

The Reminder

November 2009

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



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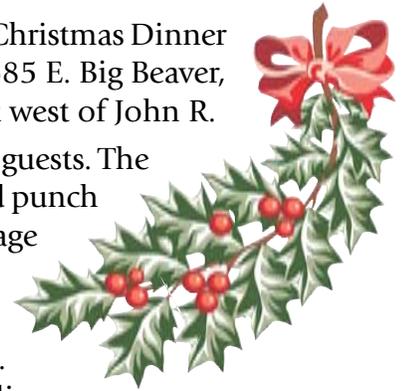
Christmas Dinner Dance

Wednesday, December 9, 2009 is the date of the SMC Christmas Dinner Dance. The party venue is the San Marino Club at 1685 E. Big Beaver, Troy. The club is on the north side of Big Beaver, just west of John R.

We have arranged seating for up to 400 members and guests. The party begins with a Social Hour at 6:00PM. Snacks and punch will be available. Party animals can also take advantage of two cash bars, which will be open all evening.

Dinner will be served at 7:00PM. San Marino is known for its excellent cuisine and fine dining service. Your dinner will include soup, salad, one of three dinner entrees, and dessert.

Music for your listening and dancing pleasure will be provided by The Pros Big Band, the same fine 16 piece orchestra we had last year. A vocalist will accompany the band and lead our sing along.



...continued on page 3

****REVISED OCTOBER 30TH PROGRAM:** Jaap Delevie, M.D., SMC Member.....*Historic Voyage to China*

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: John McLaughlin

- 6 Alvero Martinez, M.D., Corporate Chairman, Radiation Oncology, Wm. Beaumont Hospitals ...*Changing Trends in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Prostate Cancer*
- 13 Gene Michalski, Corporate COO, Wm. Beaumont Hospitals *Wm. Beaumont Hospitals—Today and Tomorrow*
- 20 Rob Lawrence, Past President, Trustee, Birmingham Board of Education*Maintaining Educational Excellence*
- 27 NO MEETING

DECEMBER PROGRAMS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: Norris Lee

- 4 Rev. Faith Fowler, Senior Pastor, Cass Community United Methodist Church, Detroit *Update on Activities and Events in the Cass Community*

NOVEMBER DISCUSSIONS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Jaap Delevie

- 6 Daniel Brightwell, Chair, Southfield Veterans' Commission.....*Library of Congress Veterans' History Project*
- 13 Mrs. Hyleen Thomas Hargrave Tremont *When Justice is No Justice*
- 20 Jaap Delevie, M.D., SMC Member *Ocean Navigation Prior to the Electronic Age*
- 27 NO MEETING

DECEMBER DISCUSSIONS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: James Karavite

- 4 Augustine Perrotta, D.O., SMC Member *Elder Humor*

New Members:



Dale T. Pickett
1166 Ashley Drive
Troy, MI 48085-3470
248-689-7612
E-mail: casDPick@aol.com
Sponsor: Eugene Winters



Jon A. Bird
1485 Yorkshire Road
Birmingham, MI 48009-5913
248-647-4658
E-mail: JBird33885@aol.com
Sponsor: John Marsh



John T. Frye
4148 E. Newland Drive
West Bloomfield, MI 48323-3054
248-851-4946
E-mail: JTFrye@comcast.net
Sponsor: Frank Bujold



Gordon E. Fox, Jr.
1799 Mansfield Road
Birmingham, MI 48009-7273
248-642-7223
E-mail: Gfox01@gmail.com
Sponsor: Frank Barnes



Merle K. Sackman
1110 Iroquois Trail
Oxford, MI 48371-6621
248-693-9174
E-mail: Msackman2@cs.com
Sponsor: Pete Kass

New Associates:

Ralph R. Bowen
1237 Heatherwood Lane
Pontiac, MI 48341-3174
248-332-6205
Sponsor: John Marsh

Lyle E. Duke (Joanne)
1080 Stratford Lane
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-2930
248-642-2938
Sponsor: William Sprague

Life Member:

Norris F. Lee
John H. McLaughlin
George W. Clark

Email Change:

William B. Schwartz: Schwartz.William@att.net
Louis B. Muench: LBMuench@gmail.com
James F. Peters: James_Peters@att.net

Deaths:

Jack Trudell (Life), joined March 1989
Alfred R. Kelley (Life), joined June 1986

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

Oakland Community College Tour—November Special Event



On Thursday, November 12, you will have the opportunity to see first hand what Oakland Community College has to offer and how your tax dollars have been well spent. You may even see where members of your family or friends are or will be proudly attending college. That morning, we will have a deluxe 56-passenger bus ready to go from the Presbyterian Church parking lot. The bus leaves for OCC at 8:45AM.

