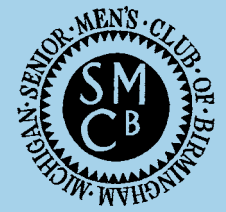


# The Reminder



November 2013

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

## Inside

- 2 Membership News
- 3 Games
- 4 Life Member
- 5 Groups
- 6 Special Events
- 7 Dues Coupon
- 8 Mystery Lyrics & Sports Trivia



## Mike Albright: The Man Behind the Music

For many members of the Senior Men's Club, a highlight of the Friday meetings is a rousing rendition of a patriotic song such as the "National Anthem" or "America the Beautiful." The man behind the music on most Fridays is Mike Albright, a member since 2010 and a multi-talented musician.



In addition to his musical skills, Mike has held a number of other leadership positions in the Club including: Program Chairman, Discussion Group Chairman, and Master of Ceremonies Chairman. He is especially interested in devising approaches to high-profile prospective speakers. Mike credits John Reddy with helping him get started on seeking out high-profile speaker candidates.

Mike was born and grew up in Indiana, the youngest of three brothers, all of whom attended Indiana University. Like most high school boys in the Hoosier State, Mike played varsity basketball including participating in the annual statewide tournament.

After graduating with a B.A. degree in Economics in 1962, Mike served a ROTC commission in the Army Intelligence Corps. Subsequent assignments took him to stations in the U.S. and Germany, and he attained the rank of captain prior to going on inactive status in 1967.

*continued on page 4...*

## NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Bill Rolf

- 1 Kerry Bentivolio, Congressman..... *Washington Update*
- 8 Susan Tompor, Columnist, Detroit Free Press ..... *Senior Alert: Scams and Shams*
- 15 NO MEETING
- 22 Dr. David Cole, Chairman, Auto Harvest..... *The Auto Future, Fast and Furious*
- 29 NO MEETING

## DECEMBER PROGRAMS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: Art Pope

- 6 Dr. Charles Hyde, Professor, Wayne State University ..... *Untold Stories From the Arsenal of Democracy*
- 13 Honors Choir, Greenfield School..... *Seasonal Music*

## NOVEMBER DISCUSSIONS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Riggs Miller

- 1 Art Pope, SMC Member..... *Revisiting the Al-Can Highway*
- 8 Dick Harper, SMC Member..... *Birth of the Chrysler Mini Van*
- 15 NO MEETING
- 22 Tom Booth and Riggs Miller, SMC Members..... *A Pathway to the Seas: Transiting the Panama Canal*
- 29 NO MEETING

## DECEMBER DISCUSSIONS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: John Reddy

- 6 TBA

## New Associates:

**Carl S. Shullman**  
815 Puritan  
Birmingham, MI 48009-4636  
248-540-3054  
E-mail: csshullman@gmail.com  
Sponsor: A. Robert Stevenson

**Arthur Buczkowski**  
18485 Dolores Ave.  
Lathrup Village, MI 48076-2601  
248-559-4275  
E-mail: abuczkow@aol.com  
Sponsor: George Ritter

**Glenn B. Carpenter**  
655 Hawthorne  
Birmingham, MI 48009-1650  
248-646-0384  
E-mail: joanglenn carp@gmail.com  
Sponsor: Richard Halsted

**Kenneth F. Madigan**  
7426 Deep Run, Apt. 1313  
Bloomfield, MI 48301  
248-797-5720  
E-mail: bobmadigan2@gmail.com  
Sponsor: A. M. Clement

**Michael T. Monahan**  
931 West Harsdale  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302  
248-593-5621  
E-mail: mtm@monahanenterprises.com  
Sponsor: Lynn Evans

**Steve J. Stoltz**  
5320 N. Meadow Ct.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-9471  
734-699-5525  
E-mail: w8vey@hotmail.com  
Sponsor: Ben Mangiapane

**Joel S. Adelman**  
1060 N. Glenhurst Dr.  
Birmingham, MI 48009-1112  
248-540-0681  
E-mail: jsaww2@comcast.net  
Sponsor: Frederick Hansz

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman  
—Robert Beach, Database Chairman  
—Bill Shaffmaster, Tom Booth  
& Gene Markel, Photography

## New Member:



**Robert E. Veres**  
16688 Dunswood  
Northville, MI 48168-2312  
248-345-7271  
E-mail: psufan44@aol.com  
Sponsor: George Miller

## To Life Member:

**Jack H. Cvengros**

**Roger T. Struck**

## Resigned:

**John R. Ballantyne**

## Deaths:

**William A. Meade**, joined May 2013

## November Chuckles

### Mysteries

- "Why did kamikaze pilots wear helmets?"
- "How is it that the idiot who married your daughter could be the father of the world's smartest grandchildren?"

