ne Reminder

September 2006

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



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Doctor John R. Caldwell, Past President, Life Member

Doctor John R. Caldwell, who died August 3, 2006, joined the Senior Men's Club in 1987, became Club President in 1999 and a life member in 2003. John graduated from Temple University School of Medicine in 1943 and interned at the Great Lakes Naval Hospital. He was a U.S. Navy doctor during World War II and served in many war torn hotspots in the



Pacific battle area. He practiced 37 years at Henry Ford Hospital where in 1955 he founded the first special section on hypertension. John specialized in peripheral vascular disease, metabolic diseases, kidney diseases and hypertension. John had been retired 19 years and remained active in professional groups that promote regular screening and hypertension control.

John was a member who encouraged growth, continuity, principles and will be greatly missed.

-Bill Reilly

SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER CHAIRMAN: John Slocum

1	John Ziraldo, CEO and President, Lighthouse of Oakland County "Volunteers Changing the World"
8	James Thomas, President, Birmingham Toastmasters Club
15	Lynn Alexander, President, Aging Well Enterprises" "Why You Need a Senior Advocate"
22	Lt. Col. John Sussala, USAF (Ret.)"The Air Force Academy"
29	James Wolfe, Lecturer and World Traveler" "Mongolia: Living with the Nomads"

OCTOBER PROGRAMS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Bob Gualdoni

William Largent, Office of Native American Affairs, U.S. Small Business Admin.... "Native American Affairs"

SEPTEMBER DISCUSSIONS

SEPTEMBER CHAIRMAN: Mark Kelly

Kelly Nase, Erickson Retirement Communities"The Pros and Cons of Retirement Living Alternatives"
Dick Harper, SMC Member"Memories of 9/11"
Greg Reid, Flexible Plan Investments"Evaluating Your Investment vs the Risk You are Taking"
John Reddy, SMC Member & Del Moore, Singer/Actress"The Advantages of Community Theater"
Roger McCarville, Handicap Travel

OCTOBER DISCUSSIONS

OCTOBER CHAIRMAN: Riggs Miller

Membership News



New Members:

Donald C. Brownell 1100 Hillpointe Circle Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1512 248.844.1040 Sponsor: William D. Johnson



Robert E. Johnson 5100 Wayfind Lane Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-2950 248.644.4666 Sponsor: William H. Crabtree



James F. Judge, (Marcia) 2562 Haverford Drive Troy, MI 48098-2334 248.641.7474 E-mail: JudgeJ@email.com Sponsor: Howard L Maichen



E. Bruce Mumford, (Virginia) 6902 Pebblecreek Woods Drive West Bloomfield, MI 48322-3501 248.626.5035 E-mail: EBruceMumford@cs.com Sponsor: Charles C. Kass

To Life Member:

Chase C. Cooper, joined March 1992 Harold R. Melin, joined January 1987 Raymond Latovick, joined January 1994 Philip R. Bloyer, joined November 1992 William G. Bratton, joined November 1992

Resigned:

Applicant William J. Westcott



New Applicants:

Alfred Lowenstein, (Helca) 22005 Village Pines Drive Beverly Hills, MI 48025-3564 248.646.5518

E-mail: FrostyYog@aol.com Sponsor: Charles C. Kass

Robert W. Taylor, (Jeanette) 400 Hamilton Row, Ste. 450 Birmingham, MI 48009-3437 248.593.8924 E-mail: RWTbill@aol.com Sponsor: Martin G. Gabriel

Gilbert B. Bluhm, (Barbara) 6647 Woodcrest Drive Troy, MI 48098-6519 248.879.1322 E-mail: GBBluhm@sbcglobal.net Sponsor: R. Caldwell

Robert R. Welch 1010 Orchard Ridge Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-2641 248.646.4249 Sponsor: Donald J. Pennell

William J. Smallwood, (Ann) 288 W. Brown Street Birmingham, MI 48009-1455 248.644.1870 E-mail: TableTop248@comcast.net Sponsor: Albert O. Roberts, Jr.

