



# Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

Vol LXIV No. 3

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## In Memoriam

We have received word that Cosmo Member Bill Irvine passed away on June 3, 2018. Services were held on June 15. Bill had been a member of Cosmo since 1981. A veteran of the Army Air Corp during WWII, Bill served as an attorney for many years before his retirement. He is survived by his daughter, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Our condolences to his family and Cosmo friends.



## Membership Dues—July 1, 2018

Membership dues for the 2018-2019 fiscal year are due by July 1, 2018. If you have not paid your dues yet, please do so as soon as possible. Send a \$100 check payable to the Cosmopolitan Club to PO Box 3993, Santa Barbara, CA.

## Cosmo Marketing Committee Announcement

Marketing Chairman Ron Singer has been asked by the board to suggest and implement a program to increase membership. Ron is proposing to set up a small committee of up to three people who will call members to give them the following information:

- 1.) Starting in July, if they have not done so already, remind members that new dues for 2018-19 are \$100 per member.
- 2.) Ask each member to bring in a potential new member, presenting them with a short suggestive conversation "script." The goal is to have each member bring in at least one new member.
- 2.) New incentive program: Every member who brings in a new member during the months of July, August and September will receive a \$25 check 30 days after the new member is accepted.

## Guidelines for Providing Free Lunch to New Members

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 will 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 Members Ailing

If you learn that one of our members is ill or injured, please notify Curt Whiteman at 220-6833, [whiteman@westmont.edu](mailto:whiteman@westmont.edu).

### 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](mailto:cora.danielson@gmail.com).

### Website and Online Membership Roster

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

For our regularly scheduled luncheon meetings California Casual dress will be the preferred style year around. Let the weather be your guide.

### Who Said That?

“Good judgement comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgement.”

—Will Rogers



### Meet Your 2018-2019 President: Albert Mercado



Albert Mercado was born in Turin, Italy. His father was in the Bolivian diplomatic corp stationed in Italy. His mother was an Italian school teacher and part time actress. When Albert was few months old due to deteriorating conditions during World War II, all foreigners were given a last chance to leave the country. Albert’s family made the long trip across land and sea all the way to Bolivia. His father became part of the government but was assassinated during a revolution when Albert was 7. He, his mother and two younger siblings were dramatically rescued and survived.

When Albert was attending high school, he excelled in sports and soccer, so he had to decide whether to go back to Italy and try to become a professional soccer player or go to the US and study engineering. He selected the latter. After completing high school, Albert selected petroleum engineering for his college major and at the same time got a job at Shell Research in Torrance, CA.

Upon completing three years of the study-work program, Albert was convinced by the Chief Chemist of the company to switch careers, since he continuously heard from him: “Petroleum Engineering was the field during the second war, now Electronics is the new up and coming field.” He followed the advice of the Chief Chemist and switched to Electrical Engineering. Albert went to work for Litton Industries, a fairly new conglomerate, that had an excellent executive work-study program. His first assignments—in conjunction with Motorola, Texas Instruments, RCA, and Intel—included developing the first types of integrated circuits and electronic memories. Eventually, Albert was involved in building the first computer using only integrated circuits.

Working at Litton and going to school, Albert earned his BSEE in 1964 and MSEE in 1967 at UCLA. He continued working at Litton on other projects, such as the Lunar Lander, international developments with Italian companies (Selenia), and army communications in Viet Nam.

In 1971 Albert completed his PhD at UCLA. At this same time he was recruited to be a key member in the development of a new Navigation concept, Global Positioning System (GPS) sponsored by NASA, and other classified

government agencies, including the Applied Physics Lab (Johns Hopkins). Stationed at Magnavox Research in Torrance, CA, Albert became the manager of the Receiver portion of the program.

After successfully launching a number of satellites and developing the receivers, Albert joined a private company that a friend had created few years before and went on to become President of Cirteck Electronic Design Co. in Newport, CA. The small company with about 300 employees was successfully sold in 1984 to HP. With some of the profits, Albert set up a most successful real state investment company, Mercan Investments. Rather than concentrate full time on the investments, he went back to engineering and joined TRW Space and Defense, a conglomerate in Redondo Beach, CA, where he became Project Manager of several classified space and defense programs, including the Space Station.

Albert officially retired from engineering activities in 2002. Since his engineering retirement he is still fully involved in the overall management of Mercan Investments. He also enjoys political activities in Santa Barbara and has been the Foreman of The Santa Barbara Civil Grand Jury in 2006-2007. He and his wife Nelly belong to a number of social and political clubs.

## NEXT MEETING

**August 2, 2018**

### **“China, Global Trade, and the Impact on Santa Barbara’s Recycling”**

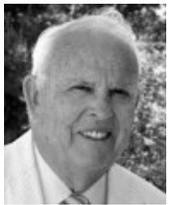


Bill Stancer will introduce Carlyle Johnston, a Project Leader with the Santa Barbara County Department of Public Works. Mr. Johnston manages the recycling contracts that dictate how our recyclables are collected, processed, and sold to market, for the County and a number of cities, including both the Cities of Santa Barbara and Goleta. A Santa Barbara native, Mr. Johnston has been working on environmental policy for over 20 years, both locally and in the San Francisco Bay Area.

For his talk, Mr. Johnson will give a presentation on local recycling programs, including how they identify what is recyclable, what is involved in the recycling process, and how these programs are affected by changes in the global economy, specifically with regards to recent Chinese environmental reforms.

