

The Reminder



June 2021

Senior Men's Club, Birmingham, Michigan

- 1 SMC Finances, Memorial Fund
- 2 Special Event - Car Show
- 3 Groups
- 4 Name That Tune, Sports Trivia

MEMORIAL FUND

The Memorial Fund is the Senior Men's Club largest financial asset currently with a value of over \$54k. The Fund is covered in the Club's Procedure Manuel on-line, but we know little of the genesis and the history of the Fund. We do know that under \$25k was placed in an investment account held separately by the Club in 2012. Prior to that we believe the Fund was invested in Bank CD's. We are unaware of any amount of the Memorial Fund being used since 2012 or money added to the fund since 2012 except for dividend income and market gains. The Executive Board has asked a subset of the Finance Committee to look into the history of the Memorial Fund and to make a recommendation on how the funds should be used. To that end, if anyone has any information as to the original donors, what the donors had in mind when they made the donations, when those donations were made, and in what amounts, please contact John Skubik (skubikj@yahoo.com) or Jim Suhay (jsuhay@sbcglobal.net).

John Skubik

SMC Finances in Excellent Shape

Thanks to the faithful stewardship of Treasurer Jim Suhay and Assistant Treasurer John Skubik, I am pleased to report that the financial viability of the club is in excellent condition.

Beginning last October, following their election, Jim and John began a painstaking review of the Club's recent financial history. In January, they presented a detailed 2021 proposed \$27k budget that the Executive Board approved. Since then, they have presented monthly reports to the Board tracking that budget. Through April, we have a surplus of nearly \$1k cash.

Among their most significant achievements has been restoration of the Club's tax exempt status. In 1986, the IRS determined we were a 501c7 tax exempt social club. Nine years later, following a review of our books and records, IRS ruled we were a 501c4 social welfare organization. Last May the IRS revoked that status because we had inadvertently failed to file required IRS 990 notices. Jim and John, working with the CPA firm Plante & Moran, contacted the IRS and made the necessary filings. In March, the IRS reinstated our tax exempt status as a 501c7 social club. No fines or penalties were assessed. Going forward, Jim and John have instituted safeguards to assure this situation never occurs again.

Now that our tax exempt status has been renewed, Jim and John are leading a review of the Club's Memorial Fund, as described in their accompanying article. They are also securing quotes for Director & Officer liability insurance coverage, which most other tax exempt nonprofits maintain.

Together they have spent nearly 100 hours over the past six months tending to the Club's finances. Please join me in offering our most sincere thanks.

Maynard Timm



Jim Suhay



John Skubik

JUNE PROGRAMS

CHAIR: DAVID ANDERSON

- 4 Judge Maureen McGinnis, 52-4 Judicial District Court, Troy, Michigan
Topic: "Michigan District Courts-The Real People's Court"
- 11 Judge Linda Hallmark, Oakland County Probate Court, Pontiac, Michigan
Topic: "Probate Court-The Court That Serves the Public from Cradle to Grave"
- 18 Judge Martha Anderson, Oakland County Circuit Court, Pontiac, Michigan
Topic: "Oakland County Business Court-Streamlining Business Disputes and Producing Happier Litigants"
- 25 Justice David Viviano, Michigan Supreme Court, Lansing, Michigan
Topic: "The Michigan Supreme Court-Where State Law Issues are Ultimately Decided"

Fellowship • Shared Activities • Community Service



SPECIAL EVENT
TRADITIONAL PICNIC & CAR SHOW
Wednesday, August 18, 2021
from 9:30 - 2:30



Where: Beverly Park, Beverly Road (13-1/2 Mile Rd, west of Southfield) with ample parking

What: An ideal venue to socialize, view fine cars, play Bocce Ball or Cards and enjoy the "Men's Club Chorus," led by Charlie Blank



Covid-19 precautions: TBD: this will be our first in-person gathering since March 2020

Registration: All planning to attend, please send an E-Mail to Messrs Stevenson & Rowell



Show Car Registration: E-Mail to Martin Rowell (248-385-8822)

Payment: \$20 cash or check (payable to SMC) on the day

Food & Drinks: Boxed-lunches with Coffee & Lemonade self-served all day



Raffle Draw: (Prizes: Gift Cards)

Seating (spaced): Although the plan is to seat as many as possible in the Pavilion, we ask you to bring a chair & folding table to place on the grass in order to keep socially distant.

