

# The Reminder

November 2017

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



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## Gene Markel: A Career That Spans 30 Years

Gene Markel has been one of the most active and imaginative members of the SMC since joining in 2010. His many contributions include:

- currently chairing the Audio Visual Committee
- served as Chairman of the Guest Committee for many years – making many significant procedural improvements
- regularly participating in Discussion Group sessions
- researched and presented many Moments of Interest subjects
- ongoing efforts to solve Friday visual presentation problems
- keeping his camera ready to back up Tom Booth for Friday photography
- challenging the Board of Directors with innovative thinking about Club activities and problems



Gene was born in Denver, Colorado where he attended Regis College and studied engineering. At the same time, he worked in his father's Rambler Dealership.

In the summer of 1963, Gene was drafted into the United States Army. After Airborne School, Gene was sent to Mainz, Germany to serve with the 8<sup>th</sup> infantry in the 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment. After leaving the Army, he returned to his old job at Federal Mogul.

In 1968, he married Ethel Marie Fox in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Later that same year, he was hired by General Motors, into the United Motors Division. It is now known as AC Delco. Gene served as a Sales and Service Representative. In 1978, a promotion sent him from Denver to Salt Lake City, Utah as a Training Center Instructor. By 1981, Gene was again transferred, this time to Michigan. He was assigned to AC Delco responsible for training programs in the Training Centers. In 1998, Gene retired from General Motors, Service Technology Group after 30 years of service. In retirement until 2008, Gene

*continued on page 2...*

## NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Perry Driggs

- 3 Paul Traub, Sr. Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Detroit ..... *Update on the U.S. & Michigan Economy and an Economic Forecast for 2018*
- 10 Richard Shapack, Principal, Shapack Law Group and U.S. Naval Academy Graduate; Commander Wes House, U.S. Navy; Mark Petroff, President & CEO, Marketing Associates and U.S. Naval Academy Graduate ..... *Keeping America from Going Underwater*
- 17 Alicia Roberts, Chocolate Ambassador ..... *Chocolate - The Queen's Dessert Fit for a King*
- 24 NO MEETING

## DECEMBER PROGRAMS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: Dick Bradley

- 1 Jay Shuster, Pixar Animation Studios ..... *"Cars Three" Development*

# Games

## Golf

We had a great year at both Lincoln Hills and Springdale with 83 golfers participating for 1,076 rounds. According to Chuck Travers, as reported in *Golf Digest*, the average golfer loses two golf balls per round for a worldwide total of approximately 2,465,752 every day. That means we lost 2,154 golf balls over the two courses during the season.

Additionally, we waged some spirited tournaments with the 2-Man Scramble at Lincoln Hills, the Best 2 of 3 Rounds and the 3-Club at Springdale. In addition, the Annual Stonycroft Invitational and the Annual Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Challenge were held.

Rich Wheling, Joe Schulenberg, Maynard Timm, Ed Jones and Tim McGee made the "30 Club" as we played 30 or more times during the year.

The low season average at Lincoln Hills of 38.1 was achieved by John Perryman. The low score for the year at Lincoln Hills of 35 was recorded by Maynard Timm and John Perryman (twice).

The low season average at Springdale of 37.9 was achieved by Maynard Timm. The low score for the year at Springdale of 33 was recorded by Perry Driggs.

The Closest to the Pin-Plus One Putt Contest was won twice by Maynard Timm; thus depleting our bank account so that we had to stop the contest early in the year! Next year Maynard must tee-off on Hole 6 with a putter!

Dome Golf will commence on Thursday, January 4, 2018 to prepare us for next year's golfing adventure. Hopefully, we will lose fewer balls and make more birdies and pars!

—Tim McGee

## "Splitters" Bowling Team Continues to Lead

Spurred on by his Alma Mater's defeat of Michigan, SMC President Dick Kamp, along with Splitters' team members Bob Babcock and Chuck Robinson, set the pace through five weeks of bowling. The Bowlers (Tom Waffin, Tony DiMarco and Pete Kass) trail by three points. Art Byington (539) and John Bergeron (530) have the high series to date. Newcomer Paul Kovceses has an excellent 139 average and Ben Mangiapane, completely healed from leg surgery last year, is bowling at 129 per game.

Competition continues each Monday at Troy Lanes (Square Lake and John R) at 10:00AM and subs are always welcome. Moreover, golf will soon come to an end, forcing us to get our exercise trying to knock ten pins down on an alley as opposed to putting one ball in a hole.

