

The Reminder

February 2017

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



Inside

- 2..... Associates
Orientation
..... Free Lunch!
- 3..... Groups
-Reading
-Investment
-Movie
-Computer
-Camera
-Genealogy
- 4..... 60th Anniversary
Save the Date!
- 5..... Aging Gracefully
..... Attendance
Champs
- 6..... Special Events
..... Games
- 7..... Membership News
..... Presidential
Passings
- 8..... Mystery Lyrics
..... Sports Trivia

New Senior Men's Club President

Two traditional and time-honored ceremonies took place at our first meeting in 2017. Outgoing President Eugene (Gene) Jacoby called the meeting to order and as a first item of business, presented the traditional gavel of authority to incoming President Richard (Dick) Kamp. Dick was unanimously elected to this position in November, in accordance with the Club constitution. The ceremonial gavel symbolizes the formal transfer of Club leadership.

This was followed by the presentation of a presidential plaque from President Kamp to past President Jacoby in recognition of his outstanding year of service in 2016 – a great year for our Club featuring multi-faceted leadership and accomplishments by President Jacoby.

The Club continues in good hands, with a solid officer team headed by Dick Kamp. We look forward to another great year and particularly to the continuing celebration of our milestone 60th Anniversary.

—Dick Harper



FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY CHAIRMAN: Swarn Rajpal

- 3 Dane Slater, Mayor of Troy, Michigan *Global Troy*
- 10 Rashida Tlaib, Sugar Law Center, Community Partnerships & Development Director..... *Take on Hate: Silence is Not an Option*
- 17 Stephanie Chang, Member, Michigan House of Representatives *Legislative Update*
- 24 Andy Meisner, Treasurer, Oakland County *Future of Oakland County*

MARCH PROGRAMS

MARCH CHAIRMAN: Martin Rowell

- 3 Philip Power, Founder, Center for Michigan *A Citizen's Agenda for a Better Michigan*

The Community House

Annual Fund Initiative

As we all know, The Community House has provided the SMC with meeting rooms and facilities for all 60 years of our existence. We are the greatest utilizer of TCH and this has been at no charge to the Senior Men. What a remarkable relationship we have.

The Senior Men well appreciate this and every year voluntarily contribute generously to The Community House Annual Fund Initiative which addresses the ongoing daily and monthly expenses of TCH.

This past year, in addition to addressing these routine expenses, we have made a remarkable boost to the long range fund, ("The Legacy Fund"), designed to provide long term support for extraordinary Community House challenges and needs.

This outstanding generosity benefits not only ourselves and The Community House, but the entire community. Congratulations and thanks to our great members.

—Jack McLaughlin

SMC Website Directories

The new listings of contact information for 2017 Officers and 2017 Committee Chairmen are posted in the Members Only Portal on the SMC website www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com. Also, the latest monthly update of the Photo Directory of current SMC members has been posted. If your photo or veteran service are not included in the January web edition, or if you don't know that it is, please contact Irv Poston of the Database Committee, 248-646-9574, ieposton@juno.com.

—Irv Poston

SMC 2017 Dues Coupon

2017 dues are payable before January 1, 2017. Active and Associate Member Dues are \$40. A \$10 late fee **must** be added for dues paid after January 1, 2017. 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.

Associates Orientation

The next Associates Orientation meeting will be held on Friday, February 3 at 9:00AM at The Community House. All Associates are invited. Orientation is required prior to induction. For attendance confirmation or questions, contact John Klein at 248-363-3020 or klein60@yahoo.com.

—John Klein

Free Lunch

The Executive Board has approved offering free lunches for member prospects. Guests are limited to two appearances per year. Members with such prospects should simply register a guest on arrival at any Friday meeting and pick up a lunch ticket. Once they learn how interesting and dynamic our Club and members are, they most likely will be motivated to join.



