

The Reminder



FEBRUARY 2020

Senior Men's Club, Birmingham, Michigan

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PRESIDENT'S 2020 GOALS

I have been asked "What are my goals for SMC in 2020?" Following in the footsteps of the many great Past Presidents makes this a difficult question. After considerable pondering I narrowed down the choices to:



- **DIVERSITY** We have the opportunity to reach out to our friends and neighbors to bring in new members that are Black or Hispanic or Asian. We are fortunate to have many Indians. Our country is a "melting pot" and there are also many Japanese, Korean and Filipino natives in our area. At the same time, there are many natives from Hispanic countries and let's not forget the Aussies. So ask your friends, neighbors or acquaintances to come to a meeting. Many of us who worked with men from other countries were enriched by their influence on us. The Club will likewise be blessed with their involvement.
- **MEMBERSHIP** The lifeblood of any organization is its membership. We all know that we have many members who died this part year and we need to each recruit new younger members to keep us strong.
- **ENGAGEMENT** I would also like to have our members become more actively engaged in club activities. To that end, please consider joining any of the over 30 groups or committees that are shown in the front pages of our SMC Handbook. By joining you will get more out of our wonderful organization.
- **RELATIONSHIPS** We need to continue to improve our relationship with The Community House.

We are a great organization of active "Men on the Go." Let's all be more involved in Our SMC.

Jerry Stribbell

FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY CHAIR: LARRY IMERMAN

- Feb. 7 Salvador Salort-Pons, Chief Executive Director & President, Detroit Institute of Arts
"The DIA: A Leader in Education: 2020 Programs and Exhibitions"
- Feb. 14..... Nolan Finley, Editorial Page Editor, The Detroit News &
Stephen Henderson, Host, American Black Journal
"The Detroit Civility Project."
- Feb. 21..... Dave Dulio, Professor of Political Science & Director of the Center for Civic Engagement, Oakland University
"2020: The State of the Race"
- Feb. 28..... Ashley Stone, Associate Athletic Director and Senior Director of Women's Athletics, Oakland University
"College Athletics: The Student-Athlete Experience"

Fellowship • Shared Activities • Community Service



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

ASSOCIATES ORIENTATION

The next Associates Orientation meeting will be held on Friday, February 7 at 9:00AM. All Associates are invited. Attendance at an orientation is required prior to induction. Please contact John Klein at 248-363-3020 or Klein60@yahoo.com for attendance confirmation or with questions.

John Klein

2020 HANDBOOK/DIRECTORY

The Handbook Committee will continue distribution of the new 2020 Handbook/Directory to members at Friday meetings in February. You will find us in the rear of the Wilson Room. If you are aware of shut-in members, please consider taking a Handbook for them.

John Zarek & Jack Burns

ATTENDANCE CHAMPS

The Attendance Committee reports that the following members were Club Friday meeting attendance champions in 2019.

- Dick Harper 39
- Ty Perkins 39
- Gene Markell 39
- Tim McGee 38
- John Flintosh..... 37
- Bob Hayes 37
- Bob Klein 36
- Don Lucas 36
- John Steele 36
- Jerry Stribbell..... 36

LIFE MEMBER DUES

Life Membership in our Club continues to be a fast growing category in our Club. We are living longer and better, benefiting from active participation in Club activities. One of the traditional benefits of reaching this much respected status is that paying annual dues is no longer required. However, a significant number of our Life Members continue to pay dues on a voluntary basis, helping to contribute to our financial stability. We are happy to announce that 48 Life Members have paid dues to date – our books are still open and our Finance staff would be pleased to receive more.

Dick Harper

NEW MEMBERS

Louis Braun
1396 Bramblebush Run
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1504
(248) 853-5646

Thomas C. DeCorte
4040 Cranbrook Ct
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-1702
(757) 634-4818
TCDeCorte@comcast.net

ASSOCIATES

Dennis G. Standhardt
40750 Woodward Av Unit 30
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-5113
(586) 805-6890
northerncityss@gmail.com

RESIGNED

Richard F. Volpe

LIFE MEMBER

Sean C. O'Keeffe
Noel L. Peterson
Thomas K. Tabor

IN MEMORIAM

W. Robert Chandler
Richard H. Gregory
Richard P. Mueller
John D. Slocum
Richard W. Halladay

John Maten



The Improvement Committee is developing a "Beta" version of a SMC Facebook Page. If you are a Facebook user, look for the Page. The contents will be changing over the ensuing months as the Committee determines what interests members. The Facebook Page will be a supplement to the Club web site and is intended as yet another way of keeping members informed in this digital age.