For further information please contact Bowling Chair Richard Volpe at 248-417-5435 or RFAV13@gmail.com.

—Maynard Timm

## Reminder Distribution

Last month, we mailed 161 *Reminder's* to members. Of this total, 53 went to members without listed email addresses. However, 108 went to members who have email – who can read on line and/or copy *The Reminder*.

Do these members really need two copies of *The Reminder*, particularly since email beats postal delivery by a week? Possibly, these members could consider adding an amount to annual dues to cover printing and mailing expense. (The Grosse Pointe SMC charges \$15 for postal delivery to members without email).

—Dick Harper

...continued from page 1

## Gene Markel

was a freelance writer for tier one and two suppliers. He is also a published member of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

Gene and Ethel live in Troy, Michigan. They have two sons and twin granddaughters.

Looking ahead, Gene sees "A strong and vibrant Senior Men's Club by continuing with high quality speakers and programs."

—Chuck Ragains

# Groups



## Investment Group

On Wednesday, November 8 at 2:45PM, Joey Agree, President and CEO, Agree Realty will discuss "Investing in Net Lease Retail REIT'S". Agree Realty is located in Bloomfield Hills, but has a national footprint. They have 366 properties in 43 states containing 7 million sq. ft. of leasable space. They pay a dependable 4% dividend which has been increasing 30% or more for the past few years – a better yield than most bonds.

The first report of the Capital Stock Game will be available. Who will be the leader?

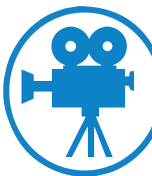
—George Miller



## Camera Group

The Camera Group starts off November with a new Chairman at the helm. Bob Frank has agreed to step in and take us through 2018. Leading off in November will be Chris Clark, a Birmingham adventurer and photographer. He recently returned from Brazil where he spent three weeks photographing jaguars. This up-close view will provide the same kind of insight we enjoyed earlier this year, when Chris took us on a photo expedition to Antarctica. Chris's presentation is not to be missed. So, bring your spouses and friends for a unique experience on Tuesday, November 14 at 2:00PM as we go to Brazil.

—Harry Bloom



## Classic Movie Group

On Monday, November 13, Tom Booth will present one of his favorite films, "High Noon" (1952), starring Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly, at 1:00PM. Director Fred Zinnemann skillfully tells the story, in "real time", of recently married and retired marshal Cooper learning that an old enemy is coming to seek revenge. The marshal feels a responsibility to stay and face the gunman but no one in town is willing to help. This legendary western is full of suspense right to the end. If you love great classic westerns, then this film is for you. Please plan to attend with family and friends to enjoy this outstanding classic film from the 50's.

—Fred Hansz



## Computer Group

The next meeting of the Computer Group is Wednesday, November 15, at 3:00PM. Our speaker will be Bill Buchanan whose topic will be "Photograph Using Your Smart Phones Camera". Bill will demonstrate how to take advantage of your iPhone and its capabilities as a camera for creative images. He will also cover some useful apps for photography. Members and guests are invited.

—Tom Allen



## Reading Groups

On Wednesday, November 1, at 10:30AM, we will discuss "The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead. Colson Whitehead gives us a vivid, unflinching look at the horrors of slavery. We also get stark and thought-provoking insights into the attitudes surrounding the institution of slavery and also of race relations where slavery was abolished. We are presented with the stirring drama of Cora, a daring young woman, who attempts to overcome immense barriers as she flees from slavery. Dick Halsted will lead the discussion.

On Monday, November 20 at 3:00PM, we will discuss "Shoe Dog" by Phil Knight. In this candid memoir, Phil Knight, the founder of Nike Shoe Corporation writes about his experiences during the company's early days as a startup and continues with its evolution into one of the world's most iconic, game-changing brands. Jon Haber will lead our discussion.

—Frank Snower



## Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group meeting will be held on Monday, November 6, at 2:00PM.

The topic to be discussed will be military records and the resources available to find family members who have served in the armed forces.

SMC family members are invited to participate.

—Dave Bakos



# Allure of College Football



Suppose someone from another country, visiting Birmingham, stumbled into the ballroom at TCH to see over 100 highly successful retired executives wearing T-shirts, sweatshirts, or golf shirts adorned with various college football colors and approached any one of us to ask why. The question begs a simple answer—we love college football.

