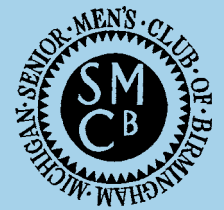


The Reminder

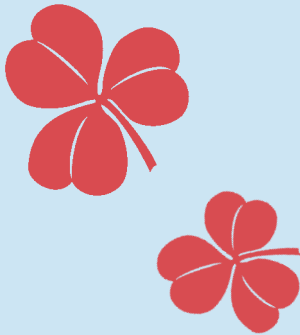
March 2007

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



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Guys & Gals Bocce Ball Party Set for April

Wednesday, April 11, 2007 promises to be a REALLY BIG fun day for SMC guys and their gal or guy partners. This special event will be held at the elegant Palazzo di Bocce facility located just 1.4 miles north of the Palace on Lapeer Road – an easy drive from the Birmingham area.

The Committee has reserved the east wing of the “Palazzo” for our special Bocce Ball Party. Our event will consist of sixteen 4-person teams for a total of 64 guys and gals.

Our big day will kick off at 10:15AM with coffee, an announcement of the 4-person teams and a demonstration on how to play bocce ball. By 11:00AM, the games will be underway.

A delicious buffet lunch will be set up by noon for the various teams to enjoy during breaks in the action. Teams will continue playing against their assigned opponents with winners advancing to the play-offs.

The overall winning teams will be announced, prize money awarded and our Bocce Ball Party wrapping up around 3:00PM.

Tickets will go on sale at The Community House on Friday, March 23, 2007 at the “package price” of \$42 per person. To avoid the rush, please arrive early, take a number at 8:30AM, then buy your ticket/tickets at 9:15AM.



America's First Palace of Bocce™

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MARCH PROGRAMS

MARCH CHAIRMAN: Dennis Kozak

- 2 Kathy Parker, St. Thomas More Choir Member..... “Kathy’s Favorites”
- 9 Jean Bourget, St. James Church Choir Member “As Time Goes By”
- 16 Patti Ward, Musical Director with Seaholm High School Students..... “Selections from Grease”
- 23 Mr. Zarzycki, Musical Director with Groves High School Students..... “Nothing But Jazz”
- 30 Irene Mattutat and Marion Balderi, Birmingham Musicale “Piano Melodies”

APRIL PROGRAMS

APRIL CHAIRMAN: John O’Brien

- 6 NO MEETING

MARCH DISCUSSIONS

MARCH CHAIRMAN: Keith Jones

- 2 Roy Prentice, Farm Manager at Tollgate..... “MSU Tollgate Farm-A Rural Oasis Amidst Suburbia”
- 9 John Heiss, Director, Open Door, Fort Street Presbyterian Church, Detroit “Purposeful Work=Solution to Most Homelessness”
- 16 Carla Lamphere, President and Executive Director..... “Birmingham Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra”
- 23 Carol Lenchek, Environmental Programs Coordinator..... “MSUE-Oakland County Master Gardener Program”
- 30 Paul Newcomer, Presiding Partner, The Top Stock Club of Michigan “How to Set Up and Run an Investment Club”

APRIL DISCUSSIONS

APRIL CHAIRMAN: Chuck Kirkpatrick

- 6 NO MEETING

Membership News

New Members:



Carl H. Fischer, (Charlotte)
1291 Suffield Ave.,
Birmingham, 48009-4824
248-646-8078
E-mail: CFischer4@comcast.net
Sponsor: Dale J. Raar



John T. Dickson
28740 Kendallwood Dr., Farmington
Hills, 48334-2636
248-553-4232
Sponsor: John S. Flintosh



Alexander C. McKeen (Evelyn)
5071 Champlain Circle,
West Bloomfield, 48323-3530
248-626-1744
E-mail: CyberAlex@sbcglobal.net
Sponsor: Eugene P. Jacoby



Robert W. Johnson
7334 Edenborough Dr.,
West Bloomfield, 48322-4031
248-626-0289
E-mail: BobbyJ23@aol.com
Sponsor: William J. English



William P. Andrews, (Sue)
25367 Circle Drive,
Southfield, 48075-1048
248-357-1302
E-mail: WPAsa2@hotmail.com
Sponsor: Alfred Shrosbree



