



Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

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Editor: Hank Macchio

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Access the Cosmo website
<http://members.cox.net/cosmop/>
for archived issues of Crackers and
special events information

Next Program: March 20, 2008

David Brents, Chief Operating Officer Chumash Casino Resort, will speak on the Resort's operations in the Santa Ynez Valley.

According to the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Chumash inhabited the general area from what is now Malibu to present day Paso Robles including the Channel Islands. First contact with the Spanish occurred in 1542. However, anthropological finds from Arlington Canyon on Santa Rosa Island date the Chumash presence to 11,000 BC. "Arlington Springs Woman" is the oldest human skeletal remains found in North America.

The Santa Ynez band of the Chumash tribe has lived on their current reservation since being prodded by the Federal Government in 1855 to settle there. Today, the tribe owns and operates the Chumash Casino Resort on their reservation. The Resort is a major employer in Santa Barbara County. As a result of the success of the Resort, the Chumash are involved with a number of philanthropic activities that benefit the Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital, a number of First Responder Police and Fire organizations, scholarship recipients, and other groups.

The Chumash Casino Resort's presence in the Santa Ynez Valley is not without controversy, but the fact remains that it is one of the largest employers in the Valley and adds a significant positive impact to the area's economy

David Brents will be introduced by Hank Macchio

Future Programs:

April 3, 2008, Professor Benjamin J. Cohen. America's Looming Foreign Debt

Dr. Cohen is the Louis G. Lancaster Professor of International Political Economy in the Political Science Department at UCSB. A



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distinguished scholar who carries out research in international monetary and financial relations, Dr. Cohen was formerly on the faculties of Princeton University and The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University.

Dr. Cohen has written extensively about exchange rates, monetary integration to financial markets and international debt. In February 2008, the Princeton University Press published his most recent book, "International Political Economy: An Intellectual History". Dr. Cohen is a world renowned expert in the intricacies of international finance, and his presentation promises to be both timely and important.

Dr. Cohen will be introduced by Mead Northrop.

April 17, 2008, Dr. James I. Davis. Research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Dr. Davis served as an Associate Director at the Lawrence Livermore National Labs. His talk will focus on the funding and evolution of the Labs and will discuss some nuclear weapons controversies and compare nuclear weapons with natural energy releases. Dr. Davis will explain the connections among nuclear weapons, lasers and the Strategic Defense Initiative, sometimes referred to as "Star Wars". The conclusion of his presentation will review some ongoing programs at Livermore, and will show the relevance of these programs to maintaining a nuclear weapons capability. Dr. Davis will be introduced by Ben Walsh.

May 1, 2008, Manu Escondari. Iran Today. Introduced by Ben Walsh

May 15, 2008 (Ladies Day), Derek Katz. World of Music. Introduced by Warren Elliott

June 5, 2008, Dr. Steven Hosea. The Potential Disaster of Bird Flu. Introduced by Russ Tyler

Wine Drawing:

Glen Neikirk scored a bottle of Sid Ackert's Roussane, and Mike Cribbs walked away with a Sumerlin Cabernet Sauvignon.



No new members were introduced at this meeting: This is three times in a row! Do your friends a favor and introduce them to the fun side of the street.



Welcome Our Guests

Charles Greene hosted by Don Chalfant

PROPOSED FOR MEMBERSHIP

Charles R. Greene, 4512 Via Huerto, Santa Barbara, CA 93110. Born in January in Aruba, Charles was a Sr. Research Engineer at SAIC Maripro in Goleta prior to retirement. With Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate degrees in Electrical Engineering, Charles' expertise spanned both underwater sound research and ionospheric physics. Charles and his wife Barbara have two sons and have lived in Santa Barbara since 1963. His avocational interests include hiking, flying and biking.

Charles is sponsored by Don Chalfant, Bill Stancer and Jim Munroe.

Gentlemen: Save These Dates

Tuesday, April 15

Spring dinner dance at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club
Once again dancing to the music of City Lights. Mail-in flyers are now in circulation. Sign-ups have begun, and there is room for only thirteen more couples. Act fast and don't miss out on this event, since reservations will be closed by the beginning of April. Contact Hal Dunham – 879-7675

Friday April 18, 2008

Gourmet Dining at SBCC School of Culinary Arts **SOLD OUT**
5:30 PM Reception with wine and hors d'oeuvres
6:00 PM Dinner: four-courses with selected wines paired with each course
Cost: \$35 per person. Call Ben Walsh at 969-1960, (to get on Wait List)

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Annual Ladies Day
Mead Northrop announced that lunch tickets must be purchased in advance. NO tickets will be available at the door. Dr. Katz, UCSB

Musicologist will be the featured speaker.

