

The Reminder

October 2008

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



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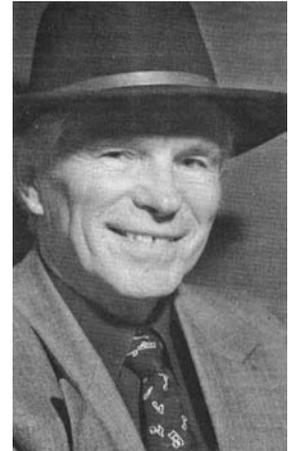
Bob Seeley

Last month, the Special Events Committee conducted a great event - a cruise down the Detroit River and around Bob-Lo Island. The weather was great, the scenery was fantastic and the food was more than tasty.

What really made this day special was the fabulous entertainment provided by our own Bob Seeley, a true giant in the world of boogie woogie. Bob mesmerized us with three solid hours of energetic and dynamic piano, smiling all the time for his enthusiastic listeners.

Of course, we shouldn't have been surprised by Bob's piano artistry or by the response of his audience. He has played for us many times at Friday meetings, with his performance invariably culminating with cheers and a standing ovation. When Bob plays, it is always a visual and aural delight.

His career has ranged from blind pigs to Carnegie Hall, with many European tours as well. He recently returned from a trip to Russia where boogie woogie is a dynamic form of communication and almost an international language. The Senior Men's Club is so proud to have Bob Seeley as a member and we look forward to hearing him perform as often as possible.



—Dick Harper

OCTOBER PROGRAMS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Roger Garvelink

- 3 David Larson, Superintendent, Birmingham Public Schools..... *State of the School District*
- 10 David and Susan McDonald, Vocalists..... *Remember*
- 17 NO MEETING
- 24 Jerry Green, Sports Writer, *The Detroit News*..... *Take Me Out to the Ballgame*
- 31 Joel Stone, Curator, Detroit Historical Museum..... *Coming Exhibits and History of the Detroit Historical Society*

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Jack McLaughlin

- 7 Theresa Monsour, Coordinator, Birmingham Area Senior Citizen's Council..... *Challenges and Opportunities*

OCTOBER DISCUSSIONS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Augie Perrotta

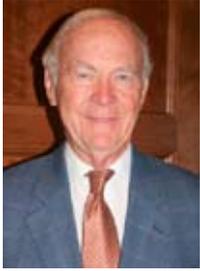
- 3 Barry Demp, Personal and Business Coach..... *When Patterns are Broken, New Worlds Will Emerge*
- 10 Charles Amann, SMC Member *Twentieth Century Evolution of the Battery-Electric Hybrid Car*
- 17 NO MEETING
- 24 Dan Gilbert and Mark O'Keefe, Fidelity Bank *FDIC: A Consumers Guide to Deposit Insurance*
- 31 David Mammel, Chapman Associates *Taking Control of Your Family Decisions*

NOVEMBER DISCUSSIONS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Dale Raar

- 7 Dr. Augustine Perrotta, SMC Member *Will People Be Healthy Enough to Work Longer*

Membership News



New Members:

Walter R. Ebling, (Sandra)
734 Tennyson Downs Court
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-3775
248-647-5885
Sponsor: Alan L. Huberty



George L. Stern, (Fran)
1090 Westwood Drive
Birmingham, MI 48009-1178
248-258-1924
E-mail: SternGeo@aol.com
Sponsor: Richard L. Halsted



Maurice O. Elvekrog, (Jan)
1429 Quarton Road
Birmingham, MI 48009-1036
248-642-3100
E-mail: Maury@seger-elvekrog.com
Sponsor: Frank M. Barnes

To Life Member:

Robert S. Kenning, joined Feb. 1995
Peter Badalamenti, joined April 1991

To Leave of Absence:

Byron R. Converse
James J. Tedesco

Resigned:

James E. North
Charles F. Murray
Associate **Hardy G. Brodersen**

Deaths:

Stanley J. Skaistis, (Life), joined Feb. 1986
Joseph J. Kern, (Life), joined October 1985
James R. Peltier, joined July 1995
Bill Isherwood, (Life), joined May 1987
Melvin S. Pillon, (Life), joined January 1987
John M. Rosso, joined September 1997
Associate **Gilbert M. Bazil**

New Associates:

Michael R. Walosin, (Mary)
2938 Aspen Lane
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-1015
248-335-6974
E-mail: MRW_9@att.net
Sponsor: John M. Steele

