

# The Reminder



Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

MAY 1999

## MAY 1999

### MAY CHAIRMAN: ED CONLEY

*Read*  
**7** Speaker: Andrew Aljian, Consultant with Arthur Gallagher & Co.  
 Subject: "Life Insurance & Estate Planning"

*Applicants invited S - Z*

*Good Program*  
**14** Speaker: Reverend John Keydel, Rector at Nativity Episcopal Church  
 Subject: "From Banker to Rector - A Career Change"

*Applicants invited A - E*

**21** Speaker: Dr. Donald Holecek, Director MSU Travel and Recreation Resource Center  
 Subject: "Michigan Tourism 101"

*Applicants invited F - L*

*Ed Hoagland*  
**28** Speaker: Larry Yost, President, Meritor Automotive, Inc.  
 Subject: "Outlook for the Automotive Supply Industry"

*Applicants invited M - R*

## JUNE 1999

**7** Speaker: Kimberly Baughman, General Manager of the Great Lakes Crossing Mall  
 Subject: "Michigan's No.1 Tourist Attraction"

*Applicants invited S - Z*

## Discussion Groups

### MAY CHAIRMAN: ED HOAGLAND

**May 7** Speaker: Ed Hoagland, SMC  
 Topic: "Golf with the 'Hoag'"

**May 14** Speaker: Bob Fox, Director of Birmingham Public Services  
 Topic: "Springdale Changes"

**May 21** Speaker: Dick Harper, SMC  
 Topic: "The Customer is Always Right, Sometimes"

**May 28** Speaker: Bill Barth, Retired Royal Oak School Teacher and Car Restorer  
 Topic: "Car Restoration"

**June 4** Speaker: Paul Fitzpatrick, SMC  
 Topic: "Stupidity"

## Discussion Groups Feature Variety of Interesting Topics

By Dick Harper

One of the oldest but most under-appreciated activities of the Senior Men's Club is the Discussion Group. It meets every Friday after lunch and is designed "to provide a forum for presentations and discussions on topics of interest to SMC members."

Subjects during the past year have included how to take care of your heart, public and private education, nursing homes, the war on drugs, national security, civil rights, conquest of space, how animal research helps human medicine, the environment and estate planning.

### Attendance Disappointing

While attendance records are not maintained, attendance at most sessions has been disappointing. Average attendance is estimated at 30-35, sometimes as low as 20.

However, good speakers and subjects do attract good audiences. Examples included the inter-club dialogue with the Grosse Pointe SMC, a presentation by Birmingham Commissioner Dante Lanzette on the "Birmingham 2016 Plan," plus discussions led by Club members Don Cox ("Tell Us About Your First Car") and Ed Conley ("1998 In Review").

Respondents in recent research revealed the following: More than 60% rated meetings as "generally interesting."

(See DISCUSSIONS, page 3)

## Group Meetings

### Camera Group

On May 11, Camera Group members and guests will be treated to "Madrid to Gibraltar" – a driving adventure by Al and Joyce Roberts. They will show us the countryside, old towns and quaint villages of central and southern Spain as they saw it on a recent trip. The trip starts at 2 p.m.

### Computer Group

At the 2:30 p.m. May 19 meeting of the Computer Group, John Dudash will give a demonstration of digital photography.

John has a Casio digital camera which he has used extensively. He travels a good deal, and he takes his digital camera along, so that when he returns, he can make up reports on his trips which include pictures.

Don Cox says it should be "a very interesting session about camera technology. Dudash will demonstrate how he takes digital pictures, and then uses his laptop computer to enhance and/or modify them."

### Investment Study

Jeffery Saut, director of research for Roney & Co., will speak to the Investment Study Group May 12 at 2:45 p.m.

The title of his talk is "Dow 10,000 — What Next?"

Since Roney & Co. focus their business in the Midwest, Saut also will give his insights on familiar Midwest companies. He will "help us find good investments right in our own neighborhood," says George Miller, chairman.

### Dates To Remember

**May 11:** Executive Board 9:30 a.m.

**May 21:** Reminder Deadline

**Bridge:** Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and Fridays after lunch.

*All events are scheduled at the Community House unless otherwise stated.*

## AARP Members Name Signals That Tell Us We're Getting Old

The American Association for Retired Persons (AARP) recently invited visitors to its America Online site to participate in an electronic bulletin board discussion called: "I knew I was old when..."

Here are some tasty morsels.

- I knew I was getting old when everything started leaking or shriveled up.
- I helped a lady across the street and she turned out to be my wife.
- I knew I was getting old when I started getting urges and couldn't remember what they were for.

