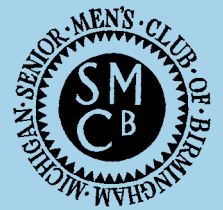


The Reminder



December 2011

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

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New SMC President

On January 1, 2012, Charles (Chuck) Kirkpatrick will become the 56th president of the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham. In the tradition of his predecessors, Chuck brings an impressive resume to the position, featuring: military service during the Korean War, nearly 40 years of corporate management experience, and a distinguished record of volunteerism.

Born and raised in rural Indiana, Chuck raised tomatoes to cover college expenses at Purdue University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Bachelor of Naval Science and Tactics degree.

Next came a four-year tour of duty in the United States Navy during the Korean War. Chuck requested submarine duty and was assigned to two Pacific amphibious ships in Korean waters and then an Atlantic submarine.

Following his military service, Chuck returned to the United States where he enrolled in the Northwestern University School of Business and earned an MBA degree. In 1955 he joined the Ford Motor Company where over the next four



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DECEMBER PROGRAMS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: Dave Schwartz

- 2 Ed McKeehan, Area Representative for the Charter Schools of Ferris State University.....*Charter Schools, What and Why?*
 - 9 The Voices and SEA of Seaholm High School, Laurie Frick, Director*Music of the Seasons*
- NO MEETINGS on DECEMBER 16, 23 OR 30!**

JANUARY PROGRAMS

JANUARY CHAIRMAN: Mike Albright

- 6 Chuck Moss, State of Michigan Representative, District 40*Lansing Roundup*

DECEMBER DISCUSSIONS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: John Reddy

- 2 Michael B. Stewart, Intellectual Properties Attorney *Get Your Assets in Gear - Intellectual Property in the Global Economy*
 - 9 Stephen R. Howard, Chair, Beaumont Hospital Board*Forces Influencing Local Health Care*
 Geoffry L. Hockman, Chair, Beaumont Foundation Board
 John Bonema, M.D., Chair, Unisource Medical Group
 George Grayson, SMC Member, Retired Anesthesiologist
- NO MEETINGS on DECEMBER 16, 23 OR 30!**

JANUARY DISCUSSIONS

JANUARY CHAIRMAN: Len Borman

- 6 William H. Corba, SMC Member *Enzo Ferrari*

New Members:



L. Kevin Heintz
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 248-642-1513
 E-mail: LKHeintz@att.net
 Sponsor: Tom Rowley



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 Sponsor: Walter Ebling

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 E-mail: bradleysai@comcast.net
 Sponsor: Chuck Kirkpatrick

George E. Flintosh
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 248-669-3178
 E-mail: geoflint@comcast.net
 Sponsor: John Flintosh

...continued on page 4

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman
 —John M. Steele, Database Chairman
 —Bill Shaffmaster and Tom Booth, Photography

Groups



Investment Group

On Wednesday, December 14 at 2:45PM Leon LeBrecque, JD, CPA, CFP, CFA will present "From Global to Local: An Interesting Overview of the Economy, Markets and the Political Horizon for 2012." Leon will provide an engaging and entertaining view of the world from the global level down to a local and personal level.

Leon has spoken several times and always has excellent financial advice and offers good stock picks.

The leader in the Stock Game is Bob Bazzell with a record 67.6% gain in 4 weeks. Jim Smallwood, Walter Ebling, Tom Buescher and Dick Harper follow. 44 of the 73 players had gains exceeding 10% in 4 weeks.

—George Miller

Dues are Due

Warren Spatz of the Finance Committee reports that member dues payment are running behind last year's level. Tempus fugit. Dues can be paid at a Friday meeting - note that only two December meetings are scheduled - or by mail using the coupon on page 7. Checks dated prior to January 1, 2012 will be considered on time payments. After that date, dues are late and subject to a \$10 late fee for all member categories.

The Magic Jug

The result of this year's passing of the Magic Jugs for contributions to the Oakland County Children's Village was gratifying, if not record breaking. The amount contributed by the Club totaled \$5,180, a decrease of 14% from 2010. It seems evident that the spirit of giving is alive and well within our club even in troubling economic times.

The Executive Board and the Special Projects Committee want to thank all participants for their efforts and generosity. We are especially thankful to John Horiszny and Sherwin Vine for handling the passing of the Jugs.

"Our Kids" at the Village will again have some of the support they need and have received from our club for over 30 years. Well done!

