



# Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

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Crackers Editor

Next Meeting: **Feb 4, 2016**

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## NEXT MEETING

**February 4, 2016**

**Albert Mercado**

**"Giacomo Puccini and Madame Butterfly"**



Albert Mercado

The presentation will cover the life and accomplishments of the famous Italian opera composer Giacomo Puccini. Puccini created many famous operas such as Tosca, Madame Butterfly, Turandot, La Boheme and others. Mercado's presentation will include an account of the development and interpretation of Madame Butterfly with actual segments of the opera. For the first time at the Cosmopolitan Club this presentation will incorporate video, music and voice projections.

Fellow member, Albert Mercado, grew up in a musical family. His mother performed in small singing parts at the Scala di Milan, and Al learned musical instruments from an early age. Although his career was as an engineer and manager of many government classified projects, Al decided to study operas in retirement. He enrolled in a program created by Placido Domingo that included learning all aspects of opera. Upon completion, Al became a member of the Opera Speakers Bureau, where he gave many presentations at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, universities, libraries, schools and clubs, often supported by opera singers. Jim Davis will introduce Mercado.

Access the COSMO website at  
<http://sbcosmo.com>  
for current and archived issues of CRACKERS

### Cosmo Members Ailing

If you learn of one our members suffering from illness or injury, please notify Curt Whiteman, Memorial & Visitation Chair, 220-6833, [whiteman@westmont.edu](mailto:whiteman@westmont.edu).

Curt Whiteman, Memorial & Visitation Chair, announced that Vern Hannah, a new member has undergone triple by-pass surgery and is now recovering at Valle Verde. He expects to go home in about two weeks

### Dress Code

Jackets are the required dress code during El Niño season

### Meeting Staff

Ticket Sellers: Ted Ross & Paul Fink  
Invocation: Don Montgomery  
Audio-Visual: Bob Weber, Bill Alexander, Jack Petterson & Orlando Ramirez  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Steve Shaefer  
Punchbowl Host: Chuck Owens  
Photographer: Ron White

**Time of Meetings** 11:30 am - 1:30 pm



February 18, 2016

Greg Spencer

Quieter Virtues for a Noisier World



Greg Spencer

Professor Spencer will discuss the importance of developing virtues that shape our lives and relationships. In his book, *Awakening the Quieter Virtues*, Spencer devotes chapters to overlooked qualities such as innocence, authenticity, contentment and generosity. He believes these quieter virtues get shouted down by our noisy, media-saturated culture.

Greg Spencer holds a BS degree in Speech Communication from Cal Poly, SLO and a Masters and PhD in Rhetoric and Communication from University of Oregon. He has been a professor of Communication Studies at Westmont College for 28 years. He has published two novels, *The Welkening* and *Guardian of the Veil*, two works of non-fiction, *A Heart for Truth* and *Awakening the Quieter Virtues*, as well as essays and poems. He loves family, gardening and tennis. Dwight Coffin will introduce Professor Spencer.

March 3, 2016

Sandy Jones

"It's a Mystery"

Chuck Curtis will introduce Cosmo member Weyman "Sandy" Jones, author of five mystery novels published by Five Star/Gale. He returns to our lectern to discuss what has made the mystery novel a popular favorite since the middle of the nineteenth century. He will identify some techniques of his favorite writers and suggest ways for the discerning reader to find new rewards in the mystery novel.

WINE DRAWING:

Bob Zimels conducted the wine drawing.

Jim Subject took home a bottle of McCay Cellars 2012 Petit Sirah



Bob Haskins won a bottle of 2010 Chardonnay from Moshein Vineyards

NEW MEMBER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

President Stancer announced a program, effective immediately, to encourage the recruitment of new members.

The Club will provide a free lunch for a first-time guest. If he submits a new member application within one week of his first guest visit, his sponsor will receive a free lunch. If he is ultimately inducted into membership, both he and his sponsor will receive a free lunch at the meeting when he is inducted. The sponsor must present a free lunch voucher, signed by the President, to the ticket sellers. Vouchers can be obtained either from the President or the Sergeant-at-Arms, and membership applications can be downloaded from the Club's website.

The incentive program will continue through our regular meeting on May 17, 2016.

REGULAR EVENTS

DISCUSSION GROUP

Under the leadership of Jim Davis, members of Cosmo meet to discuss areas of mutual interest after the second regular monthly Cosmo meeting.

Other topics that Jim Davis has prepared for future discussions:

"Is There a Scientific Method?" *History and Status*

"Social Movements and Belief Systems"

Jim asks those interested to suggest other topics for future meetings.

BRIDGE

Join us for FUN Bridge upstairs at the Elks Club after all regular meetings; we play until 3:30 pm. Chair Ed Loper, 967-8630, [oliveloper@cox.net](mailto:oliveloper@cox.net).



TENNIS

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

Contact Bruce Long at (805) 692-4072 or [bruce93103@cox.net](mailto:bruce93103@cox.net).



GOLF

Bill Costello reported for Golf Chairman Ron Singer.

Wednesday January 20th saw ten two-man teams compete for the winner's purse at Glen Annie beautiful day. Winners were: Closest to the pin AB



Clarke and Steve Morgan, Low net winners were: in first, Cam Camerena with Harv Turner, in second Joel Altshul with Bill Dial and, in third Bill Clothier with Nic Martinovich. The tournament was organized by Bill Veigele and Joel Altshul. See the website [cosmogolfclubsb.com](http://cosmogolfclubsb.com) for additional news. Go to the "Events" page and take the one-question survey we are using to gauge interest in the proposed overnight outing. If you haven't renewed your 2016 club membership, go to the "Home" page for information.