We are also fortunate to have the founder of OCC -- our own George Mosher -- on board to lead us on a most interesting tour, complete with a delightful luncheon in the Orchard Ridge campus' private dining room prepared and served by OCC's culinary arts students.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, November 12. Tickets, \$32, went on sale Friday, October 23.

—Committee: Jack Howell, Clarke Thornton and Don Upward

Filler Copy

The *Reminder* often needs and uses "filler" copy material to balance column space requirements with available copy inputs on club activities.

Any reader who has short items of humor or other subjects of possible interest to our members can submit them to *The Reminder* at The Community House or to any of the editorial staff. Don't hesitate - your readers are waiting!



...continued from page 1

SMC Christmas Party

Dinner entries will be one of three fine choices. Please make your selection when you purchase your tickets.

- Medallions of Veal with mushroom sauce
- Chicken Florentine with spinach and fontina
- Baked Orange Roughy with lemon garnish

The price for this special evening is \$36. Tickets will go on sale on Friday, November 20, 2009 at 9:00AM.

All seating is by table reservation. We will begin passing out reservation forms on November 13, at the Special Events table. Please use the form to identify your table mates and their dinner selection. Designate one member to collect checks from each table mate and purchase your tickets as a group. This process will greatly help our overworked event volunteers. Alternately, you can work with the seating committee to identify an available table of your choice.

Looking forward to a warm and wonderful evening with fellow club members.

—Special Events Christmas Party Committee



Jackson's New Knee



SMC Member Harold Jackson, Chairman of the club's Publicity Committee, recently underwent successful knee replacement surgery at Beaumont.

His 8 year old grandson, Ryan, asked a perfectly logical question when he heard about the knee replacement. "What are they going to do with the old one?" Good question, Ryan!

Executive Board Actions

At the meeting of October 20, 2009, the Executive Board approved several recommendations made by the Policy Committee, as follows:

- Reinstatement of the club dress code for Friday meetings. Approved attire will be:
 - Suit or sport coat
 - Collared shirt
 - Tie (four-in-hand, bow or bolo)

This change will be effective with the first meeting in November 2009. The president will be authorized to relax this code during the summer months. This code will be documented in the Policy and Procedure manual.

- Reinstatement of attendance requirements indicating that active members will be expected to attend a minimum of ten (10) meetings each calendar year. This change will be documented by a formal revision of club by-laws and will be effective in January 2010.

It's Auto Show Time!



The annual trip to the North American International Auto Show will be on Thursday, January 21, 2010.

The bus will leave for the show at 9:30AM. We shall be at the show from 10:00AM to 2:30PM. This is the same timing as in 2009 and a half hour less than in prior years.

The Auto Show is the first outing of 2010 and for car enthusiasts it is a 'must do' event.

Mark your calendars for January 21!

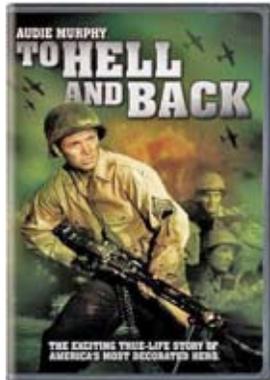
—Roger Struck, Tony DiMarco and Mike Clement

Groups



Classic Movie Group

On Monday, November 9 at 1:00PM the Classic Movie Group will feature "To Hell and Back" starring Audie Murphy as himself. It is the true-life account of the military career of this most decorated soldier in World War II. The 110 lb, 5' 5 1/2" Texas teenager enlisted in the Army Infantry in 1942. Beginning in Casablanca, Morocco he fought in Sicily, the Italian mainland at Anzio and the Italian Alps, Southern France and eventually Germany. His many acts of bravery and heroism earned him 33 of the highest medals the US could bestow including two Presidential Citations, the Distinguished Service Cross and the Congressional Medal of Honor. It was said that he received every US medal available at the time and 5 of them more than once. Join us for this action packed "war film" about a true American hero.



—Augie Perrotta



Camera Group

Dr. Harold Brown will conduct an extended tour of Greece on Tuesday, November 10 at 2:00PM. In the first part of the presentation, Dr. Brown will take us on a bus tour of southern Greece including Athens and the Peloponnese peninsula. We will stop at Delfy, Olympia, Navplion and the Corinth Canal.

