



Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol. LVI No.11

Editor: Jim Munroe

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

<p><i>Crackers Editor</i></p> 	<p>Next Meeting: December 17, 2009 Next Editor: Chuck Evans Phone: 805-964-9091 Email: ccharlesevans@hotmail.com Next Sergeant at Arms: Walter Clapp 805-964-9191 Email: oldfrogs@earthlink.net</p>
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NEXT PROGRAM

December 17

San Marcos High School Madrigal Singers Holiday Concert

A special Cosmo meeting full of holiday cheer and magical sounds. This is the perfect meeting venue to share with family and friends. Introductions by Bill Spangler.

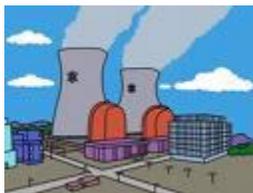


FUTURE PROGRAMS

January 7

Cosmo Member Don Margerum - "Reexamining Nuclear Power"

Don will present his evaluation of the Negative and Positive factors surrounding nuclear power based on his extensive research for a VISTAS class. The presentation will use these factors to compare nuclear power to other forms of energy. His analysis includes his view of which of the factors are supported by fact and which are politically motivated. His conclusions are surprising, and point the way to an intelligent debate on the future of nuclear power in the United States and the world. Introduction by Pete Kruse.



January 21

Dr. Bruce Phillips, PhD University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

"How is the Swine Flu like a Terrorist in a Black Raincoat?"
Dr. Bruce Phillips, PhD, from the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, and UCSB as a visiting professor, a virologist working in the area of Molecular Cell and Genetic Development, will offer a highly informative presentation on the

pandemic of the Swine Flu. For example: The mutation of the influenza virus is more frequent than the mutation of other viruses and cells because the genetic code for virus is contained in RNA, rather than DNA as in other viruses and cells. The mutation in RNA occurs once every 10,000 times it is copied as opposed to once every 1,000,000,000/10,000,000,000 times for DNA. Introduction by Gordon Bjork.

February 4

Russell McGlothlin (water)

February 18

Hillary Hauser, Executive Director, Heal the Ocean

Heal the Ocean is committed to ending ocean pollution. Hillary Hauser has been a writer/journalist/news reporter since 1968, with published books about the sea and underwater exploration, and magazine articles including National Geographic, Geo, Islands, The Surfer's Journal, Reader's Digest and the Los Angeles Times. From 1969 through 1977 she was West Coast stringer for Ocean Science News, Washington D.C., and from 1981-1986 was ocean/marine reporter for the Santa Barbara News-Press. She also was the former music critic for the Santa Barbara News-Press and is a long-time classical pianist.



March 4

Robert Rauchhaus, Asst. Professor of Political Science, UCSB

Dr. Rauchhaus' research focuses on the formulation and implementation of strategy under conditions of uncertainty, risk, and strategic interaction. His recent publications and courses

apply strategic choice theory to military strategy, national security policy, and conflict management. His expertise in national security policy stems from his academic training, as well as practical experience gained from military service, law enforcement and work in the defense industry. Prior to joining the faculty at UCSB in 2003, Dr. Rauchhaus was a management consultant with McKinsey and Company.

- March 18** Robert Failing (Mountain Climbing)
April 1 Mayor-elect Helene Schneider (Santa Barbara)
May 6 John Burgee (architecture) (Ladies Day)

Libation Liberation

Ray Rosecrans scored a Summerland Chardonnay and Mead Northrop will enjoy a bottle of Summerland Syrah.



Welcome Our Guests

Gordon Bjork introduced our guests and hosts.

Paul Melancon with member Hank Macchio
Gary Georges with member Bill Montag
Dick Weist with member Bruce Long

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Willard W. "Will" McEwen, Jr.
1620 Lasuen Road
SB 93103
805-966-3451
wwwce@cox.net



Our newest member is a second generation Cosmo Club member, following in the path of his father Dr. Will McEwen. Born in the Windy City, Will, Jr. earned a B.A. in Economics and his LLB from UC's Hastings College. He carried the rank of U.S. Army Captain, serving in the Infantry and Military Government branch. A practicing lawyer for 35 years, Will retired as U.S. Magistrate Judge in 2005. A 63-year resident of Santa Barbara, Will and wife Susanne have one daughter. Will enjoys golf, reading, guitar and fishing. He was sponsored and presented by Ken Cullen, with co-sponsors Karl Kassity and Mead Northrop.