Gil Livingston, (Pam) 4051 Oak Bank Court Orchard Lake, MI 48323-1677 248.683.4027 E-mail: Gil@Livingstons.com Sponsor: Donald G. Speyer

-Pete Kass, Membership Chairman -Bill Peschel, Membership Vice Chairman -Photos by John Dudash and Bill Shaffmaster

Groups

Investment Group

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 13, 2006 at 2:45 P.M. Jim Williams, a frequent speaker to the group, will give an update on the latest tax and estate planning techniques that will help us keep our money.

The stock game will begin on October 16.
-George Miller

Computer Group

Our speaker for the September 20 meeting of the Computer Group will be John Wigman of Birmingham Computers. Mr.

Wigman will discuss "What's New in the Computer World" followed by a Q & A session. Bring your software and hardware questions to the meeting. Starting time on Wednesday, September 20 is 3:00 P.M. at The Community House.

-George Nordenholt

Camera Group

The Camera Club is in for a special treat. Tuesday, September 12 at 2:00 P.M. there will be a special presentation on the "Silk Road."

The "Silk Road" was so named in 1870, by the German geographer, Ferdinand von Richtoven. The route from the Roman Empire to the Chinese capital at Chang'An (now called Xi'an) was traveled continuously from ancient times until the 15th century. The traffic was heaviest from the 1st century B.C.E. until the 10th century B.C.E.

The slide presentation of some of the Chinese section of the route, by Mike O'Donnel, will show the

remnants of rediscovered Buddhist caves and ancient cities, as well as more modern cities. Get a taste of the desolation faced by those early merchants and the relief they must have felt at the sight of an oasis in western China's Gobi and Taklamakan deserts.

-Roger Garvelink

Deaths:

Life Member Robert A. Hadley joined July 1981

Life Member Sidney Miller joined September 1983

Life Member, Past President John Spomer joined January 1978

James M. Colville joined November 1996

Life Member, Past President Milton B. Henderson joined December 1980

Life Member, Past President John R. Caldwell joined September 1987

Stratford Trip to See "Oliver!" the Musical on October 10

The Special Events Committee has announced that its annual trip to Stratford is planned for Tuesday, October 10. The production will be the highly entertaining and perennial favorite musical, "Oliver."

We will start selling tickets at 9:15 A.M. on September 22. Members and applicants as well as their companions are invited. There will be a limit of two tickets per person. Please be advised, as a convenience to early arrivals, that starting at 8:30 A.M., priority

Continued on page 8

Games

Thursday Golf

Thursday Golf was again rained out on August 3 as Latis, the Celtic Goddess of Water and Beer, delivered another great downpour. In the great tradition of Celtic fairness we hope that Latis will pull the beer tap and not the water tap when she thinks of pouring another deluge upon us.

The annual scramble at Stonybrook will take place on Tuesday, September 12. This year, the greens fee is \$31 which includes lunch. Lunch only is available for Kibitzers at \$12. For reservations see Dick Suminski, Don Clark, or the author with a check or cash. No check, no cash, no reservation. The cutoff date for entry is September 5, 2006.

The Thursday Golf Tournament will be played on August 24, August 31, and September 7. The scores from two consecutive rounds will be used to determine winners. Golfers must play two consecutive rounds. i.e., play on August 24 and August 31 or August 31 and September 7 to qualify. Play on August 24 and September 7 will not qualify. Golfers must have an average score based on five rounds played in 2006. If you have not played five rounds in 2006, then the committee will use your last year's average.

Mark your calendars! The annual golf banquet will be held on Wednesday, October 25. Tickets will go on sale on September 8. Buy your tickets early as only a limited number are available. The committee will determine the price prior to September 8.

As of press time, no one had collected the \$150 Bonus Bucks for being closest to the pin and sinking a birdie putt of six feet or more on the number 6 hole. Several golfers have sunk putts that are well over six feet only to be trumped by another golfer getting inside them for closest to the pin.

Well, after many incantations to Coventina, the Celtic Goddess of Wisdom (among other duties) and receiving her expedience, the Thursday Golf Committee has decided to modify the program as follows:

- 1) If no one collects the Bonus Bucks on August 31 or before, the program will terminate.
- 2) The escrowed Bonus Bucks will then be divided between those golfers whose birdies were trumped. The split will be based on the total number of birdies. i.e., the birdie golfers will be given credit for each time they were trumped.

