

The Reminder



OCTOBER 2021

Senior Men's Club, Birmingham, Michigan

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9/24/2021 - Senior Men's Club - College Colors Day

TLB.4362

DRESS CODE

Now that we have thankfully returned to in-person Friday meetings at the Iroquois Club, please observe the following dress code:

- Shirt with collar or turtle neck
- Tie (Four-in-hand, Bow or Bolo); encouraged but optional
- Suit or sport coat/blazer with neat slacks

Many thanks,

Maynard Timm

WE ARE BACK!

Now that we are once again meeting in person, we scheduled a college color day for Friday, September 24. Members were encouraged to attend wearing colors of their favorite college or university (maize and blue, green and white or whatever). We also had a tailgate lunch featuring hot dogs and hamburgers.

The event was a notable success, attended by nearly 100 members, with a great many colleges represented. Michigan and Michigan State were predominate, but we also saw the colors of MIT, Notre Dame, Cincinnati, Oakland, Penn St., Adrian, Northwestern, Lawrence Tech, Wooster, Purdue, LSU, Villanova, Kansas, Ohio, Davidson, University of Detroit, Babson, and LaSalle. We possibly missed a few, but saw a lot of smiling faces. Let's plan for next year.

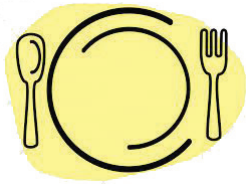
Dick Harper

OCTOBER PROGRAMS

CHAIR: BOB MAXFIELD

- 1 Dr. Wanda Cook-Robinson, Superintendent Oakland Schools (Intermediate School District serving all traditional and charter schools in Oakland County)
"Oakland Schools: Every Student, Every Day"
- 8 Mr. Glenn McIntosh, Sr. Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer; Dr. Joshua Merchant, Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Oakland University
"Oakland University in 2021: Emerging from the Pandemic, Expanding the Campus and Reaching out to the Community and the World."
- 15 Professor Matt Grossmann, Director of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research and Professor Department of Political Science, Michigan State University
"How Social Science Got Better: Overcoming Bias with More Evidence, Diversity, and Self-Reflection"
- 22 Professor Kevin Boyle, William Smith Mason Professor of American History, Northwestern University and author of *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age*
"Arc of Justice in the Age of Black Lives Matter"

Fellowship • Shared Activities • Community Service



OCTOBER LUNCHESES AT THE IROQUOIS CLUB:

Following are the lunch offerings to consider when making your reservations to attend the October in person meetings at The Iroquois Club.

October 1st: (BUFFET)

Rolls & Butter, Michigan Maple Salad, Green Beans Almondine, Rosemary Chicken, Mashed Potatoes w/gravy.
DESSERT: Chocolate Chip Cookies

October 8th: NO MEETING at The Iroquois Club – Zoom ONLY!

October 15th: (BUFFET)

Rolls & Butter, Caesar Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Baked Mostaccioli, Parmesan Cod. DESSERT: Lemon tart

October 22nd: (BUFFET)

Rolls & Butter, Harvest Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Mac N Cheese, Chicken Piccata. DESSERT: Carrot cake

October 29th: (BUFFET)

Pasta Salad, Deli Sandwiches – Club, Prime Rib Rollup, Vegetarian Tomato Mozzarella Sandwiches, Cream of Wild Mushroom Soup, individual bags of potato chips. DESSERT: Chocolate Chip Cookies



DUES REMINDER

It's that time of year again. The Executive Board has decided to increase dues from \$50 to \$70 for the 2022 calendar year. Please make your \$70 check payable to The Senior Men's Club. Complete the coupon below, enclose your dues check and mail to:

The Senior Men's Club/Dues Committee

P.O. Box 1149

Birmingham, MI, 48012

SMC 2022 DUES COUPON - \$70.00

2022 dues are payable *before* January 1, 2022. A \$10.00 late fee *must* be added for dues paid *after* January 1, 2022.

Make checks payable to SMC.

Contact info has changed from 2021 Handbook

To pay by mail, send a check with this coupon to: Senior Men's Club/Dues, P.O. Box 1149, Birmingham, MI 48012

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Life Members pay no dues, but may use the coupon to update their information and make a voluntary contribution.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

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.

Life Member

ELDON CRAWFIS

Today, the candidate for Life Membership is Eldon Crawfis

He joined the Senior Men's club on 6/9/2000. He was born on 8/29/36 and attended the high school in Carey, Ohio. He then went to college at the University of Findlay, Ohio.

Eldon worked at Cooper Tire and Rubber Company and retired after 32 years.