PROPOSED NEW MEMBER

John F. Gould
3775 Modoc Road #290
SB 93105
805-879-7607
johnfgould@cox.net

A Pisces from the town of Oakes in The Peace Garden State of North Dakota, John Gould and wife Marjorie are newcomers to Santa Barbara. He secured his B.A. in Business Administration, and pulled duty in Korea in the early 1950s as a Medical Service

Corps 1Lt. John retired in 1983 as Corporate Controller for McKesson Corp. A member of the Masonic Lodge, John enjoys football and tennis in a non-participating manner. John's sponsors are: Dan Cross, Fred Marsh and Art Kvaas

Regular COSMO Events

Bridge

December 3 winners:

Ralph Edebo	4320
Pres. Gould	3820
Ernie Bivans	3600



Join us for FUN Bridge. We gather upstairs after all regular meetings and play until 3:30 PM. Contact Pres Gould at 964-6568 or pwgould@cox.net

Tennis

The tennis group plays doubles twice a week, and all tennis players are invited to participate. We play at a private court in Shadow Hills starting at 8:00 AM Mondays and Thursdays.

Contact Bruce Long, (805) 692-4072, or bruce93103@cox.net, or Walter Mead at (805) 682-3045.



Computer Society

Meets monthly upstairs at the Elks Club on the third Tuesday. 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. Our next meeting is on 15 December. All COSMO members are welcome. Jim Stubchaer & Bob Gerity: Program Co-Chairs; Howard Glenn: Chair (805) 967-2633 or hbglenn@cox.net.



S. A. G. E. Investment Group

Join us Tuesday, January 5 for discussion on "Cap and Trade", a hot issue before Congress with strong feelings on both sides. The bill before the Senate has a number of alternatives, with possibly quite different effects on important industries, including utilities, solar power, wind power, as well as possibly being expensive for the public. S.A.G.E. meets 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. S. A. G. E. does not select or buy stocks. Dick Evans, Chairman (805) 967-6930 or dickevans@mac.com.



Hearing Assistance

For those of you who have a hearing loss, we have 10 hearing aids for your use at any meeting. Just come over to the audio-visual equipment area and we will sign you up for an aid. Jim Belden AV Chairman

Golf

Tournament - The next Cosmo Club golf tourney is scheduled on Wednesday, January 20 at Santa Barbara Golf Club (aka Muni) with the first tee time at 10:30.

Course construction and renovations are expected to be finished. Muni's standard green fee is \$33, not including cart. Many of our players carry the resident card and senior discount which offer significant savings. For this event each participant will pay his own green fee so eligible discounts will be available. Separately, tournament coordinators Paul Fink and John MacKenzie will collect \$5 from each player to fund the buffet of prizes. Contact Paul Fink, 566-6671, or John Mac Kenzie, 964-9339 or jbmac007@cox.net to register for this event.



Mondays - Santa Barbara Golf Club (Muni). Tee times from 9:30 AM. to 11:00 AM. Regular senior rate is \$25 for 18 holes, not including cart. Contact Ron Singer 684-1355, rsinger916@aol.com by Friday before the Monday to secure your tee time.

Mondays - Twin Lakes (Par 29) – Work on your short game, each Monday at 9:00 AM.

Wednesdays at Ocean Meadows (Par 36) - Work on your long-ball skills, each Wednesday at 8:30 AM

Fridays at a variety of nearby courses - Contact Ron Singer to get on his e-mail list to be notified of the next "Floating Golf Game". Locations have included La Purisma, Glen Annie, Soule Park, and Rancho San Marcos.

SPECIAL EVENTS

President Ron's Goleta Beach Walk

President Ron cited his landlubber credentials for neglecting to recognize that a 3.2' low tide would add unexpected challenge to his 11/24 beachcapade. If you missed this adventure, take a virtual walk on the wild side by viewing pictures on the Cosmo website (<http://sbcosmo.com>), bottom of Special Events page.

January 16, (Saturday)

BUS TRIP TO THE FAMED MAGIC CASTLE IN HOLLYWOOD.