### From the Church Bulletin

- The sermon this morning "Jesus walks on water." Tonight's sermon "Searching for Jesus."
- Barbara is in the hospital and is having trouble sleeping - she is asking for copies of our pastor's sermons.
- The third verse of Blessed Assurance will be sung without musical accomplishment.

### Doctor/Lawyer

One of our member doctors reports that he recently complained to a lawyer friend that quite often in social gatherings, someone would ask him for some medical advice. He asked if the lawyer thought he should bill them.

The lawyer replied "Certainly - that will be \$100."



# Games



## Thursday Golf

Our last day of Thursday Golf was October 10 as Springdale Golf Course closed for the season on October 18.

The 2013 season ended with slightly over 800 golf rounds played. This was down 30-40% from previous seasons due to the inclement weather patterns picking on Thursdays as their favorite day to rain. April was so cold and rainy that only 10 rounds were recorded. Perhaps the inclement weather was due to the Committee's suspension of its incantations to the weather goddesses. Upwards of 140 rounds were played during April in previous years. Also the Committee suspects some golfers chose the artery clogging sport of couch lounging in lieu of the challenge of competitive golf.



Congratulations for fine performances to our leaders in gross averages for the season: Perry Driggs led all golfers with a season average of 37.4. He also had the low round for the year - 32. Perry was followed by Tim McGee - 38.3; Bob Hinytzke - 40.5; and Kirby Callam at 40.7.

The annual Golf Banquet was held at The Community House on Tuesday, October 22. Over 50 senior golfers gathered together for fellowship, good food, and swapping golf stories. (AKA tall tales and some downright fibs).

The highlight of the evening was the raffle for over \$3,000 in prizes. Golfers who played the minimum number of rounds at Springdale and Lincoln Hills earned two raffle tickets.

Winter Golf at the Oakland Yard Dome will begin on Thursday, January 2. Time and cost will be announced in November.

—The Golf Committee

## NOVEMBER



## Bowling

After seven weeks of bowling, a clear leading team has emerged - Team #1 (Chuck Ragains, Les Lessenthein, Bob Jordan and Phil Owen) have an early but significant lead in the standings. Of course there is lots of bowling ahead and opportunities for other teams to move up.



Scoring continues to be relatively low as we are finding the conditions challenging (or are we getting older?). Bob Beach and Rich Volpe share high game honors at 213, while Denny Winowiecki has the high series at 547. Obviously these scores are not that high - we expect bigger and better individual totals. And we also continue to look for new bowlers to join our league - we have openings and you won't be embarrassed by low scoring - we have six bowlers who average less than 110. Call Tom Venier (248-642-2386) for info or just show up at Thunderbird Lanes on Maple Monday or Wednesday (practice) at 9:00AM.

—Dick Harper

## New Club Activities

Chairman Jim Bayson of the Improvement Committee recently initiated efforts directed toward identifying potential new Club activities. Members were asked to indicate possible interest in:



- Genealogy - sharing information on sources and approaches
- Wine Tasting - organized visits and lectures
- Tennis - scheduled playing
- Games - new card games, Scrabble, chess, etc.
- Fantasy Sports - football, NCAA basketball
- Music Appreciation - common interests, organized playing
- Vintage Cars - sharing experiences

To date, genealogy, wine tasting and vintage cars have produced the most positive responses. Jim is looking to hear from more members with interest, questions or suggestions at [JamesBaysonCPA@aol.com](mailto:JamesBaysonCPA@aol.com) or 248-681-4672.

—Dick Harper

## Life Member: Roger Struck

A Club member since 1993, Roger was born in Moline, Illinois, and graduated from Moline High School. He attended Northwestern University, receiving a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1951.

He served in the U.S. Naval Reserve during 1951-55 as an Ordinance Officer in Washington D.C. and at the Crane Ammunition Depot in Indiana. He then attended the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, earning an MBA in 1956.

Roger then joined Chrysler Corporation where he held a variety of engineering positions, including Product Manager for the Dodge Charger and Challenger models and Manager of Advanced Product Planning. He retired in 1987.

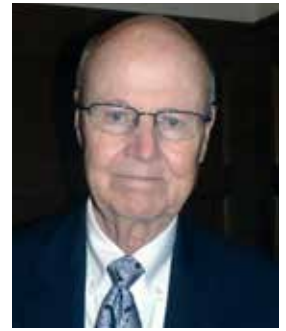
Roger has been married to Sally for 55 years. They have two children and four grandchildren. He now has mixed football rooting interests, since he has two grandchildren in the University of Michigan Marching Band.

