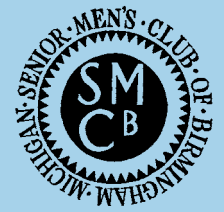


The Reminder

September 2009

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



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- 7 A Day at the Races



Stu Shuster- Train Enthusiast

SMC members continue to receive awards and recognition from local organizations for contributions to our community. Most recently, Associate Member Stu Shuster was recognized by the Birmingham Planning Board for designing attractive logos for the Rail District and the Triangle District. These logos will serve to identify and draw attention to these newly designated Birmingham locales.

As Janelle Boyce of the Planning Board noted, "Stu really knows trains and designs." He has had a lengthy career in industrial design, including many years with GM. Stu says he has had a life long interest in trains, and maintains an elaborate layout in his home which has been featured in national train publications.

Congratulations Stu - another club member giving back to the community!



—Dick Harper

SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER CHAIRMAN: Marty Gabriel

- 4 G. Mustafa Mohatarem, Ph.D., Chief Economist, General Motors..... *Can All The King's Men Put Humpty Back Together Again?*
- 11 Robert A. Bury, Executive Director, Detroit Historical Society..... *History and Future Plans of the Detroit Historical Society*
- 18 William A. Smith, Executive Director, Government Relations & Business Development, American Axle Manufacturing..... *Getting Started in China*
- 25 Gregory Edwards, Managing Director-Marketing, Virginia Port Authority..... *Global Briefing from the Virginia Port Authority*

OCTOBER PROGRAMS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Roger Garvelink

- 2 Matthew Ball, Pianist *The Boogie Woogie Kid*

SEPTEMBER DISCUSSIONS

SEPTEMBER CHAIRMAN: Bob Gualdoni

- 4 Rob Hilliard, Midwest Sliders, President & Director of Team Personnel..... *New Baseball League and The Oakland Cruisers*
- 11 Mark Anderson, UBS, Senior VP Financial Services..... *New Rules for Roth IRA's*
- 18 Terry Pomfret, Johnson Controls, Director of Technical Training..... *Improve Your Thinking Skills*
- 25 Thomas Liddy, President, Society of Automotive Analysts..... *Trends in the U.S. Auto Industry*

OCTOBER DISCUSSIONS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Mike Nigro

- 2 Augustine Perrotta, D.O., SMC Member *The Importance of Vitamin D for You*



New Members:

Stanley M. Rogell
425 Royal Avenue
Royal Oak, MI 48073-2538
248-585-3383
E-mail: Rogellro@aol.com
Sponsor: Ted Chapekis



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248-258-5481
E-mail: Steve@sehallco.com
Sponsor: Pete Kass



David H. Bailey
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Sponsor: John Reddy



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Sponsor: Jaap Delevie



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Sponsor: Chuck Kirkpatrick

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248-644-6963
E-mail: b.rowbottom@yahoo.com
Sponsor: Robert F. Smith

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Birmingham, MI 48009-6645
248-594-8126, E-mail: Lester01@aol.com
Sponsor: Pete Kass

Raymond L. Finocchio (Gloria)
1773 Stanley Blvd.
Birmingham, MI 48009-1953
248-203-6635
E-mail: fino5592@sbcglobal.net
Sponsor: John C. Marsh

Deaths:

David R. Schneider, joined March 2008
William M. MacLachlan (Life), joined March 1985
Frank A. Reid, joined September 2005
Richard G. Porter, joined May 2001
Mont R. Wickham, joined June 2007

Resigned:

Associate **Kenneth C. Davis**

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Stratford in October

Join us on Wednesday, October 14, 2009 for our annual pilgrimage to the Stratford Music Festival to see the smash hit musical, "West Side Story." You may have seen the movie version; now experience a spectacular stage production.

"West Side Story" is a 20th century retelling of Romeo and Juliet. Two rival gangs, the Jets and the Sharks, wage a turf war in the streets of New York City. But when Tony of the Jets falls in love with Maria, the sister of the leader of the Sharks, tensions escalate toward a shocking finale. Premiered in 1957, West Side Story with its explosive dance numbers and unforgettable lyrics remains one of the most emotionally embracing musicals of all time.