Mondays, we usually meet at the Santa Barbara Golf Club, (Muni). Tee times range between 9:30 am and 11:00 am, most often beginning at 10:15. Regular walking senior rate is \$26 for 18 holes.

Contact Ron Singer (805) 684-1355 or [rsinger916@aol.com](mailto:rsinger916@aol.com) by the prior Friday for your tee time. These outings are a great way to gain new members, so invite your friends. We also have additional games at various courses. Contact Ron Singer to get on the e-mail notification list for the Floating Golf Game Circuit. Wandering Wednesday and Floating Friday locations will include courses throughout the tri-county area. A. B. Clarke, Stephen Stonefield and Stan Clothier select the floating golf game sites.

### **Cosmopolitan Club of Santa Barbara is having its annual Out-of-Town Golf Trip March 13 - 16, 2016.**

The Westin Lake Las Vegas Hotel is a five-star property. Rooms are spectacular. Two golfers per suite (double occupancy). Includes three nights lodging, regular breakfast each morning and complimentary shuttle service to Las Vegas Strip.

Three Golf Games: Dragon Ridge Country Club, Reflection Bay Golf Club, and South Shore Golf Club. Regular guest prices for these three courses would be nearly \$900. Ron Singer has negotiated a price of \$548.60 per golfer, double occupancy. To share the room with a non-golfing friend, add only another \$157. There will be several wives/sweethearts making this trip.

This event has sold out. Call Ron Singer to be added to the waiting list.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Tuesday, February 23

For the first time, Cosmo members will tour and explore the 110 acres backlot of **Warner Bros. Studios**. From screenwriting and casting to audio mixing and the glory of an award season, we will enjoy a truly immersive look at how the magic of Hollywood is made.

The bus is scheduled to depart the Elks Club at 9 am, with the tour beginning at 11 am by tram. Following the tour we will lunch around 2 pm before departing for home. Lunch

is at member's expense. This event is expected to be well-attended and so the cost has not yet been determined. Contact Harry Stroud at 805-653-5117 to sign up or with questions.

### **March 10, Thurs. SBCC Garvin Theater Play and Dinner**

Enjoy an evening performance at the Garvin Theater preceded by a dinner at the Mesa Cafe Banquet Room. The play, "In the Next Room" or the vibrator play, is a comedy about marriage, intimacy and electricity. The play takes place in a seemingly perfectly well-to-do Victorian proper home where gentleman and scientist Dr. Giving has invented an extraordinary device for treating "Hysteria". Cost: \$65 per person.

We will meet at the Mesa Cafe Banquet Rm. for dinner at 5:30 pm. Social hour is from 5-5:30pm. Wine can be purchased or a \$10 corkage fee. The cafe is located at 1968 Cliff Dr., SB. The play begins at 7:30 pm. The Garvin Theater is located on the SBCC West Campus.

There is a limited number of tickets so make early reservations. Send your checks to Thore Edgren, 6545 Camino Venturoso, Goleta, Ca. 93117.

### **HELP WANTED**

Seeking motivated Cosmo members to fill these important positions:

The Audio-Visual committee is looking for a member who will attend most meetings and has had, or would like to gain, some training in the operation of the A-V equipment at our meetings. Please contact Bob Weber, [wwwebersb@gmail.com](mailto:wwwebersb@gmail.com), 696-6941 for additional information about this important job.

The Board is seeking a member to take on the job of



## LAST MEETING

January 21, 2016

A Tour of the Seismology Field Sites Operated by the Earth Research Institute of UCSB



Sandra Seale

Sandra Seale earned a BS in Engineering degree, summa cum laude, from Princeton University. At MIT she completed an MS and PhD in Civil Engineering, with a specialty in geomechanics and earthquake engineering. After graduate school, she did a post-doc in seismology with Professor Ralph Archuleta at UCSB, where she stayed on as part of the seismology research team. In 2015, she left UCSB for a fund-raising position as Campaign Manager at Direct Relief, where she is very happy to be part of a global humanitarian aid organization. She was introduced by Charlie Greene,

NEES is a 14-university consortium at UCSB that collects field data on seismic activity. It operates five permanently-instrumented sites with high earthquake potential, one in Anchorage and the others in California. They measure ground motion and the ground water disturbances in bore

holes drilled to bed rock. Scientists also use a huge shake table for lab experiments.

The Garner Valley Array bore holes penetrate the sandy soil of an ancient lake bed down to 150 meters. Real earthquake data has been animated to show the effects on various types of soil.

The Wildlife Liquefaction Array is at the southern edge of the San Andreas Fault, where it records daily quakes. Sub-surface water pressures are recorded before and after the quakes because liquefaction creates the greatest quake hazard. Disturbances continue long after the quake, sometimes for an hour and a half. For some reason that is not yet understood, water pressure goes abruptly down at the beginning of a quake.

NEES has recorded 10,000 events, with 7500 occurring between 2006 and 2009. On June 14, 2010, the Wildlife Array recorded a quake with 60 aftershocks.

A new instrumented site in Seattle is at high liquefaction risk. Train traffic creates seismic data for study.

For more information, Sandy recommends "Crack at the Edge of the World" by Simon Winchester. The NEES website will download data on any recorded study for the interested public.

Answering questions, she said that she has no doubt that "fracking" to develop oil and gas creates small quakes, that she doubts stories of animal behavior anticipating quakes but that well-water levels do go down before a quake and that she does not carry earthquake insurance on her own home.



Here is a photo of (most) of the winners of the latest SB Cosmopolitan Club Golf Tourney.