James Karavite, (Carlene)
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Royal Oak, 48073-2678
248-583-0545
E-mail: etivarak1@comcast.net
Sponsor: John S. Flintosh



Gordon E. Allardyce, (Carol)
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Orchard Lake, 48323-1630
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Sponsor: John S. Flintosh

New Applicants:

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248-646-8619
Sponsor: Marion S. Ferszt

Robert A. Brewer, (Marion)
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48334-2661, 248-553-4033
E-mail: RobMar1026@sbcglobal.net
Sponsor: Donald E. Cox

John T. Frye, (Patricia)
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Sponsor: Ulrich Fahrun

Clarence A. Rice, (Laura)
27180 Meadowbrook Road, Redford, 48239-3044,
313-537-0953
E-mail: CRiceShows@aol.com
Sponsor: Lester P. Swanson

Edwin W. Ferens, (Linda)
255 Linden Road, Birmingham, 48009-3722,
248-642-8078
E-mail: EFerens@comcast.net
Sponsor: Alexander C. McKeen

Peter E. Sikaitis, (Joan)
4053 Charing Cross Road, Bloomfield Hills,
48304-3103, 248-645-6307
E-mail: PeteSikaitis@aol.com
Sponsor: James F. Judge

Peter A. Cirulis, (Diane)
2079 Mapleridge Road, Rochester Hills,
48309-4503, 248-370-0706
E-mail: PeterA@cirulis.com
Sponsor: Kenneth E. Brooker

John Schultz, (Irene)
2079 Mapleridge Road, Rochester Hills,
48309-4503, 248-370-0706
E-mail: Jonrene1@comcast.net
Sponsor: Kenneth E. Brooker

Groups



Investment Group

Bonds! "Can We Peak Your Interest."
Gregory Hohenshil, Fixed Income

Portfolio Manager, Managed Asset Portfolios will give us an inside look at the bond world on Wednesday, March 14 at 2:45PM. Greg manages over \$500 million in bonds; his track record is among the best in the industry. If you have or want fixed income, please attend this unique meeting.

Roger Struck has increased his lead in the Stock Game with a 66% gain. Hal Twietmeyer is now second with a 43% gain. Bill Straith, last year's winner, is third with a 36% gain.

George Miller



Camera Group

It's spring time, come tour southwest England with SMC member Harold

Brown on Tuesday, March 13 at 2:00PM in The Community House. We will be visiting the beautiful English gardens and manor houses. Along the way, we will take a side trip to Portsmouth Navy Yard and see the famous HMS Victory. This ship is the oldest commissioned warship in the world. Everyone is welcome, bring your friends.

Roger Garvelink and Harold Brown



Computer Group

Can your computer help you make the right investing decisions? Probably and depends are two of the many possible

answers to that question. On Wednesday, March 28 at 3:00PM, Rodger Gach will discuss ways that you can use your computer to help with your investment decisions.

George Nordenholt

Ramblings of a Retired Mind

If you feel out of it because everyone seems to have a cell phone status symbol on their belt, try wearing your garage door opener and see if anyone notices.

Why don't they put pictures of missing husbands on beer cans?

The next time a visitor comes over and sees your cat's litter box and says, "Oh, you have a cat?" Reply, "No that's for company."

Games



Bowling

After 22 weeks of bowling, the leading team stats and individual stats are as follows:

2nd Half Team: Boilermakers, 38 points

(Don Upward, Tony Smyk, Harry Mitchell and Phil Buccini)

High Team Game: Illini 704

(Bill Minard, Riggs Miller, George Moore and Tom Schrift)

High Team Series: Gophers 1872

(Stormy Wetters, Bob Freebury, Bob Boynton and Art Byington)

High Single Game: Les Lessenthien 243

High Single Series: G. Moore 622

High Single Average: Phil Buccini 169

Wednesday practice bowling continues to increase in attendance with 24 bowlers honing their skills last week. All bowlers mark your calendar with the date of Wednesday, May 2 for the Bowling Banquet at Farina's Banquet Center in Berkley. Tickets are on sale by all the team captains, and the price once again will be \$25 for tenderloin steak dinner with awards and cash prizes for everyone.