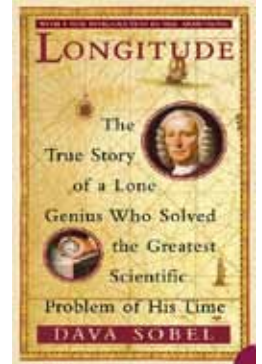
—Jim Schaefer



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, December 7 at 10:30AM, we will be discussing "Longitude" by Dava Sobel. Part biography, part history, part scientific exploration, "Longitude" relates the quest for an accurate way to determine longitude. Unlike parallels of latitude, which are fixed by nature, longitude is judged by means of time. Specifically, you

must know the time where you are, and the times known longitude simultaneously. The longitude problem remained unsolved for the better part of human history; it was a matter of life and death to those on ships at sea. If you didn't know your longitude, you couldn't know exactly where you were. The British Parliament issued the Longitude Act of 1707 which named a prize equal to several million dollars for a practical means for determining longitude. The answer turned out to be a precision timekeeper, or clock which required accuracy of 1/3 of a second per day.



On Monday, December 19 at 3:00PM, we will be discussing "Horse Soldiers" by Doug Stanton. During his tenure as George W. Bush's defense secretary, Donald Rumsfeld championed a mode of warfare that relied on limited numbers of soldier's armed with high-tech equipment and backed by precise, devastating air power.

The Rumsfeld doctrine clashed with the Colin Powell doctrine that wars are best won with overwhelming ground forces. In late 2001, small units of elite Special Forces soldiers, working with C.I.A. and Air Force bombers, joined forces with Afghanistan's Northern Alliance to defeat the country's ruling Taliban. They rode into battle on horses. Rumsfeld carried the day, and has left us in a hell of a fix in Afghanistan which is currently being determined today.

—Ted Chapekis



Bowling

With one-third of our bowling season completed, we have a close race for leadership, with two teams tied for first place - the Mariners (Ragains, Venier, Klein and Kass) and the Diamond Backs (Wetters, Mangiapane, Harper and Winowiecki). Several other teams are close and we still have a lot of bowling yet. A big shake-up is still possible by the end of the first half.

Nick Marinelli continues with all individual honors - high game (253), high series (616) and the best average (168). Things can and likely will change - stay tuned.

Keep 'em rolling straight and true!

—Less Lessenthien

Winter Golf

Winter golf at the Oakland Yard Dome will begin on Thursday, January 5 and continue until our season opens at Lincoln Hills and Springdale. The cost will be \$9 for all the balls you can hit between 9:30 and 11:30AM. Dome management will again provide coffee and donuts for attendees.

All members of the Senior Men's Club are invited to attend, whether or not you participated in Lincoln Hills or Springdale golf with us. After golf practice, we join together for lunch at Hero's Bar and Grille where we will receive a 15% discount on the total bill.

The required special pass for the Dome is available from any member of the committee.

—Chuck Travers

Membership News

...continued from page 1

Life Member:

William A. Hayes

Leave of Absence:

Joseph J. Gerber

Deaths:

John B. Costello (Life), joined November, 1997

Gus Grozdon (Life), joined October, 1995

Daniel N. Pevos, joined April, 2011

New Address/Phone/Email:

Kenneth H. Roy—kenrharlan@gmail.com
art.held@aol.com

Richard T. Lindgren—richardlindgren@email.msn.com

Frank M. Barnes---5935 Crabtree Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-1614

Ralph Cowie---248-914-8476

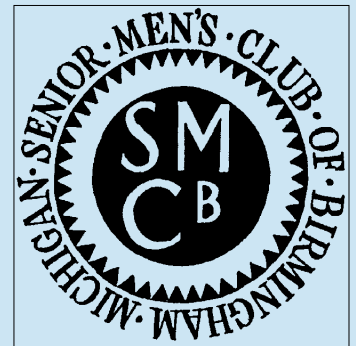
Frederick J. Shaw---Same information as in Handbook except should be Apt. 18

Thomas H. Sandercock---misths52@comcast.net

2012 SMC Officers

The most important annual election of the officers who will lead our Club in 2012 was held on November 11.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Past President Irv Poston, presented the following slate of candidates for membership consideration. These men were unanimously elected by a quorum and will serve our club starting with the first meeting in January, 2012:



President - Charles B. Kirkpatrick

First Vice President - David A. Schwartz

Second Vice President - Stuart B. Shuster

Recording Secretary - George L. Stern

Corresponding Secretary - Eugene P. Jacoby

Treasurer - James E. Bayson

Assistant Treasurer - Richard E. Shirley

Officer at Large - Jack E. Ledingham

Officer at Large - Pradeep Mehra

SMC Improvement Committee

As reported in the November issue of *The Reminder*, an Improvement Committee chaired by John Reddy, was formed to evaluate member suggestions to improve our Club. The overall objective of this effort is to identify actions or changes which would improve recruitment of new members, while expanding the interest and participation of current members. In essence, the committee wishes to enhance Club fellowship and to enrich the experience of Club membership.

