

The Reminder



June 2018

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

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Bob Kenning—A True American Idol

Bob Kenning has graced the SMCB with his charm, intellect, good humor, and concern for others since 1995. His 25-year career as Birmingham City Manager shaped the environment we appreciate on our way to Friday meetings.

Reared in Minneapolis, Bob graduated in 1949 from the University of Minnesota with both a Bachelor of Business Administration and Bachelor of Civil Engineering, but only after serving three years as a U.S. Marine 1942-1945. He later met wife Shirley in a university Physics class.

Bob arrived in Birmingham in 1949 to work for Bass Engineering Co. in the Birmingham Theater Building. With him was wife Shirley who bore him three boys who became electrical, mechanical, and aeronautical engineers.

Bob left the Bass Company to become Assistant Supervisor of Public Works. Then City Manager Harold Schoen made Bob his assistant. Bob then served as City Manager from 1965 to 1990. The City Council honored his service by naming the park at Eton and Lincoln the Robert S. Kenning Park.

At 94, Bob remains a vital member of the club's walking group, a practice he's prepared for since starting workouts at the Birmingham YMCA in 1950. He's been a board member there since 1960.

On behalf of the hundreds of SMCB members whose lives Bob has enriched, please join me in thanking him for exemplifying our core values of excellence, integrity, responsibility, fellowship and inclusivity. In every sense of the word, he is a true American idol.

—John Reddy



JUNE PROGRAMS

JUNE CHAIRMEN: Art Kirsh and Larry Ierman

- 1 Paul D. Barker, Director of Development and Community Activation *A Bold Future: The Motown Museum Expansion Project*
- 8 Marc Pasco, Director of Communications, Detroit Riverfront Conservancy *The Ever Changing Detroit Riverfront Landscape*
- 15 Dan Carmody, CEO, Eastern Market Corporation *Detroit's Eastern Market: It's Past, Present, and Future*
- 22 Rebecca Salminen Witt, Chief Development and Communications Officer, Detroit Historical Society *Making History in the Motor City: What's New at the Detroit Historical Society*
- 29 Heather Grondin, V.P., Communications & Stakeholder Relations, Windsor-Detroit International Bridge Authority *The Building of the Gordie Howe Bridge*

JUNE DISCUSSION GROUP

JUNE CHAIRMAN: Augie Perrotta

- 1 Augie Perrotta *A Vietnam War Medic*

Games

Golf

The SMCB 2018 golf season has gotten off to a cool, wet start, with several rain outs. Moreover, play has been restricted to Lincoln Hills due to necessary maintenance at Springdale. Let's all hope that June brings better weather. At present, we have not been able to confirm a date for the annual SMCB/Grosse Pointe Men's Club Challenge. SMCB golfers are welcome to participate in the June 11 NEXT golf outing at Lincoln Hills. Please contact Jay Reynolds or access the NEXT website.

—Maynard Timm
Golf Committee Vice Chair

Summer Dress Code

President Dick Bradley has announced that our summer dress code will be in effect at Friday meetings during June, July and September. Coats and ties will be optional – collared shirts are in! Please remember we want to maintain our reputation as the best dressed men in Birmingham.

Happy Memorial Day



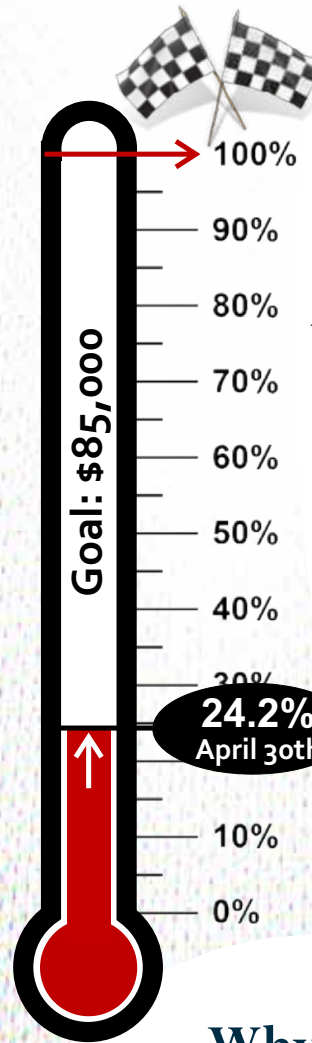
Please give thanks to all who
have served to safeguard
our freedoms

2018 SMC & TCH ANNUAL GIVING INITIATIVE

We need
your help!
Thank You!