Dennis Kozak

Winter Golf

Opening day for Thursday Golf is April 5. The committee will accept no excuses for poor play in April. Muscle aches, being out of shape, rusty irons, warped woods, and lack of concentration can all be eliminated by joining your fellow golfers for winter golf at the Oakland Dome. Official days are March 8 and March 22.

Great news: The Oakland Dome will honor the Senior Mens Club passes everyday Monday through Friday. Just flash your pass and you can hit all the balls you can handle for \$8. See Chuck Travers for a pass.

Notice to golf volunteers: There will be an organizational breakfast at 8:30AM on Friday, March 30 in the Hogle Room. Please plan to attend as this breakfast will constitute the total perks and compensation you will receive for your dedicated service in 2007.

Chuck Travers

SMC Reading Groups

Dear Members, it is time to renew exploration of a third reading group. My earlier efforts fell into disarray because of computer complexities. So if you've contacted me before the start of this year to express interest, please again get your name to me, John Reddy, at 248-645-1874 or jwreddy2005@sbcglobal.net.

SMC's reading groups are alive, rewarding and thriving. The experience of both the Monday and Wednesday groups provides a foundation which will simplify formation of a new group.

Below is a sampling of comments from participants. I urge you to discuss your interest with these men or any other participant in the two groups.

"I have greatly enjoyed participating in our SMC Book Discussions and critiques during the past two years. Especially interesting has been reading and discussing Thomas Friedman's *The World is Flat* and Doris Goodwin's epic on Lincoln's cabinet, *Team of Rivals*."—John Ellis

"I have for many years been a reader of subjects of history, art and navigation, while avoiding works of "literature" such as novels or fiction. Many of the books I read in the book club would not be my first or second choice, but I have learned a lot about how to judge such books, and have enjoyed

the broadbased discussion in the monthly sessions by the members with widely different backgrounds. Hence I am looking forward to each of the monthly meetings."—Jaap Delevie

"I enjoy the Senior Men's Club book discussion group. Even though I think I read perceptively, I find that others have insights that I missed. I appreciate, too, the comraderie and full participation by all those attending."—George Stern

"Joining the group has increased my reading enjoyment by: broadening the breath and depth of the material I read beyond "spy mysteries," increased my understanding of the material through discussion, enabling my meeting and becoming friends with at least 10 new people, preventing embarrassment in outside social engagements by providing something in addition to grandchildren to talk about."—Al Bosley

"Benefits I have enjoyed include reading more than I might otherwise have read, including a greater variety of books. In addition, having others share their insights and opinions gives me a broader perspective and often a deeper understanding and greater appreciation of the books we have read."—Jack McLaughlin

Mr. Common Sense

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Mr. Common Sense. Mr. Sense had been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such value lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm and that life isn't always fair. Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not kids, are in charge).

His health began to rapidly deteriorate when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash! after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Mr. Sense declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student; but, could not inform the parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Finally, Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband; churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense finally gave up the ghost after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot, she spilled a bit in her lap, and was awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust, his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by two stepbrothers; My Rights and Ima Whiner. Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

To Life Member:

Sidney Kelly, joined April 1995
 Martin J. Reddy (LOA), joined February 1996
 Francis DeGrande, joined February 1989
 Lester P. Swanson (LOA), joined May 1984
 Richard F. Heldt (LOA), joined June 1990

Deaths:

James V. Burch (LOA), joined February 2000
 Ivan S. Doctor, joined March 2006

Pete Kass, Membership Chairman
 Bill Peschel, Membership Vice Chairman
 Bill Shaffmaster, Photography



Calendar Alert

Two major events celebrating the 50th anniversary of the SMC have been completed - the Village Players performance of GYPSY, and the acclaimed Club documentary video, which is being shown on community television and is available for purchase at Friday meetings.

The Anniversary Committee is now focusing on events planned for our celebration month of May 2007. Each Friday meeting that month will feature a special program or high-profile speaker. We expect strong member interest and attendance at these meetings. We will be working with the various involved committees (Attendance, Lunch Ticket, Table Setting and Sergeant at Arms) to ensure appropriate planning for anticipated heavy attendance. At the very least, early arrival at these meetings will be advisable.