The second part of the presentation will include a cruise to Turkey and some of the Greek Islands. We will visit Istanbul, Dikli and Kusadasi in Turkey. We will also visit the Greek Islands of Rhodes, Crete, Thira and Mikonos.

Greece and Turkey have a rich history and culture showcased by many preserved ruins which will be included in the presentation. All members, their spouses and friends are invited to attend.

—Roger Garvelink



Investment Group

On Wednesday, November 11 at 2:45PM, Patrick Broderick, Life Keepers (a teaching company) will educate us in the use of ETF's (Exchange Traded Funds) as a reliable low cost investment approach. ETF's have become very popular because they are better value than mutual funds.

The stock game began at the opening bell on October 12. We have a record number of participants; over \$500 can be won. Will Ted Chapekis win again?

—George Miller



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, November 4 at 10:30AM, we will be discussing "Lords of Finance—The Bankers Who Broke the World" by Liaquat Ahamed. With penetrating insights for today, this vital history of the world economic collapse of the late 1920s offers unforgettable portraits of the men whose personal and professional actions as heads of their respective central banks changed the course of the twentieth century. It is commonly believed that the Great Depression that began in 1929 resulted from a confluence of events beyond any one person's or government's control. In fact, as Liaquat Ahamed reveals, it was the decisions taken by a small number of central bankers that were the primary cause of the economic meltdown, the effects of which set the stage for World War II and reverberated for decades.

On Monday, November 16 at 3:00PM we will be discussing "The Coldest Winter" by David Halberstam. Halberstam considered "The Coldest Winter" the best book he ever wrote, the culmination of 45 years of writing about America's postwar foreign policy. Up until now, the Korean War has been the black hole of modern American history. Halberstam gives us a masterful narrative of the political decisions and miscalculations on both sides. He charts the disastrous path that led to the massive entry of Chinese forces near the Yalu, that caught Douglas MacArthur and his soldiers by surprise. At the same time, Halberstam provides us with his trademark highly evocative narrative journalism, chronicling the crucial battles with reportage of the highest order.

—Ted Chapekis

Games

Thursday Golf



The Obama Health Care Geek Committee from Washington arrived this month and determined that the 'Thursday Golf Computer' was not over 65 years of age and allowed the necessary repairs to be made. So at long

last the results are in for the Thursday Golf 2009 Tournament. The winners are:

Low Gross: Jim Doyle at 73, Bob Hinytzke at 77, and Chuck Torner at 78.

Championship Flight: 1st Kirby Callam, 2nd Dave Key and 3rd Bill Duncan.

"A" Flight: 1st Phil Buccini, 2nd John Kary and 3rd Tom Schrift. **"B" Flight:** 1st Riggs Miller, 2nd Tom Sandercock and 3rd Tony Parrottino.

"C" Flight: 1st Bill Denyes, 2nd Jim Leese and 3rd Bob Klein.

Each winner will receive their awards at the banquet on Wednesday, October 28.

Winter golf: The Oakland Dome has been rebuilt after its collapse last winter. The committee is currently in negotiation to secure the most favorable price and amenities for our golfers. Thursday Golf will continue at Springdale through October 29.

Hit them high, hit them long, and hit them straight.

—Chuck Travers

Bowling

After five weeks of bowling, league standings are closely bunched. Two teams, the Colts (Howell, Johnson, DiMarco and Buccini) and the Eagles (Smiley, Smyk, Rossi and Jordan) are tied for first. Several other teams follow closely. It's too early for any real separation or leaders to really develop.

As for individual scoring, Art Byington leads early results, with a strong 246 game and a big 611 series—way to start, Art! He along with Phil Buccini and Nick Marinelli are vying for high average honors. Keep 'em rollin', keep 'em straight.

—Less Lessenthien



Golden Oldies

Two more members recently joined the most prestigious segment of our club - the Golden Oldies. President Bob Pullar and long time member



Bob Pullar and Norris Lee

Norris Lee were

honored not only for their age, but more importantly for their many and ongoing contributions to the SMC.

Endowment Fund

The University of Michigan/Michigan State University 50/50 raffle added \$350 to the fund. Irv Poston donated his \$127 winnings to the fund.

A letter is being sent in early November to all Senior Men's Club members to explain the purpose and benefits of the SMC Endowment Fund. Your support is encouraged.

The Townsend Hotel has again provided a "Romantic Encounter" package (\$360 value). Raffle tickets will be sold at the November 20 and the December 4 meetings. Need not be present to win.

