

The Reminder



July 2019

Senior Men's Club, Birmingham, Michigan

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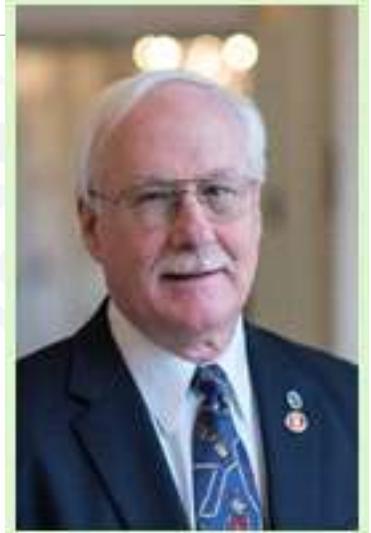
From our President . . .

I'm half-way home as your president, near the end of a long journey through the chairs. It has been a thoroughly enriching journey. I look toward my predecessors for guidance and the Executive Board for support as we have faced and mastered many challenges this year. I hope that all of you will give deep consideration to volunteering to chair a committee or submit your interest to be a Club officer. At the very least, please commit to being active in the many Club committees in addition to attending the Friday meetings.

Which leads me to a major concern of the Special Events Committee...many of our events that have been actively supported in the past have recently come up short in participation. Whether it be trips to see a play or a baseball game, the attendance has dropped causing us to absorb the cost of bus transportation as lost revenue. We have many events on the horizon...the Annual River Cruise, the Picnic, the Alexander Zonjic Concert and the Annual Holiday Party...but we need your support. Bring yourself or a friend! If you have suggestions for future events, let Mike Clement know!

On a further note, last month we reported that the new lunch menu will start in September at \$15.00 per person. The new buffet lunches that we will be scheduling next year will only cost \$15.00 per!

Not to be forgotten, the SMC Annual Giving Initiative is underway to provide critical funding for the general operation of The Community House. The Senior Men's Club annually contributes to the financial viability of The Community House recognizing our mutual strong relationship including cost free Club access to its facilities for our many activities! If you have already sent in your donation...Thank You! If not, please do...I have! I am pleased to report that we have received \$40,000.00 toward our \$90,000 goal!



July Programs

July Chairman: Pradeep (Pete) Mehra

- | | | |
|----|----------------|--|
| 5 | No Meeting | |
| 12 | David Dubensky | Chairman & CEO Ford Land
<i>Michigan Central Station, The Centerpiece of Ford's Corktown Campus</i> |
| 19 | Lewis Booth | Retired Executive Vice-President and CFO Ford Motor Company
<i>What's really going on in the Auto Industry</i> |
| 26 | Lee Chatfield | Speaker, Michigan House of Representatives
<i>Working together across the aisle to find solutions to Michigan's most pressing issues.</i> |

Special Events

Detroit River Cruise

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, July 24! Invite family and friends for the 2019 Detroit River Cruise with lunch-on-land.

Two buses will leave the Presbyterian Church at 8:45 a.m. to arrive at Diamond Jack's Wyandotte Dock for a 10:00 am downriver cruise. We will pass Grosse Isle and sail down the Livingston Channel to Boblo Island, the Captain's narration explaining many historic sites. A choice of beverages will be served.

On return to the Dock, we will-board the buses for a short drive through Wyandotte for a private lunch. This will be at the recently opened Major Biddles Restaurant, which we have entirely for ourselves. The generous buffet lunch includes soups, salads, a variety of croissants and wraps, desserts, coffee and beverages and includes vegan and gluten-free items.

We expect a long line at start of ticket sales at the Special Events Table on June 21st! For additional Questions, please contact any of the Organizing Team.

Please find brochure with route map here > www.diamondjack.com

Questions please contact the organizing Team - Sven Anden, Art Pope, Riggs Miller, Martin Rowell, Jerry Stribbell, and Bob

Julie Dawson Studio & Garden Tour

After an entertaining presentation by Julie Dawson at the Friday, January 18, SMC meeting when she presented her program: *Seeing the World through the Heart of its Bells*, many members expressed an interest in touring her studio.

