



Vol LXII No. 21

# Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

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Crackers Editor

## Website and Online Membership Roster

Website and Online Membership Roster Access the Cosmo website <http://sbcosmo.com> for current and archived issues of Crackers.

Don Chalfant and Jim Stubchaer have updated our online system. Members will now be able to access the roster via the normal club website; there will be a "TAB" that will lead to the password protected roster. The password will be provided in the email that covers the distribution of the Crackers.

## The Board of Directors approved an incentive program to help recruit new Club Members:

If a current member brings a guest who is a potential new member, the guest will get a free lunch.

If by the next meeting the guest applies for membership, the guest gets another free lunch.

If applicant is approved by the Membership Committee, the inductee gets another free lunch.

The sponsor of the guests should contact the Club President upon arrival and he will provide the lunch voucher for the guest.

## Dress Code

Members are asked to wear jackets through the June gloom for the purposes of picture taking.

## Cosmo Members Ailing

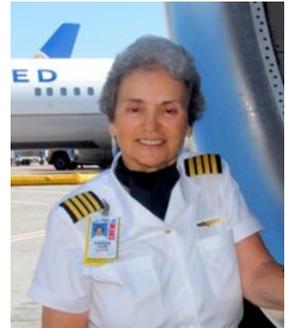
If you learn of one our members suffering from illness or injury, please notify Curt Whiteman at 220-6833, [whiteman@westmont.edu](mailto:whiteman@westmont.edu).

## NEXT MEETING

**May 18, 2017**

## BEHIND THE COCKPIT DOOR

Charles Greene will introduce **Captain Karen Kahn**. Karen piloted her first flight at the age of 19 and nine years later, in 1977, was one of the first women hired by a major airline. In 1988, she was promoted to pilot-in-command, a.k.a. the left seat, where she stayed for the next 26 years. Now retired, over the course of her career Karen has flown numerous types of aircraft, including the Boeing 727, DC10, MD80, and Boeing 757 and 767 for Continental (now United) Airlines. She is a Master Certificated Flight Instructor, an FAA Aviation Safety Counselor, and currently the Chair of the Santa Barbara Airport Commissioner. She also assists other pilots to live their dreams through her consulting firm, Aviation Career Counseling, and has turned many of her nationally-published articles into a self-help book, "Flight Guide for Success: Tips and Tactics for the Aspiring Airline Pilot." The current 3rd edition has hundreds of ideas for anyone seeking a new career, regardless of their field.



For her talk, "Behind the Cockpit Door," Karen will provide members with a peek into the flight deck and its secrets -- as well as acquaint members with some of her strategies for safely navigating those crowded, often fog-shrouded skies. Karen will also be available after her talk for questions or to sign copies of her book.

**June 1, 2017**

### **SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT: A CITY WITHIN A CITY**

Karl Hutterer will introduce **Scott Riedman**. Originally hailing from Orange County, Scott came to Santa Barbara to attend UCSB. After receiving his Bachelor's, Scott worked a wide variety of jobs, including owning a small retail business. He then went on to work as a commercial property manager for various State Street properties.

Scott was appointed Waterfront Director in 2011. He is responsible for overseeing the Waterfront Department's operations, capital projects, maintenance, security and administration, involving the City's marina, wharf, outer harbor, landside improvements and parking facilities from Leadbetter to East Beach.

Scott currently lives in the Mesa neighborhood in Santa Barbara with his wife Shelli. Scott and Shelli enjoy boating and own a 25' Anderson powerboat which they use for fishing and diving.

### **REGULAR EVENTS**

#### **DISCUSSION GROUP**

The Discussion Group meets once a month in the upstairs room immediately following regular luncheon programs. Future topics to be discussed are as follows:

June 15, Bob Weber: **What To Do About The Growing 'Useless Class'?**

#### **BRIDGE**

Join us for FUN Bridge upstairs at the Elks Club after all regular meetings; we play until 3:30 p.m. If you would like to play you are asked to call Ed Loper to sign up. Chair Ed Loper, 967-8630, [oliveloper@cox.net](mailto:oliveloper@cox.net).



