

The Reminder



September 2012

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

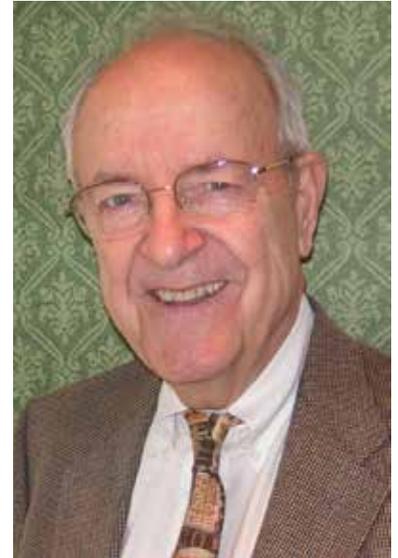
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John Reddy: Leading the Club Improvement Effort

John Reddy brings an unusual -- if not unique -- background of experience to his membership in the Senior Men's Club. It includes: a degree in Journalism from the University of Illinois; military service (four years with the U.S. Navy Seabees); five years as a Journeyman Carpenter, and more than 30 years in the newspaper business. He had worked five years as a reporter at the *Chicago Sun-Times* before joining *The Eccentric* in 1968 as managing editor. He was serving as publisher of *The Eccentric* newspapers, and as a member of the corporate staff, when he retired in 1998.



No matter where he has been located, John has played leadership roles in numerous community, civic and professional organizations. Since joining the Senior Men's Club in 2000, he has been involved in a variety of activities including the club Improvement Team and the Reading Group. In addition, he serves as a pianist for Friday morning meetings, and was an editor of the club book of World War II memoirs provided by members.

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SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER CHAIRMAN: John O'Brien

- 7 Leon Labrecque, CEO, LJPR Investment Advisors *Managing a Corporate Pension Buy Out*
- 14 Michael D. Warren, Oakland County Circuit Court.....*Renewing the American Spirit*
- 21 Steven Henderson, Editorial Director, Detroit Free Press *Commentary on Politics in Detroit*
- 28 Ike MacKinnon, Retired Detroit Police Chief *Standing Tall in Detroit*

OCTOBER PROGRAMS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Leonard Borman

- 5 Sheryl Connelly, Ford Motor Co. *Global Consumer Trends & Futuring*

SEPTEMBER DISCUSSIONS

SEPTEMBER CHAIRMAN: George Grayson

- 7 Jason Negri, Director-Patient's Rights Council *Second Thoughts About Assisted Suicide: Was Michigan Wrong?*
- 14 Dick Harper, SMC Member.....*Detroit Tigers Win the 1984 World Series*
- 21 John Freeman, Former MI State Rep (D), Former ACORN Community Organizer.....*Obamacare Pros and Cons*
- 28 John Reddy, SMC Member *Facilitator: Breaking News Events*

OCTOBER DISCUSSIONS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Augie Perrotta

- 5 Robert Carlson, SMC Member *The Geneva Convention: a.k.a. The Rules of War*

New Associates:

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To Life Member:

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Hudson B. Scheifele
Robert W. Clements
Robert W. Jordan

Resigned:

Ulrich Fahrn

Deaths:

John J. Cooney, joined April 2006
Walter R. Zojac, joined July 2003

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

New Members:



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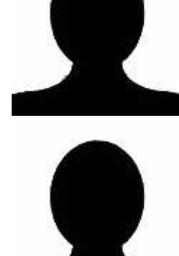
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Games



Thursday Golf

After two rainouts the Thursday Golf Scrambles at Springdale was completed on August 2. The rumble heard on that day was not an earthquake, but Don Clark rolling over as the committee found it necessary to fairly tweak the rules because of complications resulting from the delay. The decision of the committee is final.

