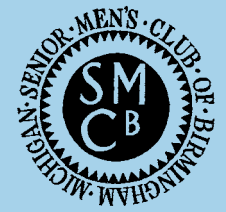


The Reminder



December 2013

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

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- 4 Life Members
- 5 Groups
- 6 Special Events
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Happy Holidays

Steele Priority: Recruit and Retain

John M. Steele has been elected the 59th president in the history of the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham. To symbolize the orderly transfer of leadership, John will accept the Club's leadership gavel from outgoing president Stu Shuster.

"John Steele brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the presidency" said past president, John Flintosh. "He is instrumental in helping our members take advantage of advanced technology."

John has made significant contributions in other areas of the Club as well, including membership on the Recognition and Awards Committee, the Webpage Committee, the Procedures Manual, and Associate Members Committee.

John's professional background is equally impressive. It includes experience in all phases of the engineering process and enabled John to hold a variety of high-level positions, primarily with Ford Motor Company and Visteon.

Born and raised in Michigan, John received a B.S. and M.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Later he earned an M.B.A. at Northeastern University in Boston. John and his wife Peggy live in Bloomfield Township. They have three children and four grandchildren. When asked what his highest priority will be as president, John's answer is direct and reflects the importance of building our membership: "recruit and retain."



—Chuck Ragains

DECEMBER PROGRAMS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: Art Pope

- 6 Dr. Charles Hyde, Professor, Wayne State University..... *Untold Stories from the Arsenal of Democracy*
- 13 Honors Choir, Greenfield School..... *Honoring Our Hostesses with Seasonal Music*
- 20 NO MEETING
- 27 NO MEETING

JANUARY PROGRAMS

JANUARY CHAIRMAN: Julian Greenebaum

- 3 Rob Mies, Executive Director, Cranbrook Bat Conservatory..... *Bats Are Beautiful*

DECEMBER DISCUSSIONS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: John Reddy

- 6 Frank Gordon, SMC Member *Don't Do This to Your Kids*
- 13 John Reddy, SMC Member..... *Member Predictions - 2013/2014*
- 20 NO MEETING
- 27 NO MEETING

JANUARY DISCUSSIONS

JANUARY CHAIRMAN: TBA

- 3 TBA

New Members:



Arthur Buczkowski
18485 Dolores Ave.
Lathrup Village, MI 48076-2601
248-559-4275
abuczkow@aol.com
Sponsor: George Ritter



Michael T. Monahan
931 West Harsdale
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
248-593-5621
mtm@monahanenterprises.com
Sponsor: Lynn Evans



Joseph H. Buese
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Sponsor: Robert Stoessel



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21900 Dover Ct.
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Sponsor: Joseph Knollenberg



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Sponsor: Pete Kass



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Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-1704
248-647-6813
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Sponsor: Pete Kass



Dennis R. Herrick
1450 Redding
Birmingham, MI 48009-1027
248-646-6342
papadrh@gmail.com
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New Associates:

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Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-2253
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Sponsor: Teddy Wanamaker

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jacobsonocmon1@att.net
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Michael D. Soule
1889 Hickory Bark Ln.
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248-853-7483
donnamike94@yahoo.com
Sponsor: Stuart Shuster

Robert S. Swanson
23915 Greenglen Ct.
Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4621
248-540-2040
janbobswan@aol.com
Sponsor: Richard Halsted

To Life Member:

James E. Clark, Jr.
Richard E. Michel

New Contact Info:

Barry King, blking1949@comcast.net

Resigned:

Daniel H. Dahl
John M. Barbay
Jack T. McFarlane

Deaths:

Richard H. Hartle, joined October 2005
Nathan M. Mills, joined July 1978

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman
—Robert Beach, Database Chairman
—Bill Shaffmaster, Tom Booth
& Gene Markel, Photography

Games

Winter Dome Golf

2014 winter practice for our swinging seniors at the Oakland Yard Dome will begin on Thursday, January 2. Practice will continue every Thursday until the golf courses open in the spring. The price remains the same as last year: \$9 for all the balls each golfer wishes to (or can) hit. Practice begins at 9:30AM and concludes at 11:00AM. Complimentary coffee and Danish are again included.



