Humbled. That’s the word I used to describe how I felt when I became a member of the Saginaw Club in 1996. I had just been appointed the Budget Director of the City of Saginaw and since I was going to be downtown all the time my Dad thought it was high time for me to become a member of the Club.

I was 29 years old at the time… and therefore eligible for the Junior membership category. I remember thinking that it was like stealing to only pay like $100 a month to be a member. I could sit at the round table at lunch in the member’s grill with the business leaders in our community. I could have a drink at 5 o’clock in the member’s bar and share the experiences of the day with those same leaders. I could hang out at Stag Night monthly and keep up to date on community initiatives around town through the chosen speaker for the evening. I could celebrate family special events like birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays… and now I could even pay without using my Dad’s number! My Saginaw Club membership was very much a rite of passage for me… almost like the first step in my adult life!

I am happy to report that almost twenty years later, I still have those same feelings about our Saginaw Club. I love the unique experiences we can have here that you just can’t get going to a chain restaurant. We have a great facility, a great staff, and a great product. When can we expect to see you here next?

We have some great events coming up at the Club. If you haven’t been to something in a while, please consider attending one of these great upcoming events:

- Mother’s Day Brunch – Sunday, May 12
- Men’s Stag/Steak Cookout – Wednesday, May 22
- Special Speaker Event – Wednesday, June 5
- Summer Kick-off Party – Thursday, June 20

If you do choose to attend one of these fine occasions, I can virtually assure you that you will not be disappointed that you did!

I would be remiss if I didn’t thank you, the members of the Saginaw Club, for electing me to another three year term on the Board of Managers. I also want to thank my fellow members on the Board of Managers for choosing me as the Club President for 2013-2014. What a special honor it is for a native son to hold this position. It will be an honor and privilege to serve! Mac will be a tough act to follow… but I promise to give it all that I’ve got.

I am humbled again to be serving as your President this year… just like the day I became a member. It’s great to be a part of the Saginaw Club. Have a great summer… I hope to see you downtown soon!

Sincerely,
Timothy T. Royle
113th Saginaw Club President

SAGINAW CLUB STAFF
Linden Mills.........................General Manager
Cheryl Westphal.......................Office Manager
Laureen Lutenski.......................Membership Director
Jo Ann Prece........Dining Room Manager
Ben Rorabacher...............Executive Chef
Anita Rattray..........................Receptionist

SUMMER DINING SCHEDULE SUMMARY

MAY
Friday, May 24th – Closed for Dinner Service...Happy Memorial Day Weekend!
Thursday, May 30th – Bistro moves from Friday to Thursdays
No Friday Night Dinner Service, May 31st.

JUNE
No Friday Night Dinner Service
Thursday Night Dinner Service 1st Floor Bistro only 5:30-8pm

JULY
Club Closed for Lunch & Dinner Service
Dining at reciprocal clubs always an option.

AUGUST
Club reopens Monday, August 5th
Lunch Monday - Friday
No Friday Night Dinner Service
Thursday Night Dinner Service 1st Floor Bistro only 5:30-8pm

SEPTEMBER
September 19th – Tentative Fall Open House
Regular Fall & Winter Operating Schedule resumes, Thursday, September 26th
OUTGOING PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

It's been a privilege to serve as your 112th Saginaw Club president. Many of you have offered kind words, encouragement and constructive comments about our club during the past year.

Resident members are the life blood of the Saginaw Club and we are very fortunate to have generated 20 new Resident members since November of 2012. This largely occurred with the conversion of “Be our Guest” members and was a team effort by fellow members, your Board of Managers and Saginaw Club staff. We are very appreciative of those 20 members who made the commitment to remain an active member of the Saginaw Club.

The Board of Managers felt it was time to give you a complete State of the Club review as we did last fall. The importance of addressing some challenges the club is facing with declining Thursday night dinner attendance and 5 year membership projections shouldn't be ignored. We had a very large turnout and fun dining experience following.

The generosity and passion, for many of us, for the Saginaw Club is something I trust we will never lose. Thanks for going out of your way to attend more events during the past year and thank you for continuing to be a part of such a special place all of us are proud to be a part of.

One more big thing. Have you heard the news? In 2014 the Saginaw Club celebrates our 125th birthday. Special thanks to Ted and Ruth Braun, Dave and Claudia Wallace, Suzanne Mason, Gerry Kelly, Dave Hoffman, Connie Harvey, and Greg Branch for joining us for our first planning meeting. If you would like to join us for our 2nd meeting in June please contact Laureen at the club office. Our date for the celebration is Thursday, May 1st, 2014. Additional celebration news will be announced soon.

Sincerely,
Ken “Mac” MacDonald

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT
Review of the 124th Annual Meeting
Wednesday, April 10, 2013

President “Mac” MacDonald opened the meeting by dispensing with the procedural requirements of waiving a reading of last year’s Annual Meeting minutes and the determination that a quorum was present. A warm welcome was extended to all present.

President MacDonald requested a moment of silence in honor of deceased members and spouses: Alvin Benson, Brady Denton, Dixie Drinan, Mary Jo Heitman, Mrs. Richard Heuschele, William Nelson Jr., Mary Rockwell, Don Snyder and William Whitehead.

John Bintz and Jack Rehmann were thanked for their many years as inspectors of the election. The three successful candidates elected to the Board of Managers were announced: David Hoffman, Tim Royle and Morrie Stevens Jr. Tim Royle was appointed as the new president, Jim Carpp will take over the responsibilities of vice-president and “Mac” will remain on the board in an ex-officio capacity.

Several highlights from the past year were covered, including the December Stag, ideas to attract new members, individual ideas on usage of first floor space, new service possibilities etc. and effective member communications regarding important programs.

