

# The Reminder



June, 2022

Senior Men's Club, Birmingham, Michigan

## President's Page



Swarn G. Desai  
President

### What's in a name?

Because more than half of our members live outside the City of Birmingham, some have questioned whether Birmingham should be officially part of our name. Our board has reaffirmed the answer is "yes." Senior Men's Club of Birmingham has been our official name with the federal, state and local governments, banks, and businesses that have dealt with the club since its 1957 founding. Our webpage link is [seniormensclubbirmingham.com](http://seniormensclubbirmingham.com). Our "brand" should express our roots and distinguish us from other senior men's clubs. Our official home is now the Baldwin Public Library in Birmingham. Many of our activities have a Birmingham base. Our golf leagues play the Birmingham courses. We walk at Shain and Barnum parks. The Readers, Genealogy, Investment, Bridge groups and the SMC

Foundation and many committee meetings are all conducted in Birmingham.

We must emphasize, however, that our membership is not limited by residence. We are open to...and actively seek...members from all communities.

We want to be a diverse and inclusive club. So, let's bring in more men who share our values and want to share our fellowship and activities.

### Summertime. And the dress code is easy.

Beginning June 3, our SMCB summer dress code will be in effect at Friday morning meetings during the months of June, July and September. There are no Friday meetings in August. Collared shirts and dress slacks are required. Sports jackets, coats and ties are optional. Turtlenecks, T-shirts, shorts and jeans are prohibited.

The summer code ends Friday, after September 30, which is school color day. Wear your school or college shirts and hats proudly on that day.

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## June Speakers (all speakers to be in person)

Ras Desai – Program Chair

- June 3 ..... **Minoti H. Rajput, CFP®, ChSNC**, Secure Planning Strategies  
"Special Needs Planning - Perspectives From a Wealth Advisor"
- June 10..... **Reverend Douglas Jones; Pastor**, Welcome Missionary Baptist Church, Pontiac, Mich.  
"Greater Pontiac Community Coalition"
- June 17..... **Dr. Enrique Rios- Ellis**, Professor Oakland University, School of Music, Theatre and Dance  
"Hispanic (Latino) community"
- June 24..... **Mr. Martin Manna**, President, Chaldean American Chamber Of Commerce  
"Chaldeans - Past and Present"

Fellowship • Shared Interest • Community Service



## Visit to Detroit City Football Club

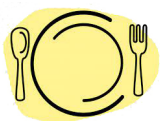
The Northern Guard members filled the east side of Hamtramck's 86-year-old Keyworth Stadium, chanting, dancing to the beat of the drum section, setting off multi-colored smoke bombs and generally creating a fun-filled atmosphere. SMCB members and their guests joined other Detroit City Football Club fans on April 30 to watch two scenes playing out before them: the scene of the Northern Guard across the field; and the soccer game on the field. Detroit City prevailed 2-0 in a hard fought game against the New York Red Bulls.

Detroit City, now staffed by a multi-national team of professional players, competes in the USL Championship League – think Triple-A soccer. The raucous game attracted not alone Club members, but families with children and people of all ages.

We parked for free at a nearby Hamtramck City lot. However, we did have to walk a few blocks through a quiet urban neighborhood.

Detroit City Football Club may not be Manchester City or Real Madrid, but we from the SMCB found ourselves joining the crowd as we all cheered “Le Rouge, Le Rouge” as Detroit City drove toward the goal. All of us found our time at Keyworth Stadium a very enjoyable evening (as Martin Rowell would say, “a jolly good time”), and we have become DCFC fans.

*Larry Imerman*



## JUNE LUNCHES AT THE IROQUOIS CLUB:

Following are the lunch offerings to consider when making your reservations to attend the June in person meetings at The Iroquois Club.

