

Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol. LV No.12

Editor: Hank Macchio

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

Editor's note:

You should receive your email Crackers no later than Monday prior to the upcoming meeting. If you subscribe to the print version, you should receive your mailed copy NLT Tuesday prior to the upcoming meeting. If you do not receive your newsletter, please notify Jim Munroe, 563-2972, jmspin@cox.net.

Notice:

Our Sergeants-at-arms committee does more than just keep the peace and enforce rules of civility at our meetings. These gentlemen handle any special arrangements and compile President Robin's agenda for the meetings. If you wish to be included in the next meeting's agenda, contact the listed Sergeant at Arms.

Next Program

December 18 Our traditional Christmas choral program by the San Marcos High School Madrigal singers, augmented by some very special **a cappella** talent. Wives are invited to this event, and payment may be made at the door.



Future Programs

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)"

Ladies' Day Celebration February 19

Purchase luncheon tickets for Ladies' Day at soon as possible. Seating is limited for this popular event. NancyBell Coe President of the Music Academy of the West will entertain us with a talk entitled, "Tales from the Trenches: Backstage in

Crackers Editor



Next Meeting: December 18, 2008

Next Editor: Don Margerum

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Next Sergeant at Arms: Mike Cribbs

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Classical Music." Sharing with her audience many humorous and harrowing experiences from her life in the trenches backstage in classical music.

NancyBell Coe became president of the Music Academy of the West in 2004. Each summer she oversees the mentoring of 135 pre-professional classical musicians by a faculty composed of outstanding music educators and performers. Prior to arriving in Santa Barbara, Ms. Coe was artistic administrator of the Aspen Music Festival and School. She also established the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen. Before Aspen, Ms. Coe was the general manager of the Cleveland Orchestra until 1998, having left a similar position with the Los Angeles Philharmonic in 1990. From 1978 through 1985, she was a member of the staff of the Spokane Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Coe graduated with a B.A. in Music from Wellesley College in Massachusetts.



SEMI-ANNUAL ROSTER UPDATE

The semi-annual update to the Cosmo Roster is scheduled for delivery in January. Please review your listing in your copy of the 2008-2009 Roster. Changes or corrections – particularly new phone numbers or e-mail addresses — should be sent to Don Chalfant: dchalfant@cox.net or (805) 687-3478.



CRACKERS EDITORS

Back row: Jim Munroe, Chuck Evans, Harv Turner

Front row: Skip Cole, Dwight Coffin, Don Margerum, Hank

Macchio Missing: Jim Rudy



Welcome Our Guests

Jim McKillit hosted by Fred March
Larry Prudhomme guest of Bill Stancer

Drawings

2007 Ackert Chardonnay scored by Joe Shaieb
Canadian Whiskey won by Herb Friedman



Bridge

Dec 4th meeting winners were:

Howard Glenn	3230
Paul Nefstead	3090
Jim Belden	2990



No Bridge play after the next meeting Dec 18th. Please join us for Bridge after the January 15th meeting. Contact Pres Gould at (805) 964-6568 or pwgould@cox.net.

New Members

Robert J. Buegler "Bob" – A native of Staten Island (one of the Boroughs of NYC for you West Coast folks) and born Jan 5th, Bob and his wife Marion relocated from Kansas to Santa Barbara a few years ago. Bob is a Navy veteran with more than 20 years service, a graduate of both Columbia University and MIT, and has spent a lengthy career as a telecommunications engineer with Sprint Corporation. Bob's interested in genealogy, and with no relation to that interest, is rumored to make a world-class Martini. Bob and Marion have a daughter, living in the Santa Ynez Valley, and they currently reside in Valle Verde, 828-B Calle de los Amigos, Santa Barbara, CA 93105. Bob can be reached at (805) 687-0208 or at bobbueg@hotmail.com.

Bob was sponsored by Bob Williams, John Van Aken and Henry Lévy.

Paul Barrett "Paul" – With a Dec 4th birthday, Paul's Navy service coincided closely with that "Day of Infamy". His Birthday, today, also marks his entry into the COSMO club. Following his wartime service, Paul earned his Bachelor's degree at Montana State College and his PhD at University of California, Berkeley. A resident of Santa Barbara since 1955, Paul taught at UCSB for more than 30 years and was a Professor of Physics prior to his retirement in 1986. Paul is interested in genealogy, photography and square dancing. Paul and his wife Virginia have three sons. He and his wife currently reside in Valle Verde, 714-A Mas Amigos, Santa Barbara, CA 93105. Paul can be reached at (805) 563-0548 or at pbarrett3@cox.net.

