

The Reminder

May 2011

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



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Tom Booth, SMC Photographer

The Reminder has benefitted from the skills and contributions from staff photographers for many years. Sometimes it has simply been a member with a camera attending club events and activities. Other times, we have had experienced and almost professional support.

Currently, we have a dedicated team which provides our photos - a team headed by Tom Booth. Tom has been taking great pictures at Friday meetings and other club events since joining in 2009. He has a real knack of getting natural looking shots of photo subjects. During the hostess party held last December, he took a number of "personality" photos of individual hostesses which were beautifully framed and much appreciated.

Tom was born in Detroit, grew up in Colorado and returned to Michigan in



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MAY PROGRAMS

MAY CHAIRMAN: Augie Perrotta

- 6 Thomas Gardner, MD-Professor of Ophthalmology, U of M Kellogg Eye Center *Don't Lose Sight of Diabetes*
- 13 Mark Reuss, President, GM North America..... *The State of GM*
- 20 J David VanderVeen - Director of Central Services, Oakland County Airports *Oakland County Aviation*
- 27 Colleen Burcar - Author, Radio and Television Personality *It Happened in Michigan*

JUNE PROGRAMS

JUNE CHAIRMAN: Don Jensen

- 3 John Pappageorge, State Senator *Status of Government*

MAY DISCUSSIONS

MAY CHAIRMAN: Bill Johnson

- 6 John Abbott, Numismatics Gems & Jewelry *Coin Investing in the 21st Century*
- 13 Dave Brown, SMC Member *Handling Academics and Athletics in a Big Ten University & Life Afterwards*
- 20 Sean Neall, DSO Board of Directors *DSO 2010/2011 Season: Meeting the Challenges*
- 27 Frank Crouse, Managing Director of WPL, LLC..... *Remaining Sane while Managing a Business with 100 Family Members*

JUNE DISCUSSIONS

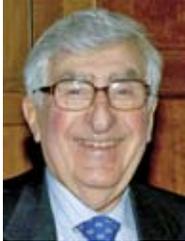
JUNE CHAIRMAN: Jim Schaefer

- 3 Clyde Pritchard, Esq. Former Justice Department Attorney *Federal Investigation and Prosecution of High Profile Persons*

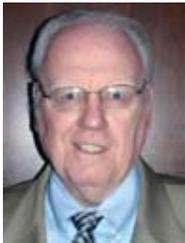
New Members:



John B. Lake
27310 Crestwood Drive
Franklin, MI 48025-1388
248-626-0222
E-mail: John.B. Lake@comcast.net
Sponsor: Elson Spangler



Daniel N. Pevos
5327 High Court Way
West Bloomfield, MI 48323-2515
248-681-2312
E-mail: DPevos@aol.com
Sponsor: Jonathan Haber



Phillip W. Griffin
7376 Deep Run
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-3805
248-646-4632
E-mail: pgriffco@aol.com
Sponsor: Ray Finocchio

New Associate:

L. Kevin Heintz (Mary Kay)
919 Mohegan
Birmingham, MI 48009-5695
248-642-1513
E-mail: LKHeintz@att.net
Sponsor: Tom Rowley

New Address:

George L. Weaver
2080 S. Telegraph, Suite #125
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-0247
Phone: 248-982-1823
E-mail: g.weaver10@comcast.net

Life Members:

Charles Amann
Thomas C. Graham

Resigned:

Donald A. Waples

Deaths:

Robert N. Elliott (Life), joined January 1995
Bert Swanson (Life), joined July 1995
James M. Crabb (Life), joined March 1994
Cyril D. Duffy (Life), joined January 1985

To Leave of Absence:

Thomas J. Johnson
Scott R. Cameron

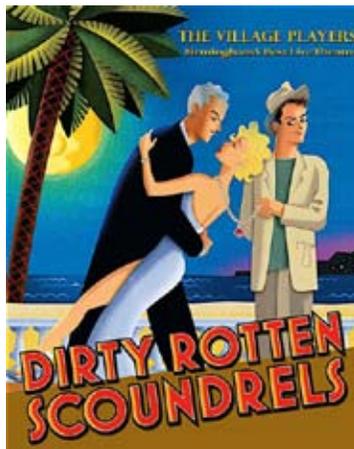
—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman
—John M. Steele, Database Chairman
—Bill Shaffmaster and Tom Booth, Photography

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

Please support the SMC while enjoying a unique show at the Village Players - a performance of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, which is a hilarious farce as well as a great musical comedy. The club has purchased the entire house for a performance on Thursday, May 19. All the proceeds will go to the SMC Endowment Fund, benefitting the Community House.

