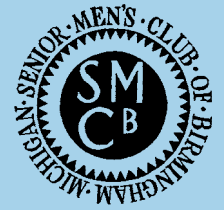


The Reminder

January 2012

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



Inside

- 2 Membership News
- 3 Groups
- 4 Thank You Bill
- 5 Hostess Luncheon
- 6 In Memoriam
- 7 Awards
- 8 Mystery Lyrics

Thank You and Good Luck, John

Many organizations rely on their President to wear a number of hats, and the Senior Men's Club is no exception. There is the *recruiting hat* that's worn to help build membership. The *activities hat* helps ensure that the Club offers high-quality events, sports and speakers. And there is the *community hat* that provides an important link to The Community House and the larger community.

For the past 12 months, these hats, and many more, have been worn by John Flintosh. John's most visible role is chairing the Friday membership meetings, which he does in a very organized, efficient way. He handles introductions smoothly, makes sure agendas are adhered to, and does it all with a sense of humor.

While John has completed his term as President, we will continue to benefit from his experience and knowledge as he serves on the Executive Board and the Policy Committee. The membership thanks John for his distinguished service and his many contributions to our Club.



—Chuck Ragains

JANUARY PROGRAMS

JANUARY CHAIRMAN: Mike Albright

- 6 Chuck Moss, State of Michigan Representative, District 40*Lansing Roundup*
- 13 Faith Fowler, Executive Director, Cass Community Social Services and Pastor of Cass Community Methodist Church..... *Poverty and Sustainability*
- 20 Michael Stewart, Founder and Past Managing Member, Radar, Fishman & Graver.....*Intellectual Property Protection and Enforcement*
- 27 Jim Vella, President, Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services..... *Making a Difference - One Person at a Time*

FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY CHAIRMAN: Ted Schuster

- 3 Phil Powers, former owner of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers *The Center for Michigan: Michigan's Citizenship Company*

JANUARY DISCUSSIONS

JANUARY CHAIRMAN: Leonard Borman

- 6 William H. Corba, SMC Member*The Enzo Ferrari Story*
- 13 Irwin Cohen, Writer, dubbed Mr. Baseball*From Tiger Stadium to Comerica Park*
- 20 Tim Wittinger, Director, Village Players*From Play Selection to Opening Night*
- 27 Reed Benet, Captain, USMC (Ret) *ValorVillageDetroit, Housing and Employment Opportunities for Returning Middle East War Veterans*

FEBRUARY DISCUSSIONS

FEBRUARY CHAIRMAN: Julian Greenebaum

- 3 Facilitator, Courtney Thompson, the Center for Michigan *Community Conversations: The Future of Michigan Education*

New Members:



Nandalal Bagchi
2833 Palmerston
Troy, MI 48084-1024
248-540-9035
E-mail: nandalalbagchi@gmail.com
Sponsor: Riggs Miller



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6335 Thorncrest Dr. E.
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248-647-8244
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Sponsor: James (Bucky) Buchanan



Dennis J. Harrington
1686 Yorkshire Road
Birmingham, MI 48009-7416
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Sponsor: Pradeep Mehra

New Address/Phone/Email:

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Arthur W. Hesskamp—248-568-3634
Charles E. Tholen—cet262@sbcglobal.net

New Associates:

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46528 Darwood Court
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734-454-9427
E-mail: pj5866@aol.com
Sponsor: John Flintosh

Arnold D. Nielsen (Patricia)
47580 Arbor Trail
Northville, MI 48168-8500
248-305-8264
E-mail: anielsen1@comcast.net
Sponsor: Dennis Nielsen

Life Member:

Irwin A. Small
John D. Slocum
Richard A. Wehling

Resigned:

Raymond G. Fischer

Deaths:

George J. Auchterlonie, joined October 2003
C. Edward Chambliss, III, (Life), joined February 1992

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

Model Train Tour

The Senior Men's Club will revisit exciting model train layouts after a two year hiatus. On Thursday, February 16 our bus will leave the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham at 9:30AM. The first stop will be the Chi-Town Model RR, which has almost doubled in size since our last visit. Then we will have lunch at the Holly Hotel, with a choice of chicken strudel, white fish or salmon, Beef Wellington or vegetarian. After lunch we visit the Holly Model RR (within walking distance). Our final visit will be a drive through the Great Lakes National Cemetery, with a return arrival to the church at about 4:00PM. The ticket price is only \$45, including lunch, with availability starting January 27.



