

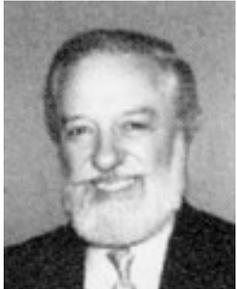


Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol LXIII No. 17

Editor: Ed Bookin



Next Meeting: **March 15**
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NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD POSITIONS FOR YEAR 2018-2019

New officers and directors will be elected at the March 15 meeting. Candidates were nominated at the March 1 meeting. The slate recommended by the committee and approved by the current Board is:

For President: Albert Mercado
For Vice-President: Ted Ross
For Secretary: Bob Weber
For Treasurer: George Surmeier
For Member-at Large -1: Paul Coyne
For Member-at Large -2: Ed Bookin

As provided in our bylaws, the current President, Harvey Turner, will assume the Board position of Past President.



Cosmo Members Ailing

If you learn that one our members is ill or injured, please notify Curt Whiteman at 220-6833, whiteman@westmont.edu.

Notice: Revision of Free Lunch Practice

To streamline the issuance of the free guest luncheon tickets, the president will pre-approve a number of luncheon chits and give these to the guest-intro desk manager. A qualified guest will fill out the guest form with the sponsor. The guest desk manager will determine the guest's eligibility and provide the chit with his/her name on it and the name of the host/sponsor. Also, at this time, the guest desk manager should provide each guest with a brochure and an application for membership.

If the guest attends the following scheduled luncheon meeting and hands in a completed application, he/she is entitled to a lunch chit for that meeting.

As in the past, a new member is provided a lunch chit at his/her new member introduction and will be seated at the president's table with the primary sponsor. This ticket will be provided by the president. The ticket sellers must understand that no lunch tickets will be provided without cash, check or a signed lunch chit.

Cosmo Joins Facebook

Cosmo now has its own Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CosmoClubSB/>. You can also find a link to it on our homepage.



All posts will be public, so that even members who have not yet joined Facebook can see our posts; however, if you have already joined Facebook, be sure to "like" our page and "share" our posts.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Editorial Assistant Cora Danielson at cora.danielson@gmail.com.

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; a “tab” will lead to the password-protected roster. The password will be provided in the email that covers the distribution of the Crackers.

Dress Code

The dress code going forward will be California Casual. Jackets and ties are always welcome, let the weather be your guide.

Who Said That?

“Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
I’m schizophrenic
And so am I.”

—Oscar Levant



NEXT MEETING

March 15, 2018

“Understanding (A Few) Climate Change Basics”

Kevin Ryan will introduce Chris Whan. Mr. Whan provides environmental consulting services and is an adjunct faculty member at UCSB Extension. He received his bachelor and masters degrees from the Department of Atmosphere Sciences



at U.C. California, Davis. As a young atmospheric scientist, he spent 13 months at the Geographic South Pole Station in Antarctica. Mr. Whan has spent much of his career focusing on wind and solar energy development, air quality, environmental compliance, and greenhouse gas assessment. Mr. Whan recently visited China as corporate lead in a UCSB exchange program with Nanjing University in sustainable community-scale energy solutions.

Mr. Whan will discuss some of the key elements for understanding climate change, along with possible solutions for creating a sustainable future.

April 5, 2018

“Saving Santa Barbara’s Unique Landscapes: Strategic Conservation, Not Accidental Preservation”



Chet Work will introduce us to the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County and its 30-year history of local conservation. The Land Trust has conserved more than 27,000 acres across the county and has recently worked with other organizations to complete a strategic community conservation plan. For his talk, Chet will describe the incredible natural resources in our county and the efforts to conserve them.

Chet has been with the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County since 2014. Prior to moving here, Chet spent ten years working with the Nature Conservancy and a leading regional land trust to ensure that family farms and ranches in Wyoming and Idaho continued to thrive in a landscape that has been under significant development pressure. He holds a Masters of Environmental Management from Duke University and conducted post-graduate study in natural history and environmental education at the Teton Science School in Jackson, Wyoming. Chet received a prestigious Doris Duke Conservation Fellowship. He is a graduate of the rigorous Executive Leadership Program through the Land Trust Alliance, the umbrella organization for the 1,700 land trusts through-out the country.

Chet was raised in Colorado and moved several times in his youth. He claims the one consistent thing he had across all the locations where he lived was the outdoors.

April 5, 2018 / "Saving Santa Barbara's Unique Landscapes: Strategic Conservation, Not Accidental Preservation" cont'd...

His passion for fishing, hiking and exploring the world around him built a land ethic and an understanding of the importance of open spaces and habitat. He is an avid fly-fisherman and birdwatcher, but he enjoys spending the majority of his free time exploring the local mountains and tide pools with his wife Leigh and three young children. "My passion for conservation is fueled by a desire to see my children enjoy the same wildlife, open space, and scenic views I have enjoyed throughout my life."

