

The Reminder



November 2015

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

Inside

- 2 Membership News
- 3 John Kary is 100!
- 4 FREE Lunch Success
- 5 Groups
- 6 Special Events
- 7 Legacy Endowment Fund
- 8 Mystery Lyrics and Sports Trivia



SMC Improvements

The Improvement Committee, chaired by Jim Bayson, recently held a special Discussion Group meeting with attending members asked to contribute to committee efforts to identify actions or changes which could improve our Club. Subsequently, a number of these possible actions were presented to the Executive Board for consideration and possible implementation, as follows:



- Schedule meetings in August - insufficient support – comments about liking a break, and ability to plan other summer activities
- Plan a second free lunch Friday for potential applicants – strong support – likely next April
- Shorten speaker and monthly chair introductions – strong support – will be implemented
- Information on Club people and events for new members – orientation to cover along with *Reminder* and Club website listings
- Improved Club camaraderie – Members are welcome to arrive as early as 9:00AM on Fridays to exchange opinions, solve world problems, etc.
- Water on tables for Friday meetings – being studied with input from The Community House, the Hostess group and our Table Setting Committee
- Walking Group publicity – frequent *Reminder* announcements

continued on page 4...

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Malcolm Hendy

- 6 John Connaughton, Birmingham Fire Chief *From Probation Firefighter to Top Office: Meet the New Chief*
- 13 Gus Mondalek, Middle East Expert..... *The ISIS Threat*
- 20 Don Studt and Mark Clemence, Birmingham Police Department.....*The Changing Face of Law Enforcement: A Local Perspective*
- 27 NO MEETING-Thanksgiving

DECEMBER PROGRAMS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: Charlie Blank

- 4 Father Scott Thibodeau, Pastor, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs *The Meaning of Advent*

NOVEMBER DISCUSSIONS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Riggs Miller

- 6 Jason Morgan, Executive Director, South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless *Welcome Inn*
- 13 Fred Leydorf, SMC Member *2015 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance Car Show*
- 20 R.J. King, *dBusiness* Editor..... *The Story Behind the 8 Track Tape Player*
- 27 NO MEETING-Thanksgiving

DECEMBER DISCUSSIONS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: Warren Block

- 4 Warren Block, SMC Member..... *NANEEK-Vietnam Veterans Return to Vietnam*

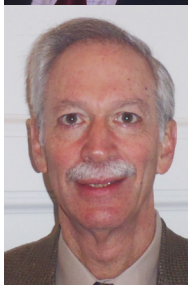
New Members:



William H. Laitinen
6097 North Shore Drive
West Bloomfield, MI 48324-2142
248-360-0366
billbets@hotmail.com
Sponsor: Tom Fogarty



Oliver P. Marcotte
5905 Wing Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-1257
248-851-0430
olivermarcotte@comcast.net
Sponsor: Bob Beach



Kenneth B. Meskin
4241 Sedgemoor Lane
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-1648
248-855-3888
kenmeskin@comcast.net
Sponsor: Jim Bayson

To Life Member:

Frank R. Gunkel

Deaths:

Harold C.L. Jackson, Jr. (Life), joined June 1998

Richard R. Gala, joined July 2008

Resigned:

John B. Lake

New Associates:

Rudrick E. Boucher
4627 Brightmore Court
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-2148
248-645-0372; remebouche@aol.com
Sponsor: J. P. Quigley

John P. Bower
525 Newburne Pointe
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
248-224-9658; bowernation@gmail.com
Sponsor: Roger Krieger

Nicholas A. Fontana
2599 Summerlin Court
Rochester, MI 48306
248-650-6126; dr.naf@sbcglobal.net
Sponsor: Gino Saliccioli

New Associates Cont'd:

Ronald H. Froehlich
2870 Birchwood Court
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-0900
248-723-4291; rhfroehlich@yahoo.com
Sponsor: John Horiszny

Jerome F. Green
200 Chester Street, Apt. 523
Birmingham, MI 48009-1439
313-410-2701; jergreen1@aol.com
Sponsor: Clifford Snedeker

Samuel R. Jackson
3940 Orchard Hill Drive
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
248-703-3979; samuelrjackson@comcast.net
Sponsor: Roger Timm

Gerd H. Keuffel
1329 Indian Mound W.
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-2263
313-540-8024; keuffel@aol.com
Sponsor: George Stern