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

-Chuck Travers



Bowling Report

The bowling season starts September 11th at 9:00 A.M.

Each year over 50 members and applicants enjoy bowling for dollars at the Thunderbird Lanes in Troy. Our new season starts Monday morning, September 11th at 9:00 A.M. Last year's bowlers are automatically enrolled unless we are advised otherwise. New bowlers as either substitutes or team members are most welcome. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for those who are interested.

The season ends with a banquet at Farinas Banquet Center in Berkley where over \$3,500 are distributed to all bowlers.

The average age of our bowlers is 76 and the average score is 135. If by chance you haven't bowled for over 20 years, you need not be concerned. Over 90% of our bowlers are enjoying bowling after long lay-offs.

For more information call Dennis Kozak at 248.644.8934.

-Dennis Kozak



SMC Picnic





Senior Men's Club Picnic

The Senior Men's Club picnic was held on August 4th under a beautiful blue sky. Lawn games, bridge, entertainment and other activities were enjoyed at the remodeled Beverly Park. Ray's Ice Cream Company was most generous with the donation of ice cream for the luncheon dessert.

The members of the Club wish to thank the following list of restaurants who donated dining certificates as door prizes for the picnic:

220 Merrill Street Restaurant
Alban's Restaurant
Beverly Hills Grille
Big Rock Chop House
Brady's Tavern
Dick O'Dow's
Great Harvest Bread Company
The Heathers Club
McCormick and Schmick's Seafood
Peabody's Restaurant
Somerset Inn
Sweet Lorraine's
The Community House

-Al Wood

-Photos by John Dudash and Bill Shaffmaster

Picture Perfect Picnic

A beautiful summer day and music from the forties provided the background for another successful August picnic for the Senior Men's Club. The large pavilion at Beverly Hills Park provided shelter from the sun while box lunches were served with gallons of lemonade. Chocolate sundaes with Ray's Ice Cream are always a part of the tradition.

A popular attraction was the display of vintage cars driven to the park by members and their friends. Of special interest was a 1909 Model T Touring car, complete with acetylene head lamps, owned by Rich Hofmann. Bill Bettisworth arrived in a 1931 Model A Roadster, and Bob Jordan rolled up in his 1929 Model A Tudor. Guests contributing to the display were Don Nichols with his 1930 Model A Tudor, and Don Wakesfield with his 1919 Model T Touring car. We appreciate the generosity of these men in

sharing their authentic antique cars depicting Detroit's early automotive history.

Twenty-one lucky picnickers had their names drawn for door prizes. Tom Waffen won the

top prize of 18 holes of golf with a cart for four and use of the dining room for a year for one at The Heathers Club. The merchants who supplied the other valuable gift certificates are

listed elsewhere in this issue of *The Reminder*.

Next year will be the fiftieth consecutive year of the summer picnic. It's one of our most popular activities of the SMC. You won't want to miss it on the first Friday of August 2007.

-Roy Halmhuber



Departures

Bob Hadley, Photographer, Artist, Train Enthusiast

Once again death has dealt a severe blow to the Senior Men's Club. Bob Hadley, a life member, joined the club July 17, 1981, passed away June 25, 2006.

Bob Hadley was one of the Mighty Oaks, the old guard of our Club. He was one of the group of men who were the backbone of the Senior Men and strengthened the Club in all its activities.

Bob served on many committees, was the Club's outstanding photographer, painted most of the signs and posters utilized for all the activities, served on the staff of *The Reminder* and received the "Outstanding Service Award" in 1991. He was active in bowling and golf and one of his greatest accomplishments was the "Passing of the Jug." Bob carried the "Amazing Jug" that is passed annually for contributions for the Oakland County Children's Village, to all members attending the Friday meeting designated as the collection day.

Bob had many varied interests. He loved trains and has many excellent photos of some of the world's great trains. As a member of the Birmingham Area Senior Coordinating Council (BASCC) he was named the "Distinguished Senior Citizen of the Year" in 1997 and served on the BASCC Board of Directors.