The Oakland Yard Dome is located at 5328 Highland Road, Waterford Township. Phone 248-673-0100 for directions to Oakland Yard or go to www.oaklandyard.com.

Immediately following practice, all are invited to engage in some fellowship and tall tale telling by gathering together for lunch at Hero's Bar-BQ & Brew restaurant. Hero's is offering the same discount off your total bill as last year. Hero's is located at 998 West Huron Street, Waterford Township. Phone 248-683-9900.

The committee is encouraging a big turnout at the restaurant after practice on January 2. It has been a long, dull, and uneventful summer for the waitresses at Hero's. Peggy, Jackie, and Chrissie are looking forward to some of the urbane, witty, chatty, and knowledgeable conversations that only our senior golfer group can deliver.

—Charles Travers

Bowling

We have a new team leader in our highly competitive bowling league. After 11 weeks, Team #4 (Dave Dinger, Bruce Smiley, Tom Venier and Phil Buccini) with 53 points has a scant one point lead over Team #8 (Tom Tabor, Tom Johnson, Rich Volpe and Art Byington). Stay tuned for some close and exciting competition in coming weeks.

The battle for high league average is also very close, with Rich Volpe, Denny Winowiecki and Phil Owen each at 161. Denny just hit the high game of the year with a strong 224 to go with his high series of 547. We can expect higher individual totals in the future, as we hit mid-season form.

—Dick Harper

Magic Jug Results

Congratulations and thank you! The results of this year's passing of the Magic Jug for contributions to the Oakland County Children's Village were most gratifying. Bolstered by a last minute surge, the checks and cash contributions of Senior Men's Club members totaled \$5000, an increase of almost 9% over 2012. It is evident that the spirit of giving is alive and well within our Club, even in uncertain economic times.

The Executive Board and the Special Projects Committee wish to thank all participants for their generosity. We are especially thankful to Dr. Dave Dinger, Sherwin Vine and John Horiszny for handling the passing of the Jug. Our "kids" at the Village once again will have the support they need and have received from our Club for more than 30 years. Well done!

—James Schaefer

Nathan Mills: Oldest and Longest Serving Member

The Senior Men's Club just lost its oldest and longest serving member with the passing of **Nathan Mills**. Nate reached the exalted age of 100 in June of this year and was honored at a special Club ceremony in July. He joined our Club in July 1978 and was a very active attendee for many years. Even in his 90's, he always stood proudly when his birthday was announced.

—Dick Harper

Attention Book Publishers

I am exploring with The Community House collaborative ideas to promote books written and published by SMC members.



Please e-mail the title, publication date, and one paragraph summation of book(s) you've published to John Reddy, jwwreddy2005@sbcglobal.net. Any resulting plan must be approved by the Publicity Committee, TCH and the SMC Executive Board.

—John Reddy

Life Members

A Club member since 2003, **Jim Clark** was born in Detroit in 1924 and attended Cass Technical High School. He served in the U.S. Air Corps from 1943-45, flying P-40 and P-51 aircraft stateside. Following his discharge, Jim attended Lawrence Technological University, earning a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 1951.



He worked in plant engineering and plant layout positions at several Ternstedt plants from 1951-55. Then he moved to Phoenix Wire Cloth where he was a plant engineer until his retirement in 1994.

Jim has been married to Jean for 60 years - a marriage that produced four children (two boys and two girls), seven grandchildren and one great grandchild. Jim and Jean are members of the St. James Episcopal Church in Birmingham, where Jim has served on Vestry Committees and with other church groups. He has served with the SMC Visitation-Health Committee and is active in the Birmingham Optimist Club, as a member for 21 years. Congratulations on becoming a Life Member, Jim!

A Club member since 2000, **Dick Michel** was born in Saginaw in 1928, attending Arthur Hill High School. His college years at Michigan State University were interrupted by military service. He went from the ROTC program to the U.S. Army from January 1951 to November 1952, serving in the infantry in Korea. Returning to MSU, Dick earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees plus a Ph.D. in Physics.