#### **TENNIS**

The tennis group plays doubles four times a week on a private court off 122 Patterson Avenue, behind the office buildings, starting at 7:45 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. All tennis players are invited. Contact Harrison Stroud at (805) 653-5117, [stroud@hotmail.com](mailto:stroud@hotmail.com) or Jim Subject at (805) 964-2020, [jrsujct@aol.com](mailto:jrsujct@aol.com).



#### **GOLF**

Mondays, we usually meet at the Santa Barbara Golf Club (Muni). Tee times most often begin at 10:15 a.m. Contact Ron Singer (805) 684-1355 or [rsiner916@aol.com](mailto:rsiner916@aol.com) by the prior Friday for your tee time. These outings are a great way to gain new members, so invite your friends. We also have games on Wednesdays and Fridays at other area courses. Contact Ron Singer to get on the mailing list. The website [cosmogolfclubsb.com](http://cosmogolfclubsb.com) is up and running. New members may use it to register and for additional news.



#### **NOTES ON PREVIOUS TOURNAMENT**

On Monday, April 24, 2017, members of the Cosmopolitan Golf Club gathered at the Memorial Benches at the Santa Barbara Municipal Golf Course and held a Step-Away Scramble tournament. Twenty-three players scrambled to try for the winner's circle. One four man team of C. Camerena, J. MacKenzie, B. Veigele, and J. Coombs made it there. All players competed in a putting contest and then laughed heartily during a Crazy Ball putting contest before the tournament. The weather was perfect, the course in great shape, and the course Manager provided amenities and professional cooperation. Gathered at Mulligan's after the tournament, all players enjoyed more laughs and good cheer. If you missed this one be sure to sign up for the next tournament.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Save The Date: Annual July Picnic

Thursday, July 6

This year's picnic will be at Manning Park, Area 9, starting at 11:00 a.m. Cost: \$18/pp. Bring your own snacks and libations – great BBQ lunch at noon. Sign up at one of our next meetings or send your check, made out to Cosmopolitan Club of S.B., to Ron White at 6139 Manzanillo Dr, Goleta, CA 93117, with the names of attendees as you wish them to appear on the name tags. Guests are welcome, the more the merrier!



### LAST MEETING: May 4, 2017

Ticket sellers were Chuck Curtis, John Warnock, and Don Chalfant. The punchbowl host was Paul Hartloff. The audio-visual team was Bob Weber, Bill Alexander, and Orlando Ramirez. Ken Wolf was sergeant-at-arms. The invocation was provided by Bill Alexander.



### LADIES DAY

The last meeting was also Ladies Day. Special thank you to Cora Curtis for arranging the lovely live roses at each table. The flowers were awarded to the lady at the table with the birthday nearest today's date. We look forward to more ladies joining our ranks in the near future!

### Wine Drawing

Jim Davis drew the following winners:

Kathy Chalfant won The Hilltop Vineyard Chardonnay.

Ken Wolf won the Los Companeros Pinot Noir.



## Proposed for Membership

**Anne Marie Webber**

**2661 Tallent Road ME611  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105  
Ph. 805-696-6841**

Anne is a retired Registered Nurse (RN) who has both worked and taught in the field of nursing for 25 years. After earning both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Nursing, she went on to get her Doctor of Education and taught classes at Los Angeles Harbor College in Wilmington, California. Anne enjoys reading, travel, classical music, and volunteering in the community.

**JanClaire "JC" Elliott**

**203 Hitchcock Way, #212  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105  
Ph. 856-845-7850**

JanClaire (JC) is a retired Adjunct Professor of Music for the University of California. In 2000, she earned the title of 'Most Quoted Dissertation in Music.' Her background also includes work as a Paralegal, which she has continued to do periodically in her retirement. JC enjoys running, brisk walking and biking.

