

Editor: Kenneth Clark

THE REMINDER
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Club of Birmingham, Michigan

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A flower unblown; a book unread;
A tree with fruit unharvested;
A path untrod; a house whose rooms
Lack yet the heart's divine perfumes;
A landscape whose wide border lies
In silent shade 'neath silent skies;
A wondrous fountain yet unsealed;
A basket with its gifts concealed -
This is the Year that for you waits
Beyond tomorrow's mystic gates.

May the roads rise with you
and the wind be always at your
back AND may the Lord hold you in
the hollow of his hand.

Irish Blessing

What we've got to do is to keep
up our spirits, and be neighborly.
We shall come out all right in
the end, never fear.

The New Year
Horation Nelson Powers (1826-1890)

Charles Dickens

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PAST-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In your officers for 1975, you have chosen well. I am sure they'll give us a year we can be proud of. They are an experienced crew. I extend my congratulations to all of them.

If you will pause for a moment and think upon the number of people it takes to make this club a hive of activity, you'll realize that 60 or more men and women are busy at least part of one day a week for eleven months of the year. It is to these I give my profound thanks. These are the hostesses and committee people who are most necessary in making this club a success. My hope for Ross Wagner is people as dedicated as those we had in 1974.

May 1975 be a happy year for all of us!

Murray Kennedy.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is indeed a great honor and privilege to serve as the President of the Birmingham Senior Men's Club, and I accept the responsibility with true humility. This club was originated by a group of men with a vision which developed into an organization which we have come to love and respect. No organization can achieve success without dedicated workers and leaders. The presidents and committee members, who have served you in the past, have evidenced a type of dynamic leadership and enthusiastic service that is a tremendous challenge to those of us who take over the reins for 1975.

The excellent cooperation which I have received in setting up the committees is appreciated and is further evidence of the continuing dedication to the club. The advice and assistance received from the Past Presidents have been greatly appreciated. I want to especially thank Murray Kennedy for his wise counsel and congratulate him for the excellent leadership which he gave us in 1974. Together with the other elected officers and committee members, we pledge to make 1975 a year of accomplishment.

Ross A. Wagner

SPECIAL EVENTS - Clarence W. Kraft

Jan. 14, 1975 - Dinner - \$2.00 Each - 12:15 to 1:00 P.M.
Place - Southeastern Vocational Education Center
5055 Delemere, Royal Oak
(2nd stop light past Coolidge on 14 Mile Rd., R. O. East)
Menu -- Roast Beef - Fish - Salads (a choice) - Vegetable -
Potatoes - Dessert - Coffee, Tea or Milk.
Can take care of 122.

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SUN COAST CHAPTER - Bob Watson

The Annual Meeting of the Sun Coast Chapter of the Senior Men's Club will meet Friday, March 14, 1975, at the Holiday Inn, about 3 miles North of Venice, Florida.

For reservations, contact Burke Bartlett, 710 Golden Beach Blvd., Venice, Florida 33595, or Bob Watson, in Birmingham, before January 15.

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One of the worst jokes heard recently concerns a young couple who went to Florida on a honeymoon. The young bride decided immediately she wanted a pair of alligator shoes. The husband didn't have the resources, but he went to a nearby river and spotted an alligator. He dived in, struggled with the beast for two hours before he dragged him to shore. And you know what? The alligator wasn't even wearing shoes!

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PROGRAMS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1975 - Walter S. Meyers, General Program Chairman

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Speaker and Subject</u>
Jan. 3	Murray Kennedy	R. O. Darling, Catalytic Converters & Fuel Economy, Talk and slides or movies, General Motors Corporation
Jan. 10	Harold Simms	Owen Goodrich, Travel film - Hawaii
Jan. 17	Jim Flack	Watson M. Spoelstra, former star sportswriter, Detroit News. One time President Baseball Writers Association of America. Coordinator of Baseball Chapel of America.
Jan. 24	Clarence Johnson	The Rev. Burt Hosking - "Bangladesch" with slides.
Jan. 31	Vern Bryant	"The Jills of Bloomfield Hills", Choral renditions.
Feb. 7	Jim Flack	The Detroit Concert Band, Inc. - Talk by Dr. Leonard B. Smith, Music Director.
Feb. 14	Jim Flack	Jervis B. McMechan, Bi-Centennial Plans for Birmingham, Chairman Bi-Centennial Committee, and Chairman of The Birmingham Historical Board; Ford Motor Company.

Programs Continued

- Feb. 21 Jim Flack James K. Flack - "Lady With a Torch".
- Feb. 28 Jim Flack George R. Hodgson, Urban Manager, Consumers Power Co., "The Big Dig". Movie - 300 million dollar construction of the Ludington Pumped Storage Generating Plant.

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CAMERA CLUB - Philip C. Satterthwaite, Chairman

The Camera Club program theme for the coming year is to make better photographers of both veterans and beginners alike. We expect to have "HOW TO AND WHY" discussions at every meeting. Also, we want to show pictures our members have taken. These are always subject to constructive criticism which, in itself, helps make better photographers.

Our January meeting, which will be held on the 14th at 2:00 P.M., is at the home of Owen Goodrich, whose address is 6971 Limerick Lane in Troy. We will do some program planning and get organized for our current project as official photographers for the Birmingham Bi-Centennial Committee.