He has an extensive and varied career, working initially as a Research Physicist at RCA Laboratories from 1956-62. He then moved to the General Motors Research Lab, followed by joining the faculty of Lawrence Tech in 1973 as a physics professor. He later served as Department Chairman, Dean of Technology, and Dean of the College of Arts and Science. He retired in 1999 after 26 years.

Dick has been married to Martha for 62 years. They had four children - sadly two are deceased. They have three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Dick and Martha are members of the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. Congratulations, Dick!

—John Steele

Dave Barrett Honored

Member Dave Barrett was recently honored by the Furniture Bank of S.E. Michigan, receiving the 2013 Spirit of Volunteering Award for his longtime contributions, including serving on their Board of Directors. Dave's efforts to improve this organization's facility were especially noted. Congratulations Dave - you epitomize the "rendering of service" element of our Club's mission statement.



—Dick Harper

Legacy Endowment Fund

Members planning year-end charitable gifting are encouraged to consider contributions or pledges to the Legacy Endowment Fund at TCH. The Senior Men's Club benefits significantly from our ongoing and long-standing relationship with The Community House.

Supporting this fund is a very definitive way of saying thanks for all that we receive. To make a contribution, please contact Erin Dunn, Director of Development at TCH (248-594-6404) or Bill Johnson (248-646-5538). Note that gifts to this fund, of course, are tax deductible. It's not too late to consider such gifts in your December gift planning.

Senior Health Matters Inheritability of Cancer

One legacy that men can do without is an inherited risk for prostate cancer. A massive study from Scandinavia shows that a man whose identical twin has prostate cancer has a 32% risk for the disease, whereas a fraternal twin has a 16% chance. Prostate tops the list of the degree to which genes contribute to risk with an estimated heritability of 58%. Cancers with significant heritability are:

Prostate 58%	Melanoma 39%
Testicular 36%	Ovarian 28%
Breast 28%	Stomach 24%
Kidney 23%	Uterine 24%
Lung 25%	Colon 16%

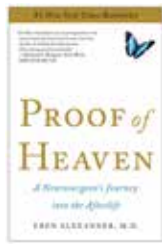
—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO

Groups



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, December 4 at 10:30AM, we will discuss "Proof of Heaven" by Eben Alexander, M.D. A neurosurgeon's first-person account of his near-death experience after an E. coli meningitis-related seizure and seven-day coma will reassure afterlife believers, though it is unlikely to convince skeptics. Alexander's credentials are impressive: medical school at Duke and 15 years at Harvard-affiliated hospitals. But to agnostics and atheists, Alexander may not come across as a completely objective observer. His story includes interesting asides about past struggles with alcohol and with adoption. His birth mother delivered him when she was 16 and for years did not want to meet him. But the book mostly focuses on religion.



On Monday, December 16 at 3:00PM, we will discuss "Overhaul" by Steven Rattner. This is a first real look inside Team Obama just before the 2010 elections and mixes political warfare and big business shake-ups in equal proportions. Steve Rattner is not just the man brought in by the President to save the auto industry, he is a former *New York Times* financial reporter. Now, from his vantage point at the helm of the historic auto-industry intervention, Rattner crafts a tightly plotted narrative of political brinkmanship, corporate mismanagement, and personalities under pressure in a high-stakes clash between Washington and Detroit. He also explains the tough choices he made, facing vocal opposition from free market champions, to keep Chrysler and General Motors in operation.

—Ted Chapekis



Camera Group

No meeting for the Camera Group in December.

—John Slocum



Computer Group

There will not be a meeting of the Computer Group in December.

—Ron Denton



Classic Movie Group

No meeting for the Classic Movie Group in December.

