

# The Reminder



December 2018

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan

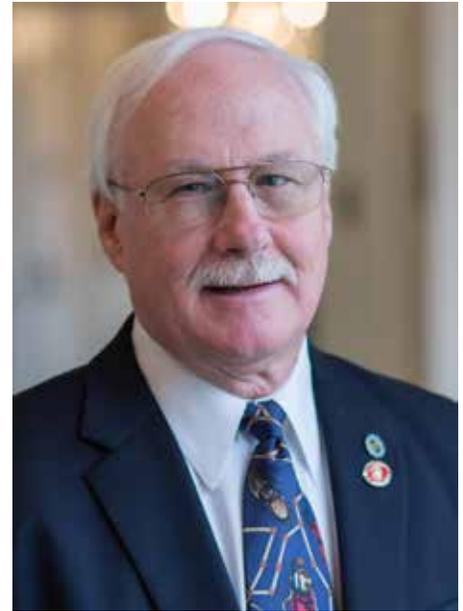
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## Tim McGee—A Proven Leader

Due to his background, together with his military and business experience, Tim McGee will effectively lead the SMC in 2019. Born in Iowa, Tim was raised in Michigan from the age of 3, instilling in him Midwestern values of caring, respect, honesty and responsibility which he has displayed ever since.

In 1966, upon graduation from University of Detroit Jesuit High School, without informing his parents, Tim enlisted in the Marine Corps at the height of the Vietnam War, because he discerned a call to serve his country. During his 7½ year career, Tim undertook the following duties: Electronic Countermeasures Technician and Operator; Bodyguard and Assistant to Marine Corps Chaplains; and Court Reporter/Squadron Group Legal Officer. He was accepted into Officer Candidate School but was unable to complete due to a combat injury sustained



in Vietnam. His awards include: Naval Commendation; Naval Achievement with Bronze V; Combat Action Ribbon; Air Crew Wings; Vietnam Service Awards; and Good Conduct Medal. Ever since then, Tim has actively supported the Marine Corps through its Toys for Tots and other charitable ventures with the Marine Corps League.

Following his military service, Tim began a very successful career in the Heavy Duty Transportation Industry as a sales engineer, rising to Director of Marketing and Sales for 30 years at the Budd Company, Hayes Lemmerz and Meritor Heavy Vehicle Systems. After an early retirement, Tim reentered the work force and became the Theater Technical Manager at Bloomfield Hills Andover High School for 8 years. Together with fellow SMC Member Bruce Snyder, Tim staged countless plays and musicals to universal acclaim. Tim auditioned and directed both Danny Gurwin, Sutton and Hunter Foster, former and current Broadway legends, when they were growing up in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area.

Beyond these efforts, Tim has been involved in community theater for over 40 years as an actor, producer, director, stage manager, set designer and board member. He has written two books, *A Community Theater Guide to Stage Managing* for the Village Players of Birmingham and *A History of American Theatrical Drama...An Anthology* for the Troy Historical Society. His love of the theater is only matched by his commitment

*continued on page 6...*

## DECEMBER PROGRAMS

DECEMBER CHAIRMEN: Tim McGee

- 7 Major Joseph Zane, USMCR ....*Keeping the Faith: How Today's Service-Members Continue to Keep America's Ideals Alive*
- 14 We Honor Our Hostesses.....Music provided by Andover HS Alumnae, The Jills led by Bruce Snyder
- 21 & 28 NO MEETINGS



## Notes from the President

Gentlemen ... Thank you for the opportunity to be your President in 2018!

### Year End Priorities

1. Friday Attendance – Please help us to finish the year strongly. The Friday meeting is the ‘centerpiece’ of our club. It is critical to maintain and increase attendance. Thank you for your support!

Weekly Attendance June Through October	2016	2017	2018
Average	136	137	145

2. Membership – Maintaining and increasing membership is foundational to the health of our club. New members bring vitality and rejuvenation. In the last 5 years our membership has declined. With your help we can change the downward slide. If we were to introduce 4 new members in the balance of the year, our membership would increase for 2018. It starts with inviting a guest for a free lunch and great speaker. With your help we can do it!