John T. Frye, (Patricia)
4148 Newland Drive East
West Bloomfield, MI 48323-3054
248-851-4946
E-mail: Jtfrye13@comcast.net
Sponsor: Frank J. Bujold

Michael B. Belden, (Mary)
18250 Chelton Drive
Beverly Hills, MI 48025-5215
248-540-3647
E-mail: Schnell1@aol.com
Sponsor: Dennis J. Kozak

Andrew C. Huebner, (Dorothy)
17058 Dunblaine Ave
Beverly Hills, MI 48025-4102
248-646-0852
E-mail: achuebner48025@yahoo.com
Sponsor: Jack L. Fawcett

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman
—John M. Steele, Database Chairman
—Bill Shaffmaster, Photography

Misplaced Headlines

"Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash"
(no kidding!)

"Panda Mating Fails-Vet Takes Over"
(what a guy!)

"Red Tape Holds Up New Bridge"
(was duct tape not available?)

—Dale Parker



Monday Associate's Golf

The notably successful official season is now over. A few stalwarts continue to play, taking advantage of the great weather. Planning has begun for 2009 and the Golf Committee invites your comments and suggestions. They should be directed to Bill Spreitzer: xspieler@comcast.net or 248-647-5140.

Now, recognition is due for your committee. Jerry Heller serves as Secretary. He is responsible for the creation and preparation of the spreadsheets used for records, statistics and management of the weekly activities. Jerry serves as principal contact with Birmingham Recreation and Lincoln Hills operations. He monitors the weekly play and settles the bills from a running account which includes the pre-payment from the Regulars and the Monday payments from the Walk-ons. Clearly, Jerry is a key person in our activities.

Tom Waffen is our "Early Starter." For many he is the "face" of the League, greeting most of the players through the first two-thirds of our starting slots with an easy smile and an unflappable demeanor. In a quiet and gentlemanly manner he keeps play moving, makes pairings for the Walk-ons, resolves order of play questions and (magically) makes change for all of the big currency that somehow always appears.

Ed Jones is our "Late Starter" and can be recognized by his Greg Norman hat with the Shark's Feather. He takes over so that Tom can tee off and has a similar gracious and well-organized manner. Ed and Jerry Heller typically play last, to collect all of the score cards, and then Ed does all of the postings and generates the printouts for subsequent play and the records.

Bill Spreitzer serves as the Chair, monitoring the activities, auditing the books, managing the bank account and (best of all) savoring the smooth operation and the enjoyment of the players.

THANK YOU to all – the committee, the players and the staff at Lincoln Hills, especially Bill Shaw and Andy. THANKS to Fran DeGrande for his legacy and good example. Please give them all a pat on the back when you see them next.

—Bill Spreitzer

Bowling

We're two weeks into the new season and it appears there are several teams that will duke it out all season. After the first week, there were four teams tied for 1st place. After the second week there's one team in 1st, the Bulls, two teams tied for 2nd, the Knicks and the Pistons, while five teams are tied for 3rd place. I hope all the bowlers know their teams' names.

It looked like the summer practice paid off for our leader Dennis Kozak, he bowled a 213 game in the second game the first week. He had no open frames and made two splits with rest of the frames strikes and spares. His high game lasted only one week as Jack Corey beat that game by fifteen pins, rolling a 228 also in the second game. Jack had a 558 series for the new high series.

After two weeks of Mystery Game jackpots, Pete Kass is tryin' to make it a weekly event as he has won the pot both weeks, first with a 181 and then with a 152 the second week.

It was great to see our Past President, Dick Harper, return to have fun with fellow bowlers. The league may have a new member as Bob Gualdoni was practicing by himself and it looked like he hadn't forgotten how to bowl at all. The scores can't be listed. I'd like to ask if there is a bowler who would like to run the High Over Average jackpot. If there is, let me know. It's not a hard job, only time consuming.

—Less Lessenthien

...See more games on page 4

Endowment Fund



The 2008 goal is \$60,000; status is \$250. We need your help! All types of gifts are welcome and are tax deductible.

A 50/50 raffle will be held on Friday, October 24. A U of M team and a MSU team will compete in selling tickets. Dick Suminski won \$230 at the picnic raffle.

