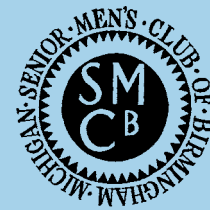


The Reminder

October 2009

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



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- 7 "West Side Story"



John Conti—Football Great

SMC Member John Conti has received recognition and many honors both for his football accomplishments and, perhaps more importantly, for his efforts in support of many charitable organizations.

John starred in football at the University of Detroit in the late 40's (you do remember U of D football, don't you?). He captained the 1949-50 Missouri Valley Conference champion team, and received all-conference honors.

John is a member of many Sports Halls of Fame - the University of Detroit Hall, the National Italian-American Hall and this month he will be inducted into the newly formed Grid Iron Greats Hall of Fame.

After a successful business career, John has championed several charitable causes, including the United Way, Children's Hospital of Detroit, the March of Dimes and the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Congratulations, John, for all you do, and for making your club so proud.



—Dick Harper

OCTOBER PROGRAMS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Roger Garvelink

- 2 Matthew Ball, Pianist *The Boogie Woogie Kid*
- 9 Drew Sharpe, Sports Writer, "Detroit Free Press" *Update on Our Detroit Teams*
- 16 NO MEETING *Enjoy The Community House OUR TOWN Art Show & Sale*
- 23 Jerry Sugrue, Chairman, Crossroads (Social Service Agency) *Responding to the Needs of Detroit's Homeless*
- 30 Lori Soifer, President, Birmingham Board of Education *Providing a Quality Education in an Era of Declining Resources*

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: John McLaughlin

- 6 Alvero Martinez, MD, Corporate Director, Radiation Oncology, Wm. Beaumont Hospitals *Current Radiation Cancer Treatment*

OCTOBER DISCUSSIONS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Mike Nigro

- 2 Augustine Perrotta, D.O., SMC Member *Vitamin D and You*
- 9 Michael A. Nigro, D.O., SMC Member *Sleep and Aging*
- 16 NO MEETING *Enjoy The Community House OUR TOWN Art Show & Sale*
- 23 Chuck Amann, SMC Member *The Human Quest for Overland Transportation: An Historical Review*
- 30 Greg Wittkopp, Director of Cranbrook Art Museum *The Integration of Art and Science at Cranbrook*

NOVEMBER DISCUSSIONS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Dale Raar

- 6 Daniel Brightwell, Chair, Southfield Veterans' Commission *Library of Congress Veterans' History Project*

New Members:



Vem L. Chuang
3932 Fieldview Road
Lake Orion, MI 48360-2498
248-371-9962
E-mail: VemChuang@aol.com
Sponsor: Bob Lyle



Laurence H. Pate
1725 Tiverton Road, Unit 1
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-2365
248-645-1087
E-mail: BJPate30@aol.com
Sponsor: Ralph Lee



Charles C. Ragains
3753 Burning Tree Drive
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-1534
248-645-9142
E-mail: ChuckRagains@comcast.net
Sponsor: Michael Frank



Ben G. Wojtas
4011 Boulder Pond Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108-8597
313-600-1647
E-mail: BWojtas@ach-lic.com
Sponsor: Robert Pietsch

New Associates:

Barry L. King (Janice)
1509 Yorkshire, Birmingham, MI 48009-7417
248-644-5398
E-mail: kerrandking@sbcglobal.net
Sponsor: John Marsh

William S. Coughenour (Nancy)
904 Tartan Trail, Apt. 195
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-3820
248-758-9404
Sponsor: James Buchanan

Life Member:

John E. Schafer (LOA)
Robert Bentz
Harrison Orton

Email Change:

William Schwartz—Schwartz.William@att.net

Phone Number Change:

Paul Geiger—734-302-3004

Change of Address:

Robert W. Johnson
3760 Quarton Road, #B
Bloomfield, MI 48302-4037

Alan C. McManus
6257 Telegraph Road, Apt. 18
Bloomfield, MI 48301-1623

Mahesh Bhatt
660 Deauville Lane
Bloomfield, MI 48304-1450

Deaths:

James J. Florek (Life), joined November 1995

Thomas I. Davenport (Life), joined Nov. 1994

Robert J. Serazin (Life), joined April 1998

Charles E. Johnston, joined April 1995

Robert Allen Reid (Life), joined February 1998

Dropped:

Charles C. Ross

Eustace Rucinski

Clifford N. Wright

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

Associate Members



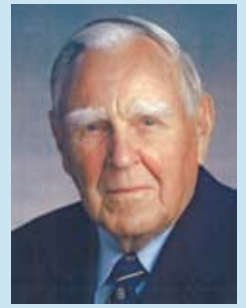
Please place Friday, October 30 on your calendar. The next Associate Member Orientation will take place at 9:00AM in the Rosso Library of The Community House.

All Associates who have not completed this requirement can expect a letter requesting their attendance from John Klein, Secretary of the Associate Member Committee. You should receive this letter about three weeks in advance of the orientation meeting.

Associates must attend orientation as a prerequisite to invitation to full membership.

—Dave Dinger

Oakland Community College Tour— Outstanding Special Event for November



George Mosher

Did you know that Oakland Community College:

- Is the 4th largest institution of higher learning in Michigan.
- Is a two-year college which has served more than 700,000 people since it opened in 1965.
- Offers university transfer degrees in business, science and liberal arts...and degrees and certificates in more than 130 career fields.
- Awarded more than 2000 associate degrees and certificates in June 2007.
- Has attracted students from more than 80 countries around the world.
- Operates five beautiful campuses in Oakland County--Auburn Hills, Highland Lakes in Waterford, Orchard Ridge in Farmington Hills, plus Southfield and Royal Oak.
- Was founded by our very own SMC member--George Mosher!

Now is your chance to see and learn first hand what these five beautiful campuses in our own backyard have to offer...and how your tax dollars have been well-spent!

On Thursday, November 12, our deluxe 56-passenger bus will depart the First Presbyterian Church parking lot at 8:45AM. Gratefully, George Mosher will serve as our tour guide of the OCC campuses. Using the bus microphone he will call out points of major interest.

By 12:30PM, we will arrive at the beautiful Orchard Ridge Campus for the highlight of the

day's event--an elegant multi-course luncheon in a private dining room. Students of the Culinary Arts will prepare and serve a choice of three spectacular main courses under the watchful eye of the head chef. Our ladies will especially enjoy this delightful culinary experience. Following the luncheon, our bus will complete the circle tour and have us back to our cars by 4:00PM.

There will be very little walking involved. Instead, this tour will mainly consist of an enjoyable sight-seeing bus ride with George Mosher showing us why thousands of students are proudly attending Oakland Community College.

Our 56 tickets will go on sale at The Community House on Friday, October 23 at 9:00AM on a first-come, first-serve basis for only \$32. At that time you will be asked to select your main entrée for our spectacular luncheon--beef, chicken or seafood.

So, please mark your calendars accordingly and make certain you are on the bus for this outstanding special event on Thursday, November 12!

—Committee: Jack Howell, Clarke Thornton and Don Upward



From the Church Bulletin

- *Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7PM. Please use the back door.*
- *Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.*
- *The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing: "Break Forth Into Joy."*

Endowment Fund

A 50/50 raffle will be held on Friday, October 2. A University of Michigan team will compete with a Michigan State University team for ticket sales. Last year, MSU won both ticket sales and the football game!



—George Miller

Groups



Classic Movie Group

The classic movie for October will be shown on Monday, October 5 from 1:00-3:00PM, rather than our usual slot on the second Monday of the month.

"SeaHawk" (1940) is one of Errol Flynn's best and my personal favorite action-adventure saga on the high seas. What pulls together the grand action sequences of swordplay, galley slaves, chases, escapes and romance is Hollywood's greatest swashbuckling symphony and the awesome, thundering score by Erich Wolfgang Korngold. Please join us in watching the bold and daring adventures of charismatic Errol Flynn, the best of the SeaHawks, who gallantly battles the intrigue of the Spanish and English courts in the late 16th century.