Groups



Computer Group

The Computer Group will meet Wednesday, January 18 at 3:00PM in the Baldwin Library technology center. Kathryn Bergeron will demonstrate how to download e-books on electronic devices such as the Kindle, Nook, iPad and PC. She will also discuss how to find the available e-book formats in the library and how to reserve and hold books when they become available.

—Ron Denton



Camera Group

The Camera Group will next meet on Tuesday, January 10 at 2:00PM. Chairman Jaap Delevie will present a video featuring many facets of Argentina, including Buenos Aires, with tango dancers, the flat land of Patagonia, glaciers of the Andes mountains, the Beagle channel and Tierra del Fuego, plus the Iguacu Falls between Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, which are 2^{1/2} miles wide and 30-40 feet higher than the Niagara Falls, all much different than Michigan scenery. Hope to see many members and guests there.

—Jaap B. Delevie



Classic Movie Group

On Monday, January 9 at 1:00PM in the Hackett Room, the maestro from Melrose Park, Ed Burke, will present the 1957 film classic, *12 Angry Men*. Voted in the top 25 of best films of all time, it is a crash course on the Constitution's promise of presumption of innocence and a fair trial. Starring Henry Fonda and 11 of the best male actors of the 50s, the film is a study in personality conflicts, body language, not action, where logic, emotion and prejudice struggle for control. The drama is powerful and provocative. It will leave you spellbound. The plethora of words demands subtitles for the dialogue for a more pleasurable viewing experience.



—Augie Perrotta



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, January 4 at 10:30AM, we will discuss "A Man for All Seasons" by Robert Bolt. Sir Thomas More became King Henry VIII's Lord Chancellor under one condition: That he was left out of "The King's Great Matter," which was the King's conflict with the Pope over his desired annulment from Catherine of Aragon. Henry was determined to have a blessing of his marriage to Anne Boleyn from Sir Thomas More, however, More, a devout Catholic, believed that Henry's annulment from Catherine was not valid. In hopes of forcing More to agree with him, the King administered an Oath claiming that he was the supreme head of the Church in England, and that Anne Boleyn's children would be the heirs to the throne. Sir Thomas refused to sign the Oath, and, after spending almost 2 years in the Tower of London, was beheaded.

On Monday, January 16 at 3:00PM, we will discuss "Memoirs of Hadrian" by M. Yourcenter. Set in the second century A.D. and narrated in the first person, it is the written meditations of a Emperor Hadrian, a sick man suffering from gout, knowing that his remaining days are few. Hadrian leaves a testimony of his life, his accomplishments, his philosophical outlook on life, and some pieces of good advice for his successor Marcus Aurelius. Hadrian was an architect of peace as well as buildings, he felt responsible for sustaining and increasing the beauty of his world. He was a lover of the arts and Greek culture.

—Ted Chapekis



Investment Group

On Wednesday, January 11 at 2:45PM, Mike Alioto, Senior VP, UBS Financial Services in Birmingham and SMC Member will discuss the Markets and Stock outlook. He has extensive experience and invests in individual stocks and bonds. Come and start the New Year with a positive outlook.

Stock Game results through December 9. First place - Bob Bazzell (up 48%), second - Jim Smallwood (up 45%), third - Walt Ebling (up 38%).

—George Miller



Games



Winter Golf

2012 is the year that the game of golf comes together for all senior golfers and their scores plummet to levels not seen since we had dark hair and flat stomachs. This will only happen if we sharpen our skills by regular practice at the Oakland Yard Dome this winter.

Winter golf practice begins on Thursday, January 5. The price is \$9 for all the balls you can hit between 9:30 and 11:30AM. Coffee and donuts are included.

