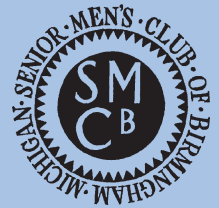


The Reminder

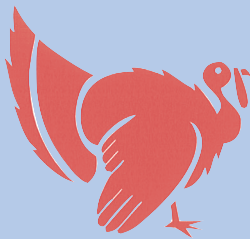
November 2006

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



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Auspicious Occasion

Fifty years is a long time in a person's life. Sometimes when the golden anniversary occurs there are sad memories, but most of the time there will be joyous festivities. So it was when our good friend and active Men's Club member Sherwin Vine, Vice Chairman Sergeant-at-Arms Committee of the Men's Club, was the recipient of his fifty year membership award in the Masonic Fraternity at the September 26, 2006 Awards Banquet at the Birmingham Masonic Temple. Russell H. Fisher, another Men's Club member was honored with a forty year award.



Birmingham Lodge 44 has been a cornerstone of the Birmingham community for over 155 years and very active in the Masonic order.

Congratulations to Sherm and Russell for their years of service to the Masonic order and as excellent examples of our members being active in the community.

—Bill Reilly

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Dick Harper

- 3 Greg Kowalski, Editor, Birmingham Eccentric ... *"What's Happening in Hamtramck and Why Should You Care?"*
- 10 Daniel Howes, Associate Business Editor, Detroit News *"Detroit Auto: A Rebirth or Advanced Stages of a Terminal Disease?"*
- 17 Rabbi Sherwin Wine, Center for New Thinking *"America After The Election—A Non-Partisan Reflection"*
- 24 NO MEETING

DECEMBER PROGRAMS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: Norris Lee

- 1 Al Fishman, Executive Director, Peace Action of Michigan *"What Has Happened Since V-J Day"*

NOVEMBER DISCUSSIONS

NOVEMBER CHAIRMAN: Dale Raar

- 3 Dr. George Ritter, M.D., FACC, FACP, Providence Hospital *"Sparkling the Heart"*
- 10 Tim Hudson, Habitat for Humanity *"An Update on Habitat for Humanity Programs in Detroit"*
- 17 Mark Kelly, SMC member and author *"How to Begin Your Memoirs"*
- 24 NO MEETING

DECEMBER DISCUSSIONS

DECEMBER CHAIRMAN: Maury Allen

- 1 Fred Dye, Michigan Nature Association *"Saving the Wildlands of Michigan"*

Membership News

New Members:



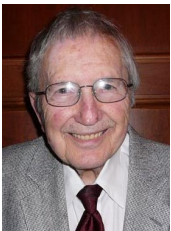
Robert W. Doll, (Faye)
7042 Valleybrook Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48322-4150
248-851-6871
E-mail: RFDoll@earthlink.net
Sponsor: Irvin E. Poston



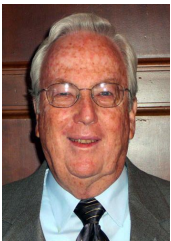
Daniel B. Sutter, (Rena)
4302 Arlington Drive
Royal Oak, MI 48073-6306
248-549-6180
E-mail: DBSrls@msn.com
Sponsor: Charles W. Frederick, Jr.



John G. Howell, (Katherine)
4298 S. Shore Street
Waterford, MI 48328-1157
248-673-9288
Sponsor: Robert F. Lyle



Paul S. Kearns, (Mary)
4126 White Birch Drive
West Bloomfield, MI 48323-2669
248-681-7606
Sponsor: Robert F. Lyle



Paul T. Higgins
1138 Hillpointe Circle
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1514
248-417-9418
E-mail: PTHiggins@comcast.net
Sponsor: Eugene P. Jacoby

Deaths:

Robert C. Engel, joined April 1999
James C. Salrin (LOA), joined March 1999

To Life Member:

Robert N. Elliott, joined January 1995

To Leave of Absence:

Martin J. Reddy
Daniel C. DeGraff

To Associate Member:

Charles F. Clippert

New Address:

Charles Clippert
2045 Cliff Road, #46, Port Austin, MI 48467-9249
248-366-0093

L.H. Barber
41150 Fox Run Road, #615, Novi, MI 48377
248-644-5521 (unchanged)

Albert E. Baur
5801 W. Bethel Avenue, #574, Muncie, IN 47304-9549
765-282-1516

Resigned:

Applicant Alfred Lowenstein

New Applicants:

Charles R. Shafer, (Nellie)
2922 Quail Run Road, Troy, MI 48098-4168
248-646-2568
Sponsor: Roy I. Albert

John A. Thurber, (Barbara)
663 Vinewood Avenue, Birmingham, MI 48009-1310
248-642-3339
E-mail: John_Thurber23@msn.com
Sponsor: Richard A. Suminski

Dropped:

Applicant David M. Preston
Applicant Victor L. Donati
Applicant William J. Stuart
Applicant Benjamin Fles

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

Groups



Investment Group

The next group meeting will be on Wednesday, November 8 at 2:45 PM.

Our speaker will be Paul Traub, Corporate Economist, DaimlerChrysler Corporation. He will present the "Automotive Industry Outlook", which will include a discussion of the current status and future of the automotive industry. Long term sales trends will be forecasted. The nation's economy is still dependent on the automotive industry. Plan to be there!

The stock game began on October 16; the first status report will be available at this meeting.

—George Miller



Camera Group

Steven Volk, a local video editor and owner of Volk Video Services, will

demonstrate for us how old 8 mm, Super 8 and 16 mm film can be transferred to a digital video format or DVD's. He can also use everything from old vinyl music to faded photographs to modern films and stream them together to tell a story using music, captions, voice-overs and special effects to add a personal touch. He can also transfer old home movies to a digital video format.

As Steve has said, "Custom DVD's for individuals are equally rewarding as their business counterparts — maybe more so because they give their memories an encore." With the holiday season approaching, what better gift can we give our children and grandchildren? Please join us on Tuesday, November 14, 2006 at 2:00PM.

—Roger Garvelink

Dress Code Clarification

The necktie may be a tie, a bow tie or a bolo tie.



Computer Group

Our speaker for the November 15 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. The starting time on Wednesday, November 15, is 3:00 PM at The Community House.

—George Nordenholt

Outstanding Service Award

Each year, the Senior Men's Club considers the appropriateness of selecting a member to receive the prestigious Outstanding Service Award.

This award is intended to recognize long standing and meritorious service to the Club by the selected honoree. The Policy Committee is authorized to determine the member (or members) to be honored. The award, if made, is typically given at the end of a calendar year.

Any Club member can recommend a candidate for consideration for the award. Recommendations should include brief supportive rationale and can be delivered to any member of the Policy Committee - Dick Harper (Chairman), Jack McLaughlin (Vice Chairman), Frank Barnes, Don Clark, Ben Ewing, or Phil Werner.

—Dick Harper

The Village and The Jug

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Our total contribution for John's kids at the Oakland County Children's Village is \$6,069. That's not quite the 7K we had hoped to reach, but it can still provide a lot of "extras" for the kids at the Village. We have a whole year to rethink our campaign so perhaps in 2007 we'll make that 7K goal.

Again, many thanks to all of you.

—Phil Werner

Games

The Away Game—5th Annual Ray Swartz Golf Outing



The Senior Men Golfers took their golf game on the road on September 19 to play at the Stonycroft Hills Golf Club. It was a cool, clear, sunny day as the golfers gathered in the clubhouse to renew old friendships with the Stonycroft members and enjoy a great day of golf. This event honors Ray Swartz who was the Thursday Golf Chairman for 22 years and Games Chairman for 12 years.

The joyous day began with the 49 golfers enjoying the excellent continental breakfast and discussing their great golf skills. The tournament started promptly at 9:00 AM and many of the great skills disappeared after the first few golf swings. A gourmet light lunch was served, prizes were awarded and Thursday Golf Chairman Charles Travers thanked Ben Smith and Stonycroft members for their warmth and hospitality. The Stonycroft Hills Club, through the years has always fulfilled the Senior Men's Club desire for a great golf outing.

The winning team was led by Ken Holloway with Pete Good, Bob Babcock, Bob Gualdoni and Bill Spreitzer as his teammates. Closest to the pin was won by Clarence Cheff. Can next year's tournament be far away?

—Bill Reilly

Free Bowling

Yes, we are offering FREE BOWLING on WEDNESDAY MORNINGS to all members and applicants of the Men's Club who register to bowl with us during the month of November. The FREE BOWLING will take place at the Thunderbird Lanes in Troy every Wednesday morning during the month.