The winners are:

First place: Prize \$136 (*Score: -11.4 strokes below average*) George Stern, Bob Hebert, Jon Haber, and Roger Spry

Second place: Prize \$84 (*Score: -11.01 strokes below average*) Cliff Bath, Lynn Barber, Bill Johnson, and Jim Schaefer

Third place: Prize \$56 (*Score: -10.7 strokes below average*) Phil Buccini, Walter Schrift, Tony DiMarco, and Ken Brooker

Due to the unusually low scores posted, the Committee has contacted the US Homeland Security Department, which has agreed to review the tapes from the Security Predator flying over the Amtrak tracks/Springdale Golf, to determine if all strokes were counted by the teams. Any team found to be shaving strokes will be subject to a Predator missile volley!

The Thursday Golf annual tournament began on August 23 and will continue through September 6.

The annual Stonycroft Hills Scramble will take place on Tuesday, September 11. Details are:

- Cost: Non members--\$40, Stonycroft members--\$25
- Power Carts: Available from Pro Shop at \$10
- Teams: Four or five man teams will be determined by the Stonycroft golf professional
- Timing: Continental Breakfast at 8:00AM
- Shotgun Start at 9:00AM
- Lunch and Awards at noon or sooner
- Dress code: Shirts with collars and soft spikes required. No short shorts or denim

See any Committee Member to make reservations and indicate if you want a power cart.

—The Golf Committees

Monday Golf

The scheduled session of 16 weeks will end on Monday, September 10, assuming no weather problems. But, Lincoln Hills will continue to hold our Monday starting time and rates until they close for the season. They just ask that you call ahead to reserve tee times.

The highlight in July was the Annual Summer Scramble. Thirty-six Monday league golfers participated in foursomes and in two flights based on team handicaps:

Winners in the First Flight were:

Gordon Fox, Pete Kass, John Marsh and Alan Nealley with a Team Net of 19.20

Ken Bugis, Don Foehr, Ben Porter and Rich Wehling at 19.50

Jac Anaya, Jim Doyle, Bill Duncan and Tony Parrottino with 22.38

In the Second Flight were:

Pete Good, Bob Munn, Joe Schulenberg and Bill Spreitzer with 21.86

Tom Buescher, Jack Corey, Bob Klein and Tom Vernier at 22.53

Lynn Barber, Bob Gualdoni, Tom Waffin and Dennis Winowiecki with 22.73

Clearly it was a fun and highly competitive event. Thanks to all who participated.

—The Golf Committees

Bowling

Let's get rolling. Yes, summer is almost gone and it's time to think about bowling. So get that dusty ball out of the closet and get ready to start on Monday, September 10. Once again, we will bowl at Thunderbird Lanes on Maple Road, just east of Crooks. We start practice at 9:00AM, with scoring at 9:15AM.

New bowlers are most welcome. Even if you haven't bowled for years (maybe never), why not give it a try. You will find that we bowl for the fun and camaraderie - not for highly competitive scoring. You will fit in and we guarantee you will have fun! Please call Tom Venier (248-642-2386) or just show up at Thunderbird Monday morning. You can start as a sub to try it out.

—Bowling Committee

Senior Health Matters

The Controversy Over PSA Testing

According to a recent published study in the journal Cancer, without the use of prostate-specific antigen (PSA) screening, the number of men presenting with already metastatic and ultimately fatal Stage 4 prostate cancer would be three times greater than the actual number observed prior to the introduction of the PSA test. This is one of the many responses to the federally funded US Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendation advising against PSA screening for prostate cancer.

Most experts believe that men over age 75 have little to gain from PSA testing because they will not outlive their indolent, slow-growing prostate cancer unless they have an aggressive tumor. Unfortunately, there is currently no reliable method to distinguish between aggressive and slow-growing tumors. Life expectancy falls to 10 years at age 75 but must be adjusted for a family history of longevity and overall state of health and is different for each individual. This is especially relevant if you have a family history of prostate cancer in your father, brother or son and even your uncle. So when does that 10 year biologic clock really start? The mean and median age of SMC members is 78. The range is 62 to 104.

