



Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol. LV No.17

Editor: Chuck Evans

Access the Cosmo website
<http://sbcosmo.com>
for current and archived issues of
Crackers and special events
information

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Spring Dinner Dance

Santa Barbara Yacht Club

6:00—10:00 pm

Tuesday, April 28

- *Splashy Setting*
- *Scintillating Sunset*
- *Liberal Libations*
- *Decked Out Dudes & Dudettes*
- *Totally Tonal Tunes & Tones*
- *Cravenous Cuisine*
- *Delightful Dancing*

We Want YOU!

(See P. 5 reservation form for details)



Next Program

March 19

Amir Abo-Shaer "DPEA - Dos Pueblos HS Engineering Academy"

DPEA was founded six years ago as a "school within a school" by Mr. Amir Abo-Shaer, a mechanical engineer who turned to teaching after several years in industry. DPEA consists of 33 students in each year's class, with more than three times as many applicants as spots available, operating up to now in "spaces available" on the Dos Pueblos High School campus. The Senior Project was to build and operate a robot conforming to the specifications of the most prestigious international robotics contest FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). In spring 2008, the Dos Pueblos team, Team 1717, won the regional competitions in both San Diego and Los Angeles. It then went on to place second overall in the International Competition in Atlanta, competing against more than 1,000 teams from all over the world! All this was accomplished in six weeks, using one class room and a 7' x 15' machining closet to design, prototype, build and test a 150 lb. robot. A.B. Clarke will introduce.



Future Programs

April 2

Thomas Tighe "Direct Relief International"

Mr. Tighe will tell us what is happening at our own local Direct Relief International, which since 1948 provides medical assistance to improve the quality of life throughout the world. It is surely one of the most successful and effective organizations. Gil Ashor will introduce.

April 16

David Stuart "Healthcare Delivery via Remote Presence Robots"

After studying chemistry and business at the University of Delaware, David Stuart worked in the Massachusetts 128 technology belt for LTX, a leading developer of semiconductor automatic test equipment. David and his wife Katie eventually moved to Silicon Valley where he joined Quantum, a major disk drive business, participating in their growth from \$500Mm to \$5B in annual sales. David eventually discovered the utopia of Santa Barbara, and has been driving robotic solutions into the healthcare industry since moving here 13 years ago. As the VP of International Markets for Intouch Health for the past five years, David has been responsible for delivering remote presence robotic telemedicine solutions all around the globe.

David has been working with this same team of local entrepreneurs since 1996 when he joined Computer Motion here in Santa Barbara as VP of Operations, Business Development, and Product Marketing. Computer Motion was a world leader in the design of the first minimally invasive surgical robots, eventually merging with Intuitive Surgical, which is today the dominant and highly successful provider of the da Vinci surgical robot. David's diverse skills and experience in finance, manufacturing, business development, marketing, and international sales provide a colorful introspective into an emerging healthcare market. Specifically, enabling the delivery

of specialized physician expertise instantly; anytime, ...anywhere,... healthcare delivery via Remote Presence Robots. Charles Chester will introduce.

Libation Liberation

Our guest speaker for the day, Bruce McPherson, won the bottle of Sid's 2007 Chardonnay!



Guests

Ben Walsh brought Ken Jewesson, retired educator and artist. Fred Marsh brought Jim McKillip, retired physical therapist. Bob Hankins brought LeRoy Hunt, retired retailer and mud peddler (he says).

Bridge

Bridge scores from March 5 are as follows:

Rob Henry	3580 pts
Pres Gould	3240 pts
Howard Glenn	3190 pts



Join us for fun bridge. We gather up stairs after all regular meetings, and play until 3:30. Contact Pres Gould at 964-6568 or pwgould@cox.net.

Special Events

SB City College Four Course Gourmet Dinner, March 20, 2009

Sign up for this gourmet dinner with selected wines (5:30, reception, 6:00, dinner, blackened catfish or Chinese pork chop) \$40 per person.

Sign up with Ben Walsh at the next Cosmo meeting or call him with your reservation: 969-1960



Spring Dinner Dance — Tuesday, April 28

It's a black-tie affair (if you wish) for you and your best lady at Santa Barbara Yacht Club. No Host cocktails at 6:00 pm, followed by a scrumptious dinner at 7:00 pm, with dining and dancing music provided "City Lights Combo". Along with liberal quantities of red and white wines, our menu will offer 'Santa Barbara Yacht Club' salad (mixed greens, candied walnuts, feta cheese, and orange zest), entree choice of Prime Rib or Salmon, with Chocolate Mousse or Tiramisu for dessert. Tuesday night was selected so Cosmo will have exclusive use of SBYC and its parking lot. Priced at \$80 per person, where can Cosmo host such a special event at reasonable cost and so close to home? You bring your lady fair - Cosmo Club will provide a delightful evening for you both.