Organizing Committee looks forward to a strong turnout!



*Bob Stevenson, Charlie Blank, Tony DiMarco, Riggs Miller,
Martin Rowell, Jerry Stribbell*

Groups



Investment Study Group

The next Investment Group meeting will be Wednesday June 9 at 2:45 PM. The Stock Game winners will share their stock picking wisdom. All SMC members will be encouraged to share their successful investment strategies. Ideas to improve the Investment Group meetings so that they are more helpful to all SMC members are requested.

Jerry Peck continues to lead the Stock Game with an impressive 235% gain. Mike Clement, Bob Veres, Joe Schulenberg and George Miller are competing for second and third place prize monies. \$540 total prize money. The game ends May 31. Stay tuned for final results.

George Miller



Classic Movie Group

The Classic Movie Group feature for Monday, June 14 at 1:00 PM, will be *Red Tails* (2012) (2 hours and 5 minutes). This film tells the real-life story about a crew of African-American pilots in the Tuskegee training program, who, having faced segregation while kept mostly on the ground during much of World War II, are finally called into duty. These men formed the 332nd Fighter Group, an all African-American World War II unit made up of the best escort pilots, and known as the *Red Tails*, fight racism at home while fighting the Nazis abroad in this action-packed drama based on the true story of the Tuskegee Airmen. The *Red Tails* cast is large and distinguished, led by Terrence Howard and Cuba Gooding Jr.

Producer George Lucas began developing *Red Tails* around 1988, after hearing of the Tuskegee Airmen from a friend. Lucas originally conceived of the film as a long, detailed narrative, similar to *Lawrence of Arabia*, and in a trilogy format, but after multiple script drafts, he decided to focus on the combat portion of the story. The result is an outstanding war-time motion picture you will not want to miss.

In addition to the movie presentation, Lt Col Harry Stewart, one of the twelve remaining members of this distinguished group of WWII combat aviators, will join us for our group discussion at the conclusion of the film. As many of you know, he has previously spoken to the Senior Men's Club about his service with the 332nd Fighter Group.

We will be showing this action-packed WW II movie, via Zoom, on Monday, June 14 at 1:00 PM. So, put this date on your calendar and join us for what promises to be an entertaining afternoon at the movies.

Watch for our access information eBlast as we near the show date. Looking forward to seeing you then.

Robert Sparks



Reading Groups

As luck would have it, both of the books selected for discussion in June deal with FDR, Winston Churchill and World War II. These two books are certain to prompt lively discussion. Members are invited to send related materials to Roger Timm and Jon Haber prior to the discussions of their respective books.

These sessions are open to all members and guests, even if they haven't read the books but are interested in exploring various perspectives on World War II.

As always, we are grateful to Roger Timm for serving as Zoom master for both book groups.

Wednesday, June 2, at 10:30 AM: *The Mantle of Command: FDR at War, 1941-1942* by Nigel Hamilton. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2014.

This is the first of Hamilton's three volume study of Franklin Roosevelt's role as commander in chief during World War II. It provides an up close and personal view of FDR's battles with Churchill, the Secretary of War, and sometimes his own generals about the conduct of the war. *The New York Times* reviewer wrote, "*The Mantle of Command* is splendid; it's the memoir Roosevelt didn't get to write." Roger Timm will lead this session.

Monday, June 21, at 3:00 PM: *The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family and Defiance During the Blitz* by Eric Larson. New York: Crown, 2020.