- When I couldn't find anyone who remembered Burma Shave signson the highway.

- When reading the comics, I said to myself: "That Mary Worth is one damn fine looking woman."

- When I saw a freeway sign which said "Forgive and forget. It will add years to your life." I said to my wife: "I'm getting so good at forgetting, I may live forever."

- I knew I was getting old when all the names in my little black book ended in M.D.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

**Special Birthday Greetings:** Paul Carter, Life Member, will be 90 on May 28.

**Became Life Member:** Richard Jeffries, Associate Member, who joined on Mar, 1979.

**Deaths:** Edward Hufnagle, on leave, who joined in Nov., 1988.

Ralph Smith, Life Member, who joined in May, 1977.

### New Members:

Crabtree, William H., (Martha), 3431 Westchester Rd., Bloomfield Hills, 48304, 642-3861. Sponsor: Brad Ballard.

Engel, Robert C., (Sally), 18350 Riverside, Beverly Hills, 48025, 646-8377. Sponsor: Gene Lamont.

Gherlan, Alexander, (Irene), 7140 Paterese Dr., Bloomfield Hills, 48301, 626-8609. Sponsor: Ken Brooker.

Goodrich, George W., (Joyce), 6201 Wing Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, 48301, 626-8463. Sponsor: John Lorimer.

Jordan, Robert W., (Wanda), 31563 Mayfair Lane, Beverly Hills, 48025, 645-0681. Sponsor: Ray Latovick.

Pirie, Alex I., (Marilyn), 4379 Brandywyne, Troy, 48098, 643-7844. Sponsor: Peter Badalamenti.

Schwartz, David A., (Mary), 1745 Tiverton Rd., #22, Bloomfield Hills, 48304, 642-5402. Sponsor: King Ruhly.

Tuesday, Charles S., (Jean), 2232 Sudbury Way, Bloomfield Hills, 48304, 332-3748. Sponsor: Ken Brooker.

### New Applicants:

Bosley, Alfred D., 732 Westchester Way, Birmingham, 48009, 642-2940. Sponsor: George Miller.

DiMarco, Anthony J., 3387 Medford Ave., Troy, 48084, 643-7368. Sponsor: Bob Hagemeyer.

Grimaldi, Thomas J., 3925 Oakland Drive, Bloomfield Hills, 48301, 646-5582. Sponsor: John Rady.

Ris, Bernard H., 18775 Chelton Drive, Beverly Hills, 48025, 645-5968. Sponsor: Alan Cobleigh.

Robbins, Lionel, 5663 Westwood Ct., Bloomfield Hills, 48301, 851-0489. Sponsor: John Lorimer.

Strong, Philip, 531 Oakland Ave., Birmingham, 48009, 646-3835. Sponsor: Ken Brooker.

Winters, Eugene R., 1825 Melbourne, Birmingham, 48009, 642-9847. Sponsor: Chuck Williams.

— Walt Meyers & Bob Babcock

# Fitzpatrick Loves Lampooning Society Icons and Traditions

By Dick Davis

He is known as the "Club Curmudgeon." "Actually," past SMC-President Paul Fitzpatrick says, "I'd rather be known as a misanthrope (anti-social) or a skeptic."

Paul currently winds up the business parts of most SMC meetings with a short vignette, somewhat like Andy Rooney does after "60 Minutes." In Paul's lampoons, he likes to poke fun at stodgy traditions and such icons as politicians and educators. "That's why I don't like long meetings," Paul notes, "...they cut into my time at the end and reduce my fun."

Besides his presidency and curmudgeon duties, he has been a very active SMC member over the years.



Fitzpatrick

Paul was born in Kentucky 88 years ago, and graduated as an engineer from Georgia Tech in 1931. During the next few years, he served with the Civilian Conservation Corps, the U.S Navy Department and U.S. Patent Office.

## Law Degree from Georgetown

While in Washington, he attended night school at Georgetown University to obtain a law degree. This qualified him to be employed for four years by what he called "a group of tightwad patent lawyers" in Cleveland.

"I got married in 1947," Paul said, "and a couple of years later, GM nibbled at my inquiry, offering me \$7,800 a year, plus bonus, and of course I took it." His was a patent attorney at GM until his retirement in 1975.

His first wife died in 1974, and he married his current wife, Cleora, in 1977. Their major hobby is travel; to Europe three times, with recent trips

to Ireland and Scandinavia. He also enjoys books, photography and music.

When asked about golf, he said "I don't play. I never understood why the Scots, who had such a hard life, invented golf and made it even harder."

