



# Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

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Editor: Skip Cole

May 1, 2008

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



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## May 1, 2008:

Dr. Manou Escondari, Introduced by Ben Walsh:  
"Should the World Fear a Nuclear Iran?"

Dr Eskandari is a direct descendant of the Qajar Royal Family that ruled Persia from 1795-1925. This family was thrown out of power by the British, who placed an army officer, Riz Shah Pahlavi, on the throne. The speaker received a B.S. in Political Science from the University of Vienna. He was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship at UCSB where he earned an M.A. and Ph.D in diplomacy and political theory. He was an adjunct lecturer and political science professor at UCSB for eight years before joining SBCC in 1992, where he serves as director of the Middle East Studies Program.

## May 15, 2008 (Ladies Day),

Dr. Derek Katz, speaking on Romance in Music. Dr. Katz is Asst. Professor, Music History, UCSB; he holds degrees from Harvard, UCSB and The Free University of Berlin. As a specialist in Czech music, he has published articles on 19th Century Chamber Music, Janacek and His World (Princeton) and The Cambridge Companion to Dvorak. Dr. Katz has just completed a book about Janacek's operas; his most recent work deals with the reception of ragtime and early jazz in Central Europe. After a recent VISTAS seminar, many called Dr. Katz the best teacher ever! Introduced by Warren Elliott. Reserve for Ladies Day by May !st.

## June 5, 2008,

Dr. Steven Hosea, speaking on Newer Developments in Infectious Diseases. Dr. Hosea is Consultant in Infec-

tious Diseases at Cottage Health Systems. His discussion is expected to cover the problems of antibiotic resistant infections, the current state of the AIDS epidemic, as well as new emerging virus infections such as Bird Flu, Ebola virus and others. Russell M. Tyler, M.D., Introducer

## Wine Drawing:

A bottle of Summerland Chardonnay 2005 was won by Frank Pavlics; a bottle of Sid Ackert's Cabernet Sauvignon 1998 went to Russ Tyler, and a bottle of EJ Brandy from the estate of the late Sherm Condon went to Harold England.



## Welcome Our Guests

The following guests and their hosts were introduced:

Bob Cresap, guest of Walt Clapp  
Ted Ross, guest of Bob Logan  
Jim Mills, guest of Putt Mills  
Russ Twedt, guest of Chuck Orr  
Ed Vance, guest of Mike Rodrigue  
Mike Walsh, guest (and son) of Ben Walsh

## Committee Announcements:

### Senior Services

Chair, Marty Tucker announced all persons must file a 2007 Federal tax return with the I.R.S. in order to receive the tax rebate due from the economic stimulus package.

### Special Events: Save These Dates

#### Thursday, May 15, 2008

Annual Ladies Day: Lunch tickets must be purchased in advance, and by May 1st. **NO tickets will be available at the door.** Dr. Katz, UCSB Musicologist will be the featured speaker

### Regular Events:

#### Bridge winners April 17:

Herb Friedman and David Kain Tied for first with 3390 Points; Ed Loper third, with 3230 Points.

Join us for "fun" Bridge after our next meeting, May 1. We play until 3:30 pm upstairs at the Elks. Contact Pres Gould at 964-6568 or [pwgould@cox.net](mailto:pwgould@cox.net)



### GOLF:

Mark these dates in your calendars for the best golf events of the year: S.B. Municipal Golf Course, Tuesday, April 22, 10:30 am, \$45. Includes cart, practice balls, round and prize money. Call Lynn Garten, 969-2466



**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.

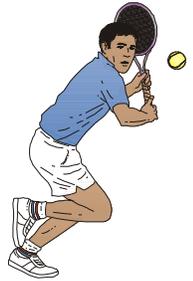
**At Ocean Meadows** - Wednesdays at 8:30 A.M. \$14.00 for 9 holes (par 36) with play card. Improve your long shots. Open to all Cosmo members. Chair Lynn Garten, 969-2466, email: [garten\\_sba@msn.com](mailto:garten_sba@msn.com)

## S.A.G.E. Investment Group:

All Cosmo members are welcome to join us 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 May 6.

