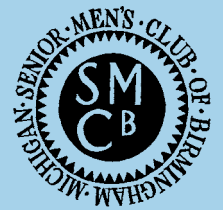


The Reminder

June 2009

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



Inside

- 2 Membership News
- 3 Groups
- 4 Games
- 5 SMC Picnic
- 6 Mystery Lyrics



Member Honored

The Reminder is always proud to report when SMC members receive honors or awards or are recognized for outstanding achievements. We know our members have lives and activities outside the Club and often have leadership roles in contributing to the community.

We learned that Life Member Cy Duffy recently received a most prestigious award in recognition of his distinguished military career. This award was from the National Society Colonial Dames of the XVII Century, and was the first time this society so honored a veteran. The award was presented by Diane Schrift (on the far right), wife of SMC member Tom and Chairman of Veteran's Service Committee of this society, along with Chapter President Patrice Dehaan.



Lt. Col. Duffy served during WWII in the European Theatre, where he earned the Bronze Star and continued his career in the Army Reserve. He retired from the military after 22 years of service. He has been an SMC member since 1985 and an active participant and leader in many Club activities. Congratulations, Cy! You make us so proud.

—Dick Harper

JUNE PROGRAMS

JUNE CHAIRMAN: Col. Jack McCuen

- 5 Colonel John J. McCuen, U.S. Army (Ret.) *Irregular War*
- 12 Richard Tennent, Author *The Destroyermen, Three Minutes to War*
- 19 Rabbi David Nelson, Imam Achmat Salie & Roger Strelow, Interfaith Panel *Discussion on Faith and the Economy*
- 26 Marina Arsenijevic, Pianist..... *Selections from her upcoming PBS Special "Marina at West Point"*

JULY PROGRAMS

JULY CHAIRMAN: Robert J. Mahr

- 3 NO MEETING

JUNE DISCUSSIONS

JUNE CHAIRMAN: Dick Harper

- 5 W. Van Bussman, SMC Member *Sailing the Great Lakes*
- 12 Al Eicher, SMC Member *Extreme Barbecuing*
- 19 Dick Harper, SMC Member..... *The Reminder, Then and Now*
- 26 George Miller and Jerry Peck, SMC Members *Hunting Coyotes, Turkeys and Deer in Michigan*

JULY DISCUSSIONS

JULY CHAIRMAN: Jaap Delevie

- 3 NO MEETING

New Members:



Donald D. Walker, (Jean)
2770 Mackintosh Lane,
Bloomfield Hills 48302-0933
248-335-8308
E-mail: DonDWalker@sbcglobal.net
Sponsor: Roger Garvelink



Sean C. O'Keeffe, (Carol)
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Sponsor: Dennis Nielsen



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248-642-6486
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Sponsor: John Flintosh



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Sponsor: John Reddy



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Sponsor: Michael Frank



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Clinton Township 48035-1931
586-792-1162
E-mail: Jack_Ledingham@hotmail.com
Sponsor: James Kurz



Lawrence Pazol, (Judy)
1505 Sodon Lake Drive
Bloomfield Hills 48302-2359
248-851-0557
Sponsor: Elson Spangler

Change of Address:

David W. Zimmer
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Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-1636

New Associates:

David E. Brown (Barbara)
5271 Bridgetrail West
Commerce Township 48382-4838
248-242-6951
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Sponsor: Lynn Evans

Donald A. Nummer (Julie)
858 Dowling Road
Bloomfield Hills 48304-2521
248-647-2891
E-mail: nummerdo@comcast.net
Sponsor: Roger Spry

Life Members:

Donald A. MacDonald
Willard L. Dresser

Deaths:

John N. Easterbrook (Life), joined October 1994
R. William Cooper (Life), joined April 1996
Ned H. Finkbeiner, joined February 2006
James H. Herbst (Life), joined March 1991
Benedict J. Smith (Life), joined March 1992
Leo L. Case, joined February 1999

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

Associate Members



The next Associate Member Orientation meeting will be Friday, June 19, 2009 at 9:00AM sharp in the Library of The Community House. Those of you that need to attend this meeting will receive a letter from John Klein, Secretary of the Associate Member Committee. Please R.S.V.P. to him as the letter requests and make every effort to attend. Your sponsor is welcome - please encourage him to come to the meeting with you.

