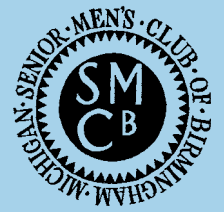


# The Reminder



April 2013

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

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## SMC/TCH 2013 Fundraiser

At the request of SMC President Stu Shuster, past president John Flintosh has initiated a series of messages at Friday meetings regarding our annual fund drive benefitting The Community House.

Our club typically has launched such a drive in April with a letter from past president Jack McLaughlin, Chairman of the Special Projects Committee. Our membership has always responded, with average annual total contributions in the \$40,000-\$50,000 range. And, of course, The Community House has greatly appreciated and relied upon this support.

This year, however, both TCH needs and our drive target are higher. The Community House President and CEO Camille Jayne has observed that rising costs and reduced corporate support and income have resulted in serious financial strains and uncertainties at TCH. As a result a major three year fund drive is underway this year. John Flintosh points out how critical it is that we recognize the importance of TCH to the Senior Men's Club. It really is our home - a home which we may have been taking



John Flintosh

...continued on page 7

## APRIL PROGRAMS

APRIL CHAIRMAN: Dennis Kozak

- 5 U.S. Senator Carl Levin (D) ..... *Washington Update! The Power of Team in a Regulated World*
- 12 Kimberly S. Johnson, Kimberly Consulting Inc. .... *Michigan in the Civil War- Untold Stories of Heros Who Helped Save the Nation*
- 19 Jeanne Bourget, St. James Choir ..... *Memento Vivere*
- 26 Lynn Henning, Detroit News..... *Michigan Sports*

## MAY PROGRAMS

MAY CHAIRMAN: Joe Knollenberg

- 3 Paul Welday, Political Consultant ..... *The World of Politics*

## APRIL DISCUSSIONS

APRIL CHAIRMAN: John Perryman

- 5 Al Eicher, SMC Member ..... *The Surprise*
- 12 Roger Struck, SMC Member ..... *The Civil Wars*
- 19 Bruce Martin, SMC Member ..... *Tiger in the Tank- Invention of the Flushometer Toilet Tank*
- 26 Michael Singer, Financial Manager..... *Transfers of the 3 Kinds of Money*

## MAY DISCUSSIONS

MAY CHAIRMAN: Alan Thomson

- 3 Jack Finley..... *My Years as the Physician of the Detroit Red Wings*

## New Members:



**John R. Ballantyne**  
4434 Samoset Rd.  
Royal Oak, MI 48073-6228  
313-980-4888  
john.ballantyne459@gmail.com  
Sponsor: Pete Kass



**Donald N. Frey, Jr.**  
3960 Far Hill Dr.  
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248-969-0636  
dnfreyjr@live.com  
Sponsor: Jerry Radloff



**Robert I. Hayes**  
6660 Franklin Rd.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-2923  
248-855-4875  
farmerbob48301@comcast.net  
Sponsor: Gordon Fox



**Charles E. Letts, Jr.**  
1258 Cottingham Row  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-2310  
248-752-4357  
cletts@letts.com  
Sponsor: Dick Halsted



**Philip R. Owen**  
5760 Monterey Ct.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-1216  
248-851-6725  
merc1973@aol.com  
Sponsor: Richard Mueller



**Robert M. Siewert**  
576 Abbey St.  
Birmingham, MI 48009-5658  
313-642-7024  
bob.siewert@sbcglobal.net  
Sponsor: Thomas Booth



**Harry G. Sorensen**  
245 Chestnut Circle  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-2105  
248-892-5233  
info@campbellsorensen.com  
Sponsor: Stuart Shuster

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman  
—Robert Beach, Database Chairman  
—Bill Shaffmaster, Tom Booth & Gene Markel, Photography

## New Associates:

**Timothy S. McGee**  
3871 Woodman Dr., Troy, MI 48084-1154  
248-643-0971; tsmcgee1@hotmail.com  
Sponsor: Tyler Perkins

**Kenneth E. Beres**  
2375 Cumberland Dr., Troy, MI 48085-3637  
248-689-0041; kberes3855@wowway.com  
Sponsor: Dan White

**Robert H. Goldenthal**  
4212 Strathdale Ln.  
West Bloomfield, MI 48323-3141  
248-941-8757; seegold2@aol.com  
Sponsor: George Miller

## New Contact Info:

**Gil Livingston**---GilBusLiv@gmail.com  
**Norman Hofley**---NHofley@wyoming.com  
**Alan Thomson**---Alan@leasealliancellc.biz  
**Dan DeBoer**---DanDeBoer@comcast.net  
**Tom Halsted**---TomHalsted@hotmail.com