Membership	2013-2017	2018
Average Yearly Change	(2.3%)	1.5 % Est.

3. Annual Giving Initiative – We are currently at 82% of goal. Only 5 meetings to the end of the year. The funds collected go to support The Community House our special home for these 61 years. A letter will be sent to those who have not yet contributed this week. For those who have contributed, please consider a second gift. Please be generous!

Dick Bradley, President

December 2018

# Groups



## Classic Movie Group

On Monday, December 10 at 1:00PM, Fred Hansz will present the holiday classic, "Christmas in Connecticut" (1945), starring Barbara Stanwyck, Dennis Morgan, Sydney Greenstreet and S.Z. Sakall. In this lighthearted comedy, a famous nationally known cooking expert, who writes for *Smart Housekeeping Magazine*, but in reality can't even boil water, finds out that she must feed and entertain a wounded returning war veteran and her own boss over the holidays. Many hilarious situations arise but all works out well when romance takes hold as Christmas Eve approaches. If you love great warm-hearted holiday presentations, that include many of Warner Brothers most famous character actors and stars, then this film is for you.

With our eight foot wide screen, new state of the art high definition projection system, brilliant sound and a new re-mastered Blu Ray disc, this movie will definitely put you in the holiday spirit. Please attend our show with family and friends to enjoy this outstanding classic film along with plenty of great popcorn.

—Fred Hansz



## Investment Group

We will meet on Wednesday, December 12 at 2:45PM. Leon LaBrecque, CEO of LJPR/Sequoia Financial Group will address us again. Leon JD, CPA, CFP, CFA is a well-known speaker and media presence in matters of wealth management, economics and markets. We have been fortunate to have him speak to us in December for more than ten years. He is OUTSTANDING! Leon's title "Midterms are over. What's next?" He will discuss the outlook for 2019. What did the midterms tell us? What is the prognosis for a recession? What about 2020? For a lively presentation and some interesting perspectives, please join us for a look into what might happen next.

The first status report on the Stock Game will be available. We have 70 entries. Who will be the leader?

—George Miller



## Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group will meet on Monday, December 3 at 2:00PM. The meeting will cover two subjects: An update on DNA testing sharing the latest activities in finding relatives as well as advancement in medical diagnosis and an update on making a personal video documentary regarding your family history.

—Dave Bakos



## Reading Groups

On Wednesday, December 5 at 10:30AM we will discuss *Hillbilly Elegy: Culture in Crisis*, by J.D. Vance. The author relates his experience growing up in a poor rust belt town that offers a broader, probing look at the culture and struggles of America's white working class. Jim Schmidt will lead the discussion.

On Monday, December 17 at 3:00PM, we will discuss *The Perfect Weapon: War, Sabotage, and Fear in the Cyber Age*, by David Sanger. Moving from the White House Situation Room to the dens of Chinese government hackers to the boardrooms of Silicon Valley, *New York Times* security correspondent David Sanger reveals a new world that must deal with constant sabotage, misinformation, and fear emanating from cyberspace. Jim Labes will lead the discussion.

—Frank Snower



## Camera Group

Our December presentation will be given by Karen Dybis, who will present "Hidden Detroit." However, because of the holiday party that evening, this meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13 at 2:00PM, an hour earlier.

—Bob Frank



## Computer Group

The Computer Group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 3:00PM. Watch for an eblast announcing the topic for the next meeting.

—Tom Allen

# Special Events

## 2019 Detroit Auto Show

On Thursday, January 24, we will make our annual excursion to the North



American International Auto Show at Cobo Hall. This year's show promises to be another great one, with many new production models and design concept vehicles on display. This event offers the conveniences of **no driving, no parking, no coat check needed, and (thanks to Dean Sellers Ford) no admission fee!**

Tickets for the bus ride are \$15. Our buses will leave the First Presbyterian Church parking lot (1669 W. Maple) at 9:30AM, depart the Auto Show at 2:30PM, and return to the church at about 3:30PM. We will begin selling tickets on December 7 and sales will continue on January 11 and 18. After January 18, contact Jim King (248-645-9388) for tickets. **We are planning to charter two buses again this year, so we will be able to accommodate wives and significant others. Invite a friend and/or a prospective member!** This event has generally been a sellout, so buy your tickets early.