Manohar B. Motwani
6659 Minnow Pond Drive
West Bloomfield, MI 48322-2661
248-891-3162
Sponsor: Swarn Rajpal

Francis J. Pallischeck
329 Linden Road
Birmingham, MI 48009-3721
248-644-3084; jpall44@gmail.com
Sponsor: Jim Suhay

Ralph A. Postler
10155 Borgman
Huntington Woods, MI 48070
248-545-2220
Sponsor: Jack Porter

Jay W. Reynolds
718 Colonial Court
Birmingham, MI 48009-3870
248-645-9671; jayw.reynoldstgernst@gmail.com
Sponsor: George Stern

James C. Schmidt
3930 Maple Hill W.
West Bloomfield, MI 48323
248-330-2140; psyklr@aol.com
Sponsor: Paul Lieberman

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman

—Robert Beach, Database Chairman

—Bill Shaffmaster, Tom Booth & Gene Markel, Photography

Games

Bowling

We have already bowled six weeks of a new season, and after 22 years at Thunderbird Lanes, we are now bowling at Troy Lanes on East Square Lake Road. One team has emerged as our leader – Team No. One – with 17 points.

John Paesano, Denny Winowiecki, Tony DiMarco and Phil Buccini make up this powerhouse – but it's very early yet, so stand by for lots of competition and position changes.

Early individual leaders are Richard Volpe with a 181 average, followed closely by Phil Buccini at 174. Bob Beach and Phil Owen bowled 500 series our most recent week. Of course, we also have some lower average bowlers who will remain unnamed – a couple under 100. The point of all this is that we really need additional bowlers, regardless of average. As we have noted, we bowl for fun, not high scores.

Why not join us at Troy Lanes any Monday before 10 AM. Call Richard Volpe (248-417-5435) with any questions.



—Dick Harper

2016 Club Handbook

The 2016 SMC Handbook will be printed in December for distribution starting in January. This update will incorporate any changes in member information submitted through November 30, although earlier advice 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 Chairman Bob Beach. Any pending changes to be effective by January 1, 2016 should be included.

In addition, Committee Chairmen are asked to submit 2016 Committee rosters to Handbook Chairman John Zarek as soon as possible, also with the November 30 deadline.

Lastly, and of equal importance, all members are strongly encouraged to join working committees which can always use additional help.

—Bob Beach and John Zarek

Senior Health Matters Caffeine-Friend or Foe?

Caffeinated coffee and tea are the most socially acceptable stimulants in the world. The underlying motivations for caffeine use are alertness, concentration, memory enhancement and physical performance improvement.

When those who take in caffeine intermittently or avoid it altogether are given a low dose of less than 200 mg of caffeine (no more than 1 cup of strong coffee or 2 cups of tea brewed for at least three minutes each), it generally produces positive mood effects. These include increased well-being, happiness, energetic arousal, alertness and sociability.

Doses of more than 200 mg of caffeine may have a negative effect on one's mood including anxiety, nervousness, jitteriness and upset stomach. However, individual differences in sensitivity and tolerance influence the severity and likelihood of experiencing any negative effects.

A recent pooled analysis of four studies showed a protective effect of coffee consumption against developing Alzheimer disease with a risk reduction of 30%. There were short term benefits in those with early dementia as well in the form of increased mental alertness and improvement in certain aspects of cognitive performance. Specifically, there was improvement in vigilance, reaction time and memory consolidation-the ability to discriminate new items and detect that similar items are different than those viewed the day before.

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO
Chairman, Visitation-Health Committee

John Kary is 100!

Member John Kary was recently recognized with a standing ovation on reaching the exalted age of 100. Pete Mehra organized this tribute to our oldest member before an enthusiastic audience at our meeting on October 9. Special mention was made of John's regular attendance at meetings and his continual good scoring at the golf course. Golf committee representative Tom Schrift often referred to John as our hero in usually scoring 42-45 despite being our oldest golfer by far!



Congratulations and best wishes John!

—Dick Harper

New Life Member: Don Foehr

First Vice President Gene Jacoby recently recognized member Don Foehr as an inductee into SMC Life Membership – our most prestigious category. Gene noted that we likely recognize Don as the guy who sold us a lunch ticket that day, since Don has been a long time member of that club committee.



