



Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

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Crackers Editor

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Next Meeting

December 19

San Marcos Madrigal Singers

The elite singing ensemble from San Marcos High School -- The Madrigal Singers will make their annual appearance on December 19th. The Madrigals never fail to instill us with the holiday spirit in a carefully crafted program of seasonal music. This is a wonderful meeting to share with wives and guests. Be sure to put it on your family calendar of special holiday events.



This award-winning choral group, led by Caroline Teraoka-Brady, has toured nationally and abroad. The Madrigals will perform at San Roque Church on December 16 and 17, and they are scheduled to perform in Italy in 2014 – in Venice and in Rome. Cosmo is privileged to have this annual event and is proud to help sponsor the Madrigals ambitious schedule.

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 Arlie Skov, 965-5101, askov@earthlink.net

Meeting Staff:

Ticket Sellers: Arnold Gowans & Dave Medina

Punchbowl: Ray Rosecrans

Invocation: Dan Herlinger

Sergeant-at-Arms: Bill Montag

NO MEETING ON 1/2/14

Due to the holiday schedule this year the 1/2/14 meeting has been cancelled.



Wine Drawing

Bob Zimels observed that this day is the 80th anniversary of the Repeal of Prohibition in the United States. He then proceeded to conduct the wine drawing.



George Surmeier won a Columbia Winery 2010 pinot gris. Rick Roney, our speaker for the day, won a Parker Station 2010 syrah from Santa Barbara County.

WELCOME OUR GUESTS 

Ray Rosecranz introduced the guests of this meeting:

- John Delaney, hosted by Martin Tucker
Vernon Hanna, with host Warren Wentink
Jim Swoboda, hosted by George Surmeier
Willard Thompson, with host Peter Kruse
Charles Whitney, with host Peter Kruse
Larry Thompson was also acknowledged as a second time guest

Welcome New Members

Raymond N. Stauffer
3836 Calle Cita
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
Phone: 805-770-2987

Ray holds an associate degree in Industrial Design. He retired in 1998 from I.B.M. after 33 years as a Field Engineer where he worked on Special Contracts and Government Projects.

Ray is sponsored by Phil Whaley, Pete Kruse and Bruce Long.

Robert A. 'Bob' Swider
1343 Skyline Way
Santa Barbara, CA 93109
Phone: 805-448-7044
bobswider@cox.net

A native of the Constitution State, Bob Swider degreed in Data Processing Management. During his U.S. Army years, he served at West Point and with the 8th Army in Korea. He served in a number of Information Technology (IT)-related capacities prior to his retirement in 2009. A resident of Santa Barbara since 1982, Bob and wife Christy have one offspring, daughter Morgan. Bob is an avid golfer, and enjoys gardening and bridge.

His sponsors are Ron Singer, Paul Fink and John MacKenzie.

Proposed for Membership

Vernon Earl Kemp
1116 Calle de los Amigos
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
Phone: 618-8694, cell 680-4105
vernemp@yahoo.com

Hailing originally from Banner County, Nebraska, Vern Kemp holds a B. S. in Mechanical Engineering. He served as Booster Performance Manager at the Aerospace Corporation in El Segundo. He and his wife Judith came to Santa Barbara in 1994 - they have two sons, Roy and James. His avocation is astronomy and he likes to bowl and to hike. He has also been involved in farming. He has awards as a Tax Assistance Counselor. Vern's sponsors are Ken Wolf, Don Chalfant, and Stephen White.

John Delaney
1445 Harbor View Dr., Unit # 122
Santa Barbara, CA 93103
Phone: 805-451-3888
johndelaney805@gmail.com

A native of our Nation's capital, John Delaney served as a U. S. Army infantry officer before vesting his 30-year career in mortgage banking. He then moved his skill set into our local high school classroom for 9 years. John settled in Santa Barbara in 1998, and retired just this year. Father to Brian and Allison, John walks and hikes and has interest in music, photography and computers. John's sponsors are Marty Tucker, Ron Singer, and Bill Montag.

Regular Events

Bridge

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; Co-chair Ed Loper, 967-8630, oliveloper@cox.net.