—Jim King



## Christmas Dinner Dance

Have you bought your tickets to this year's SMC Christmas Dinner Dance? It will take place on Tuesday, December 11, at the San Marino Club in Troy, located on the north side of Big Beaver Road between Rochester and John R. Roads. Our evening will begin with a social reception at 5:30PM featuring an antipasto table of chips, cheese, and crackers with veggie dip and punch. We will be seated at 6:45PM for announcements and introductions, followed by dinner at 7:00PM and dancing thereafter until 10:15PM. Free valet parking service will be provided.

The price for this event is \$55 per person. Tickets will be on sale at our Friday meetings through December 7. Tickets are also available directly from Tony DiMarco at 248-643-7368. Reserved group tables will be 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 for those who wish to sit together will be available at the Special Events table. We have once again invited the members of the NEXT organization 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 and meal choices for the group and make one payment for the table.

The dinner menu will include stracciatella soup, a mixed green salad, and your choice of dinner entrée: tenderloin of beef with mushrooms, Chicken Parmigiana with mozzarella cheese, or baked orange roughy with lemon garnish; along with side dishes of green beans and St. Anne Potatoes. Dinner will conclude with a raspberry sundae dessert. Gluten-free and vegetarian alternative meals 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. Photos will be taken as well. Dave Tatrow's four-piece stringed instrument group The Waifs (with a vocalist) will entertain us through the evening, opening with a salute to the Armed Forces and followed by a sing along and nostalgic and seasonal favorites for our listening and dancing pleasure. The SMC Chorus will also serenade us with songs of the season. This is one of the most popular and successful SMC events, so please save the date and make your reservation plans early!

—Jim King

# 2018 SENIOR MEN'S CLUB AND THE COMMUNITY HOUSE ANNUAL GIVING INITIATIVE



## We Need Your Help Now!

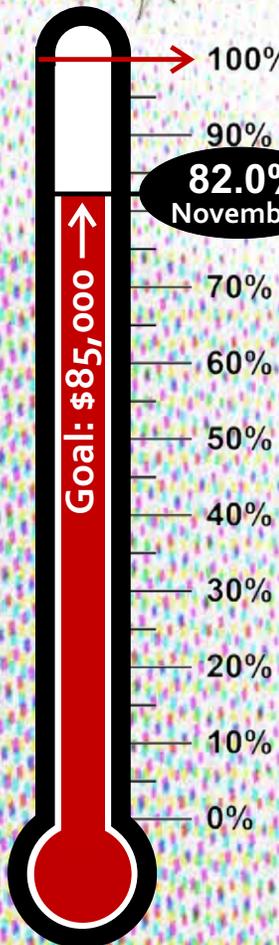
**The Community House** has been our partner for 61 years! It has provided us with stability and a place for growth. TCH depends on the generosity of the Senior Men's Club so they can continue to address their mission. Last year alone the Senior Men's Club used over 450 rooms with a street value of up to \$250,000.

**Our Mission ...**

Our mission is to give back to The Community House as they give to us each year. Service and giving back are a core value of The Senior Men's Club. This has been our modus operandi for all these years. The Community House provides with free and highly discounted services. This has been fundamental to our success each year.

**Our Goal! ...**

In 2015, our contributions to The Community House – Annual Giving Initiative reached \$81,500. In 2016 and 2017 that number was less due in part to our focus on Legacy Endowment. Our goal in 2018 is \$85,000. With your help, this goal can be reached. We want a continued home for the Senior Men's Club in the years to come. Reaching this goal paves the way for that reality.