Paul was sponsored by Henry Lévy, Bob Williams and Bill Spangler.

Edward Wood Vernon "Ed" – Ed's a native of Whittier, CA, and was born on Dec 8th. As a Navy radar operator, Ed served on the USS Kearsarge, and then completed his Bachelor's degree in

Industrial Engineering at USC. Shortly thereafter, Ed founded DAC International in Carpinteria, CA, and built that company over the next 39 years into a leading optical manufacturing company. Ed and his wife Barbara have lived in Santa Barbara since 1964 and have raised a son and two daughters. Retired since 1999, Ed is actively interested in history and writing, as well as playing a bit of tennis and sailing. Ed's a published author: Las Misiones Antiguas, and has another book on the way. He and Barbara live at 729 Woodland Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93108. Ed can be reached at (805) 969-4123 or at ewvernon@cox.net.

Ed was sponsored by Bob Hankins, John MacKenzie and Duncan Craven.

Special Event

An Afternoon at the Opera -- March 15, 2009. -- Santa Barbara Opera matinee production of Carmen at the Granada with lunch preceding the performance. Lunch at 1:00 PM with the Opera following at 2:30 PM. Price for the lunch and Opera is \$105 per person. Price is \$60 per person for those who only want to attend the Opera. Contact Albert Mercado (805) 967-2233 almercado@aol.com.

Regular Events

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, (805) 692-4072 bruce93103@cox.net, or Walter Mead, (805) 682-3045.



Cosmo Computer Society:

Next meeting December 16th. Bob Gerity will cover the latest of Linux, and show us how easy it is to use. We meet upstairs at the Elks Club on the third Tuesday of every month. Discussion starts at 10:00 AM. The feature presentation starts at 10:30 AM, concluding with a no-host fellowship luncheon in the Elks Grill. All Cosmo members are welcome. Chair, Howard Glenn, (805) 967-2633 or hbglennc@cox.net.



S. A. G. E. Investment Group:

We had two outstanding speakers at our Dec. 2 meeting. First, Jim Schelling spoke of his impressions of the current stock market turmoil from his long history as an institutional investor. Then Mac McMillin talked about his observations and view of GM's present problems from his many years as an executive with the company.

Next month, current plans include discussion of Warren Buffett's investing methods and second, a review of current outlook for REITs. Join us at 10:00 AM on January 6th. This will be followed by a no-host lunch. Dick Evans, Chairman (805) 967-6930 or dickevns1@cox.net.



Golf:

Next Tournament: - Wednesday, Jan. 28th at the Santa Barbara Golf Club (Muni). First Tee Off @ 10:30 AM; four man teams with usual format. \$52 fee includes Green Fees, cart and prize money.

Weekly: 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. 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

New Feature - Regular Golf every Monday at Santa Barbara Golf Club (Muni). Tee times from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. Regular senior rate (\$20 for 18 holes, not including cart). Contact Ron Singer by Friday before the Monday you would like to play to get your tee time.

Golf Chair - Ron Singer (805) 684-1355, rsinger916@aol.com



Last Meeting: December 4, 2008

Fife Symington, former governor of Arizona, gave an excellent perspective on the recent elections, "What We Can Expect from the 2008 Elections". Symington has been active in Arizona politics for more than two decades and knows John McCain well. Gov. Symington was introduced by David Kain.



Fife Symington was the Republican governor of Arizona from 1991 until his resignation in 1997. He comes from a distinguished Maryland family and is a great-grandson of steel magnate Henry Clay Frick. His family political connections include his cousin, Stuart Symington, former U.S. Senator from Missouri, and his second cousin James Wadsworth Symington, a U.S. Representative from Missouri.

After leaving political office, Symington graduated from the Scottsdale Culinary Institute/Cordon Bleu, and helped to found the Arizona Culinary Institute, a professional cooking school that teaches the classic French method. Symington is a founding partner of The Symington Group, a venture capital and strategic business/political consulting firm.

The simplistic view of what happened in the 2008 Presidential Election, can be represented by:

Unpopular BUSH + Unpopular IRAQ + Financial Meltdown = OBAMA

However, using a blizzard of polling data, demographic sampling, battleground states results analyses, and personal contact information, Symington was able to create a multi-dimensional portrait of the 2008 Election. Most of the data presented were used in a series of election post-mortem meetings held by Republican leaders. And, while admitting that some of the data and conclusions had a small Republican (Conservative) bias, Symington presented clear, irrefutable conclusions that point to seismic shifts in the Electorate between 2004 and 2008.