Tickets will be available at Friday meetings at 9:00AM April 29, May 6 and May 13, for \$30 each. Shelley Roberts, President & CEO of The Community House, purchased the first two tickets for the show!

The performance starts at 8:00PM, with an afterglow to follow. The Village Players is located at 34600 Woodward in Birmingham.



—Bill Johnson

Tom Booth...continued from page 1

time to graduate from Seaholm. He worked in electronics in California for 12 years, before moving to Birmingham in 1974, where he worked for Control Data, GM and Delphi, retiring in 2008. In addition to photography, Tom has other multi-faceted interests including skiing, classic cars, stamps, finance and travel. Like many members, he retired to a really full life.

—Dick Harper



Senior Health

Matters—

Cancer Personality?

Since the 1960s, there has been widespread acceptance that certain personality types play a role in cancer risk and survival with cancer. Those who are affable, friendly and outgoing (extroverts) were said to live longer with their cancer and those who are emotionally unstable, moody or nervous (neurotics) were at increased risk for cancer. It has been claimed that extroverts who try to maintain a consistently calm and cool demeanor do not have an emotional outlet. Their risk of cancer would be increased due to the stress of repressing their emotions. Similarly, neurotics with low levels of extroversion would be destined to have a shorter survival from their cancer.

Recently published was the largest study of its kind of over 67,000 persons over a thirty-year period that found no association for the personality dimensions of neuroticism and extroversion with either cancer incidence or survival. Neither personality type should think that their traits have influenced their chances of developing cancer or surviving it. The notion that having a "fighting spirit" that will affect your prognosis is an appealing one but cancer patients should not be made to feel that they have to adopt a particular attitude toward their disease in order to extend their lives. People with cancer have a right to their anger or calm acceptance of their situation. Whatever their individual way of coping is acceptable and should be encouraged by those responsible for their psychological and emotional support.

—Augustine L. Perrotta, D.O.

Endowment Fund

The "Romance Package at the Marriott Detroit Ren Cen" raffle contributed \$635 to the SMC Endowment Fund. The lucky winner is Jim Schaefer, who is guaranteed to have a great time!

—George Miller

"Go Blue" Campus Tour



Last fall, during one of our Friday luncheon meetings, guest speaker U of M Athletic Director Dave Brandon described some of the remarkable advancements being made at the University--especially in the area of athletics. The thought struck us

that it's about time we had an official tour to see what's new on campus. We contacted U of M Tour Director Bill Austin, worked out the details, made a "dry run" and now our "Go Blue" Campus Tour is ready to roll!

On Wednesday, June 8, our deluxe 56-passenger tour bus will depart the Birmingham Presbyterian Church parking lot promptly at 9:00AM. Underway, we will be entertained by the video "Bo Schembechler's Michigan Wolverines."

As we enter Ann Arbor, we will pick up Bill Austin in the parking lot of the old train station, which is now the Gandy Dancer restaurant. Bill will call out points of interest as we head south on Main Street. Approaching the entrance to the "Big House," Dick Harper has volunteered to lead us in singing the U of M Fight Song, "Hail to the Victors." Bill will then take us on a tour of the massive new football complex. This includes the big exclusive West Tower which features state-of-the art TV Broadcast and Press Area facilities near the top floor for a commanding view of the football field.

Our bus will then circle to the east side of the stadium past the many advancements in the concession area, and make a stop to see the impressive players locker room, training rooms, tunnel to the playing field, etc. Time permitting, we will also see the improved interior of the Crisler Hockey Arena. Our bus will then head over to the Golf Course Clubhouse for an excellent buffet luncheon in the private "M" room.

Lunch over, Bill will lead us on a drive-by of the new Tennis/Soccer complex, then circle north to the central area of the campus. Lastly, our tour will take us past the Power Center Auditorium, Medical Center and on to the North Campus.

By 3:15PM, we will make a refreshment stop at the Gandy Dancer with everyone on their own. By 4:00PM, we head home, arriving in Birmingham by 5:00PM.

