

Christmas is coming, the geese are getting fat,
Please to put a penny in the old man's hat;
If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do,
If you haven't got a ha'penny, God bless you!
Beggar's Rhyme

Heap on more wood!-
the wind is chill;
But let it whistle
as it will;
We'll keep our Christ-
mas merry still.
Sir Walter Scott

Somehow, not only for Christmas,
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others,
Is the joy that comes back to you!
And the more you spend in blessing
The poor and lonely and sad,
The more of your heart's possessing
Returns to make you glad.

John Greenleaf Whittier

Now church bells ring in lofty
spires
To blend their songs with angel
choirs;
And children deck the trees of
light
That keep the Christmas spirit
bright.
May it ever thus we pray
In all the world on Christmas Day!
-Brian F. King-

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As Ecclesiastes, the ancient Jewish thinker and preacher observed long ago, "To every time there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven....". As the 1975 year draws to a close, it is a time for reflection and the purpose is to view the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham in retrospect.

For the elected officers and various Committee Chairmen, it has been a year of challenge, a challenge to continue the Club with the same dynamic vibrance that has characterized it in the past and to provide the same effective leadership which previous administrations have evidenced. This Club was founded by men with a vision for the retirees of the area, and this vision has become a reality through the efforts of leaders of previous years. Our challenge has been to continue this level of performance, and to adapt our program and activities to the changing interests and talents of the men who constitute our membership. The degree to which we have achieved this goal will have to be judged by the individual membership of the organization.

The enthusiasm and the degree of willingness of our members to serve on committees or special projects has been beyond measure. Seldom has a member refused when asked to serve and more typical has been the willingness to volunteer been characteristic. With twenty-one standing committees and a half dozen special projects forming the basic operational structure of the Club, over a hundred men have been active participants. Add to that the weekly programs and regularly sponsored activities in which the members contribute of their time and talents, we can truly say that the Senior Men's Club is a cooperative team effort.

A modification in our constitution enabled the Club to attain unusual growth during the year. Approximately fifty new members have been added to our active roster, and the Executive Board has honored four of our

members with our most cherished classification; namely, that of Life Membership.

High praise could be sounded for every department of the Club, but special accolades are in order for our Camera Club. In addition to its usual fine program, it is to be commended for the valuable and timely service it is rendering to the community by serving as official photographers for the Birmingham Bicentennial and in co-sponsoring with the Baldwin Public Library, the Wednesday noon movie program.

It has been a privilege to serve as your president for the past year. You have chosen well in the slate of officers which you have elected for 1976. The future of the Club is in good hands, and I wish them well as they embark upon the Senior Men's Club's 19th year of activity.

As the 1975 year draws to a close, I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Holiday Season.

Ross A. Wagner

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ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Christmas Party is scheduled for Friday evening, December 12, 1975. An interesting evening is planned by the Committee consisting of Jim Flack, Roy Thurman and Harold Simms. Dinner will be served at 6:30 P.M. A program of Christmas music will be presented by a young people's group from the Cross of Christ Lutheran Church of Bloomfield Hills. This group has appeared on T.V. and on tour in California. The price of the tickets is \$6.00, and they can be secured from John Pound, Assistant Treasurer.

HOSTESS PARTY

The annual Hostess Party is scheduled for our last regular meeting of the 1975 year, on December 19. On this occasion, Chet Stokes is recruiting a staff of waiters from the membership of the Club. On this occasion, the ladies who have so graciously served our meals on Fridays at our regular meetings and to the card players on Tuesdays will be our guests. We are very appreciative of the valuable service which these ladies render to our club and we wish to honor them on this occasion. Jim Flack is making the arrangements for the party and will be in charge of this portion of the meeting.

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MEETINGS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 1975 YEAR

The schedule of meetings for the remainder of the 1975 year is:

- Friday, December 5, at 10:30 A.M.
- Friday, December 12, at 10:30 A.M.
- Friday, December 12, at 6:30 P.M. - Christmas Party
- Friday, December 19, at 10:30 A.M. - Regular Meeting & Hostess Party

During the Holiday Season, no card playing will be scheduled at The Community House. The last day for card playing will be the afternoon of December 19. Tuesday, January 6, 1976, will be the next regularly scheduled card day.