—George Miller

Stratford Trip Reminder

We want to thank the membership for their enthusiastic response to our October 14 trip to Stratford to see the Broadway musical, *Cabaret*. We sold out at 10:00 AM on the first day of ticket sales.



For those lucky people who will be accompanying us to Stratford, we want to remind you again to remember we are crossing the U.S. border and you will be required to show proper identification.

U.S. Immigration Law requires visitors to Canada to have a valid passport or two pieces of identification, one of which includes your picture. Typically, this is your driver's license and either a birth certificate or voter registration card. Credit cards are not acceptable ID.

To ensure we do not jeopardize our crossing, we will check your ID prior to boarding the bus. Anyone without appropriate documents will not be allowed to board.

See you on the bus!

—Special Events-Stratford Committee

The Village and the Jug

We've been at this project since 1986. We usually meet or exceed our goal, but it seems that we have to ask the "Jug" to make two trips around the hall to reach the target. Now this year let's get this right. Let's prove how magical the Jug really is. Let's fill it with \$7,000 in just one trip around the room.

Yes! We know the mailbox is stuffed with requests for gifts from charities, political, health organizations, etc., but we are the only organization that can claim no administrative costs. Yes, you know the other reasons we give:

- These are our kids.
- It's tax deductible.
- Our gifts are used to brighten the lives of abused and abandoned children.

Please bring a big check made out to the OCCV - Oakland County Children's Village to one of our Friday meetings. Or please mail your check to Phil Werner, 6810 Orinoco Circle, Bloomfield, MI 48301. Thanks for your support!

—Phil Werner

The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.

Change is inevitable, except from vending machines.



Games continued



Thursday Golf

Thursday Golf will continue at Springdale until Birmingham closes the course for the winter. So bundle up, loosen up, and come out for some wonderful autumn golf.

Mark Wednesday, October 22 on your calendars for the annual Golf Banquet. It will be held again at The Community House. The agenda is:

6:00 PM: Attitude Readjustment Hour (Cash Bar)

6:45 PM: Dinner

7:30 PM: Awards

The cost is \$35 per person and tickets are on sale now and may be purchased from any golf committee member.

The annual scramble at Stonycroft was almost rained out. But St. Andrew worked his magic and the rains ceased, the clouds parted and the sun came out. It was a very competitive affair. Only three strokes separated the nine teams. Winning team at plus one consisted of Bob Hinytzke (the Attila the Hun of senior golf), Ben Porter, Bill Hartman, Joe Schulenburg, and Gino Salciccioli.

The Springdale End of Season Tournament concluded on September 4. The championship low gross score was tied at 77 by Bob Hinytzke and Dave Key. First place low net scores were: Championship- Riggs Miller, 62.8; "A" Flight- John Kary-63.32; "B" Flight- Tom Buescher-64.65; "C" Flight- Tony Smyk-61.88.

—Chuck Travers

Special Events...On a Roll!

How about three terrific venues rolled into one special event!



Join us for the FALL FUNFEST on Tuesday, November 4, (it's Election Day, but it doesn't take all day to vote) for a bus trip to Detroit. The all day tour will include a guided visit to the Parade

Company as final preparations will be underway for the annual "America's Thanksgiving Day Parade." You will see the floats, costumes and artisans at work in a 120,000 square foot building (former Chrysler Lynch Road Assembly) putting the finishing touches on everything in preparation for the parade. Bring your cameras.

A sumptuous German lunch will follow at Kurz Dakota Inn. When was the last time you were there? Bratwurst, knockwurst, apple strudel, cold german beer and wine and live music will fill us up and raise our spirits.

We will walk off lunch with a docent guided tour of the refurbished Detroit Historical Museum. New exhibits opening in September include the Ford Model T Centennial, a look at Detroit 100 years ago, Detroit's fabulous entertainment venues and metro Detroit's legacy of leadership (hero or villain). This part of the trip will have you saying to yourself and/or your traveling companion—"I didn't know that." But you will if you join us for this special day created by your Special Events Committee.

The price is \$45 per person. That includes roundtrip bus transportation, tickets to both venues and lunch. Tickets will go on sale Friday, October 17.

—Jim Judge, Riggs Miller, Howard Maichen, Art Pope,
John O'Brien

Flashlight : A case for holding dead batteries.

The shin bone is a device for finding furniture in the dark.