He and Sally are members of the First Presbyterian Church where Roger serves as Elder and Deacon.

With our club, Roger has served on the Special Events Committee for 20 years and as Officer at Large and monthly Program Chairman. He also volunteers with St. Joseph's Hospital.

Welcome to this prestigious group, Roger!

—John Steele



*Charlie Blank sporting his SMC "Men on the Go" logo-wear on a recent trip to Alaska*

## Mike Albright

*...continued from page 1*

Mike returned to Indiana University where he completed his MBA in 1969. He then entered the corporate world as a financial analyst at Ford Tractor. From there he moved on to the Hudson's Department Stores and then Kelly Services. He retired from Kelly Services in 2009 as Director of Forecasting and Analysis.

Mike lives in Birmingham with his wife Jan, a retired vocal music teacher. They have four grandchildren whose ages range from 4-12 years. Mike and Jan are members of the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham, where they are active members of the Chancel Choir.

—Chuck Ragains

## SMC Website

At the request of the Executive Board, the Webpage Committee, chaired by John Paesano, is undertaking a website development project.

The intention is to have an online club access vehicle that will be of instant benefit to our active membership. It will contain all club information of interest, and also serve as a point of access for potential club members for their information and potential application process.

Development of this website will eventually allow for "one-stop shopping" for both current and potential members. This project is being spearheaded by John Paesano and Frank Gordon. Any suggestions or comments will be much appreciated.

—John Paesano



## Senior Health Matters: Online Tests for Alzheimers

A growing number of older adults are seeking to self-diagnose online. The Web can be helpful in empowering patients and their families, but should not be a substitute for professional assessment.

At the 2013 Alzheimer's Association International Conference, a multidisciplinary scientific panel reported that 12/16 online tests for Alzheimer disease failed on measures of scientific validity and reliability. All 16 scored poor or very poor on ethical factors.

These pseudoscientific "tests" have the potential to harm a vulnerable population and negatively impact their health. Please be cautious.

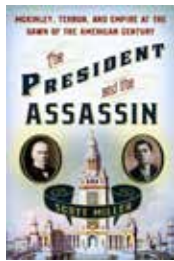
—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO

# Groups



## Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, November 6 at 10:30AM, we will discuss "The President and the Assassin" by Scott Miller. In 1901, as America tallied its gains from a period of expansion, an assassin's bullet shattered the nation's confidence. The shocking murder of President William McKinley threw into stark relief the emerging new world order of what would come to be known as the American Century. This is the story of the momentous years leading up to that event, and of the very different paths that brought together two of the most compelling figures of the era: President William McKinley and Leon Czolgosz, who murdered him. With a deft narrative hand, journalist Scott Miller chronicles how these two men collided in violence at the 1901 Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York.



On Monday, November 18 at 3:00PM, we will discuss "Decision Points," a memoir by former U.S. President George W. Bush. It was released on November 9, 2010, and the release was accompanied by national television appearances and a national tour. The book surpassed sales of two million copies in less than two months. Bush, smartly dividing the book into themes rather than telling the story chronologically, offers readers a genuine look at his thought processes as he made huge decisions that will affect the nation and the world for decades. Many will ridicule his thinking and bemoan those decisions, but being George Bush, he won't really care.

—Ted Chapekis



## Computer Group

The Computer Group will meet on Wednesday, November 20, at 3:00PM. The guest speaker will be Jason Thomas from Micro Center. In June, Jason gave an overview of the features of the Windows 8 operating system. He will next discuss and demonstrate the features and improvements with Windows 8.1 that were just released in October. There will be ample time for questions at this meeting. Everyone is welcome.

—Ron Denton



## Classic Movie Group

"Paths of Glory" is Dick Kamp's selection for the Classic Movie that will be shown on Monday, November 11, at 1:00PM. The 1957 anti-war film, directed by Stanley Kubrick, stars Kirk Douglas as the commanding officer of French soldiers who refused to continue a suicidal attack. The plot attempts to show the futility and irony of the war in the trenches during WW I. This film was banned in France, Germany and Spain. See what you think about it.



—Augie Perrotta



## Camera Group

The Camera Group will meet on Tuesday, November 12, at 2:00PM and enjoy a presentation by Chuck Green on his "Southeast Alaska Adventures." Chuck has made six trips since 1995 to the Island Chain (also known as the Aleutian Islands) that makes up part of Southeast Alaska. He and his guide moved from bay to bay by a 50 foot boat to hunt both brown and black bear, fish, hike and take photographs. This is no cruise ship float; it's boots on the ground. You will also enjoy his award winning photos.

