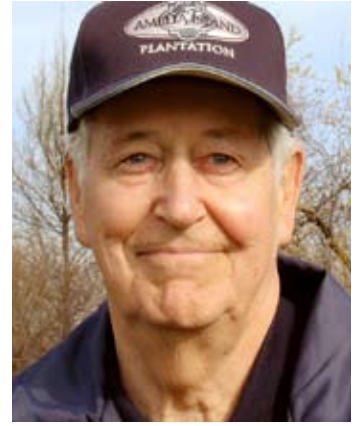
In Memoriam

The Senior Men's Club lost the following members and associates last year. Reviewing this list of 39 respected men makes us realize how precious life really is!

Thomas Alexander	Robert C. Mandy
L. Will Braisted	Walter Meissner
David E. Breck	James V. O'Neill
Arthur G. Burgott	James T. Porter
Leo L. Case	Richard G. Porter
R. William Cooper	Frank A. Reid
John K. Cotton	Robert Allen Reid
Thomas I. Davenport	Bennett W. Root
John G. Dudash	David R. Schneider
John N. Easterbrook	Robert J. Serazin
Ned H. Finkbeiner	Benedict J. Smith
James J. Florek	Ira Joseph Steele
George T. Gaston	Lester P. Swanson
James H. Herbst	Jack Trudell
Edwin H. Hoagland	Elbert Van Kempen
Charles E. Johnson	George F. Ward
Richard W. Johnson	John A. Wenstrand
Alfred R. Kelley	Mont R. Wickham
Benjamin R. Krause	Thomas H. Wright
William M. MacLachlan	

Ed Hoagland

Our club has lost a stalwart and much-respected member with the recent and unexpected passing of Life Member Ed Hoagland. Ed joined the Senior Men's Club in 1984 and became one of our most active and involved members.



He was one of our better golfers, having lettered in that sport at the University of Michigan. He shared his expertise formally at Discussion Group sessions and informally on the course.

Ed bowled with our league forever and served on numerous committees during his tenure. Even in recent years when he was wheelchair bound at meetings, he found a way to function on the Attendance Committee and to give Moments of Interest presentations.

Active members like Ed Hoagland are most difficult to replace - we will miss him!

—Dick Harper

SMC 2010 Late Dues Coupon

2010 dues paid **on or after** January 1, 2010 are subject to a \$10 late fee. Make checks payable to SMC and pay at the meeting or by mail. Please use the coupon if paying by mail.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

If paying by mail, send to:

Senior Men's Club - Dues, The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, MI 48009

Dues: \$45 Active Member \$45 Associate Member \$25 Member on Leave

Life Members pay no dues, but may use the coupon to report changes in address, telephone, e-mail or make a voluntary contribution for financial support of our Club.

Mystery Lyrics

Last month's mystery lyrics proved to be a little easier than most with eleven readers recognizing that these lines:

*I used to walk in the shade,
with my blues on parade*

are from that great tune "On the Sunny Side of the Street." They were Nancy (Jim) Schaefer, Mary (Dave) Schwartz, Rose Marie (Tom) Venier, Donna (Mark) Kelly, Pat (Dick) Smith, Dorothy (Henry) Goodwin - do you get the pattern here? - plus Russ Frye, Roger Gettel, Bob Seeley, Paul Geiger and Clay Gordon. This tune was recorded by many - perhaps the best known version was by Tommy Dorsey.

Sophie Tucker's theme song proved to be more difficult, with only the Veniers, Bob Seeley and Clay Gordon remembering that she sang (You're gonna miss your big fat mama "Some of These Days").

This month we have an old romantic ballad to challenge you, with these lyric lines:

*Holding hands in the movie show,
when all the lights are low*

Can you name that tune?

We are sure most readers remember the three singing Andrews sisters from the 40's and their war time hits like "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" and "Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree." But can you recall their names? - No Googling, please!

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, January 22

Games

Bowling: Monday, 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes

Wednesday, 9:30AM at Thunderbird Lanes (practice)

Bridge: Tuesday, 9:00AM and Friday after lunch

Golf: Thursday, 9:30AM Oakland Yard Athletics

Special Events

Detroit Auto Show, Thursday, January 21, 9:30AM

Walter P. Chrysler Museum and General Motors Heritage Center, Thursday, February 11, 9:45AM

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, January 6, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, January 18, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, January 11, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, January 12, 2:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, January 13, 2:45PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, January 20, 3:00PM

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

SMC on the Web:

<http://www.communityhouse.com/getInvolved/interestGroups/SeniorMensClub.html>

Google Group: <http://groups.google.com/group/SMCBirmingham>

THE REMINDER

A monthly publication of the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, which meets on Fridays at 10:30 AM at The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, Michigan 48009.

Officers for 2010 are: Irvin E. Poston, president; John S. Flintosh, first vice president; Charles B. Kirkpatrick, second vice president; David A. Schwartz, recording secretary; Dennis J. Kozak, corresponding secretary; William L. Sprague, treasurer; Richard E. Shirley, assistant treasurer; Robert W. Jordan and Roger T. Struck, officers at large; Bill Crabtree, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor; Chuck Kirkpatrick, Bill Reilly and Dick Davis, associate editors; Bill Shaffmaster and Tom Booth, photography; Lee Trumbull, computer layout; Bob Jordan, mailing.

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham
380 South Bates St., Birmingham, MI 48009
www.communityhouse.com



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