Members have been encouraged to submit ideas and suggestions in this regard, with a significant number received following a special Discussion Group meeting on this subject held on September 16.

Chairman John Reddy presented two of these recommendations to the Executive Board on November 8, and received Board approval as follows:

- the Board unanimously approved a proposed "Mix and Mingle" seating arrangement at selected Friday meetings. With the objectives of expanding Club fellowship and broadening friendships, members will be asked to voluntarily select a different table seating position on the fourth Friday of each month. In other words, instead of sitting at a usual position with the usual Club members - find a new position (and maybe new friends). This is intended to be a once-a-month arrangement and clearly will be on the honor system dependant on member cooperation.

- a second approved recommendation covers the Club dress code. Traditionally, our code has called for a coat and tie, except in summer months. Increasingly, we note that the changing "Business Casual" attire environment does not require wearing ties at public functions. New prospects for Club membership don't see ties as being required. Based on these considerations, the committee proposed that the Club dress code be revised to indicate that while wearing ties at Friday meetings is preferred and encouraged, being tieless is acceptable. By a narrow margin, this modification of our dress code was approved and will be effective in January, 2012. "Business Casual" attire at a minimum will include a dress coat, along with a collared shirt or turtleneck.

The committee has received and is evaluating other improvement suggestions from members. Further presentations to the Executive Board are anticipated. Additional member comments and/or suggestions are encouraged. Chairman John Reddy should be contacted in this regard.

—Dick Harper

Senior Health Matters

What Can You Do to Prevent Falls?



From the BCN Advantage Medical Director comes this advice:

- Get up slowly after lying down. Stand for a moment or two before you take a step to allow your blood pressure to stabilize; hold on to something sturdy.
- Wear shoes with firm, non-skid soles. Avoid walking around with bare feet, wearing slippers or wearing socks without grips.
- Keep moving! Strong muscles protect you and will keep you active.
- Ensure your lighting is adequate. Place nightlights near your bed, along walkways and in your bathroom. Make sure you have a flashlight on a bedside table in case of a power outage.
- Use a contrasting color on the top edge of steps to see the stairs easily.
- Make sure that stairs are well-lit and have a handrail on both sides. Consider non-slip rubber threads on the stairs instead of carpet.
- Remove throw rugs on the floor or use non-skid tape under them to hold them in place.
- Clear your pathways of clutter. Move cords and wires out of traffic areas to avoid tripping.
- Put a non-slip rubber mat on the floor of your bathtub or shower. Make sure you have bathroom safety bars.
- Place things you use often on lower shelves. If you have to use a stepstool, use one with a handle to hold onto. Never use a chair.
- Keep emergency numbers near each phone.
- Place a phone near the floor or wear a personal alarm necklace in case you are on the floor and can't reach your telephone to call for help.

To be continued in next month's issue of *The Reminder*...

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO

Christmas Dinner Dance



Friday, December 2 will be your final opportunity to buy tickets for the SMC Dinner Dance, which will be held on Wednesday, December 7 at the San Marino Club in Troy.

Following a reception from

6:00-6:45PM, dinner will be served in the ballroom. The festive menu will include a choice of three entrees, plus soup, salad and dessert. Music for listening and dancing will once again be provided by "The Pros Dance Band."

The price for this memorable evening is \$40. Join us for a great evening of Christmas good cheer - always the high point of our Club year.

The Auto Show Cometh

Save the date, Thursday, January 19, 2012 for our annual bus trip to the Detroit Auto Show. Remember the conveniences of **no** driving, **no** parking, **no** coat check needs---and if we are lucky, again, **no** admission fee (if we can scare up enough complimentary tickets from our local friendly auto dealers---sorry---but can't promise this---but we are trying!)



Tickets for the bus ride are \$12 (same as last year). As stated above this does not include admission to the show which last year was \$5 for Seniors. Bus leaves the First Presbyterian Church parking lot at 1669 W. Maple at 9:30AM, departs the Auto Show at 2:30PM and returns to the church about 3:15PM. We start selling tickets at the December 9 meeting. This has always been a sellout so get in line early! Hope to see you on the bus!

Gift Alternatives to The Community House

ORGANIZATION:

The Community House

1. Annual Fund Drive Check to The Community House

Chairman: Jack McLaughlin

Goal: \$60,000, 100% participation

2. Legacy Endowment Fund Check to The Community House

Chairman: George Miller

Income supports The Community House

RECOMMENDED GIFTING:

Appreciated assets

Check from IRA (2011 only)

Estate Plan

Senior Men's Club

1. SMC General Fund Check to SMC

2. SMC Memorial Fund Check to SMC

Estate Plan

Note: All gifts to The Community House - both the Annual Fund Drive and the Legacy Endowment Fund - are tax deductible for 2011, if made by December 31. Contact Frannie Greenebaum at The Community House or George Miller for more detailed information on Gifting.