All members should attend this meeting so you can make your desires known. If we do not know what you want, we cannot give it to you. Any newcomers are especially welcome.

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DISCUSSION GROUP PROGRAMS FOR JANUARY 1975 - Bill Wilson, Chairman

- Jan. 3 "Topics of the Week" - Owen Goodrich, leader
- Jan. 10 "55 MPH Speed Limit, Good or Bad?" - Bill Wilson, leader
- Jan. 17 "Canada" - Seward Lawson, leader
- Jan. 24 "The Hunter House" - Jim Flack, leader
- Jan. 31 "Will the U.N. Survive?" - George Roeder, leader

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SENIOR MEN CELEBRATE FIRST BIRTHDAY

The first anniversary meeting of Birmingham's Senior Men's Club was a very inspiring one. President Earl Roy is to be highly complimented on his organizational ability in converting a routine meeting into an anniversary dinner.

Principal speaker of the day was Walter Anderson, who was introduced by Vice-President Henry Wagner. Anderson emphasized the importance of the optimistic view of life after retirement.

The Ladies of the Community House surprised the 50 men present by presentation of a huge Birthday card and individual Birthday cakes.

AMONG THOSE AT the speakers table were Mrs. E. E. Schaffer, Mrs. H. Bickner, of the Community House, Dr. Arnold F. Runkel, First Methodist

Church, Robert Girardin, Director of the Birmingham Recreation Department which co-sponsors the Club with the Community House, and R. S. Gregory.

It was Gregory who petitioned Mrs. Schaffer and brought into life the plan for the club which had long been considered by the Community House.

Entertainment slated for tomorrow's meeting of the club will be a showing of a color film of the first guided missile fired from a battleship.

This article was published in
THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC on
January 23rd, in 1958.

Your Historian
December 18, 1974

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Gentlemen:

Beyond the thoughts which are expressed in this card, we wish to extend to each of you personally our warmest thanks and appreciation for the countless gestures of sympathy rendered to us in the past week by the officers and members of the Senior Men's Club.

While it is apparent that you thought well of our husband and father, let us assure you that the feeling was reciprocal -- his retirement years, in particular, were centered on the activities of your fine organization. He spoke with pride and affection of you, individually and collectively, and was motivated as much by your companionship as his love for pinochle, bowling, shuffleboard, trips to ball games and your many other activities.

For your words and acts of kindness and prayers in our bereavement, as well as your companionship and sharing with Frank before that time, we wish to express these words of appreciation and our wish for your continued success in achieving the goals of your fine organization.

Most sincerely,

Mrs. Illie Rigotti
and Sons

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CARD REPORT

There were 256 Bridge players during the month of December for an average of 85 players per session. The top 10 scores for the month were:

1. Ray Roberts	5260	6. Henry Wholihan	4230
2. Gus Muth	4880	7. Laymon Long	4150
3. George Moughlar	4770	8. Amos Gregory	4120
4. Albert Knowles	4380	9. Howard Walser	3940
5. Lorin Vollmer	4280	10. Larry VanTuyl	3910

The top 5 averages for 3 games played in December were:

1. Gus Muth	3443	3. Bill Renton	3157	5. Elmer Haack	3040
2. Harold McNaughton	3163	4. Ed Norris	3100		

The top Pinochle score was 709 by Frank Drittler.

CARD SUMMARY FOR 1974

There were 43 Bridge sessions held during 1974, with an average attendance of 84.186 players per session. There were 65160 individual hands or 16290 rounds of Bridge played.

The top 10 scores for the year were:

1. Les Wilder	5920	July	6. Bill Pilditch	5520	March
2. Waino Ansama	5900	March	7. Ed Norris	5310	May
3. Bert Brandt	5850	March	8. Bob VanDuzer	5310	October
4. Larry VanTuyt	5660	October	9. Charlie Richards	5290	Sept.
5. John Maddox	5630	January	10. Ray Roberts	5260	Dec.

The top 10 monthly averages were:

1. Ed Smith	3506	March	6. Ed DeJongh	3343	July
2. Waino Ansama	3472	March	7. Charlie Richards	3307	October
3. Joe Schulteis	3447	October	8. John Kinsel	3293	January
4. Gus Muth	3443	December	9. Henry Wholihan	3248	June
5. Gus Muth	3405	June	10. Les Wilder	3245	July

Dan Watts is the only Bridge player with a perfect attendance record for 1974.

The top Pinochle score for the year was 1021 by Bill Michaels in March. Frank Drittler scored 1019 in February.

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SANTA CLAUS ANSWERING SERVICE

Dick Dewey reports a highly successful Santa Claus answering service this year. Our 17 member workers on this community service project made over 1200 children happy. We would have talked to more; however, two days only three phones were working and one day only two. However, two days all four were working, thanks to the telephone repair man.

Response from Birmingham children was not too good for the reason that The Eccentric did not publish the phone number for the children to call. ALL other press releases did.

Many thanks, workers. Santa will be back in 1975.

Happy New Year to all!

Dick Dewey, Chairman
Harold Simms, Co-Chairman

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Overheard - "He's the kind of friend you can depend on - always around when he needs you!"

Growing older is mostly a matter of mind: If you don't mind it, it doesn't matter.

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