THE  
**COMMUNITY HOUSE**  
BIRMINGHAM

### Annual Giving Initiative

<b>President's Circle</b>	Individuals who give <b>\$2,500</b> or more in total in 2018. Their name s will be recognized in Senior Men's Club publications including the Reminder and at the Annual Giving Luncheon in 2019.
<b>Champion</b>	Individuals who give <b>\$1,000</b> or more in total in 2018. Their name s will be recognized in Senior Men's Club publications including the Reminder and at the Annual Giving Luncheon in 2019.
<b>High Honors</b>	Individuals who give <b>\$500</b> or more in total in 2018. Their name s will be recognized in Senior Men's Club publications including the Reminder and at the Annual Giving Luncheon in 2019.
<b>Honor Role</b>	Individuals who give <b>\$250</b> or more in total in 2018. Their name s will be recognized in Senior Men's Club publications including the Reminder and at the Annual Giving Luncheon in 2019.
<b>Supporter</b>	All contributors who give less than <b>\$250</b> to the 2018 Annual Giving Initiative will be recognized at the Annual Giving Luncheon in 2019.

## Tim McGee

to guiding others along that same path as evidenced by his 18 continuous years of teaching the history of the Vietnam War at his high school alma mater utilizing his own memoirs entitled *Dear Tim...Dear Mom! We Did Our Job!* A reflection of thirteen months in Vietnam.

Tim has been married to his beautiful wife Julie for 47 years. Blessed with two children and five grandchildren, he relishes his newfound role as grandfather. He and Julie enjoy cruise ship travel, recently returning from a 15-day voyage through the Panama Canal. Tim is active in his St. Thomas More parish, serving as the chairman of the Finance Committee for over 15 years and as an extraordinary minister.

In every element of his life, Tim has embodied the Marine Corps Motto of *Semper Fidelis*. The SMC is blessed to have him serve as our President in 2019.

—Maynard Timm

## The Magic Jug

The Senior Men's Club interest in and support of the Oakland County Children's Village is alive and well. Once again, the passing of the Magic Jug was most successful, with contributions from generous members almost reaching \$4000 – well above last year.

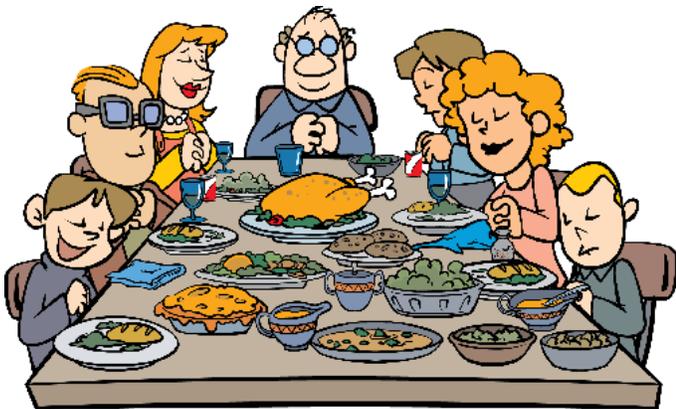


Congratulations to contributors and especially to Dick Halsted who once again led this effort. Dick was supported by Tom Halsted, Jerry Stribbell and Ed Cox who helped pass the Jug. Once again, the "kids" at the Village will benefit from the support they have received from our Club for more than 30 years.

—Dick Harper



**Wishing You and Your Family  
a Safe and Blessed  
Thanksgiving!**



## SMC Logo Leisure Wear

SMC Logo Leisure Wear is available online at <https://smcb18.itemorder.com>. The online store has been open November 12<sup>th</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup> to ensure all orders will be available for the holiday season. A new item available is a dress shirt. Also available on all leisure wear purchased will be the new SMC logo or you can elect to have "Men on the Go." Another change is that orders will not be delivered to The Community House. Therefore, please collect purchases from the Varsity Shop or have these mailed to your address.

—Marc Secontine & Malcolm Hendy.

# Senior Health Matters

## Age-Related Loss of Memory-Part 2 of 3

Certain areas of thinking do show a normal decline with age but others remain stable.