A Reservation form is attached as page 5 of E-Crackers. Jim Pattillo, Dance chair, 969-2796, jlpattillo@cox.net

Regular Events

Tennis

The Cosmo tennis group play doubles twice a week, and all tennis players are invited to join us. We play at a private court in Shadow Hills starting at 8 AM Mondays and Thursdays. Call Bruce Long, (805) 692-4072 bruce93103@cox.net, or Walter Mead, (805) 682-3045.



Cosmo Computer Society

Don't miss our next meeting on March 17, 2009 at 10 AM. Jim Stubchaer and Bob Gerity will tell us how to clean up and speed up our computers, and how to save our grief and tears with tips for backing up files.



We meet regularly upstairs at the Elks Club on the third Tuesday of every month. Discussion starts at 10:00 AM. The feature presentation starts at 10:30 AM, concluding with a no-host fellowship luncheon in the Elks Grill. All Cosmo members are welcome. Jim Stubchaer & Bob Gerity, Program Co-Chairs; Chair, Howard Glenn, 967-2633 or hbglennc@cox.net.

S. A. G. E. Investment Group

We meet at 10 AM on the first Tuesday of each month at the Elks Club on the 2nd floor, followed by a no-host lunch in the grill downstairs. We do not select or buy stocks. Dick Evans, Chairman (805) 967-6930 or dickevans1@cox.net.



Golf

Golf Tournament – Thursday, April 30th at La Purisima – consistently ranked as one of the best 50 golf courses in the U.S. Great value: Greens fee, cart and range balls for \$50. First Tee Off at 10:00 AM, format is four man Scramble. For more details, contact Hank Macchio (805) 693-5802, h.macchio@verizon.net.



Weekly: All Cosmo members are welcome

Twin Lakes - Mondays at 9:00 AM (Tuesday on Monday holidays). \$9.00 for 9 holes (par 29); have fun improving your short game on an easy walking, flat course.

Ocean Meadows - Wednesdays at 8:30 AM. \$14.00 for 9 holes (par 36) with a play card. Improve your long shots. Regular Golf every Monday at Santa Barbara Golf Club (Muni).

Tee times from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. Regular senior rate is \$20 for 18 holes, not including cart. If you would like to play, contact Ron Singer by Friday before the Monday to secure your tee time.

Golf Chair - Ron Singer (805) 684-1355, rsinger916@aol.com

Colonel Ben Walsh Honored by Cosmopolitan Club and French Government

As you already know, Colonel Ben Walsh on February 19 was awarded France's highest honor, the Legion d'Honneur for bravery as a bomber pilot during World War II. At the Cosmos meeting of March 5, President Robin Durkee presented Ben with a Cosmopolitan Club proclamation recognizing his wartime service and his French honor, and also thanking him for his extraordinary contributions to the Cosmopolitan Club, and recognizing his 90th birthday on June 18, 2009, at which time he will be dues exempt and an honorary life member of the Club.

In Memoriam

We are saddened to report the death of Angelo 'Ang' Crippa. Angelo joined Cosmo in 1999, serving as an active member and current Chairman of the Special Events Committee. We extend our deepest sympathies to wife Joan and family.

2009-2010 Cosmo Officers

The Club's Nominating Committee has drafted this proposed officer slate for the upcoming year starting July 1, 2009:

Ron White	President
John MacKenzie	Vice President
Arlie Skov	Secretary
David Kain	Treasurer

Mead Northrop remains as director at large, with Don Chalfant as second director at large.

Last Meeting, March 5

We all recognize the California budget is a mess, with a \$40 billion dollar deficit and an inability to get the budget done in a timely manner. Our speaker, Bruce McPherson, former California Secretary of State and State legislator, gave a very informative talk on California's fiscal and governance problems, and introduced a major effort to correct those problems. He said there is a great deal of lack of trust by the public in California government, and that California is in a great political and economic funk that we need to get out of.

Mr. McPherson is a member of the Leadership Council of California Forward, which is a bipartisan public interest effort committed to greatly improving the performance of government in California. He said it was funded by five foundations a little more than a year ago, including the Hewlett, Packard, Irvine and Haas Foundations, with a grant of 16 million dollars. It's been given three years to fix the problems; if it is still effective, that would be extended for another 3 years. Prior to serving as Secretary of State and before that in the Assembly and State Senate, Mr. McPherson was in the family newspaper business, the Santa Cruz Sentinel.

California Forward is working to produce better policies to enable California to compete in the global economy, value diversity, support children, improve health care, preserve and protect natural resources, and advance social and economic equity.

He said that the organization hopes to develop a constituency that supports change in incremental steps to improve the quality of life and establish cost effective governance.

He saluted this great State of California that has the 6th or 7th largest economy in the world, has a population of 38 million and growing, and a need to create accountability.