—Dave Dinger

Groups



Classic Movie Group

Stagecoach (1939) is regarded by many as the classic, if not the best, Western ever made. Its strength is that it combines strongly drawn characters with swiftly moving action and awe inspiring panoramas. The plot's cast of characters from a small New Mexico town are traveling on the Overland Stage bound for Lordsburg through hostile Apache territory. They are: the Ringo Kid (John Wayne), an outlaw, who has escaped from prison to avenge the killing of his father and brother; Dallas (Claire Trevor), a woman of ill-repute with a heart of gold; alcoholic Doctor Boone (Thomas Mitchell) who eventually responds to his calling; Hatfield (John Carradine) the elegant and proud Southern gambler; Mrs. Mallory (Louise Platt), an upper crust pregnant woman trying to join her Cavalry officer husband; Gatewood (Berton Churchill), the town banker who mouths respectability while clutching a carpetbag of embezzled money and, finally, Peacock (David Meek) a timid whiskey salesman. They seem stereotypical but only because later films copied from this one. In this microcosm, the confrontation between civilization and savagery, Western future and Eastern past, society's outcasts and civilized gentry, takes place.



Join us on Monday, June 8 at 1:00PM for John Ford's first sound Western and the first of many that he made on location in Monument Valley on the Arizona -Utah border.

—Augie Perrotta

Church Tour



The highly successful SMC Special Events tour of Detroit area churches included a visit to Sweetest Heart of Mary and its impressive altar.



Investment Group

On Wednesday, June 10 at 2:45PM, the Stock Game winners will share their stock picking wisdom. Ideas to improve the Stock Game and investment meetings also will be encouraged.

Ted Chapekis is the current game leader with an impressive 113% gain. Ford stock was helpful. George Miller is second with a 101% gain. Tom Buescher slipped to third followed by Mike Clement and Bob Bazzell (he keeps the books). Forty one of the 62 players have gains. The game ends May 29.

—George Miller



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, June 3 at 10:30AM we will be discussing "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo," by Stieg Larsson. This book has been a sensation across Europe with millions of copies sold. It's about the disappearance forty years ago of Harriet Vanger, a young female scion of one the wealthiest families in Sweden and her octogenarian uncle, determined to know the truth about what he believes was her murder. It is a contagiously exciting, stunningly intelligent novel about society at its most hidden, and about intimate lives of a brilliantly realized cast of characters, all of them forced to face the darker aspects of their world and their own lives.

On Monday, June 15 at 3:00PM we will discuss "Rules for Old Men Waiting" by Peter Pounce. A story about love, war and old men waiting to die. Whether you have read the book or not, hopefully you will join a group as a regular.

—Ted Chapekis



Camera Group

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 8.

—Roger Garvelink



Computer Group

The next meeting of the Computer Group will be on Wednesday, September 16. Have a good summer and spend some time up north.

—George Nordenholt



Thursday Golf

The Cliff Dean Bonus Bucks Challenge will commence on Thursday, May 28 and continue through August 13. The Bonus Bucks will start at \$10 on May 28 and continue to grow \$10 per week until some talented golfer overcomes the challenge and collects the bonus. The bonus bucks will then reset to \$10.

Here are the rules: if the golfer wins closest to the pin AND is six (6) feet or more away AND sinks the putt for a birdie he will win the bonus bucks.

Golfers facing a Bonus Bucks putt have been known to demonstrate symptoms such as sweaty palms, heart palpitations, hyperventilations, knocking knees, and a rapid swelling of the larynx (choking!!). The Committee will not be responsible for any 911 calls.

Three club day will be June 25 and Scrambles will be on July 9. No Bonus Bucks on Scrambles day.

Do not hit them too often!

