



Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol LX No. 13

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Next Meeting

January 17, 2013

Cosmo Member Hugh Vos



"View of Chinese Leadership"

Hugh Vos will discuss the mind-set of the government executives who have been running China since the death of Mao Tse Tung, using data from unusual private meetings in 2011. A Cosmo member since 2009, Hugh moved to Santa Barbara in 1985 shortly after he resigned as Senior VP & CFO for Becton, Dickinson & Co. Upon relocation he formed the private investment firm Stonington Capital Corp. Hugh studied in France before earning a Master's Degree from Princeton in Public & International Affairs. Financial troubleshooting for various companies stationed him on four continents during his illustrious career. Monsanto, Smith Kline & French, Commercial Credit Co. and Norton Simon along with Becton, Dickinson benefitted from his expertise. Hugh served as a Director to T. Rowe Price from 1974 to 2004, helping grow its asset base from three mutual funds to its present \$200 billion fund portfolio.

Access the COSMO website at
<http://sbcosmo.com>

for current and archived issues of CRACKERS

Cosmo Member Ailing

If you learn of one of our members suffering from illness or injury, please notify Mead Northrop, 964-9786, mfnsb@cox.net. President Mead reports Hal Thompson is recovering well.

Meeting Staff

Ticket Sellers: Ted Ross and Dan Herlinger
Punch Bowl: Ray Rosecrans and Paul Coyne
Invocation: Joe O'Brian
Sgt.-at-Arms: Walter Clapp

Guest Free Lunch during January-February

The Directors have designated January & February 2013 as "New Member Recruitment Months." Any member's guest will receive a free lunch in the four meetings of the first two months of 2013. Please take advantage of this opportunity to help your Club grow. Limit one guest per member per meeting.

Mead Northrop will introduce.

Future Meetings

February 7, 2013

Steve Kaminski, MD

"Hospital Trauma Services"

February 21, 2013 to be announced

(The previously scheduled "Glomar Explorer" presentation by Larry Mason is postponed to a future date)



Hearing Aids are Missing!

President Mead announced news given him by Jim Belden that six of the club's ten hearing aids are missing! They will not work anywhere but the Elks Club because of the unique frequency to which they are tuned in that room. Hopefully they will find their way back to Jim Belden

Wine Drawing

Bob Zimels drew the winning tickets and the following members claimed their prizes:
 Jerry Floyd scored the Columbia Crest Syrah and Ron White won the bottle with the picture of the naked lady riding a bicycle, "cycles Gladiator" from Lodi.



Putt Mills introduced:

- Bill Meeker, hosted by Ron Singer
- Jody Kirkley, hosted by Stan Ostern
- Richard Lim, hosted by Kent Cullen
- Frank Blue, hosted by Mike Rodrigue
- Paul Lamberton
- Elliott Dell, hosted by Harv Turner
- Rich Young, hosted by Bill Van Horn

Regular Events

Bridge

The winners for the January 3rd game were:

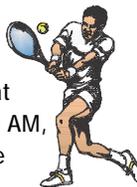
- 1) Bill Irvine 3720
- 2) Howard Glenn 3000
- 3) Steve Morgan 2030



Join us for FUN Bridge upstairs at the Elks Club after all regular meetings; we play until 3:30 PM. Chairman Steve Morgan, 637-1332, or smmphd@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.



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, Chair. 967-2633, hbglennc@cox.net.



S.A.G.E. Investment Group

Thanks to retiring Co-Chair Dick Evans for helping lead S.A.G.E. the last three years. Walter Naumann continues as committee chair. S.A.G.E. 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 welcome your participation. Chair: Walter Naumann, 448-5061, wjnaumann@aol.com.



Golf

Golf Chair Ron Singer reports Cosmo Golf has affiliated with the SCGA (SoCal Golf Assn.). This enables a Cosmo member to register with SCGA for the low annual cost of \$40 and to maintain a sanctioned handicap and index. Bill Costello has agreed to chair Cosmo golf's new Handicap Committee. For more information or to join, contact Ron Singer, RSinger916@aol.com or 805-684-4044; Bill Costello, um2thdoc@aim.com or 517-295-8691.



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. These outings are a great way to gain new members, so invite your friends.

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, and Friday 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.

GOLF SPECIAL EVENT

Cosmopolitan Golf Tourney
Monday - February 11, 2013

Our Cosmo golf tourneys are always special and this one will undoubtedly prove to be great fun as well. We will play at the beautiful Rancho San Marcos Golf Course near Lake Cachuma. Your committee is negotiating a good price for playing this prestigious course and whether you are a hitter or a duffer you will not wish to miss this opportunity. \$69 covers the scramble format round, a gourmet box lunch, golf cart and prize fund. First tee-off will be at 11:00 am. Sign up at the January 17th meeting.

Tourney Chairman: Bill Costello, 517-285-8691, email: um2thdoc@aim.com

Upcoming Special Events

Sunday, March 17, 2013

Santa Barbara Symphony Luncheon & Concert

We will enjoy lunch at Andersen's Danish Bakery & Restaurant (one block from the Granada - park once for both venues) in a private dining room, and then adjourn to the Granada where we will be seated as one group in a select orchestra section for an exceptional concert.



