



# Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

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Crackers Editor

## The Vote and The Big Change

As announced, the March 2 meeting included a vote to change our membership policy. Specifically, the vote was to change Article III Section 1 from "Membership shall consist of men who..." to "Membership shall consist of individuals who..." The vote was 58 in favor, 19 opposed. The winning percentage of 75.3 percent meets the 66.7 percent requirement of Section VIII of the Club's Constitution. We are now able to accept women who meet requirements into membership. All members are invited to begin inviting women professional retirees whom they believe would enjoy our programs and social activities.

## Cosmo Members Ailing

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

## The Board of Directors approved an incentive program to help recruit new Club Members:

If a current member brings a guest who is a potential new member, the guest will get a free lunch.

If by the next meeting the guest applies for membership, the guest gets another free lunch.

If applicant is approved by the Membership Committee, the inductee gets another free lunch.

The sponsor of the guests should contact the Club President upon arrival and he will provide the lunch voucher for the guest.

## Website and Online Membership Roster

Website and Online Membership Roster Access the Cosmo website <http://sbcosmo.com> for current and archived issues of Crackers.

Don Chalfant and Jim Stubchaer have updated our online system. Members will now be able to access the roster via the normal club website; there will be a "TAB" that will lead to the password protected roster. The password will be provided in the email that covers the distribution of the Crackers.

## Dress Code

The dress code is updated for the cooler months. Jackets and ties are suggested attire.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

New officers and directors will be elected at the March 16 meeting. Candidates were nominated at the March 2 meeting. The slate recommended by the committee and approved by the current Board, is:

President: Harv Turner

Vice President: Albert Mercado

Secretary: Chuck Curtis

Treasurer: George Surmeier

(Past-president: Jim Davis)

At large: Dan Creasey

At large: Bob Weber

Nominations will be invited from the floor. To avoid possible embarrassment, members should not offer a nomination without the candidate's approval in advance.

## NEXT MEETING

March 16, 2017

### ANNUAL ECONOMIC REVIEW

Karl Hutterer will introduce Dr. **Peter Rupert**, the Executive Director of the UCSB Economic Forecast Project and Professor of Economics in the UCSB Economics Department. With Nobel Laureate Finn Kydland, he is also the Associate Director of the UCSB Laboratory for Aggregate Economics and Finance. Before joining UCSB in 2010, he served as Senior Research Advisor for the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland for 13 years. Established in 1981, the UCSB Economic Forecast Project collects and analyzes economic, business, and demographic data and provides information through publications and events.



## FUTURE MEETINGS

April 6, 2017

### MOXI, THE MUSEUM OF EXPLORATION AND INNOVATION

Dwight Coffin will introduce

**Ron Skinner**, Education

Director of the recently opened MOXI museum on lower State Street in Santa Barbara. This 25,000 square-foot center provides a place for people to learn scientific concepts through interactive experiences. Plans include 17,000 square feet of exhibits dedicated to spark interests in science, technology, engineering, arts and math education or STEAM.



April 20, 2017

### THE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION OF SANTA BARBARA

**Candace Winkler** will be introduced by Charles Greene.

Candace moved to Santa Barbara a year and a half ago to become the President and CEO of the **Scholarship Foundation of Santa Bar-**

**bara.** Prior to that she lived in Alaska and served for 5 years as the President and CEO of the Alaska Community Foundation. She has an undergraduate degree in Philosophy and Art History from Vanderbilt University and completed her graduate work at Columbia University, where she received an MPA from the School of International and Public Affairs and an MSW from the School of Social Work. Candace will be talking about the rising cost of attending college and the Scholarship Foundation's work to support local students pursuing higher education. She may also share a few fun facts about her 19 years living in Alaska.



May 4, 2017

## LADIES' DAY

Amy Williams, director of education programs of the Santa Barbara Symphony, will be introduced by Art Kvaas.

## REGULAR EVENTS

### DISCUSSION GROUP

The Discussion Group meets once a month in the upstairs room immediately following our regular luncheon programs. Future topics to be discussed are as follows:

March 16, Gordon Bjork: **Money and The Moral Limits of Markets**

April 20, Gerard Kuiken: **Limitations of Physics or Is A Theory of Everything Possible?**

May 18, Bob Weber: **What to Do about The Growing "Useless Class."**

### BRIDGE

Join us for FUN Bridge upstairs at the Elks Club after all regular meetings; we play until 3:30 pm. If you would like to play you are asked to call Ed Loper to sign up. Chair Ed Loper, 967-8630, [oliveloper@cox.net](mailto:oliveloper@cox.net).



### TENNIS

The tennis group plays doubles four times a week on a private court off 122 Patterson Avenue, behind the office buildings, starting at 7:45 am Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. All tennis players are invited. Contact Harrison Stroud at (805) 653-5117, [stroud@hotmail.com](mailto:stroud@hotmail.com) or Jim Subject at (805) 964-2020, [jrsujct@aol.com](mailto:jrsujct@aol.com).

## GOLF

### April Tournament

**Monday, April 24 at the Santa Barbara Golf Club**

"The Muni." Time 10:15 first tee off. Putting contest starts at 9:15. Format is a four man scramble. Prizes: Lowest net score, first, second and third. Closest to the pin on two holes. Long drive contest on one hole. Putting contest. Entry fee is \$20 for prize money payable by cash to Bill Costello, Bill Veigele or make check payable to Cosmopolitan Golf Club of Santa Barbara. Regular green fees and cart pay at the course.



Mondays, we usually meet at the Santa Barbara Golf Club (Muni). Tee times most often begin at 10:15 am. 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 games on Wednesdays and Fridays at other area courses. Contact Ron Singer to get on the mailing list. The website [cosmogolfclubsb.com](http://cosmogolfclubsb.com) is up and running. New members may use it to register and for additional news.