Mr. McPherson believes the budget should be a multi-year budget, and forecasted and monitored over a several year period, with measurable priorities and goals. He believes that programs need to be evaluated on the basis of whether they are achieving the goals and, if not, eliminated. He said the budget needs to be on a "pay as you go" basis.

Mr. McPherson cited in particular when Gray Davis was Governor that the California budget was increased 8 – 10 % per year, and that if it had been held equal to the cost of living, California would enjoy a small budget surplus at this time.

Mr. McPherson indicated the Leadership Council had been very much involved in redistricting. He said that at present each legislator chooses their own boundaries and so very few of the legislative districts have challenged elections. He said the group is looking at all the issues in California, and that they need to get public input to determine what California wants in its

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COSMOPOLITAN CLUB



governing body. He said he believes that everything is on the table.

Mr. McPherson was asked if the Council had considered recommending convening a State Constitutional Convention to make the structural or governance changes that are needed. He said the Council had not taken a stance on that, but that he believed that the preferred approach is the one they are embarking on, to consider changes in individual programs. He said that with a Constitutional Convention, you don't know where such a convention may take you, and that it is better to evaluate individual projects and programs. He did acknowledge that there is another group that is promoting such a constitutional convention.

He was asked if there was any support from the unions on this effort to improve California governance. He indicated that there was, and of the 15 members of the Leadership Council, 3 or 4 are union representatives. He also said the Council was bipartisan, with 8 Democrats, 5 Republicans, and 2 who decline to state their party affiliation.

Mr. McPherson said there are 6 initiatives on the ballot in May 20, 2009 that will address some of these issues, including placing a cap on the budget and providing some "rainy day" funds to stabilize budget and revenue needs.

Mr. McPherson urged Cosmo members to get involved and provide public input to the effort. He cited the California Forward website: caforward.org for providing input.

Stop Press!

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens
Thursday, May 28

Sign up and mark your calendars for a springtime trip to the Huntington. Visit its Library with its collection of rare books and manuscripts of British and American history and literature. See the art collections of one of the finest collections of European art in the nation. Visit more than 120 acres of gardens, including the Rose, Japanese, and Chinese Gardens. We will arrive in time for lunch at the Huntington Café which will be at your personal expense (\$8 – 11 for entrée and beverage). You can, as an alternative, plan to have an exquisite buffet lunch at the Rose Garden Tea Room. From a central buffet, guests may choose from an array of savory finger sandwiches, imported and domestic cheeses, fresh fruits, chilled seasonal salads and specialty petite desserts. Cost of the buffet is \$30/person (including tax and tip). The Rose Garden Tea Room is popular, has limited seating and requires reservations, so sign up early. The cost of \$50/person is for admission, bus driver's tip and on-board refreshments (lunch not included). The cost of \$80/person includes the Rose Garden Tea Room buffet. Checks should be made out to the Cosmopolitan Club and mailed to Thore Edgren, 6545 Camino Venturoso, Goleta 93117. Phone 967-4001 for reservations or questions, or sign up at the next Cosmo meeting.

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA

2009 SPRING DINNER DANCE

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

SANTA BARBARA YACHT CLUB

6:00 PM COCKTAILS, SOCIAL HOUR

No Host Bar, Tables of eight, each with two bottles of wine

7:00 PM Dinner

DANCING (7:00 - 10:00 PM) TO MUSIC OF 'CITY LIGHTS' COMBO

MENU

Santa Barbara Yacht Club Salad: Melange of seasonal greens, with Candied Walnuts, Feta Cheese, and Orange Zest.

Choice of:

Prime Rib au jus or Broiled Salmon served with Tomato Basil Buerre Blanc and

Red Roasted Potatoes and Baby Vegetables

Dessert: Tiramisu, i.e. Espresso Soaked Lady Fingers, whipped egg yolks, mascarpone, and sugar, topped with cocoa, andor Marsala wine, making it 'Zabaglione'

Price: \$80 per person

Dress: Formal or cocktail dress

Cut along this line and return with your check

RESERVATION FORM. The Dance Committee can arrange to seat you with your party and have them served their choices of food only if this form is completed accurately. Please *write legibly (as most of us are unfamiliar with your handwriting)* and use the back of this form to provide names and meal choices of those not shown below. Tables will be reserved only when paid for in-full. We look forward to seeing all of you at the party!

	BEEF	FISH
Your Name _____	0	0
Spouse or Guest _____	0	0

Mail this Reservation Form with check payable to "Cosmopolitan Club" to Jim Pattillo, 1143 Glenview Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108-2001. Remember: The password is "Zabaglione!"

Parking in Yacht Club Parking Lot During the Cosmo Club's Spring 2009 Dance!

Cosmopolitan Members and their guests are welcome to park in the Yacht Club Parking Lot during the evening of April 28, 2009, but must realize that the lot will not be locked nor attended, so you park there at your own risk. Lock your car and don't leave any valuables in it.

We hope you have a wonderful time.