—John Slocum



## Investment Group

On Wednesday, November 13, at 2:45PM, John Abbott, owner and Master Gemologist Appraiser, Abbot's Corporation, will speak. Abbott's Coins and Jewelry is located on Woodward south of Lincoln. John will discuss the outlook for gold, silver, coins and jewelry. If the dollar continues to weaken due to federal debt and other fiscal issues, most financial advisors recommend that investors have some hard assets.

The first Stock Game status report will be available at the meeting. The game has 69 entries, ten more than last year.

—George Miller

# Special Events

## November Event is Really Special

The Special Events Committee is proud to announce that the November special event will be a benefit performance by the Village Players of the smash hit musical "COMPANY." The famous Broadway and TV star, Elaine Stritch will be making an appearance as our special guest at the show. If you don't know of Elaine Stritch--ask your wife.



We are co-sponsoring this event with the Birmingham Historical Museum and Parks organization. The Senior Men's Club benefit recipient will be The Community House. The special benefit performance is on Sunday, November 3 at 2:00PM. Tickets are only \$25 each and include an afterglow catered by the generosity of Peabody's. This will give us a chance to mingle with the cast.

Two worthwhile causes, a great Stephen Sondheim musical hit and Elaine Stritch, too, - has to be a real winning combination! All seats are reserved.

—Roger Struck

## January 16 – Save the Date! Detroit Auto Show



Mark your calendars now for the SMC's annual trip to the Detroit Auto Show at Cobo Hall on Thursday, January 16, 2014. This year's show should be an exciting one,

with the latest production models from automakers around the world and many special show cars as well. We hope to have two buses this year, as demand has grown and spouses are invited. Ticket sales will begin in December. Check the December *Reminder* for more details about this popular event.

—Jim King

## Christmas Dinner Dance

Wednesday, December 4 is the date of this year's Senior Men's Club Christmas Dinner Dance, which will be held once again at the San Marino Club in Troy, located on the north side of Big Beaver Road between Rochester and John R.



Roads. Our evening will begin with a social reception at 6:00PM with snacks, punch, and a cash bar. We will be seated at 6:45PM for announcements and introductions, followed by dinner at 7:00PM.

Tickets are priced at \$45 per person. They will go on sale at the Special Events table beginning at 9:00AM on Friday, October 25, continuing at each Friday SMC meeting through November 22. Last minute ticket sales (after November 22) may be arranged by contacting Tony DiMarco at 248-643-7368.

Once again we are opening the event to include non-members, so please consider inviting friends or neighbors to join us at this festive event. Tables will accommodate eight persons. Table reservation forms are available at the Special Events sale table for those who wish to sit with friends. We ask that those groups reserving tables please designate one person to collect the ticket fees and make payment. Singles and individual couples are welcome as well; we will arrange seating for those who do not make up a group of eight.

The dinner menu will include stracciatella soup, a mixed green salad, and your choice of dinner entrée: tenderloin of beef with mushrooms, chicken parmigiana with mozzarella cheese, or baked orange roughly with lemon garnish; along with side dishes of green beans and St. Anne potatoes. Dinner will conclude with a raspberry sundae dessert. A cash bar will be available throughout the evening, with cocktails/wine at \$5, beer at \$1, and free soft drinks. "The Pros" dance band will entertain us again this year, playing nostalgic and seasonal favorites for your listening and dancing pleasure.

This is one of our most popular and successful SMC events, so please save the date and make your reservation plans early!

—Jim King

## SMC Officer Election

The SMC Nominating Committee has selected candidates for Club officer positions for 2014. In accordance with our constitution, these candidate names will be posted on the Club bulletin board and announced to the membership at our meeting on November 1.

The formal election will be held on November 8, led by President Stu Shuster. At that time, an opportunity for nominations from the floor will be provided.

—Dick Harper



## It's Time to Fall Back!



It's finally time to reclaim that hour of sleep you lost last spring.

Most of the country will turn back the clocks on Sunday, November 3 for the annual shift back to standard time. The majority of folks will do the switch before hitting the sack Saturday night, even though the

change doesn't become official until 2:00AM Sunday local time.

Residents of Hawaii, most of Arizona and some U.S. territories don't have to change since they do not observe daylight-saving time. Public safety officials say this is also a good time to put a new battery in the smoke alarm, no matter where you live. Daylight saving time returns the second Sunday in March (Sunday, March 9 2014).