Enjoy a fabulous Buffet Brunch in the unique atmosphere of this 100-year old Victorian mansion, and be amazed by the illusions of the talented magicians. Bus will depart the Elks Club at 8:45 AM, stop at IHOP in Carpinteria at 9:05 AM and return at approximately 5:00 PM. Cost is \$90 per person. Full payment is due No Later Than December 17 (our next meeting). Thore Edgren will be at the meeting to collect your check. Event contact is Thore Edgren, 967-4001, theman3@cox.net.



Wednesday, February 17

VANDENBERG AFB. A tour of Vandenberg AFB has been arranged for a total cost of \$30/person including bus transportation to/from the Elks Club. No host lunch will be available at the Officers Club. Wives and girl friends are invited. Call Ben Walsh 969-1960 to reserve your spot.



April 19-22, (Monday-Thursday)

LAS VEGAS. Celebrate the new decade with a trip to Las Vegas. Our junket departs by bus on Monday, April 19 and returns Thursday, April 22. The cost is \$460 per couple for bus transport, baggage handling, refreshments, gratuities and three nights lodging at Treasure Island. Golf chair Ron Singer is arranging a golf tournament for attending golfers. Optional show tickets will be offered at a later date. Payment is not due until early January. Call Harry Stroud, 653-5117, to book your reservation.



May 29, (Saturday)

LA PHILHARMONIC Performance in the acoustically superb Disney Concert Hall at 2:00 PM. Cost is \$120/person. A deposit of \$25 is required now to reserve your ticket. The balance of \$95 is not due until April 1. Our bus departs the Elks Club at 11:00 AM with a stop at IHOP in Carpinteria, and returns at 6:00 PM. Lunch is not included but is available at the Disney Hall Cafe. The concert consists of Dutilleux's Metaboles, Scriabin's The Poem of Estasy and Violinist Julian Rachlin performing Sibelius's Violin Concerto. Lionel Bringuier is guest conductor. Contact Thore Edgren at 967-4001 or theman3@cox.net to make reservations. Tickets are limited. Please contact Thore promptly so that he can finalize our reservation.



Cosmo Member Ailing?

If you learn of one of our members suffering from illness or injury, please notify Don Terrell, 687-8481 or wtd84@cox.net. Don will arrange to send a Cosmo 'Get Well' card wishing our member a quick rebound.

Last Meeting:

Sherman Starr ivoried our National Anthem vocals; Bill Spangler offered the invocation.

Ben Walsh presented speaker Dr. Robert Piccioni, a nationally-recognized scientist with several patents in medical, smart energy, and semiconductor technologies. **He recently published Everyone's Guide to Atoms, Einstein, and the Universe.** Dr. Piccioni holds a BS degree from Caltech, a PhD from Stanford, and was a member of the Research Faculty at Harvard. In remarks titled "Our Universe – The Known & Unknown", Dr. Piccioni regaled us with fascinating facts and remarkable photographs. He defines "our universe" as all we



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could possibly observe or that could possibly influence us. With a variation of plus/minus 1%, our universe is 13.7 billion years old. Its composition is 4.6% normal matter (atoms, neutrons etc.), 23% Cold Dark Matter, and 72% Dark Energy. Cosmologists do not yet understand the 95% represented by the latter two.

Dr. Piccioni queried as to how much stuff is in our universe? Our sun is an average size star. It would take one million of our earth to fill the volume of our sun. The nearby (relatively) Andromeda Galaxy is estimated to hold one trillion stars. Scientists suggest our universe may be comprised of 100 billion galaxies, each containing at least 100 billion stars. A core Cosmological Principle states that the universe is homogeneous. The density of stars and galaxies is the same everywhere, as is the temperature. There is no obvious center or edge to our universe.

In the 1920s Charles Hubble discovered that all galaxies are moving away from us, and at an accelerating rate. This suggests that all galaxies in our universe were in the same place at one point in time which seems to validate the Big Bang theory of universe creation.

What's outside our universe? A telescope is like a time machine in that what one observes is a light event that occurred thousands, millions or billions of years ago. We'll never observe what is outside our universe because our universe is expanding faster than the speed of light.

Kudos to Ben Walsh for arranging this terrific presentation.



*Cosmo Couples enjoy elegant festivities at La Cumbra CC.
Kudos to Albert Mercado and committee for planning a lovely
Cosmo Christmas dinner-dance event*