

The Reminder



December 2019

Senior Men's Club, Birmingham, Michigan

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President's Page -

Twelve months ago you had the faith to elect me as your President for our 62nd year...thank you! The past twelve months have certainly been eventful, but with the support of all of you, we were able to meet every challenge we faced...again, I thank you!

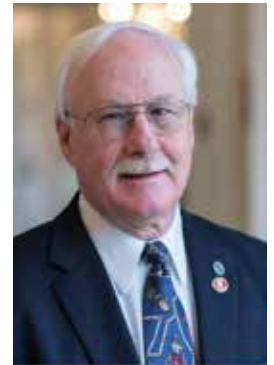
Now I'm going to step down and hand over the reins to Jerry Stribbell (a fellow UD High Alum) and I ask that you give him even greater support for the year ahead. I jokingly advised him that he really should consider calling AT&T to cancel his phone and Comcast to cancel his internet service for the year or else accept his fate that his life is not his own!

By the time this column is published, many of you will be flying south with the wind; but don't forget us Eskimos suffering in our Michigan igloos...keep in touch...read the Reminder on line and let us know how you are doing! Last winter was the first time in 50+ years that I hunkered down for a cold winter's nap! But not next year...with the office of president in my rearview mirror, I too will travel to warmer climes with golf bag in tow! Maybe I'll see you if you are in Savannah, Orlando, Las Vegas or Honolulu!

On a serious note, I was reviewing the meeting agendas for the year to remember that we paused for a Moment of Silence for 18 members and 9 family members that passed. Many of the deceased members were Life Members that had not attended a Friday meeting for some time. Every Friday as I stand at the podium and gaze at the faces of our members (many of whom have been my mentors), I realize how lucky I am to be alive and able to share a laugh, a cry or a hug with you!

On a happier note, we acknowledged 15 new Life Members this year to join a listing of over 110 Life Members! It's important that we not forget these men and reach out to contact them. Last month, John Reddy, Dick Judy and I visited Life Member Chip Forbes to thank him for his past service to the Senior Men's Club and to just visit and reminisce. We need to do more of this outreach especially during the holiday season when many of our members are alone.

In closing, thank you again for all of your support and have a safe, healthy and enjoyable Christmas and New Year! Semper Fi!



Tim McGee

DECEMBER PROGRAMS

DECEMBER CHAIR: ROGER TIMM

- December 6.....The Jills - Bloomfield Hills High School Chorus
(see page 6)
- December 13Birmingham Seaholm High School Choral Presentation
(see page 7)

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR

Fellowship • Shared Interests • Service

2020 CLUB OFFICER ELECTION

In accordance with our constitution, Past President George Stern announced the nominated slate of Club Officers for 2020 – Jerry Stribbell for President, Maynard Timm for First Vice President, Swarn Rajpal for Second Vice President, Paul Kovceses for Recording Secretary, Larry Imerman for Corresponding Secretary, Leonard Borman for Treasurer, John Groves for Assistant Treasurer, Posh Gulati & Martin Rowell for Officers at Large.

President Tim McGee conducted the formal election. With no floor nominations, the proposed candidates were unanimously elected. Our Club looks forward to a great year led by a strong officer team.

Dick Harper



NEW MEMBERS



Left to right Front Row:

Leonard Borman (Treasurer) Posh Gulati (Officer at Large)

Middle Row: Paul Kovceses (Recording Secretary)

Larry Imerman (Corresponding Secretary)

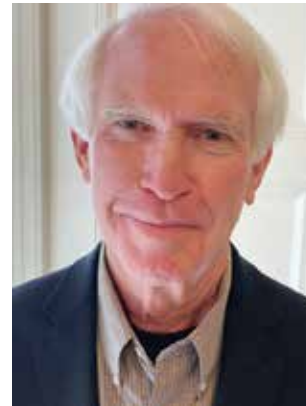
Back Row: Swarn Rajpal (Second Vice President)

Maynard Timm (First Vice President)

Jerry Stribbell (President)

Missing: John Groves (Asst. Treasurer)

Martin Rowell (Officer at Large)



Bill Risk



Bob Hoge

DUES ARE DUE

Treasurer John Marsh and his hard working finance team are accepting payment of member dues for 2020 at Friday Meetings. Alternately, you can use the coupon below to pay by mail.