His first wife passed away 14 years ago. Presently he has been married to Carol for 12 years. He has 4 children and 7 grandchildren

He attends Masonic Temple of Birmingham. He has been a Mason for many years and serves in the community church.

Life Member

GEORGE MILLER

Today, the candidate for Life Membership is George A. Miller

He joined SMC in 1998 and was on waiting list for 6 years before becoming an active member. He was the youngest SMC member for five years. His goal is to be the oldest SMC member sometime in the future.

He was the recipient of the SMC Outstanding Service award in 2011. He founded the SMC Legacy Fund in 2007 and was the Chairman of the Investment Study group for 20 Years.

He was born in 1936 on small family farm in Central Pennsylvania in the town of Utahville. This farm was founded 1882 and is still family owned. They got electricity when he was aged 13 years and running water at the age of 19.

He received Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Penn State University in 1958

This was followed by Master Automobile Engineer certificate from Chrysler Institute in 1960 and MBA in Finance from University of Detroit in 1965.

He worked at Chrysler Corp from 1957 to 1991 as Executive Engineer in Engineering and Product Planning. He was the Finance Planner on Dodge Charger, Plymouth Barracuda, Chrysler Cordoba, Chrysler Turbine and others. He spent 10 years with Chrysler Mexico in developing Product Strategy.

He was married to Barbara since 1963 who passed away in 2013 from Angiosarcoma cancer. Subsequently, he married Faye in 2015 who was his high school classmate. His one son Robert, married to Susan, does not have any children. He has 3 daughters who have produced 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren

He has quite a record of charitable contributions. He donated more than \$250,000 to The Community House in Birmingham. TCH named an area after his name, Miller Terrace. He has funded 4 college scholarships benefitting 20+ students and funded 15+ Roth IRA Accounts while helping others

He likes outdoors and has bagged over 70 deer and loves snowmobiling.

Finally, he is the Guru of the stock market and has the slogan Greed is Good.

Mr. President, I present to you George Miller for induction as a SMC Life Member.

Swarn Rajpal

Allure of College Football

Suppose someone from another country, visiting B'ham, stumbled into the Iroquois Club today to see over 100 highly successful retired executives wearing T-shirts, sweat-shirts, or golf shirts adorned with various college football colors and approached any one of us to ask why. The question begs a simple answer—we love college football.

When I first attended a Michigan football game in 1964, I was already rooted in the Maize and Blue. Both my parents had graduated from Michigan and my oldest brother was attending there. Indeed, over 50 years later, I can vividly recall watching Bob Griese, pass, run and kick (yes he also kicked FGs and extra points) to a victory over one of Bump Elliott's many underperforming teams. Listening and watching the Michigan Marching Band play the Victors and Varsity immediately resonated with me and triggered a lifelong love of music, both instrumental and choral. The size of Michigan Stadium, colors of the jerseys, and winged helmet captured my imagination and have done so ever since.

Yet, let's go back to our visitor from abroad. Here's what I would tell him: College football returns each of us to one of the best times in our lives. For the first time, we were not tethered to our parents and lived on our own. We learned that we were not as smart as we thought we were in high school. Moreover, we learned that each of us has unique gifts that were nurtured and strengthened, eventually leading to successful careers. We had more fun and made more friends than ever before. We likely had both our first hangovers after keggers at the Fraternity House and our first romantic experience with its attendant consequences. In a word, we became men.

Ever since, when we see our school play on TV or in the stadium, we harken back to that time in our lives. We see young men in their teens and early 20s and remember when we were that old. We hear the fight song, see the jerseys and helmets and recall our own college days. In short, college football is our way to become young again.

That's my answer. In a few minutes, we will enjoy a delicious lunch. I invite you to share at your tables how you would respond.

Finally, with no apologies to my Spartan or Buckeye friends, Hail to the Victors!

Maynard Timm

SWEEP REVENGE!

How sweet the sound of sweep...sweep...sweep! The Senior Men's Club Golf Team soundly defeated the Grosse Pointe Senior Men in the Annual Grudge Match at Lincoln Hills on Wednesday, September 29. It was sweet revenge after losing the last two matches in 2018 and 2019 as the nine SMC 2-Man teams won all matches scoring an aggregate total of 349 to Grosse Pointes total of 386...a 37 stroke difference.

Furthermore, SMC players swept the best team scoring awards as the teams of #3 - Mark Schumacher and Peter Daly and #8 - Greg McComas and Dan Bonbrisco both scored 36 for nine holes with Team #3 claiming first place due to scoring a birdie on the #1 handicap hole #4. We also swept the Closest to the Pin awards on the three par-3 holes with shots by Ray Bohienstiehl, Kirby Callam and Mark Schumacher.