After six weeks of bowling the Hoosiers lead all teams (Frank Garland, Bruce Smiley, Don Doty and Tony Dimarco) with 32 points.

High Average bowler is Art Byington with a 167 and high series score is held by Les Lessenthien with a 608 series including a high 230 game.

Team High Series, 1713 was bowled by the Spartans (Sherwin Vine, Dave Dinger, Dennis Kozak and Pete Kass).

Notice to any new bowlers, join us on Wednesdays, you can't beat the price. The time is 9:00 AM, the place is the Thunderbird Lanes in Troy.

—Dennis Kozak

Bridge Report

For play of September 29, 2006 through October 8, 2006: Average attendance; 32 players; 2 sessions – no slams; 20 small slams; 10 grand slams. Grand Slammers were: Bob Davis, Dan Dahl, Jim Kurz, Jim Haidle, Frank Gunkel, Bob Chandler, Phil Werner, Charley Gates, John Seeley, Frank Schmidt.

Many thanks to Dick Suminski, Bob Fuller, Reid McCulloch and Kirb Callam.

—Zack Endress and Don McNair

Thursday Golf

The golfing "Sunshine Soldiers" continued in ever increasing numbers to stay by the warm hearth instead of braving the October winds. On October 12 only eight hearty warriors battled the cold, wind, and rain. Those warriors were Buccini, Converse, Klein, Merryman, Schulenberg, Spry, Suminski, and Vine. We all look forward to the coming of Indian Summer and more great golf and camaraderie in November.

The Community House hosted an outstanding banquet for all golfers. Prime cuts of beef were followed by the awarding of prime golf prizes.

We have not yet been successful in locating a golf dome to hone our swing skills after New Year's Day. We are now checking several area domes. We hope we can get one close to Birmingham. Hit them high, hit them straight, and hit them long.

—Chuck Travers

Help Wanted...A Few Good Men

The Thursday Golf Committee needs three additional members for Thursday Golf Springdale: 2 Starters and 1 Computer Person to record the golf scores, etc. If you would like to help, please call Chuck Travers at 248-642-0255 or Bill Reilly at 248-647-0310.

—Bill Reilly



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: The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, MI 48009, Attention: SMC Dues.

All donations will be gladly accepted.

—Warren Spatz, Finance Committee



SMC Handbook Updates

The 2007 SMC Handbook and Applicant Directory are printed in December from information contained in the Club Database as of November 30, 2006.

If you have moved recently or are about to move, or have a new e-mail or phone number, please communicate your new contact information as soon as possible to the new Database Committee Chair, John M. Steele (JMSteele9027@sbcglobal.net), (248) 332-0936, to ensure it is accurate in the Handbook or Directory. NOTE: Only permanent addresses are included, not seasonal addresses.

—John Steele

Applicant Activity

The final Applicant Orientation Meeting of the year will take place at The Community House on Friday, November 17, at 9:00 AM. Fifty-five applicants have attended these sessions in the past year, citing them as worthwhile and helpful. If you have not yet done so, please do so now.

The annual three meeting applicant attendance requirement must be met by Friday, December 8. Please check your attendance records now. Finally, Applicant Dues for 2007 (\$20) may now be paid at any Friday meeting.

—John Flintosh

50th Anniversary Video Preserving Our History

For the past three months pre-production planning and on location shooting for the 50th Anniversary Video have been progressing smoothly. Television cameras and crews from Bloomfield Cable Television and Program Source International have covered SMC events at ten locations plus several Friday meetings. Twenty committee chairmen narrate a portion of the documentary. SMC historic files were reviewed including 600 or more photos and several hundred newspaper clippings dating back to 1957.



The script is now finished and the recording of all narrators is complete. A special segment of the presentation focuses on "The Wars of Our Generation." We are using Department of Defense documentary footage and battle scenes from the South Pacific, the European Theatre, D-Day and crossing the Rhine to tell the story. The editing of the 25 to 30 minute presentation will be done at Bloomfield Cable and at Program Source International which is estimated to be a six day process.

The completion of the project is targeted for November 15...also plans for making a collectible video DVD are being reviewed. Thanks to everyone who sent in old photos and performed on camera.