## To Life Member:

William L. Bones

## Deaths:

**Edward J. Bush**, (Life) joined January 1989  
**Edward P. Butler**, (Life) joined June 1995  
**Robert R. Cosner**, (Life) joined October 1988

## Resigned:

**William R. Aikens**  
**Richard G. Anderson**  
**Robert K. Cambier**  
**Harvey Gabor**  
**Neal Hepner**  
**Paul S. Kearns**  
**Thomas E. Kirchhofer**  
**Richard Lawler**  
**Howard L. Maichen**  
**Thomas L. Meade**  
**Michael A. Nigro**  
**Dale K. Parker**  
**John M. Rady, Jr.**  
**James C. Saylor**  
**James A. Sellgren**



# Games



## Thursday Golf

The 2013 SMC Thursday Golf League will begin weather permitting, on April 4 at Springdale Golf Course. The green fees to be paid to the committee remain the same as 2012 at \$12 for the nine hole round. Pull and power carts may be obtained individually from the service counter at Springdale.



The league has reserved tee times starting at 9:00AM and concluding at 10:30AM. A drawing for foursome starting times will be held.

Those golfers wishing to walk on before the Ladies League begins at 8:00AM are reminded that they may do so only at the discretion of Springdale's management, but Birmingham residents and Leisure Pass holders will take precedence over our league members, so bumping may occur. The committee will not authorize SMC Thursday League members to tee off later than 7:45AM.

The annual putting contest was held on March 21. The results were not available by press time for this edition of *The Reminder*. See the bulletin board for the winning golfers.

On March 14, sixteen SMC golfers had a final tune up of their golf swings by noted teaching pro Dave Vanloozen. The fundamentals of grip, back swing, and follow through were discussed. With this fine tuning, all dome golfers are confident that the 2013 season will see a marked improvement in their scores. Only time will tell!

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

—The Committee

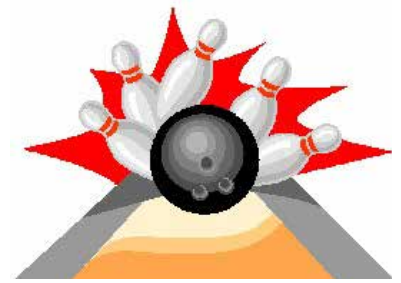
## Monday Golf

Golf begins April 22, weather permitting. Registrations are overdue. The due date was March 15, but we still have openings. Payments are due to Bill Spreitzer by April 12. We are looking forward to lots of fun and healthy exercise.

—The Committee

## Bowling

With only three weeks left in our season, the Seals team has emerged as the second half leader with 58 points. Chuck Frederick, Tom Johnson, Bob Klein and Bob Jordan make up this team.



Two teams have 52 points, with another at 50 points—still time for position changes. The second half winner will roll off for the championship against the first half champs - the Ibex: Sherwin Vine, Ben Mangiapane, Dick Harper and Denny Winowiecki.

Denny has really been on a roll lately, setting highs for the year with a 252 game and a 623 series. The high game featured strikes in the first 8 frames - we thought we might see the first 300 game ever in our league.

—Dick Harper



## SMC Logo Wear is Here!

Frank Gordon of the Publicity Committee displayed the latest logo embossed Senior Men's Club attire which will be available for you to order at the March 22 and April 5 meetings. An e-blast describing these items and the prices will be distributed shortly.

—John Reddy

## Senior Health Matters: Baby Boomers

A baby boomer is a person who was born during the demographic post-World War II baby boom between the years 1946 and 1964, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. A recent survey of U.S. baby boomer health records from 2 periods: 1988-1994 and 2007-2010 found:

- Excellent health was lower in baby boomers (13.2% vs 32%) than their parents.
- Twice as many baby boomers used walking assist devices (6.9% vs 3.3%)
- More were obese (38.7% vs 29.4%)
- More were limited in their work by disability (13.8% vs 10.1%)
- More were coping with some kind of functional limitation (13.5% vs 8.8%)
- They exercised significantly less often (35% vs 19.9%)
- They engaged in no regular physical activity (52.2% vs 17.4%)
- Moderate drinking was more common (67.3% vs 37.2%)
- Hypertension was more common (43% vs 36.4%) as was use of antihypertensive medications (35.4% vs 23.2%)
- Ten times as many used cholesterol lowering drugs (25.9% vs 1.5%) and nearly twice as many were treated for diabetes (11.3% vs 6.2%)

Conversely:

- Fewer baby boomers were smokers (21.3% vs 27.6%) and less were diagnosed with emphysema (2.3% vs 3.5%) than the previous generation
- Fewer had heart attacks (3.6% vs 5.3%)

Thanks to modern medicine, baby boomers will live longer than their parents. Given the link between positive healthy life style and subsequent health in this age group, the study showed the need for expanded efforts at prevention and healthy life style promotion in the baby boomer generation. The alternative is living longer with disability and chronic disease.