The Oakland Yard Dome is located at 5328 Highland Rd., (M-59) in Waterford (just past Crescent Lake Rd. on the right). *Note: A pass is not required. Just show up and say you are part of the Senior Men's Club.*

After practice join together for lunch at Hero's Restaurant located at 998 W. Huron St. (M-59), in Waterford. Enjoy a 15% discount on your total bill. Remember that Peggy is waiting to serve you. It has been a long and boring summer for her without our lively conversation.

The first 5 minutes of the lunch will be devoted to discussing all our aches, pains, surgeries, heart problems, and other maladies. At the end of that time period the discussions must move to other subjects.

—The Golf Committees

Bowling

Even with one week of competition remaining, the first half bowling champs have been decided. The Diamond Backs (Stormy Wetters, Ben Mangiapane, Dick Harper and Denny Winowiecki) have amassed an insurmountable point lead. These guys apparently know what they are doing, since Wetters, Harper and Winowiecki were on the championship team last year.

We are approaching the time of year when bowler snowbirds appear (actually, they disappear). Hence, we really need more bowlers now. Even if you haven't bowled for years or maybe never, why not give it a try - maybe as a sub. A good way to start would be to join us at practice Wednesdays at 9:30AM at Thunderbird Lanes on Maple Rd. You will find that bowlers really have fun! Please call Tom Venier (248-642-2386) with any questions.

—Less Lessenthien and Tom Venier

Senior Health Matters-II What Can You Do to Prevent Falls?

- Review your complete prescription and over-the-counter medicine list for possible side effects and interactions that could cause dizziness, muscle weakness or drowsiness with your doctor. You should also review your list with your pharmacist.
- Make sure you get enough calcium and vitamin D in your diet.
- Consider a bone density test to check for osteoporosis (a disease that causes bones to become thin, weak and more likely to break).
- Ask your doctor about weight bearing exercises to increase leg strength and bone density.
- Talk about ways to improve your balance and coordination with your doctor.
- Have your vision checked at least once a year to make sure that you do not have glaucoma or cataracts that can limit your vision. Make sure any prescription glasses are current.
- Examine your feet especially if you have pain or difficulty in walking.
- A cane or walker might provide extra stability.
- Get your hearing checked.
- Consider a medical alarm service.

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO

Thank You Bill

Discerning club members likely noticed a significant change in our officer lineup for 2012 - Jim Bayson is replacing Bill Sprague in the most important Treasurer position. Bill is stepping down from this responsibility after serving so well since 2004.

The undersigned is well aware of Bill's tenure, since as newly elected President that year, I had managed to fill all important positions with one notable exception - Club Treasurer. Bill graciously agreed to take on this time consuming responsibility, despite a limited financial background. For him, it was really "on-the-job" training, and Bill not only proved to be a fast learner, he brought computer based methodology and effectiveness to the position.

I'm sure all Club members join in thanking Bill for eight years of most effective leadership in this position, as well as offering best wishes to Jim Bayson.

—Dick Harper

Thank You Luncheon Highlights Holiday Season



The Senior Men's Club's celebration of the 2011 holidays reached a peak on Friday, December 9 as members saluted and thanked the ladies who serve as hostesses for the weekly luncheons throughout the year. The 17 hostesses in attendance were escorted by club

members sporting traditional white shirts and red bowties, and were presented with Somerset Collection gift cards.

A musical thank you featuring "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" was led by Mike Albright with Jack Benish at the piano. Mike also read an original Christmas story. Then The Community House stage was turned over to the Voices and SEA of Seaholm High School, for a wonderful performance.

"Our hostesses do a terrific job throughout the year," said Bob Parker, whose committee coordinated the hostesses party. "We appreciate their excellent service. The Club could not operate efficiently without them." Lillian Fregolle acknowledged the gifts on behalf of the hostesses. Kate Hameister received a special gift in honor of her 20 years of service.

Dignitaries at the luncheon included Debbie Schrot, Executive Director of The Community House and Tina Rowley, President of the Birmingham Area Senior Citizen Council (BASCC). The Club presented each organization with a check for \$500.