Continued membership declines, Thursday night dinner activity and fiscal year-end results were cited as frustrations. Some of the year’s successes were reported including high profile speakers and excellent attendance at many club events.

Treasurer’s Report: Jim Carpp recapped the year’s financial results which revealed a decline in revenue partially offset by decreased expenses. The end result was a loss of ($31,900). Club cash flow indicates it being level comparing the two years.

The goal remains breaking even at year end.

Membership Report: Tim Hausbeck and Morrie Stevens Jr. Membership counts revealed a modest decline for the year. A real bright spot was the conversion of 20 “Be Our Guest” participants to Resident membership. Total membership count was 275 at fiscal year end.

Dave Abbs reviewed some plans and goals for the year ahead. Member growth, special food and beverage events and clubhouse upgrades were all covered.

President MacDonald opened the floor to the two proposed By-Law amendments. The amendment to reduce the number of candidates for each opening on the Board of Managers from 2 to 1 was tabled after some discussion. The amendment to permit electronic voting in future club elections passed.

There will be a special committee planning festivities for the club’s 125th anniversary in 2014.

In conclusion, President MacDonald expressed sincere thanks to the Board of Managers, club staff and especially the members for their support and cooperation throughout the past year.

SHARING THE TRADITION

Please be sure to extend a warm Saginaw Club welcome to the following new members:
Judge Fred Borchard
Ryan Iles
David & Julie Meyer
Kathleen McGraw
David Strouse
MANAGER’S MESSAGE

Operating in the summer off-season

As with all businesses in both strong and weak economies, increasing sales/revenues is, without doubt, the most desirable means of improving the financial position. Your Board and staff are continuously seeking ways to improve the “top line” through increasing our membership count and improving food and beverage sales through member and guest usage. While these programs continue the only other means to maintain a strong financial condition is to reduce costs. Over the past five years the total operating expenses have decreased $775,000 to $677,500; a decline of $97,500. The number does not include depreciation or the pay down in the club mortgage balance.

How did we get there? The very highest priority in any cost cutting consideration is to avoid or minimize reduction to the quality or level of member service. The summer season is the slow time of the year. Here are the adjustments made to reduce losses during this period.

The Dining Room Manager, Membership Director and General Manager have all taken voluntary layoffs for varying lengths of time. All continue to be available on call and do volunteer their time as needed. The entire staff is laid off in July except for the Executive Chef and Office Manager, who continue to work full time throughout the summer. Second floor dinner service is suspended due to low guest counts.

While cost cutting is not the most favorable means of getting good results, it has worked out relatively well. Why? Because our members have been very cooperative and understanding; the Board has been very effective in developing strategies and leading the club through these challenging times, and the entire staff has been loyal to the club while successfully implementing the plan. In other words, the whole team (members, Board and staff) has been doing a fine job of keeping the club on track.

Jo Ann Preece, the club’s greatest ambassador, is transitioning from partial to full retirement on June 1st. As part of the ongoing effort to streamline operations, here is the plan to fill the huge vacancy created by her departure. Doris Strauss who has worked at the club for eight years, in several different capacities, will become the Dining Room Manager. Laureen Lutenski, Membership Director and a five year employee, will assume the responsibilities for booking and coordinating all private parties and club events. The remainder of us will always be there to assist in serving you.

STAG NIGHT
Wednesday, May 22nd
Show off your classic “boy toys” while “Mac” and Bob Sidney showcase their grilling skills during this very popular annual cookout! Fun starts around 5:30pm. Don’t miss this one… the last STAG event until fall!

NEW RAZZ
Thursday, May 23rd & June 27th
Join our longer term members for a casual night out. Fun starts around 6 pm with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres and continues with lively conversation between good friends over dinner.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER EVENT
Wednesday, June 5th
Contract City: Doing More with Much Less — The Sandy Springs Story

In 2005 Oliver Porter created a public-private partnership model and implemented a new government for Sandy Springs, Georgia. That model was premised on providing most municipal services through competitive contracting. The only services the city actually provides are police and fire. The move has saved millions of dollars and drawn the attention of government leaders across the United States and overseas, too. Oliver Porter is a retired Vice President of AT&T and a civil engineer. He continues working as a Senior Research Fellow at Georgia Tech University and is author of four books, including Creating the New City of Sandy Springs: The 21st Century Paradigm: Private Industry. Michael LaFaive, Director, Morey Fiscal Policy Initiative, Mackinac Center for Public Policy, will be making the introduction. A special event not to be missed!

Upcoming Club Events…
RESERVATIONS PLEASE FOR ALL EVENTS: 754.8404

SAGINAW CHORAL SOCIETY: Blaze of Glory
Saturday, May 11th – 8:00pm
The sun warms up our side of the earth again and we celebrate with a riveting blaze of musical majesty. We’re calling in the brass and the snare to visit John Rutter’s electrifying Gloria. We’re staring right into the flaming eyes of the Jabberwock.
Get ready. We’re bringing choral fire.
Please join us for dinner before the concert!

MOTHER’S DAY BRUNCH
A Special Day for Those Very Special Ladies
Sunday, May 12th 11am-2pm
Memories in the making…Chilled shrimp, Carved meats, Meringue filled surprises… just a few of our favorite things.
Buffet: 11am-2pm. Adults: $22
Children 5-10 years: $11
Under 5: Free

Optional dinner following.

SAVE THE DATE
Thursday, June 20th
Summer Kick-Off & Member Appreciation Party
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JULY – No Food Service
5 O’CLOCK CLUB – Mon-Thurs
Office Open Mon-Thurs 9am-1pm

AUG – Lunch Service Resumes 8/5 Mon-Fri 11:45 am – 2 pm
8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 8/22, 8/29 BISTRO 5:30-8pm
5 O’CLOCK CLUB – Mon-Fri