2014 Classic Movie Schedule

January 13: "Thirty Nine Steps" - Gene Winters

February 10: "All Through the Night" - Fred Hansz

March 10: "Doctor Strangelove" - Dick Harper

April 14: "One, Two, Three" - Dick Kamp

May 12: "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance" - Nanda Bagchi

June 9: "Stalag 17" - Jon Haber

July 14: "Jesse James" - Charlie Blank

September 8: "Golden Earrings" - Augie Perrotta

October 13: "Road to Singapore" - Fred Leydorf

November 10: "Silk Stockings" - Irv Poston

—Augie Perrotta



Investment Group

On Wednesday, December 11 at 2:45PM we will hear from Leon LaBrecque, Founder and Managing Partner of LJPR, a private financial firm that provides investment management, tax planning, estate planning and financial legal services. Leon has spoken to the SMC many times and he is considered an outstanding and dynamic speaker who provides valuable information. His subject will be "Economic and Political Outlooks." Attendees will get an overview of current economic and political conditions and the potential impact of those events in our financial lives. Be there! You will like it!

Tom Buescher leads the Stock Game with a 20.1% gain in the first month. John Reddy, Bob Rossi, Bob Hinytzke and Al Bosley follow. Believe it or not, U.S. Steel had the largest gain of 28.3%.

Sixty-nine SMC entries are in the game; 55 are in the \$10 option. Both are ten higher than last year.

—George Miller

Special Events

Christmas Dinner Dance

Wednesday, December 4 is the date of this year's Senior Men's Club Christmas Dinner Dance, which will be held once again 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.



Tickets are priced at \$45 per person. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet you may still get them by contacting Tony DiMarco at 248-643-7368. Please advise Tony of your choice of dinner entrée: tenderloin of beef with mushrooms, chicken parmigiana with mozzarella cheese, or baked orange roughy with lemon garnish.

This is always one of our most popular and successful SMC events, so please don't miss out on it – call Tony today!

—Jim King



Thank You to Elaine Stritch and Peabody's

At the November 3 Special Event, a matinee performance of the Village Players' "Company," Elaine Stritch was very generous with her time for which we are most grateful. She talked to the cast and the audience before the performance and also in an afterglow for about 15 minutes.

Peabody's also deserved kudos for their bountiful donation of afterglow goodies and beverages. When you patronize their restaurant, please mention to the hostess how much the Senior Men's Club appreciates their gesture.

—Art Pope and Roger Struck

2014 Detroit Auto Show

Thursday, January 16, 2014, is the date of our annual bus excursion to the Detroit Auto Show at Cobo Hall. This year's show promises to be even better than ever, with many new production models and design concept vehicles on display. This event offers the conveniences of no driving, no parking, no coat check needed, and no admission fee this year, thanks to the generosity of Tom Sellers from Dean Sellers Ford, who is donating complimentary admission passes for everyone who signs up.



Tickets for the bus ride are \$15. Our bus leaves the First Presbyterian Church parking lot (1669 West Maple Road) at 9:30AM, departs the Auto Show at 2:30PM, and returns to the church at about 3:15PM. We will start selling tickets at the December 6 meeting and sales will continue on December 13, January 3, and January 10. Wives and significant others are welcome. This event has always been a sellout, so buy your tickets early. We hope to see you on the bus!

—Jim King

Ain't Misbehavin'

Keep Thursday, February 27, 2014 open for a dinner/play event. A 6:00PM dinner will be at Lily's Seafood followed by the 8:00PM Stagecrafters play "Ain't Misbehavin'" at the Baldwin Theatre in Royal Oak. The theatre is just around the corner from the restaurant. The play is based on the jazz music of "Fats" Waller. Songs include: "Honeysuckle Rose," "Two Sleepy People," "Jitterbug Waltz," and of course, "Ain't Misbehavin'."

—Joe Samyn and Jerry Stribbell

Hostess Recognition Party

One of our traditional and most respected events is the annual Hostess Recognition Party, which will be held at our last 2013 meeting on December 13. We will bring back the long tables and "mess hall" layout for this meeting. Come and show your appreciation for the friendly and courteous service these lovely ladies provide all year at our Friday luncheons. In addition, you will hear some wonderful Christmas music.



2014 SMC Officers

The important annual election of Officers who will lead our Club in 2014 was held recently. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Past President Dick Harper, presented a proposed slate of candidates for membership consideration. These men were unanimously elected to the indicated positions. They will serve our Club commencing with the first meeting in January 2014.