Winning is sweet, but we know all too well that the winds of fate can change quickly as the Grosse Ponte Senior Men vowed to reclaim the bragging rights next year. So as the season draws to a close, we will relish this victory yet remain prepared for a rematch next year. On to the dome for practice!

- Back by Popular Demand -

THE MEADOW BROOK HALL LUNCH AND HOLIDAY WALK - Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Come join your friends for a wonderful three course luncheon to fortify you as a prelude to the self-guided, docent available, tour of Meadow Brook Hall, the Roaring '20s mansion of Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of John Dodge, and her second husband, Alfred Wilson.

A great opportunity whether you are a first time visitor or someone who visits throughout the year. Lose yourself in this magical display of holiday trees and other festive decorations in the 110 room mansion. Feed your mind's eye with visions of what life here would have been like as the family celebrated in Rochester's equivalent of Downton Abbey, warm and secure inside while winter winds swirled snow across the 1,500 acre estate.

A self-driven visit, lunch will be served at 11:00, followed by the tour at noon.

Don't be left outside in the snow. And don't leave your significant other behind! 45 tickets will be on sale at \$35.00 each, beginning at Friday's meeting, October 15. When they're gone, they're gone.

See Ray Buratto, Tom McNally or John Brice at the weekly Friday meetings.

Ray Buratto

SMC HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE – December 14, 2021

After a break because of COVID in 2020, we will resume holding our Senior Men's Club of Birmingham Holiday Dinner Dance on Tuesday, December 14, at the San Marino Club in Troy, located on the north side of Big Beaver Road between Rochester and John R. Roads. As in 2019, our evening will begin with a social reception at 5:30 PM featuring an anti-pasto table of chips, cheese, and crackers with veggie dip and punch. We will be seated at 6:45 PM for announcements and introductions, followed by dinner at 7 PM and dancing thereafter until 10:15 PM. Free valet parking service will be provided.

Tickets for this event are \$60 per person and will be on sale at our Friday meetings from November 12 through December 10. Tickets are also available directly from Tony DiMarco at 248-643-7368. Reserved group tables are available upon request, and we will be happy to arrange seating for couples and/or singles as well. Tables will accommodate 8-10 persons. Table reservation forms will be available at the Special Events table beginning November 5.

We have invited the members of NEXT and related groups to join us. **Please consider inviting friends and relatives to join you!** We ask that groups reserving tables **please designate one person to collect the ticket fees for the group and make one payment for the table.** Note any special dietary requests on the reservation form.

Dinner will be served family style (all you can eat), with entrées passed around at each table. The menu will include Farfalle Alfredo and a mixed green salad with all entrées. Dinner entrées will include Tenderloin of Beef with mushrooms, Chicken Piccata with capers and artichoke hearts, or baked Orange Roughy with lemon garnish; along with side dishes of peas with mushrooms and buttered redskin potatoes. Dinner will conclude with a raspberry sundae dessert. Gluten-free and vegetarian alternative entrées will be available upon prior request.

A cash bar will be available throughout the evening, with cocktails at \$6, wine at \$5, beer at \$3, and free soft drinks. The San Marino Club will be festively decorated in a Christmas motif with flowers and candles at each table. Dave Tarrow's four-piece stringed instruments group The Waifs (with a vocalist) will entertain us through the evening, opening with a salute to the Armed Forces, followed by a sing-along and seasonal favorites for our listening and dancing pleasure, and the SMC Chorus will serenade us with songs of the season.

This is one of the most popular and successful annual SMC events, so please save the date and make your reservation plans early!

Jim King

MEMORIAL FUND CHANGE - OCT. 15 VOTE

At its August 10, 2021, Executive Board Meeting the Executive Board unanimously passed a motion to change the Procedure Manual as it relates to the Memorial Fund. The changes were deemed to require a vote of the membership of the Club. What follows is information on the Memorial Fund and the rationale for the change.

The Memorial Fund is the single largest financial asset of the Club. It is currently valued at about \$55,000. In May, President Timm and the Executive Committee asked that a subcommittee of the Finance Committee be formed to take a deeper look at the Fund and make recommendations, if appropriate, for its future.

The group was assembled and led by Treasurer Jim Suhay and had Jim Bayson, George Dilgard, Rich McGee, and John Skubik as members. The group reviewed the history of the Memorial Fund, evaluated whether alternatives to the current policy on the fund were appropriate, what those alternatives could be, and made recommendations on the use the Fund going forward.

