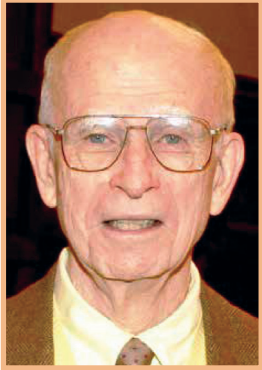


# The Reminder



March 2021

Senior Men's Club, Birmingham, Michigan



## DICK HARPER

### ONE OF MY MANY SMC LIFE MEMBER HEROES

Nearing 95 years young, Reminder Editor Emeritus and Past President Dick Harper continues to display the quiet charm and gentle kindness that exemplifies so many of our cherished SMC Life Members. Ever since meeting him in 2015 when I joined and began working on the Reminder under his leadership, he has been one of my many SMC heroes.

Dick was born in Highland Park, MI. His family moved to Elkins Park, PA, where his father owned a Cadillac/Oldsmobile dealership, and attended grade school. Returning to Michigan, Dick went to Detroit Catholic Central, graduating in 1944. He then began studies at his beloved University of Michigan, but was drafted into the Army following his freshman year. Following basic training, he shipped out in August 1945 to join one of the Japanese invasion forces. Thankfully, the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki triggered a Japanese surrender. Dick was discharged and returned to U of M, receiving both a BBA and MBA, and beginning his fervent allegiance to Wolverines' football.

Dick then joined Chrysler Corporation in Marketing, beginning a successful 38 year career, culminating as Director of Market Planning that led to the development of the still popular mini-van.

Dick then joined Chrysler Corporation in Marketing, beginning a successful 38 year career, culminating as Director of Market Planning that led to the development of the still popular mini-van.

Following his 1988 retirement, having heard about SMC from other Chrysler retirees who were members, Dick attended his first SMC meeting in January 1989, 32 years ago! Welcomed by his Chrysler colleagues and others, Dick applied to become an Applicant - 333rd on the waiting list. Applicants were then limited to attending one meeting per month (although Dick did attend more and was never challenged). He joined the bowling and golf leagues (good bowler/poor golfer), and attended many group meetings, especially Investment Study and Special Events.

After waiting over 6 years as an Applicant, Dick became an Active Member in April 1995, attending nearly every Friday meeting. To that end, he often woke very early Fridays to travel from Traverse City to drive down and attend meetings. In 1996 Dick began his leadership roles with SMC, serving as Chair of the Investment Study Group. He joined the Reminder as a proof reader in 1998, and was named Editor in 2008, serving in that position until 2018, when he became Editor Emeritus. In that position, he continues to provide sage advice to Co-Editor Tim McGee and me. Dick led the Club as President in 2004 and chaired our 50th Anniversary celebration in 2007. He also received the President's Award in 2007 and the Outstanding Service Award in 2012.

Reflecting on SMC, Dick stated, "The SMC has been and continues to be a most important element of my life, right after my family and church. Club membership and the camaraderie of belonging have kept me active and involved. The Club friendships I have enjoyed and continue to experience are most important to my sense of wellbeing, especially during these Covid-19 pandemic times."

On behalf of the entire Club, please join me in thanking for his over three decade career of service. May we all endeavor to emulate one of my many SMC Life Member heroes.

*Maynard Timm*

- 1 Dick Harper
- 2 John MacInnes, Life Member Induction
- 3 Special Event
- 4 Groups
- 5 Groups, continued Robert Sparks Update
- 6 Name That Tune, Sports Trivia

## MARCH PROGRAMS

**CHAIR: PAUL KOVCESES**

- 05..... Gail Alpert, Chairman and President of FIRST in Michigan, "FIRST Robotics: Driving the Future STEM Workforce"
- 12..... Terry Connolly, Board Member, Pontiac Transportation Museum "Pontiac's Transportation Legacy"
- 19..... Jocelyn Benson, Secretary of State, Michigan "Democracy Marches Onward"
- 26..... Shannon Washburn, CEO, Shinola "Shinola: Determined to Become the Next Great American Brand"

Fellowship • Shared Activities • Community Service

## IN PRAISE OF JOHN MacINNES

John Macinnes died in January. I did not know John well and he was not a close friend, but he affected my life and he was a model for the Senior Men's Club.