“Crystallized” intelligence is knowledge or experience accumulated over time. It actually remains stable with age. “Fluid” intelligence or abilities not based on experience or education tend to decline.

Remote memory or recall of past events that have been stored over many years remains relatively preserved in old age. Recent memory or the formation of new memories is more vulnerable to aging.

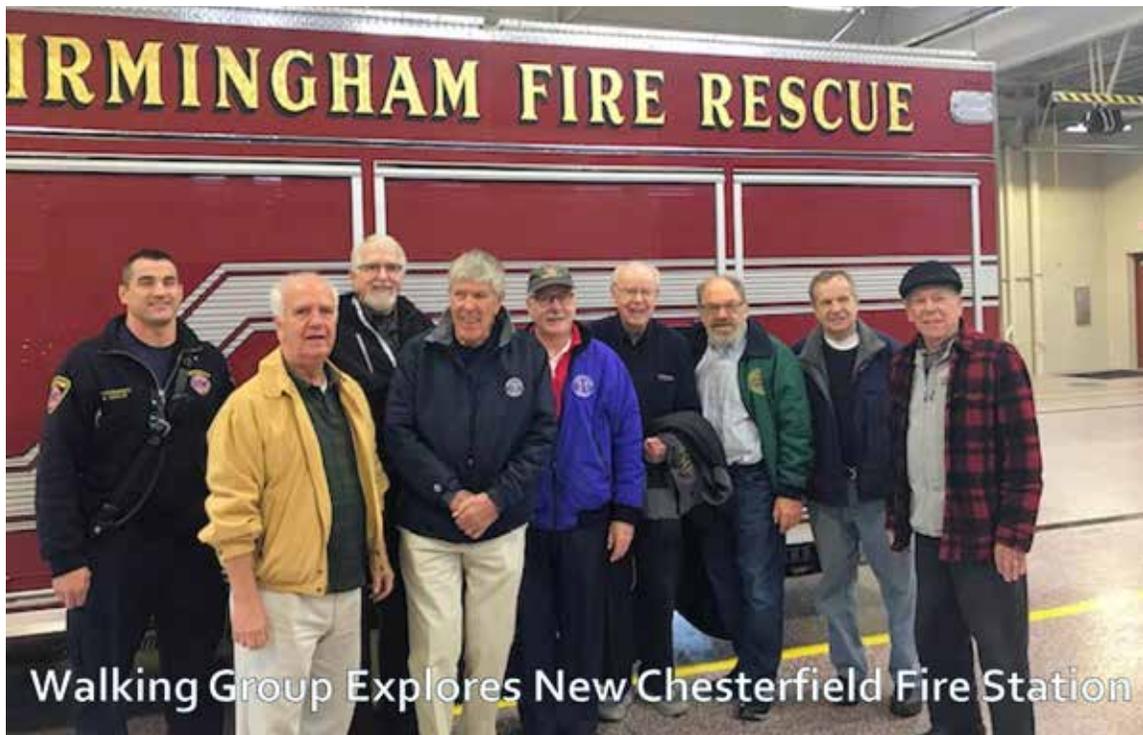
Simple or focused attention such as the ability to pay attention to a television program tends to be preserved in older age. Difficulty may be encountered when divided attention is required such as trying to pay attention to the television and simultaneously talk on the telephone-multitasking.

Verbal abilities including vocabulary are preserved as we age. Common changes have to do with word retrieval or the process of getting words out. It takes longer and is more difficult to find the words one wants when engaged in conversation or trying to remember the names of people and objects. The information is not lost but it is more difficult to retrieve.

Traditional ways of approaching solutions are maintained in older persons. Problems that have not been encountered during your life may take extra time to figure out.

Aging does affect the speed with which cognitive and motor processes are performed. This does not mean that the activities cannot be performed but they take longer.

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO



## Hostess Recognition Party

One of our Club’s longstanding and memorable traditions is the annual Hostess Recognition Party, which will be held during our last meeting of the year on December 14. We will bring back the long tables and “mess hall” floor plan for this event.