Expect a quick sellout to this event. Friends who have seen the play rate it outstanding. A full but memorable day has been arranged.

- We will depart the First Presbyterian Church parking lot at 8:15AM via luxury coach. The early start is due to road construction projects along our route.
- Lunch will be at the Stratford Country Club. The lunch will be buffet style with two warm entries and plenty of desserts. A cash bar is available.
- "West Side Story" will begin at 2:00PM at the Stratford Festival Theatre. You will have ample time prior to the show to browse the theatre gift shop.
- Following the play, we will make a quick stop at the Stratford Rheo Thompson Candy Shop. A snack will be served on the return trip. We should arrive back home about 8:30PM.

The price for this special event is \$100. This is the same price as last year, thanks to deflation of the Canadian dollar. This price includes transportation, lunch, the play and all gratuities. This event is limited to 56 members, associates and spouses. Tickets will go on sale at 9:00AM on Friday, September 25. Early birds will get a line number at about 8:45AM. A limit of two tickets per member/associate will be the rule.

Please note: U.S. Immigration Law now requires visitors to Canada have a valid passport or Enhanced Drivers License. Conventional licenses are not acceptable ID. To ensure we do not jeopardize our crossing, we will check ID prior to boarding the bus.

—Bob Gualdoni, Riggs Miller and Tom Clapp, Co-Chairs

Endowment Fund

Fund contributions now total \$77,108. Plan to make a contribution and help achieve \$100,000 by year end.

—George Miller

Edsel Ford Committed to Detroit Regional Success

Edsel B. Ford II addressed the Senior Men's Club on July 17, 2009. With him was Kathleen Owsley, Director of the organization One D, a collaboration of six regional civic organizations formed to work on Detroit regional revitalization.

Mr. Ford, who chairs One D, identified five areas in which One D is working to make progress. The five areas are economic prosperity, educational preparedness, race relations, regional transit, and quality of life. One D is launching a website that includes a regional scorecard comparing Southeast Michigan to other regions and, in some cases, Michigan to other states. The scorecard was introduced in May at the Mackinac Policy Conference, and its more than 75 metrics include data on poverty and per capita income, home ownership, college-educated population, registered voters, distribution of arts and cultural organizations by geographic area, and average miles driven to work.

One D's mission is to keep the focus of Southeast Michigan on regional challenges and progress and to encourage collaboration and action toward change. One D's regional scorecard makes comparisons to other metropolitan areas; its collections of information on area programs, events and initiatives show progress against the five areas; and its key learning group- and regional-update meetings increase participation and awareness of important initiatives in Southeast Michigan.

Edsel, the only son of Henry Ford II and a great-grandson of Ford Motor Company founder Henry Ford, had a 25-year career at Ford Motor Company from 1974 through 1999, holding a variety of increasingly responsible positions. He was named president and chief operating officer of Ford Motor Credit Company in May 1991 and elected a company vice president in December 1993. He is a member of Ford's Board of Directors and, as a consultant to the company, is active in company affairs and corporate dealer relations.

—Chuck Kirkpatrick



Groups



Classic Movie Group

"Knut Rockne, All American" (1940) remains one of the screen's best and most inspirational sports biographies.

The movie traces the life of, perhaps, the most famous of all football coaches at Notre Dame. Starring Pat O'Brien who was able to mimic Rockne's staccato speech style perfectly, this was O'Brien's defining role and personal favorite. The role of George "The Gipper" Gipp, one of the outstanding players who Rockne nurtured, was played by Ronald Reagan which gave him his nickname and political slogan. Gipp, who died of pneumonia following a "strep throat" infection at age 25, gave the film its famous line: "Some day when things are tough, maybe you can ask the boys to go in there and win one for the Gipper." Peppered with newsreel clips, the film portrays sportsmanship, emphasis on teamwork, determination to win and a coach's wholesome influence on this uniquely American sport. Join us Monday, September 14 at 1:00PM in the Hackett Room to enjoy this sports classic.



—Augie Perrotta



Computer Group

Mr. John Wigman will be our speaker at the September 16 Computer Group meeting. "Windows 7," the soon to be released Operating System by Microsoft, has been receiving some good and some not so good comments. John Wigman will give you his opinion of this major Microsoft product. John will also do his superb job of answering your computer questions.