Bob, we will miss you but maybe as you take pictures of heaven you will find a way to send them to us.

-Bill Reilly

Past President Bert Henderson

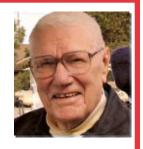
Recent months have not been kind to the Senior Men's Club, and, particularly to our Past Presidents. This issue of *The Reminder* notes the passing of Past Presidents John Spomer and John Caldwell. We lost Carver Wood in April.

Now we learn that Milton (Bert)
Henderson, who was President in 1989,
passed away in late July. Bert became a
member in 1980, was elected and served
most capably in 1989 and became a life
member in 1998. After his presidency he
continued as a very active member, serving
on the policy and other committees. He
was an enthusiastic and excellent bowler
through 2003. Health problems limited his
Club activities since then. His presence and
counsel will be missed.

-Dick Harper

Goodbye John

John Spomer, Past President of the Senior Men's Club, passed away July 13, 2006 in the state of Missouri. John was ninety eight years old and led a very active life.



He joined the Men's Club in 1978, was President in 1987 and received the outstanding service award in 1999. John was a life member and at the time of his death, he was the oldest life member (Golden Oldie) in the Senior Men's Club. He was an excellent president, who started the annual collection for the Oakland County Children's Village and was on the golf committee for many years where he did an outstanding job. In addition, he served many years on the nominating committee and worked on the procedure manual.

John served four years in the army during World War II and attained the rank of captain in the Medical Service Corps. He was the personnel director of McCloskey General Hospital in England during his service time.

He worked for J. L. Hudson for forty seven years and became the senior buyer for the sporting goods department. He was elected director of the National Sporting Goods Association 1970-1972.

Once again, the Senior Men's Club has lost a member who was part of the group, which years ago worked diligently and aggressively to make the Senior Men's Club as we know it today. John Spomer will always be remembered as a loyal friend and one who loved the Senior Men's Club.

The Village and the Jug

Most of us are familiar with the "Magic Jug," the Oakland County Children's Village and "John's Kids," after all we've been doing this since 1983. But let's review this project especially for our newer members and applicants.

Once a year we pass the jug for contributions for the kids at Oakland County Children's Village. The Village houses minors who have run afoul of the law or have been abandoned or abused. This is our only solicitation except our support for The Community House annual fund drive.

Yes, the county funds the Village, but there are a lot of needs for the kids that would fall through the cracks if it were not for the generosity of the SMC of Birmingham.

On Friday, September 29, 2006 Sherm Vine will pass around the "Magic Jug." It's magic of course because it will hold as many large checks and bills as it does \$1 bills. We hope to meet our goal of \$6,800. Last year you great guys gave \$6,764. That \$6,800 will give Greg Alessi, Special Project Coordinator at the Village the money needed for the "extras" – sports events, field trips, sports equipment and clothes.

Please keep in mind that these are our kids, Oakland County kids. Most of them are at the Village through no fault of their own. Please also keep in mind that your gifts are fully tax deductible and every cent goes to the kids – there are no administrative

expenses. If you will not be with us on the 29th, please send a generous check to Phil Werner,

6810 Orinoco Circle, Bloomfield, MI 48301. Make the check payable to Oakland County Children's Village.

Also please remember that the late John Spomer chaired this event for 11 years. We can no longer hear his voice, but I'll bet that he'll be watching!...and thank you for your support.

-Phil Werner

Volunteers Needed

The Volunteer Department at The Community House appreciates the support of its sponsored groups for House activities throughout the year. We encourage members of the Senior Men's club to participate at any level they feel comfortable with. The following events for the remainder of 2006 require many volunteers to ensure their success:

Birmingham House Tour, September 19

Taste of the Vines Dinner and Auction, October 5

OUR TOWN Art Show and Sale, October 19-20

Winter Holiday Gift Shop, November 29- December 2

Children Only Holiday Shop, November 29- December 2

For more information about what each event entails, or to volunteer, please call or email: Sara Levitsky, Volunteer Coordinator, (248) 594-6407 or Saral@communityhouse.com.

