

The Reminder



June 2015

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

Inside

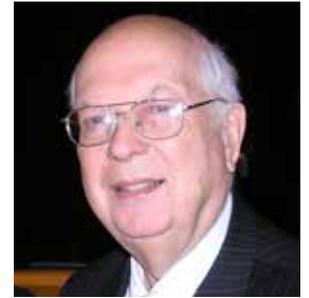
- 2 Membership News
- 3 Games
- 4 New Life Members
- 5 Groups
- 6 Special Events
- 7 Senior Health
- 8 Mystery Lyrics



Irv Poston Automotive Plastics Pioneer

If you drive a vehicle that is significantly safer and lighter than what your father drove, chances are Irv Poston had something to do with it. The key, as Dustin Hoffman learned in the "The Graduate," was "Plastics."

Irv's connection with plastics and the auto industry spans 42 years, from his post graduate years at Purdue University, to his retirement from General Motors in 1997. He headed Plastics Engineering at the GM Tech Center in Warren for many years and was a member of two USCAR consortia. Irv is highly regarded as a pioneer, changing mindsets and paving the way for the expanded use of plastics in the industry.



Irv's accomplishments have been recognized and applauded in the United States and overseas. Earlier this year he received the prestigious Gold Award from the Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD). He is also an ESD Fellow; a winner of ESD's Distinguished Service Award; is a Fellow of the Society of Plastics Engineering, and a winner of SPE's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Irv's retirement from General Motors meant having more time and opportunity to provide leadership to organizations in the industry and the community.

—Chuck Ragains

JUNE PROGRAMS

JUNE CHAIRMAN: Martin Rowell

- 5 Carol Cain, *Detroit Free Press*, Columnist..... *The Times Are a Changing: From the Motor City, to Michigan, to the State of Media*
- 12 Richard Marsh, President, Winston Churchill Society..... *Winston Churchill and the Dream*
- 19 Scott McCormick, President, CVTA..... *Importance of the Connected Vehicle*
- 26 Dr. Kazuyuki Katayama, Consul General of Japan in Detroit *Japan-China Relations: China's Rise and Its Implications on Japan-U.S. Relations*

JULY PROGRAMS

JULY CHAIRMAN: Dick Harper

- 3 NO MEETING

JUNE DISCUSSIONS

JUNE CHAIRMAN: Martin Rowell

- 5 Geno Markell, SMC Member *Aspects of 3D Modeling and Manufacturing*
- 12 Stu Shuster, SMC Member *The Morgan Car Co. and it's Products*
- 19 Jon Reed, SMC Member *An Ancestor's Civil War Adventures*
- 26 Mike Speer, SMC Member..... *Lean Medicine*

JULY DISCUSSIONS

JULY CHAIRMAN: Augie Perrotta

- 3 NO MEETING

New Member:



James W. Suhay
740 Fairfax St.
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-642-8514
jsuhay@sbcglobal.net
Sponsor: Augie Perrotta

To Life Member:

Thomas M. Buescher
Guilford W. Forbes
Richard L. Halsted
Roger Spry

Deaths:

S. Peter Bayekian, (Life), joined January 1999
William J. English, (Life), joined September 1994
George Kendro, (Life), joined May 1996

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman
—Robert Beach, Database Chairman
—Bill Shaffmaster, Tom Booth
& Gene Markel, Photography

New Associates:

John J. Dueweke
5889 Pentland Road
Bloomfield, MI 48301-1148
248-855-6515
jjdueweke@aol.com
Sponsor: John Flintosh

William S. Gross
4049 Hidden Woods Drive
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-3130
248-642-7977
grossmd@yahoo.com
Sponsor: Gerald Moore

Roger P. L'Heureux
3745 Coolidge Highway
Troy, MI 48084-1418
248-649-2487
rogerlheu@aol.com
Sponsor: Frank Bujold

Kenneth B. Meskin
4241 Sedgemoor Lane
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-1648
248-855-3888
kenmeskin@comcast.net
Sponsor: Jim Bayson

John A. Porter
1954 Pine Ridge Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-1750
248-330-7715
Jporter1@comcast.net
Sponsor: Gerald Stribbell

Julian F. Prince
3452 Buckingham Trail
West Bloomfield, MI 48323-2809
248-626-6641
julianp@comcast.net
Sponsor: Laurence Imerman

SMC LogoWear is Coming

A small selection of SMC LogoWear will be offered for sale at all June meetings - golf shirts, the 4-season jacket we sold previously, a light-weight golf jacket, and baseball caps. Pictures of all items will also be displayed on our SMC website.