Come to the Computer Group meeting on Wednesday, September 16 at 3:00PM and don't forget to bring a friend.

—George Nordenholt



Investment Group

On Wednesday, September 9 at 2:45PM, Jim Williams of Miller Canfield will update us on estate planning and tax opportunities. Estate taxes will change (increase likely) in the next year. We are very fortunate to have Jim speak again, his credentials and experience are impressive.

The Stock Game begins on October 9. Will Ted Chapekis win again? Get your picks ready.

—George Miller



Book Reading Groups

The first Reading Group is on Wednesday, September 2 at 10:30AM. We will be discussing "Next" by Michael Crichton. "Next" blends fact and fiction into a breathless tale of a new world where nothing is what it seems and a set of new possibilities can open at every turn. "Next" challenges our sense of reality and notions of morality, balancing the comic and the bizarre with the genuinely frightening and disturbing. "Next" shatters our assumptions and reveals shocking new choices where we least expect. We live in a time of momentous scientific leaps, a time when it's possible to sell our eggs and sperm online for thousands of dollars and to test our spouses for genetic maladies.

The second Reading Group is on Monday, September 21 at 3:00PM. We will be discussing "Tuxedo Park" by Jennet Conar. This is the untold story of Alfred Lee Loomis, who helped build the atomic bomb and defeat the Nazis. Loomis was the legendary financier, philanthropist, and society figure who gathered the most visionary scientific minds of the twentieth century-Albert Einstein, Enrico Fermi, and others at his state of the art laboratory in Tuxedo Park, New York, in the late 1930's. He established a top-secret defense laboratory at MIT and personally bankrolled pioneering research into new, high-powdered radar detection systems that helped defeat the German Air force and U-boats. He pushed Franklin Delano Roosevelt to fund research in nuclear fission, which led to the development of the atomic bomb.

Drop in. The meetings last about an hour and a half.

—Ted Chapekis



Thursday Golf

The Stonycroft Scramble will be on Tuesday, September 15. Cost is \$35 which includes green fees, continental breakfast, lunch and prizes. Powercarts are available at the Pro Shop. Bring your own walking cart.

Remember that as guests of Stonycroft we are obliged to abide by their rules of dress code and decorum. When operating a powercart, do not run it through sand traps, across tees or attempt to jump wide streams.

The reluctant computer has been repaired and the scrambles winners are known! Flight one winner was the team of Jim Doyle, Joe Schulenberg, Jon Haber and Bob Freeburg with a net score of 16.2. Flight two winner was the team composed of Phil Buccini, Ken Brooker, Tony Smyk and Tony DiMarco with a net score of 16.1. First place split \$80, second \$48 and third \$32.

Low average to date is 39.5 by Kirby Callam followed closely by Jim Doyle at 39.7.

Hit them straight, hit them long, but not often.

—Chuck Travers

Monday Golf

The formal season ended on August 24. The staff at Lincoln Hills has invited us to continue golfing on Mondays, at senior rates payable at the desk until 'the snow flies.' Tee times are available from 7:30-9:30AM and Andy would appreciate a call so that reservations may be confirmed. In addition, Chuck Travers has invited avid golfers to join the SMC stalwarts at Springdale on Thursdays. Individual walk-ons are welcome from daybreak to 10:00AM and they will be fitted into the established schedule on a first come, first served basis.

It has been a great year. THANKS to all. Sixty-three signed up in the spring. We had 29 regulars and (with the energetic walk-ons) we averaged 40 players per scheduled round. The weather was cooperative. It was a bit cooler than usual but we had only one 'washout' and one frost delay. The damp year and outstanding maintenance provided superb playing conditions.

There will be a final report in October when the statistics have been compiled.

—Bill Spreitzer

Monday Bowling

We all know that when Labor Day rolls around, the good old bowling season isn't far behind. Yes, it's that time of the year to put the "sticks" (golf clubs) away and shine up the good old bowling ball. Bowling starts on Monday, September 14, at Thunderbird Lanes on Maple Road, east of Crooks. Starting time for practice is at 9:00AM with scoring commencing at 9:15AM.