—Augie Perrotta



Computer Group

Rodger Gach will be our speaker at the Wednesday, October 28 meeting of the Computer Group at 3:00PM. The meeting will primarily be devoted to Rodger answering your questions. This is the last Computer Group meeting of 2009, so be sure to bring a friend.

—George Nordenholt



Camera Group

On Tuesday, October 13 at 2:00PM, John Reddy will present views of Colorado River rapids in the narrow gorge landscapes of Grand Canyon West. Photos were taken from a white water raft with a waterproof camera, and during a helicopter lift to the rim. These pictures are embedded in a story involving nine boys, a girl and their grandparents as they participate in the Elderhostel inter-generational visit to the Hualapai Reservation and an afternoon at a working ranch.

The presentation is 484 images timed at five-second viewing, which can be paused at audience request for background information. Cameras used will be displayed.

—John Reddy



Investment Group

On Wednesday, October 7 at 2:45PM, our speaker will be Joel Slemrod, a distinguished professor from the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan.

Professor Slemrod has taught at Michigan for more than 20 years, where he is the Paul McCracken Collegiate Professor of Business Economics. His topic will be "Our Economy and What's Ahead," a timely and challenging subject.

—George Miller



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, October 7 at 10:30AM, we will be discussing "Who are We?" by Samuel Huntington. British settlers brought with them a distinct culture including the English language, Protestant values, individualism, religious commitment and respect for law. The waves of immigrants that later came to the U.S. gradually accepted these values and assimilated into America's Anglo Protestant culture. More recently, however, national identity has been eroded by the problems of assimilating massive numbers of primarily Hispanic immigrants, bilingualism, multiculturalism, the devaluation of citizenship, and the "denationalization" of American elites. "Who are We?" shows the need for us to reassert the core values that make us Americans.

On Monday, October 19 at 3:00PM we will be discussing "House of Meetings" which is a love story, gothic in timbre and triangular in shape in 1946. The writer and his brother are incarcerated as political prisoners for eight and five years respectively in a slave labor camp north of the Arctic Circle. A major portion of the novel is devoted to a graphic description of life in the camp. The title of the book, "House of Meetings," refers to a cabin in which conjugal visits are permitted. Like real memoirs, the book is also a meditation, on the soul of Russia. The Russia he describes as compared with Germany has never come to terms with its atrocities. The quality of the writing is exceptional.

—Ted Chapekis



Games



Monday Golf

The official season ended August 24 but play has continued on Mondays at Lincoln Hills and Thursdays at Springdale. Please join the energetic golfers in this glorious Michigan fall weather. The individual scores for 2009 ranged from 37 to 63. Medalists for the year were Jim Doyle at 39.1, John Perryman at 39.5, Chuck Torner at 40.6, Bill Duncan and Pete Kass at 42.1 and Bob Hinytzke at 42.4. Many others were close and the full postings are on the Bulletin Board at the SMC Friday meetings.

The number of players averaged forty per day. That's a lot of great golf. Given the golf, lugging the golf bags from the parking lot, practice putting, warm-up stretches, frequent waggles, twitchy knee bends, "Mulligans," numerous practice swings and the pressure of friendly competition, there was sufficient energy expended to heat the club house and the adjacent Birmingham Art Association buildings for the entire year. More importantly it represents great exercise and warm relationships for all.

THANK YOU from your Golf Committee. We look forward to seeing you at the Golf Banquet in October, next year on the 1st tee and at the afterglow following each round on the patio/porch of the new club house for coffee or soda and good conversation.

—The Monday Golf Committee

Bowling

The bowling season got off to a somewhat uneventful and inconspicuous start on September 7. No 200 games or 500 series were recorded - apparently our "rust" was showing and our old bones need oiling.

Bob Beach had the best game with a 186, while Less Lessenthein had the high series at 493. Stand by for better scores. Note - starting time is 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes. We still need new bowlers.

Parting Shots

Noticing that his son was studying while watching TV and listening to music, the father told him, "When Abe Lincoln was your age, he was studying books by the light of the fireplace." The son replied, "When Lincoln was your age, he was president."

