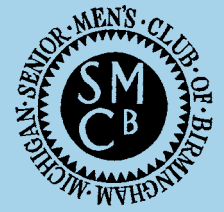


The Reminder

May 2009

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



Inside

- 2 Membership News
- 3 Groups
- 4 Games
- 5 Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
- 6 Mystery Lyrics



Automation Alley— May Tour Well-Timed

Championed by Oakland County Executive, L. Brooks Patterson, Automation Alley was founded in 1999. The overall purpose is to focus attention on Oakland County's vastly important high tech corridor.

Starting with just 99 member companies, Automation Alley has expanded to include eight counties in southeastern Michigan with over 1000 member companies - a highly dynamic area! Important activities include: trade missions, educational programs and aiding start-up companies.

Recent additions to this high tech corridor include a number of important new



L. Brooks Patterson

...continued on page 5

MAY PROGRAMS

MAY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Augustine Perrotta

- 1 Daniel Krichbaum, PhD - COO, The State of Michigan A Michigan Katrina—
The State's Role in Recovery
- 8 Lloyd Carr, U of M Former Head Football Coach Life After Coaching
- 15 Howard Petty, PhD, Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, U of M Kellogg Eye Center
.....Novel Approaches in Studying Diabetes and Age Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)
- 22 Safa Kassab, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland..... The Custom Fit Knee
Procedure – A New Era in Knee Surgery
- 29 Duane DiFranco, MD, Medical Director for Behavioral Health, Blue Care Network of Michigan
..... The Pros and Cons of National Health Insurance

JUNE PROGRAMS

JUNE CHAIRMAN: Col. John McCuen

- 5 Col. John J. McCuen, U.S. Army (Ret.) Irregular War

MAY DISCUSSIONS

MAY CHAIRMAN: John Reddy

- 1 George Mann, Immigration Lawyer *What We Need to Understand About Immigration Issues*
- 8 Bob Bechler, Oakland Literacy Council..... *Their Brass Ring is Our Reward*
- 15 Donald Precour, Vice President - Michigan Region Sales Manager for National City Mortgage*The
Mortgage Industry in 2009*
- 22 John Pappageorge, Michigan 13th District Senator *Alternative Energy*
- 29 Ruth Holmes, Handwriting Analysis *Handwriting, Landscape of the Mind*

JUNE DISCUSSIONS

JUNE CHAIRMAN: Dick Harper

- 5 W. Van Bussmann, SMC Member *Sailing the Great Lakes*

New Members:



Gordon A. Snavelly, (Mary Jo)
3240 Pine Lake Road
Orchard Lake 48324-1951
248-683-0788
Sponsor: Phil Werner



Lloyd E. Reuss, (Maurcine)
691 S. Hills Road
Bloomfield Hills 48302-1526
313-556-3543
Sponsor: Dale Raar

New Associates:

Louis G. DeMaris (Ellen)
40760 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills 48304
248-203-1013
Sponsor: Dick Harper

Thomas J. McNally (Roberta)
1990 Northlawn, Birmingham 48009-1828
248-646-4720
E-mail: stagecrafterbobb@tahoo.com
Sponsor: Dick Harper

Allen F. Rubin (Phyllis)
5499 Woodview Dr., Bloomfield Hills 48302-2575
248-626-6713
E-mail: RubinAllen@aol.com
Sponsor: Pete Kass

Jack D. Shea (Susan)
1940 Graefield, Birmingham 48009-5848
248-649-5325
Sponsor: Pete Kass

Jack Ward (Joyce)
1128 Pierce, Birmingham 48009
248-644-5252
Sponsor: Tony Smyk

Dennis Winowiecki
2904 Hickory Grove, Bloomfield Hills 48302
248-722-6626
Sponsor: John M. Steele

Life Members:

Thomas J. Lahiff
William H. Crabtree
John E. Gates

Deaths:

Benjamin R. Krause (Life), joined March 1983
Elbert Van Kempen (Life), joined March 1988
Lester P. Swanson (Life), joined May 1984
Bennett W. Root (Life), joined November 1986
Associate **David E. Breck**

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

Constitutional Change

At the SMC Executive Board meeting of April 14, 2009, the Board approved a proposed amendment to the Constitution, Article III, Membership, Section 1.