The league would like to invite all new members, regardless of how long its been since you've rolled a bowling ball, to come and have a good time with your fellow members. Tentatively there will be 10 teams with 4 members each. Also, an important point, we have subs available, so you don't pay if you don't bowl.

All participants, regulars and subs, receive prize funds back at the end of the season. We gave back \$3,800 dollars at the banquet last year.

Come on out and have a lot of fun. Give me a call at 248-879-1127 or Dennis Kozak at 248-644-8934 and advise us of your willingness to participate. The cost is \$9.00 per week.

—Lionel (Less) Lessenthien

John Ryan Honored

The Blues Senior Advisory Council of Blue Cross Blue Shield makes annual awards to senior citizens for volunteer efforts in our community.



SMC member John Ryan was recently recognized as a finalist for this award for his many years of volunteering with Lighthouse of Oakland County. This is only one of the local groups and agencies that John is active with. Congratulations to John Ryan for epitomizing our club's mission statement of "rendering service."

—Dick Harper

The Southern Gentleman

Ed Chambliss was a Southern Gentleman, a graduate of The Citadel in Charleston, and an engineer with General Motors. (We speak of him in the past tense because he took a leave of absence from the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham and moved to South Carolina five years ago. Charleston is the town where the lady in the tourist office explains the city's allegiance to the Confederacy, saying "We're just waiting for supplies.")

Ed was a friend of Judge John O'Brien, a lawyer, and he told John a story about creation. There were three friends who lunched together frequently. One was an engineer, one a doctor, and one a lawyer. In discussing their professions, they got onto the topic of which was the oldest profession. The doctor, referring to the creation of Eve from Adam's rib, said that this was a medical procedure, so medicine must have been the oldest profession.

The engineer, citing the earlier creation of the earth by bringing order out of chaos, said this was an engineering function, and the oldest profession must have been engineering. At that, the lawyer exploded, "Who do you think created all the chaos?"

That reminded John of a story that he then related to Ed. God had created Adam and placed him in the beautiful Garden of Eden. He stopped by a few days later to see how Adam was doing. Adam said, "Lord, I like it here with the animals, birds and flowers but I'm lonely." The Lord responded, "I could create a woman for you." "What's a woman?" Adam wondered. "A woman is someone who is totally devoted to your care and comfort. She is devoted to serving you. She would be at your beck and call," explained the Lord. Now Adam was interested. "But how much would that cost?" asked Adam. "It would cost you an arm and a leg", said the Lord. Adam pondered a moment and then asked, "What can I get for a rib?" The rest is history.

John thought he should ease up on the women, so he then told Ed, "After God created Adam, he looked at what he had created. Then he decided that he could do better. So he created woman."

—Chuck Kirkpatrick

Words of Wisdom

Taco Bell is not a mexican phone company.

You can listen to AM radio in the PM.

A shirt with the letters TGIF doesn't mean "this goes in front."

Member Support

Two more members have told us we can discontinue regular mailing of *The Reminder* to them. Thanks to Steve Hall and Keith Jones, who recognize that the email version of our publication arrives a week before the mail version and is most attractive in glorious color.

Any more out there? Please tell John Steele of the Database Committee that one copy of *The Reminder* is enough.

Golden Oldie

Member Jack Corey was recently welcomed by Don Cox to the most prestigious segment of our club - the Golden Oldies.



Jack, who has been a club member since 1994, is almost an original Detroiter. He was born in Windsor, but moved

here as a youngster and has been in the area ever since, except for two years in the Army Air Corps.

Jack's life highlights are many, including an engineering degree from the University of Detroit, engineering positions with Giffel and Valent, followed by 26 years with GM, and most importantly, 58 years of marriage and 6 children.

Jack served on the Applicant Committee for many years and continues as one of our better bowlers. Welcome Jack to this elite group!

—Dick Harper

SMC Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee responsible for selecting proposed candidates for SMC officer positions for 2010 has been established.

The committee members include Frank Barnes, Chairman; past presidents Bill Johnson and Phil Werner, plus members Dick Hameister and John Horiszny.

In accordance with our constitution, the nomination and election of officers for 2010 will take place during the first two meetings in November.

"A Day at the Races"

Special Event for September

Thoroughbred racing has returned to our area with the recently completed all-new Pinnacle Race Course, which is located just south of Detroit Metro Airport.

