

The Reminder



August 2020

Senior Men's Club, Birmingham, Michigan



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

When nominated to become President of the Senior Men's Club I had no idea what would happen in 2020. Now we are in the 5th month of Covid-19 with no in person meetings. Like you I am missing our live gatherings at The Community House.

Now we are confronted with a new set of decisions that directly affect our organization. Last month Maynard Timm and I met with the management of The Community House and we were advised that effective 1-1-2021 all room rentals would be based on a Fee Schedule. This will replace our current Annual Giving Initiative or AGI. We anticipate receiving the Fee Schedule in the near future.

On Tuesday, July 14, this change was presented to our Executive Board. Monies donated for the AGI have and will continue to be given to TCH. However, members will now have the option to give to the SMC Foundation for the balance of 2020.

We will continue to have weekly meetings via Zoom and may continue having Zoom as an option when we resume having in person meetings, This will allow members who are unable to attend the weekly meetings to keep up-to-date with our speakers as well as activities.

I personally hope and pray that COVID 19 will exit soon and that all of you are safe.

God Bless...All the Best,

Jerry Stribbell

SPECIAL EVENTS

There are no Special Events scheduled because of the virus. Club members are in the most vulnerable age group and we do not expect any events in 2020 with the possible exception of a dinner at Schoolcraft College if they reopen their dining room this fall and if the social distancing requirements fit our needs. This would be a self-drive event as in the past, so we would not be crowded on a bus.

We shall keep Men's Club members informed as our plans evolve. Meanwhile, we invite you to visit Special Events on our website for online educational and travel items you might enjoy.

Mike Clement

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Pursuant to the Procedural Policies of the Senior Men's Club and approved by the Executive Board, the Policy Committee will receive and process nominations for an Outstanding Service Award for a SMC member that has performed exceptional service to the club.

Any member of the club may nominate another member for the Award. Nominations must be submitted to the Policy Committee in writing and must include the reason for consideration by the Committee. Utmost discretion and the privacy of each nominee will be observed by the Committee. The decision of the Committee will be final.

Accordingly, please submit your recommendations to the members of the Policy Committee no later than October 1, 2020. Submissions will be allowed by email and should be sent to any of the following committee members:

Chairman Timothy S. McGee John M. Steele
Charles R. (Dick) Bradley Eugene P. Jacoby

Tim McGee

AUGUST PROGRAMS

MONTHLY CHAIR: RASESH DESAI

- 7 Dave Coulter, Chief Executive Oakland County:
"The Future Of Oakland Together"
- 14 Elissa Slotkin, US Congresswoman, Michigan District 8:
"An Update From Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin"
- 21 Henry Payne, The Detroit News Auto Critic, a syndicated editorial cartoonist, and radio host:
"What's Trending in the Auto Industry, 2020 and beyond"
- 28 Michael Rutkowski, Principal, Rutkowski Law Group, Bloomfield Hills:
"Beyond Estate Planning-What's New With Elder Care Laws"

Fellowship • Shared Activities • Community Service

Groups



Reading Groups

In August we look forward to the discussion of two very different books, both of which should stimulate lively and meaningful discussions. The ZOOM format continues to be a great way to make sure that everyone's voice is heard. For the past few months attendance at both the Monday and Wednesday groups has exceeded previous attendance at the Community House. Thanks to Roger Timm for serving as "Zoom Master" for both groups.

Wednesday, August 5 at 10:30 AM: *Rules for Old Men Waiting* by Peter Pouncey. New York: Random House, 2005.

The publisher describes this book as "A brief, lyrical novel with a powerful emotional charge, is about three wars of the twentieth century and an ever-deepening marriage." In a house on the Cape "older than the Republic," Robert MacIver, a historian who long ago played rugby for Scotland, creates a list of rules by which to live out his last days. The most important rule, to "tell a story to its end," spurs the old Scot on to invent a strange and gripping tale of men in the trenches of the First World War.

Frank McCourt called it "A deeply sensual, moving, thrilling novel that calls for a second and third reading—it is that rich."

Jon Haber will lead this discussion

Monday, August 17 at 3:00 PM: *White Fragility: Why it's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism* by Robin DiAngelo. Boston: Beacon Press, 2018.

First published two years ago, DiAngelo's short book has reappeared at the top of the best seller list during our current nation-wide conversation about race and racism. It is sure to stimulate a serious discussion as we challenge ourselves to reconsider our long-held views on race and racism. Members might want to invite spouses and others to join this important session.

Roger Timm will lead this discussion.