REGULAR EVENTS

DISCUSSION GROUP

The Discussion Group meets once a month in the upstairs room immediately following regular luncheon programs. The future topics are:

March 15, Dan Creasy: **The Limitations of Quality Assurance in Healthcare**

April. 19, Gerard Kuiken: **The Philosophy of Oneness**

May 17, Jim Davis: **A True Faustian Bargain: Controlling Evolution**

June 21, Gordon Bjork: **Intergenerational Transfer**

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 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. New members can use the website cosmogolfclubsb.com to register and sign up for additional news.



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 or Jim Subject at (805) 964-2020, jrs subject@aol.com.



Proposed for Membership

Edward Dewey
47 Via Alicia
Santa Barbara, CA 93108
Ph. 805.729.0070

Sponsors: Jim Davis and Bill Stancer

Edward Dewey is a retired U.S. Army colonel and former VP executive for Fidelity National Financial. Originally from Boston, Ed moved to Santa Barbara with his wife and daughter in 1995. His educational background includes a BSc in Engineering, an MA in History, and an MBA in Management. As a retiree, Ed currently enjoys golf, skiing, ocean voyages, and travel. He remains active in veterans' affairs: in addition to serving on the board for the Pierre Claeysens Veterans' Foundation, Ed is also member of the West Point Association of Graduates. By joining Cosmo, Ed looks forward to attending talks given by our guest speakers and becoming an active member of our community.



LAST MEETING: March 1, 2018

Dale Charpentier and Pete Schenck were ticket sellers. The punchbowl host was Jim Gravitt. Walt Clapp performed the sergeant-at-arms duties. Bill Alexander, Bob Weber and Orlando Ramirez did the audio-visual duties. Ken Working gave the invocation.

Wine Drawing

Bob Zimels did the wine drawing; he drew a bottle of Alvareno White and for Faiz Faruki, while Steve Little took home a Primo Vino Red.



Welcome Our Guests

Four guest introductions were provided by Bob Logan:

Ed Dewey was hosted by Bill Stancer. Read more about him under 'Proposed for Membership.'

Peter Delevett, a retired physician, was hosted by Steve Little.

J. T. Turner, a mental health professional, was hosted by Thore Edgren.

Lance Mason, a retired dentist, was hosted by Gordon Bjork.

LAST MEETING

March 1, 2018

"Healthcare and the Economy"

Kevin Ryan introduced two well-qualified speakers on the subject of Health Care in the U. S. Cosmo member Gordon Bjork is a retired Professor of Economics at Claremont McKenna College; Dan Obadia is a practicing orthopedic surgeon who has intensively studied our healthcare delivery system and acquired a Masters of Public Health from UCLA in 2016.



Gordon began by summarizing the dramatic changes in healthcare that have occurred in the last 70 years. Up until the post-War era, few families had insurance, and the majority of the elderly and terminally sick were cared for in the home. Costs of formal healthcare, based on fee-for-service, were apportioned on a sliding scale, with wealthier consumers essentially subsidizing the care of lower-income patients. Insurance coverage for workers began to increase in the late 40's with the growth of employer-sponsored group health insurance. Coverage for the elderly and poor was added in 1965 by the extension of Medicare and Medicaid to the Social Security program. With most healthcare costs thus paid by third parties on a fee-for-service basis, and with the dramatic in-

crease in medical technology that brought new procedures and longer lifespans, healthcare spending in the U.S. has ballooned from 5% of GDP in 1950 to 18% now. Rapid growth in the labor force helped support this trend, but now the ratio of workers to non-workers, especially the elderly, is declining.

He therefore advocates that, in place of the A.C.A. (Obamacare) model of government support for private insurance plans, the government make Medicare coverage available to anyone on a paid basis, with premiums scaled to income level. Low-income households would be covered by Medicaid, administered by the states and supported by federal matching funds. The additional federal costs of these programs would be funded by an income tax increase resulting from the elimination of special interest deductions such as home mortgage interest. He urges that Americans not allow partisan sentiments to limit our judgment in seeking solutions that provide both effective coverage and maximum freedom of choice.

Dan highlighted the fundamental ethical question that needs to be resolved in the U. S. to develop a rational healthcare delivery system: Is healthcare a private good that is fundamentally each citizen's responsibility, or is it a social good to which each person has a fundamental right, regardless of income level? He also presented abundant statistics to show the magnitude of the fiscal and demographic challenges facing our healthcare system, such as its extraordinary cost per capita vs. other developed countries, the 28 million Americans who remain uninsured even under the A.C.A., and the projected doubling of the over-65 population between 2010 and 2040.

These and other cost pressures are causing a trend toward rationing of healthcare based on individual income level, as seen in increasing deductibles, tiering of plan coverages, and a migration within plans from defined benefits to defined contributions. He decries Americans' tacit acceptance of this trend, and instead proposes an "egalitarian" approach that would feature a single universal healthcare system providing each citizen vouchers to purchase a basic level of services. The voucher system would be funded by a national value-added tax, and higher benefit levels could be purchased by those willing to pay the necessary premiums. He would also encourage pre-paid integrated delivery systems like Kaiser's and competition among providers.