Members are urged to attend and to express appreciation for the friendly and courteous service

these lovely ladies provide all year at Friday meetings. The ladies will receive holiday gifts as well as our warm thanks.

In addition, we will hear traditional Christmas music by The Jills, Andover High School Alumnae led by Bruce Snyder.

—Dick Harper

## Club Officers Election

In accordance with our constitution, Past President Dick Kamp announced the nominated slate of Club Officers for 2019 – Timothy S. McGee for President, Gerald L. Stribbell for First Vice President, Roger K. Timm for Second Vice President, Maynard L. Timm for Recording Secretary, Swarn G. Rajpal for Corresponding Secretary, John C. Marsh for Treasurer, John P. Groves & James E. Bayson for Assistant Treasurers, David N. Bakos and Clifford R. Snedeker for Officers at Large.

President Dick Bradley conducted the formal election, with all candidates being unanimously elected. Our Club looks forward to a great year led by a strong officer team.

—Dick Harper



*Left to right*

*Front row:*

*Swarn Rajpal (Corresponding Secretary)*

*Tim McGee (President)*

*Middle row:*

*Maynard Timm (Recording Secretary)*

*Roger Timm (Second Vice President)*

*Jerry Stribbell (First Vice President)*

*Back Row:*

*John Marsh (Treasurer)*

*Dave Bakos (Officer at Large)*

*Cliff Snedeker (Officer at Large)*

*Not shown: John Groves & Jim Bayson*

## Senior Health Matters

### Age-Related Loss of Memory-Part 3 of 3

We now know that certain interventions can sharpen cognitive processes and compensate for or slow-down age related changes.

High stress levels can impair learning and memory. Exercise can be beneficial. Psychologic counseling should be considered.

Maintain good health and control of medical conditions. Arthritis and pain can affect cognitive areas such as concentration and processing speed. Sensory changes such as loss of hearing can interfere with processing of information. Hearing aids may be in order.

Medication may produce drowsiness and mental dullness. Interaction between prescriptions and over-the-counter drugs should be evaluated by letting your doctor know all the medications you are on.

A diet rich in fruits and vegetables containing antioxidants such as blueberries, strawberries and cruciferous vegetables like broccoli is prudent. Certain oils such as olive and canola oil may be protective of the nervous system.

Keep mentally stimulated. Engaging in cognitively challenging tasks can protect against age-related decline in thinking. Examples are playing bridge, reading and adult education classes. All of these are offered by the SMC.

Use active strategies to store new information. Examples are: follow a routine of always putting one's keys in the same place; use a calendar and pill box; and take more time to actively process new information. When introduced to someone, pay extra attention and try to come up with an association to recall the person's name.

When you walk into a room and forget why you entered the room, turn around and walk out. Then re-enter. This "resets" the brain and you will immediately remember what you were looking for.

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO

## Member Honored

Member Augie Perrotta was recently honored for "exemplary service in the interests of the United States Marine Corps" with Honorary Membership in the Marine Corps League. He was co-sponsored for this noteworthy award by members Tim McGee, Jon Haber and Jerry McKeen.

—Dick Harper

## New Members:



**Thomas P. Obear**  
725 Woodchester Drive  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1969  
248-613-1744  
tob224@gmail.com  
Sponsor: Jerry Stribbell



**Mark S. Schonberger**  
5591 Swan Lake Drive  
West Bloomfield, MI 48322-1765  
248-227-7564  
m5591jschon@comcast.net  
Sponsor: Jack Porter



**Mark A. Schumacher**  
30772 Hickory Lane  
Franklin, MI 48025-1588  
248-932-1493  
markaschumacher@comcast.net  
Sponsor: Tom Ernst



**Robert F. Wider**  
4298 Frostwood Court  
Troy, MI 48098-4240  
248-643-9347  
robertwider578@gmail.com  
Sponsor: Pete Kass