### CRUISE TO SAN DIEGO, BAJA PENINSULA, SEA OF CORTEZ AND PUERTO VALLARTA ON A PRINCESS SHIP

**March 28 to April 7, 2017**

Contact Ron Singer, Chairman, Golf Committee, Cosmopolitan Club of Santa Barbara, at [rsinger916@aol.com](mailto:rsinger916@aol.com) for details and to see if tickets are still available.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Champion Trees Visits

**Sunday, April 9**

This is the annual SB Airbus tour which features a tour of 15 national champion trees in SB County recognized by American Forests as the largest of their species in the entire USA. The tour starts at 12 noon at the Goleta Valley Community Center, 5679 Hollister Ave. Goleta, followed by a bus tour from Goleta to Carpinteria. The bus will return to Goleta at 5pm. Tickets are \$39 per person. Visits include access to private sites available only on this tour. There will be ample opportunities to touch and connect with our remarkable living natural wonders. The tour guide is Arborist Ken Knight. As this is not an exclusive Cosmo event, make reservations early by calling SB Airbus 964 7759. Upon making reservations notify Thore Edgren at 9674001 or [theman3@cox.net](mailto:theman3@cox.net). If enough participating members are interested we can plan on dinner at 5:30 pm in a Goleta restaurant.



### SBCC Gourmet Dinner

**Friday April 17**

Hary Stroud has announced our annual dinner in memory of Ben Walsh and remaining WWII veterans.



We will convene at the John Dunn Dining Room the evening of April 21 to enjoy a meal prepared by the Culinary Arts students. Doors open at 5:30 and dinner will be served at 6:00. The price is \$45 per person (including tax and tip), the same as last year. There will be a meat and fish entre to be announced in the next Crackers.

You are urged to sign up now as the event has always sold out. Contact Harry Stroud (805) 653-5157

## LAST MEETING MARCH 2, 2017

Ticket sellers were Dale Charpentier Fred Marsh; Jim Gravitt managed the punchbowl. The audio-visual team of Bob Weber, Bill Alexander. and Orlando Ramirez took care of the a/v electronics. Vern Kemp and Ken Wolf were Sergeants-at-Arms; Ken Working offered the invocation.

### Wine Drawing

The winners at this meeting were: Dick Milham won a bottle of Chance-water Vineyards '15 Sauvignon Blanc.



A bottle of Twisted Paso '14 Pinot Noir was taken home by Alan Bullock, and the free lunch was granted to a guest, Bart Kramer, so hopefully, we'll see him again at the 3/16 meeting.

## Welcome Our Guests



Gerhard Kuiken introduced three guests and one applicant for membership:

Bart Kramer hosted by Ron Singer is a business owner who enjoys tennis and golf.

Allan Wolinsky, also a guest of Ron Singer, is a retired attorney and has an interest in golf, speaking and education.

Doug Miller, hosted by Dick Miller is a geologist and a business owner/manager .

# Proposed for Membership

**Stephen Petersen**

**1084 Camino del Rio, Santa Barbara 93110**

**Ph. 967-7979**

Sponsors: Ron Singer & Franz Meier

Stephen is a retired CFO and president of a tile distribution company in Santa Barbara. He is a past president of Rotary and earned the award of Rotarian of the Year. He has served as chairman of the golf committee at the Montecito Country Club, tournament chairman and YMCA youth coach. His interests include volleyball, softball, golf and basketball.

## **SPEAKER AT PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**SARAH GREENSTREET**

*PLUTO, THE KUIBER BELT AND A POSSIBLE NEW PLANET*

Charles Green introduced Sarah Greenstreet, who received her PhD in astronomy from British Columbia University. She currently is a post-doctorate fellow at Las Cumbres observatory at UCSB where her expertise includes celestial dynamics.



Dr. Greenstreet began her presentation with a history of the search for and discovery of planets at the edge of our solar system. In the nineteenth century, Urbain de Verrier observed the variations in the orbit of Uranus that indicated gravitational pull of a yet undiscovered planet beyond Uranus. He predicted a new planet which became verified and named Neptune. Later, Percival Lowell founded the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona where he studied the orbit of Neptune and predicted a planet still further out. He is credited with coining the expression Planet X to describe his prediction.

After Lowell's death, Clyde Tombaugh continued the search for Planet X. He used a new invention, a blink comparator, which rapidly switches images taken of an object at different times to enable the viewer to detect motion (as seen against the fixed sky image). He searched during virtually all of his waking hours for the elusive Planet X. The effort led to discovery of a large object beyond Neptune which was declared a planet, but not Planet X because its orbit did not match Lowell's prediction. It was named Pluto. Although considered a planet for years, in 2006 the scientific community designated it as a dwarf planet instead of a regular planet.

In the latter 20<sup>th</sup> century and 21<sup>st</sup> century, advances in rocket science made possible the close observation of the distant celestial objects. A large number of objects was discovered in the Kuiper Belt, a region starting at about the orbit of Neptune and extending a long distance outward. The search for Planet X continues as does other research now possible. In 2006 the New Horizon spacecraft on a flyby of Pluto took photographs of the crater densities of different portions of the planet supported age estimates.

Recent scientific evidence shows a group of six objects in the Kuiper belt on highly elliptical orbits which are clustered together. On the opposite side of the sun from the cluster is a postulated, but not observed, large object. Models show this object to have the necessary characteristics to be a planet. The gravitational force from this object on the six objects could explain the clustering of their orbits. This observation has triggered much interest in the astronomy community because of the possibility of the object being a planet not previously discovered. Could this be a new planet—the elusive Planet X?