

President's Message

I hope everyone has dried out a bit after our heavy rains the last few weeks, and that you take some solace in the fact that our reservoirs are fuller as a result.

After a very challenging year financially for most people in 2009, the collective hope is certainly strong that 2010 will bring us some significant relief. We hope that our jobs and careers will be more secure and promising; our home values stabilize, if not increase; and that our investments head in a northerly direction!

The opinions of economic experts vary substantially about the prognosis of important issues, such as unemployment, interest rates, credit markets, and the stock market. While nobody has a crystal ball, it's a fascinating time to have an "Economic Outlook" presentation.

We are fortunate to have a speaker as experienced and highly regarded as Gary Schlossberg to give us his analysis. As many of you know, Gary has spoken to our group a number of times over the years, and his presentations have always been both informative and enjoyable. His ability to bring some clarity to the complicated matrix of economic indicators and socio-political circumstances we are facing will be welcome, indeed.

As we head toward Spring, we anticipate an interesting group of speakers in the coming months. As always, we thank you for your continuing membership and support, which helps us maintain our vibrant and successful council. - Rob Silverman

“ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR 2010”

After our recent economic roller-coaster ride, it will be very interesting to hear an appraisal of the current economic outlook from someone as experienced as our speaker for this month. I am sure that many of you have heard presentations from **Gary Schlossberg** before, and know that he is a great speaker. We are really pleased to have him to talk to us about his view of the state of the economy, and the perceived risks for both the near term and long term. He also plans to talk about the impact that the housing market and household budgets have on the overall economy.

February 17, 2010

*Lafayette Park Hotel
3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette*

*6:00 PM. Wine and Registration
6:30 PM Dinner and Speaker*

**Cost: \$40.00 dinner (preregister)
\$45.00 (at the door)**

*Reservations and cancellations
must be received by Monday,
February 15th at 1:30 p.m. to be
assured of a reservation. Please
send your check today!*

or

Pay with a credit card online

<http://www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=epcdv>

or call Bonni at:

925.686.4819

As a senior economist and Vice President at Wells Capital Management, Gary Schlossberg is responsible for assessing the economic environment and providing input to the equity and fixed income portfolio management teams at Wells Capital Management. In this capacity he makes regular presentations to clients and investment staff, analyzing conditions in the equity and fixed income markets along with developments in the foreign exchange and international capital markets. He is often quoted in the financial press, and regularly appears on business radio and TV programs here and in Japan and the UK.

Prior to joining Wells Fargo, Gary worked as a researcher at the US Treasury and Federal Reserve Board, covering international economic conditions.

Gary earned his bachelor's degree from City University of New York and his master's degree from Pennsylvania State University.

Join us on the 17th!

Mark Your Calendars!

March 17, 2010

**Planning for Family Businesses
Michael Jones, CPA**