MacInnes Recognized

Member John MacInnes was recently recognized by the *Birmingham Eccentric* for his efforts to increase awareness of Alzheimer's disease.

John was diagnosed with early stages of Alzheimer's in 2005. He had a choice of shelling up at home or getting involved in communicating what this disease is all about. He choose the latter and has devoted considerable time and effort in acquainting the public with this disease and how to live with it. He recently spoke at Lawrence Tech on this subject. Congratulations, John!



Dues from Life Members

The fastest growing segment of the SMC is the Life Member group, with nearly 150 members having achieved this respected Club status. We are living longer and better.

One of the traditional benefits of reaching this category 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 the financial viability of the Club. More specifically, we hear that they want to offset development and distribution expenses of *The Reminder*.

Our finance staff is collecting dues for 2012 and would be more than happy to accept voluntary dues from Life Members. So far, 30 have contributed \$1075. Congratulations to these caring members.

SMC 2012 Dues Coupon

2012 Dues are payable before January 1, 2012. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2012. Make checks payable to SMC and pay at the 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
- \$20 Member on Leave

Life Members pay no dues, but may use the coupon to make a voluntary contribution for financial support of our Club.

New SMC President

...continued from page 1

decades he held a progression of leadership positions in organizations such as the Finance Staff, the Lincoln-Mercury Division, and the International Staff. He was especially active in the area of cost management, and led the effort to establish cost systems at each Ford plant.

Following his retirement from Ford in 1994, Chuck was able to make what he calls "a change in career," expanding his involvement in a variety of community programs and organizations including: The Crossroad for Youth Board, Birmingham Athletic Club Board, Bloomfield Village Board, and Bloomfield Historical Society Board, and Past President of the Bloomfield Lions Club.

Chuck has been a member of SMC since October 2000. Leadership positions he has held include Chairman of the Computer Group, Editor of *The Reminder* newsletter, and member of the Classic Movie Group.

Looking to the future, Chuck's goals for the Club include maintaining member interest through continued quality programs; expanding the membership, and improving the perception of the Club. "Our highest priority is to ensure that the Club continues to be a vibrant and vital member of the community," Chuck said.

Chuck is a resident of Bloomfield Village. He has four children and 10 grandchildren.

—Chuck Ragains

Mystery Lyrics

Memory challenges presented to readers last month proved to be most difficult. Only seven recognized that these lines:

*Would you take the wings from birds
So that they can't fly?*

are from the old romantic ballad "Don't Take Your Love From Me." Congratulations to Dale Parker, Dave and Mary Schwartz, Tom and Rose Marie Venier, Larry Dargan, Clarke and Shirley Thornton, Sherwin Vine and Clay Gordon.

The other challenge was a real mystery to almost all. We asked if you could remember the CBS radio show (later on TV) which always ended with a noted news commentator saying:

*What sort of a day was it?
A day like all days
Filled with events that alter
and illuminate our times*

Ben and Judy Ewing correctly identified the newscaster as Walter Cronkite, but not the show title. Ben Mangiapane remembered that the storyline featured dramatized historical events, but only Jack Howell had the show title - "You Are There." (Now do you remember?)

This month, we have a seasonal challenge for readers - hopefully not too easy. Most Christmas songs are quite familiar to you. Here's the last line of one of our favorites:

If only in my dreams

Can you name that tune?

We have about run out of musical nicknames to challenge you with. Ben Mangiapane suggested we try sports nicknames, so here goes. What old time baseball player was called "Ducky?" and do you know why?

Hint - he played against the Tigers in 1934.

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 13, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, December 9

Games

Bowling: Monday, 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lane

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

Golf: Thursday, 9:30AM at Oakland Yard Dome (starting Jan. 5)

Special Events

Christmas Dinner Dance, Wednesday, December 7, 6:00PM

Detroit Auto Show, Thursday, January 19

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, December 7, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, December 19, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: No meeting in December

Camera Group: No meeting in December

Investment Group: Wednesday, December 14, 2:45PM

Computer Group: No meeting in December

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

SMC on the Web:

<http://www.communityhouse.com/getInvolved/interestGroups/SeniorMensClub.html>

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

THE REMINDER

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

Officers for 2011 are: John S. Flintosh, president; Charles B. Kirkpatrick, first vice president; David A. Schwartz, second vice president; George L. Stern, recording secretary; Stuart B. Shuster, corresponding secretary; William L. Sprague, treasurer; Richard E. Shirley, assistant treasurer; David H. Dinger and John F. McCleary, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor; Chuck Kirkpatrick, Chuck Ragains and John Reddy, associate editors; Bill Shaffmaster, Tom Booth 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.communityhouse.com



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