



Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol. LV No.16

Editor: Skip Cole

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

Crackers Editor



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Next Editor: Chuck Evans
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Next Program

March 5 Bruce A. McPherson "California's Fiscal Problems"

Bruce McPherson is a member of the Leadership Council of California Forward, a bipartisan public interest effort committed to bolstering democracy and the performance of government in California. Mr. McPherson was Secretary of State from 2005 to 2007, during which time he spearheaded election reforms, developed innovative ways to ensure the integrity of every vote, and made government more customer-friendly and efficient for Californians. Prior to entering politics in 1993, Mr. McPherson spent 26 years in the newspaper business as a reporter and then editor of his family-owned Santa Cruz Sentinel. Introducer is Warren Elliott.

Future Programs

March 19 Amir Abo-Shaer "DPEA - Dos Pueblos HS Engineering Academy"

DPEA was founded six years ago as a "school within a school" by Mr. Amir Abo-Shaer, a mechanical engineer who turned to teaching after several years in industry. DPEA consists of 33 students in each year class, with more than three times as many applicants as spots available, operating up to now in "spaces available" on the Dos Pueblos High School campus. The Senior Project was to build and operate a robot conforming to the specifications of the most prestigious international robotics contest FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). In spring 2008, the Dos Pueblos team,



Team 1717, won the regional competitions in both San Diego and Los Angeles. It then went on to place second overall in the International Competition in Atlanta, competing against more than 1000 teams from all over the world! All this was accomplished in six weeks, using one class room and a 7' X 15' machining closet to design, prototype, build and test a 150 lb. robot. AB Clarke will introduce.

April 2 Thomas Tighe "Direct Relief International"

Gil Ashor will introduce.

April 16 David Stuart "In Touch Health, Medical Robots"

Libation Liberation

There were no wine drawings on Ladies Day



Guests

There were no guests introduced at Ladies Day

Bridge

No bridge scores from February
Next Bridge will be 5 March



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

Special Events

An Afternoon at the Opera – Sunday, March 15

Santa Barbara Opera matinee production of Carmen at the Granada with lunch preceding the performance. Lunch at 1:00 PM with the show 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.



SB City College Four Course Gourmet Dinner, March 20, 2009

Sign up for this gourmet dinner with selected wines (5:30, reception, 6:00, dinner, of blackened catfish or Chinese pork chop) \$40. Per person. Sign up with Ben Walsh at the next Cosmo meeting or call him with your reservation: 969 1960

Spring Dinner Dance — Tuesday, April 28

It's a black-tie affair (if you wish) for you and your best lady at Santa Barbara Yacht Club. No Host cocktails at 6:00 pm, followed by a scrumptious dinner at 7:00 pm, with dining and dancing music provided "City Lights Combo". Along with liberal quantities of red and white wines, our menu will offer 'Santa Barbara Yacht Club' salad (mixed greens, candied walnuts, feta cheese, and orange zest), entree choice of Prime Rib or Salmon, with Chocolate Mousse or Tiramisu for dessert. Tuesday night was selected so Cosmo will have exclusive use of SBYC and its parking lot. Priced at \$80 per person, where can Cosmo host such a special event at reasonable cost and so close to home? You bring your lady fair - Cosmo Club will provide a delightful evening for you both.

Reservation forms are on **Page 5** of this issue and will also be distributed closer to this event. Jim Pattillo, Dance chair, 969-2796, [jlpattillo@cox.net](mailto:jl pattillo@cox.net)

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 AM Mondays and Thursdays. Call Bruce Long, (805) 692-4072 bruce93103@cox.net, or Walter Mead, (805) 682-3045.



Cosmo Computer Society

We meet regularly 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. Jim Stubchaer & Bob Gerity, Program Co-Chairs; Chair, Howard Glenn, 967-2633 or hbglennc@cox.net.



S. A. G. E. Investment Group

We meet at 10 AM on the first Tuesday of each month at the Elks Club on the 2nd floor, followed by a no-host lunch in the grill downstairs. We do not select or buy stocks. Dick Evans, Chairman (805) 967-6930 or dickevans1@cox.net.



Golf

March 4: tournament at Montecito Country Club

April 30: tournament at La Purisma

Weekly: All Cosmo members are welcome



Twin Lakes - Mondays at 9:00 AM (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 AM. \$14.00 for 9 holes (par 36) with a play card. Improve your long shots.

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

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

Golf Tournament – April 30th at La Purisma — consistently ranked as one of the best 50 golf courses in the US. Great value: Greens Fee, Cart and Range Balls for \$50. First Tee Off at 10:00 AM, format is four man Scramble.

For more details contact Hank Macchio (805) 693-5802, h.macchio@verizon.net.

Last Meeting, February 19

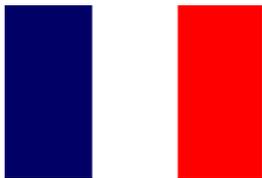
Celebrating the 60th Year Anniversary of Cosmo

Robin Durkee, president, announced the anniversary with some interesting facts and statistics about the club's past and development: The club was organized by Chester (Chet) T. Price in 1949 and was first called "Business and Professional Men's Club of Santa Barbara." It was renamed the Cosmopolitan Club in 1965-1966. An organizing meeting of 44 retired men was held on 24 June and the club was chartered on November 1, 1949, with 77 members. In Cosmo's 8th year a roster was published: 242 members, with annual dues of \$7,50. Apart from having no pictures, the roster format was the same as today's version.