—George Miller

Masonic Honors

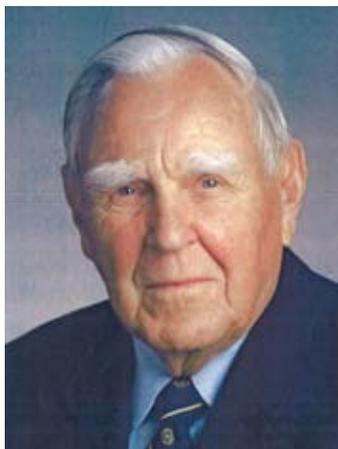


Ray Swartz and Bill Shaffmaster

Two venerable club members recently received recognition for long time membership and their many contributions to their Masonic lodges. Ray

Swartz came up from Buckeye country to receive his 50 year membership award, while Bill Shaffmaster was recognized for an amazing 70 years of service.

George R. Mosher—Founder of Oakland Community College



George Mosher, a 17-year member of the Senior Men's Club, became a Life Member three years ago. He is a very busy man. George is a retired GM attorney working nearly full time at a large law firm in Southfield. He also swims nearly every day with some of our members, plays a good game of golf and is an avid snow skier. On top of all this, George is a tireless

worker, dedicated to advancing his passion – Oakland Community College. Because of his extra busy schedule, George seldom gets a chance to join us at our Friday luncheon meetings and other club activities.

Fascinating Background—

Born in 1921, George was raised with his family on a cattle ranch and dairy farm in South Dakota. Like his brothers, he worked very hard as a young cowboy roping steers and milking cows. During the 30's, the Great Depression and the terrible dust storms in the Midwest eventually wiped them out. To survive, the family headed for the west coast and worked as sharecroppers on farms in Oregon. Besides doing farm chores, George managed to finish high school and work his way through the University of Oregon. He later entered the U.S. Navy and served as an officer on board a destroyer during WWII and Korea.

Always an admirer of Abraham Lincoln, George decided to become a lawyer. Aided by the GI Bill of Rights, he was accepted at a very prestigious law school – Columbia University in New York City.

Graduating with 'flying colors,' he then joined a New York law firm. His big break came when he solved a very interesting case involving copyright infringement between two rival comic books – Superman and Captain Marvel. This accomplishment promoted him to be assigned to the very coveted General Motors account.

On a vacation trip back home in Oregon, George met a very charming lady named Doris Dodge. After a whirlwind courtship, they married, and Doris joined George in his New York apartment.

George continued to impress General Motors with his legal expertise—especially in the area of patents and copyrights. In due time, GM asked him to join their legal staff in Detroit. For George and Doris, it was off to Michigan...and they

found the home of their dreams in Birmingham. Later they were blessed with two sons--George III and Doyle. George III is now a top ranked ski instructor in Idaho, while Doyle is a builder in the Birmingham area.

Oakland Community College—

During his career with GM, George and Doris saw a growing need for a top-quality and affordable two-year college here in Oakland County. Michigan community colleges at that time covered about one-third of their costs by tuition, about one-third by state aid, and about one third by local millage. Their instructors were not graduate students; they were dedicated teachers who had at least a master's degree in their field. Their transfer students who went on to a four-year institution tended to do better academically than those who had been on the four-year campus for their first two years. Working with several others, George and Doris contacted various Michigan officials for needed land and other resources. As luck would have it, an abandoned NIKE missile site in Auburn Hills became available at a token price. Taxpayers approved a small increase in millage and construction was underway. In due time dignitaries attended the grand opening of the first beautiful new OCC campus – Auburn Hills. One of the fine new buildings was named in George's honor. Another building in the area was named in honor of George's hard-working wife, Doris.

The new Auburn Hills facilities were then staffed with experienced professors and other well-qualified personnel. Word quickly spread and soon this first Oakland Community College location was bustling with hundreds of proud students.

Since then, other beautiful OCC campuses have been conveniently located throughout Oakland County. These include Highland Lakes in Waterford, Orchard Ridge in Farmington Hills, and campuses in Southfield, Royal Oak and Pontiac. George recently attended another groundbreaking ceremony for a \$25 million expansion at the Southfield campus. Purpose – to fulfill urgent needs – particularly in the area of nurse's training.

Today, thousands of students are proudly enrolled to the point that OCC is now the 4th largest college in Michigan. Only Michigan State, U of M and Wayne State have larger enrollments. Sadly, George's wife Doris is no longer with us to enjoy their achievements. On Friday, October 23, Oakland Community College named its OCC Foundation Building for his late wife, Doris Mosher.