—Dick Harper

Groups



Investment Group

The next meeting of the Investment Group will be held on Wednesday, February 8 at 2:45PM. Our speaker will be Alan Miller, Tax Director of LJPR. Alan will discuss implications of possible Trump/GOP changes on our tax returns and provide some meaningful tax tips for 2016 reporting. Capital Stock Game results will be discussed. Ralph Schick is a clear leader, up a striking 61%, followed by George Miller, up 32% and Ralph Cowie with a 29% gain. Lots of time for changes!

—Dick Harper and George Miller



Camera Group

Great photographers make great images if the subject is compelling. Our program for Tuesday, February 14 at 2:00PM will be a very special presentation by Ferndale Photographer Alanna St. Laurent. If you visit her website <https://alannastlaurent.com>, you will find an excellent selection of her work. For our meeting, she will focus on "Abandoned Buildings". Alanna has captured revealing images from Detroit and many other cities. We'll have an opportunity to find out how she gains access to these locations. Explore the challenges of lighting and composition.

So, bring your friends and spouses to explore the architecture and artistry that imprint our surroundings.

—Harry Bloom



Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group will meet on Monday, February 6 at the Community House at 2:00PM.

This month's meeting will cover two websites, Wiki Tree and Geni, which are becoming popular because you can interact with your relatives in a collaborative fashion. With the age of internet technology, these new sites are being developed regularly and can enhance what members already are using.

Members interested in starting a family history are welcome as we have a data bank of instructions to aid you in collecting the necessities.

—Dave Bakos



Classic Movie Group

On Monday, February 13, Norm Morrell will present one of his favorite films, "Gran Torino" at 1:00PM. In this classic thriller, Clint Eastwood stars as a retired auto worker who doesn't like how his life or Highland Park neighborhood changes when an Asian family moves next door. But a series of events cause him to defend and ultimately bond with them when a street gang terrorizes the neighborhood.

This film is of interest to Detroiters since it was shot in our area, much of it actually in Highland Park. If you love suspense, this one is for you – plan to attend to see a modern day classic film.

—Fred Hansz



Reading Groups

Our February meetings will take cognizance of the current interest in the political process. The Wednesday group will meet on Wednesday, February 1 at 10:30AM to examine the Libertarian way of thinking about the frustrating task of improving society. We will discuss the novel "An Act of Self-Defense" by Erne Lewis, who embraces the Libertarian viewpoint. Jerry Heller will lead the discussion.

The Monday Group will meet on Monday, February 20 at 3:00PM to discuss "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance. According to the *New York Times* reviewer, Vance offers a compassionate, discerning sociological analysis of the white underclass that has driven the politics of rebellion, and the ascent of Donald Trump. The reviewer believes the author explains why so many voters buy Trump's arguments. Larry Imerman will lead this discussion.

—Frank Auld



Computer Group

The Computer Group will next meet on Wednesday, February 15 at 3:00PM. A speaker from Microsoft will discuss new features in Windows 10. All members and guests are welcome.

—Tom Allen

60th Anniversary 1957 - 2017

Gala Dinner
May 17, 2017

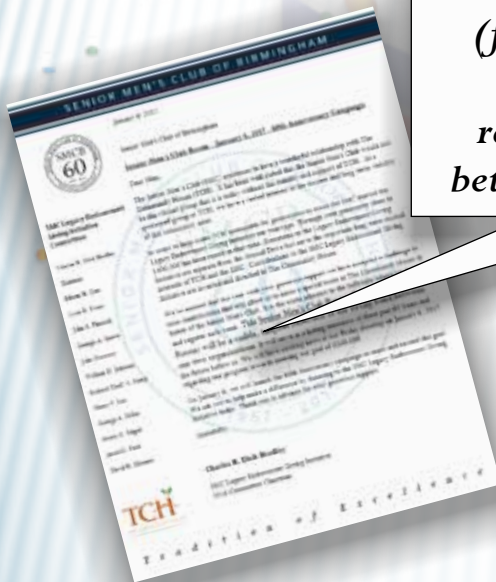
SAVE
THE
DATE

This is the grand celebration of the 60th Anniversary. Dinner and spectacular entertainment by famous singer and actor **Danny Gurwin**. Celebrate with the ladies and gentlemen of the Senior Men's Club.