An initiation fee of \$10 was implemented in 1958-59, growing to \$35 in 1974-75. In 2000-2001, the fee was raised to \$75 where it stands today. The newsletter name Crackers first appeared in 1962-63, but the club published a newsletter since its inception. E-Crackers distributed via email commenced in 2008, saving the club high mailing costs.

Robin reviewed the history of interest groups in the club, starting with cards (soon bridge) and golf.

He commended especially the program committee, which is responsible for our excellent speakers, and the Special Events Committee for its efforts in having Cosmo **License Plate Frames** made up for distribution (free) at this meeting to commemorate the club's 60 anniversary. Kudos to Angelo Crippa and his Special Events Committee for that effort. Interest groups now number six, and there are 15 committees that help keep the club running efficiently.



Colonel Ben Walsh Honored by French Government

Former Cosmo president and active member, Ben Walsh, was awarded the French nation's highest award, the Legion d' Honneur, for bravery as a bomber pilot during WW II on February 19 in a ceremony at the Montecito Country Club. Officials of the French consulate in LA made the award on behalf of president Nicholas Sarkozy, according to an article in the SB News Press by Bill McMorris dated February 20, 2009. Club members join the French in congratulating Ben for valiant service!

Ladies' Day Talk



NancyBell Coe

President of the Music Academy of the West

NancyBell Coe, President of the Music Academy of the West, was introduced by Mead Northrup. She entertained the Ladies' Day audience with a talk entitled "Tales from the Trenches: Backstage in Classical Music", sharing many humorous and harrowing anecdotes from her life as a performing arts administrator, first in Spokane, then LA as general manager of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, on to Cleveland, then Aspen before coming to Santa Barbara.

Her goal, to create flawless and inspiring programs and to make the Music Academy of the West so important that every musician would be proud to have a stint here as part of his or her resume, requires tireless and often complex logistical calisthenics behind the scenes. But most of her stories came from pre-Santa Barbara days.

Juggling hundreds of pieces of personal luggage and trunks of equipment, as well as the fragile egos and needs of 150 musicians and family members in varied foreign cities in quick succession can be difficult to say the least. She has had to supply packets of local European currency for all musicians, as well as shoes and shirts for musicians or conductors who forgot them. She has broken up fistfights, extracted foreign objects from tubas and cosseted many a prima donna – the most notorious, of course, being opera singers. Her motto is "do everything possible ahead of time" so there will be time left for the inevitable unexpected crisis, often minutes before a performance is to begin. She also told stories about some famous people, such as Luciano

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Pavarotti held captive in his dressing room at the Hollywood Bowl, and Marilyn Horne standing up to Ricardo Muti, who was unhappy with her brand of vocal ornamentation. Remarkably, NancyBell told us, the performances she has overseen all went well, as the potential disasters were averted.



Cosmo golfers Kent Cullen, John MacKenzie and Bill Spangler enjoy a special 'Muni' outing in late January.

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA

2009 SPRING DINNER DANCE

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

SANTA BARBARA YACHT CLUB

6:00 PM COCKTAILS, SOCIAL HOUR

No Host Bar, Tables of eight, each with two bottles of wine

7:00 PM Dinner

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

MENU

Santa Barbara Yacht Club Salad: Melange of seasonal greens, with Candied Walnuts, Feta Cheese, and Orange Zest.

Choice of:

*Prime Rib au jus or Broiled Salmon served with Tomato Basil Buerre Blanc
and*

Red Roasted Potatoes and Baby Vegetables

Dessert: Tiramisu, i.e. Espresso Soaked Lady Fingers, whipped egg yolks, mascarpone, and sugar, topped with cocoa, andor Marsala wine, making it 'Zabaglione'

Price: \$80 per person

Dress: Formal or cocktail dress

Cut along this line and return with your check

RESERVATION FORM. The Dance Committee can arrange to seat you with your party and have them served their choices of food only if this form is completed accurately. Please *write legibly (as most of us are unfamiliar with your handwriting)* and use the back of this form to provide names and meal choices of those not shown below. Tables will be reserved only when paid for in-full. We look forward to seeing all of you at the party!

	BEEF	FISH
Your Name _____	0	0
Spouse or Guest _____	0	0

Mail this Reservation Form with check payable to "Cosmopolitan Club" to Jim Pattillo, 1143 Glenview Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108-2001. Remember: The password is "Zabaglione!"

Parking in Yacht Club Parking Lot During the Cosmo Club's Spring 2009 Dance!

Cosmopolitan Members and their guests are welcome to park in the Yacht Club Parking Lot during the evening of April 28, 2009, but must realize that the lot will not be locked nor attended, so you park there at your own risk. Lock your car and don't leave any valuables in it.

We hope you have a wonderful time.