—Frank Gordon



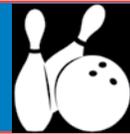
Associates Orientation



All associates are invited to the Associates Orientation Meeting on Friday, June 26, at 9:00AM. The meeting room will be posted on the Club bulletin board in the lobby. Questions and reservations: contact John Klein at 248-363-3020 or klein60@yahoo.com.



Games



Monday Golf

It's been four weeks since the 2015 season began and only two official rounds have been posted. The weather has not cooperated. Playing with 43 degree temperatures and a 16 mph breeze on soggy ground leaves a bit to be desired. Let's plan on better conditions for the rest of the season. Play dates will now extend until August 24. There are several openings for Regular players (pay in advance). Walk-ons are always welcome. Please join us at Lincoln Hills on Mondays with tee times from 7:30 to 9:30AM.



—The Golf Committee

Scramble Date Change

Stonycroft Hills has moved our Scramble from September to August thanks to the hard and persistent work of Al Roberts. For the last two years our Scramble has coincided with the aeration of the fairways and greens. This caused the competition to be based more on luck and very little skill.



The Annual Stonycroft Scramble will now be held:

Tuesday, August 11, 2015

8:00AM Continental Breakfast

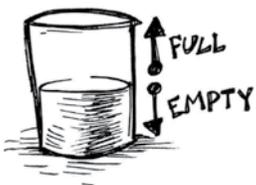
9:00 AM Shotgun start

12:00 Noon Lunch and awards

Cost: \$33 Stonycroft Members; \$48 non members.

Power carts may be rented at the Pro Shop for \$10.

Remember we are guests at Stonycroft and need to abide by their rules, i.e. shirts with collars, no short shorts, and no denim. The Golf Committee will be accepting reservations in July.



Optimist: Glass is half full

Pessimist: Glass is half empty

Engineer: Glass is twice as big as it should be

Thursday Golf

The weather gods apparently don't like Thursday golfers, giving us less than ideal conditions. May 14 was typical – it was partly sunny, but too cool. Only 22 of us hit the Springdale links and only 4 were in the "45 or under" category. Tony Parrottino and Chuck Torner came in with 45; Joe Schulenberg hit 42, while Tim McGee was low for the day at 40.



There is no shot so simple that it can't be messed up.

A grand total of zero birdies were achieved. Jon Haber was closest to the pin at 5' 6", but missed the putt! That summed up the day. It's got to get better – isn't it almost summer?

—The Golf Committee

Bowling

We have learned that our bowling site – Thunderbird Lanes is closing for the summer. Bowlers with lockers have been notified so that they can clear out any bowling gear. Tom Venier is attempting to organize an alternate site for summer bowling. Please contact him if you are interested in bowling during summer months (248-642-2386) or TomVenier@aol.com.



—Dick Harper

Historic Film Group

Our second Historic Film presentation for the year will be occur on Monday, June 22, at 1:00PM and will feature an outstanding group of historic Big Band, Swing and Jazz movie shorts that were originally released between the early 1930's thru the early 1950's. Featured artists include: Ella Fitzgerald, Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington, Dave Brubeck, Johnny Long, Lester Young, Albert Ammons and Pete Johnson. All musically minded members should plan to attend this special show. The final program detailing each of the musical numbers will be posted on our web page a few weeks before the show and a detailed eblast will be issued close to the show date.

New Life Member:

Cliff Bath

Cliff Bath is one of our most recent honored Life Members. Cliff is an original Detroiter – born in a house on Trumbull, just north of Navin Field – a house that still stands, although fenced and boarded up. He attended Cooley High and Wayne State, where he earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master's in marketing. Cliff feels that one of the most significant events in his life occurred as he finished ninth grade. His algebra teacher took him to a counselor's office and announced "This boy should be in college prep." He feels that this teacher changed the whole course of his life.