The fun day will be Tuesday, September 22, when our deluxe 56-passenger bus will leave the Birmingham Presbyterian Church parking lot at 11:30AM and motor to the Pinnacle Race Course Pavilion building. There, we will receive some of our "group package" goodies, including a Racing Profile Program, a \$5 Wagering Certificate, plus "101 Beginners Handicapping" information on thoroughbred racing.

By 1:00PM, our group will be seated in the dining room, which overlooks the race track, for a sumptuous "Derby" buffet luncheon. The first race will then be off and running at 2:30PM with subsequent races every half hour. The third race will be extra special, as it will be named after our group. We will also be included in the impressive trophy presentation in the Winner's Circle. Following the 4th race the bus will depart at 5:00PM and head back to our cars in Birmingham.

Tickets will go on sale at The Community House on Friday, September 4 as follows:

8:30AM - Take-a-number

9:00AM - 56 tickets @ \$48 each

Once sold out, we will maintain a stand-by wait list to cover last-minute changes. On Race Day (Tuesday, September 22) attendees may start boarding at 10:45AM with the bus leaving promptly at 11:30AM. See you on the bus!

—Tom Clapp, Jack Howell, Larry Smith and Don Upward

continued from page 2

...Membership News

Email Change:

Charles Basch—cmbasch_70@comcast.net

Robert A. Kennedy—rakkmk@comcast.net

Change of Address:

Paul Metzler

Cherrywood Nursing and Living
2372 15 Mile Rd., Room H201, Sterling Heights, MI 48310
586-283-0057

Stan Fiol

64 Laurel Ave, Apt. #1, Tryon, NC 28782-2773

Paul Geiger

516 5th St., Ann Arbor, MI 48103-4839

Frank Auld

200 Chester St., Apt. 306, Birmingham, MI 48009-1428

Life Member:

John Corey

Larry J. Halloran

Robert A. Benton (LOA)

William H. Peirce

Robert A. Pullar

Phone Number Change:

James Crabb—206-524-3310

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman

—John M. Steele, Database Chairman

—Bill Shaffmaster and Tom Booth, Photography

SMC 2010 Dues Coupon

2009 Dues are payable before January 1, 2010. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2010. 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:

- \$35 Active Member
- \$35 Associate Member
- \$15 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.

Dress Code

First Vice President Irv Poston, serving as presiding officer at our last meeting in July before the break, announced that the club's modified dress code will be in effect starting at September meetings.

While ties continue as our preferred dress style, the modified code allows a sport coat with a turtleneck, mock turtleneck, collared sport shirt, or dress shirt.

Mystery Lyrics

Well, we almost 'stumped the panel' with the mystery lyrics and the big band theme challenge for July. Only one reader - Clay Gordon (who gets them all) recognized that these lyric lines:

*Now it catches the gleam of
the morning's first beam
In full glory reflected,
now shines on the stream*

are from the second verse of a tune you may have heard - "The Star Spangled Banner." (Of course, we couldn't give you these lyrics *Oh, say can you see!*)

Clay and Sherwin Vine were our only readers to remember that Glen Gray's theme song was "Smoke Rings."

Maybe this month's mystery lyrics will be better recognized:

*Where have you gone, Joe DiMaggio
A nation turns its lonely eyes to you*

Can you name that tune? Note, it has nothing to do with baseball.

Now here is an easy theme song challenge. Bob Hope signed off his radio and TV shows with this signature song, often played by Les Brown. Do you remember?

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 15, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, September 18

Games

Bowling: Monday, 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes (beg. Sept. 14)

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

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

Golf: Thursday, 9:00AM at Springdale

Special Events

A Day at the Races, Tuesday, September 22, 11:30AM

Stratford in October, Wednesday, October 14, 8:15AM

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, September 2, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, September 21, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, September 14, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, September 8, 2:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, September 9, 2:45PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, September 16, 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 2009 are: Bob Pullar, president; Irv Poston, first vice president; John Flintosh, second vice president; Chuck Kirkpatrick, recording secretary; Dave Schwartz, corresponding secretary; Bill Sprague, treasurer; Richard Shirley, assistant treasurer; Dennis Kozak and Walter Schrifft, 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
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www.communityhouse.com



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