It's Not Difficult!

A transfer from a Retirement Account to the Annual Giving Initiative is not difficult. A number of men have found this a good way to give. Dick Bradley says "I phoned my financial adviser and told him that I wished to transfer fund from my retirement account to The Community House. He emailed me a document and I signed it and returned it. It was easy and quick. I was able to transfer funds and since it was a transfer to a charity no taxes were taken out!"



Why The Community House?

The Community House has been our partner for 61 years! It has provided us with stability and a place for growth. TCH depends on the generosity of the Senior Men's Club so they can continue to address their mission. Last year alone the Senior Men's Club used over 450 rooms with a street value of up to \$250,000.



Groups



Investment Group

The Investment Group will next meet on Wednesday, June 13 at 2:45PM.

Per usual, winners of the SMC Stock Game will discuss their wisdom and stock selection strategies, as well sharing the game prize funds. In addition, meeting attendees will be encouraged to share successful investing experiences. Suggestions for future speakers and subjects will be welcome. This will be our final meeting until September.

As of this writing, Bill Halbert continues as the game leader with an 80% gain. Dave Ladd had closed the gap somewhat and is up 61%, while Tom Austin and George Miller are close behind – up 58%. Recent market uncertainty has impacted results, with 42 of the 75 game participants now with gains. The game ends May 31.

—Dick Harper



Reading Groups

On Wednesday, June 6 at 10:30AM, we will discuss Eric Hoffer's book "The True Believer: Thoughts on the Nature of Mass Movements". This classic work received critical acclaim from both scholars and laymen when it first appeared in 1951, and is all the more remarkable because the author is a self-educated scholar who read voraciously but had little formal schooling. He shows amazing insights into the nature of mass movements and the people who join them. "The True Believer" is one of the most provocative books of our day." Chuck Torner will lead the discussion.

On Monday, June 18 at 3:00PM, we will discuss "The Spider Network," by David Enrich. The author is an award-winning business reporter of *The Wall Street Journal* who unveils the bizarre and sinister story of how a math genius named Tom Hayes, a handful of outrageous confederates, and a deeply corrupt banking community ignited one of the greatest financial scandals in history. *The New York Times Book Review* says, "Enrich's impressive reporting and writing chops are on full display in 'The Spider Network'". From the start, the book reads like a fast-paced John le Carre thriller, and never lets up." Roger Timm will lead the discussion.

—Frank Snower



Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group Meeting will be held on Friday, June 8 immediately following the regular meeting at 12:45PM. This will give members and associates who have not been to a genealogy meeting an opportunity to view/discuss the many sources available to compile/write your personal family history.

—Dave Bakos



Camera Group

The Camera Group will not meet in June. Programs for future months are being developed and suggestions are welcome.

—Bob Frank



Classic Movie Group

This month Augie Perrotta will present two action packed adventure films. On Monday, June 11 at 1:00PM, he will present "Ladyhawke" (1985) starring Rutger Hauer and Michelle Pfeiffer as star-crossed lovers in a very entertaining medieval fantasy adventure. Then, on Monday, June 25 at 1:00PM, Augie will present "The Charge of the Light Brigade" (1936) starring Errol Flynn and Olivia de Havilland as lovers at a military outpost in India when the British 27th Lancers Cavalry charge into the valley of death at Balaklava. Both films feature thundering action with superb cinematography and outstanding musical scores. If you love classic adventure/swashbuckler movies then you will want to see both of these top rated motion pictures. Our movies now look better than ever with our new high definition projection system and ten foot screen. We will also have plenty of fresh popcorn. So, please plan to attend each movie with family and friends.

—Fred Hansz



Computer Group

On Wednesday, June 20 at 9:00AM our next meeting will be a field trip to the Apple Store in Somerset Mall North. A representative from Apple will discuss the new iPhones and their features. All members and their guests are welcome.