The Fund was started in or before the 1990's. It was initially placed in bank CD's. Due to inactivity, the State of Michigan escheated those funds. Through Jim Bayson's efforts, the money was returned to the Club in 2012 in the amount of \$24,011. That money was invested in the Catalyst MAP Global Equity Fund. Dividends and other distributions have been reinvested in the Fund and account for our tax basis of \$35,384. The difference between that amount and our current value of about \$55,000 is market appreciation and is subject to tax on capital gains. There has been no new money contributed to the fund since we have records back to 2012. No money has been withdrawn from the fund in that time either.

The Memorial Fund has severe restrictions laid out in our Procedure Manual. Expenditures of over \$1,000 must be approved by the Policy Committee, the Executive Board, and the general membership of the Club. The capital portion was to be preserved as a lasting tribute to person's remembered and to the donors. The "interest income" could only be used to purchase "SMC owned articles with priority given to long life or semi-permanent property", honorary awards, or Club emergency expenses with the Memorial Fund eventually being repaid. Gifting to other non-profit organizations was specifically prohibited as was subsidizing regular expenses of the Club.

For history, Jim Bayson and Roger Timm looked through past minutes and archives. A request was made through the Reminder in June for any information related to donors or donor intent of the fund. No information as to donor intent was found in the archives, minutes, or in response to a query of the membership in the June Reminder article. Therefore, the committee and the Executive Board believe we have the flexibility to revise the use of the Memorial Fund.

Because of the severe limits placed on usage of the funds, and the absence of any true reserve funds held by the Club, the Committee recommended to the Executive Board that the following changes be made:

- ✦ Remove all restrictions on the use of the Memorial Fund, except that all expenditures out of the fund be approved by the Executive Board.
- ✦ Combine the Catalyst Memorial Fund Account (about \$55,000) with the Catalyst Operating Fund Account (about \$1,800). The Fund will be named the Reserve Fund and will held in an account separate from the Club's operating accounts.
- ✦ Delete the section on the Memorial Fund from the Procedure Manual.
- ✦ Begin taking what dividend and other distributions Catalyst makes to cash for operations instead of reinvesting those distributions.
- ✦ Consider donating a portion of the Fund to the SMC Foundation once SMC's ongoing financial needs are determined.

The following motion was unanimously approved by the Executive Board on August 10, 2021:

That all restrictions on use of the Memorial Fund account be removed. Funds in the account be combined with the Club's existing Catalyst Regular account, the combined funds be placed in a new Senior Men's Club Reserve Fund account or similarly named account, all expenditures from the new account be approved by the Executive Board, the Club take any dividends earned by the new account and place the income into the Club's general fund account, and all references to the Memorial Fund be struck from the SMC Procedure Manual.

You will be asked to vote on the motion at the October 15, meeting. Please plan on attending the meeting either live or on Zoom. A full discussion will precede the vote.

John Skubik

Groups



Reading Groups

In October we will discuss books by Doris Kearns Goodwin and Walter Isaacson, two of American most respected and popular historians. Each in its own way focuses on genius, one in politics and other in science. Both books spent many weeks on various best seller lists. As always, both sessions are open to all members and guests.

We will continue to meet via Zoom for the remainder of the calendar year. In a recent survey most members preferred the Zoom alternative because it is available to members who are away at summer or winter homes and it seems to have led to increased participation. This may change in the new year if desired by members.

Thanks to Roger Timm for continuing to serve as Zoom Master.

Wednesday, October 6, at 10:30 AM: *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* by Doris Kearns Goodwin (New York: Simon and Schuster 2006).

This is the remarkable story about how Abraham Lincoln rose from obscurity to become President of the United States and how he engaged his former rivals as valued members of his Cabinet. In his NY Times review James McPherson wrote, "Goodwin has brilliantly described how Lincoln forged a team that preserved a nation and freed America from the curse of slavery."

In 2012 this book was adapted by Steven Spielberg to become the film, *Lincoln*.

Roger Timm will lead this discussion.

Monday, October 18, at 3 PM: *The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race* by Walter Isaacson (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2020)

In this book Walter Isaacson continues his examination of genius in its many forms. Recently we read his remarkable biography of Leonard da Vinci. In this book he provides a gripping account of how Nobel Prize winner Jennifer Doudna and her colleagues launched a revolution that will allow us to cure diseases, fend off viruses and have healthier babies.

However, it also raises a number of moral and ethical issues.

Bob Frank looks forward to leading this discussion.