SMC 2020 DUES COUPON - \$50.00

2020 dues are payable **before** January 1, 2020. A \$10.00 late fee **must** be added for dues paid **after** January 1, 2020. Make checks payable to SMC and pay at a meeting or by mail.

Please use this coupon if

paying by mail and send to:

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

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

PLEASE PRINT

Life Members pay no dues, but may use the coupon to make a voluntary contribution for financial support of our club.



LIFE MEMBERS

The status of Life membership continues to be a fast-growing category in our Club. We are living longer and better, benefitting from active participation in Club activities. One must be a member for at least 10 years and attain the age of 85. One of the traditional benefits of reaching this much respected status is that paying annual dues is no longer required. However, a significant number of our Life Members continue to pay dues on a voluntary basis to support the Club. We are happy to announce the following new SMC Life Members:

Chuck Travers

Chuck was born November 13, 1934 in the small rural town of Mounds, IL where he graduated from high school and then matriculated up the road to Champaign/Urbana and the University of Illinois where he majored in fraternity partying and managed to finish a BS Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He served in the Navy Reserve from 1958-1964 and then began a career with General Electric as the District Sales Manager for Electrical Distribution and the Central Division covering Michigan and Northwest Ohio. He married in 1961 to Sondra and they are blessed with two children and four grandchildren. He has served on the Wednesday Reading Group and most notably as the Chairman for the Games Committee until his stepping aside for medical reasons. Chuck was the recipient of the SMC 2016 Outstanding Service Award. Welcome to the status of Life Member in the Senior Men's Club.

Additional Life Members

- Peterson, Noel L. Born 02-Dec-34
- Tabor, Thomas K. Born 04-Dec-34
- O'Keeffe, Sean C. Born 07-Dec-34



John Reddy, Chip Forbes, Dick Judy

Additional Life Member News:

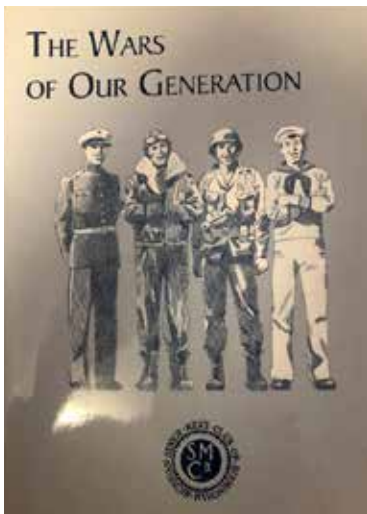
I had the privilege of accompanying Dick Judy and John Reddy last month when we visited 95-year old Life Member Chip Forbes to celebrate his past contributions to the Senior Men's Club. As I wrote last month, we tend to forget those members that have contributed to the legacy of the SMC and who are unable to attend regular Friday meetings. I asked for some of our current active life members to seek out their old pals and tell them that they are not forgotten. Our visit to Chip was the first of many more I hope to report on.

Chip was the impetus to create a lasting remembrance of our members that served in World War II and Korea when he and his loyal staff assembled stories from 86 members and published "The Wars of Our Generation" and then a supplement "The Way We Were" a wars photo album.

I was enthralled hearing Dick, John and Chip talk about that labor of love interviewing and compiling the memories of these men and spouses and of their deep love for the Senior Men's Club. Chip now lives in Northville and cannot attend our meetings, but he keeps abreast of the SMC news with the Reminder and contacts with the boys!

Let's not let Chip be the only Life Member we call on or phone! These Life Members are the reason SMC has survived and prospered for 62 years...who's next to pick up a phone and say thank you?