A "Tradition of Excellence" was chosen as the theme for our year-long celebration. This underlying theme was true when the club was formed and manifests itself today in all we are and all we do.

This Senior Men's Club Room (formerly the Garden Room) will be a visible, tangible reflection of the strong bond between our two organizations.



Come to the next meeting to pick-up your 60th Anniversary items.



Commemorative Directory



Lapel Pin



60th Anniversary Video



New Name tag

Membership Drive

Over a year ago, a membership drive was launched with members encouraged to contact friends, neighbors or even total strangers to consider joining our great Club. We like to note that if we think about it, we all know someone who should belong. Of course, this should be an ongoing activity for all of us, but to stimulate us in this regard, we launched a contest with a prize for the member who signed up the most Associates during the contest period, which ran through 2015-16.

As shown below, eight of our members signed up three or more new Associates during the contest period, led by Swarn Rajpal who recruited six to our Club. The prize Swarn received was a small collection of U.S. silver dollars which once were awarded Friday meeting speakers.

RECRUITMENT LEADERS

Swarn Rajpal.....	6	Bob Beach.....	3
Augie Perrotta.....	5	Perry Driggs.....	3
John Flintosh.....	4	Malcolm Hendy.....	3
Roger Timm.....	4	George Stern.....	3

Congratulations to these recruiting champs. But this is a never completed challenge – our great Club is always looking for more members – our life blood, so to speak. Hence, the Membership Committee, headed by Pete Kass, is launching a new campaign in this regard. Members will be encouraged to pick up copies of our attractive membership brochure for distribution to prospects. Brochures will be available at Friday meetings.

—Dick Harper

2016 Attendance Champs

Chairman John Perryman of the Attendance Committee reports that the following members were Club attendance champions in 2016.

John Flintosh – 40
Dick Harper – 40
Jim Slosberg – 40
Frank Auld – 39
Dick Kamp – 39
Ralph Postler – 39
Cliff Snedeker – 39
Bob Babcock – 38
John Horiszny – 38
Geno Markell – 38
Mike Albright – 37
Pete Kass – 37
Tim McGee – 37
Frank Schmidt – 37

Aging Gracefully



We often note that belonging to and being as active as feasible in the Senior Men's Club keeps us alert, involved and with-it. In addition, and most importantly, all of

this contributes to fuller and longer lives for members. Database Chairman Frank Snower recently developed some member statistics which clearly demonstrate these facts. As of the end of last year, we had an amazing 88 members age 90 or more. OK, so they don't come to every Friday meeting, but they do participate when they can and they keep up with our events and activities.

Thirty of these ageless wonders are 95 or older – wow! and three - Bill Kelly, John Lavrakas and Harry Mitchell have reached centenarian status, with two more – John Villa and Zach Endress about to join these ranks. Hearty congratulations to our ageless wonders.

—Dick Harper

Senior Health Matters No Link Between High Cholesterol Intake and Memory Disorders

Published in the January 9 edition of the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, researchers from Finland found no link between high cholesterol intake and increased risk of dementia or Alzheimer disease nor for people who carry the APOE4 gene variant that increases the risk of memory disorders. A relatively high intake of dietary cholesterol was defined as the equivalent of eating one egg a day. Dietary cholesterol affects serum cholesterol only slightly in the majority of the population and there are no longer set limitations on the intake of cholesterol. Total serum cholesterol consists of high-density lipoprotein or HDL, low-density lipoprotein or LDL and triglycerides.

—Augustine L. Perrotta, DO

Special Events

"Altar Boyz" at Meadow Brook



On Wednesday, March 1 at 2:00PM, we will be treated to a musical comedy at the Meadow Brook Theatre on the campus of Oakland University.