If you have suggestions as to content, please email either a message using Facebook.

Larry Imerman

SMC SERVED MEALS AT EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL ON NEW YEAR'S DAY



Larry Imerman, Art Kirsh, Tim McGee, Bruce Snyder and Maynard Timm with spouses

OUR NEW PRESIDENT



New SMC president, Jerry Stribbell (left) accepting the gavel from outgoing president, Tim McGee

One of our Club's traditional and time-honored events took place at our first meeting of 2020. Outgoing President Tim McGee called the meeting to order and as a first item of business, presented the traditional gavel of authority to incoming President Jerry Stribbell. Jerry was unanimously elected to this position during our annual election.

The ceremonial gavel symbolizes the formal transfer of Club leadership.

This was followed by the presentation of a presidential plaque from President Stribbell to past President McGee in recognition of his outstanding leadership in 2019.

Dick Harper

SMC GAMES

GOLF: The Winter Golf Season opened on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at the Oakland County Dome with 20+ hearty souls hitting balls scattered throughout the dome. Come join us with lunch following at Hero's! The cost remains at \$10.00 for all the balls you want to hit from the penthouse! The Pro, Bob Ackerman, will join us for instruction on Thursday, February 20th.

BOWLING: The first half of the season has ended with a shuffling of the five teams separated by only 2.5 points as the Labradoodles team of Marv Dery, Ray Szarzyniarc and Phil Buccini remained at the top by a mere half point! The second half of the season promises to be a fight to the finish.

BRIDGE: We are always looking for more Bridge players... don't know how to play? No problem, as Kirby Callam will give you guided instruction. Join us every Friday after lunch at TCH.

Tim McGee

Groups



Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group will meet on February 3, 2020 at 2:00PM at the Community House.

We will be reviewing two websites in assisting research of your family history.

The first site will be www.fold3.com which is for discovering members of your families military past and is broken down into 12 categories of past wars. If you have relatives that served in any conflict bring their names and we can investigate their records and download them for your tree.

The second website is www.newspapers.com which is the largest online newspaper archive of over 16,000 newspapers from the 1700s to the 2000s. If you know the newspapers that were published in your area, bring the names of the papers so we can find articles about you, your family or an event that were published in the above time frame.

Dave Bakos



Ate too much over the holidays?

Put on a few too many Lbs?

Are your pants now too tight?

Join the SMCB Walking Group

Did YOU know a walker can lose an average of three pounds a week. And the more you walk, the more weight you'll lose.

8 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays @ Somerset North
For information, contact Larry Imerman, 248-642-9432

Groups continued



Reading Groups

February promises to be another month of stimulating discussions at the Monday and Wednesday reading groups. We will be discussing two very different novels both of which deal with issues that are relevant today. All are invited to attend either or both of these sessions.

Wednesday, February 5, at 10:30AM: *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead (New York: Penguin-Random House, 2019)

Based on news reports about an actual brutal boy's reform school in Jim Crow era Florida, Whitehead tells a gripping story of two boy's struggle for survival. His book was named one of the top ten books of 2019 by the New York Times. The NPR review called it a "beautiful, wrenching act of witness, a painful remembrance of an 'infinite brotherhood of broken boys.'"

Bob Maxfield will lead this discussion.

Monday, February 17, at 3:00PM: *1984* by George Orwell (New York: Penguin Books, 1949)

While you might have read this book in college, it is very relevant today as we come to grips with loss of privacy, tendencies toward totalitarianism and arguments about what is "truth". It is the story of one man's effort to confront a system dominated by Big Brother and committed to "group think". Sixty-eight years after its publication 1984 jumped to the top of the Amazon best seller list.