### June 3rd 2022

Rolls & Butter, Garden salad, Mixed Vegetables, Baked Mostaccioli, Rosemary Chicken , \*  
DESSERT: Cookies

### June 10th 2022

Rolls & Butter, Michigan Maple Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Fettuccini Alfredo, Sliced Beef , \*  
DESSERT: Carrot Cake

### June 17th 2022

Rolls & Butter, Caesar Salad, Green Beans, Cheese Ravioli, Chicken Marsala , \*  
DESSERT: Brownies

### June 24th 2022 (4th of July theme lunch)

Cornbread Muffins, Potato Salad, Corn, French Fries, Sliders (have black bean sliders also)  
DESSERT: Apple Pie

\* Vegetarian option variable with prior notice

## Dave Dinger—Life Member Induction



Born April 21, 1937 in Flint, Michigan, his family lived a few years in Grand Blanc, MI, Downers Grove, IL and Ft. Wayne, IN before his family moved to Waterbury, Connecticut, where his father was General Secretary of local YMCA's. Dave's love for family and Michigan, and his quest for a career in medicine, led him to Albion College where he met his wife, Sue. They married as seniors at Albion before Dave headed to Medical School at the University of Michigan. He completed his Residency in Pediatrics at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. Dave volunteered for military service after completing his post graduate medical training and entered active duty as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps as a staff Pediatrician at the U.S. Naval Hospital Charleston, South Carolina. He became Board

Certified by the American Board of Pediatrics and was elected Diplomate of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Upon separation from active duty, Dave and his family returned to Michigan in 1967. Dave joined the private pediatric practice, as a partner, of one of his mentors - Dr. Robert E. James and continued at their Waterford location until his retirement in 1999.

Dave is an avid student of Civil War history and since his retirement has been a re-enactor with Battery D 1st Michigan Light Artillery and Battery K 9th Michigan Light Artillery. "Living History", he says, is the ultimate satisfaction preformed in realistic surroundings of 19th Century equipment, ordnance and uniform with his fellow Battery mates and other re-enactors. Re-enactors ply their hobby at school programs, historic villages and parks; where ever they can draw a crowd. In 2014, Dave was in a "battle" at historic Charlton Park near Hastings, Michigan. It was on that battlefield, amid the heavy black powder smoke of cannon and musket fire, Dave says he experienced the "fog of battle". The Gun he commanded became surrounded by Confederate Cavalry and Dave had to face the decision to surrender his Gun and its crew. You can imagine how that played with his Battery mates in the after-battle critique! Dave is currently Adjutant of the Harold A. Furlong American Legion Post #341 in Bloomfield Hills. Dave delivered Meals on Wheels as a volunteer for the community's Senior Center the first ten years of his retirement. Dave's wife, Sue, an avid Master Gardener, volunteered for many years to beautify the grounds of The Community House. During this time, she prodded Dave to investigate the "group of fine fellows" she knew who met at TCH. Dave became an "applicant" in 2001 and a "full member" in 2004. Dave's sponsor was Dr. Marion Ferszt and ironically, Marion's son, Paul, recently joined The Senior Men's Club of Birmingham with Dave as his sponsor!

Dave is proud of his involvement with the SMCB and has been active in several groups. He has chaired the Associates Committee, the Attendance Committee and the Sergeant-at-Arms Committee. He has been Vice Chair of the Visitation and Health Committee for a number of years and is currently Co-Chair of the Veterans Committee. Dave is also currently Chairman of the Medical Emergency Preparedness Team and a member of the Sergeant-at-Arms Committee. As the leader of the Emergency Preparedness Team, he has been instrumental in arranging CPR training and Certification for over sixty Club members. In addition, he has assisted with bringing Beaumont's "Stop the Bleed" training program to more than forty of our members. He also secured permission from the Club's Executive Board to purchase an AED device that can "travel" with a Team member to our various Club events. In 2014, Dave was awarded the Outstanding Service Award, the Club's most prestigious award bestowed upon a member.

Dave and Sue have been married for 65 years, have raised three children and now have seen their six grandchildren mature and graduate college. Dave and Sue have lived in Bloomfield Township for 55 years.

Thank you, Dave for your commitment to the SMCB and the community.  
 Congratulations to Dave on achieving this elevated status of membership.