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO

## New Life Members: Sandercock and Bones



*Tom Sandercock*

His working career started with Carpenter Steel in Reading, PA (catch a pattern here?), but was interrupted by Uncle Sam for two years. Tom spent most of his military time in Huntsville, Alabama where he mostly worked with scientists designing missiles, including the renowned Werner Von Braun.

After his discharge, Tom joined the Space Division of Chrysler Corporation and the team developing Saturn rocket boosters for the Apollo program, including Apollo 11 and the man on the moon.

Tom and his wife Mary have been married for 60 years, and have a son and a daughter. They attend the Northbrook Presbyterian Church in Beverly Hills.

**Bill Bones** was born in Detroit, and grew up in Birmingham, graduating from Baldwin High School in 1946. Next, the Army called and he served nearly two years as a radio operator and drill instructor. After discharge, he became a Boilermaker, graduating from Purdue in 1952, having earned a Bachelor of Science degree.



*Bill Bones*

Bill had quite a varied business career, starting with Firestone for four years, then moving into electronics and computers with RCA, IBM and Telex. In retirement, he felt another calling, and studied Theology, being ordained as a Deacon of the Episcopal Church in 1994. Many years were spent at St. James in Birmingham.

Bill and his second wife Martha have been married for 46 years, and between them, have nine children, 13 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. (Is this a club record?) Bill and Martha are members of St. James and he has been active in the club's Chaplain Committee.

A hearty welcome to Life Membership for Tom and Bill!

—John Steele

# Groups



## Camera Group

The Camera Group will meet on Tuesday, April 9 at 2:00PM. Our presenter will be photographer Monte Nagler who will first provide a picture show covering 25 foreign countries. Then he will lead a discussion of how to develop a computer based PowerPoint presentation. We expect both an interesting and informative program.

—Jaap Delevie



## Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, April 3 at 10:30AM, we will discuss "Tocqueville's Discovery of America" by Leo Damrosch. Tocqueville is more quoted than read; commentators across the political spectrum invoke him as an oracle who defined America and its democracy for all times. The prizewinning biographer Leo Damrosch retraces Tocqueville's nine-month journey through the young nation in 1831-1832, illuminating how his enduring ideas were born of imaginative interchange with America and Americans, and painting a vivid picture of Jacksonian America. Damrosch shows that Tocqueville found much to admire in the dynamism of American society. But he was offended by the grasping materialism and was convinced that the institution of slavery was bound to give rise to a tragic civil war. Tocqueville's Discovery of America brings the man, his ideas, and his world to startling life.

On Monday, April 15 at 3:00PM, we will discuss "The President and the Assassin" by Scott Miller. In 1901, as America tallied its gains from a period of expansion, an assassin's bullet shattered the nation's confidence. The shocking murder of President William McKinley threw into stark relief the emerging new world order of what would come to be known as the American Century. This is the story of the momentous years leading up to that event, and of the very different paths that brought together two of the most compelling figures of the era: President William McKinley and Leon Czolgosz, who murdered him. With a deft narrative hand, journalist Scott Miller chronicles how these two men collided in violence at the 1901 Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York.

—Ted Chapekis



## Computer Group

The Computer Group will meet on Wednesday, April 17 at 3:00PM. The guest speaker will be Jack Vanders who will demonstrate the many capabilities of Picasa for digital photography. Picasa organizes photos, has file importing and tracking features as well as tags, facial recognition, and collections for further sorting. It also offers basic photo editing functions including color enhancement, red eye reduction and cropping. Other features include slide shows, printing, and image size and setting up page layouts.

—Ron Denton



## Classic Movie Group

*The Manchurian Candidate* will be shown by Ed Burke on Monday, April 8 from 1:00-3:00PM. Frank Sinatra, in his best cinema performance, is accompanied by the legendary Angela Lansbury, Janet Leigh and Laurence Harvey. The film is a brilliant and prophetic Cold War thriller about brainwashing, conspiracy, Communism, McCarthyism, assignation and political intrigue. Don't miss this classic which, like all our movies, features subtitles for the hearing challenged and a generous supply of popcorn.

