



# Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol. LVII No. 18

Editor: Harv Turner

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

*Crackers Editor*



Next Meeting: **April 7, 2011**  
 Next Editor: Skip Cole  
 Phone: 805-682-1809  
 E-Mail: [scole@arthistory.ucsb.edu](mailto:scole@arthistory.ucsb.edu)

Next Sergeant at Arms: Bill Montag  
 Phone: 805-961-8055  
 E-Mail: [joywill@cox.net](mailto:joywill@cox.net)

**Cosmo Member Ailing?**  
If you learn of one of our members suffering from illness or injury, please notify Don Terrell, 687-8481 or [wtdt84@cox.net](mailto:wtdt84@cox.net). Don will arrange to send a Cosmo 'Get Well' card wishing our member a quick rebound.

### Future Meetings

**April 21**  
**Ambassador Glenn Holden, Retired**  
**"Serving as U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica"**



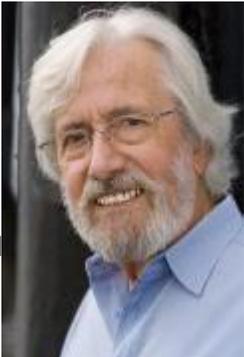
Ambassador Holden is a long-time resident of Los Angeles. He holds a BS degree from the University of Oregon. He is an experienced businessman who began his career in the mid-1950's as a life insurance agent in Portland, Oregon. From 1964 to 1973, he was President and Director of the Variable Annuity Life insurance Company (VALIC) of Washington, D.C. and Houston, Texas. Under Ambassador Holden's guidance, VALIC pioneered the variable annuity product in the United States. Throughout his career, Ambassador Holden has had a keen interest in Latin America and the Caribbean, has traveled extensively throughout the region, as well as 43 countries around the world. During the Reagan administration, Ambassador Holden served as the U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica from 1989 until 1993.

### Next Meeting:

**April 7 Jean-Michel Cousteau "A Life for the Water Planet"**

**"A Life for the Water Planet"**

Jean-Michel will be introduced by Charles Greene who might make a connection with Willie the whale and our speaker. Explorer. Environmentalist. Educator. Emmy Award Film Producer. For more than four decades, Jean-Michel Cousteau has dedicated himself to communicate to people of all nations and generations his love and concern for our water planet. Since first being "thrown overboard" by his father at the age of seven with newly invented SCUBA gear on his back, Jean-Michel has been exploring the ocean realm. The son of ocean explorer Jacques Cousteau, Jean-Michel has investigated the world's oceans aboard *Calypso* and *Alcyone*. Honoring his heritage, Jean-Michel founded Ocean Futures Society in 1999 to carry on this pioneering work. Ocean Futures Society, a Santa Barbara-based non-profit marine conservation and education organization, serves as a "Voice for the Ocean" by communicating the critical bond between people and the sea and the importance of wise environmental policy. Jean-Michel also has a long history of innovative design in the field of architecture and the ocean. Acting on a childhood dream to build cities under the sea, he pursued a degree in architecture from the Paris School of Architecture. Artificial floating islands, schools, and an advanced marine studies center in Marseilles, France, are among his projects.



**May 5**  
**Rod Camp**  
**"Effect of Drug Cartels on Contemporary Mexico"**

**May 19**  
**Barbara Levi**  
**"Fraud in Physics"**

**June 2**  
**Bruce McPherson**  
**"CA Forward: California's Fiscal Problems"**

**June 16**  
**Walter Kohn**  
**"Prospects for a World Powered Predominantly by Solar and Wind Energy"**

July 7

Annual Picnic

**Cosmo Authors! - - HAVE YOU WRITTEN A BOOK?**

The Cosmo program committee is exploring a suggestion to celebrate Cosmo Authors at a future meeting. Program chair Chuck Curtis will soon ask the membership two questions: 1. How many of you have written books? 2. Does the idea of each author bringing one or more book(s) to a future meeting appeal to the membership? We believe there are many authors whose publications cover diverse and interesting subjects, and that a display of such books, with their authors present, could be an unusual and edifying event. The books could be displayed in the outer room before the meeting, and if there is sufficient interest, perhaps each author could speak briefly about his book subject(s). Please call Chuck Curtis at 708-0588 on his cell phone or e-mail him at [crcurtissog@cox.net](mailto:crcurtissog@cox.net) with your comments, or contact him at the next meeting.