*Paul Kovceses*





## SMCB History

The very first SMCB meetings in the spring of 1957 at The Community House were much like our Friday meetings now. Well, maybe except for the silencing of our cell phones, ZOOM, and we meet now a few miles north of our home for all those many years.

Many SMCB traditions BEGAN 65 years ago: - Annual Picnic; skipping only 2020 and 21 due to COVID - Annual Christmas Party - missing only 2020! You All know the Christmas parties were managed by members' wives for years, but did you know that women were involved in the original formation of the Club?? ...AND the tradition continues... Our wives finding ways to get us out of the house!

From the VERY beginning until just last year, when The Community House changed their profit model, SMC and TCH got along nicely (someone was quoted- inextricably intertwined- Maynard). Friday lunches and meeting rooms, and let's just say, VERY GENEROUS MEMBER DONATIONS each year to the TCH Fund. .... Many 100s of thousands of dollars and the dedication of a Senior Men's Club Room, spearheaded by Dick Bradley in 2017.

Since TCH was not interested in keeping the Senior Men's Club, and others -but WE were by far the largest .... (Rotary, Optimist, B'ham Women's, Lions, Newcomers, Storytellers Guild, Chamber of Commerce, the Shopping District....), an extensive search, led by Paul Kovceses, brought us to the Iroquois Club here in Bloomfield Township. ZOOM!! - Contracts signed and 40 Fridays per year. Our Friday meetings resumed in person here on Sept. 24th, 2021. And then Tim McGee came right back with the formation of the SMC Foundation, replacing the TCH Fund, extending our service to the community.

The Senior Men's Club attracts quality speakers every Friday because we are an impressive group. We average 140 Members now both here at the Iroquois Club and via ZOOM! Our Membership is 550, (keep it up Ray Buratto). Don't forget- many of the guests at these Friday meetings become NEW Members! ...each Member invites a guest, and if it's going to be, -point to Dick Bradley- (It's up to me!)

It might be said that there have been more significant changes in the last few years than at any time in the Club's history. The move from The Community House, COVID-19, which caused The Club to suspend ALL activities in March 2020; then ZOOM was made available in April, 2020, allowing more members to participate. (T.U. to John Maten) Remarkable!. Well, here we are today, May 6, 2022, at the Iroquois Club and via ZOOM: a group of interesting senior men celebrating 65 years of fellowship. Tell you what – 35 years from now at our 100th Anniversary in 2057- some old bald guy could be standing right here remembering THIS day. See you then!