"Altar Boyz" is a foot-stomping, rafter-raising show about a fictitious Christian boy-band. The Boyz are five singing, dancing, heartthrobs: Matthew, Mark, Luke, Juan and Abraham. As they perform their signature hits such as "Rhythm in Me," "The Calling" and "I Believe," the Boyz question their loyalty to each other and ask whether or not faith is really holding them together. They finally deliver a message of unity, that "there is no star as bright as its constellation, no harmony in a single voice."

Fifty-six seats have been blocked for us in the recently renovated theatre, with outstanding sight lines (it's only 57 feet from stage to back row). Charter bus transportation from the First Presbyterian Church is included -- departing at 1:00PM, returning around 5:00PM.

Ticket sales (\$35 per ticket) began January 20 -- best seat locations for earliest reservations.

—Larry Price

Games

SMC President's Team Captures First Half Trophy

New President Dick Kamp has led his Strikers team, (Bob Klein and Nick Marinelli), to a razor-thin first half victory in the SMC Bowling League. The Jarheads (Tim McGee, Chuck Robinson and Tom Waffen), finished second by 1.5 points, and the Furies (Bowling Chair Richard Volpe, Bob Beach and Marv Dery), came in third by 3 points. The tightness of the competition resulted from this year's initiation of three-man teams, causing more balanced results. Newcomer John Bergeron holds the high average (168), followed by Chair Volpe (157) and Ken Beres (155).



Because many of our regulars have migrated to warmer climes, we are in urgent need of substitutes. What better way to begin the New Year than by venturing to Troy Lanes at Square Lake and John R next Monday at 10:00AM to experience the thrill of trying to knock down ten pins with one ball? That must be why your humble writer prefers golf to bowling. Even though both involve one ball, in golf there is only one hole versus bowling which has ten pins. However, unless you throw a strike, in bowling you get a legal mulligan in every frame!

—Maynard Timm

Winter Golf



It won't be long now before the robins return from down south and we again think about what we will be doing on Mondays and Thursdays starting in April. So if you didn't join us last month, there is plenty of time to work off the rust and hone your swings at the Oakland Yard Golf Dome on Thursdays between 9:30-11:30AM with lunch following at Hero's Restaurant.

Schedule of Events at the Dome: FEB 9: Swing tuned up by Edgewood Country Club golf pro Dave Vanloozen. MAR 2: Annual Chipping Contest. MAR 9: Swing tuned up by Edgewood Country Club golf pro Dave Vanloozen. MAR 23: Annual Putting Contest. The Chipping and Putting Contests have a \$3 entrance fee and the leagues will contribute \$2. The fees will be split 50%/30%/20% to the first top 3 winners.

In March, we will be posting the sign-up sheet for Monday Golf at Lincoln Hills for those that want a guaranteed tee time.

For more information on any of these events, see one of the Golf Committee members: Monday Golf Chair: Tom Waffen; Thursday Golf Chair: Tom Schrift; Season Golf Chair: Tim McGee; Games Chair Emeritus: Chuck Travers

New Members:



Jay W. Reynolds
718 Colonial Ct.
Birmingham, MI 48009-3870
248-645-9671
E-mail: Jay W. Reynolds@gmail.com
Sponsor: George Stern



Charles G. Myers III
30310 Southfield Rd., Apt. 63B
Southfield, MI 48076-1340
248-642-0284
E-mail: CGM3sfld@earthlink.net
Sponsor: Ted Schuster

To Life Member:

Roger R. Glomstead
Joseph C. Samyn

New Associate:

Brian D. Haw
432 Weybridge Drive
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1078
248-931-0426; hawbrian@att.net
Sponsor: Kirby Callam

Resigned:

William E. Frever
Thomas J. Gillingham

Deaths:

William A. Hassberger, (Life) joined March, 1980
Mitchell Choly, joined April, 2012
John J. Kary, (Life) joined May, 2003
Robert A. Pullar, (Life) joined November, 1996
Jack L. Fawcett, (Life) joined September, 1995

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman

—Frank Snower, Database Chairman

—Tom Booth, Gene Markel & Roger Timm, Photography

Charles Travers

One of our Club's best known and active members is Charles (Chuck) Travers, a member since 2003. Chuck is a true and most loyal "Fighting Illini", graduating from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He spent more than 30 years in technical marketing and sales with General Electric.