## SMC President in 1988

Paul joined the SMC in 1980, and has been very active in the years since. He became President in 1988, and has served as a member and chairman of various Committees (Camera, Discussion, Legislative, Policy, Membership and Program Committees.) Paul became a Life Member in 1995.

"The Club has been a great thing for me, and has done a lot to spice up my life," Paul noted, adding "There are a lot of smart people who are members, which makes it interesting. Obviously, the best thing is the fraternization," he said, "...it's certainly not the food."

Paul is a member of the Friends of the Baldwin Library and currently serves as president of Friends of the Bloomfield Township Library.

## God Bless Us All!

Here are some funny announcements appearing in the area various church bulletin boards, according to the Franklin Community Church newsletter.

- Don't let worry kill you. Let the church help.
- Thursday night potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
- Please remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Beltzer, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Beltzer.
- Tuesday at 6 p.m. there will be an ice cream social. Women giving milk please come early.

## Discussion Groups

(From page 1)

- Only 15% said they attended more than 20 meetings a year.
- A striking 70% attend less than 10 meetings a year, with many saying they did not attend any.

## Responses to Club Survey

Harold Stanton, chairman of the 1999 Discussion Group program, said that efforts are under way to be responsive to suggestions made in the membership survey in late 1998, including the following:

- More than half of 1999 meetings have been led by Club members.
- Varied formats have included panel discussions and debates.
- Inviting Club members for suggestions on topics or speakers.

However, Stanton has been disappointed thus far in the response to invitations for greater membership participation.

Every Club member has had an interesting career and/or memorable events in his lifetime, or has strong opinions on some subject. Why not share these with Club members at a discussion group meeting?

Give Harold Stanton a call at 248-646-8199. Your audience is waiting!

## Phil Martz Season's Top Bowling Scorer

The individual star in this year's bowling season was Phil Martz, who had the high individual average of 173, high series score of 640 and was second among single game scorers with 246.

Dick Harper had highest single game score of 247 and Art Byington second highest average of 172.

The team champions are Frank Barnes, Bob Hadley, Bruce Smiley and Steve Kadar.

Second and third best series were achieved by Joe Maertens with 598 and Vince Caputo with 586.

Dennis Kozak reported that over 50% of the Club bowlers scored 200 games and/or 500 series with two 600 series.

## Key Speakers for Senior Men's Club in April



General Thomas Cutler, left, told how Selfridge Air Force Base performs in war and peace. At right, Michigan Secretary of State Candice Miller (with program chairman Dick Golze) who charmed the audience in outlining the various services of her organization which benefit the citizens of Michigan.

## Dick Harper Speaks to Applicant Group

SMC Member Dick Harper will discuss the findings of the recent survey of club members at the May 18 meeting of the Applicant Group. Chairman Gordon Miller says the meeting begins at 2 p.m.

Harper will report on highlight findings and resulting recommendations, many of which have already been adopted by the Club, says Gordon Miller, chairman.

## Davenport, Werner Top Bridge Players

Bridge for the first Friday in April, reported by Don McNair.

High scorers in contract:

Chris Davenport	2930
John Richardson	2890
Lloyd Sturgeon	2440
Joe Kern	2400

Phil Werner was tops in duplicate with a 72.2% score.

## Short Poem On Fleas

Adam  
Had 'em.

## Battle of the Sexes Via Computereze

### MEN:

Men think computers should be referred to as females because:

1. No one but the Creator understands their internal logic.
2. The language they use to talk with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else.
3. The message "Bad Command" is about as informative as "if you don't know why I'm mad at you, I'm certainly not going to tell you."
4. Your smallest mistakes are stored in long-term memory for later retrieval.
5. As soon as you commit to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories.

### WOMEN:

Women think computers should be called males. Here's why:

1. They have a lot of data, but are still clueless.
2. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time, they ARE the problem.
3. As soon as you commit to one, you realize if you had waited, you could have had a better model.
4. To get their attention, you have to turn them on.
5. A power surge will knock them out for the rest of the night.

## The Reminder

A monthly publication of the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, which meets on Fridays at 10:30 a.m. at the Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, MI 48009.

Officers for 1999 are: John R. Caldwell, president; William T. Reilly, first vice president; Carver Wood, second vice president; Ray Latovick, treasurer; Ernie Bergan, secretary; Ben Ewing, corresponding secretary; Carl Ingraham, parliamentarian; Officers-at-large: Stewart Keeney, Sherwin Vine.

Staff of *THE REMINDER* includes: Alvie Smith, editor; Dick Davis, Dick Harper and Paul Pentecost, associate editors; Kathy Wolf, layout; Joe Kern, mailing.

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