December 5th Winners:

Table with 3 columns: Rank, Name, Score. 1st place: Ralph Edebo 3800, 2nd place: Dave Kain 3170, 3rd place: Steve Morgan 2650

"OUR DIGITAL WORLD"
aka The Cosmo Computer Society



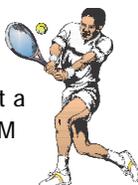
We meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM upstairs at the club. Ring bell button at the front door if not open. All members and special guests are welcome. Please bring your gadgets such as smart phones, notebooks, tablets, or any other digital device. You can show us how it works or ask other members how they think it works. We enjoy lunch and camaraderie at the Elks Club Grill after our meetings. Howard Glenn, Chairman, 967-2633, Bob Gerity, Co- Chairmen, 963-9413, Robert Gerity <robtgerity@cox.net>

S.A.G.E. Investment Group



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 would welcome your participation. Chair: Walter Naumann, 448-5061, wjnaumann@aol.com.

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.

Golf



Ron Singer noted that our Club has become an official club of the Southern California Golf Association, and said that we would probably have a tournament sanctioned by the Golf Association next year.

Mondays - Santa Barbara Golf Club (Muni). Tee times range between 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. Regular walking senior rate is \$26 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.

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. 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.

March 25-26, 2014

Palm Springs Follies and Living Desert Gardens & Zoo



This is the final season for the Palm Springs Follies after 23 years. We will depart early on Tuesday, March 25, lunch and attend the Follies matinee. Our lodging will again be at the Pine Mountain Resort, easy walking distance from downtown and the show. We should be able to accommodate those on walkers or wheelchairs.

On Wednesday, March 26, we will tour by tram the beautiful Living Desert gardens and zoo. After lunch we will return to Santa Barbara by early evening. The good news is the cost remains \$375 per couple including lodging, baggage handling, bus, driver's tip, refreshments and admission to the Follies and the botanical gardens.

Harry Stroud announced that the trip is already a sell-out, and he is taking names to be on the standby list. Payment will be due in January. Please contact Harry Stroud, 805-653-5117.

**Annual Cosmo Gift
to Elks Club Staff**

President Don presented a \$1,000 check to Carlos Gallegos and his staff for their fine meals and excellent service this past year.



Last Meeting

Rick Roney

“California Prison Reform”



Rick Roney

Rick Roney gave an inspiring talk on the prison reform program in California, and Santa Barbara County in particular. He formerly had five startups in the Telecommunications industry, and then became actively involved in California prison reform.

He noted that the thread throughout his presentation will be that the reduction of recidivism is the only path that we must take. There is 70% recidivism in California - recidivism is leaving prison and returning within a 3 year period. People are sent to prison to segregate them so the public is safe and to correct behavior, but the latter has been a dismal failure. Mr. Roney likened recidivism to the law of compound interest – if 100 are released, 70 later return, then when they are released, 49 return, then 35, etc. So 100 let out of prison results in a total of 222 back into prison. We have had a massive public experiment and being in prison does not change behavior. Recidivism is a losing cause, and instead the key to increasing public safety is changing behavior.

Mr. Roney first got involved with the State criminal justice system in 2003. But he found that the State was just too massive a bureaucracy and highly inefficient, and concluded that working with the State was impossible.

A lawsuit was filed against the State. The California Supreme Court determined that there was substantial overcrowding and health and mental illness problems not being dealt with. It ordered the State to reduce the State prison population from 170,000 to 130,000. However, they did not release 40,000. They are just not taking new prisoners that are not serious or violent crimes and not sex offenders, but instead requiring they be paroled to the County.

Mr. Roney decided to do something at home. The matter of housing, jobs, substance abuse – all occur locally, and that is where he has devoted his time. To just lock people up is to delay problems – crime continues, as does victimization and a very high cost.

From Santa Barbara County, 400 persons per year were sent to State prisons – now they go to the County. So to get into jail, it is only the more serious crimes. Sentences are cut in half, but it is still very much overcrowded. Mr. Roney said that in principle the realignment is a good idea – the State is just returning them to the County where they committed the crime – where the responsibility lies.

Rick Roney and the Director of the Santa Barbara Rescue Mission worked together with the Sheriff and other County staff and created a small group steering committee. They raised money for a pilot project, got matching dollars from the State of California. They created a control group and then worked with 75 clients per year for 3 years, and found that the working group return to incarceration was 37% lower than the control group.

Two daytime reporting centers were established in Santa Barbara County for State prison parolees. Parolees check in daily and receive training in life skills and other education, employing cognitive behavior therapy to improve values and motivation, with the goal of reducing the percentage of re-offenders. Mr. Roney said it is a huge problem at the County level because of the funding difficulties.

Mr. Roney indicated that everyone needs to help, that we need to build political will and invest the money, and challenged all Cosmo members to get involved and advocate this program.