After retiring Chuck formed his own consulting firm. He served in the Critical Skills program of the U.S. Navy reserve.

As an active SMC member, Chuck has played a leading role in a variety of activities in the Club. Most importantly he led several aspects of the Games Committee and now is honored as Chairman Emeritus of this committee, a key position that oversees the bowling league, golf league and bridge groups. He was recently recognized for his multi-faceted contributions with our Club's prestigious Outstanding Service Award.

Chuck is an enthusiastic supporter and recruiter, commenting that "The Club is on the right track when it comes to growth. The key is to get new members to participate. Opportunities abound for everyone." He is widely respected and admired by Club colleagues, as reflected in comments by past president John Flintosh. "As Chairman Emeritus, Chuck is one of our most important leaders. He is also a very effective and entertaining public speaker." He credits his skills as a speaker to his dad, as well as to the insights and experiences he gained in college.

Chuck and his wife Sondra have two adult daughters. They have been married 55 years and live in Beverly Hills.

—Chuck Ragains

Presidential Passings

The year 2016 was not kind to the Senior Men's Club in one significant respect. As previously reported, we lost 41 vital and important members. Included in this total were no fewer than three past presidents - Frank Barnes, Ben Ewing and Bob Pullar - men whose significant contributions to our Club and leadership will not be forgotten.

Mystery Lyrics



We had a little more success with correct answers on last month's mystery lyrics. We asked if you

recognized these lyric lines from a real classic:

*"Then you'll spread your wings
and you'll take to the sky"*

Six readers knew that the song is "Summertime" from *Porgy and Bess* by the immortal George Gershwin. Congratulations to Barbara Timm, Fred Leydorf, Bob Seeley (who called from Florida), Midge (Roger) Gettel, Tom McNally plus Tom and Rose Marie Venier.

Let's try an old war time song this month, with these opening lines:

*"He's not very handsome, he's
not very tall. And in the smart
set, he's nothing at all"*

Can you name that tune?

Sports Trivia

Last month's sports trivia was most challenging. We asked if you could remember a most unusual trade – when two teams, including the Tigers, traded managers mid-season. Only Ken Beres remembered that the Tigers sent Jimmy Dykes to the Cleveland Indians and received Joe Gordon in 1960. This unusual exchange didn't do much for either team – they both finished well down in the standings. Clay Gordon remembered Gordon going to Cleveland, but thought we got Billy Martin.

Let's try more football player nicknames this month, with one possibly easy and one not. Who was known as "The Fridge" and who was known as "White Shoes"?

—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 2017 are: Richard A. (Dick) Kamp, president; Charles R. (Dick) Bradley, first vice president; Timothy S. McGee, second vice-president; Gerald W. (Jerry) Stribbell, recording secretary; Roger T. Timm, corresponding secretary; John P. Groves, treasurer; James A. (Jim) Bayson, assistant treasurer; Richard W. (Dick) Judy and Larry R. Imerman, officers at large; George A. Grove, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor; John Flintosh, Chuck Ragains, and Maynard Timm, 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, February 14, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, February 10

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

Bridge: Tuesdays at 9:00AM; Fridays after lunch

Golf: Thursdays at 9:30AM at Oakland Yard Dome

Special Events

"Altar Boyz" at Meadow Brook: Wednesday, March 1, 1:00PM

Group Meetings

Book Reading Group A: Wednesday, February 1, 10:30AM

Genealogy Group: Monday, February 6, 2:00PM

Investment Group: Wednesday, February 8, 2:45PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, February 13, 1:00PM

Camera Group: Tuesday, February 14, 2:00PM

Computer Group: Wednesday, February 15, 3:00PM

Book Reading Group B: Monday, February 20, 3:00PM

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

SMC ON THE WEB:

www.seniormensclubbirmingham.com

www.tchserves.org/outreach-and-clubs/clubs/senior-mens-club-of-birmingham