



Newsletter

535 Middlefield Road, Suite 190 Menlo Park, CA 94025
T: 650.321.0854 F: 650.321.1968
www.bandangels.com

Volume 15, Issue 1

January 16, 2009

Coordinator
Ian Patrick Sobieski

SIG Group Leaders
Paul Quadros—LS/Biotech
Dean Sirovica—Energy
Bob Kyle—Telecom/Security
Ron Weissman—Software
Jan Jannink—Internet

Full Screening Committee
Chris Meyer
Wally Buch
David Overhauser
Daniel Joensen
Jim Papp
Gene Shklar
Peter Redford

Life Science Committee
Rivka Sherman-Gold
Bob Constantino
Art Reidel
Wally Buch
Denis Coleman
Paul Quadros

Membership Committee
Mike Bateman
David Burwen
Brian Frenzel
Martin Lefebvre
Art Reidel
Stephen Taylor

Dinner Details

Date: Wed., Jan. 21st, 2009
Place: Los Altos Golf and Country Club
Time: 6:15 - 9:00 pm
RSVP: 650.321.0854
rsvp@bandangels.com

Introduction

We are beginning this new year with many new things. As a country, we have a new direction, from a new President who is facing once in a generation economic challenges. The problems of 2008 will carry on in this new year and how well our country responds to them will directly affect our corner of the world. The anemic IPO market of 2008 and the plummeting assets values across all categories, will certainly affect how much investing VCs, angels and angel groups make in new startups. There are interesting proposals afoot in the Obama transition; plans for the Small Business Administration that could affect us directly. Our trade group, the ACA (Angel Capital Association), reports that serious consideration is being given to devoting \$1B of the \$770B stimulus package to a fund of funds that would, in part, invest alongside angel groups. We'll let you know if any Obama policy component directly affects angel investing but we are not planning on initiatives from Washington when we plan for the Band. The realistic expectation is that this cycle will run its course; it may be long or it may be short but in either case innovation will not stop. The real economy, and the creative destruction that our Silicon Valley venture investing represents, will continue. So, while we expect our investment rates to decline this year, and will adjust the kinds of companies we select to present to the Band on basis of our members' risk appetite, we think that odds of investing in a startup that eventually wins big is as good this year as ever.

And with an eye toward building on the foundation of the Band we've launched a few new initiatives this year that I will reiterate:

1. Our Annual Portfolio Meeting: On Feb 5th, from 9:00AM till 5:45PM at the Sand Hill Room, located at 3000 Sand Hill Road, adjacent to the Sundeck restaurant. We will have 20 of our companies come and give you a quick update on their status. This is a way of getting some info from your investments, or simply seeing what became of some of the companies you passed on. It will be an interesting day! Companies presenting include: Podaddies, Mixbook, ShotSpotter, Nellix, Therative, Mi5 Networks, Vapore, and Sendmail. See the complete list of presenting companies on the next page.

2. The Angel Education Day: We are flying Bill Payne in from Las Vegas, where he retired to after selling his company to DuPont and starting the Tech Coast Angels. He is a great angel investor and is going to provide a 4-hour workshop on February 4th from 12:30PM to 4:30PM on building an angel portfolio and valuing angel investments. We have room for 30 people and have 28 RSVPs; this event is free to Band members and others are welcome for \$450/person. The program will be held at the Sand Hill conference room at 3000 Sand Hill Road.

3. SiGs: As you see on the banner left, several of our members have volunteered to organize activities within industry areas. We will announce them in the newsletter but expect more timely direct announcements via email.

Continued... 