### Tennis:

The Cosmo Tennis Group plays 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 tennis group takes a break from Olympic tryouts".

### 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, [hbglen@cox.net](mailto:hbglen@cox.net)



"(L to R) Carol Glenn, Cosmo President pro tem Robin Durkee and wife Cathy enjoy gourmet dinner at SBCC".

## Last Meeting: April 17.

New Cosmo member, Dr. James I. Davis (former associate director of Lawrence Livermore Laboratory), introduced by Ben Walsh, gave a detailed and interesting talk on the decade by decade history, and present situation, of nuclear weapons in the U.S, stressing the role of the Lawrence Livermore Lab.



*"Dr. James I. Davis"*

The 1940s, era of the Manhattan Project, saw the emergence of the US as the most powerful nation on earth in terms of weaponry – led by three great scientists: Ernest Lawrence, inventor of the cyclotron; Robert Oppenheimer, developer of the fission A-bomb; and Edward Teller, inventor of the thermo-nuclear fusion H-bomb. A report from a committee chaired by Oppenheimer in 1947 opposed development of the H-bomb, recommending instead negotiations with the Russians. Teller continued to advocate its development. In 1950 Pres. Truman authorized the testing of H-bombs. Teller remained dissatisfied with the rate of testing and advocated a second laboratory to compete with Los Alamos. With the support of Ernest Lawrence, the Livermore Lab was created. Four successively larger tests were run, 1951-1954, and the H-bomb became a reality. In 1954 the hearings were held concerning Oppenheimer's role in thwarting H-bomb development and the end result was a presidential ban on his further participation in nuclear projects. Davis emphasized that Teller did not accuse Oppenheimer of disloyalty. In 1958 a nuclear test moratorium was declared, but was broken by the Russians in 1960 with the 58 megaton "Tsar" bomb. In the 60s, Pres. Kennedy authorized all-out testing, but tests were later driven underground due to protests against atmospheric fallout by Linus Pauling and others. Dr. Davis then compared a series of different sized bombs with natural disasters such as the largest earthquake recorded, the Valdivia, which registered a 9.5 on the Richter scale, but he pointed out that, of course, earthquakes and nuclear bombs are substantially different in character. The all-time high U.S. stockpile of about 20 gigatons would, if detonated, have measured about 8.87 on the Richter scale.

The 1970s saw the emergence of an emphasis on simulations of nuclear tests; for example, as first authorized by James Schlesinger, laser-driven implosions at Livermore and Los Alamos showed the feasibility of laboratory thermo-nuclear fusion. The multi-armed

"Shiva" laser-driven micro-explosion was achieved by the early 70s. In the 1980s Reagan sought to render nuclear weapons obsolete, authorizing the Strategic Defense Initiative, SDI, also called "Star Wars" because of its potential deployment in space rather than on earth. X-ray laser tests were held but misinterpreted and new ideas were needed, resulting in the "Brilliant Pebbles" initiative for SDI in the late 1980s, a series of new and more efficient miniature devices such as sensors and other components were developed to support this effort.

In the 1990s, Pres. Clinton wanted a comprehensive nuclear test ban, which was approved by virtue of a political compromise: weapons in stockpile would be maintained but not tested. In the late 1990s work on the National Ignition Facility was started, a huge complex for the study of the physics of fusion bombs and of the potential for producing laser-driven fusion energy for commercial use. This facility is now nearing completion. Other initiatives included the development of (1000X) higher-speed computers, particle accelerators, and kinetic impact systems, and all have been successful. Stewardship of the nuclear stockpile and advanced SDI projects continue, but the University of CA is no longer the principal contractor for the Los Alamos and Livermore Labs.

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**COSMOPOLITAN CLUB  
OF SANTA BARBARA, INC.**  
P. O. Box 3993  
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"Buffed out Cosmo couples enjoying Spring dinner/dance at Santa Barbara Yacht Club".