-Bob Pullar

This Just In

The famous Olympic skier Picabo Street (pronounced Pee-Ka-Boo) is not just an athlete, she is now a nurse currently working in the intensive care unit of a large metropolitan hospital. She is not permitted to answer the hospital telephones any longer. It caused too much confusion when she would answer the phone and say, "Picabo, I.C.U."

-Augustine L. Perrotta

Tips on Preparing for a SMCB Special Event

The SMC Special Events Committee programs are proving increasingly popular. Events are selected on your committee's best assessment of the activities most likely to interest SMC members and applicants.

Restaurant service limitations, venue capacity and rules determine the permissible size of event participation. Transportation for most events is by bus. The bus capacity is 56 persons. Additional buses may be rented, based on member interest in the event.

Each member or applicant may purchase two tickets, one for himself and one for a companion. When all available tickets have been sold, a WAITING LIST will be created. The number of tickets (one or two) MUST be indicated on the waiting list. If ticket sales fall short of expectation, participation will be opened to members' and applicants' guests.

When the committee determines a heavy event demand, the chairman of special events and the committee members directly involved in each particular event may pre-purchase two tickets each. All other special events committee members will follow the general purchasing rules.

Numbers for ticket sales priority will be distributed starting at 8:30 A.M. Ticket sales start at 9:15 A.M. on those days publicized in *The Reminder* and at regular meeting announcements. The preferred practice is for each member or applicant to purchase his own tickets. Members unable to attend the meetings when tickets are on sale should seek a surrogate to buy their two tickets.

Tickets are issued only upon receipt of the total cash amount, or a properly filled out check. To speed ticket selling, checks should be made out in advance of approaching the ticket table. Checks should be made payable to SMCB.

Cancellations: members who have purchased tickets and cannot use them will be given the name of the SMCB member next on the WAITING LIST. It is the responsibility of those members to arrange for exchange of tickets and the transfer of checks. The events committee cannot, for reasons of fixed financial obligations, refund money, except in instances where the event co-chairmen determines that circumstances are truly extraordinary.

Great effort is made to organize events so that they are offered at the lowest possible price. Your cooperation in planning your event participation carefully will make it easier to control event prices, and for fellow SMCB members to enjoy the activity.

Oliver!

Continued from page 3

numbers will be distributed for those who desire tickets (similar to a deli counter).

Come and join the 56 lucky people who will attend our annual journey to the charm and enchantment of Canada's Stratford on the Avon. The production has already received rave reviews, and to find out why, just ask somebody (John Zabriskie, for example) who has already been lucky enough to get a ticket earlier this season.

Oliver, the young orphan, falls into the hands of a gang of child pickpockets run by the sinister Fagin and the brutal accomplice, Bill Sikes, It is Sikes girlfriend, Nancy, that ultimately helps define the fate of Oliver rather than the efforts of the philanthropic Mr. Brownlow.

Come join us for a full day of enjoying sightseeing, fellowship, good food, great entertainment and a preview of the fall color season.

Before your matinee performance, we will again have a delicious buffet lunch with a choice of at least three different entrees. The setting will be the delightful Dining Room on the Green overlooking the golf course at the beautiful Stratford Country Club. We will also have a chocolate-shop stop and snacks on the way home.

Tickets are priced at \$85.00. Compare this price to any similar itinerary offered by other agencies and realize what a bargain it is. At the time of purchasing your ticket(s) please have your check ready, payable to "SMCB!" The bus will leave the parking lot promptly at 8:15 A.M. and return approximately 9:00 P.M.

-John Ellis, Bob Gualdoni and Roger Struck

Save The Date!

October 10 for Stratford's musical presentation of *Oliver!*

Regarding Meetings

50th Anniversary Committee Report

Plans for celebrating the Senior Men's Club's 50th Anniversary have continued under development during summer months. Major planned elements are:

- * A special benefit performance of "GYPSY" will be held at the Village Players on November 15. Details on this program and ticket availability will announced soon.
- * Development of a unique film documenting Club history, activities and accomplishments is underway. Completion is targeted for mid-December.
- * May 2007 is our targeted celebration month. Friday meetings will feature selected high profile speakers, plus a "retrospective" look at Club history.
- * A celebration banquet for members, applicants and wives is tentatively planned at the San Marino Club on May 15, 2007. This site will accommodate the anticipated strong turnout. A special speaker will be on the program.

