

Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol. LV No.9

Editor: Jim Munroe

Access the Cosmo website
<http://sbcosmo.com>
for current and archived issues of
Crackers and special events
information



Next Meeting: November 6, 2008

Next Editor: Don Margerum

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Sartorially speaking

Gentlemen - Our seasonal dress down gets tossed with your droopy pumpkin – Coats and ties are in order beginning with our November 6 gathering.

Next Program, November 6

Cosmo member Gordon Bjork: "Economic Problems Facing the New Administration"

Dr. Gordon Bjork taught 27 years at Claremont where his late colleague Peter Drucker described him as "the best economist in town". Gordon has served as an economic consultant to banks, accounting and law firms, the California Bankers Assn, the American Bankers Assn., the American Mortgage Bankers Assn., and the U.S. Treasury Dept. in 1993-94. He has conducted seminars for Eastern European Bankers on how Western banks and financial markets function, and has served as a director for several private corporations.

Gordon is the sole author of 4 books on economics, and a contributing author to ten others. When George W. Bush and Al Gore were offering their ideas on how to deal with a budget surplus after 2000, Dr. Bjork penned an LA Times opinion piece presciently entitled "There ain't gonna be a surplus."
Introduction by Ben Walsh.

Future Programs

November 20

Conductor Nir Kabaretti will give us his perspective on the Santa Barbara Symphony.



December 4

Fife Symington will tell us "What We Can Expect from the 2008 Elections"

December 18

Our traditional Christmas choral program by the San Marcos High School Madrigal singers, augmented by some very special a cappella talent.



January 15

Jan Kenneth Kosik, M. D. "Advances in Understanding Alzheimer's"

February 5

Professor Richard Applebaum "Impact of Nano-technology on Society (particularly China)"

February 19

Ladies Day, Nancy Bell Coe



Welcome Our Guests

Geoff Aggeler hosted by Ron White
Bob Buegler feted by Bob Williams

Wine Drawing

Bob Talley scored a vat of gin and Crackers editor Harv Turner ticketed a Sid Ackert 2006 cabernet.

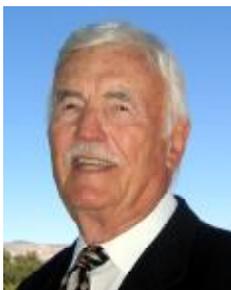


WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Stanley I. "Stan" Clothier

4400-F Shadow Hills Circle, SB 93105
805-967-8293, stanclo@aol.com

Born in the great state of Montana on April 8, Stan's CV would describe him as a serial entrepreneur. An Electrical Engineer by degree and experience, he created, managed and eventually sold three electronics companies prior to retiring in 1998. He and wife Lucille have one son and two daughters, and settled in Santa Barbara in 2006. Stan will swell the Cosmo golf ranks by one. Ron Singer, John MacKenzie and Bruce Long sponsored Stan's membership.



Paul F. Fink

3375 Foothill Rd. #926,
Carpinteria 93013
805-566-6671

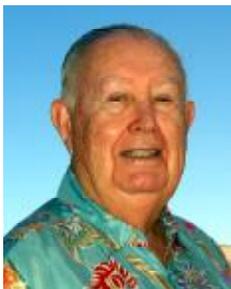
Born June 3 as a fighting Illini, academician Paul earned his BA and MA in Philosophy, and taught that subject as a college professor for 33 years before retiring in 1992. He and wife Nancy are 40-year residents of Santa Barbara, and boast daughter Wendy and son Eric. Travel, golf, fishing and hiking keep Paul fit and happy. Ron Singer, John MacKenzie and Robin Durkee sponsored Paul into Cosmo.



Robert H. "Bob" Jenkins

1115 Senda Verde, SB 93105
805-682-1494, rjjenkins@cox.net

Crackers did not have a picture of Bob when he was welcomed as a new member in our last issue. We are pleased to now share his likeness with his fellow Cosmo members.



Bridge

Last meeting's victors were . . .

Pres Gould	3920 Pts
Ed Loper	3610 Pts
Jim Belden	2860 Pts
Bill Kucera	2860 Pts



Join us for fun bridge: We meet upstairs after all regular meetings and play until 3:30. Contact Pres Gould 964-6568 or pwgould@cox.net

Special Events

Nethercutt Museum . . . Friday, November 14

Join us for this outing to the most unusual Nethercutt Museum in the San Fernando Valley. There you will see

dozens of elegant antique vintage black iron & classic automobiles. Also of interest is the world's finest collection of mechanical musical instruments, all in working order. They have added the 1912 Pullman private car owned by the daughter of the famous "Lucky Baldwin" and a 1937 Canadian Pacific Hudson locomotive. Our bus will depart the Elks' Club at 9:15 am, make a pick-up in Carpinteria and stop for no-host lunch before arriving at the museum. The cost of \$35/person is for the bus, driver's tip and onboard refreshments.