Larson brilliantly tells the story of Winston's Churchill first year as Prime Minister when England was facing its "darkest hour". It is no surprise that it spent many weeks on the NY Times Best Sellers list. *The Rolling Stone* reviewer called it "A damn good story. There are narrative arcs, heroes, villains, and suspense aplenty to craft the kind of rich, immersive histories that have become Larson's trademark." *The Wall Street Journal* review wrote, "Larson's book offers a delicious slice of life of the world's last great statesman." This discussion will be led by Jon Haber.

Looking ahead to July

Wednesday, July 7, 10:30 AM: *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett (Swarn Rajpal)

Monday, July 19, 3:00 PM: *So, You Want to Talk about Race* by Ijeoma Olou (Posh Golati)

Bob Maxfield



MYSTERY LYRICS

Once again, the Frank Sinatra fans in our Club remembered the lyrics to one of his songs.

We asked if readers could recognize the song with these lines:

“For nobody else gave me a thrill, with all your faults, I love you still” and eight knew the song is “It Had To Be You”. Congratulations to Steve Hall, Dick Kamp, Joel Adelman, Dolly and Bill Johnson, Dan Bonbrisco, Fred Hansz, Ray Buratto and Jack Harned (who may have responded for the first time, although he said he recognized many of the mystery songs).

OK, enough of Sinatra, although he may have recorded this. The mystery lyrics are:

“Yesterday’s kisses are still on my lips, I’ve had a lifetime of heaven at my fingertips”

Can you name that tune? Hint – you will remember a movie with the same title.

Dick Harper

SPORTS TRIVIA

Last month we asked if you could remember the major leaguer who ended his major league career with exactly 3000 hits. (I’m rooting for Miguel Cabrera to reach that total this year, but it’s looking doubtful). I did tell you that the career of the mystery player ended tragically, which may have helped you come up with *Roberto Clemente*. He died in a mercy plane crash benefiting his native Puerto Rico.

Congratulations to Dave Ladd, Pete Good, Joel Adelman, Dan Bonbrisco and Ray Buratto.

This month we offer a Detroit Lions player challenge. We all fondly remember when Bobby Layne was the team leader both on and off the field. *Bobby was not the only Texan on the team – there were at least three others – how many can you name? – one went to high school with Layne.*

Dick Harper

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The Reminder

A monthly publication of the Senior Men’s Club, which meets Fridays at 10:30 AM via ZOOM during the stay-at-home orders.

Officers for 2021 are: President, Maynard Timm; First Vice President, Swarn Rajpal; Second Vice President, Paul Kovceses; Recording Secretary, Larry Imerman; Corresponding Secretary, John Maten; Treasurer, Jim Suhay; Assistant Treasurer, John Skubik; Officers at Large: Ras Desai, Dennis Winowiecki.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, Editor Emeritus; Jay Kafarski, Publisher; Maynard Timm, Co-Editor; Tim McGee, Co-Editor; Tom Booth, Gene Markel and Roger Timm, Photography.

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

The Senior Men's Club's mailing address has changed from The Community House, 380 South Bates St., Birmingham, MI, 48009, to:

Senior Men’s Club

P.O. Box 1149

Birmingham, MI 48012-1149

All mail should be sent to the new address.

Club Dates to Remember

ALL MEETINGS VIA ZOOM

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 8 at 9:30 AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, June 25

Reading Group A: Wednesday, June 2 at 10:30 AM

Investment Group: Wednesday, June 9 at 2:45 PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, June 14 at 1:00 PM

Reading Group B: Monday, June 21 at 3:00 PM

MEETING RESPONSIBLY IN PERSON:

Walking Group: Tuesdays-Barnum Park & Thursdays-Shain Park; 8:00 AM. For more information, contact Larry Imerman, 248-642-9432

Golf: Lincoln Hills on Mondays and Springdale on Thursdays from 7:00-9:00am; \$15.00

Spinning: Beverly Hills Club on Wednesdays at noon. \$10 for non-member guests. Contact Joe Schulenberg for info.

Visit SMC at

<https://www.seniormensclub.com/>