One month out of college, his friends and neighbors selected him, so the letter said, to be drafted into the Army. After service, Cliff passed the CPA exam, but almost immediately left the CPA firm to a business career with manufacturing companies. He has held senior management positions with numerous companies, including VP of Finance with Jim Robbins Company in the plastic molding and extruding business. Robbins had their own plane and Cliff remembers several interesting flying adventures – engine failures, emergency landings and other close calls.

He parted with Jim Robbins still alive and tells his stories in a yet to be published book "Birds Don't Walk and I Don't Fly." After Robbins, Cliff became Chief Financial Officer with a small company acquired by Newcor, Inc. where he moved from to VP-CFO to President and CEO. After Newcor he ultimately formed his own manufacturing company, Arobotech. Cliff retired from active work in 2000, but continues as Chairman.

Cliff is very active with a number of charitable and church related ventures, including the United Methodist Seminary at Northwestern where he is a Life Trustee. He is a strong supporter of Cass Community Social Services and initiated Redford Brightmoor Initiative – a renewal effort in the Brightmoor section of Detroit. With the SMC, Cliff has served on the Attendance, Chaplain and Program Committees. He achieved his first hole-in-one at Springdale.

He has been married to Isabel for 63 years – they have two daughters and four grandchildren – all in the area. Congratulations and welcome to Life Membership, Cliff!

—Gene Jacoby

New Life Member:

Chip Forbes

Guilford "Chip" Forbes, was born, raised and educated in the Northeast. His education at St. Lawrence University was interrupted by 19 bombing missions as a bombardier on a B-24 in the China-Burma-India Theater. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He returned from the war and continued his education at St. Lawrence and then MIT.



His first job after graduation was with a small outfit pumping out prefabricated homes for the returning GIs. He quickly moved from there to the New Departure Division of General Motors in Connecticut making ball bearings. He married his wife Pat, had three children and life was great. Then at age 40 came the chance for a promotion and a wider career opportunity at the GM Corporate Offices in Detroit. It was a difficult decision for these lifelong East Coasters. Chip spent the rest of his 37 year career with GM in the engineering and finance areas.

Chip, as a new Associate Member in 2003, was a volunteer on the check-in desk. He quickly realized that many of the members he saw likely had WWII experience, and realized from the look of some of the guys, that their stories of involvement would need to be captured ASAP. That idea became "The Wars of Our Generation," the stories of Senior Men's Club member experiences in WWII and in the Korean Conflict. He recruited his GM colleague, Alvie Smith, to be Editor-in-Chief. Chip was the Project Chairman.

Chip has had a life-long involvement in golfing and in sailing. In 1938 he won the Junior Championship at his local club in Connecticut. In 2007 he won the Super Senior Championship. 69 years is a long dry spell but he tells me that he did win a few Nassau bets in the intervening time.

As a sailor he has owned a 28-foot sloop for 14 years - a real beauty according to Chip. Among the adventures the family enjoyed was a 23-day cruise from Detroit to the Connecticut shore.

Chip and Pat have been married 64 years. They have two sons in the Boston area and a daughter in Plymouth, Michigan plus nine grandchildren.

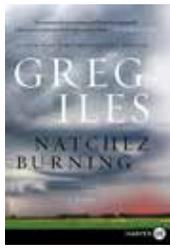
—Gene Jacoby

Groups



Book Reading Groups

Natchez Burning is a novel by Greg Iles, who in 2009 wrote *The Devil's Punchbowl*.



The new novel, like the previous one, has as its hero a lawyer-turned-novelist, Penn Cage. In *Natchez Burning*, Penn, following his wife's death from cancer, returns with his daughter to his childhood home in Natchez, Mississippi. As Bill Sheehan said, reviewing the book in *The Washington Post*, Penn comes to Natchez hoping to find peace and a fresh start but instead of getting a fresh start he gets embroiled in investigations that illuminate the darker side of life in Natchez—past and present. Determined to help restore the struggling city, Penn changes professions once again and runs successfully for mayor of Natchez. The rest of the book explores such themes as the conflict between loyalty to family and loyalty to "truth" and to "justice," the nature and cost of professional ambition, and the ways in which sexual needs and anxieties find expression when white men and black women encounter each other. The Wednesday group will discuss this book on Wednesday, June 3 at 10:30AM.