Underlying the debate is the premise that if you use healthcare resources in one area, they are being diverted from another area by nature of there being a limited pool of funding. The USPSTF has assigned PSA testing a "D" grade which advises providers to "discourage the use of this practice." With Medicare's skyrocketing costs, it is only a matter of time (after the elections) that the government stops paying for services with a "D" rating - soon to be followed by private health insurers.

I recommend that if you have not had a PSA test in a year or more, get one (along with a digital rectal exam). If it is elevated, you become eligible for PSA testing under the accepted guideline of active surveillance which will be covered until a better test comes along.

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO

Brain Cells at Work

A buffalo herd can only move as fast as it's slowest member. During a hunt, the slowest was usually killed first - natural selection at work. In humans, alcohol seems to have a similar effect on the brain - excessive drinking tends to kill the slowest brain cells. That's why you always feel smarter after a few drinks.

Bob Clements-Life Member

The most recent inductee into our most prestigious membership category is Robert (Bob) Clements - our newest Life Member. A club member since 1997, Bob was born in Ferndale and graduated from St. James High School in 1945. He enlisted immediately in the U.S. Navy and was assigned to Electronics School in Chicago. The war ended before he could complete the course, and Bob received an Honorable Discharge.



With the G.I. Bill in hand, Bob attended the University of Detroit, graduating in 1951 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He did co-op work at Chrysler while at U of D, and upon graduation was offered a permanent position there. He obtained a Master's Degree in Automotive Engineering from the Chrysler Institute in 1953, as well as an MBA from Michigan State in 1978. He retired from Chrysler in 1989, after spending 23 years as Manager, Instrumentation Services.

Bob married his high school sweetheart, Elaine, in 1948 and their union produced five children, eleven grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Sadly, Elaine passed away two years ago. Bob enjoys golf, photography and reading and attends St. Alan Church in Troy.

Bob is past president of the Chrysler Management Club and of the Detroit Chapter of the Instrument Society of America. He has been very active with the SMC, currently as Chairman of the Handbook Committee and has served on the Database, Health and Visitation and Chaplain Committees.

—Dave Schwartz

Dress Code

President Chuck Kirkpatrick has announced that our normal Friday dress code - coats required, ties preferred - will be in effect starting with our September meetings.

Our "fashion police" will be watching to ensure that we maintain our reputation as the best dressed men in Birmingham.

Groups



Computer Group

The Computer Group will meet on Wednesday, September 19 at 3:00PM in the Jeanne Lloyd Room of the Baldwin Public Library. Kathryn Bergeron of the library will be the guest speaker. Her topic will be "Databases to Save You Money." She will discuss how the library gives free access to *Consumers Report Online*, *Value Line* and *Ancestry.com*. There will be ample time for questions at the end of Ms. Bergeron's presentation.

—Ron Denton



Investment Group

On Wednesday, September 12 at 2:45PM, Anne McCullough, Financial Advisor, Wells Fargo will discuss "Presidential Elections and Stocks." Election cycles and the performance of the market and individual stocks will be examined. Upcoming tax changes and how they will affect individual investors will also be discussed.

The new Stock Game will begin on October 5. Get your picks ready! Bob Bazzell won \$450 with a 71.2% gain last year. Let's do better.

—George Miller



Camera Group

The Camera Group will meet on Tuesday, September 11 at 2:00PM. Chairman Jaap Delevie will show and discuss some of his sailing movies - in particular, his 1982 crossing of the English channel, past the Guernsey and Alderney islands. Attendees will also see his 1983 trip on the Canal du Midi in Southern France, including views of the restored medieval city of Carcassone and the Pyrenees from the sea. The du Midi canal, built in the 17th century, goes through mountains and follows contours of the country side. No viewer will fall overboard.

—Jaap B. Delevie



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, September 5 at 10:30AM, we will be discussing "Ulysses S. Grant" by Grant. Faced with cancer and financial ruin, the Civil War's greatest general and former president Ulysses S. Grant wrote his personal memoirs to secure his family's future. Grant's memoirs demonstrate the intelligence, intense determination, and laconic modesty that made him the Union's foremost commander. Devoted almost entirely to his life as a soldier, Grant's memoirs cover his troubled years at West Point, his time in the Mexican War and, of course, the campaigns of the Civil War.