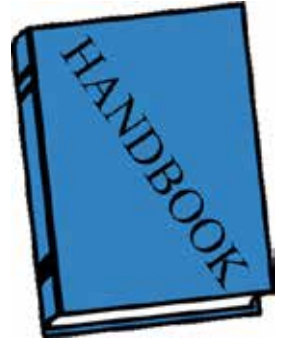
## Handbook Update

The 2014 SMC Handbook will be printed in December for January distribution. This update will incorporate any changes in member information submitted through November 30, although earlier submissions would be much appreciated.

Members should verify that all handbook information (permanent address, telephone and e-mail) is current, with any necessary changes submitted to Database Committee Chairman Bob Beach. Any pending changes effective by January 1, 2014 should be included.

All Committee Chairmen are asked to submit 2014 Committee rosters to Handbook Committee Chairman, Bob Beach, as soon as possible, again with the November 30 deadline. Perhaps more importantly, members are encouraged to join Club working committees which can always use additional help.

—Bob Beach and John Zarek



## Dues Are Due

Treasurer Jim Bayson reports that member dues payments are running behind the pace of last year. Dues can be paid at any Friday meeting or by mail using the coupon on this page. Checks dated prior to January 1, 2014 will be considered on time payments. After that date, dues are late and subject to a \$10 late fee.

## SMC 2014 Dues Coupon

2014 dues are payable before January 1, 2014. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2014. Make checks payable to SMC and pay at a 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:

- \$40 Active Member
- \$40 Associate Member
- \$0 Life Member\*

*\*Life Members pay no dues, but many use the coupon to make a voluntary contribution for financial support of our Club.*

## Mystery Lyrics



Once again the mystery lyrics presented last month proved to be very challenging. We asked readers to identify the song with this opening line:

*I hear music when I touch your hand*

We received six correct answers - respondents who really know their music - so hearty congratulations to Judy (Ben) Ewing, Jeanne (Merrill) Miller, Mary (John) Slocum, Stan Rogell, Tom McNally, and Clay Gordon who knew that the tune is "The Song Is You." The ladies seem to remember romantic ballads.

This month, we have a different memory test for you. In the wartime song, who received a "Production E?"

Hint - she was "as proud as a girl can be." Did we give it away?

## Sports Trivia

The nicknames of old time famous ball players are proving to be more difficult than imagined. Last month we asked if you could remember the nicknames of three stars of the past - here they are with their nicknames:



- Walter Johnson - "The Big Train"
- Lou Gehrig - "The Iron Horse"
- Enos Slaughter - "Country"

Only Pete Kass, Tom McNally, Clay Gordon, and Lynn Evans got all three. Pete Good and Stan Rogell got Johnson and Slaughter, but not the "Iron Horse." Let's try this one more time. Do you remember these players nicknames?

- Leo Durocher
- Charley Gehringer
- Nolan Ryan

—Dick Harper

## THE REMINDER

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

Officers for 2013 are: Stuart B. Shuster, president; John M. Steele, first vice president; George L. Stern, second vice president; Eugene P. Jacoby, recording secretary; Richard A. Kamp, corresponding secretary; James E. Bayson, treasurer; Richard E. Shirley, assistant treasurer; David A. Schwartz and Clifford O. Bath, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor; Chuck Ragains John Reddy, and John Flintosh, associate editors; Tom Booth, Bill Shaffmaster, and Geno Markel, photography; Mary Kennedy, computer layout; Bob Jordan, mailing.

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham  
380 South Bates St., Birmingham, MI 48009  
[www.tchserves.org](http://www.tchserves.org)

FIRST CLASS  
US POSTAGE PAID  
BIRMINGHAM, MI  
PERMIT NO. 142

*Address Service Requested*

## CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

**Executive Board Meeting:** Tuesday, November 12, 9:30AM

**Reminder Deadline:** Friday, November 15

### Games

**Bowling:** Monday, 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes

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

**Thursday Golf:** 9:30AM at Oakland Yard Dome, starting January 2, 2014

### Special Events

**"Company"** at Village Players, Sunday, November 3, 2:00PM

**Christmas Dinner Dance,** Wednesday, December 4, 6:45PM

### Group Meetings

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

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

**Classic Movie Group:** Monday, November 11, 1:00PM

**Camera Group:** Tuesday, November 12, 2:00PM

**Investment Group:** Wednesday, November 13, 2:45PM

**Computer Group:** Wednesday, November 20, 3:00PM

*All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.*

### SMC on the Web:

<http://www.tchserves.org/subpage/senior-mens-club>

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