



Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol. LVII No. 21

Editor: Don Margerum

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

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.

Annual \$60 dues are due on July 1. There will be a box at the Luncheon Ticket Table so you can drop your dues check, payable to Cosmopolitan or mail it to PO Box 3993, Santa Barbara, CA 93130-3993

SPECIAL NOTICE

The new lunch fee is \$20.00 which is comprised of the Elks charge of \$18.95 for the meal, plus \$1.05 instituted by Cosmo to cover punchbowl costs. The Cosmo Board felt going to a flat \$20 charge would expedite lunch ticket sales.

For those who have been members of the Cosmopolitan Club for 25 years or more, please inform John MacKenzie, so that he can extend an invitation to a free lunch on June 16 as guest of the club.

Next Meeting:

May 19
Barbara Levi, PhD
"Fraud in Physics", How One Young Scientist Fooled the Physics World

Barbara Goss Levi is a contributing editor to *Physics Today* magazine from which she retired as senior editor in 2003 after 30 years of service. Levi, who holds a PhD in particle

Crackers Editor



Next Meeting: **May 19, 2011**

Next Editor: Pete Kruse

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physics from Stanford, also has taught physics at several universities, including UCSB. As a reporter for *Physics Today*, she wrote about some phenomenal results coming from a group of Bell Labs researchers in 2001: The group could make plastic materials act as superconductors or lasers. Colleagues from many other institutions were rushing to emulate their work. Alas, it all proved too good to be true. Levi will discuss how a postdoc managed to deceive some of the top scientists and how he was eventually found out. Mead Northrop will introduce.

Future Meetings

June 2

Bruce McPherson

"CA Forward: California's Fiscal Problems"

Bruce McPherson is a member of the Leadership Council of CA Forward, the bipartisan public interest organization committed to bolstering democracy and the performance of government in California. Mr. McPherson is a former Secretary of State where he spearheaded election reforms and developed innovative ways to insure integrity of every vote. CA Forward led the fight for a referendum to eliminate Gerrymandering in the revision of legislative districts. This year, CA Forward is focused on the State's fiscal situation which will be the subject of Mr. McPherson's remarks. Warren Elliott will introduce.

June 16

Walter Kohn

"Prospects for a World Powered Predominantly by Solar and Wind Energy"

Walter Kohn. Winner of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1998,

was the founding director of the National Science Foundation's Institute for Theoretical Physics at UCSB, where he is currently Emeritus and Research Professor in the Department of Physics.

SAVE THE DATE July 7th

Cosmo's Annual Fourth of July Picnic at Manning Park with you and your friends

Are you a published Author?

The Cosmo program committee is exploring a suggestion to celebrate Cosmo Authors at a future meeting. Program chair Chuck Curtis has asked members to let him know if they are published authors, novelists, poets, journalists, etc. We believe there are many members who have written on diverse and interesting subjects, and that a display of such books, with 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 with your comments, or contact him at the next meeting.

Meeting Staff:

Ticket Sellers: Manny Espig & Pete Schenck
Punch Bowl: Larry Vine
Invocation: Ray Rosecrans

Wine Drawing with Bob Zimels doing the honors: Jim Belden scored the Rock Rabbit Sauvignon Blanc
Walt Naumann collected the Irony Pinot Noir
Dave Williams won the Margerum M5 (blend: Syrah/Grenache/Mourvèdre/Counoise/Cinsault)



Welcome Our Guests

Mike Rodrique brought George Surmerier
Bob Hankins brought David McKee
Charles Greene brought Steve White
Ron Singer brought Thomas L Dent

In Memoriam

Cosmo member since 1987, Tom Hodson passed away on May 5. We extend deepest condolences to his wife Evelyn and family.

Regular Events

Bridge—Join us for FUN Bridge upstairs at the Elks Club after all regular meetings; we play until 3:30 PM. Contact Chairman Herb Friedman, 687-6228, or email at maryherbfriedman@cox.net. The top three scores at the May 5 meeting:



Bob McMillin 2450
Hal Thompson 1600
Herb Friedman 1530

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.



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 967-2633 hbglennc@cox.net, & Frank Katch 964-2734, fkatch@mac.com: Co Chairmen.



Cosmo webmaster Jim Stubchaer invites Cosmo techies to discuss serving as backup to help Jim manage the club's website. Contact Jim at m7030@stubchaer.com or 964-2926.

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.



Golf - Midsummer Tournament – Sign-Ups available at Next Meeting

Our annual summer tournament at Glen Annie Golf Club has been scheduled for July 18th, beginning with a sit-down lunch from menus at 11:30. As a special treat, we will enjoy a shotgun start so all will finish at the same time and get the results soon upon completing your round. The format has not been decided at this time but it will give a priority to having a good time. The cost for all of this, and the prize fund, is \$61- pp. This amount covers the green fees, the carts, the lunch with soft drinks, tea etc., and the prize fund. The shotgun start does add a little to the cost but we feel that it adds substantially to the overall enjoyment. You may begin signing up at the May 19th luncheon meeting and thereafter by emailing one of the two organizers of this event. Pete Kruse: sbpete8@gmail.com and Harv Turner: olharv@gmail.com.