**Wine Drawing** with Howard Glenn doing the honors Ray Rosecrans scored the Summerland Sauvignon Blanc  
Bruce Long collected the Summerland 2008 Syrah



**Symphony Ticket Drawing**

Art Kvasss graciously donated two sets of two tickets for an upcoming Santa Barbara Symphony Concert. Our guest speaker, Nir Kabaretti drew names from our roster and our two lucky winners were: Peter Kruse and Gil Ashor. Thank you, Art, for this wonderful donation.



**Welcome Our Guests**

Although our guests were not introduced in open forum, on average they were a better looking bunch than our usual collection. Ladies Day, you know.

**Meeting Staff:**

- Ticket Sellers: Jim Shaw attended to checking in our members and guests
- Punch Bowl: A. B. Clarke
- Invocation: Roy Rosecrans

**Regular Events**

**Bridge:**

As today was ladies day, Bridge was not on the agenda. Join us for fun Bridge upstairs at the Elks Club after all regular meetings; we play until 3:30 PM. Contact Herb Friedman, 687-6228, or email at [maryherbfriedman@cox.net](mailto:maryherbfriedman@cox.net).



**Tennis** - The tennis group plays doubles twice a week at a private court in Shadow Hills starting at 8:00 AM Mondays and Thursdays. All tennis players are invited to participate. Contact Bruce Long (805) 692-4072 or [bruce93103@cox.net](mailto:bruce93103@cox.net).



**Cosmo Computer Society -**

Cosmo Computer Society meets monthly on the third Tuesday upstairs at the Elks Club. Discussion starts at 10:00 AM, and a feature presentation starts at 10:30 AM, concluding with a no-host fellowship luncheon in the Elks Grill. All COSMO members are welcome. Bob Gerity, Program Chair, Howard Glenn (805) 967-2633 [hbglennc@cox.net](mailto:hbglennc@cox.net), and Frank Katch 964-2734, [fkatch@mac.com](mailto:fkatch@mac.com): Co Chairmen.



**S.A.G.E. Investment Group** – Meets monthly at 10 AM on the first Tuesday at the Elks Club, followed by a no-host lunch in the grill downstairs. At S.A.G.E. we discuss past and possible future trends in the economy and the stock market. We would welcome your participation. Dick Evans, Chairman (805) 967- 6930 or [dickevans@mac.com](mailto:dickevans@mac.com).



**Golf:**

**Mondays - Santa Barbara Golf Club (Muni).** Tee times from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. Regular walking senior rate is \$25 for 18 holes. Contact Ron Singer (805) 684-1355 or [rsinger916@aol.com](mailto:rsinger916@aol.com) by prior Friday for your tee time.



**Mondays – Twin Lakes (Par 29)** at 9:00 AM. Work on your short game.

**Wednesdays – Ocean Meadows (Par 36)** at 8:30 AM. Work on your long-ball skills.

**Additional play at various courses.** - Contact Ron Singer to get on the e-mail notification list for the Floating Golf Game Circuit. Mondays are usually at Muni, Wednesdays are often at Glen Annie, Fridays' locations have included La Purisma, Glen Annie, Soule Park, and Rancho San Marcos. A. B. Clarke and Steven Stonefield will select the floating golf game sites, so you may contact either of them. Ron Singer, Golf Chair: [rsinger916@aol.com](mailto:rsinger916@aol.com).

**Golf Tournament** coming this summer. Mark this date in your calendar; details will follow. July 18th

**Special Events**

**Opera**

Those of us who were clever enough to sign up for and attend the recent opera experience were treated to a wonderful catered luncheon in Victoria Court and a delightful performance of La Traviata at the Granada Theatre. Our seats for the opera were excellent; the cast was very strong and the supporting music was very beautifully performed. And, yes, she died at the end. (several times)

**Saturday, April 23**

**Private Car Rail Trip - Santa Barbara/San Luis Obispo/Santa Barbara**

Wait list sign-up. See prior issues of Crackers for details. Enjoy a day's trip to/from San Luis Obispo in a lovingly restored 1949 Club Lounge Railway Car. The car will pass through some of the most scenic areas on the Coast Route. Much of this can be seen only from the train, as there are no public roads from Gaviota to the northern end of Vandenberg

Air Force Base. If enough interest is shown, an attempt will be made to secure the car for a second trip later this year. To be placed on the list, please contact Don Chalfant by email, [dchalfant@cox.net](mailto:dchalfant@cox.net) or by phone, 687-3478.