With a world premiere, a rising piano virtuoso, and iconic West Side Story melodies, this concert promises to be unforgettable. A pianist with superb musicianship and riveting technical brilliance, Xiayin Wang presents Gershman's Concerto in F, inspired by jazz, blues, and ragtime. Jonathan Leshnoff, one of America's most gifted composers, has written Concerto Grosso, highlighting the principal players of our orchestra – a world premiere not to be missed.



Save the date – details to follow. Event Chair: Art Kvaas, 965-6636, or akvaas@verizon.net.

Last Meeting

January 3, 2013

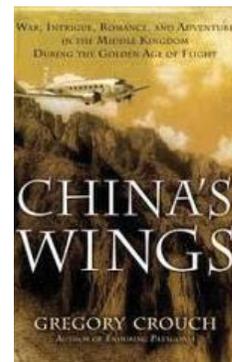
Gregory Crouch

“China’s Wings: War, Romance, Intrigue and Adventure in the Middle Kingdom During the Golden Age of Flight”



Don Chalfant introduced Author, Greg Crouch, who discussed the incredible real-life saga of the China National Airline Company, operating in China from 1931-1949. Greg grew up in Goleta (Mountain View, Goleta Valley Jr. HS, DPHS 1984), and graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point. He served in airborne and ranger units before leaving the Army to pursue other interests, most notably mountaineering. Greg developed a particular obsession with the storm-swept peaks of Patagonia, and has made seven expeditions to those remote mountains. Along the way he became a writer, and his work has appeared in The Atlantic, National Geographic, Outside, National Geographic Adventure, American History, Islands, Popular Mechanics, Climbing, Rock & Ice, and many others. His book, Enduring Patagonia (Random House, 2001), was chosen for the Barnes & Noble “Discover Great New Writers” program.

Greg proved to be an exceptional speaker, having a clear grasp on his topic and a well sequenced presentation. His period slides were on target with his discussion which reminded us what was going on in the area and the world at the time these shots were taken. His book, and of course, this presentation was obviously well researched and told with passion for the people and the history they lived.



His story centers on the CNAC, China National Aviation Corporation, and on William Langhorne Bond who assumed leadership of this airline in 1931. At the time their fleet consisted of 1 or 2 Loening sea-planes. These “aircraft” evidently flew better than they looked and avoided the necessity for such infrastructure as airports as they could land comfortably on long stretches of rivers or on lakes. The next decade would prove most exciting for this airline as well as the world. Upgrading his fleet from these cable and strut creations to the DC2 and DC3 modern aircraft, this airline was the primary lifeline for China leading up to and during WWII and the Japanese occupation of China.



Pilots of the CNAC flew thousands of flights over the “hump” between India and China delivering thousands of tons of civilian and war goods to the imperiled peoples of those countries. Greg discussed some of the dangers inherent in such flights. With the flight ceiling of the aircraft at 20,000 feet and the tops of the mountains at the same elevation, a pilot would steer around these peaks and through narrow passes. While this would not normally pose a huge problem for an experienced pilot, the frequent but random ice-storm that might add a ton of ice to his wings and obliterate his vision, resulted in a large number of flights that did not make it there and back. Some 600 planes crashed along this route, known as “The Aluminum Trail”. Other stories related by Greg include that of the DC2 1/2, a bombed-then-cobbled-together flying machine having one wing from a DC2 and one from a DC3. Somehow it flew, and not only that, they loaded their normal overweight cargo aboard for the flight.

Somehow, miraculously, this airline survived the Japanese invasion and continued to be the primary commercial air carrier for China until the Communist revolution in 1949. Mr. Crouch became interested in telling this story while investigating mountaineering challenges in China with a friend. He continued to uncover bits of intriguing history in the mountains of North-East China and decided that a book should be written to bring this amazing story to light. He received a most timely invitation to attend a reunion of these intrepid fliers in 2002 and he forged positive relations with these individuals, who, as luck would have it, were anxious to share their stories. In his book, Greg tells the real-life saga of this flying band of brothers who opened the skies over the years leading up to WWII and safeguarded them during that conflict. He was able to interview many pilots and airline employees and has included many of their harrowing accounts of brutal bombing runs and heroic evacuations in his book. His writing enters the dangerous maze of Chinese politics, where scheming warlords and volatile military officers work their nefarious plots. This story certainly caught the interest of our members; some of us know quite a bit of this history and most of us know a little bit.



Note the port wing which is about 5 feet longer than the starboard wing.

With the sources for the history so authentic, and the stories within so real, this book is recommended to any student of history.



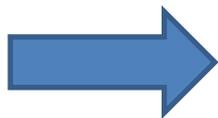
COSMOPOLITAN GOLF TOURNEY



One of the World's Most Beautiful Golf Courses: Rancho San Marcos

Robert Trent Jones, Jr.

Join your friends for fun and fellowship
Scramble format, players of all levels, home by dark



Tee time 11:00 AM
February 11, 2013

Green fees, range, gourmet box lunch and
prizes \$69

Sign up at the Cosmo meeting Jan 17
Bill Costello Chairman
517-285-8691

Um2thdoc@aim.com