The Special Events Committee, with the guidance of Tim McGee and Malcolm Hendy, is pleased to announce a limited opportunity to not only tour her fabulous studio, but also her award winning gardens that sit majestically above the Rouge River in Birmingham.

JULIE DAWSON STUDIO & GARDEN TOUR
FRIDAY, AUGUST 2nd AT 5:00 pm
SATURDAY, AUGUST 3rd AT 1:00 pm
At 988 Gordon Lane, Birmingham, MI 48009

Please contact Tim McGee for additional information.

Tour Belle Isle, Atwater Brewery, and the Detroit's RiverWalk

On August 16, we are meeting at the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham to board our bus. The bus will leave at 9:45 sharp. Ticket Price: \$35. Timing: 9:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Belle Isle was settled by French explorers in the 1700's and was transformed in the 19th century into this country's largest city island park. It is rich with unique architecture, fountains, statues and manmade lagoons. Our visit includes stops at the Aquarium and nearby Conservatory, after which we take a bus tour of the island where those interested will have the opportunity to take pictures.

We lunch on our own at the Atwater Tap House located in Detroit's Rivertown Warehouse District. Following lunch, we will have a brief tour of the brewery. Founded in 1997, Atwater has been a leader in the craft beer movement.

A guide from the Detroit Experience Factory will meet us after lunch for a stroll along Detroit's RiverWalk. The tour provides a history of both the Detroit River and the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. It touches on the city's history during prohibition, the underground railroad and the construction of the Detroit RiverWalk. The tour takes about an hour and covers a little more than a half mile, so be sure to take your walking shoes.

Groups



Reading Groups

At 10:30 AM on July 3 the Wednesday Reading Group will discuss *The Candy Bombers: The Untold Story of the Berlin Airlift and America's Finest Hour* by Andrei Cherny (New York: G.P. Putnam, 2008)

Good Reads provided this strong critique of Cherny's book:

"On the sixtieth anniversary of the Berlin Airlift, Andrei Cherny tells a remarkable story with profound implications for the world today. In the tradition of the best narrative storytellers, he brings together newly unclassified documents, unpublished letters and diaries, and fresh primary interviews to tell the story of the ill-assorted group of castoffs and second-stringers who not only saved millions of desperate people from a dire threat but changed how the world viewed the United States, and set in motion the chain of events that would ultimately lead to the dismantling of the Berlin Wall and to America's victory in the Cold War."

According to the Washington Post, "It's everything one could want from a work of history — engrossing, informative and stirring."

The discussion will be led by Jon Haber.

The Monday Reading Group will meet at 3 PM on July 15 to discuss *The Unexpected President: The Life and Times of Chester A. Arthur* by Scott Greenberger. (New York: Hatchett Book Group, 2017)

When President Garfield was shot and killed in 1881, Chester Arthur became our 21st President. He was widely seen by citizens, politicians and himself as woefully unfit for the presidency. Nevertheless, he surprised everyone by becoming a strong and effective advocate for good government, fighter against corruption and early supporter of civil rights

The Christian Science Monitor's review stated, "By sheer authorly enthusiasm, [Greenberger] manages to rescue Arthur from his own reputation as an obscure placeholder and put him before readers as a man who came abruptly into his own best convictions."

The discussion will be led by George Stern.



Investment Study Group

Mike Clement won the Stock Game with a 32.3% gain in a challenging market. John Murray finished second and Roger Timm was third followed by Art Lewry, Randy Barnett and Tom Ernst. Mike won \$280 first place money. Jay Hall won \$25 for the best stock-OKTA which was up 96.6%. The overall market was down 1%. In contrast, Bill Halbert won the Game last year with a 153% gain.

