



Crackers

COSMOPOLITAN CLUB OF SANTA BARBARA INC.

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Next meeting: February 7, 2019

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In Memoriam

We have just received word that our friend and long-time Cosmo member Henry Levy, Jr. has passed, 6 days shy of his 102nd birthday. Henry joined our club in 1997 and was an active member for many of those 20 years. He was owner and president of Henry Levy Retail Home Furnishings. We have no information regarding a memorial service at this time. Anybody having information relative to this item, please contact Crackers editor Harv Turner: olharv@gmail.com.



Cosmo Members Ailing

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

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 Eric Torbet at torbet@do-right-solar.com.

Free Lunch Guidelines for New Members

Your Cosmo Board has elected to revise the new member incentive free lunch program as follows:

Upon a prospective member's first visit to a regular lunch meeting, he/she will be entitled to receive a free lunch, courtesy of the club. To arrange for this, the guest's sponsor will introduce the guest to the assigned "Guest Introduction" member stationed at the welcome desk. *The Guest Introduction member will provide a "chit" which may be exchanged for a meal ticket at the "Ticket Taker's" desk near the entry to the hall.*

A second set of chits will be given to a new member and his/her sponsor at the meeting where they are seated at the president's table and the sponsor introduces the new member to the membership at that meeting. *If the chits are not already at the Ticket Taker's table, check with the president to obtain these so that they may be exchanged for meal tickets.*

Cosmo Marketing Committee

The Marketing Committee is encouraging all current members to recruit additional members. Please go to www.sbcosmo.com and click on one of the four links at the bottom of the homepage, which include: a recording of a radio program interview with current members; a link to the Club email where prospects can request information about applying; a link to a downloadable Membership Application; and a link to review the Club's Constitution. We hope all of these tools will help in our recruiting efforts.

Dress Code

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

Website and Online Membership Roster

Access the Cosmo website <http://sbcosmo.com> for current and archived issues of Crackers. A link will lead to the password-protected Roster. The password will be provided in the email that covers the distribution of the Crackers. If you find any errors in your listing in the Roster, please contact Editorial Assistant Eric Torbet at torbet@do-right-solar.com.

Upcoming Meetings

February 7, 2019

“South Africa – A Fragile Bridge Between Africa’s Colonial Past and Vibrant Modern Democracy”

John MacKenzie will introduce Cosmo Member **Al Anglin**. For his talk, Al will describe the many trips he and his wife have taken to South Africa. He will discuss the state of South Africa's economy and townships, as well as the history of apartheid and the ongoing legal battles regarding land ownership. Al will also talk about the scenery, animals and geography of South Africa, including conservation efforts to help with the preservation of national parks. Finally, Al will describe what it was like to be in the country during times of great political upheaval, from the vote of no confidence in the President of the African National Congress (ANC) to an international incident involving the country's former first lady.

Al has been a patriotic guy since he was born in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Al and his wife Vangie retired from the state of New Mexico and then taught in California until moving to Kuwait to teach for three years; returning four times to see their classes graduate and visit friends. Then they spent the last ten years of their careers teaching at Santa Barbara City College.

Al and Vangie have traveled to Spain many times. They both speak Spanish and always find someplace new to explore after staying with friends. China, India, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Egypt and almost all the middle eastern countries were much enjoyed. They witnessed the beginning of Gulf War II up close and personal and visited military bases in Kuwait under the auspices of the USO Auxiliary.



February 21, 2019

“U.S.-China Technological Competition: Zero Sum or Win-Win?”

John Warnock will introduce **Dr. Richard Appelbaum**, who is Research Professor and MacArthur Chair in Global and International Studies and Sociology at UCSB and a leader of the NSF-funded Center for Nanotechnology in Society. Dr. Appelbaum has recently co-authored a new book titled “Innovation in China” which examines the history of China’s drive to become the world leader in technological innovation. His talk will focus upon the progress China has made in its goals as well as the impediments arising from its system of state-led industrialization.