-Dick Harper

Dues Reminder

Dues must be paid by January 1, 2007. Amount of dues

is as follows:

Active \$35 Associate \$15 Member on Leave \$15 Applicant \$20

Checks may be made payable to SMCB and may be paid at the regular meetings or mailed to

Senior Men's Club Dues The Community House 380 South Bates Street Birmingham, MI 48009

> -Warren Spatz Finance Committee

Think About It!

Plan to stay after lunch for an extra hour on Friday. Discussion Group meetings are held from 12:45 until 1:30 P.M. and are open to all SMC members, applicants, and guests. The discussion presenters, topics, and dates are listed on the front cover of *The Reminder*.

The first meeting in September will cover considerations for alternate living in the senior years. At the second meeting, you can recall and relive your activities on the 11th day of September 2001. Next we will discuss how to evaluate risks in our investments. The fourth meeting will give us some insight by two performers on the community stage. And finally, we will hear about enjoying travel even though handicapped.

Discussion Group meetings give you the opportunity to join in or simply listen to conversations that provide food for thought. The topics are interesting and you will learn more about them along with your fellow members who are interested in the same topic.

-Irv Poston

Applicant Activity

Applicants who have not yet attended an Applicant Orientation Meeting are invited to do so at The Community House on Friday, September 29, at 9:00 A.M. Invitations with related details are in the mail. If you plan to attend, please let me know ASAP so we can ensure an adequate supply of handouts for all. We hope to see you on September 29.

-John Flintosh Chairman, Applicant Committee

Mystery Lyrics

Congratulations to the music lovers among *Reminder* readerswe received a record number of correct answers to the July mystery lyric challenge. Twenty readers knew that the lines:

"People stop and stare, they don't bother me

For there's nowhere else on earth that I would rather be"

were from the My Fair Lady tune, "On The Street Where You Live." The first to respond after e-mail distribution of *The Reminder* were Bill Sprague, Jerry Heller and John Caldwell. The first after mail distribution were Darrel Mould, Bob Klein, Isabel Himelhoeh (wife of Chuck), and Ray Latovick. We also received correct answers from Dolly Johnson (wife of Bill), and Pat Smith (wife of Dick).

Are you ready for a "change of pace?" Instead of a romantic ballad, how about this old railroad song?

"Listen to the jingle, the rumble and the roar

As she glides along the woodlands, through the hills and by the shore

Hear the mighty rush of the engine, hear that lonesome hobo call"

Can you name that tune? Hint: think Roy Acuff and the Grande Ole Opry.



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CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 19, 2006, 9:30 AM Reminder Deadline: Friday, September 15, 2006

Games

Bowling: Monday, 9:00 AM at Thunderbird Lanes **Bridge:** Tuesday, 9:00 AM and Friday after lunch

Golf: Monday, Lincoln Hills Golf Course Thursday, Springdale Golf Course

Special Events

Oliver! presented in Stratford: Tuesday, October 10, 2006

Group Meetings

Camera: Tuesday, September 12, 2006, 2:00 PM

Computer: Wednesday, September 20, 2006, 3:00 PM

Investment Study: Wednesday, September 13, 2006, 2:45 PM

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

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, Michigan 48009.

Officers for 2006 are: Frank Barnes, president; Bill Johnson, first vice president; Ken Urwiller, second vice president; Bob Pullar, recording secretary; Dave Dinger, corresponding secretary; Bill Minard, treasurer; Bill Sprague, assistant treasurer; William H. Crabtree, parliamentarian; Bob Klein and Riggs Miller, officers at large.

THE REMINDER includes: Chuck Kirkpatrick, editor; Dick Harper, Paul Pentecost, Bill Reilly, Dick Davis, associate editors; John Dudash and Bill Shaffmaster photography; Kate Citrin and Lee Trumbull, computer layout; Bob Jordan, mailing.