For this outstanding fun event, tickets will go on sale at The Community House Friday, May 20 on a first-come, first served basis as follows:

- 8:30AM - Take a number
- 9:00AM - 55 tickets @ \$42 each

A stand-by wait list will be maintained to assure that all seats on the bus will be occupied for the tour.

So, "GO BLUE"...and we will see you on the bus!

—Committee: Jack Howell, Gil Livingston, Riggs Miller and Bob Pullar

Groups



Classic Movie Group

The 1939 film classic, "Beau Geste," will be shown in the Hackett Room on Monday, May 9 from 1:00-3:00PM. Restored to pristine glory in the late 1980s, "Beau Geste" is a superb mystery-action film set in the desert. Its themes are brotherly loyalty, patriotic and family honor, self sacrifice and treachery. The three inseparable and adventurous Geste brothers disappear from England and join the French Foreign Legion after one of them (Beau) witnesses a family scandal. The movie stars Gary Cooper, Ray Milland, Robert Preston, Brian Donlevy and Susan Hayward.



It will be shown with English subtitles for the H.O.H.

—Augie Perrotta



Computer Group

The Computer Group will meet on Wednesday, May 25 (the fourth rather than the usual third Wednesday) at 3:00PM. Our speaker will be Rodger Gach - back again to help us with any computer problems. All are welcome.

—Bob Chandler



Camera Group

The Camera Group will next meet on Tuesday, May 10 at 2:00PM for an outstanding program.

Our own Augie Perrotta will show and discuss pictures of his visit to the island of Capri, off the Italian coast near Sorrento and Naples. With calm winds, Augie entered the famous Blue Grotto and cave for great picture taking. In addition to the cave, we will see touristic buildings and other views of Capri. All are invited.

—Jaap B. Delevie



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, May 4 at 10:30AM, we will be discussing the classic book "Ethan Frome" by Edith Wharton. Ethan Frome is a reserved New England farmer with a sickly wife, Zeena, who he married in a moment of rash loneliness after his mother died. The nagging Zeena arranges for her cousin, the young and lovely Mattie, to help with housework. Ethan falls in love with Mattie and they have an affair. Zeena discovers the affair and she demands that Mattie leave. In dismay, Ethan drives Mattie to the train station, where the two sorrowful lovers create a plan to go sledding down the giant hill and crash into a tree in a double suicide. At the last moment, Ethan swerves slightly from the tree, and rather than dying, both Ethan and Mattie are crippled and left to the care of the nagging Zeena.

On Monday, May 16 at 3:00PM, we will be discussing the book "All the Devils are Here" by McLean and Nocera. Two of our finest business journalists have written a thorough account of the origins of the financial crisis of 2008. More than offering just a backward look, it helps explain the most troubling business headlines of the moment, as well as those that are certain to come. These continuing and future problems are all symptoms of a larger syndrome whose origins McLean and Nocera ably chronicle in the book.

—Ted Chapekis



Investment Group

On Wednesday, May 11 at 2:45PM Carlos Rangel, Portfolio Manager, Kellogg Foundation, will present "The Endowment Model: The Search for an All-Weather Portfolio." He will discuss the Foundation's (\$7.5 billion assets) investment philosophy, actual investments and market outlook.

Carlos was previously the technology analyst for Managed Asset Portfolios; he has good investment ideas.

Tom Booth (all silver) has increased his lead in the Stock Game, up 75%. Tom Buescher, David Ladd, Bob Bazzell and Lowell Barnett follow. The game ends May 31.

—George Miller



Bowling

Our bowling season ended with the championship roll-off between the winners of each half. The first half leaders - the Mets (Chuck Ragains, "Stormy" Wetters, Dick Harper and Dennis Winowiecki) won the match against the Rockies (Ken Brooker, Tom Johnson, Bob Klein and Art Byington) and are the league champs. Congratulations!

Individual honors for the season went to Phil Buccini with the high average of 164, while Nick Marinelli had the only 600 series at 605. Our celebratory banquet will be held on Wednesday, May 18 at The Community House at 6:00PM.

Looking ahead to next year, we would like to expand member participation and Chairman Tom Venier has developed a special offer for new bowlers. Quite often when club members are asked about bowling, they indicate they haven't bowled for years, or maybe ever. We usually reply "Try it, you may like it." We practice off season at Thunderbird Lanes in Troy on Wednesday at 9:30AM, and will offer free bowling for new bowlers for up to four weeks. Thunderbird has lots of house balls if needed - we will even pay for shoe rental.