Looking ahead to November:

Wednesday, November 3, at 10:30 AM: *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age* by Kevin Boyle (Paul Lieberman)

Monday, November 15, at 3 PM: *Voyage of Mercy: The USS Jamestown, the Irish Famine, and the Remarkable Story of America's First Humanitarian Mission* by Stephen Puleo (Rich McGee)

Bob Maxfield



Classic Movie Group

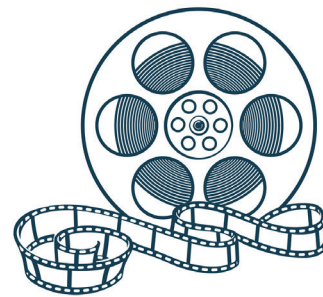
On Monday, October 11th at 1:00PM, Waller Harris will present, via Zoom, an outstanding modern-day musical, "Chicago" (2002) (1 hour and 53 minutes). The story opens in the 1920's and we find out that night club sensation Velma (Catherine Zeta-Jones) has murdered her philandering husband and Chicago's slickest lawyer, Billy Flynn (Richard Gere) is set to defend her. But when housewife Roxie Hart (Renee Zellweger) also winds up in prison for murder, Billy takes on her case as well – turning her into a celebrity with the help of the press. Neither woman will be bested by the other in their quest for public fame and a not guilty verdict. With 18 excellent songs combined with fast on-screen action, music and dance, this film is a pleasure to watch and enjoy. Critically acclaimed when released and a financial success, "Chicago" went on to win Six Oscars, including Best Picture.

So, mark your calendars now and join us on the 11th to enjoy one of best musicals of recent years. Be sure to have plenty of popcorn on hand to help make your movie going experience complete for you and your family.

Watch for our access information eBlast as we near the show date.

Looking forward to seeing you on October 11th.

Fred Hansz



CLASSIC MOVIE GROUP SCHEDULE FOR 2021:

- Oct. 11 Waller Harris - *Chicago* (2002) 113 mi
- Nov. 8 Fred Hansz - *Saving Private Ryan* (1998) 169 min
- Dec. 13 Waller Harris - *Holiday Inn* (1942) 104 min

All Shows are presented via ZOOM at 1:00 PM



MYSTERY LYRICS

We recently asked readers to fill in blanks in the Rudyard Kipling classic story – Gunga Din, and no fewer than nine responded correctly. However, last month we challenged you to name the male actors who were British soldiers in the Gunga Din movie and received only one response. Joel Adelman knew they were Cary Grant, Douglas Fairbanks Jr, and Victor McLaglen. Hearty congratulations Joel!

Well, we are supposed to ask about lyrics, not movies, so can you remember the song with these lines?

“I like potato chips, moonlight and motor trips...” (A favorite)

Dick Harper

SPORTS TRIVIA

Last month we noted that the all time Tiger great Miguel Cabrera, had reached a career total of 500 home runs, and was now reaching for 3000 hits. Although achieving this total this year is most unlikely, we asked readers how many career hits he might have at season end.

Only two responded – Mike Clement suggested 2981 and Joel Adelman gave us 2982. Both are low, since Miguel reached 2984 last Sunday. But 3000 is out of reach this year, with only 7 Tiger games left.

Added Cabrera info – He needs 3 doubles to reach a career total of 600, and if next season, he reaches the 500/3000/600 club he will only be the third all time, joining Hank Aaron and Albert Pujols. Something to look forward to (for baseball stat aficionados). Keep watching.

The challenge this month involves a favorite subject – player nicknames. A pro football star had one of my favorites – “The Mad Bomber”. As this would suggest, he was a quarterback – can you remember him?

Dick Harper
RNHarper32@comcast.net

The Reminder

A monthly publication of the Senior Men’s Club, which meets Fridays at 10:30 AM. Starting Sept 3, 2021 until the end of 2021, meetings will be held at the Iroquois Club, 43248 Woodward Avenue, north of Square Lake Road.

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.

OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS

The Senior Men’s Club’s official mailing address is:

Senior Men’s Club
P.O. Box 1149
Birmingham, MI 48012-1149

All mail should be sent to this new address.

Club Dates to Remember

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 12 at 10:00 A.M.
Lower Level, Baldwin Library

Reminder Deadline: Friday, Oct. 22

Reading Group A: Wednesday, Oct. 6 at 10:30 A.M. Zoom

Bowling: Escape Lanes, Mondays at 9:30 A.M.

Classic Movie Group: Monday, Oct. 11, 1:00 P.M. Zoom

Reading Group B: Monday, Oct. 18 at 3:00 P.M. by Zoom

Walking Group: Tuesdays-Barnum Park & Thursdays-Shain Park; 8:00 A.M. For more information, contact Larry Imerman, 248-642-9432

Spinning: Beverly Hills Club on Wednesdays at noon. \$10 for non-member guests. Contact Joe Schulenberg for info.

Visit SMC at

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