Don grew up in Portsmouth, Ohio where his family owned a restaurant. After graduating with a degree from MSU in hotel and restaurant administration, Don almost inevitably went to work as an Assistant Manager in the family enterprise. He lasted 18 months, until the 16 hour days tired him, and he returned to MSU for a Master's degree in accounting.

This launched a career in accounting and finance, first at Price Waterhouse, then with a Waterhouse client and finally with his own firm – Spartan Finance (get the connection?) Don is now semi-retired, handling a few long term clients.

Gene likes to ask new Life Members about any memorable or life-altering experiences. Don reported how playing tennis may have saved his life. He played tennis at MSU and after graduation in the ROTC, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. and was assigned to Camp Atterbury, Indiana pending posting to Korea. He played tennis doubles there with a steady partner who turned out to be the base commander. Mysteriously, Don's transfer to Korea didn't develop until the Korean conflict was almost over – did tennis save his life? Could be!

Don is very active in the community and his church. He led a men's "30 and older" fitness program for Bloomfield Schools for over 20 years. He lost his wife Donna after more than 50 years of marriage. Then, as Don says "a miracle happened" – he met and married a lovely widow and life has meaning again.

Welcome and congratulations, Don!

—Gene Jacoby and Dick Harper

...continued from page 1

SMC Improvement

- Microphone and communication improvements; new microphones will help so will organizing question and answer period after presentations; center microphone setup to be tested
- Special events on weekend; Mike Clement reported such an event for next year
- Continental breakfast Friday AM; complicated with minimal "show of hands" interest
- Podcasting of Friday meetings and other club events; complicated and needs study
- Dropping "Senior" from Club name (ala TCH Women's Club, BASCC and Grosse Pointe Men; insufficient support
- Mentoring of new Associates – Frank Gordon and Tim McGee to participate within the Associates Committee.

—Dick Harper

FREE Lunch Success



The Free Lunch Program offered in the month of September proved to be a considerable success. This program provided a free lunch at a September meeting for guests considered to be prime prospects for Club membership.

Membership Chairman Pete Kass recently reported that we received 16 membership applications from guests attending September meetings – clear and convincing evidence that once these prospects become familiar with our Club – membership can follow.

Based on this finding, the Executive Board has decided to expand this free lunch program, adding the month of April next year. Of course, members with prospects don't have to wait for a free lunch – just encourage them to attend a Friday meeting and they likely will reach for their pen and wallet!

—Dick Harper

Groups

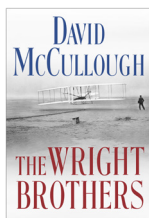


Reading Groups

Stephen Witt's "How Music Got Free" tells how the shift from music CDs to MP3 files was not the result of ordinary folk who wanted to "share" their music—but instead was the product of an organized criminal conspiracy to steal music. To tell this story, Witt has to educate his readers about the science and technology of the MP3 format, wise us up about the recording industry, and tell us about an unskilled laborer with no college education, who lived in a small Baptist town in western North Carolina and brought the music industry to its knees. This man's name was Dell Glover. The Monday reading group will discuss Witt's book on Monday, November 16, at 3:00PM.



David McCullough's "The Wright Brothers" is the Wednesday group's choice for November. McCullough makes clear how much research and experimentation lay behind the Wrights' achievements. With meager financial and material resources, the brothers made observations of how birds fly, tested wing and tail shapes in a model wind tunnel, and did many other things that led to their success, despite their having far less money than the Smithsonian Institution or the French government. Join us for the discussion of this book on Wednesday, November 4, at 10:30AM.



—Frank Auld

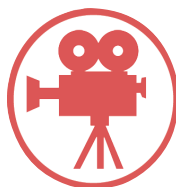


Camera Group

On Tuesday, November 10, at 2:00PM. Our speaker will be Douglas Ashley – noted local news photographer, who will discuss "Digital Camera In-Hand...How to Use All the Power That is Not Automatic".

We're asking attendees to bring their own cameras and participate in this hands-on discussion of: ISO, depth of field and speed setting. This will be a totally interactive review of camera basics in the digital world to help us transition to the electronic age and to discover there is a world out there beyond "automatic" and to reinforce camera fundamentals to extract all that you can get from your digital camera.