Writing in *The New Yorker* last year, Adam Gopnik said, "A new and exciting book fell into my lap the other day...The book, by Eric H. Cline, is called *1177 B.C.: The Year Civilization Collapsed*. It adds that remote date, previously inauspicious to all but scholars of the Late Bronze Age, to other, later ones—475 A.D., when Rome got sacked for good; 1348, the first year of the Black Plague; and that grim centennial favorite, 1914—as one more marker showing how a thriving civilization can gasp, fall over, and give up." The Monday reading group will discuss this book on Monday, June 15 at 3:00PM.

—Frank Auld



Computer Group

The Computer Group will next meet on Wednesday, June 17 at 2:00PM. As of this writing, a speaker and program are yet to be established. Jon Haber indicates he will advise members by eblast as soon as possible.

—Ron Denton



Classic Movie Group

On Monday, June 8, at 1:00PM Fred Hansz will present one of his favorite comedy classics, "I Married a Witch" (1942). In this fascinating film, a witch (Veronica Lake) burned at the stake in Salem centuries ago, comes back to haunt descendents of the Puritan (Fredric March) who sent her to her death. However, delightful consequences develop as she finds herself drawn to this man running for governor. The film is a comic masterpiece bursting with special playful effects and sparking witticisms.

—Fred Hansz



Investment Group

On Wednesday, June 10 at 2:45PM, the winners of our Capital Stock game will share the \$490 prize fund. More importantly, they will reveal their successful investment wisdom and stock picking strategies. Other successful members will also share their investing expertise. This will be our last meeting until September – suggestions to improve group meetings will be welcome.

Bob Bazzell catapulted into first place in the Stock Game with an impressive 117.7% gain – all due to his one stock portfolio – Builders First Source, which gained an incredible 84% since our last meeting. Jerry Peck is in second place with a strong 99.8% gain, while Bob Rossi is third – up 70.5%. The game ends May 31. Join us on June 10 to congratulate the winners!

—George Miller



Camera Group

On Tuesday, June 9 at 2:00PM, Sally Gerak, Social Reporter for the *Downtown Birmingham-Bloomfield News Magazine* will address the topic "How and What I Do and Don't Do With a Camera." Her short formal presentation will be followed by a thoroughly interactive Q & A with the legendary journalist. Although her livelihood depends on her thousands of photos, she steadfastly claims, "I am not a photographer, I am a reporter."

—John Slocum

Special Events

Holocaust Memorial Center

On Wednesday, June 17 we will first meet for lunch at noon at the Ginopolis Restaurant (12 Mile Road & Middlebelt.) We will have a choice of five different lunch items: Brisket Sandwich with fries; Grilled Chicken Sandwich with fries; Hamburger with fries; St. Louis or Montgomery Inn Ribs Appetizer (4 bones with chips); or Cobb Salad. Lunch will also include Coffee, Iced Tea and Soft Drinks. After lunch, we will visit the Holocaust Memorial Center. Our tour begins at 2:00PM and we will use a tour guide audio system with a docent leading our group through permanent and special exhibits followed by a conversation with a Holocaust survivor, Martin Lowenberg. Mr. Lowenberg spoke at the Senior Men's Club and his presentation was well received by all in attendance. The Holocaust Memorial Center is educational and thought provoking. This is a self-drive event. The restaurant and museum in Farmington Hills are approximately 1.5 miles apart. Ticket sales began May 22 priced at \$23.



—Jerry Stribbell

Annual Picnic & Car Show

Mark your calendars! Although spring has just started, it's time to plan for our annual summer picnic and car show. This traditional event will be held on Friday, August 7 from 10:30AM to 2:30PM at the Beverly Park, conveniently located on Beverly Road, just west of Southfield.



We will enjoy the Club's traditional fellowship, along with food, entertainment, games, prizes, and memorable music, along with a great collection of cars.

The summer buffet will include pulled pork, chicken, coleslaw, beans and sweet corn.

Members with vehicles to display should contact Stu Schuster. We are looking for an increase over the 17 fine cars shown last year.

Ticket sales at the SMC Special Events table will start on June 26.

