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The tents of Autumn - a mighty flower garden, blossoming  
under the spell of the enchanter, frost-----Whittier  
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I hold to my heart when the geese  
are flying ---  
A wavering wedge on the high  
bright blue---  
I tighten my lips to keep from crying:  
"Beautiful birds, let me go with you."

--Wild Geese--Grace Noll--1877  
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Our member, Bill Stockwell, now writes a daily feature for the Detroit News. You can read Bill's capsule column, "Michigan Memo", on the feature page of the News every weekday. It deals with past, present and future items of interest all around the state. Bill was a reporter on the News many years ago, then founded the Stockwell-Marcuse advertising agency now located on Southfield Road. He is also a lawyer.

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Senior Men's Club Picnic

August 2, 1974

The annual Birmingham Senior Men's Club picnic was held on Friday, August 2, 1974, at the Pontiac Yacht Club. Although the weatherman had predicted showers for the day, we did not see any rain. It was a glorious summer day.

On arriving at the portals of the Pontiac Yacht Club, everyone was greeted by our genial host for the day "Sheriff Nottingham Mose" Henshow. He demanded to inspect your driver's license and asked by what right or benefit you expected to gain admission. You were then ordered to park your car in a certain position. You were then on your own.

I guess our arrival was later than expected because the lunch tables were all set in place, the corn was husked and Les Wilder and his crew were busy preparing the food while others were playing bridge or visiting with fellow members.

It was a wonderful sight to see several members with their canes enjoying the outing. A great big thank you to members who brought them out. Also, we were happy to see Harold Kalbfleisch enjoying the day after his bout in the hospital.

Before lunch was ready, a line started to form for the vittles, but they had to wait until Clem Rebb and Larry Hess had strapped their money belts on their torsos. The volunteer kitchen crew, under Les Wilder's direction, did a marvelous job. There was Clarence Kropf burying a hot dog in a bun, Nels Brown and Frank Rigotti smothering the corn with butter, and Jim Greer filling the coffee cups. Tall John King with beard and straw hat helping out where ever the jam occurred. He also helped serve the ice cream and donuts. The potato chips disappeared in a hurry, either the first ones in line took too many or not enough had been ordered. Jim Peerenbroom assumed the responsibility for the corn (and it was good) and Vern Bryant for the ice cream.

Les Wilder picked up the pots, pans, and coffee makers from the Community House, took them to the cook out at Pontiac Yacht Club, took them back to his house, scoured and scrubbed them, and then returned them to the Community House. The Birmingham Senior Men's Club is proud to salute Les Wilder as one of its members. This organization can be successful and prosper only as long as everyone is willing to serve when asked to do so, or volunteer. Truly we have a wonderful organization.

Coyle Fisher brought his banjo with him and he entertained the members during the lunch hour and for a period following lunch. He played mostly popular music of bygone days. Wow - can he fiddle that instrument.

During the early part of the afternoon, the members continued to visit and play bridge. By mid-afternoon, most men started the trek to their respective homes with the satisfaction of a day well spent in the company of fellow club members on the lawn of the Pontiac Yacht Club facing Cass Lake.

Number of men present - 147.

--Gus Muth.

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DISCUSSION GROUP FOR SEPTEMBER - Bill Wilson, Chairman

September 6	"Investment Counselors" - Seward Lawson, Leader
September 13	"No Fault Insurance" - Clarence Kraft, Leader
September 20	"The Erie Canal" - Arno Hulet, Leader
September 27	"Freighter Travel" - Jim Flack, Leader

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Remember the famous "fish" story about the Cape Codder and the advertising man who told him he'd sell a lot more fish if he put up a sign saying "Ocean Fresh Fish -- On Sale Today."

After thinking it over, the Yankee said, "Don't need to say 'Ocean' - bein' right here on the wharf, where else would I get 'em?"

"Might as well make it a mite smaller and take out 'On Sale Today'."

he continued. "'Taint yesterday, and tomorrow ain't here yet. And any damn fool can see they're on sale. Why would I give them away?"

"But," protested the adman, "Now all the sign says is 'Fish'!"

"Ayuh," agreed the oldster. "Comes right to the point, don't it?"

We're taking that advice:

It takes a live fish to swim upstream,  
But any old log can float down stream  
Don't expect others to bear your troubles  
They have their own.

Life isn't all you want,  
But its all you have! so have it.

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The mind of man has no defense  
To equal plain, old common sense.  
This homely virtue don't despise  
If you would be happy as well as wise.

-Harry Fromm  
(not his original)

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PROGRAMS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1974 - James K. Flack, General Program Chairman

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Speaker and Subject</u>
<u>Sept. 6</u>	Chet Stokes	"Building of Houston Astrodome" William R. Betcher, Jr., Contracting Mgr., American Bridge Div., U.S. Steel Corp.
<u>Sept. 10</u> (Tuesday)	" "	To be announced
<u>Sept. 20</u>	" "	"Eaton Corporation" - William T. Diebel, Gen. Mgr. Brake Div., Eaton Corporation.
<u>Sept. 27</u>	" "	"Updating Standard Oil" - Paul Warburton, District Mgr.

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"Dick Dewey"  
(Contributed article by two members -  
from the Michigan Legionnaire.)

R. H. "Dick" Dewey recently celebrated his 82nd birthday and has been a member of the American Legion for 56 years.

Of those 56 years spent as a Legion member, Dewey has devoted 36 years as the Birmingham area Boys' State chairman and has helped to send 452 young men to participate in Wolverine Boys' State.

Yet his greatest desire has not been met: To see a boy from his area go to Boys' Nation.

However, Dewey has seen some of his boys elected to the top offices at Boys' State, and described those times as being among the highlights of his participation in the program.

Dewey has been involved with Boys' State since the program's inception in 1938. Besides serving as area chairman, he also served as District Chairman for several years.

Along with his involvement in Boys' State, Dewey has also served his Birmingham Post 14 as adjutant, commander and historian, and served the 17th District as finance officer and chaplain.

He served with the U.S. Navy in 1918, and spent four years in the reserves.

He has also served on the Birmingham Historical Board and on many city service drives.

Dewey retired from the Chrysler Corp. in 1959 after working there for 16 years, and presently arranges travel tours for senior citizens.

He recently wrote, in a letter to a friend, that "Wolverine Boys' State is a wonderful youth program and I am proud to have contributed to it."

"Dick" Dewey, you're a wonderful man, and the Legion is proud to have one as devoted as you as a member.

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One of our friends, who has a liking for strong drink, went to his doctor for relief from a persistent pain. His doctor said, "I can't find your problem - must be due to drinking." In that case, Doctor, I'll come back when you're sober."

The passing years make Junior ponder why Dad gets gray and Mom gets blonder.

Then there was the man who bought a copy of Ernest Hemingway's, "Across the River and Into the Trees," but returned next day and demanded his money back. He thought it was a book on golf.

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There once was a family named Stein --  
There was Gert  
There was Ep  
There was Ein

Gert's prose was bunk  
Ep's sculpture was junk  
And no one could understand Ein ...

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Our Club has aided The Community House Fund Drive in the extent that we have raised \$9,000....or 25% of the total raised. Actual donation by the Club amounts to \$6,600. Bob Watson.

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