The next Investment Meeting will be Wednesday September 11 and the new Stock Game will start October 11. Remember fear, greed, homework and timing are important investment factors. Enjoy a very profitable summer.

- George Miller



Classic Movie Group

On Monday, July 8, at 1:00 PM, Malcolm Hendy will host a special presentation of the classic British film "The Dam Busters" (1955) (2 hours and 5 minutes run time) starring Richard Todd and Michael Redgrave. This sharp-edged WW2 drama tells the story of how the British developed a special bomb and then used it to destroy Nazi Germany's hydroelectric dams. The show will be presented in high definition with subtitles on our large eight foot screen in The Community House. If you enjoy suspenseful action-packed war movies, then this well-crafted film is for you. Malcolm will have plenty of great popcorn on hand to make your movie going experience complete for you, your family and friends.

- Fred Hansz

Golf

After a very soggy start, the golf season at Lincoln Hills and Springdale is at full speed. Jacky Brito, Golf Manager, has supervised the installation of new drainage tiles on hole #5 at Springdale and in front of hole #9 at Lincoln Hills as well as new cart paths.

The SMC Golf Committee has set the calendar that will test our golf skills...or reveal our weaknesses:

- Lincoln Hills: June 24 - Two Man Scramble and August 26 - Three Club Tournament
- Springdale: July 11-25 - Best Two Consecutive Rounds in a Three-Week Cycle and August 8 - Three Club Tournament
- Stonycroft Hills GC 20th Annual Invitational: August 6
- Orchard Lake CC Invitational: September 18
- Col. O'Grady USMC Invitational at Selfridge ANG GC: September 21

And for the first time, the Annual Golf Banquet will be on Tuesday, October 1 at Lincoln Hills with a Four Man Team Scramble prior to the festivities.

So, make sure you mark your calendars and don't forget to stop and smell the roses as you chase that little dimpled ball down the fairway!

- Tim McGee

Leisure Wear

SMC Leisure Wear will be available on SMC website July 15 through August 3. This is your opportunity to purchase a great shirt for golf, for a walk in the park or relaxing by the lake.

This would be an ideal family gift for their favorite SMC member, or you can just buy one for yourself. Samples in glorious color will be available at our meeting on July 12. Feel free to view, feel and touch the merchandise. Member Marc Secontine will be on hand to show the wares.

Contact Malcolm Hendy or Larry Imerman with questions.

Summer Dress Code

President Tim McGee has announced that our summer dress code will be in effect at Friday meetings during June, July and September. Coats and ties will be optional, collared shirts without sports jackets mandatory (no turtlenecks or t-shirts). Please remember we want to maintain our reputation as the best dressed men in Birmingham.

- Tim McGee



2020 Reminder Planning

As The REMINDER editorial staff looks forward to 2020, it is evident that we must plan for changes next year. Actually, changes have already started. We no longer receive monthly development support from TCH. In addition, we have engaged a new printing company and we anticipate changing editorial leadership with the election of a new Club officer team.

Publisher Jay Kafarski has graciously taken on the vitally important function of developing the monthly copy layout of our newsletter.

Based on these considerations, The REMINDER needs “a few good men” to step forward and join the team. We strongly encourage members with interest or ability to contribute to our newsletter in terms of design, layout development or writing capability to contact the undersigned as soon as feasible. Don't hesitate to come forward with any questions or comments in this regard. Your Club needs you!

- Dick Harper

Visitation and Health

The primary function of the Visitation and Health committee as stated in the SMCB Procedure Manual (2016) is to express the concern of the Club and its members for the wellbeing of members who are ill by regular visits and contacts. The secondary function is to inform Club members of the hospitalization and recovery of sick members and the reason(s) why, to the extent the ill or incapacitated wish such facts to be shared with the membership.