Tim McGee





MEMBER STATUS CHANGES

Carroll DeWeese New Status: Active
 932 Purdy St
 Birmingham, MI 48009-1741
 (248)642-4256
 CarrollDeWeese@comcast.net

Albert S. Beke New Status: Associate
 32900 Colony Hill
 Franklin, MI 48025-1725
 (248)626-5014
 xxxASBxxx@aol.com

Tony DiMaria New Status: Active
 741 Apple Hill Lane
 Rochester Hills, MI 48306-4207
 (248)860-9613
 DiMariaTony@yahoo.com

Bruce MacDonald New Status: Associate
 6834 Oakhill Dr
 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-3240
 (248)772-9785
 BMacD70@macdonaldcomm.com

John M. Kamins New Status: Active
 1315 Stuyvessant Rd
 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-2144
 (248)644-3546
 JMKamins@gmail.com

John D. Meehan New Status: Associate
 656 Chester St
 Birmingham, MI 48009-1437
 (248)224-0225
 John.Meehan@att.net

Kurt H. Neumann New Status: Active
 2168 Yarmouth Rd
 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-2339
 (248)515-2684
 Neumann.Kurt@gmail.com

Dave I. Miller New Status: Associate
 4236 Foxpoint Dr
 West Bloomfield, MI 48323-2610
 (248)855-2011
 dmhomes4detroit@aol.com

Walter H. Oehrlein New Status: Active
 3880 Carriage Rd
 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-1902
 (248)885-0485
 MFOehrlein@aol.com

Raymond Skrzyniarz New Status: Associate
 1243 S. Timberview Trl
 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1564
 (586)980-9023
 RaySky216@yahoo.com

Marc V. Secontine New Status: Active
 242 E. Church St
 Lake Orion, MI 48362-3215
 (248)496-7415
 vsMarc@comcast.net

Mahesh Bhatt New Status: Deceased
 Died 9/27/2019
 Member Since 11/4/2005

Lyle W. Beadle New Status: Associate
 23 Great Pines Dr
 Oxford, MI 48371-3451
 (248)504-7901
 LBeadle4747@gmail.com

William M. Spreitzer New Status: Deceased
 Died 10/1/2019
 Member Since 1/28/2005

Tim McGee

Groups



Reading Groups

As always, everyone is invited to attend either or both of the reading groups in December. Sean O’Keeffe and Swarn Rajpal will lead discussions of the following books. Both are sure to stimulate lively discussions. Both groups will meet at The Community House.

Wednesday, December 4, 10:30 AM – Sean will lead the discussion of *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict (Sourcebooks Landmark, 2016)

This well-regarded historical novel offers us a window into a brilliant, fascinating woman whose light was lost in Einstein’s enormous shadow. It is the story of Einstein’s wife, a brilliant physicist in her own right, whose contribution to the special theory of relativity is hotly debated and may have been inspired by her own profound and very personal insight.

Monday, December 16, 3:00 PM – Swarn will guide us through an examination of *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee (New York: Hatchette Book Group, 2017)

Pachinko is an epic historical novel following a Korean family who eventually migrates to Japan, it is the first novel written for an adult, English-speaking audience about Japanese–Korean culture. The character-driven tale features a large ensemble of characters who become subjected to issues of racism and stereotypes, among other events with historical origins in the 20th-century Korean experiences with Japan.

Pachinko was a 2017 finalist for the National Book Award for fiction. Apple Inc.’s streaming service Apple TV+ has purchased the rights for a television adaptation of the novel.

Bob Maxfield



Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group will meet on Monday, December 2, 2019 at 2:00 PM at The Community House.

In the past year there have been several new trends and suggestions into developing your personal family history. It will be our topic of discussion for the meeting.

We will also take time to plan next year’s topics of interest. All members and their significant others are welcome.

Dave Bakos



Investment Group

We will meet on Wednesday December 11, 2:45 PM at The Community House. Leon LaBrecque, Chief Growth Officer, Sequoia Financial Group (previously LJPR) will present “*Are You Ready For A Recession?*” Leon will share his expertise and provide meaningful insight to better prepare one for an economic slowdown. Leon is an excellent speaker and has frequent national media exposure. He has spoken to the Group for more than 15 years. He has good/useful advice.

