



Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol IX No. 2

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Access the COSMO website at
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Summer Dress Code



You can put away coat and tie!
The summer dress code, business casual,
is now in effect.

Annual Dues Notice

Annual \$60 dues were due by July 1 2012. If you have not already paid, please mail your check, payable to Cosmopolitan Club, to P.O. Box 3993, Santa Barbara 93130

COSMO Member Ailing?

If you learn of one of our members suffering from illness or injury, please notify Arlie Skov 805-965-5101 or askov@earthlink.net

Meeting Staff

Ticket Sellers: John Burgee and Mike Cribbs
Punch Bowl: Paul Coyne
Invocation: Hal Thompson
Sgt.-at-Arms: Bill Montag

Next Meeting

August 2, 2012

Greg Gorga,
Executive Director Santa Barbara
Maritime Museum



"Santa Barbara Maritime Museum on the Horizon"

Greg joined the Museum in February, 2007 as Director of Development and has served as Executive Director since May, 2008. His presentation will focus on new and future exhibits at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum. He has a B.A. in English with a Psychology minor from Rutgers. Greg has served as Manager of Planning and Development for the Community Action Commission and has more than 10 years experience working with nonprofit agencies. He is a board member of the Council of American Maritime Museums and serves on the City of Santa Barbara Community Development and Human Services Committee. Introduction by Dennis Gaon.

Wine Drawing

Bob Zimels conducted the wine drawing. Bob Bowen won a bottle of 2008 Viognier. Dennis Gaon was awarded a bottle of 2009 Mammoth Crest Syrah.



WELCOME OUR GUESTS



Guests were welcomed by Kent Cullen. He asked what was the record for the number of guests at a Cosmo meeting. No one offered a number larger than Kent Cullen's introduction of eight guests.

Bob Weber was hosted by Mead Northrup
Bruce Williams was hosted by Dan Cross
Fred Marsic brought Jack Lindsay
Blair Edwards was brought by Ron White
Bill Berry and Bob Logan hosted Monte Ward
Nicolas Martinovich was brought by Ron Singer
Stanwood Duval was invited by Ron Singer
John Chere, Sr., father of the guest speaker, was brought by John MacKenzie

Regular Events

Bridge

Steve Morgan announced that Cosmo members Ed Loper and Ralph Edobo had recently become Santa Barbara bridge champions.



Results of bridge play for July 19th

1 st place - Ed Loper	3,560 points
2 nd place - Dave Kain	2,340 points
3 rd place - Steve Morgan	2,310 points

Join us for FUN Bridge upstairs at the Elks Club after all regular meetings; we play until 3:30 PM. Chairman Steve Morgan, 637-1332, or smmphd@cox.net.

Tennis

The tennis group plays doubles twice a week at a private court in Shadow Hills starting at 8:00 AM Mondays and Thursdays. All tennis players are invited to participate.



Contact Bruce Long (805) 692-4072 or bruce93103@cox.net.

Cosmo Computer Society

Cosmo Computer Society meets monthly on the third Tuesday, upstairs at the Elks Club. Discussion starts at 10:00 AM, and a feature presentation starts at 10:30 AM, concluding with a no-host fellowship luncheon in the Elks Grill. All COSMO members are welcome. Bob Gerity, Program Chair, Howard Glenn, Chair. 967-2633, hbglennc@cox.net.



S.A.G.E. Investment Group

S.A.G.E. meets monthly at 10 AM on the first Tuesday at the Elks Club, followed by a no-host lunch in the grill downstairs. At S.A.G.E. we discuss past and possible future trends in the economy and the stock market. We would welcome your participation. Co-Chairs: Dick Evans, 967- 6930, dick-evans@mac.com and Walter Naumann, 448-5061, wjnaumann@aol.com.



Golf

Thursday, August 23rd Golf Tournament at MUNI.

Join us for a 10AM tee time at Santa Barbara's Municipal Golf Course. The fee is \$58 which includes cart, golf, lunch box and prizes. Sign up at the next two Cosmo meetings. Kent Cullen 964-4130, pkentc@hotmail.com



Mondays - Santa Barbara Golf Club (Muni). Tee times from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. Regular walking senior rate is \$25 for 18 holes. Contact Ron Singer (805) 684-1355 or rsinger916@aol.com by prior Friday for your tee time. Twin Lakes (Par 29) at 9:00 AM. Work on your short game. These outings are a great way to gain new members, so invite your friends.

Wednesdays – Ocean Meadows (Par 36) at 8:30 AM. Work on your long-ball skills.

Additional play at various courses - Contact Ron Singer to get on the e-mail notification list for the Floating Golf Game Circuit. Mondays are usually at Muni, Wednesdays are often at Glen Annie, and Friday locations have included La Purisma, Glen Annie, Soule Park, and Rancho San Marcos. A. B. Clark and Steven Stonefield will select the floating golf game sites, so you may contact either of them. Ron Singer, Golf Chair: rsinger916@aol.com.

Upcoming Special Events

Chairman Thore Edgren has announced that the proposed Circle Bar B Ranch dinner and play matinee in August has been canceled. There just was not interest in this outing.