John spoke at a Discussion Group several years ago on the subject of Alzheimer's Disease. A doctor explained what we know of the disease medically. John spoke next. I assumed that he would talk about his wife Donna or a close friend or relative who had Alzheimer's. Instead, John's opening statement was that he had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's a few years previous. He had our full attention as he opened himself up.

He spoke about his early symptoms, how the disease affected his life, and his involvement in Alzheimer's Associations nationally and in Michigan. John was calm and never faltered. He answered our questions and gave us leads to publications and organizations for even more information. John gave us hope, especially important to those at the meeting who had relatives or friends with Alzheimer's.

John was a loving and caring person. He truly exemplified the spirit of our Club.

*Mike Clement*

[alz.org/donate](https://alz.org/donate)

Alzheimer's Association is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible. Our federal tax ID number is 13-3039601. Home Office: 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17 Chicago, IL 60601



## LIFE MEMBER INDUCTION

As the first Vice President of the Senior Men's Club it is one of my pleasant duties to induct Life Members. This is a recognition of any active member who has reached eighty-five years of age and has been a member for 10 consecutive years. The life member is no longer required to pay dues however many continue to do so. Two members were inducted to Life Membership in the month of January.



### WILLIAM KELLER

William Keller was inducted as a SMC Life member on January 18, 2021. William was born on January 3, 1936 and raised in Windberg, Pennsylvania where he went to high school. He then completed his Bachelor and Master's degree in Education from Wayne State University. He served as a teacher in the Royal Oak Public Schools for 38 years and retired in 1996.

He has been SMC member since January 3, 1997. He is a contract bridge player and a member of Stonycroft Hills Golf club. He is an active player with the SMC golf group.

He is married to his wife Barbara for 63 years and lives in Bloomfield Hills. He has 4 children, 10 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. He is a member of the Kirk in the Hills church in Bloomfield Hills.