When I first attended a Michigan football game in 1964, I was already rooted in the Maize and Blue. Both my parents had graduated from Michigan and my oldest brother was attending there. Indeed, over 50 years later, I can vividly recall watching Bob Griese, pass, run and kick (yes, he also kicked FGs and extra points) to a victory over

one of Bump Elliott's many underperforming teams. Listening and watching the Michigan Marching Band play the Victors and Varsity immediately resonated with me and triggered a lifelong love of music, both instrumental and choral. The size of Michigan Stadium, colors of the jerseys, and winged helmet captured my imagination and have done so ever since.

Yet, let's go back to our visitor from abroad. Here's what I would tell him: College football returns each of us to one of the best times in our lives. For the first time, we were not tethered to our parents and lived on our own. We learned that we were not as smart as we thought we were in high school. Moreover, we learned that each of us has unique gifts that were nurtured and strengthened, eventually leading to successful careers. We had more fun and made more friends than ever before. We likely had both our first hangovers after keggers at the Fraternity House and our first romantic experience with its attendant consequences. In a word, we became men.

Ever since, when we see our school play on TV or in the stadium, we harken back to that time in our lives. We see young men in their teens and early 20s and remember when we were that age. We hear the fight song, see the jerseys and helmets and recall our own college days. In short, college football is our way to become young again.

Finally, with no apologies to my Spartan friends, Hail to the Victors!


—Maynard Timm



Alexander Zonjic

*Celebrate Our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*  
**Zonjic Meets Motown**  
...with *Serieux* (a Temptations Tribute) Motown Classics, R&B & All that jazz...  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2017**  
THE COMMUNITY HOUSE  
380 BATES STREET  
BIRMINGHAM, MI  
DOORS OPEN: 6:30PM CONCERT STARTS: 7:30PM

**\$50**



WWW.SENIORMENSClubBIRMINGHAM.COM

**ADMIT ONE**

A special musical program featuring well known professional flutist (and recent new Club member) Alexander Zonjic is scheduled for Thursday, November 16 at The Community House. This much anticipated performance will include Motown classics by the *Serieux* singing group, and will culminate our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Tickets are still available either at a Friday meeting or by contacting any Special Event Committee member.

—Malcolm Hendy

## SMC 2018 Dues Coupon

2018 dues are payable before January 1, 2018. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2018. 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.*



## Team Color Day

The first annual Team Color Day was held at our regular meeting on September 29. Members were encouraged to search their closets for clothing - with the colors of their favorite college or professional team - sweater, shirt, hat or whatever. The winner to receive a free lunch.

The response was significant and FUN! Nearly 50 attendees arrived clad for the event in an extensive array of team colors. While Michigan and Michigan State were most represented, many other team colors were displayed. Minnesota, Illinois, Nebraska and Wisconsin colors were seen, along with Wayne State, Lehigh, Manhattan, Georgia Tech, Syracuse, Kansas, West Point, and Capitol University. In addition we saw Baldwin, Cranbrook, and Country Day. We even had Tiger, Red Wing and Lion jerseys.

The judges were seemingly overwhelmed by the broad array of proudly worn attire and decided on a six way tie for first place - winners were Mike Albright, Bruce Smiley, Tom Fogarty (Country Day), John Quigley, John Reddy and Dick Harper.

Since this trial run proved so successful, stand by for a repeat performance next year. Possibly the winner will be asked to sing his school fight song!

—Dick Harper

## Senior Health Matters

### How Exercise Helps Stave-off Old Age

A study in the March 7 issue of Cell Metabolism found that exercise, in particular high-intensity interval training in aerobic exercises such as biking and walking, effectively stopped aging at the cellular level.

The investigators compared 60-80 year olds who did three forms of exercise programs, high-intensity interval biking (spinning), strength training with weights and combined strength & interval training to sedentary individuals.

A biopsy of the thigh muscle showed with all 3 forms of exercise, the muscle cells made more RNA copies of genes coding for proteins for their energy producing mitochondria and protein-building ribosomes for muscle growth, reversing age-related decline.

High-intensity training saw a 69% increase in mitochondrial capacity and increased insulin sensitivity (lower likelihood of developing diabetes) but was less effective at improving muscle strength which typically declines with age.

The Senior Men's Club has both a Spinning Group and a Walking Group. Delay the aging process by joining them.

—Augie Perrotta

# Special Events

## Christmas Dinner Dance

This year's Senior Men's Club Christmas Dinner Dance will take place on Tuesday, December 12, 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 5:30PM featuring an antipasto table and a cash bar. We will be seated at 6:45PM for announcements and introductions, followed by dinner at 7PM and dancing thereafter. Free valet parking service will be provided.