—Chuck Travers

Associates Monday Golf

The fairways were soggy, the creek overflowing; but with a one week delay, we finally got going. Thus the '09 season will be extended one week, ending August 24. May 4 entertained 40 players. The medalist was John Perryman at 40. Ted Chapekis shot 42. Ken Bugis and Chuck Torner had 43. Jim Judge was in at 44 and John Kary had 45. Tony Smyk was closest to the pin and birdied #2. May 11 attracted 33 players. Jim Doyle carded 40. Ed Jones and John Perryman shot 41. Steady Ted Chapekis and Chuck Torner posted 43. Ken Bugis, John Kary and Joe Schulenberg had 44 and Alan Nealley shot 45. John Marsh was closest to the pin. Jim Doyle birdied #8 and #9. Chuck Torner birdied #7.

We have early openings in tee times at 7:37AM and 7:44AM. Regulars are invited to claim those starting times for the year or they will be filled with "eager" walk-ons.

—Bill Spreitzer

Senior Men's Club Dinner Cruise

The Special Events Committee has announced that the popular summer Dinner-Cruise has now been set for Wednesday afternoon and evening, July 15, 2009. This affair is planned for all members, associates, their wives, or significant others. Come join your fellow Senior Club travelers for a beautiful summer evening trip that will take us to a delicious dinner at the Fogcutter Restaurant in Port Huron, and then an enjoyable ride on the popular Huron Lady II tour boat.

We will depart Birmingham from the First Presbyterian Church Parking Lot at 3:30PM. There will be two motorcoaches. Please note that ship and bus sizes limit this trip to a total of 100 people. Our travel to downtown Port Huron will be by comfortable, air-conditioned parlor coach, driven by our favorite tour bus drivers. We plan to arrive in downtown Port Huron by 5:00PM.

The 6th floor restaurant provides a spectacular view of the Blue Water Bridge and downtown Port Huron. Your choice of one of five entrees (salmon, whitefish, chicken, roast beef, or lobster ravioli) will be available with a salad, beverage, and dessert. The Fogcutter

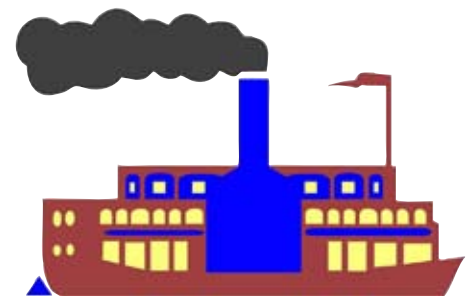
is known for its outstanding cuisine.

Following dinner, we will board the bus for a short ride to the

boarding dock of the Huron Lady II. Our SMC group has the sole usage of the ship. Our cruise takes us out under the twin-span Blue Water Bridges onto Lake Huron during the sunset hours. We return to the dock by nightfall, where our bus will return us to our cars by approximately 9:45PM.

Initial ticket sales for this event will be prior to the regular SMC meeting at 9:00AM on Friday, June 19, continuing on the following Fridays until 100 tickets are sold. Ticket price is \$52 per person, which includes water and land transportation, food, and restaurant and driver gratuities.

—Tom Clapp, Mike Clement, Riggs Miller, Clarke Thornton



SMC Picnic



The Senior Men's Club annual picnic will be on August 28 at the Pontiac Yacht Club – same location as last year. As in the past there will be games, prizes, special cars, music, singing and the great camaraderie that only the Men's Club can provide. To make the picnic even better this year, we plan to have hot, tasty food prepared on-site by a local vendor who specializes in picnics.

Save the date and look for details in next month's issue of *The Reminder*.

—Mike Clement

Attendance Committee Needs Help

The Attendance Committee is looking for members to contribute to this important club function. The principal job is to record the members attending meetings. Members of our committee are often the first to greet members and guests. There are two reception areas requiring one committee member at each table.

Each person is asked to serve at our meetings for a month twice a year. The position is non paying!! You will have an opportunity to greet, meet and provide a first impression of the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham.

—Dale K. Parker
Chairman, Attendance Committee
dkparker@wowway.com

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

As reported in the *May Reminder*, the Executive Board approved proposed amendments to the SMC Constitution concerning new member age and employment requirements. The proposed revisions would:

- lower the minimum age for membership from 55 to 50.
- eliminate differences relative to employment for younger (50-64) and older (65+) men.