Checks should be made payable to the Cosmopolitan Club and mailed to Harry Stroud, 3778 W. Pacific Coast Hwy, Ventura 93001. Phone 653-5117 for reservations or questions.

Christmas Dinner Dance...Tuesday, December 9

(Page 5 of eCrackers is a copy of the reservation form)

Our Christmas Dinner-Dance will be held at the La Cumbre Country Club the evening of Tuesday, December 9. 6 p.m. for cocktails and social hour; 7 p.m. for dinner.

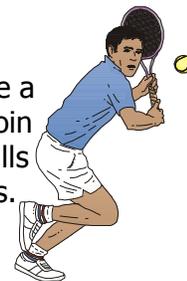
You and your best girl will not want to miss this superb holiday party. Dancing to the great sounds of the "City Lights" orchestra is sure to put some spring back into your step. The ladies really appreciate this opportunity to put on some glamour and enjoy this very special event at our City's best country club.

Cost is \$80 per person. A sign-up table will be available at the November lunch meetings, or mail the flyer to Hal Dunham whose address is on the reservation form. Jim Pattillo, Chairman, 969-2796



Tennis:

The Cosmo tennis group play doubles twice a week, and all tennis players are invited to join us. We play at a private court in Shadow Hills starting at 8 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays. Call Bruce Long, 692-4072, or Walter Mead, 682-3045.



Crackers (still) Covets Cosmo Crafters

The talented gentlemen who quietly bring you the ever timely issues of Crackers seek a few good men to augment our ranks. The pay is modest, but you do enjoy a solo byline 4-5 times each year.

A Crackers gent should have a functional acquaintance with MS Word and email. You do not need to deal with photos, graphics, formatting, clip art or any esoteric publishing minutiae. You may bring your own comfort level of creativity to your editorial efforts.

If you'd like more specifics and/or just chat about the process, contact Jim Munroe, jmspin@cox.net or 563-2972.

Cosmo Computer Society:

The November 18 meeting speaker will be Zacharias Hunt, County GIS manager who will discuss the County's Geographic Information System.



We meet upstairs at the Elks Club on the third Tuesday of every month. Open discussion starts at 10 a.m. The feature presentation starts at 10:30, concluding with a no-host luncheon. All Cosmo members are welcome. Jim Stubchaer and Bob Gerity, Program Chairmen. Chair, Howard Glenn, 967-2633.

S. A. G. E. Investment Group:

The next meeting is Tuesday, November 4 at 10:00 a.m.

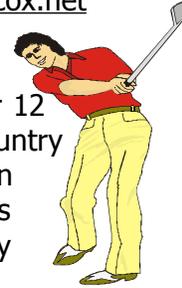
We welcome all Cosmo members to come and discuss economic trends and current issues. We meet at 10 a.m. on the First Tuesday of each month at the Elks Club, 2nd floor, followed by a no-host fellowship luncheon in the Grill downstairs. We do not select or buy stocks.

Chair Dick Evans, 967-6930, dickevans1@cox.net



Golf:

Special Golf Event...Wednesday, November 12
Another great bargain at the Montecito Country Club! This fun event will include lunch, green fees, carts, prize \$, and hot hors d'oeuvres after the round for the bargain price of only \$45.00!



The number of golfers will be limited to eighteen (18) plus sponsors. So, please sign up early. You are invited to sign up beyond the 18 slots, and you will be accommodated if there are cancellations. The play format will NOT be our usual scramble. It will be a surprise format which will be the same as the regular MCC members will play that day. Any questions about this event, please contact Marty Tucker, 969-0760, or the Golf Committee Chairman Ron Singer, 684-1355.

Golf Weekly at Twin Lakes - Mondays at 9:00 A.M. (Tuesday on Monday holidays). \$9.00 for 9 holes (par 29); have fun improving your short game on an easy walking, flat course.

And at Ocean Meadows - Wednesdays at 8:30 A.M. \$14.00 for 9 holes (par 36) with a play card. Improve your long shots. Open to all Cosmo members. Chair Ron Singer 684-1355, rsinger916@aol.com

Editor's Aside:

As our Cosmo members and communications grow increasingly linked through email, it is natural and inevitable that non-Cosmo content will be circulated via our electronic network. It is clearly inappropriate for any member to use the full Cosmo email roster for non-club communication. Members may certainly use individual

email addresses to share non-Cosmo content among friends. However, as a matter of courtesy and email etiquette, the sender should first inquire if a prospective recipient wishes to receive non-Cosmo subject matter...and respect the wishes of those who do not.