—Al Eicher

CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY



Tickets for the Senior Men's Club Christmas Dinner Party will be available starting November 17. Date of the annual event this year is to be Tuesday, December 12, 2006. The program is one of the annual highlight activities sponsored by the Special Events Committee. All members, applicants and their spouses are cordially invited.

The party venue this year will be the San Marino Club. The club is located on the north side of Big Beaver Road just west of John R. in Troy. This new site selection will offer increased seating capacity at ground level with full handicap accessibility, excellent selection and quality of food, ease of parking and the convenience of all banquet facilities.

Tickets will go on sale Friday, November 17 at 9:15 AM and continue on December 1st and 8th. Ticket price will be \$35.00 per person. This price covers the cost of

the entire evening. Snacks and punch are available during the 6:00 PM social hour. (Two optional cash bars will be open during the social period.) The 7:00 PM dinner selection will be Beef Tenderloin or Chicken including choice of soup, salad and rolls, vegetable, dessert and dinner beverage. The San Marino Club is known for its excellent cuisine and fine dining service.

Tickets must be purchased prior to applying for your seating reservation. To speed your ticket purchasing, please make out your checks in advance to: "SMCB" designated for "Christmas Party." You should know the food preference of your guest. Advance seating is eight persons per table. Table selection is by your choice or by random assignment through the seating committee. There are plenty of good seats in the large expansive banquet room this year, but please try to make

all table arrangements as early as possible.

The evening's entertainment will feature the Village Players Musicians performing a special program of music directed by Joan Bowes especially for the Senior Men's Club. This talented seven piece group of vocal and instrumental musicians will entertain you with a presentation of popular selections of Broadway, pop and seasonal Christmas music. Come, enjoy – this special program is for you!

Mark your calendar. Plan to purchase your tickets early. We especially invite you and yours to enjoy with us on Tuesday, December 12 this once-a-year Senior Men's Club Christmas Party!
—Clarke Thornton, Robert Gualdoni,
and Roy Halmhuber
2006 Co-Chairmen

Increase Your Knowledge

All SMC members, applicants, and guests are invited to attend the Discussion Group meetings which are held from 12:45 until 1:30 p.m. on Fridays after lunch. The discussion presenters, topics, and dates are listed on the front cover of *The Reminder*.

For the first meeting in November, we will have a cardiologist who will cover electronics and the heart including pacemakers, defibrillators, and monitoring. At the second meeting, the Detroit Director of Development at Habitat for Humanity will give us an update on the programs in Detroit. The last meeting in November will be presented by one of our own members who will give us some insight into the collecting of memoirs from the past for the future.

Plan to stay after lunch for an extra hour on Friday. These meetings give you the opportunity to join in or simply listen to conversations that provide interesting information and update your mental database.

—Irv Poston

SMC Officer Elections—2007

The Nominating Committee of the Senior Men's Club, appointed by President Frank Barnes, has met and selected member nominees for Club Officer positions for 2007.

In accordance with our constitution, these nominations will be read to the membership and posted at the first meeting in November. A formal election will take place at the second meeting in November. Elected officers will serve one year commencing with the first meeting in January following the election.

The Nominating Committee includes Dick Harper (Chairman), Bob Babcock, Ben Ewing, Roger Struck and Phil Werner.

—Dick Harper

Gypsy, The Musical—

50th Anniversary Kickoff and Fundraiser



GYPSEY, the Tony Award winning musical, is based on the life of stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, who published her memoirs in the same year SMC was officially formed, 1957. Your Events Committee is taking advantage of this incredible coincidence in order to support SMC's 50th Anniversary program expenses.

We have arranged for a special November 15 (Wednesday) presentation of *Gypsy* by the Village Players. The event venue is the Village Players Theatre, 34660 Woodward

Avenue, Birmingham. Tickets, priced at \$30.00, went on sale October 27, and will also be sold on November 3 and 10 until the 200 available seats are sold out. We need to fill the house to fund our May 2007 Anniversary celebration.

Theatre doors will open at 6:40 PM. Early arrivals will be restricted to the lobby. The pre-curtain program starts PROMPTLY at 7:00 PM. The curtain opens at 7:30 PM for the start of the show.

Patty Ward, a well-known performer in the Birmingham area, takes on the role of Rose. *GYPSEY* is the story of Gypsy's mother, "Mama Rose," the ultimate stage mother. More than twenty years ago, during the Village Players' 1985-86 season, Patty played "Dainty June," one of Rose's daughters. It was her first role at Village Players. Now she is the star.