—Tom Allen



The Walking Group on a beautiful morning in Birmingham. Join us every Tuesday and Thursday. Contact Charlie Blank, Walking Group Coordinator, for more information at (bclank56@gmail.com)



A Vietnam War Medic


On Friday, June 1 from 12:45PM to 1:30PM, the Discussion Group topic is the Vietnam War facilitated by SMCB member Augie Perrotta. There are 41 members of the SMCB who served in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam era, be it home or abroad. We will take this opportunity to discuss personal-not political-perspectives and issues related to their service during that difficult period in our nation's history that ended April 30, 1975, forty three years ago. Other topics to be explored are:

- Agent Orange
- Access to VA Health Care
- The Wall
- Michigan Military Veterans Custom Commemorative Military Cane



SMCB Member Robert Sparks will bring his cane and application forms from the Michigan Woodcarvers Association.

—Augie Perrotta



The Jills
Bloomfield Hills High School's
Elite Female Vocal Group
Directed by Mrs. Jessica Riley
May 4, 2018

Photo by Barbara T...

Photo



Notes from the President



Gentlemen ...

I wish a great Memorial Day holiday to all ... A special salute to our veterans!

See our stated objectives below and my midterm grades to date. Need your help!

Senior Men's Club - 2018 Priorities

- Maintain/Increase weekly attendance ... C (Grade)
- Increase new full membership ... A
- Increase weekly guest count ... B
- New member follow up/participation. Full participation ... B
- Quarterly Special Days ... ex. Team Day, Anniversary Day ... A
- Friday Meeting Enhancement ... On time and ready ... B+
- Financial Health ... A
- Annual Giving Initiative ... A
- Website usage ... Increase member usage ... B

Why are guests imperative! Guests are welcome each Friday. We even provide lunch at no cost. Being a guest is generally the first step towards membership. New members are the lifeblood of any organization. They bring vitality and energy. We need younger members who will carry on the tradition and values of our great club. Guests and new members need to be solicited by all members!

Friday, May 18 - Anniversary Celebration – 61 Years Young.– Come celebrate our Anniversary. Special Buffet Luncheon, Anniversary cake ...

Annual Giving Initiative to support TCH - Need your help. Please be generous.

Weekly Attendance – The Friday meeting is the centerpiece of our club. We need you to support with your attendance. Your fellow members count on you!

Dick Bradley, President

June, 2018



Agenda

Bharatiya Temple (Hindu) Tour and Lunch
6850 North Adams Rd
Troy, MI

St. Johns Armenian Church
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, MI

Houses of Worship Tour

Sponsored by Senior Mens Club
April 17, 2018



Photo by Larry Inerman

Photo by Robert Sparks

Photo by Jim King

Photo by Larry Inerman

Special Events



Durand Union Station Trip

A dual-themed trip to the Durand Union Station & Museum is planned for Thursday, June 14. We will explore the iconic 1905 building including the museum, library, archives exhibit, model railroad and, of course, the gift shop. In addition, the ladies can experience a separate treat – an expert moderated quilt trunk show. We will enjoy a buffet lunch in the eclectic Station Smokehouse overlooking the station - one of the nation's most photographed railway depots. Tickets are priced at \$40 and are moving fast!

—Martin Rowell

River Rouge Heritage Cruise

On Tuesday, July 24, we will board the Diamond Queen for a cruise of less familiar aspects of the great Rouge waterway, departing from the Rivard St. dock at 11:00AM. Voyagers will enjoy an on-board buffet lunch while we experience a detailed descriptive narration of the route, which will deepen our appreciation of Detroit's downriver history as we view historic bridges, docks and buildings in the vast River Rouge complex. We also should be able to see the foundations of the new Gordie Howe bridge. We will have two buses for this exciting trip – tickets priced at \$50 will be available starting June 15. Don't forget your sun protection and possibly your binoculars.

—Martin Rowell

Senior Health Matters Shingles

Shingles (herpes zoster) is reactivation of an original chickenpox virus infection that, after years of being dormant, travels from nerves near the spinal cord to the skin causing a painful skin rash. You can't catch shingles from another person. However, a person who has never had chickenpox (or the chickenpox vaccine) could get chicken pox from contact with the fluid coming from the blisters of the shingles rash.

Every year, 1 in 1000 people will suffer shingles and about 1 in 3 people in their lifetime. It is more common after the age of 65.

The pain of shingles is one of the worst pains known to man - right up there with corneal abrasion, labor and childbirth, and kidney stones.

Many of you may have already been vaccinated against shingles with a single shot of Zostavax available since 2006. It is a live but weakened (attenuated) form of the chickenpox virus.