Frank Snower will lead the discussion

Bob Maxfield



Camera Group

The Camera Group meeting for February will be held on Tuesday afternoon, February 11 at 3:00PM in the second floor meeting room at the Community House. Several SMC members have requested that they would like instruction in "How can I take better photographs." The February meeting will be the first in a series of (not necessarily consecutive) sessions in which we will show a sequence of lessons from "The Great Courses" by National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore. This series deals with single lens reflex (SLR) cameras and NOT cell phone cameras. However, the principles of composition and lighting apply to both devices.

Bob Frank



Investment Group

The next meeting will be on Wednesday February 12 at 2.45PM. The timely subject will be income taxes and our returning speaker will be Alan Miller, tax expert, who will discuss the implications of ever changing and possibly confusing tax laws. Alan will also discuss possible investment strategies and actions. Paying more taxes can be good.

Jerry Peck increased his lead in the Stock Game with a 70.7% gain in 3 months. Dave Ladd is second with a 37% gain. Dave Ehlen, Bob Klein, Dr. Main and Irv Poston follow. 65 players have gains. The best stock was Tesla with a 73.6% gain. Incredible! How long can greed last? Bring a friend to the meeting.

George Miller



Classic Movie Group

On February 10, at 1:00PM in The Community House, Joel Adelman will present the 1967 film "Bonnie and Clyde" (1 hour and 51 minutes), which is based on the life and times of the depression era bank robbers and career criminals Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker. The film stars Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway as the title characters and also features Gene Hackman and Estelle Parsons. The film received much critical acclaim, was a stunning success at the box office and won Academy Awards for Best Supporting Actress (Estelle Parsons) and Best Cinematography. It is considered a landmark film and was among the first 100 films selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry. The film broke many historical cinematic taboos relating to sex and violence and its iconic ending remains today as one of the most, if not the most, bloodiest death scenes in cinematic history. It's an unusual combination of biographical depression era history, stunningly beautiful women, 1930s gangster-type action, great story-telling and outstanding cinematography appeal to you, then this is a film to enjoy. We will show a beautiful new restoration Blu-Ray print of this movie with subtitles on our large eight-foot wide screen. In addition, Joel will bring plenty of fresh popcorn to make the movie going experience complete for you, your family and friends.

Fred Hansz

THE OLD MADE NEW:

The Renovation of Historic Buildings for the 21st Century Office

In our “Old Made New” trip, we explore the re-purposing of space to design new work areas in downtown Detroit and in Dearborn.

We start with a two hour walking tour of the Quicken Loans complex covering multiple buildings. The buildings showcase the renovation of historic structures in addition to creatively designed work spaces.

We lunch at a Middle Eastern restaurant in Dearborn. Vegetarian and non-vegetarian options will be available (a non-alcoholic beverage is included with the meal).

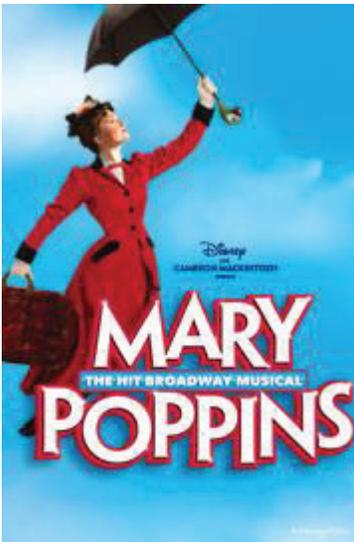
In the afternoon, we hear from the Ford Motor Land Development’s design staff regarding plans for the Michigan Central Station and the refurbishing of older buildings on the Ford campus.

The \$40 a ticket price includes bus transportation, lunch, and gratuities.

We will depart from the First Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, February 25, from 9:00AM to around 4:00PM. Tickets for this unique experience will not be sold after February 8 as a list of those attending must be provided to both Quicken Loan and Ford Motor Land Development security personnel.



Larry Imerman



DISNEY AND CAMERON MACKINTOSH'S

MARY POPPINS

APRIL 15, 2020 AT 2:00PM

Wayne State University - Bonstelle Theatre

Pop open your umbrellas and take flight with us as everyone’s favorite, and practically perfect, nanny takes the stage in this *supercalifragilisticexpialidocious* musical adventure.