The proposed revisions, which require membership approval, will:

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

The affected text appears below and will be presented to the membership for approval at the SMC meeting on May 8, 2009. Deleted text is marked by strike-through. Inserted text is bold and underlined.

Article III - Membership

The membership of this Club shall consist of four categories: Active, Life, Leave of Absence and Associate.

Section I - Active members.

Any male of good moral character may apply for membership provided he is ~~either (i) sixty-five (65) years of age or more, or (ii) retired from his regular occupation and is at least fifty (50) fifty-five (55) years of age.~~ The number of Active memberships shall be indicated in the By-Laws.

—John Flintosh

Groups



Classic Movie Group

On Monday, May 11 at 1:00PM, we will hold the SMC premiere of "The Third Man" (1949) starring Orson Welles and Joseph Cotten.

This is classic *film noir*, the cinematic term used to describe crime dramas that emphasize moral ambiguity and sexual motivation. Film noir of this era is associated with a black and white visual style that has its roots in expressionist cinematography. With its original use of shadows and angular (slanted) photography, this dark thriller won the Academy Award for Best Cinematography.

The plot of this drama is based on black marketeering and murder providing a profound explanation of moral choice. A special treat is the theme and background music played exclusively on the rare Zither by virtuoso Anton Karas. This music accentuates the dramatic scenes and yet is a kind of ironic commentary on the mood of the moment. It is appropriately conspicuous by its absence when the anti-hero is chased and killed in the sewers of Vienna - or was he? This is not your usual fare so bring your date so she can explain it to you.

—Augie Perrotta



Computer Group

The next meeting of the Computer Group will be on Wednesday, May 27 at 3:00PM.

Our speaker will be Rodger Gach. His main topic will involve the use of Routers, Firewalls, Encryption and a few other hardware and software items that will keep the bad guys from getting into your computer. Of course, as he always does, Rodger will allow time for your questions.

We usually have Computer Group meetings on the third Wednesday of the month. However, so that you can attend the Automation Alley Tour on May 20, we have moved the Computer Group meeting date to May 27, the fourth Wednesday of the month.

—George Nordenholt



Investment Group

On Wednesday, May 13 at 2:45PM Brian O'Conner, Personal Finance Editor, *The Detroit News* will discuss "Rebuilding Your Nest Egg." After last year's nest robbery, this is a timely subject. Join us!

Tom Buescher regained the Stock Game lead with a 42% gain. Jerry Peck slipped to 2nd place. Lowell Barnett is 3rd and Ted Chapekis is 4th with a 27% gain. Twenty-two contestants now have gains. More to come! The game ends May 29.

—George Miller



Camera Group

The next meeting of the Camera Group will be on Tuesday, May 12 at 2:00PM.

The presenters will be from the Ritz Camera store. They will give an update on the newest photo equipment including the latest developments in digital photography. You will be able to handle the equipment. Questions will be encouraged. A similar meeting a year ago was very well received. As always, wives and friends are welcome.

This is our last meeting until we reconvene in September. If you have taken an interesting trip or have recently purchased some new equipment or have used some new software and are willing to share your expertise with others, let me know.

—Roger Garvelink



Book Reading Groups

Wednesday, May 6, at 10:30AM. We will discuss "The Taking of Pelham 123" by John Godey. This is a high-powered, documentary-type story about the highjacking of a NYC subway train, a classic contest between well-prepared kidnapers and the transit authorities and police.

Monday, May 11 at 3:00PM. "A Good Dog" by Jon Katz will be our subject. This is a fanciful but fascinating story about a dog-pack in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. One dog, Duchess, disappears and is found living with a wolf pack she was recruited to join.

New attendees are always welcome, whether you have read the book or not. Give us a try!