### PHILLIP BUCCINI, JR.

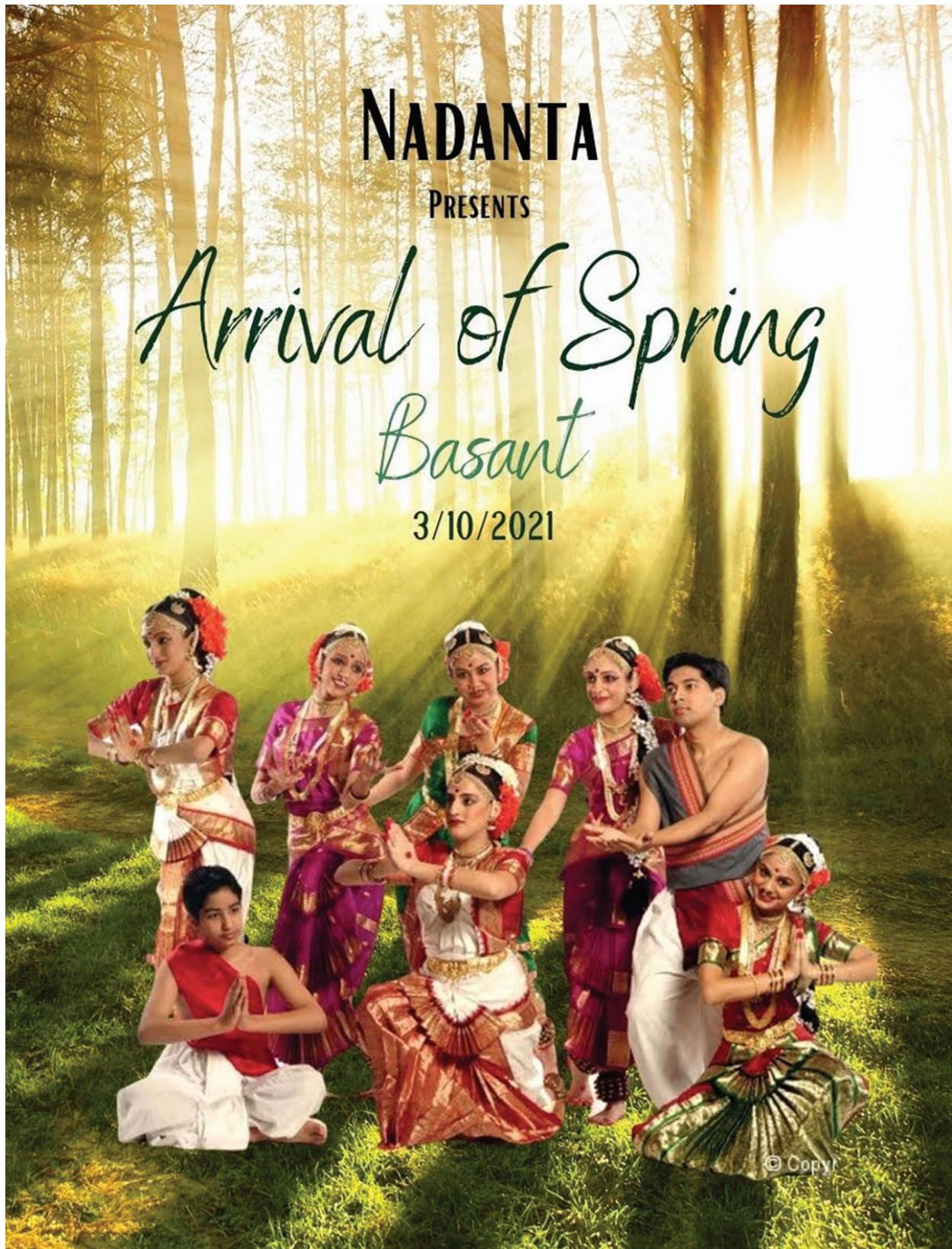
Phillip Buccini was inducted as a SMC Life member on January 29, 2021. Phil was born on January 22, 1936 and raised in Morgantown, West Virginia. He went to Pershing High School in the city of Detroit. He served in the US Army in Seattle, Washington for two years from 1957-1959. He worked for UPS for 29 years and retired in 1999.



He has been an SMC member since January 7, 2000. He is a champion bowler and excellent golfer in our senior men's group.

He is married to his wife Margaret Ann for 59 years and lives in Birmingham. They have 2 children and 5 grandchildren. He is a member of the Birmingham First United Methodist Church.

*Swarn Rajpal*



Ms. Chauladevi Thacker will conduct a Zoom presentation of Indian Dance at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, March 10 as part of our objective to promote arts and cultural programs for the members of the Senior Men's Club. The presentation and Question-and-Answer session will last about 90 minutes.

The featured organization, Nadanta, is a non-profit artistic and cultural organization devoted to the preservation and promotion of the art and culture of the Indian subcontinent. Nadanta's performers will explore the full spectrum of Indian dance from the classical elegance of Bharat Natyam and colorful exuberance of folk pieces to the thoroughly contemporary expression of modern creative choreography to celebrate Basant, the arrival of spring in India.

Club members will be sent sign-in instructions in early March.

# Groups



## Classic Movie Group

The Classic Movie Group feature film for March will be “Quigley Down Under” (1990) (1 hour and 59 minutes) starring Tom Selleck.

Quigley is an American cowboy living in the 1860s; who owns a specially modified rifle which he can shoot very accurately over long distances. Because of his talents with his rifle, he is recruited to work in Australia. However, when Quigley arrives in Australia, the job is not quite what he had in mind. He then becomes a target himself when he refuses the immoral assignment from a corrupt landowner.

The script was first optioned, in 1979, for Steve McQueen but unfortunately, he had passed away before filming could begin. Selleck, who was at the height of his career at the time, agreed to take the lead role and the movie was completed and released in 1990. The movie was filmed entirely in Australia.