—Martin Rowell

St. Clair River Cruise & Dinner

This years' summer cruise is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22 and promises to continue our string of enjoyable dinner



cruises around the great water venues of our region.

This year, we will cruise the St. Clair River, dine at the famous River Crab Restaurant and bask in a summer sunset aboard our chartered cruise ship.

We will depart the First Presbyterian Church at 2:00 PM by luxury coach bound for Port Huron and the dock of the Huron Lady II. At 4:00PM, we depart on a leisurely cruise to the River Crab Restaurant in St. Clair, Michigan.

Dinner will be served in our special dining room overlooking the river. Dinner will include your choice of chowder or salad, one of eight main course entrees and dinner beverage. Entrée choices include: Grilled Salmon; Broiled Great Lakes Whitefish; Coconut-Macadamia Shrimp; Maryland Crab Cakes; Shrimp & Artichoke Linguine; Lemon Chicken; Cajun Chicken Tortellini; or a 10 oz. Ribeye Steak.

A light dessert of Key Lime pie and coffee will be served on our sunset cruise back to Port Huron. A cash bar is available aboard the Huron Lady II and at the River Crab.

The total cost of the evening including luxury coach, river cruise, dinner and all gratuities is \$75. Tickets will go on sale on Friday, June 19 at 9:00AM.

Our summer cruise events have consistently been sell-outs. Capacity on the Huron Lady II is 100 passengers. Please remember to purchase your tickets early and come prepared for a very enjoyable evening.

—Bob Gualdoni, Riggs Miller,
Jerry Stribbell & Larry Price

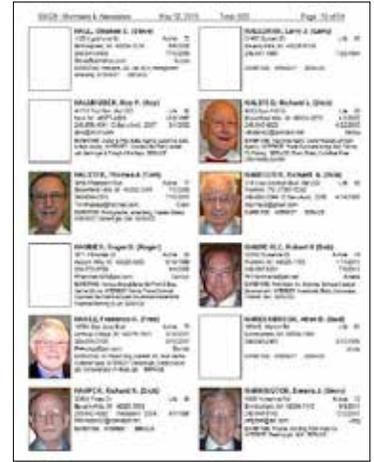
Photo Directory for Website Coming Soon

As mentioned in *The Reminder* last month, the Database Committee is preparing to replace the current Member Directory in the Members Only Portal of the SMC website. This new directory will include a member's photo, age, and other information so that we can more easily know and relate to our fellow members.

Over 200 photos are currently in the database, but Tom Booth and Geno Markel are working hard to get the additional photos needed.

Although the photo directory won't be on the website until July, you can look at the information currently in the database about you by contacting Irv Poston, 248-646-9574 or ieposton@juno.com. You will be able to submit a form for opting-out of or changing the data listed about you.

A sample of the page layout is on the Bulletin Board at the Friday meetings, and a greatly reduced copy is shown at right. Any questions, suggestions, or comments should be directed to Irv Poston.



The image shows a sample of the photo directory page layout. It features a grid of member information, including names, photos, and contact details. The layout is organized into columns and rows, with each member's information presented in a consistent format. The text is small and difficult to read, but the overall structure is clear and professional.

Senior Health Matters Promoting Brain Health

The Institute of Medicine Committee on the Public Health Dimensions of Cognitive Aging advises individuals of all ages that the following are the three best steps to help promote cognitive health.



- Be physically active
- Reduce and manage cardiovascular risk factors including high blood pressure, diabetes and smoking
- Regularly discuss and review with your doctor conditions and medications that might have a negative effect on cognitive function

Other actions that may promote cognitive health include:

- Be socially and intellectually active and continually seek opportunities to learn
- Get adequate sleep and seek professional treatment for sleep disorders, if needed
- Take steps to avoid a sudden, acute decline in cognitive function (delirium) associated with medications or hospitalizations
- Carefully evaluate products advertised to consumers to improve cognitive health such as medications, nutritional supplements and cognitive training

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO
Chairman, Visitation-Health Committee

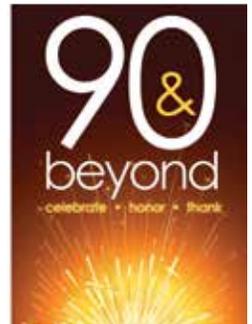
You are Invited

The Community House is inviting the SMC to join them in celebrating people who are 90 years old & beyond and thanking them for being an important part of our community.