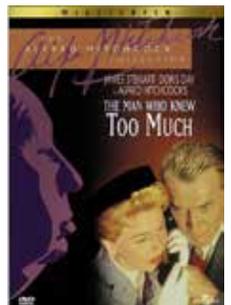
On Monday, September 24 at 3:00PM, we will be discussing "Keynes-Hayek" by N. Wapshott. As the stock market crash of 1929 plunged the world into turmoil, two men emerged with competing claims on how to restore balance to economies gone awry. John Maynard Keynes, the mercurial Cambridge economist, believed that government had a duty to spend when others would not. He met his opposite in a little-known Austrian economics professor, Frederick Hayek, who considered attempts to intervene both pointless and potentially dangerous. Keynesian economics would dominate for decades and coincide with an era of unprecedented prosperity, but conservative economists and political leaders would eventually embrace and execute Hayek's contrary vision.

—Ted Chapekis



Classic Movie Group

"The Man Who Knew Too Much" is Fred Leydorf's pick to be shown on Monday, September 10 from 1:00-3:00PM. Starring Fred's favorite actress, Doris Day, and James Stewart, this film has outstanding character development with American, English, French and Arabic components. Shot in Morocco, we present a vintage Hitchcock suspenseful thriller that also entertains with Doris Day's classic-Que Sera, Sera.



—Augie Perrotta

Special Events

Grand Rapids Tour

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 17, when our bus makes an 8:00AM departure from the First Presbyterian Church for two interesting and attractive destinations in Grand Rapids.

On arrival at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, we first join a narrated one-hour tram-tour of the park and gardens before enjoying lunch in the airy "Taste of the Gardens" Cafe.

As lunch ends, small groups will start their 45 minute guided tour of the Arboretum and Arid Gardens. Finally, the bus departs at 2:20PM.

Our second destination is the Ford Library and Museum. On arrival, our group will be welcomed with a short presentation and optional film in the theatre. A nostalgic self-guided tour in the circular upper story museum takes us back to the Ford years. There will be time in the gift shop before the bus departs at 3:30PM. We will return to Birmingham at approximately 6:30PM.

Ticket sales start on September 21, with leaflets available.
—Martin Rowell, Bob Stevenson, Mike Clement

Stratford Trip

Tickets for our trip to the Stratford Festival to see the musical "42nd Street" went on sale on July 20 and were sold out on the first day. If you are among the lucky travelers on this trip, please remember to bring your passport or Enhanced Drivers License, and be ready to depart the First Presbyterian Church at 8:15AM on Wednesday, September 12. See you on the bus.

—Bob Gualdoni

Go Blue

How would you like to win two tickets to the Michigan/Illinois football game at the "Big House" on October 13, attend a fabulous pre-game indoor tailgate party, featuring U of M President Mary Sue Coleman, the Michigan Marching Band, and have a ride to and from the stadium on game day? All you have to do is participate and win in the next Endowment Fund Lottery - tickets will be available September 28 and October 5.



—Dick Harper

Membership News

...continued from page 2



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Sponsor: Stuart Shuster

John Reddy

...continued from page 1

John sees the role of the club Improvement Team as especially important for the club's future. "I support the effort to continually examine and evaluate our programs, and to recommend change where it makes sense," he says. "That's the best way to sustain the excellence of what we offer to current members as well as to prospective new members."

John's multiple contributions to the club are acknowledged and appreciated by the membership. "John Reddy agreed to lead the club Improvement Team, and has done so diligently and effectively, earning the President's Award for 2011," said former President John Flintosh. "His judgment and leadership skills are most welcome on the expanded Publicity Committee."

John and his wife Joan reside in Bloomfield Hills. They have four children and nine grandchildren.