As Senior Men's club members we care for each other. The Visitation and Health committee needs your help. We need to keep in touch with our member's family whenever there is illness or death in the family. You are requested to contact the monthly Chairman of Visitation and Health whenever you learn of a member or his family member's illness or death. The same holds true for admission of the member to a nursing home, extended care or rehab facility, inpatient or home hospice. The monthly Chairman for Visitation and Health reports the appropriate information on the illness, recovery status or death to all the members at the regular Friday meetings.

David Ladd, secretary of V&H, sends out the appropriate sympathy or get-well card to the family on behalf of the SMC. An obituary or death notice of the deceased member or their family member is eBlasted to us all. A condolence letter is sent on behalf of the SMC President. Usually, the monthly chair and other SMC members visit with the sick members or attend the funeral or memorial services.

Once again, all members are urged to please share any information on the illness or death of any of the SMC member with the monthly Visitation and Health Chair, Swarn Rajpal or Tim McGee. This service is consistent with one of the primary purposes of the SMC, fellowship. The affected member and his family appreciate our concern, and the V & H chair feels gratified.

- Swarn Rajpal, Chair, Visitation and Health



2020 TCH Facility Planning

The Community House has requested our planning input for our use of their facilities in 2020. All SMC Committees and Groups planning to use TCH rooms next year must provide a detailed listing of monthly dates and times for specific Club meetings and activities.

This information should be directed to Molly Anger, TCH Event Sales Administrator (manger@communityhouse.com), with a deadline of October 1, 2019. Any questions in this regard should be directed to the undersigned. It is most important to note that the SMC will be subject to room usage charges for facility requests subsequent to the indicated deadline. Copies of your requests should also be forwarded to my attention.

In addition, committee and group chairs should coordinate their 2020 plans with 1st VP Jerry Stribbell, who will be creating our 2020 calendar.

- Tim McGee

Mystery Lyrics

Nine of our regulars recognized that these lyrics:

*“Are the stars out tonight
I don’t know if it’s cloudy or bright”*

are the opening lines of “I Only Have Eyes For You”. Hearty congratulations to Dick Kamp (first one in), Clay Gordon, Tom McNally, John Dueweke, Joel Adelman, Tom Venier, Midge (Roger) Gettel and Fred Hansz, who remembered these lyrics.

We may have used this one before, but it is a personal favorite. The opening lines of this month’s lyrics are:

*“All the leaves are brown
And the sky is gray”*

Can you name that tune?

Sports Trivia

Last month we asked if you could remember the only major league pitcher who threw back-to-back perfect games. The answer is Johnny Vander Meer of the Cincinnati Reds, in 1937. Ray Buratto, Tom McNally, Joel Adelman, Ben Mangiapane and Pete Kass were the only responders with the answer. However, Ben and Pete corrected me – the games were not perfect, but they were no-hitters. (Still pretty good!)

This month we will check your baseball memory. Who was the youngest player ever to participate in a major league game? He later had a 40-year career as a play by play announcer, and always ended game broadcasts by saying “This is the ol’ left hander, rounding third and heading for home”. Can you remember him? - 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 L. 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, July 9, 9:30 a.m.
- Reminder Deadline:** Friday, July 14
- Bowling:** Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. at Troy Lanes (Practice)
- Bridge:** Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.; Fridays after lunch
- Golf:** Mondays, 7:00-9:00 a.m. at Lincoln Hills
Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 a.m. at Springdale
- River Cruise:** Wednesday, July 24
- Julie Dawson Studio:** Friday, August 2 or Saturday August 3
- Belle Isle Tour:** Friday, August 16

Group Meetings

- Book Reading Group A:** Wednesday, July 3, 10:30 a.m.
- Classic Movie Group:** Monday, July 8, 1:00 p.m.
- Book Reading Group B:** Monday, July 15, 3:00 p.m.
- Camera Group:** No Meeting
- Investment Group:** No Meeting
- Computer Group:** No Meeting
- Genealogy Group:** No Meeting

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[Visit TCH at www.communityhouse.com/supported-groups-nonprofits/senior-mens-club/](http://www.communityhouse.com/supported-groups-nonprofits/senior-mens-club/)