Jerry Peck leads the Stock Game with a 27.5% gain in one month. His other entry is 77th (last). Mike Clement is second with a 20% gain. Charles Main, Dave Ladd and Dave Ehlen follow. The best stock was American Axle (local automotive supplier) with a 39.4% gain in one month. GE was up 30.9%. Greed is Good.

George Miller



Classic Movie Group

The Classic Movie Group is pleased to announce that Fred Hansz will present the unforgettable holiday classic “*Going My Way*” (1944) (2 hours and 6 minutes) on December 9, at 1:00 PM in The Community House. In this seven Academy Award winner, that lights up the screen as it warms the heart, Bing Crosby stars as young priest new to an established but financially troubled parish headed up by an old curmudgeonly priest Barry Fitzgerald. It takes some doing for Bing to win over the old superior as well as a gang of street smart boys but the result is a timeless story of patience, compromise and mutual understanding. Full of mesmerizing music including award winning songs and an outstanding performance by Rise Stevens. We will show a beautiful new high definition Blu Ray restoration print of this movie with subtitles on our large eight-foot wide screen. If you are looking for a silver screen experience to put you in a holiday mood and enjoy classic films from the 40’s at their best, then this movie is for you to enjoy. In addition, Fred promises to bring plenty of fresh popcorn to make the movie going experience complete for you, your family and friends.

Fred Hansz

A SPECIAL HOLIDAY CONCERT, DECEMBER 6
Presented By:
THE JILLS, BLOOMFIELD HILLS HIGH SCHOOL'S
ELITE FEMALE VOCAL GROUP

The Jills, an all-female, audition-based choir, was originally formed in 1957 at Bloomfield Hills High School. Since their formation, The Jills have regularly performed throughout Metro Detroit, with the DSO, and made national and international tours. They have received many recognitions and continue to earn the highest scores in Michigan School Vocal Music Association events such as Solo & Ensemble and Choral Festival. Most recently, they performed at Bloomfield Hills High School with The Rackham Choir, Suzanne Acton, Alvin Waddles, and the Three Mo' Tenors! Their Director is Mrs. Jessica Riley, who heads vocal music at BHHS.

This year, The Jills members are:

Ani B'sheart, Lindsey Beck, Victoria Galka, Chloe Gouda, Kristina Gould, Aliza Hashmi, Elena Hirsch, Emelia Johnston, Alexa Klapp, Carmen McCuen, Anna Partalis, Caroline Paddock, Gretchen Peters, Joey Rankin, Claire Schneider, Maya Siegmann, Efiyenia Stavropoulos, Micole Wolfe

On Friday, December 6, The Jills will be performing music from many different genres, including holiday music, secular choral music, Broadway, Popular, Folk Songs, and others.

All are invited to enjoy their superb singing!

Roger Timm



SEAHOLM HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL PRESENTATION - DECEMBER 13

On December 13 the SMCB continues its tradition of concluding the calendar year with a special holiday celebration including recognition of the ladies who do such a great job of serving us at our Friday meetings.

The program will also include a performance by SEA, a pop ensemble comprised of 12 singers that represents some of the hardest working and talented students in Seaholm High School's choir. They have performed pop arrangements, a cappella music, and musical theater. SEA has performed at Birmingham's Winter Markt, many Choir Concerts, and at various sites beyond Birmingham. Many of the singers in SEA have been leads in musicals and continue musical careers after high school. The group ends the year with a cabaret performance that is casted, rehearsed, and performed by the students themselves.

SEA is directed by Mr. John Hummel.

Bob Maxfield

Photos from November 7 Alexander Zonjic Concert



SAVE THE DATE: SENIOR MEN'S CLUB TOUR STAHL'S AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM AND COLLECTION LUNCH AT DIMITRI'S OPA! RESTAURANT CHESTERFIELD, MICHIGAN TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020

In place of the usual January trip to the North American International Auto Show to see the latest vehicles and concepts, the Senior Men's Club will travel back into the history of the industry with a first-ever Club visit to **Stahl's Automobile Collection at Stahl's Automotive Museum** in Chesterfield, Michigan.