Local Restaurants Support SMC Picnic

Again this year, several local restaurants provided great support in the form of door prizes awarded at our Annual Picnic. Prizes up to \$50 for a dinner for two will ensure enjoyable evenings of fine dining for several of our members and guests.

Contributing restaurants were:

- Peabody's
- The Community House
- Sweet Lorraine's
- Somerset Inn
- Brady's Tavern
- McCormick & Schmick's
- Beverly Hills Grill
- 220 Merrill
- Salvatore Scallopini

We urge all of the members of the Senior Men's Club to frequent these fine restaurants. While there, identify yourself and let them know we appreciate their support of the Senior Men's Club.

We also received a contribution from the Heathers Golf Club of a round of golf and dining privileges at the Club. They also deserve our thanks and support.

—The Picnic Committee

Help! Help! Help!

Did you know the number of Associates waiting to become full members is at an all time low of just 91?

The Executive Board has determined that the best source of new applicants is through the current members. We ask that you talk to friends and encourage them to come to the Friday meetings as GUESTS and let them see how the Club is run. They will be impressed! Also look for recent retirees—we can help them in the transition.

We need to stress the good speakers we have and the activities like golf, bowling, bridge, computer, camera, investment and book groups that would be of interest. Remember to emphasize that all Associate members can participate in any of the groups right away. Don't forget to highlight the Special Events that we have each month.

Please make an effort to bring guests as a special push to build up our Associates group.

Application forms are at the front desk. Thanks for your help.

—Ted Chapekis

Groups



Classic Movie Group

The classic movie will be shown in the Hackett Room by Fred Leydorf on the first Monday of the month, October 6, in deference to The Community House OUR TOWN Art Show & Sale. Join us at 1:00 PM for "Singin' in the Rain," the 1952 comedy classic featuring Gene Kelly (who co-directed), Cyd Charisse, Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds. It offers a comic depiction of Hollywood's transition from silent films to "talkies." The movie is frequently described as one of the best musicals ever made and ranked 5th in the updated list of Greatest American Films in 2007.

—Augie Perrotta



Computer Group

There will be no meeting of the Computer Group in October. Our next meeting will be on November 5 at 3:00 PM. John Wigman of Birmingham Computers will be our speaker. Mr. Wigman will give us an update of the computer world followed by questions and answers.

—George Nordenholt

Discussion Group

Barry Demp is a life coach who has helped people reshape their lives in retirement. He will show us the steps that can lead to significant changes later in life.

SMC Member Charles Amann will track the century of evolution of the hybrid and an overview of battery history.

The team of Dan Gilbert and Mark O'Keefe will discuss federally insured bank deposits and the role of the FDIC in these troubled times for banks and investors.

David Mammel will keep us up to date on estate planning including recent developments in trusts and cottage succession planning to save the family cottage, cabin, camp or vacation home.

Augie Perrotta will discuss the factors that contribute to longevity and freedom from disease; the relationship between health/mortality and education/socioeconomic status; the contribution of genetics and, finally, how policymakers should interpret the contributions to healthy life expectancy.



Investment Group

The Investment Group will meet on Wednesday, October 8 at 2:45 PM. Michael Welch, Senior VP, and Robert W. Baird and Company will present "Efficient Investment Vehicles – A Historical Perspective." With ever increasing choices: individual stocks, mutual funds, ETF's, separately managed accounts, UIT's, closed end funds...you may be surprised what works best for you.

Mike Welch has been named one of the top 25 Wealth Advisors in the Detroit area. The new Stock Game will begin at the market close on Friday, October 10. Remember the \$10 option. Bob Klein won \$165 last year. Bargain stocks are plentiful!

—George Miller



Camera Group

Because The Community House is hosting the OUR TOWN Art Show & Sale, our meeting is scheduled for the first Tuesday, October 7 at 2:00 PM, not the usual second Tuesday. The presenter will be Steve Volk who will speak on the use of newer technology to preserve memories. He will advise us on the use of old vinyl music, faded photographs and the transfer of old 8mm and 16mm film to a digital format. He urges people to safeguard those irreplaceable family photo memories on a timeless DVD.

In the second segment of the meeting Steve will do a hands-on demonstration on how we can project our pictures recorded on a CD for a group. Many of us are now using digital photography and have pictures on a CD which we view on our computers or TV but would like to learn how to project those images for a larger group. As always, spouses and friends are cordially invited.