—Ted Chapekis



Bowling Report

The bowling season came to a dramatic and exciting conclusion. A “Cinderella” team, captained by Frank Barnes, which included Tom Tabor, Jim Judge and Tom Schrift, won the league championship by the microscopic margin of 13 pins. They edged out the first half leaders, captained by Pete Kass, plus Howie Maichen, Don Upward, and Bob Babcock. Congratulations to the champs!

A special doubles competition was also held on the last day, which featured “no tap” bowling - if 9 pins went down on the first ball, it was a strike. As a result, scores were very high, with the Dennis Kozak/Sherwin Vine team the winners. Second place was held by Dick Harper/Harry Mitchell with Tony DiMarco/Tom Johnson finishing third.

Final bowling notes: The Bowling Banquet will be on Wednesday, May 6 at The Community House. All SMC members are invited. Tickets are \$25. See Dennis Kozak or Less Lessenthien. Summer practice bowling will continue at Thunderbird Lanes on Wednesdays, 10:00AM start.

—Less Lessenthien/Dick Harper

Monday Golf

Fifty seven eager golfers are signed up and playing with more added as club members continue to arrive home from warmer places. There is room for more. Please join us at Lincoln Hills between 7:30 and 9:30AM for fun and exercise.

Concern has arisen with the news that the Lincoln Hills Club House will be razed and rebuilt this year. Relax. The project will begin in late October. The course layout will not be affected. Thus the project will not disturb our league play in any way.

Lincoln Hills has a new telephone number (248-530-1670). Please keep it handy in case you need to reach us during the summer.

—The Committee: Bill Spreitzer, Ed Jones, Tom Waffan and Fran DeGrande

Thursday Golf

Caillech, the Scotch, Irish, and Welch Goddess of weather looked with favor on the gritty golfers of April with weather varying from favorable to great for golf. Good weather plus reduced golf fees made such an outstanding bargain that an average of 28 golfers took advantage in April.

Winter rust was quickly shaken from the muscles, joints, and brains of our steely foursomes. The leader in the clubhouse was Kirby “Jump Start” Callam who posted low scores of 36 and 37 while twice taking closest to the pin honors. When the temperature goes up another 10 degrees Kirby will be receiving some serious competition from Doyle, Petti, Buccini, Schrift, Stern, Chapekis and other hibernating giants.

—Chuck Travers

The Community House Annual Fund Drive

We are pleased by your responses to our first appeal for the 2009 Community House Annual Fund Drive. Please keep it up - we’re shooting for close to 100% participation this year. It costs \$1,600 a day to open their doors for programs, classes and events. Donations help support Senior Men’s Club activities, over 800 enrichment classes, outreach programs affecting over 1,200 children, the newly formed CHART, Community House Active Retirees Together, and newly formed programs like the Networking Series to help the recently unemployed and a Scholarship/Financial Assistance Program. Times are changing and The Community House is here to support the expanding needs of our community.

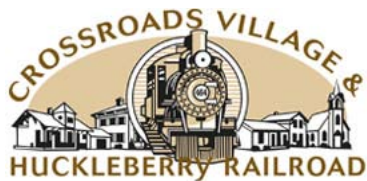


A special thanks to all who have contributed and a very special thanks to 100 year old Fletcher Street for his continuing gifts of support. The Community House apologizes that his name was inadvertently left off the list of 2008 Senior Men’s Club donors.

—Jack McLaughlin

The Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad

Do you want to feel like a kid again? Join your fellow Senior Men's Club travelers for a delightful day in the park, a Genessee County Park, known as The Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad. Circle your calendars for Wednesday, June 17 for a tour of this great recreation facility with an old fashioned amusement park, general store, post office and 19th century workshops. We will take a 40 minute steam engine train ride through scenic woods and meadows alongside beautiful Mott Lake.



We will travel by deluxe motorcoach for the hour plus ride to the park located northeast of Flint. There will be several options for lunch which is included in the ticket price and will be available upon arrival. There will be plenty of time to tour the village, shop and enjoy the train ride. The theme in the park during the week of our visit is "An Old Fashioned Village Wedding." The bus will have you back in Birmingham at the First Presbyterian Church parking lot by 5:00PM.