*Greg McComas*

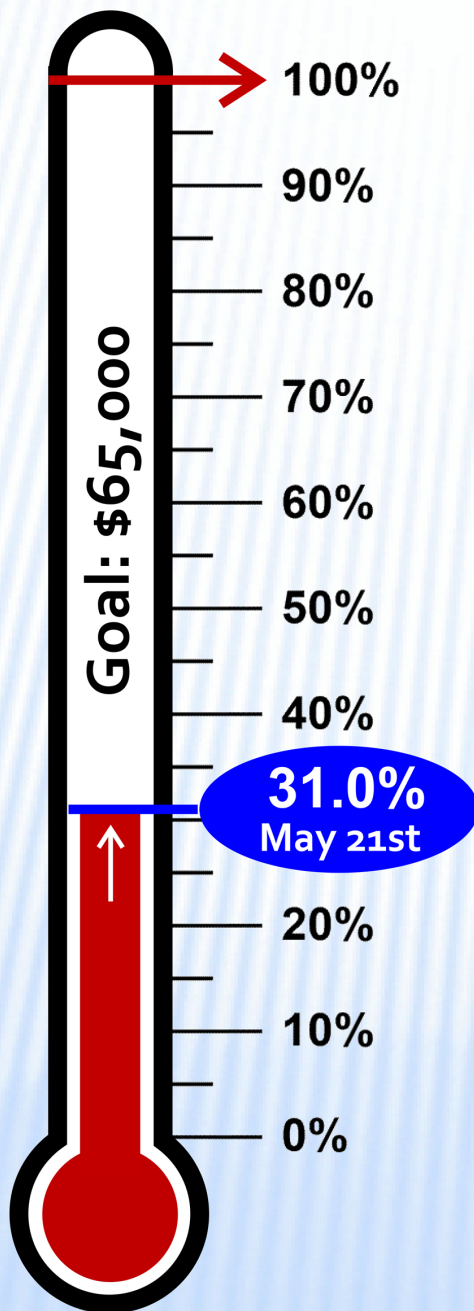




# 65K-4-65!

## SMC Foundation

\$20,200 raised...31% of the goal...only 28 SMC Members



Salute to Veteran Donors

### 4-Star General

Anonymous - \$10,000

### 3-Star Lt. Generals - \$1,000+

Joel Adelman  
Dave Anderson  
Dick Bradley  
Jim King  
John Marsh  
Tim McGee

### 2-Star Major Generals - \$500+

John C. Carter  
Maynard Timm  
Robert Sparks

### 1-Star Brigadier Generals

18 SMC Members





## CLASSIC MOVIE GROUP

On Monday, June 13, at 1:00PM, John Skubik will present, via Zoom, the delightful family action/drama, “Team Marco” (2019) (1 hour/32 minutes). In this award-winning independent film, writer-director Julio Gambuto tells the heartwarming story about a grandfather, Nonno (Anthony Patellis) and his 12-year-old grandson Marco (Owen Vaccaro). Nonno moves in with his daughter Anna (Anastasia Ganas) and her family on Staten Island. Marco is completely absorbed with computers, video games and virtual reality software and never leaves the house. Nonno sees what is going on and decides to take action to get his grandson out into the real world. He takes all of the electronic equipment away from Marco and tells him that he can have it all back, if he can assemble a team that can beat his buddies in Bocce Ball. As you can imagine, things are a little rough at the start, but a strong bond eventually grows between man and boy.



Another aspect of this film that makes it so enjoyable is that the movie has a loving sense of place. The Director takes a golden view of Staten Island, with its bocce courts, Italian bakeries and large groups of older men who still wear hats to the park and know how to enjoy the day.

So, mark your calendars now and plan to join us on June 13, to watch this family friendly presentation. John advises you to have plenty of popcorn on hand to help make your movie going experience complete for you, and your family, including any interested grandkids that may wish to join you, either at your home or via Zoom.

As a reminder, you can watch the trailer of this film by pushing the Movie Preview Button on the SMC Homepage

Watch for our access information eBlast as we near the show date.

Looking forward to seeing you on June 13.

Fred Hansz / Chairman



## MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY READING GROUPS

In June the two reading groups will discuss books that explore issues of current interest and importance. The first addresses various dimension of artificial intelligence through ten short stories. The second allows us to continue our on-going dialogue about climate change.

The Wednesday group will continue to meet via Zoom while the Monday group will decide whether to meet at the library with a Zoom option or return to Zoom only

We are pleased to report that the complete schedule of books for both groups is now available on the club's website.

**Wednesday, June 1, at 10:30 AM:** *AI 2041: Ten Visions for our Future* by Kai-Fu Lee and Chen Qiufan (New York: Currency Books, 2021)

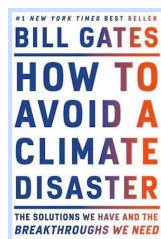
In reviewing this book, Mark Cuban wrote, “Applying AI to business usually means learning the technology first and then figuring out how to apply it. AI 2041 allows readers to take the exact opposite approach. Through amazingly entertaining stories, Lee and Chen take us on an immersive trip through the future and then zoom out with exceptionally clear explanations of the technology at work. The result is an enjoyable and eye-opening book for those trying to understand how to apply AI.”