—Chuck Kirkpatrick and Jack Howell

Handbook Update Request



The 2010 SMC Handbook will be printed in December and distributed beginning in January 2010. It is based on data submitted no later than November 30, 2009; earlier submissions are appreciated. NOTE: November 20 will be

the last regular meeting at which information can be turned in; please e-mail or telephone any information after that date.

All members are asked to verify their contact info (permanent address, telephone, and e-mail) and submit changes to Database Chairman, John M. Steele. If possible, please include any pending changes that will take effect by January 2010, with a note of effective date.

All 2010 Committee Chairmen are asked to submit their 2010 committee rosters to Handbook Chairman, Bob Clements.

—Bob Clements and John M. Steele

Little Known Fact

Ducks do not fly—however, they are great jumpers!



SMC 2010 Dues Coupon

2009 Dues are payable before January 1, 2010. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2010. 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:

- \$35 Active Member
- \$35 Associate Member
- \$15 Member on Leave

Life Members pay no dues, but may use the coupon to report changes in address, telephone, e-mail or make a voluntary contribution for financial support of our Club.

Officer Elections 2010

The Nominating Committee of the Senior Men's Club, appointed by President Bob Pullar, is selecting proposed nominees for club officer positions for 2010.

In accordance with our constitution, these nominations will be read to the membership and posted at our first meeting in November. The formal election will take place at the second November meeting. Those elected will serve one year commencing with the first club meeting in January 2010.

The Nominating Committee is composed of Chairman Frank Barnes, past presidents Bill Johnson and Phil Werner plus members Dick Hameister and John Horiszny.

—Dick Harper

No Hard Copy

Six more readers have told us we can discontinue mailing them *The Reminder*, and that receiving the emailed version (which gets to them much sooner and is in glorious color) works for them. Thanks to Ulrich Fahrur, Augie Perrotta, Bob Bannon, Tom Davies, Denny Nielsen and Frank Schmid.

Any more out there? We still have about 280 receiving *The Reminder* in both forms. Why not tell John Steele you don't need a mailed copy anymore - you can save your club postage expense (which keeps going up).

Special thanks to Augie Perrotta who made this request the subject of a recent humorous 'Moments of Interest' presentation.

Strange As It Seems



Ransom Sturdley inscribed the US Constitution on the head of a pin. Unfortunately, not one word was legible!

Mystery Lyrics

We expected more music loving members (and wives) would identify last month's mystery lyrics - but only six readers recognized that these lyrics:

*They got a big theater they call a burleque
For 50 cents you can see a dandy show*
are from "(Everything's Up To Date In) Kansas City" - just one of the many great songs from "Oklahoma." They were Bill Sprague, George Grove, Dolly and Bill Johnson, Jim Orton, Dick Smith and Tom and Myrna Hitchman. Dick Smith even sang much of the song - no extra credit for him.

Only one reader, Chuck Basch, remembered that Freddie Slack's theme song was "Strange Cargo."

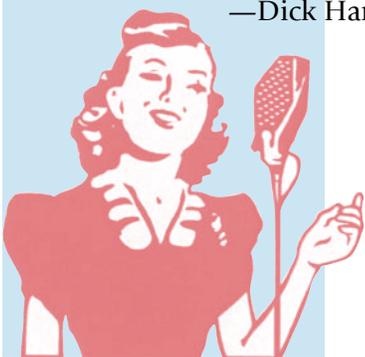
This month we have an old fashioned romantic ballad as a challenge for you - a Gershwin tune, with these lyrics:

*Although I can't dismiss the
memory of his (or her) kiss*

Can you name that tune?

We have one more big band theme challenge for you (maybe the last). Does any reader remember Frankie Carle's theme?

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Reminder Deadline: Friday, November 13

Games

Bowling: Monday, 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes

Wednesday, 9:30AM at Thunderbird Lanes (practice)

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

Golf: Thursday, 9:00AM at Springdale (through October 29)

Special Events

OCC Tour, Thursday, November 12, 8:45AM

SMC Christmas Party, Wednesday, December 9, 6:00PM

Group Meetings

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

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

Classic Movie Group: Monday, November 9, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, November 10, 2:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, November 11, 2:45PM

Computer Group: No meeting in November

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 Schrifft, officers at large; Bill Crabtree, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor; Chuck Kirkpatrick, Bill Reilly and Dick Davis, associate editors; Bill Shaffmaster and Tom Booth, 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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