**August 16, 2018**

### **“Hamilton: The Man, The Myth, and The Musical”**



Chuck Curtis will introduce George Frakes, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of History at Santa Barbara City College and current member of Cosmo. For his talk, Dr. Frakes will compare the recent musical *Hamilton*, written by and starring Lin-Manuel Miranda, with the traditional biographies of Alexander Hamilton, the first US Secretary of the Treasury. Dr. Frakes will use some of Miranda’s hip-hop songs from the musical to provide examples of the popular version of history, as well as look at the impact of Hamilton on later US history. Finally, Dr. Frakes will examine the reasons behind the duel between Hamilton and Burr, and the causes of Hamilton’s untimely death.

Dr. Frakes has been a member of Cosmo since 1995. Before his retirement he was a professor at Santa Barbara City College, where he taught for 32 years and served as the head of the Social Sciences Division. He is the author and co-editor of six books. In his spare time he enjoys travel, writing, reading, and gardening.

**September 6, 2018**

### **“Immunization for the Older Age Group”**



Kevin Ryan will introduce Deborah Schultz, R.N. from the Santa Barbara Public Health Department, Division of Immunization.

Many individuals are uncertain about their need for inoculations after childhood (way beyond childhood!). Choices among three different “shingles shots”, the annual flu vaccine, pneumonia prevention vaccines and others can be confusing. Ms. Schultz will address these issues and how they apply to the older age group in her talk.

Ms. Schultz graduated from LAC/USC Nursing School and worked as an ICU/CCRN nurse at USC and in the Neurosurgical ICU. After a move to the San Luis Obispo area, she worked at the local hospitals in the ICU and at the SLO jail and Juvenile Hall. She has traveled to the jungles of India and Peru to provide medical care encountering a multitude of big insects that she hopes she will never see again. She is a private pilot and enjoys hiking, skiing, traveling and gardening.

## REGULAR EVENTS

### DISCUSSION GROUP

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

August 16, Jim Davis: **Doing the Right Thing in a Period of Major Social Disruptions**

September 20, Sandy Jones: **The Popular Narrative: How It Changes, and Changes Us**

October 18, Jim Hemmer: **10 Key Turning Points in the History of Western Civilization**

November 15, Jim Davis: **The Law of Unintended Consequences**



### 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. New members can use the website [cosmogolfclubsb.com](http://cosmogolfclubsb.com) to register and sign up for additional news.



### TENNIS

They play doubles four times a week on a private court off 122 Patterson Avenue behind the office buildings. The Cosmo Group starts rallying at 7:45 AM. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. All Club tennis players are invited. Contact Jim Subject at (805) 964-2020, [jsubject@aol.com](mailto:jsubject@aol.com) or Joe Abram at (805) 845-8579, [jabrammd@gmail.com](mailto:jabrammd@gmail.com) for additional information.



### LAST MEETING: July 19, 2018

Gerhard Hofmeister and Manny Espig managed the ticket sales while Ken Jewesson kept the Punch Bowl filled. Walter Clapp was the Sargent at arms. Audio-visual was handled by Bob Weber. Pete Kruse did the invocation before introducing the guests.

### Wine Drawing

Bob Zimels brought the club members to attention with a timely joke. He then awarded Jim Hemmer a bottle of 2015 Charles Smith Vino Pinot Grigio. A 2013 Buttonwood Estate Red Blend was won by Alan Bullock.



## Welcome Our Guests

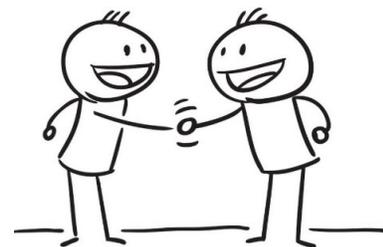
Our newly installed President Albert Mercado called Peter Kruse to the podium for guest introduction. Two gentlemen named McNamara from different mothers headed the guest list.

Bill McNamara, a retired nuclear physicist, was hosted by Paul Coyne. Bill's hobbies are biblical and mission history, as well as classical music.

Kevin Ryan sponsored Jim McNamara, a former San-sum physician. Current events and skiing are Jim's favorite past-times.

Herb Zipperstein, a retired juvenile hall administrator, was the guest of Joe Abram. Travel, Bridge and completing Sudoku puzzles occupy Herb's attention now.

Michael Hackett, previously a consultant for clean energy use, was hosted by David McKee. Travel and real estate are Michael's main interests at the moment.



## LAST MEETING

July 19, 2018

### "The Santa Barbara International Film Festival: A Premier Cultural Event"



Roger Durling, S.B. International Film Festival's Executive Director, was introduced by Karl Hutterer. Under Roger's tenure, which began 14 years ago, the festival has risen from a small local event to a world-famous film festival.

After migrating from Panama, Roger earned a BS from Syracuse and an MFA from Columbia. He has written several produced plays and run a coffee house in Summerland after moving to Santa Barbara in 2001. Roger currently teaches Film Studies at Santa Barbara City College, and he began his cinematic career as a teenager in Panama endeavoring to predict the yearly Oscar winners. From these humble beginnings, he has made the SBIFF a leading annual cultural event and a major tourist attraction.

This year, the festival hosted 40 Oscar nominated or award winners with 24 World Premieres and 48 United States Premieres being shown. It serves also as an educational forum featuring panels of both writers and directors.

The SBFF is a non-profit organization with an annual budget of over five million dollars and seven employees. It is primarily funded by corporate sponsors, private donors and ticket sales. It has rewarded the community by restoring and running the Rivera Theater as a fine art cinema. Operating year round, SBIFF has film programs for the under-privileged, local schools and senior citizens.

The organization also participates in these local film educational programs:

1. 10.10.10, a program for budding screen writers and producers to make films which will be shown later at the Arlington Theater.
2. Film Camp, a two-week program where 30 children from low income families learn how to make movies.
3. The Rosebud Program, where 10 college students view 30 screenings a year and then meet with film makers to discuss the craft.

After his dynamic and well-illustrated presentation, Roger led a stimulating question and answer session.