So what have you got to lose? If you might be interested or have questions, call Tom (248-642-2386). Please note that we bowl for fun and camaraderie - not for big scores.

—Les Lessenthien, Tom Venier and Dick Harper

Thursday Golf

The 2011 golf season at Springdale commenced on April 14. Rain, sleet, and cold caused the opening day to be postponed for a week. (It should be noted that the committee will no longer use the Celtic Goddesses to entreat the Powers for great opening day weather—must have had too much poteen at the séance).

After a long and bitter winter, 27 hardy senior golfers tested their dormant athletic skills against par. As expected those who honed their skills at the Oakland Yard Dome or in warmer climates did better than those golfers who allowed their talents to lay fallow during the cold weather. However, Par won the day. Bob Doll scored the best with a 43 and was followed closely by Jim Doyle with a 44. Scores are expected to dip into the thirties in May.

The April 21st outing gave further proof that the spirit of the rugged American male has not passed as 14 hardy seniors braved the cold, the wind, and bulky attire to compete. All finished the round but no one made a score of 45 or under.

Walk-ons are welcome. Green fee is a mere \$12 and carts may be purchased at the course.

Hit them high, hit them long, and hit them straight.

—The Golf Committee

Membership Research

Despite many efforts to attract new associates and retain our current members, the Senior Men's Club continues to experience declining membership counts. Currently, we have a total of 646 members, a slow but steady declining trend, and off considerably from more than 800 in the late 1990's. We continue to lose members faster than we replace them.

This trend is not unique to our club. Many social and service organizations face the same problem. We hear statements like "baby boomers are not joiners." The Community House Senior Women's Club is also experiencing a membership decline. The Executive Board has devoted considerable time and effort to identify the whys of this problem and possible corrective action, but without measureable success.

At its April meeting, the Executive Board considered and approved proposed research on this problem. Former members will be asked why they left the club, and more importantly, what the club might have done to retain their interest. We would like to determine if termination is caused by dissatisfaction with the club or for other reasons.

The research will include two phases:

- a questionnaire directed to former members
- follow-up phone contacts as appropriate and feasible

Hopefully, we can learn something of benefit and stem, if not reverse, our membership decline.

—Dick Harper

Mystery Lyrics

We did a little better in “stumping the panel” with last month’s musical challenges. Only seven readers remembered that this lyric line:

Working for the Yankee dollar

is from the Andrews Sisters hit of the mid-40’s, “Drinking Rum and Coca-Cola” - and also recognized that the Broadway/Hollywood star described early on as “balding, can’t sing, dances a little” was Fred Astaire. So congratulations to Dick Mueller, Dave and Mary Schwartz, Tom McNally, Jeanne (Merrill) Miller, Mark Kelly, Bob Seeley and Clay Gordon. In addition, Dick Hameister, Tom Johnson, Jack Howell and Paul Pentecost got the song while Ben Ewing, Jack McLaughlin, and John O’Brien remembered Astaire.

Incidentally, the song lyrics were quite controversial in the 40’s with the implied prostitution. The line before Yankee dollar was “Both mother and daughter.”

This month we have a romantic ballad to test you. The mystery lyrics are

*Although he’s not out there
applauding in the second row*

Can you name that tune? No hint this time - giving you the singer who sang this one would give it away.

Lastly, here’s some big band era numerology:

-Artie Shaw had 8 wives

-Dinah Washington had 8 (or 9) husbands

-Benny Goodman was one of 12 children

-Frank Sinatra had ____ (never mind!)
—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 10, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, May 20

Games

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

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

Golf: Monday, 7:30AM at Lincoln Hills
Thursday, 9:00AM at Springdale

Special Events

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels at the Village Players, Thursday, May 19, 8:00PM

“Go Blue” Campus Tour, Wednesday, June 8, 9:00AM

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, May 4, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, May 16, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, May 9, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, May 10, 2:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, May 11, 2:45PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, May 25, 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 2011 are: John S. Flintosh, president; Charles B. Kirkpatrick, first vice president; David A. Schwartz, second vice president; Dennis J. Kozak, recording secretary; John D. Slocum, corresponding secretary; William L. Sprague, treasurer; Richard E. Shirley, assistant treasurer; David H. Dinger and John F. McCleary, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

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

Senior Men’s Club of Birmingham
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