Regular Events:

Bridge winners March 6th – Four Tables:

Howard Glenn	4700 Points
Hal Thompson	3930 Points
David Kain	2720 Points



Join us for not too serious Bridge, after our lunch meeting. We play until 3:30 PM. Contact Pres Gould at 964-6568 or pwgould@cox.net

GOLF:

Golf Tournament - March 27th at Glen Annie Golf Club, Goleta. First tee time – 10:00 AM with our usual scramble format and rules. Cost: \$45 includes cart and prize money. If you are hesitating to play because of the rust on your game, don't. Most of us are hackers, and enjoy the fellowship and the exercise. Sign up at the next club meeting. Contact Pres Gould 964 6568; or Lynn Garten, Golf Chairman at 969-2466.



Mark these dates in your calendars for the best golf events of the year at the beautiful Montecito Country Club. These are the member-guest days that offer great golf, food and friendly competition for a most reasonable price. Wed. May 14th, Wed. August 13th, and Wed. November 12th. The sign up dates for these events will appear in Crackers and will be announced at future lunches. Any questions? Please contact Marty Tucker or Lynn Garten.

Weekly Golf Outings:

More golfers needed – please join us for relaxed golf & great camaraderie...

At 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. Easy walking, flat course, open to all Cosmo members.

At Ocean Meadows - Wednesdays at 8:30 A.M. \$14.00 for 9 holes (par 36) with play card. Improve your long shots. Open to all Cosmo members.

Chair Lynn Garten, 969-2466, garten_sba@msn.com

S.A.G.E. Investment Group:

Welcome to all Cosmo members to discuss economic trends & current issues. We meet at 10 A.M. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Elks Club, 2nd floor, followed by a no-host luncheon. Next meeting is April 1st. We do not select or buy any stocks.

At the regular SAGE Meeting on April 1, Mac McMillin will give a presentation prepared by Northern Trust entitled "The Case for International Investing".

Special SAGE Meeting - April 8th at 10:00 AM at the Fidelity Investments office at Hope and State Streets. Fidelity's speaker will demonstrate Fidelity computer software for analyzing stocks.

Among the program's features are charting, including trend options, the ability to test trading alternatives and to bring up Standard and Poor and other research material, as well as options trading assistance. It also facilitates buying and selling securities. If you like to use computers for data analysis or to invest in Stocks, the program should be of much interest.

Since only 25 seats are available, please call Dick Evans at 967-6930 if you would like to attend.

Tennis:

The Cosmo Tennis Group play doubles twice a week, and all tennis players are invited. We play at a private court in Shadow Hills starting at 8 A.M., Mondays and Thursdays.
Bruce Long: 692-4072, or Walter Mead: 682-3045.



Cosmo Computer Society:

We meet upstairs at the Elks Club on the third Tuesday of each month. Open discussion starts at 10 AM. The feature presentation follows at 10:30, concluding with a no-host fellowship luncheon. All members are welcome.

Chair, Howard Glenn, 967-2633, hbglenn@cox.net



Special Events:

Getty Villa: Thanks to Bob Zimels for a great field trip to the Getty Villa on Feb 25th.

Opera Gala at the Lobero Theatre: Thanks to Angelo Crippa and Frank Umanzio for the marvelous dinner and opera event on Mar. 8th.

Last Meeting:

Bill Giorgi, Santa Ynez Valley rancher, was introduced by Art Kvaas, and spoke on the urgent need to control wildfires by preventative rather than suppressive measures. Bill's ranch has been in the family since the early 1800s and was part of the Nojoqui Land Grant. Now measuring some 1,500 acres, the ranch, which still contains the Nojoqui Falls, has working cattle breeding and crop farming operations.

Bill became interested in wildfire prevention following the aftermath of the disastrous Refugio Fire of the mid 1950s. His formal education includes a degree in Agriculture from Cal Poly SLO. He has been a member of the Santa Barbara County Fish and Game Commission since 1980 where he has been working with public agencies and biologists along with other commissioners to improve the habitat of our public lands. Bill is also a member of the SBC Cattlemen's Land Use Commission and is Chairman of the SBC Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Preventing disastrous wildfires is straightforward. Fire needs fuel and low humidity. Take away the fuel and the extraordinary wildfires, such as the recent Zaca Fire, will not occur. As an example, the Refugio Fire occurred when the temperature was 1100 F, relative humidity was 6% AND it had been 50 years since the area last burned. The conditions for the Zaca Fire were similar – somewhat lower temperature, extremely low humidity AND no fires in the area for at least 50 years.

Obviously, Mother Nature is in charge of temperature, humidity and wind. But, man can control the amount of fuel.