—John Slocum



Classic Movie Group

On Monday, November 9, Fred Leydorf, Jr. will present one of his favorite musical films, "Holiday Inn" (1942), at 1:00PM. In this holiday classic, singer Bing Crosby and dancer Fred Astaire are pals who both compete for the affections of the beautiful and talented Virginia Dale. Featuring a number of famous Irving Berlin songs, one for each holiday, including the film debut of the iconic "White Christmas", this film is a pure pleasure to watch from start to finish. So, please plan to join us, in November, to start the holiday season in a mellow tone.



—Fred Hansz



Investment Group

On Wednesday, November 11, at 2:45PM Julie Hollinshead and Karl Knas, Portfolio Managers at DeRoy & Devereaux Private Investment Counsel, Inc. will share their current views on and outlook for the U.S. equity markets. DeRoy & Devereaux is a Michigan based SEC registered investment advisor that invests TCH endowment funds including the legacy endowment funds donated by SMC members. The Stock Game has 60 entries; the first status report will be available at the November 11 meeting. Bring a spouse, a friend, new SMC associate or someone interested in investing to this very informative meeting.

—George Miller



Computer Group

On Wednesday, November 18, at 3:00PM our guest speaker will be Josh Rounan, Electronics Resources Librarian at the Baldwin Public Library. Josh is responsible for selecting and maintaining all of Baldwin's databases and other electronic resources, as well as ordering all adult e-books and teaching free technology classes.

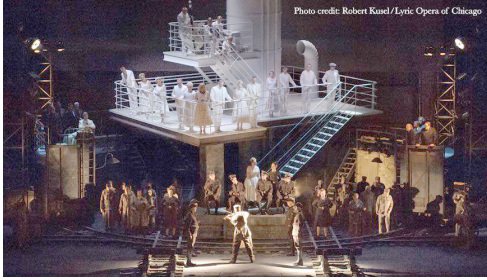
At this meeting, Josh will explain the digital services available at Baldwin. He will leave time to answer your questions. All members and guests are welcome to what should be a most timely and informative meeting.

—Jon Haber

Special Events

History, Art and Good Food

The Special Events Committee has planned a trip to Downtown Detroit on Wednesday, November 18.



We will leave from Somerset Mall at 9:30AM by bus for a tour and talk at historic St. Mary's Church in Greektown which opened in 1885. We will then tour the Detroit Opera House which opened in 1922. Our tour will include seeing the actual stage setting for "The Passenger." The set is an enormous three story ship with a railroad running beneath. After our tour we will lunch at Vincente Cuban Cuisine with a menu of five choices. We are limited to 54 seats at a \$40 all-inclusive price.

—Jerry Stribbell

Save the Date!

Mark your calendars now for the SMC's annual excursion to the Detroit Auto Show at Cobo Hall on Thursday,



January 21, 2016. 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 in December. Check the December *Reminder* for more details about this popular event.

—James King

Thank You So Much!

Thank you to all who responded and volunteered at the OUR TOWN Art Show & Sale on Friday and Saturday. I appreciate your time and efforts more than I can ever express. YOU GUYS ARE SIMPLY THE BEST!

—Carlotta Blue

The Community House Volunteer Coordinator

Christmas Dinner Dance

This year's Senior Men's Club Christmas Dinner Dance will take place on Wednesday, December 9, 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 and dancing thereafter.

Tickets are \$45 per person and will go on sale at the Special Events table beginning on Friday, November 6, and continue through Friday, December 4. Reserved group tables will be available upon request, but we will be happy to arrange tables for singles as well. We are opening the event to include non-members again this year, and have invited the members of TCH Women's Club, so please consider inviting guests to join us at this festive event.

Tables will accommodate eight persons. For those who wish to sit together at a table, table reservation forms will be available on October 30, 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. 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, and "The Pros" dance band (with approximately sixteen members and a featured vocalist) will entertain us again this year, opening with a salute to the Armed Forces followed by a sing along, and nostalgic and seasonal favorites for our listening and dancing pleasure during the evening. The newly-formed 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!

—Jim King

Club Camaraderie Starts at 9AM on Fridays

Quite often when members discuss the appeals of SMC Club membership and participation in Club activities, we hear them make mention of Club camaraderie – the opportunity to exchange in informal conversations on a variety of subjects with other members. Maybe it’s sports (the Lions lost again), maybe political, maybe Club issues, etc, etc.