Highlights of this significant car collection include a 1948 Tucker, a 1934 Duesenberg and other pre-World War II classics, early race cars, vintage trucks, significant 1950's cars and 1960's muscle cars, and the only Meisenhelder car in existence. Stahl's also features period diner and gas station fixtures and signs, vintage road signs, and an amazing array of working, ornate organs, jukeboxes, player pianos, and other vintage automated music machines.

Before touring Stahl's, Club members will have **lunch at the nearby Dimitri's Opa! Restaurant** at 50875 Gratiot in Chesterfield. The restaurant is known locally for serving good food in a friendly, casual atmosphere. For lunch, a choice can be made from a fixed lunch entrée selection including gyro pita, reuben sandwich, half-pound cheeseburger, chicken breast sandwich, fish sandwich, and Greek salad, with soup, salad or fries and soft drinks.

Travel to and from Stahl's and Dimitri's will be in a familiar Carr's motor coach which will transport the SMC participants to and from the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church at 1669 West Maple Road in Birmingham.

The \$40 ticket price includes lunch and transport. (Museum admission is free.)

Departure time is 11:00 a.m. Arrival back at the church will be at approximately 5:00 p.m.

All SMC members and guests are welcome.

For additional information, contact Pete Hollinshead at 248.835.6657.



MYSTERY LYRICS

We obviously presented readers with a difficult lyric challenge last month with these lines:

“I can’t help it if that doggoned moon above makes me need someone like you to love”. Only these regulars – Ray Buratto, Joel Adelman and Tom McNally recognized the song is “Don’t Blame Me”. John Dueweke knew some of the lines, but not the title.

This month we have an old Louis Armstrong song for you, with these lines:

“ Just because my hair is curly, just because my teeth are pearly”

Can you name that tune?

Dick Harper



SPORTS TRIVIA

Last month we asked you to remember one last announcer team, which we could hear at night across the lake from Cleveland in the late 40’s and early 50’s. These announcers were Jimmy Dudley and Jack Graney (I can hear them now). Ray Buratto, Ken Beres and Joel Adelman must have had good radios, because they knew both names. Lynn Evans remembered Dudley.

One of my favorite baseball statistics deals with an American League pitcher who had a very unusual record one season. He had a really poor overall year with a 5 win and 19 loss record. However, his 5 wins were amazing – including 2 no hitters, plus 2 one-hit games. Can you remember his name?

Dick Harper

The Reminder

A monthly publication of the Senior Men’s Club of Birmingham, which meets on Fridays at 10:30AM at The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, Michigan 48009.

Officers for 2019 are: Timothy S. McGee, President, Gerald W. Stribbell, First Vice President, Roger K. Timm, Second Vice President, Maynard L. Timm, Recording Secretary, Swarn G. Rajpal, Corresponding Secretary, John C. Marsh, Treasurer, John P. Groves, James E. Bayson and Richard E. Shirley, Assistant Treasurers, David N. Bakos and Clifford R. Snedeker, Officers at Large.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, Editor Emeritus; Jay Kafarski, Publisher; Maynard Timm Co-Editor; John Flintosh Co-Editor; Tom Booth, Gene Markel and Roger Timm, Photography; Bob Jordan, Mailing.

Senior Men’s Club of Birmingham
380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, MI 48009



Club Dates to Remember

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 10, 9:30 AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, December 6

Bowling: Mondays at 10:00 AM at Escape Lanes
Wednesdays, 10:00 AM at Escape Lanes (practice)

Bridge: Fridays after lunch

Special Events

Holiday Party: Tuesday, December 10, 5:30 PM at San Marino Club

Stahl’s Auto Museum & Collection Tour: Tuesday, January 21

Genealogy Group: Monday, December 2, 2:00 PM

Reading Group A: Wednesday, December 4, 10:30 AM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, December 9, 1:00 PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, December 11, 2:45 PM

Reading Group B: Monday, December 16, 3: 00 PM

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

Visit SMC at www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com

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