### **Saturday, May 7 L. A. Philharmonic and Dinner at the Granada Theatre**

Join other Cosmo members for this unusual opportunity to see the L. A. Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Gustavo Dudamel, who is acclaimed worldwide as one of the most exciting and compelling conductors of our time. The program will consist of the following:  
Johannes Brahms: Academic Festival Overture  
Osvaldo Golijov: Violin Concerto (World Premiere) performed by Violinist Leonidas Kavakos  
Brahms: Symphony No. 1 in C Minor, Opus 68



We will all meet for dinner at 6:00 PM at Jane Restaurant at 1311 State St., one block north of the Granada Theatre. Price per person is \$38 for the L. A. Phil performance. Tickets are limited. The cost of dinner is not included. We will order from the menu (entrees are \$10 to \$26.)

Our tickets for this event are sold out.. You may have your name added to the wait list by contacting Thore Edgren at 967-4001.

### **Friday, May 13 SBCC Ben Walsh Memorial Dinner**

This culinary extravaganza in memory of Col. Ben Walsh will be another sell-out. The SBCC dining facilities have been remodeled. The cost will remain the same as it was last year at \$40—per person. This event begins at 5:30 p.m. Harry announced that this evening event is nearly full at this writing so, if you are interested, call Harry Stroud, 653-5117 without delay.



### **July 24 Santa Barbara Polo Club.**

Ron Singer has arranged for an invitation to attend the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary event at our own Polo Club. World-class players will be playing in the event and we will be treated to lunch and a “back-stage” tour by Ron, a member of the Polo Club for some 40 years. The cost for this event includes lunch, the games and the behind-the-scenes tour is \$50- per person. Ron mentioned that this event will also be a special Ladies Extravagant Hat Day. Prizes will be awarded to the most remarkable chapeaus. Call Ron Singer at (805) 684-1355 to get on the list.



### **Last Meeting:**

#### **March 17 Ladies Day Celebration. - Nir Kabaretti “Santa Barbara Symphony”**

Art Kvass introduced Nir Kabaretti, Music Director of the Santa Barbara Symphony. We learned that Maestro Kabaretti was chosen from a group of several hundred applicants. Following an exhaustive series of auditions this list was eventually down-sized to one, Nir Kabaretti.

Maestro Kabaretti is a graduate of the Vienna University of Music and the Arts and has an extensive international musical background. Nir was quick to point out the irony in our asking him to speak to our group inasmuch as a director is thought

to be inferior if he resorts to spoken language in the practice of his craft. The language of music for the conductor consists of the common, and cosmopolitan, use of the hands and arms in making relatively simple gestures to conduct each piece in the orchestra with direction in tempo, dynamics, emotion and rhythm. While that may be the case, our Maestro also pointed out that to play opera, one must understand Italian; to play symphonies one must speak German and Russian; for ballet music, French, and so it goes.



Continuing with the international theme, Nir reported that most directors consider the Italian musicians to have the least discipline but that they play with the greatest passion. The English musicians exhibit the greatest discipline and are wonderful sight-readers. Each orchestra will be identified to some degree with the type of music that they perform the best; from Baroque to symphonic to opera, ballet and modern.

The Granada has a somewhat unique feature that permits the orchestra to move from the stage to the pit in twenty minutes, thus accommodating a quick switch from symphony to ballet music in the same program. With the recent refurbishment, the acoustics in this hall have been favorably compared with the finest concert halls in the country.

It seems that our Music Director has many comrades in large cities that envy him this position. Santa Barbara Symphony is highly regarded as an orchestra and, perhaps as importantly, Santa Barbara’s population has proved to be unusual in its strong support of music and the arts. Each of our symphony artists have auditioned against up to several hundred applicants so we have been blessed with a truly world-class orchestra. He pointed out that our series of world-class soloists who perform with our symphony are not difficult to obtain. Our symphony, our Theatre, and our knowledgeable audience hold an excellent reputation throughout the music world.

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P. O. Box 3993  
Santa Barbara, CA 93130