Mary Poppins is an enchanting story that follows the Banks family as they struggle with life in Edwardian England just after the turn of the 19th century. The children, Jane and

Michael, are terribly ill-behaved. Mrs. Banks is lonely and bereft, aching for dreams long ignored. And Mr. Banks just wants to live an orderly, well-established life. Helping them is the mysterious nanny who can talk to birds, magically transform a gloomy park into a painterly scene, and, just maybe, with a spoonful of sugar, get the Banks back on track. Exclusive **Meet the Cast** at the close of curtain!!!

Disney and Cameron Mackintosh’s *Mary Poppins* delighted Broadway audiences for over 2,500 performances and received **nominations for nine Olivier and seven Tony Awards**, including Best Musical.

Lunch preceding the play at **The Traffic Jam & Snug**: Established 1965, is truly one of Detroit's hidden treasures. Known throughout Midtown for their in-house bakery, microbrewery, and dairy, the curiously intimate multi-level dining rooms, and an eclectic menu of made-from-scratch dishes.

\$60

Includes luxury bus transportation from First Presbyterian, Lunch and Play Tickets.

Tickets on sale February 21, 2020. Sales will be available for only three weeks - all sales must be completed by March 15th!

For more information contact: Tim McGee (248-705-9166) or Tom McNally (248-646-4720)



MYSTERY LYRICS

Last month's mystery lyrics were somewhat challenging. We asked if you could identify the song with these lines:

*"You're no exception to the rule
I'm irresistible, you fool"*

The song is "Whatever Lola Wants, Lola Gets" and the seven knowledgeable readers were Ray Buratto, John Dueweke, Joel Adelman, Roger Timm, Tom McNally, Clay Gordon and Fred Hansz.

We aren't sure how many country and western fans are in the Club, but these lines are from a song played many times in Nashville.

*"Listen to the jingle, the rumble and the roar
As she glides along the woodlands,
through the hills and by the shore"*

Can you name that tune? (A big hit for Roy Acuff & the Smoky Mountain Boys)

Dick Harper



SPORTSTRIVIA

Joel Adelman suggested a trivia item which proved to be difficult. Readers were asked to remember the major league baseball player who had degrees from two Ivy League colleges and who served as a spy during World War Two. Only Ray Buratto, Tom DeCorte, Julian Prince and Roger Timm knew it was *Moe Berg* - hearty congratulations.

This month we have another World War Two challenge for you: many big leaguers of course served in the war, and league talent was somewhat thin, so thin in fact, that a baseball player with only one arm was in the majors for a brief time. *Can you remember his name and possibly the team he was with?*

Dick Harper

The Reminder

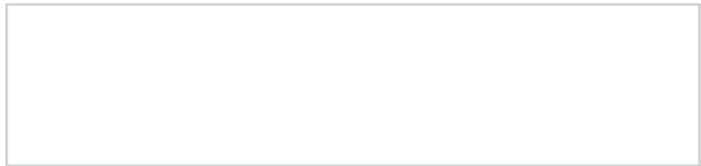
A monthly publication of the Senior Men's Club, which meets Fridays at 10:30AM at The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, MI 48009.

Officers for 2020 are: Jerry Stribbell, President; Maynard Timm, First Vice President; Swarn Rajpal, Second Vice President; Paul Kovceses, Recording Secretary; Larry Imerman, Corresponding Secretary; Leonard Borman, Treasurer; Posh Gulati and Martin Rowell, Officers at Large.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, Editor Emeritus; Jay Kafarski, Publisher; Maynard Timm, Co-Editor; John Flintosh, Co-Editor; Tim McGee, Co-Editor; Tom Booth, Gene Markel and Roger Timm, Photography; Bob Jordan, Mailing.

Senior Men's Club

380 South Bates St Birmingham, MI 48009



Club Dates to Remember

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, February 7

Bowling: Mondays at 10:00AM at Escape Lanes

Wednesdays, 10:00AM at Escape Lanes (practice)

Bridge: Fridays after lunch

Special Events

Old Made New Tour: Tuesday, February 24

Mary Poppins at Bonstelle Theater: April 15

Genealogy Group: Monday, February 3, 2:00PM

Reading Group A: Wednesday, February 5, 10:30AM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, February 10, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, February 11, 3:00PM

Investment Study Group: Wednesday, February 12, 2:45PM

Reading Group B: Monday, February 17, 3:00PM

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

Visit SMC at www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com

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