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DISCUSSION GROUP FOR DECEMBER - Bill Wilson, Chairman

- December 5 -- "Spray Can - Convenience or Destruction?"
Jim McCubbrey, Leader
December 12 -- "Investment Forecast for 1976"
Seward Lawson, Leader
December 19 -- "Christmas Memories"
Alger Crandell, Leader

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PROGRAMS FOR DECEMBER 1975 - Bill Stockwell, Program Chmn. for December

- Friday, Dec. 5 - Ruth B. McNamee - State Representative, 63 District,
former Mayor, City of Birmingham, Ford Citizen of the
Year - 1968, "Special Award of Merit", Michigan
Municipal League - 1975.
Friday, Dec. 12 - Dick Femmel, Former TV Newscaster for WXYZ and ABC-TV
Network News Correspondent - World Traveler - TV Person-
ality and Vice-President of George Pierrot Productions.

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NEW MEMBERS DURING NOVEMBER

During the month of November, the following new members were added to our Active Roster:

George F. Ward, Jr.
6830 Orinoco Circle
Birmingham, Mich. 48010
Phone 851-1248

L. L. (Bud) Angevine
3879 Carriage Rd.
Birmingham, Mich. 48009
Phone 646-0713

Arthur W. Ackerman
2875 Woodward Ave.
Bloomfield Hills, Mich. 48013
Phone 335-0132

Dimitry P. Holbert
16107 Birwood
Birmingham, Mich. 48009

Lester H. Wilson
15755 Amherst
Birmingham, Mich. 48009
Phone 642-4439

Henry J. Leonard
18569 Riverside
Birmingham, Mich. 48009
Phone 646-8423

MEMBERS LOST DURING NOVEMBER

During the month of November, the following members were lost from our Active Roster:

Thomas P. Summers - Resigned
4825 N. Adams Rd.
Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
Joined the Club 7/71

Paul J. Ziegelbauer - Resigned
7380 Franklin Rd.
Franklin, Mich.
Joined the Club 4/73

Arthur D. Chantler - Resigned
2139 Yorkshire
Birmingham, Mich.
Joined the Club 4/73

CARD REPORT - Carl Schorn:

There were 368 bridge players during November, for an average of 92 players per session.

The top 10 scores during November were:

1. Harold McNaughton	5030	6. Don Murray	4240
2. Ray Roberts	4480	7. Clark Hallock	4230
3. Joe Landre	4400	8. Vern Bryant	4210
4. Carl Schorn	4330	9. Don Hunter	4210
5. Joe Schulteis	4330	10. Marty Hubbard	4200

The top 5 averages for 4 games in November were:

1. Earl Triplett	3163	4. Joe Schulteis	2873
2. Don Murray	3123	5. - Howard Walser	2830
3. Carl Schorn	2963		

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KALINKE

During the administration of President Wagner I, in 1958, our speaker on November 14th was Peter C. Kalinke. Mr. Kalinke was captured in Southern Germany by the Russians in World War II and held prisoner for six years.

Now a citizen of the United States, he told us about conditions in Europe and emphasized the great need, which existed at that time, for food and clothing for Russian refugees, and our club decided to do something about it.

By January 23rd of 1959, enough material had been collected to make a 200 pound shipment. Donald McGuire volunteered to the detail involved in making the shipment to GRENZDURCHGANGLAGER, the first camp refugees reach on West German soil - where this material was most needed.

The cost of making this shipment by express amounted to the sum of \$75.39, which was paid by the Senior Men's Club without quibble.

Gleaned from the Minutes by The Historian

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Wakened out of deep sleep, man answering phone: "You have the wrong idiot, you number!" -Chon Day in Look

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After giving what he considered a stirring, fact-filled campaign speech, the candidate looked out at his audience and confidently asked, "Now, any questions?" "Yes," came a voice from the rear. "Who else is running?" -Joseph C. Salak in Current Comedy

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"Are you going to take all this lying down?" boomed the candidate. "No!" shouted a member of the audience. "The reporters are doing that." -Reynolds News and Sunday Citizen (London)