As noted previously, an anniversary evening banquet will be held at the San Marino Club on Tuesday, May 15. This banquet will be a gala event, with the program including a festive dinner and outstanding entertainment. Mark your calendar now, and watch *The Reminder* for additional information on all these May events.

Dick Harper

Applicant Committee News

The first Applicant Orientation of 2007 is scheduled for Friday, March 30 at 9:00AM sharp.

Recent applicants and those who have not previously attended an orientation should note this date and time, and plan to attend. This meeting will conclude in plenty of time to register for the regular membership meeting that day and to purchase a lunch ticket. Look for your personal letter of invitation to arrive in the mail soon. Please RSVP to ensure an adequate supply of orientation packets.

An invitation to this orientation is extended to sponsors of the attending applicants and to the entire Applicant Committee. Let's get involved!

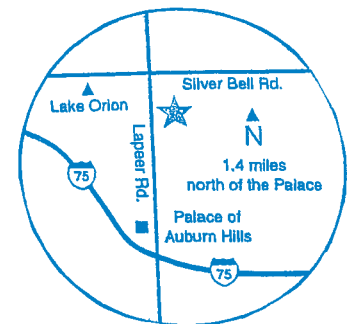
Dave Dinger, Chairman

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Bocce Ball

We expect that this special event for 64 people will be an early sell-out.

Should there be a few tickets remaining, sales will continue and/or "standby" names will be



taken at The Community House on subsequent Fridays leading up to our Bocce Ball Party on Wednesday, April 11.

So, talk it over with your best gal or buddy to be your partner, then buy your tickets early. Should you be in need of a partner, please let us know.
 Tom Clapp, Jack Howell, Riggs Miller and
 Art Pope

Urgent Need!

Piano accompanists to support the songs at the beginning of the meeting. Please contact Dick Hameister at 248-646-6156.

*Please note the corrected phone number. Thank you.

Dick Hameister

Mystery Lyrics

REMINDER readers are really into old songs. A record number of 20 correctly identified these lyrics:

*"I'll be down to get you
in a taxi honey
You better be ready
about half past eight"*

as being from the 1918 song "Darktown Strutters Ball". (And we thought this one might be difficult.)

The first to respond after e-mail distribution included four past presidents - Ben Ewing, Jack McLaughlin, Phil Werner and Art Burgott. We also received early correct answers from Bob Bazzell, Dick Mueller and Bob Donohue. After mail distribution, we first heard from Mary Slocum (wife of John), and Pat Smith (wife of Dick).

Hopefully, this month's lyrics, suggested by Jody O'Brien (wife of John), won't be as easy.

*"It's not the note I sent you
That you quickly burned"*

Can you name that tune? Hint: words and music by Irving Berlin in 1942 (no Googling!)

Dick Harper



The Reminder

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham
380 S. Bates St. Birmingham, MI 48009



Address Service Requested

CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 13, 2007, 9:30 AM
Reminder Deadline: Friday, March 16, 2007

Games

Bowling: Monday, 8:45 AM at Thunderbird Lanes
Bridge: Tuesday, 9:00 AM and Friday after lunch
Golf: Every other Thursday, Oakland Yard Dome, 9:30 AM

Special Events

Bocce Ball Party, Wednesday, April 11, 2007, 10:15 AM

Group Meetings

Camera: Tuesday, March 13, 2007, 2:00 PM
Computer: Wednesday, March 28, 2007, 3:00 PM
Investment Study: Wednesday, March 14, 2007, 2:45 PM

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

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 2007 are: Bill Johnson, president; Ken Urwiller, first vice president; Bob Pullar, second vice president; Irv Poston, recording secretary; John Flintosh, corresponding secretary; Bill Sprague, treasurer; Bill Minard, assistant treasurer; Bill English and Tom Clapp, officers at large; Bill Crabtree, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Chuck Kirkpatrick, editor; Dick Harper, Paul Pentecost, Bill Reilly, Dick Davis, associate editors; John Dudash and Bill Shaffmaster photography; Lee Trumbull, computer layout; Bob Jordan, mailing.