Shingrix is the new shingles vaccine available since October 2017. Instead of the weakened form of the virus, it is just one protein that sits on the surface of the virus. It is combined just before administration into the deltoid muscle of the upper arm with a diluent containing two adjuvants which make the vaccine more effective. It requires 2 doses two to 6 months apart. About 1 in 6 people will have side effects (fever, muscle ache and chills for 2-3 days) from Shingrix and are more common in younger people. They are somewhat worse than for Zostavax but fewer than 5% said that it interfered in any sense with their daily lives. Reactions suffered after the first doses are usually milder or non-existent with the second dose. Efficacy in preventing the shingles' rash in adults age 50-59 is 96.6%; age 60-69 is 97.4% and 91.3% in those 70 and older compared to an overall efficacy of Zostavax at 51%.

One in 5 people with shingles will suffer severe pain, called post-herpetic neuralgia, for more than 90 days after the rash has cleared up. Shingrix was 91.2% effective in preventing post-herpetic neuralgia in adults over 50 and 88.8% in those ages 70 or more. Four years later it was still about 85%. By comparison, Zostavax went from 67% to 30%.

Shingrix is now the preferred vaccine. Even if you have already had single dose Zostavax, it is still recommended that you receive 2 doses of Shingrix. Studies have not examined the efficacy of Shingrix administered less than 5 years following Zostavax but there are no theoretical concerns to indicate that it would be less safe or less effective when given at an interval of less than 5 years.

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO

New Members:



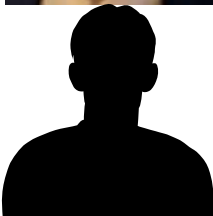
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To Life Member:

James B. Feiten

Deaths:

Curtis L. Lundy (Life), joined January, 2001

James F. Brooks, joined January, 2012

William H. Corba (Life), joined Sept., 1995



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Robert F. Wider
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248-643-9347; robertwider578@gmail.com

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman

—Frank Snower, Database Chairman

—Tom Booth, Gene Markel & Roger Timm, Photography 9

Mystery Lyrics

The May lyric challenge really lived up to the mystery term – only one reader recognized the song with these lines:



*"I never had the least notion
That I could fall with so
much emotion"*

The song was recorded by many, including Frank Sinatra and Ella, but only Fred Leydorf recognized the title is "I've Got a Crush on You". Hearty congratulations, Fred. (This is the first time ever with only one correct answer).

Hopefully, we will get more answers with this old Helen O'Connell song, with these lines:

*"Though she has them all on the run
Her heart belongs to just one"*

Can you name that tune? (For extra credit, can you remember the male singer paired with O'Connell?)

Sports Trivia

We may have gone too far back for many readers in asking which Major League team was once known as the "Gas House Gang" and when. The answer is the St. Louis Cardinals in the 1930's. Some readers may recall that the Cardinals edged the Tigers in the 1934 World Series. The Cardinals were a rough team and looked like they could work in a gas station. Baseball aficionados Lynn Evans, Jack McLaughlin and Pete Kass got this one. This may be too easy, but which team was (is) known as the Pale Hose? Too obvious?

—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 2018 are: Charles R. (Dick) Bradley, president; Timothy S. McGee, first vice-president; Gerald W. (Jerry) Stribbell, second vice-president; Roger K. Timm, recording secretary; Maynard L. Timm, corresponding secretary; John P. Groves, treasurer; James A. (Jim) Bayson, assistant treasurer; John R. Bergeron, Thomas L. Booth, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor emeritus; Maynard Timm and Jay Kafarski, co-editors; John Flintosh and Chuck Ragains, 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

CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 12, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, June 15

Bowling: Wednesdays at 10:00AM at Troy Lanes (practice)

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

Dome Golf: Monday at Lincoln Hills, 7:30AM
Thursday at Springdale, 7:00AM

Special Events

Durand Union Station Trip: Thursday, June 14

Downriver & River Rouge Heritage Tour: Tuesday, July 24

Group Meetings

Book Reading Group A: Wednesday, June 6, 10:30AM

Genealogy Group: Friday, June 8, 12:45PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, June 11, 1:00PM
Monday, June 25, 1:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, June 13, 2:45PM

Book Reading Group B: Monday, June 18, 3:00PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, June 20, 3:00PM

Camera Group: No meeting

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

SMC ON THE WEB:

www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com

www.communityhouse.com/supported-groups-nonprofits/senior-mens-club/