Prior to man, archaeological evidence in the form of blackened tree rings, shows that fires were a natural occurrence with a cycle of approximately every thirteen (13) years. Dating back to 11,000 BC, the Chumash managed the Central Coast habitat using what they called "The Great Red Wolf", fire to remove the underbrush and accumulated fuel. Periodic fires improved travel, reduced hazards, promoted game and seed production, and increased water flow.

This was the prevailing environment until 200 years ago when a No Burn edict was promulgated by the Spanish Captain of the Presidio in Santa Barbara. More recently, in the 19th Century and early 20th Century, the US Forest Service has focused on suppressing fires with a "war on fires" declared in the 1920s. Every fire is to be suppressed as soon as possible.

Fires such as the Refugio Fire, the Painted Cave Fire and the Zaca Fire, not to mention the numerous serious wildfires in Ventura, San Bernardino, Los Angeles and San Diego Counties, call the suppression vs. prevention focus of the Forest Service into question.

Managing the forests with controlled burns costs a fraction of what it costs to suppress a fire. The Zaca Fire burned 240,000 acres, raged for over 2 ½ months and cost \$120 M to suppress. Through the concurrence of favorable winds and a change in humidity, a first class disaster threatening the Riviera area of Santa Barbara, and similarly densely populated areas of Ventura, was averted.

Wildfires in Southern California have become more intense and catastrophic. Wildfires in 1993, 1997, 2003, and now 2007 have cost local, state and federal coffers in excess of \$6 Billion dollars. In the past 15 years more than 2 million acres of land have burned in the Southland spanning from Ventura in the Northwest to San Bernardino County in the Northeast to San Diego in the South. Residents, businesses, public infrastructure, critical agricultural production, wildlife habitat, and threatened species in these areas continue to be at risk.

Suppressing a wildfire costs an average of about \$750/acre as contrasted with about \$15/acre to manage the forests through controlled burns. Even a "Voodoo Economist" would agree that controlled burns make good economic sense. But what would the real cost be if the Front Range – that part of the forests abutting urban areas – burst into a raging wildfire? According to Bill Giorgi,

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the Front Range in Santa Barbara County has had an accumulation of fuel for more than 50 years. It's a ticking time bomb.

So, if the solution to managing the forests through controlled burns is such an obvious way to prevent serious wildfires, why isn't it the first priority of the Forest Service? There are many answers proffered – bureaucratic paralysis, lack of leadership at the Federal, State and County level, environmental activists, political special interests, budgetary pressures to fund massive, visible suppression efforts rather than somewhat invisible preventative measures, and the like.

The SBC Fish and Game Commission has offered a comprehensive resolution to the SBC Board of Supervisors to get some focus on prevention. This looks like a sisyphusian task given the current cast of characters on the Board of Supervisors. Perhaps a Ballot Initiative is needed to force the State and County officials to return to the forest management techniques practiced by our Native American predecessors.

e-CRACKERS REPLACING STAMPED MAIL

The Board has been advised by the members that they are generally very happy with the e-Crackers. Jim Munroe has done an analysis which shows that this move can save a substantial amount — almost \$1.50 PER PERSON, PER MONTH (250 members). In the near future, Crackers will no longer be distributed via snail mail except to those who do not have an e-mail address or specifically request a hard copy. Don Chalfant is the contact for snail mail (dchalfant@cox.net); please advise Don if you are willing to receive e-Crackers only and he will take you off the snail mail list. If you are not currently receiving E-Crackers please provide Jim Munroe (jmspin@cox.net) with your e-mail address so that we can include you on the e-Crackers list.

In Memoriam Marcus E. Crahan

Marcus was an active member of Cosmo for ten years, serving as Treasurer and Director at the time his illness struck. The Cosmopolitan Club extends its deepest condolences to his wife and family.

Cosmopolitan Club Spring Dinner-Dance

Tuesday, April 15, 2008



Santa Barbara Yacht Club
130 Harbor Way, at the Breakwater

6:00 PM COCKTAILS, NO HOST BAR
7:00 PM DINNER & WINE

Dancing to the music of the CITY LIGHTS COMBO

The SBYC Salad

Mixed greens, candied walnuts, Feta cheese, Orange Zest

Entrée

or

Alaskan Halibut,
Caper-dill butter
Calico Rice
Baby Vegetables

Sautéed Tournedos,
Grain mustard & red wine sauce
Florentine Scalloped Potatoes
Baby Vegetables

Red & White Wine

Desert

Chocolate-Caramel Pyramid

Price: \$75/ person

Dress: Semi-formal or Cocktail Dress



Reservation

	Beef	Fish
NAME (Please print) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GUEST (Please print) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Request Seating With: _____

Clip Reservation Form, enclose with your check payable to Cosmopolitan Club, and mail to:

Hal Dunham
Vista del Monte
3775 Modoc Road
Apartment SR 262
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Telephone: 805-879-7675