We will be showing this action-Western movie via Zoom on Monday, March 8, at 1:00 PM. So, put this date on your calendar, and join us then for what promises to be an entertaining afternoon at the movies. Also, watch for our access information eBlast as we near the show date.

Robert Stark

### CLASSIC MOVIE GROUP SCHEDULE FOR 2021:

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Mar. 8   | Robert Sparks - <i>Quigley Down Under</i> (1990) 119 min       |
| April 12 | Waller Harris - <i>Chinatown</i> (1974) 130 min                |
| May 10   | Joel Adelman - <i>All the Kings Men</i> (1949) 110 min         |
| June 14  | Robert Sparks - <i>Red Tails</i> (2012) 125 min                |
| July 12  | Fred Hansz - <i>Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?</i> (2000) 107 min |
| Aug. 9   | Irv Poston - <i>Avatar</i> (2009) 162 min                      |
| Sept. 13 | John Maten - <i>Mr Majestyk</i> (1974) 103 min                 |
| Oct. 11  | Irv Poston - <i>Chicago</i> (2002) 113 mi                      |
| Nov. 8   | Fred Hansz - <i>Saving Private Ryan</i> (1998) 169 min         |
| Dec. 13  | Waller Harris - <i>Holiday Inn</i> (1942) 104 min              |

All Shows are presented via ZOOM at 1:00 PM



## Reading Groups

Attendance at the both the Monday and Wednesday book groups has continued to grow. More than 30 attended the discussion of Guy Stern's autobiography. Thanks to Malcolm Hendy for arranging for Guy to join us for that discussion. 26 members participated in the recent discussion of Isabel Wilkerson's *Caste*.

In March we'll discuss two very different works of non-fiction – one telling the remarkable American story of the Wright brothers and the other helping us understand the mysteries of the universe.

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

**Wednesday, March 3 at 10:30 AM:** *The Wright Brothers* by David McCullough. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2015.

This book won many “best book” awards in 2015. It is an amazing story of two brothers who despite no education beyond high school and virtually no external funding, were able to change the course of world history. Roger Lowenstein's review in the Wall Street Journal says it all: “Mr. McCullough is in his element writing about seemingly ordinary folk steeped in the cardinal American virtues—self-reliance and can-do resourcefulness.”

This discussion will be led by Bob Maxfield

**Monday, March 15 at 3:00 PM:** *Until the End of Time* by Brian Greene. New York: Knopf, 2020.

Brian Greene is a professor of physics and mathematics and Director of Columbia University's Center of Theoretical Physics. In this, his latest book, Dr. Green goes way beyond the typical world of a physicist. Instead he seeks to help humans understand the search for meaning and purpose and the interaction of mind and matter in order to create a unified theory of how things work.

In his NY Times Review Dennis Overbye wrote, “*Until the End of Time* is encyclopedic in its ambition and its erudition, often heartbreaking . . . A love letter to the ephemeral cosmic moment when everything is possible.”

Bob Frank will lead this discussion.

**Looking ahead to April:**

April 7 at 10:30 AM: *Autonomy: The Quest to Build the Driverless Car* by Lawrence Burns (Led by Perry Driggs)

April 19 at 3:00 PM: *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict (led by Paul Lieberman)

Bob Maxfield

# Groups, continued



## Investment Study Group

The next Investment Group meeting will be Wednesday March 10 at 2:45 PM. Scott Horsburgh CFA, Portfolio Manager, Provident Investment Management will be our speaker. Provident is a top-rated Financial Advisor. Scott is a first-time Speaker. He is recommended by a SMC member based many years of successful investment results Scott will discuss "Why stocks are still the Best Investment." "What? Have you seen how poorly the economy is doing?" "I'm not investing in this political environment!" "GameStop and AMC prove the market is rigged!" Every year there are good reasons to avoid the stock market, yet there is no better way to build wealth than with stocks. Hear a market assessment by a 35 year veteran investor and keep your pen handy for some hot tips!