Dr. Appelbaum’s recent book illuminates many of the underlying problems that are core issues in the present trade war with the U.S. and the complex negotiations now underway. Understanding both the progress China has achieved and its goals in moving its economy to one driven by knowledge and innovation, Dr. Appelbaum’s insights will be helpful in appreciating the complexities of our current relationship with China.

Professor Appelbaum received his PhD from the University of Chicago in Sociology in 1971 and over the course of a distinguished career has published extensively in the areas of social theory, urban sociology, public policy, the globalization of business, and the sociology of work and labor. He has served as the chair of the Sociology Department and was a co-founder of the UCSB Global & International Studies Program. Over the last decade he has focused primarily upon the study of high technology development in China and a multi-disciplinary study of labor conditions in supply chain networks in the Asian-Pacific Rim.

He and his wife are avid bicyclists and daily ride up Gibraltar Road to stay in top condition!



March 7, 2019

“Revitalizing SB’s State Street”

Karl Hutterer will introduce **Nina Johnson**.
(More details in the next Crackers issue)

Regular Events

Discussion Group

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



February 21, Gordon Bjork: **The Rising Cost of Education**

March 21, Jim Davis: **World Enough And Time**

April 18, Gerard Kuiken: **The Class-Caste system in India and the USA**

May 16, Jim Hemmer: **Periods of Climate Change and their Consequences for Western Civilization**

June 20, Bill Veigle: **Thanks for Nothing – Imagination in Physics**

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 rsinger916@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 sites.google.com/view/cosmosb/home 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, jrsubject@aol.com or Joe Abram at (805) 845-8579, jabrammd@gmail.com for additional information.



Proposed For Membership

Lynn Eleanor Cederquist

3375 Foothill Rd, #522
Carpinteria, CA 93013
(805) 717-1787

Sponsors: Ron Singer & Bev Singer

Lynn Cederquist has resided in the Santa Barbara area since 1969, and has 1 son and 1 daughter. She earned a BA in Sociology at UCSB, and has worked in the area of Sales/Marketing/Public Relations for 30+ years. She served as Director of Admissions at Brooks Institute of Photography, and handled sales and public relations at Cederquist Winery.

Lynn is an active member of Toastmasters International, and has been awarded "Distinguished Toastmaster", the highest honor that organization bestows. Additionally, she is active in The Goleta Evening Rotary Club, and has received the Paul Harris Award from the Rotary Organization. Finally, Lynn is a CASA advocate, helping to protect children in foster care.

As a Toastmaster, Lynn appreciates listening to and learning from good speakers, and by joining Cosmo she seeks to be with a group of people who are as eager as she to learn and grow intellectually.

Welcome Our New Members

Thomas H. Mack

657C Del Parque Dr.
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

Fred Sidon introduced new member Thomas "Tom" H. Mack to the club. Tom is President of Thomas H. Mack & Co., Inc., a consulting and asset management company. Tom earned his BS, MS, and MBA in the areas of Mechanical Engineering and Business Administration. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of California and was a Baker Scholar at Harvard Business School. His previous job titles have included Mechanical Engineer, Securities Analyst, and Director of Investment Policy.



Welcome Our New Members, cont'd...

Tom and his wife Judy have two children. Tom is semi-retired, and in his spare time he is a member of the Birnam Wood Golf Club and a Senior Warden at All Saints-by-the-Sea Church. He also enjoys cycling, hiking, and fly-fishing. By joining Cosmo, Tom hopes to engage in fellowship, camaraderie, and intellectual stimulation. He is also happy to lend his organizational skills to leading and conducting club activities.

Last Meeting

January 17, 2019

The ticket sellers were Steve Halsted and Fred Marsh. The punchbowl host was Jim Gravitt. The sergeant at arms was Jim Hemmer. Bob Weber, Bill Alexander, and Orlando Ramirez were the audio-visual team. Ken Working provided the invocation.

Wine Drawing

Bob Zimels awarded a 2016 Estancia Chardonnay to Kevin Ryan. Chris McNamara took home a '17 Pinot Noir from Larkspur Winery.