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 by prior Friday for your tee time. **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. Clark and

Steven Stonefield will select the floating golf game sites, so you may contact either of them. Ron Singer, Golf Chair: rsinger916@aol.com.

Report on Recent Special Events

On the evening of May 7th, Twenty six Cosmo members, spouses, and guests assembled at the Jane Restaurant for wine and dinner. We were able to select dinner entries from a varied menu. Jane Restaurant is named in memory the owner's mother who was an inspirational person and great cook. From the restaurant it was a short walk to the Granada to hear the L.A. Philharmonic perform Johanne Brahms Academic Festival Overture and Symphony #1 in C minor. The acclaimed violinist Leonidas Kavakos was the soloist on the contemporary composer Dutilleux's L'arbre des songes (The Tree of Dreams). It was a grand evening to experience the L.A. Philharmonic which is recognized as one of the world's outstanding orchestras providing innovative programs. The conductor Gustavo Dudamel is internationally acclaimed and he shared his magnetic enthusiasm for the music with the audience.



Upcoming Special Events

Wednesday, June 29 A Night in Solvang and PCPA Presentation of "39 Steps".

Bob Zimels has booked reservations for a night in Solvang at the Royal Copenhagen & tickets to the PCPA showing of the play, 39 Steps. The arrangement with the Royal Copenhagen includes a Continental breakfast and wine tasting. Cost is \$210.00 per couple and there are openings for 10 couples. Please contact Bob at 805-962-3211 for additional details.



Sunday, July 24 Santa Barbara Polo Club.

Ron Singer has arranged for an invitation to attend the 100th 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. See page 5 of eCrackers for details and registration. Event chair Ron Singer, (805) 684-1355, rsinger916@aol.com.

Special Thanks

From the AV Committee, Jim Belden, Chair:

- To Harold Englund for re-recording the Star Spangled Banner in a key for our ease in singing, and
- To all of you that have cooperated by coming up to the mikes for your questions. This takes pressure off the speaker and eliminates the unnecessary "repeat the question"!

Last Meeting:

Gordon Bjork introduced his friend, **Rod Camp**, who spoke on "**Drugs, Guns, and Violence, Mexico's Path to National Security**". **Dr. Camp** is the Phillip McKenna Professor of the Pacific Rim at Claremont McKenna College. He is a frequent consultant to national and international media, and the author of 25 books on Mexico.

Dr. Camp said that nearly 37,000 Mexicans have become victims of drug cartel murders in the 4-1/2 years, since President Calderon, took office and intensified the government efforts to destroy the cartels. The cartels responded by killing large numbers of police as well as soldiers, and civilians more than doubling the number of cartel-related murders (up 142%). Cartel violence is profoundly changing the character of Mexico. About 50,000 officers and troops are now permanently assigned to the campaign against drug traffickers (nearly half of troops available for active combat). Drug smuggling from Mexico to the U.S. has a long history, and the amount of profits to be made from illegal drugs is now estimated to be \$30 billion annually. Such fabulous sums of money have drug cartels competing by murdering each other and more recently, by killing those in the government trying to stop them.

Eight major cartels and many smaller ones operate widely in Mexico. More than half of the drug-related murders occur in the 4 states shown in the map. Sinaloa, Durango, Chihuahua, and Guerrero.



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COSMOPOLITAN CLUB



However, even such formerly safe cities as Monterrey (in the Mexican State of Nuevo Leon) are now dangerous to visit. Kidnapping has become common and in the last 2 years, extortion has increased from 2,000 reports/yr in 2002 to 50,000 reports/yr where "protection" payments are required from all levels of business.

What keeps the drug wars growing in Mexico?

- 1) World's largest market for illegal drugs is right next door in the United States
- 2) Nearly half of Mexicans live in poverty (less than \$2/day), and many are unemployed
- 3) Drug cartel's weapons are superior (most obtained illegally from gun shops in Texas)
- 4) Many Mexicans agree that cartels create more public works than the government
- 5) Many listen frequently to "narco-corridors" songs romanticizing drug dealers

What keeps the government from winning the drug wars growing in Mexico?

- Under-paid/under-trained soldiers that are often a source of human rights abuses

- Emphasis on enforcement (87%) vs prevention, education, rehabilitation (7%)

- Widespread corruption in the police and armed forces

- Money laundering of cartel profits is mostly in US where it is under-regulated

- * Mexico had the lowest level of economic growth in Latin America (2009)

Prognosis: Not encouraging





Santa Barbara Polo Club is celebrating their 100th year. Picture above is from 1976 featured in Hurlingham International Polo Magazine 2010

Cosmopolitan Club Member Ron Singer

Played polo for 40 years and will be hosting this event.

Sunday July 24 High Goal Polo Game and Lunch

See the best players in the world

**+ Ron is going to take you behind the scenes before the 1st game
Meet players, See the horses and players prepare for the game**

\$50 Per Person Members and Guests field side seating including lunch and parking

Arrive 11:45 AM pre-game Tour behind the scenes

1st Game 1 PM second Game 3 PM

Lunch served during 1st Game

Sign up early: Names: _____ Total People _____

Send \$50 per person to:

Cosmopolitan Club, % Ron Singer, 3375 Foothill #916, Carpinteria, CA 93013