September 10-20, 2012

Trip to Ireland

October 16, 2012

Piper's Winery, Dixieland Jass/Dinner. Hwy 150 above Carpinteria.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the next meeting with all the information on this event.

November (date TBD)

Santa Barbara Opera and Lunch

Last Meeting

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Words from Our President

President Mead Northrop presided over his first regular meeting of the new Cosmo year.

President Mead first asked who the owner was of a certain vehicle, and indicated that he should accompany a Elks club staffer because their car had just been hit by a motor home in the Elks parking lot. We can only hope there was not much damage.

President Northrop indicated that Cosmo dues were due by July 1 for 2012-13. He said 50% have paid their dues, and that an email will soon go out to all Cosmo members urging dues payment.

He noted that there is a bounty on bringing in new members – two free lunch tickets to those who do so.

representative on the Weapons of Mass Destruction Survey team in Iraq, and also served as Staff Officer at the U.S. Central Command. He said that he has been part of a cadre of specialist staff stationed at embassies and posts that look out for U. S. national security. He said his father was in the foreign service for many years, and that he has studied or lived in the region for 48 of his 52 years.

Colonel Chere noted that Tunisia was the first revolution of the so called "Arab Spring," a removal of dictators that has engulfed several countries in the region. He said that Tunisia has been a good model post revolution, where there has been little violence (even the electricity stayed on during the revolution) and, with time and patience, there is a fighting chance that it will succeed as a democratic state.

He noted that Carthage nearby to Tunis is the final resting place for more than 3,000 American World War II war dead, buried there in the North African American Cemetery. He said that much of the supplies in World War II were delivered through Africa, and consequently there was much fighting there.

He said regarding Syria that it was too early to tell what the outcome will be. He said Syria is one of the top 5 countries that are owners of chemical weapons, and the regime has been backed into a corner, so that anything is capable of happening in Syria.

He said that important considerations for the U. S. in the region are the security of Israel, the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, the free flow of oil, and counter terrorism.

He said that the age of the dictators is gone, as is the stability they provided. And he said they are probably not coming back.

He noted that, in the West, there has been a 1,000-year battle in the separation of church and state, and that separation occurred in the West in the 1700's. However, the premise of Islam is that there is no separation of church and state. He said in the emerging countries, the leaders mostly tend to be secular. And it is still open if they will rule the day.

In Egypt, there are the internal issues, particularly what the military will allow to happen. With the election of the Muslim Brotherhood candidate in Egypt, we don't know what the Egypt policy regarding the U.S. and Israel will be. And we have been providing 1.3 billion dollars per year to Egypt, and the peace treaty with Israel occurred in 1979, and both those issues need resolve. But there are repercussions where we have to take into consideration that in a few months, they will run out of money. Egypt imports 80% of what it eats.

Speaker: Colonel John Chere
"Uncertainty & Post Dictator Mideast"
Senior U.S. Defense Official, Tunisia



Colonel John Chere

John Mackenzie introduced Colonel John Chere. He has served in diplomacy posts throughout the mideast (he referred to himself as a self-proclaimed soldier diplomat). He is currently Defense Attache at the U.S. embassy in Tunis, Tunisia, where he has served for 3 years and will serve one more year in that post. His prior assignments in the Middle East include: U.S. Army Attaché at Tel Aviv, Israel; Defense and Army Attaché at Rabat, Morocco; Army Attaché at Algiers, Algeria. He was the U.S. Army

There is a vacuum in top leaders in the ongoing democratic elections. The future will include Islamic governance. At present, this is the first time that governance is home grown, spontaneous, ideological, and not religious but secular instead. They are not pointing fingers at Israel and the West. They are asking the West for help, in elections, and political and economic gains.

Colonel Chere believes the current U. S. approach is correct, that we are not taking sides, but trying to shape the sides. We are not looking at short term solutions. He said that the Arab spin in some quarters regarding the current conflicts is there was a great intelligence failure of the past. He said that wikileaks showed us that it was a failure of policies, not a failure of intelligence. Critics say we are trying to build the plane in flight, that there is no possibility of compromise, and that Islam and democracy are incompatible, and that Sharia law (the extremist Islamic ideology) would be imposed. Colonel Chere takes exception to those premises.

He said that in Tunisia there is more positive U. S. sentiment overall. There has been an enhanced U. S. role. The U.S. did not support the previous regime as other nations in Europe did. The former dictator had blocked social commentary sites, but now there has been an explosion of the social media. U. S. business is welcomed. President Obama's position is to stabilize and support Tunisia, \$100 million has been provided in short term debt relief, and we have provided monitoring of elections, and loan guarantees of \$484 million. He said Tunisia has an educated population, and a Republican Army that sided with the people during the revolution. A principle of the new Tunisian constitution is elimination of Sharia law.

Colonel Chere was cautiously optimistic about the fate of the region – he believes the U. S. is doing what it can and should do in the region, but he concludes that it is uncertain just what the future will bring.



**Even More
Viva La Fiesta!**