—Augie Perrotta



## Investment Group

On Wednesday, April 10 at 2:45PM Michael Dzialo, founder and President of Managed Asset Portfolios, will present "A Global Approach to Investing." This private local firm only invests in individual stocks and bonds based on their expert research. They have been awarded "Top Gun of the Decade" for the second year and have a five-star rating by Morningstar.

We have another new leader in the Stock Game. Tom Booth is up 42.9%. Ed Cox slipped to second with a 42.5% gain. Jack McCleary leaped to third with a 37.2% gain. Kirby Callam, Ted Chapekis and Jerry Peck follow. Please remember that stocks can be sold any Friday - selling is important and may determine the winner. The game ends May 31.

—George Miller

# Special Events

## Detroit Historical Museum Tour



Last call reminder for a trip that is sure to be a sell-out! You may ask why.

The main reason is that the Detroit Historical Museum displays are almost completely new after a recent top-to-bottom renovation. Other reasons are: bus transportation is furnished and a lunch is included. The Senior Men's Club will be going there on April 18. If you

heard our speaker on January 18, you would be asking when can I (not why should I) buy a ticket? The "when" answer is Friday, April 5. The price includes lunch at the Traffic Jam after our docent-guided tour at the museum.

The bus will leave the First Presbyterian Church parking lot at 9:00AM. We will start our docent-guided tours at approximately 10:00AM with lunch to follow, where we will have a choice of six entrees with beverage and dessert included. We should be back to the church at approximately 2:30PM. All this for the amazing low price of \$39 a ticket. Come early to get your ticket(s) so you won't be disappointed.

—Your Special Events Committee

## Take Me Out to the Ball Game

Once again in response to many requests, we are going to the beautiful Fifth Third ballpark to see the Toledo Mud Hens. The date is Wednesday, May 15, and the opponent will be the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre team. We have a block of 56 excellent first base side seats under the overhang.

The game starts at 10:30AM, so our bus will leave the Birmingham First Presbyterian Church promptly at 8:15AM. Following the game, we will move to the popular Real Seafood Restaurant on the scenic Toledo waterfront. We will be in a private dining room and have a choice of delicious entrees.

After lunch we will cross the Glass City Skyway Bridge and pass the Enrico Fermi Nuclear Generating Station on our way back to Birmingham. Tickets sales will start Friday, April 19, on a first-come, first-served basis at a price to be set. This trip is always a sell out so be ready.

—Jack Howell and Jim King



## 2013 Calendar of Events

The following Special Events are planned for 2013. Detailed descriptions will be provided in the monthly *Reminder*.

April 18	Historical Museum
May 15	Toledo Mud Hens
June 18	Annual Picnic
July 24	River Cruise
August	No Event Planned
September 25	Stratford – "Fiddler"
October 23	Grand River – Cruise
November (TBD)	Village Players
December 4	Christmas Party

## Program and Activities Weekly Email

During recent weeks, members with email addresses have received mid-week notices describing scheduled Friday meeting presentations. These notices are intended to inform members as to what they will experience and learn, and to motivate interest and attendance.

The Publicity Committee plans to formalize and expand on this effort. Weekly emails will include descriptions of the subject material planned for Friday meetings, plus the background of scheduled speakers. In addition, it is anticipated that Discussion Group subjects and speakers will be added to this activity as a second phase.

Longer range, descriptions of other club group meetings and activities can be included - Camera, Computer, Classic Movie, Investment, Reading and Special Events.

Obviously, this is an ambitious effort and will take some time to fully develop and implement. Member comments and suggestions are welcome.

—Chuck Ragains and Dick Harper

## Ken Brooker: Active Member at Age 92



"The Senior Men's Club has been a very important part of my life from the day I was initiated. I have had the opportunity to serve on a variety of committees, and to lead discussion groups on a range of topics. Equally important are the many opportunities for a social life, in addition to golf, bowling and the day trips. I am happy to have made so many good new friends."

Those are the words of Ken Brooker, age 92, and a member since 1990. Ken has kept active following 39 years at General Motors from which he retired in 1981. The majority of the years in GM were spent as the operations manager of the GM Engineering Staff, assisting four different vice presidents. In addition, he was secretary for two of Alfred Sloan's technical committees that were set up after World War II when GM was to return to car operations.

Ken's professional career was always well balanced by a variety of roles in the community. Scout troops that he founded still exist, as do the chapters of the Alzheimers Association in Michigan and Cape Cod where he has homes. He is an active member of the Finance Committee of the Congregational Church of Birmingham.

Ken still considers himself "a small town boy." He grew up in New Lebanon, New York, where he developed many friends, one of whom was Eleanor Roosevelt. She even spoke at Ken's high school graduation in 1938. Today, Ken laughs at the fact that the small school enabled him to letter in baseball, basketball and soccer.