TCH is hosting a celebratory luncheon on Thursday, June 11, from 11:30AM-1:30PM. In addition to a sumptuous meal, the program will include a photo opportunity, an **honorees' recognition**, and an entertaining presentation, "Technology Through the Decades!"

Thanks to All Seasons of Birmingham, there is **no charge for individuals 90 and older**; \$35 per person for all others. Valet service is complimentary.

To treat yourself or an important someone to a most enjoyable experience call 248.644.5832, visit www.tchserve.org or stop by The Community House.



SMC Centenarians

We often note that active membership in the Senior Men's Club can contribute to longevity. Want proof? Well, two of our members have reached centenarian status this year. **John Lavrakas** reached 100 in January, and **Clarence (Cap) Hall** will achieve this status on June 15. While these wonderful men aren't as active as they once were, they certainly epitomize the benefits of Club membership.



The *Detroit News* recently featured John Lavrakas in a VE Day anniversary story, reporting that on that day, John was aboard the USS Salt Lake City in the Pacific.

Mystery Lyrics

Last month's mystery lyrics proved to be aptly named – only four identified the song containing these lines:



*If I had Aladdin's lamp for only a day
I'd make a wish and here's what I'd say*

So hearty congratulations to Tim McGee, Midge (Roger) Gettel, Fred Leydorf and Clay Gordon who knew that the song is the sing-along classic "Carolina in the Morning."

Maybe this month's challenge will be easier. This song was recorded by many artists, including Sinatra and Ella. The mystery lyrics are:

Hate California – it's cold and it's damp

Can you name that tune? Too easy?

Sports Trivia

Apparently we don't have a lot of members who listened to or watched the Red Wings or Hockey Night in Canada back when because only three readers could remember the long time hockey announcers for the Red Wings, the Toronto Maple Leafs or the Montreal Canadians.

We were looking for Budd Lynch, Foster Hewitt and Danny Gallivan. Only Pete Kass (who knows all this stuff) came up with all three names. Jack McLaughlin and Lynn Evans remembered Lynch and Hewitt. Lynn also named Al Nagler of the Wings. Bill Burnie remembered Hewitt, who announced from the "gondola" in the Maple Leaf Gardens.

You may think this month's trivia challenge is too easy (or too obtuse), but here goes. What did hockey announcer Budd Lynch, war time St. Louis Browns outfielder Ted Gray and New Orleans jazz trumpeter "Wingy" Manone have in common? (Malone used to appear at the Crest Bowling Center and Lounge at Grand River and Fenkell – anybody remember?

—Dick Harper

THE REMINDER

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

Officers for 2015 are: George L. Stern, president; Eugene P. Jacoby, first vice president; Richard A. Kamp, second vice president; Robert I. Hayes, recording secretary; Charles R. (Dick) Bradley, corresponding secretary; John P. Groves, treasurer; James A. Bayson, assistant treasurer; Charles J. Blank and Pradeep (Pete) Mehra, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor; Chuck Ragains, and John Flintosh, associate editors; Tom Booth, Bill Shaffmaster, and Geno Markel, photography; Mary Kennedy, computer layout; Bob Jordan, mailing.

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham
380 South Bates St., Birmingham, MI 48009
www.tchserves.org

CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Reminder Deadline: Friday, June 19

Games

Bowling Practice: To be determined

Bridge: Tuesdays at 9:00AM and Friday after lunch

Thursday Golf: Springdale Golf Course, dawn til 8:52AM start times

Monday Golf: Lincoln Hills Golf Course, 7:30-9:30AM start times

Special Events

Holocaust Memorial Center: Wednesday, June 17, lunch at noon

River Cruise: Wednesday, July 22, 2015, 2:00PM

Annual Picnic: Friday, August 7, Beverly Park, 10:30AM-2:30PM

Group Meetings

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

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

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

Camera Group: Tuesday, June 9 at 2:00PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, June 17 at 3:00PM

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

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

SMC ON THE WEB:

www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com

www.tchserves.org/outreach-and-clubs/clubs/senior-mens-club-of-birmingham