The ticket price for this event is \$50 per person. Tickets will go on sale at the Special Events table on Fridays from November 10 through December 8. Reserved group tables will be available upon request, but we will be happy to arrange tables for singles and couples as well. You are encouraged to invite non-member guests to join us at this event. Last minute ticket sales (after December 8) may be arranged by contacting Tony DiMarco at 248-643-7368.

Tables normally accommodate 8 persons. For those who wish to sit together at a table, table reservation forms will be available on Friday, November 3, one week before ticket sales begin. We ask that groups reserving tables please designate one person to collect the ticket fees and meal choices for the group and make one payment for the table.

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 roughy with lemon garnish; along with side dishes of green beans and St. Anne potatoes. A gluten-free and a vegetarian option will also be available. Dinner will conclude with a raspberry sundae dessert. A cash bar will be available throughout the evening, with cocktails/wine at \$5, beer at \$2, and free soft drinks. The San Marino Club will be festively decorated in a Christmas motif, with flowers and candles at each table. A four piece stringed instrument group with vocalist will entertain us through the evening, opening with a salute to the Armed Forces followed by a sing along and nostalgic/seasonal favorites for our listening and dancing pleasure during the evening. The SMC Chorus will also serenade us with songs of the season. This is one of our most popular and successful SMC events, so please save the date and make your reservation plans early!

## Save the Date! January 25, 2018

### Detroit Auto Show

Mark your calendars now for the SMC's annual excursion to the Detroit Auto Show at Cobo Hall on Thursday, January 25, 2018. 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 plan to have two buses again this year, as demand has grown. Spouses and friends are invited as well. Ticket sales will begin on December 10. Check the December *Reminder* for more details about this popular event.

## Club Officer Nominations

In accordance with our constitution, Past President Eugene Jacoby, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented candidates for Club Officer positions for 2018 at the regular meeting on October 13.

Charles R. Bradley for President, Timothy S. McGee for First Vice President, Gerald W. Stribbell for Second Vice President, Roger K. Timm for Recording Secretary, Maynard L. Timm for Corresponding Secretary, John P. Groves for Treasurer, James E. Bayson for Asst. Treasurer, John R. Bergeron and Thomas L. Booth for Officers at Large.

The formal election is scheduled for October 27. Chairman Jacoby indicated that nominations from the floor can be considered at that time.

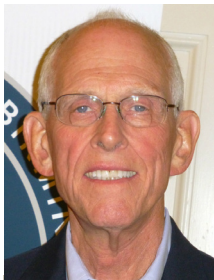
—Dick Harper

## Guidelines for Seniors

- Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero outside they closed school? Me neither.
- I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented. I forgot where I was going with this.
- A thief broke into my house last night. He started searching for money, so I woke up and searched with him.
- A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.
- Just remember, once you're over the hill you begin to pick up speed.



## New Members:



**Donald M. Lucas**  
1078 Greentree Rd.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
910-617-6660  
DMLGAL1@aol.com  
Sponsor: John Steele



**Jamie J. Rainey**  
3785 Hidden Creek Ct.  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
248-464-3573  
joeraimey@aol.com  
Sponsor: George Stern



**Allan L. Reynolds**  
626 Plum Ridge Dr.  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
248-377-4028  
Allan36@comcast.net  
Sponsor: George Stern



**William J. Seng**  
1815 Squirrel Valley Dr.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
248-335-7806  
wjseng@comcast.net  
Sponsor: Kirby Callam



**Thomas E. Utter**  
2369 Williamstown Ct.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
248-334-6734  
Utter2438@gmail.com  
Sponsor: Kirby Callam

## Deaths:

**Thomas V. Bingham**, joined December, 2011  
**Phillip L. Werner**, (Life & Past President) joined April, 1986

## New Associates:

**Thomas E. Anderson**  
2080 Redding Rd.  
Birmingham, MI 48009-1052  
248-646-1803; teanderson97@gmail.com  
Sponsor: Maynard Timm

**Archie N. Patton**  
41150 Woodward Ave., Unit W105  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
248-645-9424  
Sponsor: Dick Harper

**Donald P. Orlich**  
1757 Shaker Heights Dr.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
248-496-5980, patorlich@yahoo.com  
Sponsor: Jack McLaughlin