### SPEAKER AT LAST MEETING

**Amy Adams**

**"Connecting Children with Great Music"**

Art Kvaas introduced our primary speaker for today, Dr. Amy Adams, and her sidekick Andy Radford.

Amy is our Santa Barbara Symphony Association's Director of Education and Community Engagement; Andy is the Music Director of the Santa Barbara Youth Symphony, principal bassoonist of the Santa Barbara Symphony, serves on the Music faculties at UCSB, Westmont, and the Cate School.

Amy received her Doctoral of Music Arts in 2007 from Ohio State University. Prior to coming to Santa Barbara she served as Production and Education Manager with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.



Dr. Adams began her instrumental career in elementary school playing the flute. She quickly gave it up in favor of the bassoon. She tells us that she got the loaner home and, with significant help from her family, managed to put it together and discovered what it was. Putting it back into its case is another story. As you know by now by this time she was hooked on bassoon. She went on to play this instrument throughout her school days including as a music major at University of Nevada and Ohio State University.

When she arrived at the Santa Barbara Symphony, she faced a challenge – how to take some amazing programs that the community knew and align them to best fit the needs of budding young musicians. Thus was created the Santa Barbara Symphony Music Education Center (SBSMEC).

The Center values the importance of teaching children the connections between themselves, great music and the world around them. Further, music education gives children the skills they need for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The Center provides a carefully constructed sequential set of programs to take students from their first effort experimenting with an instrument through performing at a high level with the Youth Symphony.

The Center was instructing and serving fewer than 4000 students in 2011 and in the next school year the number is projected to exceed well over 9000.

Briefly stated, the sequence of the training programs begins with the “Music Van” visiting every child in the third grade. Visited by 2200 students at more than 40 schools in the area annually, the van with its staff of docents introduces these students to instruments in each category of string, brass, woodwind and percussion. Students are encouraged to try out any and all of these and perhaps make a choice. Provisions are made for students whose families cannot afford instruments and lessons for their children to receive enabling scholarships. This will be true of the other sequential programs at the Center, as well.

The next step, Concerts for Young People for students in grades 4, 5, and 6, leads to their performing concerts at the Granada Theater. Here, again, hands-on instrument instruction is customized to meet the needs of each elementary school district. All programs are free of

charge and the SB Symphony provides the instrument and instructional materials where necessary.

And then, for ages 9-14 we have the Junior Orchestra offering students to progress at their own pace developing their musical ability with the benefit of private lessons. Here the students learn to survive auditions, not for continuation in the program but for placement purposes.

The next logical step is earned by the individual’s musical abilities, with admission to this group by invitation and auditions, and includes students at ages from 12-18. This is the Youth Symphony. Private lessons and individualized support continue, as do the scholarships. This is an elite group and many graduates of this program have gone on to very successful careers in music, in technical and many other pursuits.

Dr. Adams is happy to reflect that over 90 % of the elite Youth Symphony’s members began by attending the Music Van’s “show-and-tell”.

### Managing Editor’s Note

The life stories of our Cosmo companions are a rich buffet of the human experience. To share a sampling of this fare, occasionally Crackers will publish a brief biographical sketch of one of our members. In the spirit of democracy, the choice of subjects and the language will be entirely those of your editor, Sandy Jones.

My first victim is **Ron Singer**, member since 2007 and president from 2014 to 2015.

He flew 34 thousand miles into and out of airports all over the world.

He dropped, on purpose, an airplane 10,000 feet in the fury of a storm.

He played polo 40 years, with at least one hospitalization every year.

He founded an international manufacturing company.

He turned down a job offer from John Travolta.

And these are just a few highlights of the story of Ron Singer.



## **Editor's Note Continued—Cosmo Member Bio for Ron Singer**

As a boy, he learned to ride at his grandfather's commercial stable. "I love horses and they love me."