After an overnight flight to meet her husband at his latest military assignment, a woman arrived in Germany with her nine children, all younger than 11. Collecting their many suitcases, they entered the cramped customs area. A customs official watched the entourage in disbelief. "Ma'am," he asked, "do all these children and this luggage belong to you?" "Yes, sir," she said, sighing. "They're all mine." The agent began his interrogation. "Ma'am, do you have any weapons, contraband or illegal drugs in your possession?" "Sir," she calmly answered, "if I'd had any of those items, I would have used them by now." The official allowed her to pass without opening a single suitcase.

Thursday Golf

Because the annual Stonycroft outing was scheduled on the date that many taxes had to be paid, Caillech, the Irish, Welch, and Scottish Goddess of Weather decided that she would bolster the spirits of the golfers by withholding the waters. The weather was outstanding and a great time was had by all who participated. There were 42 players composing nine teams that competed for the title. The winning team with a minus 1 score included Bill Duncan, Tom Waffan, Ken Urwiller, and Chuck Travers. Each was rewarded with a \$25 gift certificate to the pro shop. The Committee noted the gentle protesting of the results as one of the winners set up the teams. Protests rejected.

Tickets are now on sale for the annual Golf Banquet. The date is Wednesday, October 28 at The Community House. The cost is \$35 for each ticket with a choice of beef or chicken. A cash bar will be available. The agenda is:

6:00PM: Attitude readjustment hour

6:45PM: Dinner

7:30PM: Awards and prizes

Computer problems continue to prohibit naming the winners of the Thursday Golf Tournament.

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

—Chuck Travers

Local Restaurants Support Picnic

Again this year, several local restaurants provided great support in the form of door prizes awarded at our Annual SMC Picnic. Prizes up to \$50 for a dinner for two will ensure enjoyable evenings of fine dining for several of our members and guests.

Contributing restaurants were:

- Fleming's Steakhouse
- Peabody's
- Sweet Lorraine's
- 220 Merrill
- McCormick & Schmick's
- The Community House
- Somerset Inn
- Phoenicia Restaurant

We urge all of the members of the Senior Men's Club to frequent these fine restaurants. While there, identify yourself and let them know we appreciate their support of the Senior Men's Club.

We also received a contribution from the Heathers Golf Club of Bloomfield of a one year weekday golf membership for one golfer and two free cart rentals. They also deserve our thanks and support.

—The Picnic Committee

Outstanding Service Award

Each year, the Senior Men's Club considers selecting a member to receive the Outstanding Service Award.

This prestigious award is intended to recognize long standing and meritorious service to the club by the selected honoree. The Club's Policy Committee is authorized to determine the member (or members) to be honored yearly. The award, if made, is normally presented at the end of a calendar year.

Any club member or associate can recommend a candidate for consideration for the award.

Recommendations should include brief supportive rationale and can be delivered to any member of the Policy Committee - Chairman Bill Johnson, Frank Barnes, Dick Harper, Jack McLaughlin, Bob Pullar or Ken Urwiller.

Dilbert Quotes

A magazine recently ran a "Dilbert Quotes" contest. They were looking for people to submit quotes from their real-life Dilbert-type managers. These are a few of the top voted quotes.

- *"As of tomorrow, employees will only be able to access the building using individual security cards. Pictures will be taken next Wednesday, and employees will receive their cards in two weeks."*
- *Quote from the Boss: "Teamwork is a lot of people doing what I say."*
- *"This project is so important we can't let things that are more important interfere with it."*

SMC Annual Picnic



Our annual summer picnic was held in late August at the Pontiac Yacht Club (no yachts were in evidence). Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate, and we faced a fairly steady rain through much of the day.

Despite Mother Nature's best (or was it worst?) efforts, the picnic was a solid success. Our members are more than adaptable and we handled the day and the adverse weather well.

We gathered under an overhang of the clubhouse for conversation, for the excellent food, for the impressive door prizes awarded and for the fabulous Straw Hat Band.