## To Life Member:

**Fred E. Bond**  
**C. L. Hudson**

## Associate Members:

**Thomas C. DeCorte**  
4040 Cranbrook Court  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301  
757-634-4818  
tcdecorte@comcast.net  
Sponsor: Dick Rappleye

**Michael J. Jones**  
934 Golfview Court  
Rochester Hills, MI 48307-1007  
248-495-2908  
mikeandveronica.jones2@gmail.com  
Sponsor: Martin Rowell

**Leslie J. Schoonover**  
3445 Erie Drive  
Orchard Lake, MI 48324  
248-909-0002  
LJ.Schoonover@sbcglobal.net  
Sponsor: Ralph Cowie

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman  
Frank Snower, Database Chairman  
Tom Booth, Gene Markel & Roger Timm, Photography

## SMC 2019 Dues Coupon - \$50

2019 dues are payable before January 1, 2019. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2019. Make checks payable to SMC and pay at a meeting or by mail. Please use the coupon if paying by mail.

If paying by mail, send to:  
Senior Men's Club - Dues  
The Community House  
380 South Bates Street  
Birmingham, MI 48009

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Mystery Lyrics



Even though last month's mystery lyrics were from a very old song (circa 1926), six astute readers recognized that

these lines:

*"Nobody near us, to see us or hear us  
No friends or relations on  
week-end vacations"*

are from "Tea For Two". Hearty congratulations to Joel Adelman, Tom and Rose Marie Venier, Fred Hansz, Fred Leydorf, Tom McNally and Colleen (Mark) Kelly.

This month the mystery lyrics are from a romantic ballad with these great lines:

*"Like a summer with a thousand July's  
You intoxicate my soul with your eyes"*

Can you name that tune?

## Sports Trivia

We evidently presented readers with a challenging question last month in asking you to remember two local athletes who had careers first with the University of Michigan football team and then with the Tigers. We were looking for Bill Freehan (end with U of M, followed by a great career as a Tiger catcher – remember the famous picture of Freehan and Lolich embracing after the final out against the Cardinals in 1968?), and Rick Leach who was a four-year starter as a left handed QB for Bo, followed by several years with Tigers.

Only Dick Kamp and Joel Adelman remembered both, while Jack McLaughlin had Freehan.

This month we have a similar challenge suggested by Tom McNally. Two men played football at MSU and then were with the Tigers. Can you name them? (One is obvious).

—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 2018 are: Charles R. (Dick) Bradley, president; Timothy S. McGee, first vice-president; Gerald W. (Jerry) Stribbell, second vice-president; Roger K. Timm, recording secretary; Maynard L. Timm, corresponding secretary; John P. Groves, treasurer; James A. (Jim) Bayson, assistant treasurer; John R. Bergeron, Thomas L. Booth, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor emeritus; Maynard Timm and Jay Kafarski, co-editors; John Flintosh and Chuck Ragains, associate editors; Tom Booth, Gene Markel & Roger Timm, photography; Bob Jordan, mailing; Lee Trumbull, computer layout.

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham  
380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, MI 48009  
www.communityhouse.com

## CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

**Executive Board Meeting:** Tuesday, December 11, 9:30AM

**Reminder Deadline:** Friday, December 7

**Bowling:** Mondays at 10:00AM at Troy Lanes  
Wednesdays at 10:00AM at Troy Lanes (Practice)

**Bridge:** Fridays after lunch

### Special Events

**Annual Christmas Party:** Tuesday, December 11, 5:30PM

**Detroit Auto Show:** January 24, 2019

### Group Meetings

**Genealogy Group:** Monday, December 3, 2:00PM

**Book Reading Group A:** Wednesday, December 5, 10:30AM

**Classic Movie Group:** Monday, December 10, 1:00PM

**Investment Group:** Wednesday, December 12, 2:45PM

**Camera Group:** Tuesday, December 13, 2:00PM

**Book Reading Group B:** Monday, December 17, 3:00PM

**Computer Group:** Wednesday, December 19, 3:00PM

*All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.*

### SMC ON THE WEB:

[www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com](http://www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com)

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