Jerry Peck extended his lead in the Stock Game with a 235% gain in 4 months. Jerry Stribbell leaped into 2nd with a 214% gain. David Knipper, Art Lewry and Dave Ehlen follow closely. The best stock, Sunworks, is up 461%. GREED has been really good. Can it continue? Join us on Zoom. Bring a friend.

*George Miller*



## Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group will have a Zoom Meeting on Monday, March 1st at 2:00 PM.

The topic will be Ireland in which those with Irish descent can share their heritage.

Dennis Callan will be one of the presenters sharing his Irish family history.

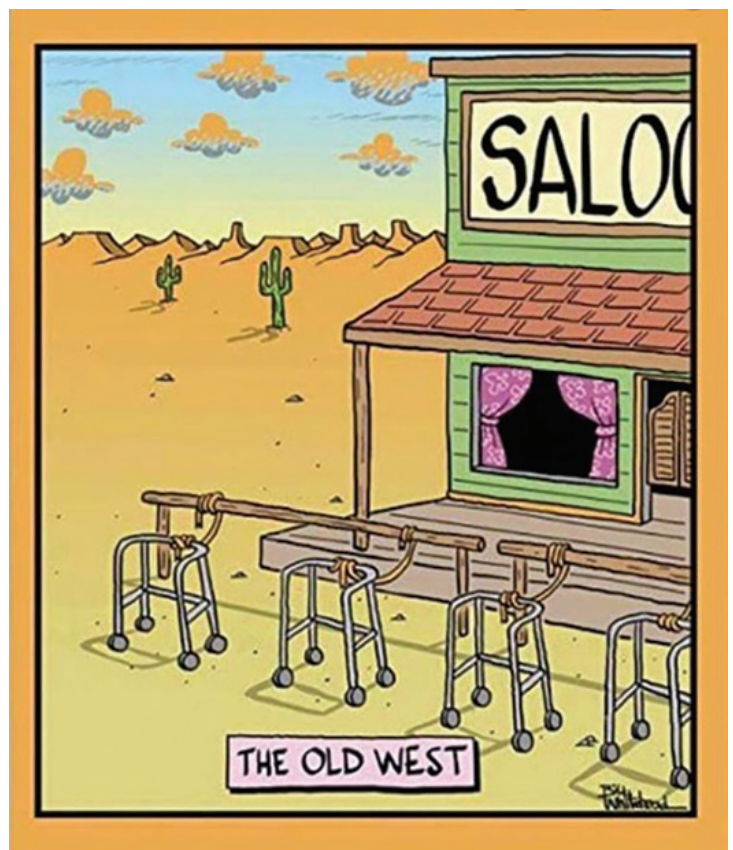
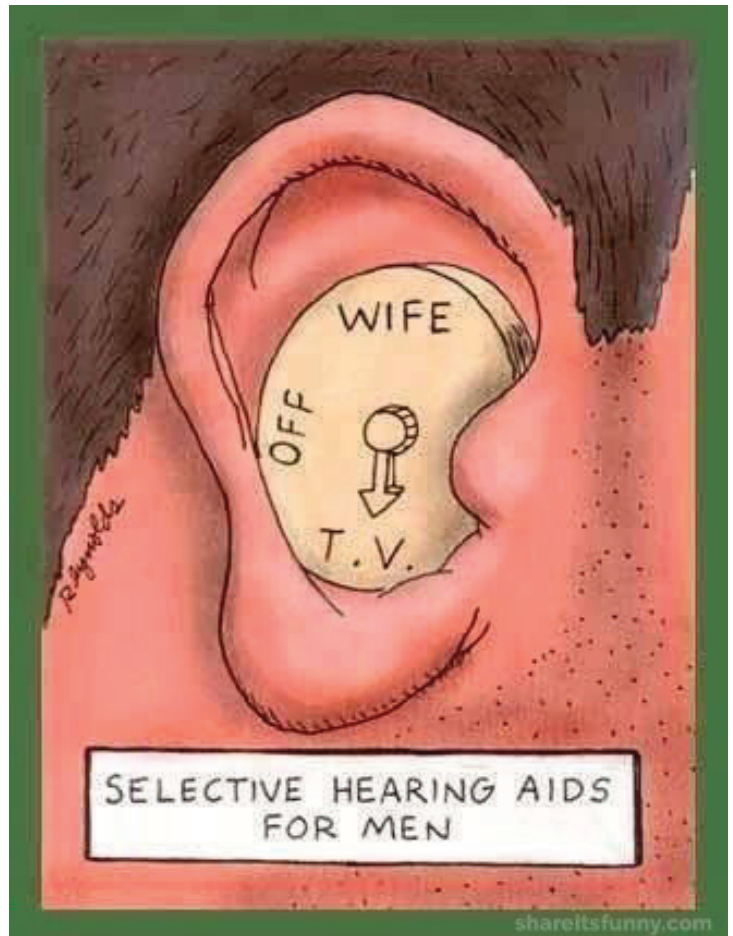
The Zoom meeting address will be published on Eblast the week of February 21, 2021.