Tickets will be sold in the usual "first come-first serve" basis (56 total) commencing before the regular Friday meeting on May 29 at 9:00AM. We are estimating the ticket cost to be \$45 per person. The actual cost will be announced at a meeting preceding the ticket sale date. Sounds like a fun day in the park, doesn't it?

—Howard Maichen, Jim Judge, Don Upward and John O'Brien

Reminder Distribution

We recently reported that only 32% of members with e-mail addresses had opted out of regular mail delivery of the *Reminder*. This meant that about 300 received our publication two ways and we suggested members consider dropping the mailed copy, with attendant savings to our club (postage is going up shortly).

Ten members have responded this year and dropped the mailed copy - Bill Wagoner, J. Peter Smith, John Flintosh, Ted Chapekis, Ted Schuster, David Bailey, Dave Schwartz, Chuck Kirkpatrick, Jim Grady and Bill Johnson. Thanks so much! How about more? Why not tell John Steele to drop you from the mail distribution list.

—Dick Harper

...continued from page 1

Automation Alley

emerging sectors - in particular, the bioscience and motion picture industries. Last year around 10,000 people visited Automation Alley Headquarters in Troy to learn about and adjust to Michigan's changing times. And this year, even more visitors are expected.

Our upcoming May tour of Automation Alley in Oakland County - hard hit by today's recession - promises to be a most interesting and well-timed special event.

On Wednesday, May 20, our deluxe tour bus will leave the Birmingham Presbyterian Church parking lot and head to Automation Alley Headquarters in Troy for a brief orientation. From there, our bus will follow a planned circle tour covering a sample of the interesting Automation Alley member companies in Oakland County.

By noon, we will arrive in the Lake Orion area for an enjoyable stop at beautiful Indianwood Golf and Country Club - host of the upcoming US Senior Open Golf Tournament in 2012. L. Brooks Patterson will join us at the luncheon and give us further insight on the importance of our Automation Alley here in Oakland County. Following the luncheon, we will then head south to complete the circle tour and return to our cars in Birmingham.

On Friday, May 1, tickets will go on sale at The Community House as follows:

8:30AM-Take a number

9:00AM-56 tickets at \$42 each.

Once sold out, we will maintain a stand-by wait list to cover last minute changes. On tour day (May 20) attendees may start boarding the bus at 8:00AM. Bus will then leave promptly at 8:45AM. See you on the bus!

—Mike Clement, John Horiszny, Jack Howell and John Zabriskie

Life Member Dues

Even though our dues paying period is over, a few more Life Members have responded to our suggestion that they consider voluntary payments of dues to support our club, especially to fund *Reminder* development and distribution expenses.

Thanks to Bob Fregolle and John Villa for their generosity in this regard. Our treasury staff keeps their books open for any additional contributions.

—Dick Harper

Mystery Lyrics

Last month's musical challenges proved to be a little more difficult than usual. Only seven readers, including three member's ladies, recognized that these lines:

*We'd be so grand at the game,
so carefree together that it
does seem a shame*

are from the romantic Cole Porter tune "Easy to Love."

Congratulations to Pat (Dick) Smith, Myra (Tom) Hitchman, Madge Woodward (Omer Petti), Stan Rogell, Ben Schwimmer, Clay Gordon and Bob Hebert. Pat Smith deserves special credit for singing the song on an answering machine - great voice, Pat.

Stan and Clay were the only readers who remembered that Count Basie's theme was "One O'Clock Jump." We did get a few incorrect answers, including "Jumpin' at the Woodside."

We are making May Spike Jones month. (You either liked or hated Spike's novelty treatment of standards). One of his hits contained these lyrics:

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

Can you name that tune?

Lastly, do you remember his theme song? Hint - the opening lines were:

*In some secluded rendezvous,
that overlooks the avenue*

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 12, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, May 15

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

Automation Alley Tour, Wednesday, May 20, 8:45AM

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

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, May 6, 10:30AM
Group B: Monday, May 11, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, May 11, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, May 12, 2:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, May 13, 2:45PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, May 27, 3:00PM

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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www.communityhouse.com



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