Last Meeting

With President Robin Durkee at our helm, Harold Englund keyed our way through the National Anthem and Chuck Curtis offered a thoughtful blessing.

While there was plenty of aloha spirit, there were precious few aloha shirts bedecking our Cosmo members. Nevertheless, Ron White reported a spirited judging that ultimately netted Glen Neikirk the winner's bottle of Sauvignon Blanc.



Resplendent Ben Walsh introduced speaker Robert Eringer whose career path even Google Maps would have difficulty tracking. Mr. Eringer's latest gig is as investigative reporter for our own Santa Barbara News-Press. Mr. Eringer expressed some surprise at this opportunity since most newspapers have discontinued such efforts due to cost and liability concerns. His Saturday column is, unsurprisingly, headed "Investigator", and he is given free rein on his subject matter.

In remarks titled "Investigative Journalism by an FBI Undercover Agent " (he's presumably less undercover now), Mr. Eringer described himself as being in the information collection and reporting business. Journalism, he opines, is for mass media consumption, while intelligence gathering-dissemination is for a very small, targeted audience.

Our speaker's career careens through a forest of journalistic and intelligence activities. Mr. Eringer has been, is, or may yet be a journalist, novelist (his favorite spy novel is entitled "Parallel Truce", authored by none other than...Robert Eringer who poignantly commented "I don't read spy novels...I live them"), private intelligence consultant, undercover FBI operative and, until recently, director of intelligence services for Prince Albert II of Monaco.

Early in his undercover intelligence career, Mr. Eringer helped foil KKK efforts to establish a foothold in the United Kingdom. Subsequently, he partnered with the CIA's Claire George to provide special services to wealthy individuals and royalty. He then served as a contract agent for the FBI to draw out Ed Howard who was thought to be a Russian spy. Mr. Eringer was Howard's last best friend before the latter defected to Russia. Mr. Eringer postulates that while Howard was primed for

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capture, political considerations allowed Howard to escape the U.S.

More recently, Mr. Eringer helped Prince Albert of Monaco establish that country's intelligence service following Prince Renier's death. This service, and the Prince, have been co-opted by Russian interests, in Mr. Eringer's assessment.

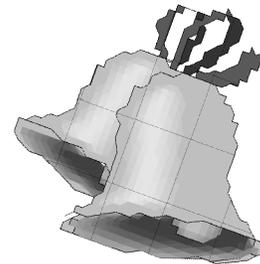
In wide-ranging Q&A, Mr. Eringer offered the following:
Monaco's chief judicial officer is extremely corrupt.
The Russians never trusted Kim Philby.
The lack of consequence to the exposure of CIA operative Valerie Plame he credits on good lawyers.
U.S. intelligence services are ineffective, politicized and bureaucratically quagmired.
U.S. intelligence relies too heavily on technology and too little on human resources.
"Burn After Reading" is the best movie depiction of the CIA.
Mr. Eringer's family owns/operates (or did) the largest dessert products company in the UK.

Mr. Eringer took us on an interesting and entertaining journey...leaving some of us to wonder which parts were highway and which, detour.



Cosmopolitan Club of Santa Barbara

CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE
Tuesday, December 9th, 2008



LA CUMBRE COUNTRY CLUB

6:00 PM COCKTAILS, SOCIAL HOUR
No Host Bar

7:00 pm DINNER WITH WINE

DANCING (7:00 - 10:00)TO MUSIC OF: 'CITY LIGHTS' COMBO

MENU

*Melange of seasonal greens tossed in basil vinaigrette
Topped with sliced pears, walnuts, crumbled goat cheese*

Choice of:

Grilled Halibut with lemon-butter sauce

or

*Sliced Tenderloin of Beef with Morel mushroom sauce
with*

Au gratin potatoes and Asparagus

Fresh Apple Pie a la Mode

Price: \$80 per person.

Dress: Formal or cocktail dress

RESERVATION

Name _____

HALIBUT

BEEF

Spouse or Guest _____

Seating Preference, if any:

Near dance floor

Quiet spot

I wish to be seated with: _____ and _____

and _____ and _____ and _____

Mail Reservation Form and check payable to "Cosmopolitan Club" to: Harold A. Dunham, 3775 Modoc Rd., Santa Barbara, CA 93105. Remember, 'Jingle, Jingle!'