It was voted best book of the year by *The Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times* and *Washington Post*

*Pete Mehra will lead this discussion*



**Monday, June 20 at 3 PM:** *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster, The Solutions we have and the Breakthroughs we Need* by Bill Gates (New York: Knopf, 2021)



In this NY Times best seller Bill Gates confronts the climate challenges we face. Drawing on his understanding of innovation and what it takes to get new ideas into the market, he describes the areas in which technology is already helping to reduce emissions, where and how the current technology can be made to function more effectively, where breakthrough technologies are needed, and who is working on these essential innovations. Finally, he lays out a concrete, practical plan for achieving the goal of zero emissions—suggesting not only policies that governments should adopt, but what we as individuals can do to keep our government, our employers, and ourselves accountable in this crucial enterprise.

*This discussion will be led by Bob Stevenson*

**Looking ahead to July**

**Wednesday, July 6 at 10:30:** *Denial of Justice: Dorothy Kilgallen, Abuse of Power, and the Most Compelling JFK Assassination Investigation in History* by Mark Shaw (Sean O'Keefe)

**Monday, July 18 at 3 PM:** *The Lost City of the Monkey God* by Douglas Preston (Nominated by George Stern; discussion led by Bob Maxfield)

*Submitted by Bob Maxfield and Roger Timm*



## INVESTMENT CLUB

The next Investment Group meeting will be held on **Thursday June 9th at 2:45 PM** at the lower level of the Baldwin Library and on line through Zoom. The meeting will be with the Stock Game winners, who can share their stock picking wisdom. All SMC members will be encouraged to share their successful as well as not so successful investment strategies. The lessons learned by the group will help us to learn on which investments have better results, and probably more importantly which ones do not.

Ideas to improve the Investment Group meetings, so that they are more helpful to all SMC members, are requested. Jay Hall continues to lead the Stock Game with a 19% gain. Gordon Allardyce, Bob Veres and John Murray are competing for second and third place prize monies. \$600 total prize money. The game ends May 31. Stay tuned for final results!

Mike Korsak



## CAMERA CLUB

The Camera Club will meet on the second floor (take the elevator) at BPL June 16, 2022, at 3 pm. We will also try to Zoom the presentation, but that has not worked well for us due to some unknown toggle the chair has made in his laptop.

The presentation will be a DVD documenting the 25-year program the Netherlands used to control North Sea storm surges and to preserve (and expand) their low lands, after the severe destruction from a storm in the early 1950's. The Dutch invented as they went, designing massive movable barriers that lifted or descended when needed; other barriers were designed to swing in huge arcs when needed. Also, they designed various dams and locks that effectively changed sea water bays to fresh water, and hence completely changed the local fishing industry. The barriers at the Delta Works were so massive; they were designed and built on site. The chair will share some photos of the results, taken in 2019.

Jay Hall



## GENEALOGY GROUP

The Genealogy Group met May 2 at 2-3pm at Baldwin Library (also Zoom), to hear a presentation "The 1950 Census" by Dave Bakos, now that the census data has been released to the public (by statute 72 years after collection).

Going forward the Group is exploring how best to store and make available in perpetuity these monthly presentations through the Genealogy Group Activity Tab on the BSMC website.

Upcoming Meeting Topic (June 6, 2pm-3pm at Baldwin Library also Zoom): "Aus Meinem Leben,' My 3x Great Aunt's Autobiography, and Considerations for Writing One Today" by Logan Robinson.

Jack Withrow



## BELLE ISLE TRIP

### COME TO ENJOY BELLE ISLE!!

- Wed. June 22, 2022 -



On Wednesday, June 22, 2022 members of the Senior Men's Club and their guests will enjoy a bus trip to one of Detroit's many jewels, Belle Isle.

***The trip includes:***

- Round trip coach travel from Birmingham departing at 9:30, returning around 3:30.
- Plenty of time for a self-guided tour of the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory
- A guided tour of the Belle Isle Aquarium
- A possible stop at the Piet Oudolf designed gardens on the island
- A scrumptious lunch at the members-only Detroit Yacht Club  
(made possible by Ty Perkins' daughter)

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**Tickets on sale at Friday meetings, June 3, 10 & 17**  
**\$60.00 per ticket**

*Call or text Ray Buratto at 248.390.6244 or call John Brice at 248.961.0450 to reserve a spot.*

Don't be left behind from this very Special Event and opportunity to share a great day with fellow members on the world-renowned island.