The Community House opens early on our Friday meeting mornings. Increasingly, we find that members start to arrive at 9:00AM or shortly after to take advantage of this camaraderie – try it – you will like it. We have many informed and/or opinionated members who love to discuss current events and solve both local and national problems. Maybe you would like to share opinions.

—Dick Harper

SMC Officer Election

The SMC Nominating Committee under Chairman Stu Shuster, has selected candidates for Club Officer positions for 2016. In accordance with our constitution, these candidate names will be posted on the Club bulletin board and announced to the membership on November 6.



The formal election will be held on November 13, led by President George Stern. At that time, an opportunity for nominations from the floor will be provided attending members.

—Dick Harper

Legacy Endowment Fund

The SMC Legacy Endowment Fund was created in 2007 to commemorate the Club’s 50th anniversary and to establish a lasting legacy benefitting The Community House. Our Club also conducts a separate annual fund drive directed at providing ongoing support for TCH. It is important that members understand how these two funds differ in terms of objectives as well as the time frame of their focus.

- Funds raised by the Annual Fund Drive are used by TCH to cover a portion of current operating expenses – hence, it has a short term focus. The Legacy Endowment Fund has a longer term focus – contributions are combined with the established TCH Endowment Fund to provide long term financial stability from combined earnings.
- Our annual fund is ongoing - members receive letters from Chairman Jack McLaughlin requesting financial support. With a longer term intent, the LEF has a continuing need. Members can consider contributions to this fund in the form of:

- Direct donations
- Will or trust designations
- Bequests at death

As we approach the end of 2015, the Legacy Endowment Committee asks that you consider a legacy commitment in your end-of-year gifting plans. Please contact any Committee member with questions.

—Bill Johnson, Chairman,
Legacy Endowment Committee

SMC 2016 Dues Coupon

2016 dues are payable before January 1, 2016. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2016. 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, we have learned that many of our readers have long memories when it comes to old and classic



Broadway performances. We thought that this somewhat obscure lyric line might be difficult – but no fewer than nine came up with the answer. The line is:

The dashboard's genuine leather

Congratulations to Tim McGee, Al Bosley, Pete Kass, Midge (Roger) Gettel, Dolly and Bill Johnson, Jeanne (Merrill) Miller, John Parker, Dick Smith and Clay Gordon. They all knew this line is from "The Surrey With The Fringe on Top" – of course from *Oklahoma*.

Let's try another line from an old and great musical performance. The mystery lyric is:

*We will dance the hootchy kootchy
I will be your toosie wootsie*

Can you name that tune and the musical?

Sports Trivia

Last month's sports trivia challenge did prove to be difficult. We asked how many players you could remember from the Cincinnati Reds team dubbed "The Big Red Machine." We only received responses from those members who get almost all the baseball trivia items correct. Both Tom McNally and Pete Kass named the big three from this team – Pete Rose, Johnny Bench and Joe Morgan. Tom also remembered Tony Perez, Ken Griffey and George Foster. Pete added Dave Concepcion and Cesar Geronimo. Dick Smith knew Rose and Sparky Anderson.

Let's try some baseball nicknames this month. Can you name the players with these nicknames – "The Big Train," the "Fordham Flash" and "Mr. October." (These might be too easy).

—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 2015 are: George L. Stern, president; Eugene P. Jacoby, first vice president; Richard A. Kamp, second vice president; Robert I. Hayes, recording secretary; Charles R. (Dick) Bradley, corresponding secretary; John P. Groves, treasurer; James A. Bayson, assistant treasurer; Charles J. Blank and Pradeep (Pete) Mehra, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

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

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham
380 South Bates St., Birmingham, MI 48009
www.tchserve.org

CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, November 13

Bowling: Troy Lanes, Mondays, 10:00AM

Bridge: Tuesdays at 9:00AM and Friday after lunch

Special Events

Downtown Detroit: Wednesday, November 18, 9:30AM

Christmas Dinner Dance at San Marino Club:

Wednesday, December 9, 6:00PM

Detroit Auto Show at Cobo Hall: Thursday, January 21, 2016

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, November 4, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, November 16, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, November 9, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, November 10, 2:00PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, November 18, 3:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, November 11, 2:45PM

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

SMC ON THE WEB:

www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com

www.tchserve.org/outreach-and-clubs/clubs/senior-mens-club-of-birmingham