The popular vote — 46% McCain to 53% Obama — was very close to the aggregation of polling data held one week prior to the election. So, why were the polls discounted? Symington gave a professional politician's answer: "If you're ahead, you want to lower expectations; if you're behind, you attack the methodology

of the polls so you don't turn off your supporters." But, digging deeper, the seismic shifts became very clear.

To begin with, newly registered voters identified with the Democrat party by a 7% to 10% margin over those who identified themselves as Republicans. This disparity of new voter registration in favor of one political party over another was unprecedented in recent history.

The composition of the electorate changed significantly in the last 28 years — from 12% Black/Hispanic in 1980 to 22% Black/Hispanic in 2008. It's interesting to note that in 1992, the electorate was 84% White vs. 74% White in 2008. Blacks voted 95% for Obama — no surprise here — but, Hispanics voted 2 to 1 for Obama in 2008, a 180° shift since their 2004 vote for Bush.

Younger voters — 18 to 29 years of age, particularly younger single voters — voted overwhelmingly for Obama by the same 2 to 1 margin, again reversing the trend seen in 2004. This, coupled with the increase in Hispanic population, was especially critical in New Mexico, Nevada, Virginia, North Carolina and Florida going to Obama. First time voters voted 2 to 1 for Obama. Rustbelt states such as Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania, leaning towards Obama, cemented their position for Obama after the Sep/Oct financial meltdown.

On-and-on, the statistics portrayed a clear picture of what happened: Obama had more newly registered Democrats, the youth vote, the Black/Hispanic vote, the first time vote, and the votes of manufacturing-oriented states negatively affected by the financial meltdown. Obama's significantly larger campaign war chest allowed him to pound McCain with TV ads in the battleground states, and to surpass McCain on the ground with an effective get-out-the-vote drive.

Since most voters begin to consider their votes and decide on a candidate in the last 3 to 4 weeks prior to an election, a concentrated ad blitz and ground effort are critical during that period. Obama clearly won both the "air war" and the "ground war". Additionally, media bias in favor of Obama was unprecedented in recent history.

Interestingly, according to Symington's data, Republicans (Conservatives) still hold the high ground amongst all voters on such issues as individual responsibility, lower taxes and national security. However, the Democrats own the issues of change, withdrawing from Iraq, economic help for the Middle Class and energy independence. These issues proved decisive.

Unless they want to be a Minority Party for a long time, Symington's message to Republicans (Conservatives): 1) show more focus on the Latino/Hispanic voter — this is the fastest growing demographic group; 2) create the image of a more open, diverse Party; 3) be both pro-family and pro-single; 4) stop spending like Democrats; and 5) get a crisp, clear strategy and promote the message of Lower Taxes.

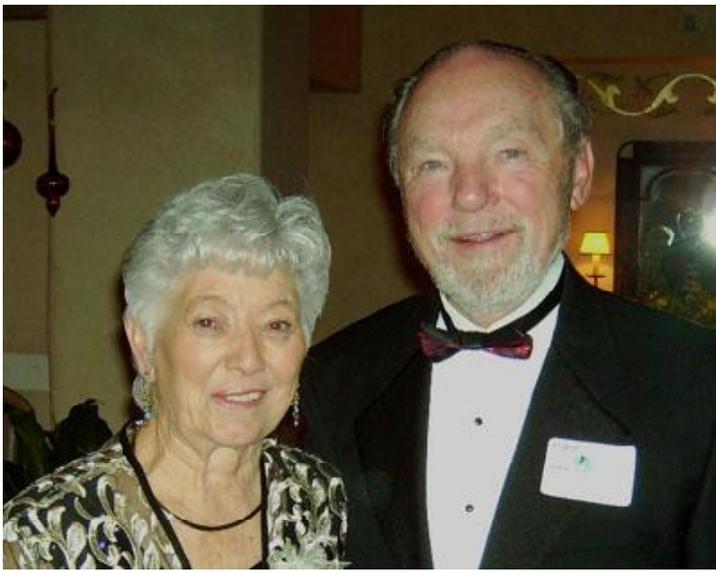
As a "glass is half full" optimist, Symington predicted that the 2010 bye election should be interesting, and that the 2012 Presidential election should not be discounted by Republicans (Conservatives).

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P. O. Box 3993
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS





"Tuxed to the max Cosmo members, accompanied by their beautifully buffed wives, brought high spirits and holiday cheer to the lovely La Cumbre Country Club for Cosmo's annual Christmas dinner/dance. Kudos to event chair Jim Pattillo and his planning committee for arranging a delightful and memorable evening."