Gypsy's story unfolds during the era when vaudeville was dying and burlesque was born. The story shows how plain little "Louise" became the international star stripper "Gypsy Rose Lee." Director Michael Gravame of Warren, who is known for the elaborate costumes of his musicals, remarks, "Wait until you see the costumes! All of them are called for by the script, and they are fabulous."

Christa Coulter of Royal Oak plays "Louise," the ugly duckling that becomes the burlesque swan. Coulter is challenged to make her backstage costume changes with lightning speed.

GYPSEY is noted for hit songs like "Everything's Coming Up Roses" and "Let Me Entertain You." But one of its sure showstoppers is the less well known, "You've Got to Have a Gimmick" performed by three old-time strippers. Sally Savoie of Bloomfield Township stars as one of them.

Rabbi Sherwin Wine will speak prior to the curtain. This SMC favorite will focus on the valuable characteristics of the club. Cast members will join our Afterglow for hot hors d'oeuvres, petit fours, apple juice, and decaf coffee.

—John Reddy and Bob Gualdoni, event co-chairs

Bob Engel

The recent unfortunate trend of the passing of Club Leaders has continued with the late September death of Bob Engel.

Bob had multiple interest both inside and outside the SMC. His outside interests included big band music, boating, skiing and computers. He was expert in all. Inside our Club, Bob both chaired and/or was a member of many committees, including Membership, Data Base, Computer and Handbook. His involvement in these committees meant that he was the best source of any information anyone could require about the members. Bob never said no to any request or to a challenge about member data.

Incoming presidents (including the undersigned) depended greatly on Bob for ongoing guidance as to the responsibility of identifying chairmen for all Club groups and standing committees. Bob kept this complicated function under complete control. He was honored for the multiplicity of his contributions to our Club with the Outstanding Service Award in 2004.

The phrase "he will be missed and hard to replace" is sometimes overused. In the case of Bob Engel, truer words were never spoken.

—Dick Harper

Oil Shortage?

It's difficult sometimes to understand why we could have an oil shortage in our country. Maybe there's a very simple answer - nobody bothered to check the oil, and we didn't know we were getting low.

How could this be? Well, maybe the answer is geographical.

As we know, our oil is principally located in Alaska, California, Oklahoma and Texas.

Unfortunately, our DIPSTICKS are all in Washington, D.C.

—Anonymous

Creatures of Habit

Yes, we are creatures of habit.

Despite a "No Meeting" listing in *The Reminder*, and several presidential announcements to that effect, at least ten men arrived at The Community House on October 20.

Unfortunately, they will not receive attendance credit.

—Dick Harper

Mystery Lyrics

Ten REMINDER readers correctly identified these lyrics:

*You are the promised kiss of springtime
That makes the lonely winter seem long*

as being from the lovely Kern/
Hammerstein song "All The Things
You Are."

Responding after e-mail distribution were Ben Ewing, Irv Poston, Dave Schneider and Jim Peters. After mail distribution, we received correct answers from John O'Brien, Bob Klein, Janet Harper (wife of Mike), John Parker, Darrell Mould and Shirley Thornton (wife of Clarke).

This month we will try to stump the panel with mystery lyrics suggested by Irv Poston.

*You'll be swell! You'll be great!
Gonna have the whole world on the plate!*

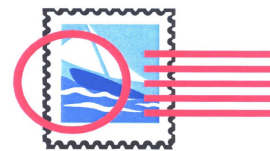
Can you name that tune? Hint: Ethel sang this often.

—Dick Harper



The Reminder

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham
380 S. Bates St. Birmingham, MI 48009



Address Service Requested

CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 14, 2006, 9:30 AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, November 17, 2006

Games

Bowling: Monday, 8:45 AM at Thunderbird Lanes

Bridge: Tuesday, 9:00 AM and Friday after lunch

Golf: Monday and Thursday, Lincoln Hills Golf Course

Special Events

"Gypsy, the Musical": Wednesday, November 15, 2006 at The Village Players

SMC Christmas Party: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 at the San Marino Club

Group Meetings

Camera: Tuesday, November 14, 2006, 2:00 PM

Computer: Wednesday, November 15, 2006, 3:00 PM

Investment Study: Wednesday, November 8, 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; Lee Trumbull, computer layout; Bob Jordan, mailing.