In the Club's early days, meetings were held twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays. Hostesses served sandwiches and cake for lunch at a price of 60 cents. The tradition of being served lunch by volunteer hostesses continued through the years, and two, Carol Hollingshead and Elaine Dobson, have been made honorary members of the SMC for their long and continuous service.

—Chuck Ragains



Improvement Committee

Your SMC Improvement Committee notified our Executive Board that it will receive three recommendations at the meeting on January 10. These issues deal with concerns raised by fellow members.

The improvement committee's study of these issues revealed they are influenced greatly by some of the sea changes altering the way retired men today manage their lives.

We are healthier, still thirsty for knowledge, value fellowship and desire a return on investment of time that can be greater than what may be expected from financial investments.

Committee members achieved consensus on the issues before submitting them to the board. This consensus was achieved by examining compiled club data and member opinions. Where members had reservations, those concerns were addressed by attention to supporting actions that minimize or nullify the impact of calculated consequences.

John M. Steele, brings academic and computer/analytical knowledge from Ford to the committee; the multiple disciplines John Flintosh acquired at Ford, Dick Harper's experience as a past club president and a career with Chrysler in marketing and research, Augie Perrotta's professional medical experience and extensive club involvement, and the fresh views of a young retiree, Rich Schreck, who closed a career at GM marked by work in futuristic problem analysis, have fomented a synergy that is serving the club well.

The issues before the Executive Board Meeting on January 10 deal with member classifications, attendance and the club name. The report will include progress reports on speaker recruitment, and the development of a database to share members' experiences and interests.

—John Reddy

In Memoriam

The Senior Men's Club lost 29 vital and respected members last year. Viewing this list makes us realize how precious life really is!

George Auchterlonie	James J. Judge
Robert Q. Bannon	Robert W. Mattutat
Michael B. Belden	John F. McDonnell
Ralph R. Bowen	Oliver R. Miltner
C. Edward Chambliss III	Thomas E. Oakes
Walter Cornelius	Thomas M. Perkins
John B. Costello	Daniel N. Pevos
James M. Crabb	Hunter E. Pickens
Byron P. Crane	C. Granville Sharpe
Cyril D. Duffy	Robert W. Spencer
Robert N. Elliott	John F. Sullivan
William F. Gray	Bert Swanson
Gus Grozdon	Frederick N. Talmers
William J. Hunter	David W. Zimmer
George H. Jobin	

Christmas Dinner Dance

Every year, the Special Events Committee is faced with the challenge of topping the previous year's production of the annual Club Christmas Party. And guess what - they did it again in 2011.

The party at San Marino was warm and wonderful, with the many smiling faces clearly evidencing how successful the event was.

Event Co-Chairs Tony DiMarco and Mike Clement deserve full credit for this perfect evening, which was enjoyed by 245 members, spouses and guests. The program launched with introductory comments by Tony DiMarco, followed by a welcome by outgoing president John Flintosh, a mercifully few "groaners" by Committee Chair John Zabriskie and a solemn invocation by Ken Brooker.

A sumptuous meal followed, with the Pros Big Band providing appropriate background music. After the serving, a surprising number of nimble footed dancers took to the floor as the band launched into the classic "Moonlight Serenade" and other favorites. We then recognized the seasonal theme of the party with the traditional Christmas sing-along. Not all eyes were dry as we reflected on how great life can be and how important Club membership is when enjoyed with such friends.

Congratulations to John Zabriskie and his team for such a great evening. Let's do it again!

—Dick Harper

2012 SMC Officers



Photo by: Tom Booth

Front row: Jack E. Ledingham, David A. Schwartz, Charles B. Kirkpatrick, Stuart B. Shuster, George L. Stern
Back row: Richard E. Shirley, Pradeep Mehra, George A. Grove, Eugene P. Jacoby, James E. Bayson

Outstanding Service Award

Member George Miller recently received the coveted SMC Outstanding Service Award from incoming President Chuck Kirkpatrick and the Policy Committee. This award recognizes long standing and multi-faceted contributions to our club.