—Roger Garvelink

Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

E-Mailers Wanted

Notification concerning member or associate deaths and visitation arrangements has been a long time Senior Men's Club tradition. This has been a major responsibility of the Visitation and Health Committee and for many years was handled by phone by a large group of Committee members.

As more and more of our membership became computer literate, notification by e-mail became increasingly prevalent, significantly reducing the number of required phone calls. Currently, about 425 members receive notification of deaths by e-mail. George Nordenholt serves as E-Mail Editor for the committee, heading up this important activity.

Unfortunately, the sheer volume of e-mails has become somewhat burdensome and time consuming for one man to handle. Hence, the committee would really like to have some volunteers to share this e-mailing responsibility with George. Please consider contributing to this vital club activity and call George at 248-646-7299. He will continue to serve as E-Mail Editor and will coordinate notifications.

Thanks for your consideration.

—Dick Harper



October Programs

Roger Garvelink has arranged a good variety of programs for us in October. We'll hear about the current status and future trends in education in our Birmingham Schools, and then we'll hear beautiful melodies sung by a husband and wife team before our one week break because of the OUR TOWN Art Show & Sale at The Community House. For our third meeting, we are fortunate to have a top sports writer in the midst of the football season, and we will end the month with a presentation on the new exhibits at the Detroit Historical Museum which will be visited during our Special Event the following week. Check out the listings of October Programs on the front page of this *Reminder*, and plan to attend them all.

—Irv Poston

September Associates Member Orientation

We had an enthusiastic response to our Associates Member Orientation Meeting on September 5, 2008. There were fourteen Associates who participated and completed their requirements. Congratulations and welcome.

The next Associate Member Orientation will be on November 21, 2008 at 9:00 AM in the Library of The Community House.

As a reminder, all Associates should pay their dues from now until December 31, 2008. Thank you.

—John Klein

SMC 2009 Dues Coupon

2009 Dues are payable before January 1, 2009. A \$10 late fee must be added for dues paid after January 1, 2009. 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
- \$20 Associate Member
- \$15 Member on Leave

Life Members pay no dues, but may use the coupon to report changes in address, telephone, email.

Mystery Lyrics

The musical knowledge of SMC members, associates and perhaps most importantly, their wives, continues to impress. Our attempts to challenge readers with difficult lyrics continue to fail. Last month, an all-time high of 25 respondents knew that these lines:

I saw a man who danced with his wife
were from the song "Chicago" - obviously a very well known tune. Many of these 25 often get the right answer often, so we thought we would recognize these less frequent responders - Bob Seeley, Denny Nielsen, Andy Spencer, Tom Hitchman, John Flintosh, Dick Hameister, Sherwin Vine, Ben Schwimmer, Bill and Dolly Johnson and Tom King.

Fourteen readers remembered that Vaughan Monroe's theme was "Racing with the Moon." Bob Seeley, Irv Poston, Denny Nielsen, John Flintosh and Tom King got the theme song for the first time.

OK - no more easy ones! How about these hopefully less well known lyrics?

*Then let's keep dancing, let's break
out the booze and have a ball*

Can you name that tune? It is not a college drinking song - think Peggy Lee.

And here's a big band theme song challenge for you - do you remember the theme used by Les Brown (and his band of renown)? No, it wasn't "Sentimental Journey."

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 21, 9:30 AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, October 17

Games

Bowling: Monday, 9:00 AM at Thunderbird Lanes

Wednesday, 9:00 AM at Thunderbird Lanes (practice)

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

Golf: Thursday, 9:00 AM at Springdale

Special Events

"Cabaret," Tuesday, October 14 (bus trip to Stratford)

Fall Funfest, Tuesday, November 4 (bus trip to Detroit)

Group Meetings

Computer Group: No meeting in October

Investment Group: Wednesday, October 8, 2:45 PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, October 7, 2:00 PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, October 6, 1:00 PM

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

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 2008 are: Ken Urwiller, president; Bob Pullar, first vice president; Irv Poston, second vice president; John Flintosh, recording secretary; Chuck Kirkpatrick, corresponding secretary; Bill Sprague, treasurer; Dick Shirley, assistant treasurer; Ted Chapekis and Bill Hartman, officers at large; Bill Crabtree, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor; Chuck Kirkpatrick, Bill Reilly and Dick Davis, associate editors; David Schneider and Bill Shaffmaster photography; Lee Trumbull, computer layout; Bob Jordan, mailing.

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