- President - **John M. Steele** (*left front*)
- First Vice President - **George L. Stern** (*left center*)
- Second Vice President - **Eugene P. Jacoby** (*right front*)
- Recording Secretary - **Richard A. Kamp** (*right center*)
- Corresponding Secretary - **Charles J. Blank** (*not pictured*)
- Treasurer - **John P. Groves** (*center front*)
- Asst. Treasurer - **James A. Bayson** (*left rear*)
- Officer at Large - **Robert L. Babcock** (*not pictured*)
- Officer at Large - **Charles D. Basch** (*right rear*)

—Dick Harper

Dues Are Due

The Finance Committee reports that individual member dues payments are running behind last years pace.

Dues can be paid at a Friday meeting (note that only two meetings are scheduled in December) or by using the coupon below. Checks dated prior to January 1, 2014 will be considered on time payments. After that date, dues are late and subject to a \$10 late fee.

Life Member Dues

The fastest growing segment of our Club is the Life Member category, with almost 160 members having achieved this respected Club status. We continue to live longer and better, benefitting from participating in the SMC.

One of the traditional benefits of reaching this status is that payment of dues is no longer required. However, an increasing number of Life Members continue to pay dues on a voluntary basis, telling us they want to contribute to our financial viability. Some suggest that paying dues offsets the development and distribution expenses of *The Reminder*.

Our finance staff is collecting 2014 dues and would be more than happy to accept voluntary dues from Life Members.

SMC 2014 Dues Coupon

2014 dues are payable before January 1, 2014. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2014. 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



We almost "stumped the panel" with last month's mystery lyric challenge. Only Clay Gordon was able to identify the wartime song about someone receiving a "Production E" award. We thought we gave it away when we also noted that the recipient was "as proud as a girl can be." OK, who was it? It was Rosie the Riveter! Additional lyrics were:

There's something true about - red, white and blue about - Rosie the Riveter

Now do you remember? I had several members ask - "What the heck was a Production E?" It was an E for excellence on a production line.

OK - let's go back to a romantic ballad this month, with these opening lines:

Look at me - I'm as helpless as a kitten up a tree

Can you name that tune?

Sports Trivia

Once again, nicknames of old time baseball greats proved to be challenging. We asked if you could remember the nicknames of these three stars of the past - here they are with their nicknames:



- Leo Durocher - "Leo the Lip"
- Charley Gehringer - "The Mechanical Man"
- Nolan Ryan - "The Ryan Express"

Only regulars Pete Kass, Tom McNally and Dick Smith got all three - these guys really know baseball history - while Ben Mangiapane and Clay Gordon got Durocher and Gehringer.

OK - let's try it again. Do you remember the nicknames of these players?

Pete Rose - Willie Mays - Frank Thomas
And here's a "lucky strike extra" - The nickname of Mordecai Brown? (hint - he was a pitcher with a handicap).

—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 2013 are: Stuart B. Shuster, president; John M. Steele, first vice president; George L. Stern, second vice president; Eugene P. Jacoby, recording secretary; Richard A. Kamp, corresponding secretary; James E. Bayson, treasurer; Richard E. Shirley, assistant treasurer; David A. Schwartz and Clifford O. Bath, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

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

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

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CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Reminder Deadline: Friday, December 6

Games

Bowling: Monday, 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes

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

Thursday Golf: 9:30AM at Oakland Yard Dome, starting January 2, 2014

Special Events

Christmas Dinner Dance, Wednesday, December 4, 6:00PM

Detroit Auto Show, Thursdday, January 16, 9:30PM

Group Meetings

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

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

Classic Movie Group: No meeting in December

Camera Group: No meeting in December

Investment Group: Wednesday, December 11, at 2:45PM

Computer Group: No meeting in December

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

SMC on the Web:

<http://www.tchserves.org/subpage/senior-mens-club>

Google Group: <http://groups.google.com/group/SMCBirmingham>

2013 Fall River Cruise