George has served as Chairman of the Investment Study Group for many years, often regaling us with bombastic and erudite comments about investing and the markets. In addition, he originated the concept of the Legacy Endowment Fund benefitting The Community House and continues to chair that function most expeditiously. Congratulations, George!

—Dick Harper

President's Award



The President's Award is intended to recognize a significant and noteworthy contribution to the Senior Men's Club by an individual member. John Reddy is our most recent recipient, receiving the award from outgoing President John Flintosh for his efforts in originating and chairing the Improvement Committee.

This function has the ongoing and most important responsibility of broadening the image and appeals of the Club, while enhancing our fellowship and the attractiveness of membership. Congratulations, John!

—Dick Harper

SMC 2012 Dues Coupon

2012 Dues are payable before January 1, 2012. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2012. 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:

- \$40 Active Member
- \$40 Associate Member
- \$20 Member on Leave

Life Members pay no dues, but may use the coupon to make a voluntary contribution for financial support of our Club.

Last Call!

Tickets are still available for our annual trip to the Detroit Auto Show at Cobo Hall on Thursday, January 19, 2012.



Remember the conveniences of no driving, no parking, no coat check needs---and if we are lucky, again, no admission fee (if we can scare up enough complimentary tickets from our local friendly auto dealers---sorry---but can't promise this---but we are trying!).

Tickets for the bus ride are \$12 (same as last year). Remember---the bus leaves the First Presbyterian Church parking lot at 1669 W. Maple at 9:30AM, departs the Auto Show at 2:30PM and returns to the church about 3:15PM. Hope to see you on the bus !!

—Roger Struck

Mystery Lyrics

Our Christmas song lyrics, as expected, were not much of a mystery, especially at this time of year. No fewer than 11 readers recognized that this last line of a song:

If only in my dreams

is from the seasonal classic "I'll Be Home For Christmas." You'll only hear this one a couple hundred times in the next few weeks. We thought we should recognize less frequent contributors, so congratulations to Joan (Nick) Marinelli, Dick Hameister, Dick Smith and Roger Gettel.

Our sports nickname challenge proved to be only a little more difficult, with eight readers (all male, of course - sorry, ladies) remembering that "Ducky" was Joe Medwick, originally of the St. Louis Cardinals. His teammates thought Joe walked like a duck, but he hated the nickname. Long time Tiger fans likely remember that Medwick was ejected from the last game of the 1934 World Series at Briggs Stadium - fans in left field threw fruit at him after he slid hard into third base. Congratulations to Tom Venier, Dave Schwartz, John Ridan, Sherwin Vine, Bill Reilly, Dick Smith, Clay Gordon, Clarke Thornton and Tom McNally. Clay tells us he attended the famous 1934 game!

OK, let's start the new year with another romantic ballad, which contains these lyric lines:

*Let me play among the stars
Let me see what spring is like
On Jupiter and Mars*

Can you name that tune? (Recorded by many, including F.S.)

Lastly, Sherwin Vine suggests we test your memory with this. What song was the entrance music for the Jackie Gleason character Reggie Van Gleason in the 50's-60's? Obscure hint - it was also a big hit for the Four Coins and the Lettermen. (OK, so you never heard of either group.)

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

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

Reminder Deadline: Friday, January 20

Games

Bowling: Monday, 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes

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

Golf: Thursday, 9:30AM at Oakland Yard Dome (starting Jan. 5)

Special Events

Detroit Auto Show, Thursday, January 19, 9:30AM

Model Train Tour, Thursday, February 16, 9:30AM

Group Meetings

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

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

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

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

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

Computer Group: Wednesday, January 18, 3:00PM

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

SMC on the Web:

<http://www.tchserves.org/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 2012 are: Charles B. Kirkpatrick, president; David A. Schwartz, first vice president; Stuart B. Shuster, second vice president; George L. Stern, recording secretary; Eugene P. Jacoby, corresponding secretary; James E. Bayson, treasurer; Richard E. Shirley, assistant treasurer; Jack E. Ledingham and Pradeep Mehra, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

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

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



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