***Historical tidbit:***

The Belle Isle Bridge was designed by the granddad of SMCB Life Member Riggs Miller

*Mike Clement*





# JUNE 2022 CALENDAR - AT A GLANCE

as of May 18, 2022

Week 1	Date	Time	Group	Location or via Zoom
First Wednesday	Wednesday, June 1, 2022	10:30 AM	Readers Group B	Zoom
Wednesday	Wednesday, June 1, 2022	12 Noon	Spinning Group	Beverly Hills Club
Thursday	Thursday, June 2, 2022	7 to 9 AM	Golfing	Springdale Country Club
Thursday	Thursday, June 2, 2022	8:30 AM	Walking Group	Location depends on temperature
Friday	Friday, June 3, 2022	10:30 AM	Weekly Friday Mtg	Iroquois Club + Zoom
Friday	Friday, June 3, 2022	1:30 PM	Bridge Group	Baldwin Public Library - 1st Floor
<b>Week 2</b>				
Monday	Monday, June 6, 2022	7 to 9 AM	Golfing	Lincoln Hills Country Club
First Monday	Monday, June 6, 2022	2:00 PM	Genealogy Group	Baldwin Public Library
Tuesday	Tuesday, June 7, 2022	8:30 AM	Walking	Location depends on temperature
First Tuesday	Tuesday, June 7, 2022	10:00 AM	Special Events	Baldwin Public Library
Wednesday	Wednesday, June 8, 2022	12 Noon	Spinning	Beverly Hills Club
Thursday	Thursday, June 9, 2022	7 to 9 AM	Golfing	Springdale Country Club
Thursday	Thursday, June 9, 2022	8:30 AM	Walking	Location depends on temperature
Second Thursday	Thursday, June 9, 2022	2:45 PM	Investment Group	Baldwin Public Library + Zoom
Friday	Friday, June 10, 2022	10:30 AM	Weekly Friday Meeting	Iroquois Club + Zoom
Friday	Friday, June 10, 2022	1:30 PM	Bridge Group	Baldwin Public Library
<b>Week 3</b>				
Monday	Monday, June 13, 2022	7 to 9 AM	Golfing	Lincoln Hills Country Club
Second Monday	Monday, June 13, 2022	1:00 PM	Classic Movie Group	Zoom
Tuesday	Tuesday, June 14, 2022	8:30 AM	Walking	Location depends on temperature
Second Tuesday	Tuesday, June 14, 2022	10:00 AM	Executive Board	Baldwin Public Library + Zoom
Wednesday	Wednesday, June 15, 2022	12 Noon	Spinning	Beverly Hills Club
Third Wednesday	Wednesday, June 15, 2022	1:00 PM	Computer Group	Zoom
Thursday	Thursday, June 16, 2022	7 to 9 AM	Golfing	Springdale Country Club
Thursday	Thursday, June 16, 2022	8:30 AM	Walking	Location depends on temperature
Third Thursday	Thursday, June 16, 2022	3:00 PM	Camera Group	Zoom
Friday	Friday, June 17, 2022	10:30 AM	Weekly Friday Mtg	Iroquois Club + Zoom
Friday	Friday, June 17, 2022	1:30 PM	Bridge Group	Baldwin Public Library
Third Friday	Friday, June 17, 2022	5:00 PM	July Reminder Deadline	smcbreminder@gmail.com
<b>Week 4</b>				
Monday	Monday, June 20, 2022	7 to 9 AM	Golfing	Lincoln Hills Country Club
Third Monday	Monday, June 20, 2022	3:00 PM	Readers Group A	Baldwin Public Library + Zoom
Tuesday	Tuesday, June 21, 2022	8:30 AM	Walking	Location depends on temperature
Wednesday	Wednesday, June 22, 2022	Group Trip	Belle Isle	
Wednesday	Wednesday, June 22, 2022	12 Noon	Spinning	Beverly Hills Club
Thursday	Thursday, June 23, 2022	7 to 9 AM	Golfing	Springdale Country Club
Thursday	Thursday, June 23, 2022	8:30 AM	Walking	Location depends on temperature
Friday	Friday, June 24, 2022	10:30 AM	Weekly Friday Mtg	Iroquois Club + Zoom
Friday	Friday, June 24, 2022	1:30 PM	Bridge Group	Baldwin Public Library
<b>Week 5</b>				
Monday	Monday, June 27, 2022	7 to 9 AM	Golfing	Lincoln Hills Country Club
Tuesday	Tuesday, June 28, 2022	8:30 AM	Walking	Location depends on temperature
Wednesday	Wednesday, June 29, 2022	12 Noon	Spinning	Beverly Hills Club
Thursday	Thursday, June 30, 2022	7 to 9 AM	Golfing	Springdale Country Club
Thursday	Thursday, June 30, 2022	8:30 AM	Walking	Location depends on temperature