The shared camaraderie along with the laughs, stories and memories shared by the 100 attendees made the day a success. Congratulations to the many members of the Special Events Committee and especially to Chairman John Zabriskie for a great day.

Chuck Green—Rifleman



Member Chuck Green was recently recognized for his rifle shooting prowess with two awards. Chuck competes on a national level as a member of the National Bench Rest Shooters Association.

During recent competitive shooting, he achieved a winning target at 200 yards and received a plaque in recognition of this performance.

In addition, Chuck was awarded a shooting patch from Precision Shooting Magazine for his accuracy in this target competition. Congratulations, Chuck.

—Dick Harper

Wanted

The Handbook Committee has a need for someone to help in gathering and preparing data for publishing in the annual Handbook and Directory. In the process they will learn some basics in using a home computer to prepare a document ready for printing as a booklet or pamphlet by a commercial printer.

Contact: Bob Clements, Chairman, Handbook Committee at 248-642-9291.



Investment Stock Game

The Stock Game begins on Friday, October 9. Rules are unchanged. Get your entry forms and stock picks ready. Ted Chapekis won last year with a 106% gain. Don't forget the \$10 option.

—George Miller

Member Support

John Steele advises that two more members have told us we can discontinue mailing the "hard copy" of *The Reminder*. Thanks to George Stern and Ken Bugis for this decision.

Any more out there? Why not tell John your e-mailed copy is enough (one week sooner and in color). At the change rate we are experiencing, we may be able to discontinue mailing *The Reminder* by 2050 (if there is such a thing as mail at that date!)

—Dick Harper

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: _____



"West Side Story" — Stratford Trip Reminder

We want to thank the membership for the enthusiastic response to our planned Wednesday, October 14 trip to Stratford to see the smash hit musical, "West Side Story." Please check at the Special Events desk to see if tickets are still available.

For those lucky people who will be accompanying us to Stratford, we want to remind you again to remember that since we are crossing the U.S. border, you will be required to show proper identification.

U.S. Immigration Law now requires that visitors to Canada have a valid passport or an Enhanced Drivers License or an Enhanced Personal Identification Card. Both of these enhanced cards can be purchased at any Michigan Secretary of State office. Processing may take two to three weeks. Remember conventional licenses are no longer acceptable identification. To ensure we will not have a problem at the border, we will check your ID prior to boarding the bus. Anyone without an appropriate document will not be allowed to board. See you on the bus!

—Special Events, Stratford Committee

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.

Mystery Lyrics

Our readers did somewhat better with last month's musical challenges. We asked if you could remember two songs - one with these lyrics:

*Where have you gone Joe DiMaggio?
A nation turns it's lonely eyes to you*

and the other was Bob Hope's closing theme, which he used for many years on radio and TV.

The lyrics are from "Mrs. Robinson," which was sung by Simon and Garfunkel on the soundtrack for the 1967 movie "The Graduate" which starred a young Dustin Hoffman and a not-so-young Anne Bancroft. Bob Hope's theme was the well known "Thanks for the Memories."

Several readers - Rose-Marie and Tom Venier, Dolly and Bill Johnson, Myrna and Tom Hitchman plus Clay Gordon got both right. We believe the wives were the source of correct answers! Bill Crabtree, Tony Smyk and Tom Schriff remembered "Mrs. Robinson," while Dick Hameister, Jack Howell, Bob Seeley, and Russ Frye had the Bob Hope song. Congratulations to all.

This month's mystery lyrics might be a little more challenging:

*They got a big theater they call a burleque
For 50 cents you can see a dandy show*

Can you name that tune?

We are running low on theme songs from the big band era. Bob Seeley suggested we ask for Freddie Slack's theme - does anyone remember it? Bob played it on our recent river cruise.

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 20, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, October 16

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

Special Events

"West Side Story" at Stratford, Wednesday, October 14, 8:15AM

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

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, October 7, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, October 19, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, October 5, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, October 13, 2:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, October 7, 2:45PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, October 28, 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 Schriff, 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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