*Dave Bakos*

### MEMBER UPDATE!

My research partner and I were honored to have our research manuscript published in the Winter 2020 edition of *Transformative Dialogues*, a peer-reviewed, Canadian teaching and learning journal. The title of our paper is "The Faculty-Student Connection in the Online Classroom and Its Impact on Student Evaluations of Teaching." The research manuscript was based 23 online classes at the University of Phoenix that I had recently instructed over a 2-1/2 year period.

*Robert Sparks*  
sparks7955@comcast.net  
248-561-0646





## MYSTERY LYRICS

We may have set a record – no fewer than eleven members had the answer to last month's lyric challenge. We asked if you knew the song with these lines:

*“People stop and stare, they don't bother me  
For there's nowhere else on earth that I would  
rather be”*

We got the answer – “On The Street Where You Live” – from first-timers like Mike Albright, Dave Baumhart and Mike Clement and from these more frequent contributors – Ray Buratto, Charlie Clippert, Denny Winowiecki, Joel Adelman, Fred Hansz, Chuck O'Connell, Julian Prince and Dan Bonbrisco. Congratulations to all these Broadway music and My Fair Lady fans!

This month we are going to possibly the opposite end of the music spectrum with an R & R song which includes these lines:

*“Why can't you be true?  
You just started back doing the things you used  
to do”*

Can you name that tune (and performer)?

*Dick Harper*

## SPORTS TRIVIA

Last month we asked if you could remember what Tiger pitcher Dizzy Trout carried in a rear pocket on days he pitched. Several Tiger fans with long memories knew it was a red bandana (which Dizzy used to wipe his glasses on warmer days). Congratulations to Ray Buratto, Bud Feeley (first time hearing from Bud), Tom Decorte, Julian Prince, Lynn Evans (who knows just about all Tiger trivia), and Don Bonbrisco.

Only one major leaguer has won the high batting average award in both the American and National League during his career. Can you name him? Vague hint of likely no help – he went to Brother Rice High School and played for the Tigers for a time.

*Dick Harper*

*RNHArper32@comcast.net*

## 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

Effective July 1, 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, March 9 at 9:30 AM

**Reminder Deadline:** Friday, March 19

**Genealogy Group:** Monday, March 1 at 2:00 PM

**Reading Group A:** Wednesday, March 3 at 10:30 AM

**Classic Movie Group:** Monday, March 8 at 1:00 PM

**Investment Group:** Wednesday, March 10 at 2:45 PM

**Reading Group B:** Monday, March 15 at 3:00 PM

### MEETING RESPONSIBLY IN PERSON:

**Walking Group:** Tuesday & Thursday. Times & locations may vary due to Covid19. For more information, contact Larry Imerman, 248-642-9432

**Bowling** has been resumed at Escape on Mondays at 9:30 AM. New members are welcomed.

**Golf:** Practice continues at the dome (Evolution Sportsplex) on Thursdays from 9:00-11:00 AM. Come and fine tune your game. \$18.00 for all the balls you can hit.

Visit SMC at

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