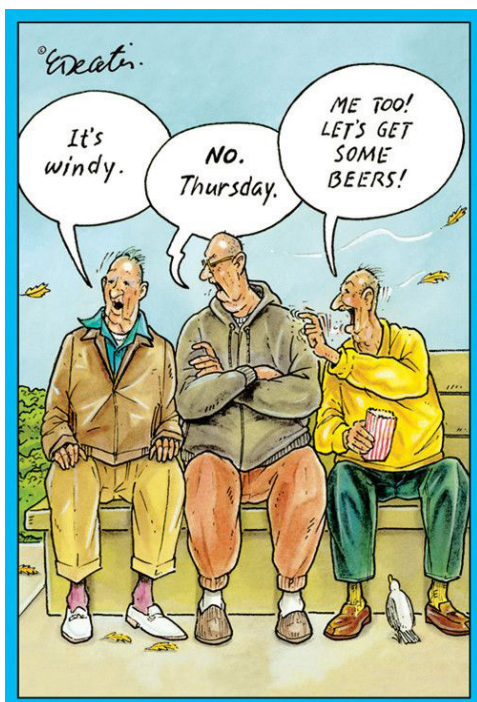
## July REMINDER Deadline: June 17th

NOTE: Due to potential fluxuations in venue location (staffing or operating hours) or schedule, revisions to this calendar are possible. Please watch your email and [www.seniormensclub.com](http://www.seniormensclub.com) for updates or potential cancellations.

# SENIOR MEN'S CLUB OF BIRMINGHAM VETERANS



*Senior Men's Club Marches in 1st Annual Birmingham Parade*



People keep telling me that  
it takes more facial muscles  
to frown than it does to smile...



*I tell them that I'm working out.*

## The Reminder

A monthly publication of the Senior Men's Club, which meets Friday at 10:30 AM at the Iroquois Club\* in Bloomfield Hills.

### Officers for 2022 are:

- President, Swarn Rajpal;
- First Vice President, Paul Kovceses;
- Second Vice President, Larry Imerman;
- Recording Secretary, John Maten;
- Corresponding Secretary, Ray Buratto;
- Treasurer, Jim Suhay;
- Assistant Treasurer, Rich McGee;
- Officers at Large, Jim King, Tom Russell

### THE REMINDER Team:

- Dick Harper, Editor Emeritus;
- Jay Kafarski, Publisher;
- Maynard Timm, Co-Editor
- Tim McGee, Co-Editor
- Tom Booth, Photography.

*\*The Iroquois Club is located on the east side of Woodward Avenue, just north of Square Lake Road in Bloomfield Hills. The meeting is also accessible via ZOOM for those not able to attend in person.*

## Contact Us:

The Senior Men's Club mailing address for general Club or SMC Foundation correspondence is:

**Senior Men's Club  
P.O. Box 1149  
Birmingham, MI 48012-1149**

*All mail should be sent to the above address*

The Club may also be contacted via email at:

**seniormensclub@gmail.com**

Visit SMC at:  
**www.seniormensclub.com**