When he was 16 he got a janitorial job in a dentistry lab. He asked questions. One of the technicians lent him a book and some carving tools. When the tech saw Ron's attempts to model a tooth, he became Ron's coach and mentor. Still in high school, Ron earned a dental technician certification and then opened a commercial lab in his basement. He says "I had discovered myself."

In 1959, as an Air Force ROTC member at the University of Illinois he had a demonstration flight. "One touch of the yoke and I was hooked." He transferred to the Marine Corps on a recruiter's promise of a path to flight training. In the meantime, the program paid all his college expenses. "I was tired of janitor duty at the frat house."

To get into a cockpit he first had to endure boot camp, then infantry training, officers training and finally flight training at Pensacola. The rigorous program forced him to study. "I started learning, and learning to like learning." (That from the guy who taught himself dental technology before he was old enough to vote.)

The United States was being drawn into Viet Nam and Ron, along with every other new Marine pilot—all of whom wanted to fly fighter planes—was assigned to helicopter training at Coronado. As the war started he went by troop transport to Okinawa, where he boarded the helicopter-carrier Boxer. Then he went into combat.

His second mission was to rescue wounded Marines from a fire fight. He landed his Huey successfully, but before he could load the casualties, mortar rounds destroyed his aircraft and wiped out Ron. He was evacuated to Great Lakes Hospital to treat his concussion and shrapnel-wounded legs. After several months he was returned to duty, this time flying C130 transport aircraft. In 1966, he was released to the reserves. Briefly, he had a job flying freight for Flying Tiger Airlines from Chicago to Hong Kong and Taipei.

During that time he received a call from a horse breeder in Oklahoma who had supplied the stable of

Ron's grandfather. The breeder was delivering a truckload of horses to a Texas polo team in Chicago, and he needed someone to meet the truck, supervise the unloading and warm up the horses in the ring before they were handed over.

"Why me?" Ron asked.

"Because we know your name from doing business with your grandfather."

Ron took the job. After the team had accepted the mounts, the leader—Patron, with the emphasis on the last syllable, in polo parlance—invited Ron to San Antonio to learn the game. For a year he trained and played polo, and then he was approached by Holly Farms owner Bill Taylor, who also owned a polo team and a corporate jet. He offered Ron the perfect job—player, trainer and pilot.

Then another unplanned opportunity appeared. A college friend, Frank Chen, was organizing a company in Taiwan to make down jackets. He needed a U.S. salesman. Ron decided to give it a try and quickly produced an order for 10,000 jackets. "Let's go into business together," Chen said, "and see what we can make."

What they made was a pair of companies, a four thousand-employee factory in China that manufactured medical equipment, sporting goods and other product components, and RJ Singer International that sold those products to companies such as Motorola, Wilson and Samsonite. Among the corporate assets was—big surprise—an executive jet piloted by the boss.

In 1970 Ron bought a 120-acre farm in Illinois. For forty years, he raised and trained horses, and played polo—with at least one trip to the emergency room every year. In 1974 he played in Santa Barbara and liked the area so much that he bought one of the condos at the polo field.

In 1987 they sold the company. Ron had time on his hands. John Travolta was looking for an experienced personal pilot. A friend referred him to Ron, who wasn't ready to quit flying. Travolta made an offer he thought no one could refuse. But it required a move, and so Ron turned it down. Instead, he became attorney Barry Cappello's pilot, operating out of Santa Barbara.

After that, for a few months and a lot of kicks, he flew instrumented C130's into storms for U.S. Weather Service research. That's when he once cut the engines and let the plane drop 10,000 feet in a storm. His last corporate job was with Boskovitch Farms.

Today, his flying is done in the paid seats, and his polo in a box at the Santa Barbara Polo Club, where he and his wife Bev share a condo. Last Christmas, "to get rid of that thing in your head," she gave him a flight at the controls of a helicopter alongside the pilot. It was the first time since that nearly fatal mission 52 years ago, but as soon as he had the collector and stick in his hands, "it all came back".

He's sure that, with the reins in his hand, polo would come back too. But he has no plan to ride back into a game. Not at the moment.