Ken went west to college and graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in mechanical engineering. It was there that Ken met his wife Mary Pat who died in 2010. Together they raised three sons. Their families consist of six great grandchildren and six grandchildren, all scattered throughout Connecticut, Virginia and Tennessee.

—Chuck Ragains

## SMC President Stu Shuster on TV



President Stu Shuster represented the club in the recent videotaping of the Bloomfield Community Television production of "Making a Difference at TCH," which will promote

TCH activities in the community. The program is one of a series and will focus on "Volunteers and Sponsored Groups."

Camille Jayne, President and CEO of TCH, said that the Senior Men's Club has been a good partner and friend for The Community House for many years.

The program is expected to be broadcast in April. To watch the show, go to <http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/cable/Videos/MakingADifferenceAtTCH.htm>. Then Scroll down to the third video: Outreach.

—Chuck Ragains

## 2013 Fundraiser

...continued from page 1

for granted far too long. We arrive on Fridays for meetings and on many other days of the week for club events and activities and find the facilities ready and functioning as expected. All for the cost of our \$40 annual dues and maybe parking. At a buck a meeting, that's a real bargain! It is estimated that if the club paid for all The Community House facilities we use, the annual expenses would exceed \$90,000. Our support runs about half that.

OK - our "home" needs our help and now is the time to plan our response. The letter from Jack McLaughlin will arrive shortly following the meaningful insights from John Flintosh. You will learn that our sights are higher this year - our target for 2013 is \$60,000 - about 35% higher than recent years averages. Yes, this is ambitious, maybe aggressive, but it is attainable and pledges of \$1,000 from Club leaders are already helping.

All we really have to recognize is that our "home" needs help. So when your appeal letter arrives in April, please give it your serious and generous consideration. You won't regret it...and it's tax deductible.

—Dick Harper

# Mystery Lyrics



We thought that last month's mystery lyrics might be difficult, and we were right! We almost totally "stumped the panel," with only two readers - Norma Secrest (wife of Dick) and Clay Gordon recognizing that these lyrics:

*There's no love song finer  
But how strange the change  
from major to minor*

are from the Cole Porter tune "Every Time We Say Goodbye (I Die a Little)." This song was recorded by many and was a hit for Ella and Frank Sinatra.

Congratulations, Norma and Clay- you really know your music!

This month we have mystery lyrics from a 1937 jazz classic for you, with these opening lines:

*I've gone around the world in a plane  
I've settled revolutions in Spain*

Can you name that tune? Hint - this was the theme song of a great trumpet player. Can you name him?

# Baseball Trivia

OK - so last month's sports trivia was obscure (almost impossible). We asked if you could figure out what Casey Stengel, Doak Walker, Henry (Hank) Aquirre and Jimmy Piersall (Red Sox) had in common. Only Dick Kamp, Chuck Ragains and Clay Gordon had the answer - they all wore number 37 for most of their careers. Dick was a long time Doak Walker fan - that's how he got it.

As long as we are on a number kick - let's try another and hopefully easier one. Every hockey fan knows that Gordie Howe and Maurice (Rocket) Richard wore sweaters with the number 9. Can you remember who wore 99? No hint on this one.

—Dick Harper

# 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 2013 are: Stuart B. Shuster, president; John M. Steele, first vice president; George L. Stern, second vice president; Eugene P. Jacoby, recording secretary; Edward J. Burke, corresponding secretary; James E. Bayson, treasurer; Richard E. Shirley, assistant treasurer; David A. Schwartz and Clifford O. Bath, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

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

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# CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

**EExecutive Board Meeting:** Tuesday, April 9, 9:30AM

**Reminder Deadline:** Friday, April 19

## Games

**Bowling:** Monday, 9:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes

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

**Monday Golf:** 7:30AM at Lincoln Hills, starting April 22

**Thursday Golf:** 9:00AM at Springdale, starting April 4

## Special Events

**Detroit Historical Museum,** Thursday, April 18

**Toledo Mudhens,** Wednesday, May 15

## Group Meetings

**Book Reading Groups:** Group A: Wednesday, April 3, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, April 15, 3:00PM

**Classic Movie Group:** Monday, April 8, 1:00PM

**Camera Group:** Tuesday, April 9, 2:00PM

**Investment Group:** Wednesday, April 10, 2:45PM

**Computer Group:** Wednesday, April 17, 3:00PM

*All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.*

## SMC on the Web:

<http://www.tchserve.org/subpage/senior-mens-club>

Google Group: <http://groups.google.com/group/SMCBirmingham>