Welcome Our Guests

Gordon Bjork introduced the following three guests:

Lynda Whitley, sponsored by her husband Peter Schenck, earned a B.A. in Mathematics from Duke U. She worked in information technology for 47 years, including positions with Control Data and Cray Computer. Since retirement her principal interests and activities, besides being a Duke basketball fanatic, have included support for women's funds and management of investments.

Shelley McNellis, sponsored by her husband George Ritchey, is a retired teacher. She enjoys activities such as dancing at the Elks Club.

Lynn Cederquist, sponsored by Ron Singer, has applied for membership. Please find her bio above (in Proposed for Membership section).

Synopsis

“New Technologies for Manipulating the Human Genome”



JC Elliot introduced **Dr. Stephen Poole**, Associate Professor in the Dept. of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology at UCSB. His presentation focused on the methods by which genetic engineering can overcome both gene-based diseases and certain cancers that spread by disarming the body's immunologic defenses.

Dr. Poole began with an introduction to the functions of living cells and their chemical components. He likened the cell to a chemical factory in which the nucleus is the central "office" containing the "plans" for the products, and the rest of the cell body is the "factory floor" where proteins are manufactured to carry out the cell's work. The chromosomes of the nucleus contain the plans in the form of DNA, a long-chain polymer made of billions of linked molecules of 4 types of organic bases (adenine-thymine and guanine-cytosine) plus other molecular components that form the structural backbone of the polymer. Within this chain are hundreds of discrete sequences of the paired bases which act as a code to direct the manufacture of specific proteins by the cell. These codes are the genes which ultimately control the specific characteristics of living things; therefore a defect within the code sequence can cause a deleterious change in the cell's functioning, leading to a weakened condition or illness. Examples in humans are sickle-cell anemia and cystic fibrosis.

Because of the successful mapping of the human genome, scientists have learned to identify the specific defect in some hereditary illnesses, and to treat them by injecting a correct copy of the mutated gene into the affected cells. Getting the good gene into the cell is a tricky process which requires packaging it in the shell of a vector such as a virus. However, this may stimulate the body's immune system to try to destroy the vector, which can produce a serious or even fatal bodily reaction. Therefore scientists have learned how to use the shell of a retrovirus as a carrier; this (like the AIDS virus) has the unique ability to penetrate into the cell's nucleus, thus avoiding the immune reaction and allowing the good gene to be replicated when the cell divides. This method of gene therapy has been successfully used against certain types of anemia.

One of the most dramatic developments in the field is gene editing, in which a defective gene is actually removed from its DNA strand and replaced with a correct copy. This process is based upon the discovery of the CRISPR-Cas9 complex and its mode of operation; much of the research into the molecules and processes has been done by Dr. Jennifer Doudna at UC Berkeley. First noticed in bacteria that had survived viral attack, a portion of the bacteria's own DNA is an exact copy of part of a viral invader's DNA. This can produce a molecule of messenger RNA which will bind to the matching portion of the invader's DNA. Cas9, an enzyme which breaks DNA bonds, can be attached to the RNA to cut the invader's DNA at that exact location. Using the same complex molecule, researchers who have identified a defective portion of the cell's own DNA can cut and remove the defect, and ultimately replace it with the correct molecular code. This holds great promise for future treatment of gene-based illnesses.

Another strategy of genetic engineering that has received much attention recently is immuno-therapy against cancer. Normally the body's own defenses, such as T-cells, attack and destroy foreign cells that are potentially harmful, including its own cells that have suffered a mutation. But cancer cells can evade this by carrying a molecule that essentially repels T-cells. Researchers have learned how to modify T cells with the CAR-T gene, which causes them to add a surface receptor that ignores the avoidance mechanism of the cancer cells and attacks them anyway. Patients suffering from certain lymphomas and leukemias are being successfully treated by removal of their own T cells, genetic modification, and re-injection of CAR-T cells into their bodies. (For a graphic view of this battle, go to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8D6_xWYILy4.) This type of strategy is being widely investigated for potential advances against a variety of deadly cancers.