In accordance with our constitution, these proposed revisions were presented to the membership for consideration at the club meeting on May 8, 2009. Member support for these changes did not reach the required three quarters (75%) of those present, and hence they were not adopted.

—Dick Harper

Crossroads Village and the Huckleberry Railroad

"Those were the days my friends." Sounds like a song lyric, doesn't it? You can relive the past with fellow Senior Men's Club travelers on a "get away" day at Crossroads Village and the Huckleberry Railroad. On Wednesday, June 17 the bus will leave the First Presbyterian Church on Maple Road at 9:00AM and will have you back by 5:00PM.

After arriving at this Genessee Park located on 100 acres north and east of Flint, you will step into life in the 19th century with the craftsman and ladies dressed in costumes of the period. You will stroll the village boardwalks and take in the restored historic buildings and quaint shops. You may try your hand at weaving rugs, churning butter and moving the lumber pile. All activities at the park this week will be focusing on the old fashioned wedding to take place during the weekend following our trip. Lunch will be a sit-down meal with your choice of roast chicken or baked salmon entrée accompanied with adequate side dishes served in the Mill Street Warehouse which is air conditioned.

Following lunch, we will board the coal fired steam engine Huckleberry Railroad for a 40 minute train ride reminiscent of traveling in the early 1800's. We will travel through meadows and woodlands adjacent to Mott Lake. After the train ride, you will have plenty of time to browse the train station gift shop, the general store and post office. There are also shops that specialize in everything from candy, kitchen towels, pretty dishes and fresh flour from the gristmill.

Tickets will go on sale on Friday, May 29 at 9:00AM. It will be first come first served for 56 members/spouses and/or significant others. Remember to make your luncheon selection when purchasing tickets.

—Special Events Committee: Howard Maichen,
Jim Judge, Don Upward, John O'Brien

Mystery Lyrics

Little did we know how many of our supposedly sophisticated music lovers would be familiar with the zany music of Spike Jones. No fewer than ten readers recognized that these classic lines:

*At night when you're asleep,
into your tent I'll creep*

are from "The Shiek of Araby" and also remembered that his theme song was "Cocktails For Two."

They were Ben Ewing, Chuck Basch, Barbara (George) Miller, Myrna (Tom) Hitchman, Bob Seeley, John Lavrakas, Sherwin Vine, Ben Schwimmer, Clay Gordon and Pete Kass.

In addition, Audrey (Don) Upward and Jack Howell remembered "The Shiek" and Dick Smith and Bill Sprague got "Cocktails." Congratulations to all. Spike described his radio show as "Musical Depreciation."

This month we will challenge you with this mystery line from a great romantic ballad:

Romance with me on a crowded floor

Can you name that tune? (Should be easy for Dale Parker).

Unfortunately, we are running out of big band theme songs. A number of these bands had closing themes which they used at the end of a performance, especially on radio. Most likely, the best known was Benny Goodman's appropriately named closing song - do you remember it?

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, June 19

Games

Bowling: Wednesday, 10:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes (practice)

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

Golf: Thursday, 9:00AM at Springdale
Monday, 7:30AM at Lincoln Hills

Special Events

The Crossroads Village and the Huckleberry Railroad, Wednesday, June 17

Dinner Cruise, Wednesday, July 15, 9:00AM

SMC Picnic, Friday, August 28

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, June 3, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, June 15, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, June 8, 1:00PM

Camera Group: No meeting in June

Investment Group: Wednesday, June 10, 2:45PM

Computer Group: No meeting in June

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 2009 are: Bob Pullar, president; Irv Poston, first vice president; John Flintosh, second vice president; Chuck Kirkpatrick, recording secretary; Dave Schwartz, corresponding secretary; Bill Sprague, treasurer; Richard Shirley, assistant treasurer; Dennis Kozak and Walter Schrift, officers at large; Bill Crabtree, parliamentarian.

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

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham
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