—Chuck Ragains

Reminder Mailing

The July *Reminder* reported the results of research conducted with members as to how they read our monthly newsletter. Perhaps the most interesting finding was that about 70% of the nearly 200 members who receive *The Reminder* two ways - email and conventional mail - read the email version first. This raises the question as why they don't tell us to drop conventional mailing and save the club about \$1 per copy of printing and mailing expense - every month.

How about it? - Why not tell John Steele (JMSteele9027@sbcglobal.net) he can remove you from our conventional mailing list?

—Dick Harper

LOA Membership Category

With an almost unanimous voice vote, the membership recently approved amending the club constitution to eliminate the Leave of Absence category - one nay vote was heard.

This category was originally established for members who wished to continue with the club, but were unable to attend the minimum annual meeting requirements due to reasons of health or geographic location.

The recent elimination of attendance requirements offered the opportunity to simplify membership categories and the required separate dues collection and reporting LOA members are being notified of this change and of their option to resume full membership status.

—Dick Harper

Nominating Committee

President Chuck Kirkpatrick has announced the formation of the SMC Nominating Committee, with the vitally important responsibility of selecting Club Officer candidates for 2013.

Committee members are Past President John Flintosh, Chairman, Past Presidents Bill Johnson and Irv Poston, plus members Bob Babcock and Tom Schrift. The committee will initiate deliberations in September. Per our constitution, nominations and election of officers will take place during the first two weeks of November. Members are encouraged to submit officer candidate suggestions to the committee.

—Dick Harper

Stu Shuster-Car Enthusiast



Member Stu Shuster is an avid car collector and enthusiast. He serves as Director of the Retired League of Automotive Designers. Stu recently displayed his 1969 Corvair Monza pictured here at the Eyes on Design Car Show, held at the Eleanor and Edsel Ford home in Grosse Pointe.

SMC 2013 Dues Coupon

2013 Dues are payable before January 1, 2013. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2013. 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
- \$0 Life Member*

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

Mystery Lyrics

Our fears were realized - the July mystery lyrics were not much of a mystery to many. No fewer than 18 music fans recognized that these lines:

*Somewhere there's music
How faint the tune*

are the opening lines of the jazz classic "How High The Moon." We thought we should recognize less frequent contributors, so congratulations to Chuck Ragains, Jeannie (Merrill) Miller, Nancy (Russ) Frye, Jack Ward and Stan Rogell.

This month we have a different musical challenge for you. The first word of "How High The Moon" lyrics is "Somewhere." There are at least two other well known songs that start with "Somewhere." One is so famous that we won't give readers a hint, while the other is a great Bobby Darin song.

Can you name these tunes? - getting both would be fantastic!

—Dick Harper

Tiger Trivia

Six long-time Tiger fans got our last trivia item - they knew that Dizzy Trout kept a red bandana in his hip pocket. On warm days, Dizzy used it to wipe his glasses. Congratulations to Lynn Evans, Len Borman, Russ Frye, Dick Smith, Clay Gordon and Tom McNally.

This month you will really be tested! - which Tiger got the last hit in old Tiger Stadium, and for bonus credit, what was the hit?

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 18, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, September 21

Games

Bowling: Wednesday, 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes (beg. Sep. 10)

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

Monday Golf: 7:30AM at Lincoln Hills

Thursday Golf: 9:00AM at Springdale

Special Events

Stratford Trip, Wednesday, September 12, 8:15AM

Grand Rapids Tour, Wednesday, October 17, 8:00AM

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, September 5, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, September 24, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, September 10, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, September 11, 2:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, September 12, 2:45PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, September 19, 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.

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Senior Men's Club "Men on the Go" in the Summer



These Fitness Walkers
look like
they are having fun.



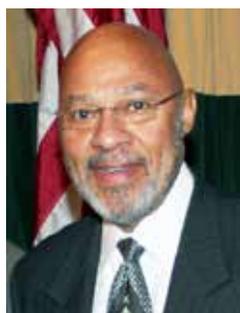
River Cruise



Recent Speakers



L. Brooks Patterson



Dennis Archer



Dr. Barry Franklin



Dr. Darryl Taylor



Dr. Lavoisier Cardozo