Bob Maxfield



Classic Movie Group

On Monday, August 10, at 1:00 PM, Dick Harper will present, via ZOOM, Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers in "Swing Time" (1936) (1 hour and 41 minutes), a romantic spirit-lifter buoyed by a subline Jerome Kern/Dorothy Fields score, nimble direction by George Stevens, an outstanding supporting cast and Fred and Ginger's apparently effortless (after over 350 hours of rehearsals) dancing. The blithe "Pick Yourself Up", the Oscar winning "The Way You Look Tonight", the undeniably moving "Never Gonna Dance" ode to love and loss and Fred's "Bojangles of Harlem" tap tribute are just some of the outstanding musical and dancing moments in a motion picture widely acknowledged to be the best of their films. If iconic musicals from Hollywood's Golden Age appeal to you, then this is a must-see film for you to enjoy. In the ZOOM era there are two ways in which you can participate in the Classic Movie Group: You can join us at 1:00 PM to watch the film on ZOOM, or you can watch the film on your own, using your own resources, and then join us at 2:45 PM for a post-show discussion regarding any aspect of the film. We will wrap up and adjourn by 3:00 PM. All you need to do is mark your calendars now and bring your own popcorn on the tenth to make this movie going experience complete for you, your family and friends. Watch for our access information eBlast as we near the show date.

Fred Hansz

CLASSIC MOVIE SCHEDULE - 2020

SEPTEMBER 14

Jon Haber – *Dave* (1993) 110 min

SEPTEMBER 28

Tom Booth – *Blazing Saddles* (1974) 93 min

OCTOBER 12

Bill Warner – *Casablanca* (1942) 102 min

OCTOBER 26

Irv Poston – *Kiss Me Kate* (1953) 109 min

NOVEMBER 9

Charlie Myers - *Saving Private Ryan* (1998) 169 min

DECEMBER 14

Waller Harris – *Remember the Night* (1940) 94 min

GROUPS continue on next page

Groups



Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group will have a video conference meeting via ZOOM on Monday, August 3, 2020 at 2:00 PM. I will send out the ZOOM invitation to the meeting via eblast on July 29th.

There are several excellent videos on Genealogy that have been produced this year which we will discuss during the meeting. One is using *Google Earth*, which can add to your journey of gathering information for your family history.

I am looking forward to seeing you all via the internet.

David Bakos



Walking Group

Walking Group returns “Outdoors”
Tuesdays - Shain Park
Thursdays - Barnum Park

Masks and social distancing are SOP for the Group which meets at 8:00 AM for an hour exercise walk. Our own thermos or mug of Coffee and conversation follow at the Park tables. Springtime temps and sunshine beckon. Please consider joining us to assist yourself in getting “back in shape” for the Summer.

Charlie Blank (bclank56@gmail.com)

or Larry Imerman (Limerman@sbcglobal.net)



Computer Group

The next meeting of the Computer Group will be on Thursday, August 6, at 3:00 PM.

The topic will be Going Google by Tom Allen.

Google has a variety of applications that are easy to use and relatively cheap. This talk will describe these applications and how you can use them.

All members and their guests are welcome.

Tom Allen

MYSTERY LYRICS

Only four readers recognized the song with last month’s mystery lyrics. We thought there would be more when we told you the lyrics were from a Cole Porter tune.

But only these regulars (and music aficionados) John Dueweke, Ray Buratto, Fred Hansz and Joel Adelman recognized that this lyric line: “One of those bells that now and then rings” is from the Porter tune “Just One of Those Things”. Congratulations, guys!

We might have an easy one for you this month, with these lines from a great Sinatra song – “*Stars and steel guitars, and luscious lips red as wine*”.

Can you name that tune?

Dick Harper



SPORTS TRIVIA

Last month we asked readers for their favorite baseball nickname, and received some interesting responses, as follows:

Jim Bayson - Charlie “Paw Paw” Maxwell

Tom DeCorte - Harry “Suitcase” Simpson

Ray Buratto - Henry “Bow Wow” Arft

Joel Adelman - Mark “The Bird” Fidrych

Pete Good - Harry “Peanuts” Lowery

(I must confess, I studied lots of box scores back in the day, but never heard of “Bow Bow” Arft.)

Speaking of Pete Good, he once told me he attended the last game at Tiger Stadium - a game which ended with a titanic blast off the right field roof by a lesser known Tiger. **Can any reader remember who that was?** – besides Pete, that is.

Dick Harper



Club Dates to Remember

ALL MEETINGS VIA ZOOM

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, Aug. 11, 9:30 AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, August 14

Genealogy Group: Monday, August 3, 2:00 PM

Reading Group A: Wednesday, August 5, 10:30 AM

Computer Group: Thursday, August 6 at 3:00 PM

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

Reading Group B: Monday, August 17, 3:00 PM

Walking Group 8:00 AM, Tuesdays - Shain Park

Thursdays - Barnum Park

Visit SMC at

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

Visit TCH at

www.communityhouse.com/supported-groups-nonprofits/senior-mens-club/