**Logan G. Robinson**  
4131 Echo Rd.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-1942  
248-646-1729; loganr@comcast.net  
Sponsor: Gene Markel

**Michael L. Sandler**  
4270 Barcroft Way  
West Bloomfield, MI 48323-1804  
248-736-0128, michael@rad-hfh.edu  
Sponsor: Larry Imerman

**Bruce J. Snyder**  
6222 Lindsay Ct.  
Orchard Lake, MI 48324-2154  
248-360-4243; bnjsnyder@comcast.net  
Sponsor: Maynard Timm

**Ernest P. Zorn**  
2597 Townhill  
Troy, MI 48084-1029  
248-644-7981; epzorn@att.net  
Sponsor: Mike Clement

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman

—Frank Snower, Database Chairman

—Tom Booth, Gene Markel & Roger Timm, Photography

## 2018 Club Handbook

Tempus fugit! Handbook Committee Chairmen John Zarek and Jack Burns are anxiously awaiting complete listings of each SMC Committee and Group for next year's Handbook – chairmen and members.

The input deadline of November 1 supports December printing plans. You want to be completely and correctly listed in the handbook, which members refer to all year! Make it happen!

—John Zarek and Jack Burns

# Mystery Lyrics



Apparently only a few readers remember some of the old jazz tunes and artists. We asked if you could recall the Peggy Lee song

containing these lyrics:

*You had plenty money  
nineteen twenty two*

*You let other women make a fool of you*

Only four readers recognized that these lines are from "Why Don't You Do Right." Peggy recorded this song with the Benny Goodman Orchestra in 1942. Hearty congratulations to Tom Venier, Fred Hansz, Clay Gordon and the McNally's – Tom and Bobbie – for getting this one. (Here's a trivia item for you – Benny Goodman was the 9<sup>th</sup> of 12 children – born in Chicago).

This month we have even an older song for you – first recorded in 1936, including these lines:

*Darling, how are you, and how are all  
Those little dreams that  
never did come true*

Can you name that tune?

## Sports Trivia

On the other hand, the Sports Trivia challenge was easy for some readers. We asked what NFL cornerback was nicknamed "The Hatchet". Lots of Detroit Lions fans in our Club, because six readers knew this was Jimmy David, who played in 1952-59. Congratulations to Lynn Evans, Tom McNally, Bill Burnie, Bob Klein, Jack McLaughlin and the ever present Clay Gordon.

We may have asked this before, but who was baseball's first bonus baby? Hint: he played for the Tigers.

—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 2017 are: Richard A. (Dick) Kamp, president; Charles R. (Dick) Bradley, first vice president; Timothy S. McGee, second vice-president; Gerald W. (Jerry) Stribbell, recording secretary; Roger T. Timm, corresponding secretary; John P. Groves, treasurer; James A. (Jim) Bayson, assistant treasurer; Richard W. (Dick) Judy and Larry R. Imerman, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor; John Flintosh, Chuck Ragains, and Maynard Timm, associate editors; Tom Booth, Gene Markel & Roger Timm, photography; Bob Jordan, mailing; Lee Trumbull, computer layout.

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham  
380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, MI 48009  
[www.communityhouse.com](http://www.communityhouse.com)

## CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

**Executive Board Meeting:** Tuesday, November 14, 9:30AM

**Reminder Deadline:** Friday, November 10

**Bowling:** Mondays at 10:00AM at Troy Lanes

**Bridge:** Tuesdays at 9:00AM; Fridays after lunch

**Golf:** Dome Golf begins Thursday, January 4, 2018

### Special Events

**Zonjic Meets Motown:** Thursday, November 16, 6:30PM

**Annual Christmas Party:** Tuesday, December 12, 5:30PM

**Detroit Auto Show:** Thursday, January 25, 2018

### Group Meetings

**Book Reading Group A:** Wednesday, November 1, 10:30AM

**Genealogy Group:** Monday, November 6, 2:00PM

**Investment Group:** Wednesday, November 8, 2:45PM

**Classic Movie Group:** Monday, November 13, 1:00PM

**Camera Group:** Tuesday, November 14, 2:00PM

**Computer Group:** Wednesday, November 15, 3:00PM

**Book Reading Group B:** Monday, November 20, 3:00PM

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

### SMC ON THE WEB:

[www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com](http://www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com)

[www.communityhouse.com/supported-groups-nonprofits/senior-mens-club/](http://www.communityhouse.com/supported-groups-nonprofits/senior-mens-club/)