



Newsletter

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Coordinator

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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
Rock Clapper
Gene Shklar

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., Feb. 18th, 2009

Place: Los Altos Golf and Country Club

Time: 6:15 - 9:00 pm

RSVP: 650.321.0854
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Introduction

We head into the middle of February with a sinking DOW (below 8,000 as this is written) and grim forecasts from economists of a recession continuing through at least the end of the year. But we ended last year having made 7 new investments (and almost twice that many follow-ons) and it looks like at least one of the presenting companies at the January meeting has strong interest from us (see company update section). Additionally, the initiatives launched last year seem to be well received and this year of building the Band up, amid the general economic downturn, is off to a good start.

Our annual Portfolio Day was held on Feb 5th; 23 companies presented to a room that was chock-full of Band members for almost the whole day. Seeing these companies present, one after another, their wide variety of businesses, was an inspiring reminder to me of the big impact that our organization has on real persons' lives and on the community in which we live. About 750 people are employed by the presenting companies which we seeded. Not all of these companies will succeed in the end but a great many of them are doing quite well and have increasing and exciting prospects.

The day before Portfolio Day, a standing room only crowd of Band members participated in a Valuation/Portfolio workshop, paid for by the Band, and led by instructor Bill Payne and the Angel Capital Education Foundation. Perhaps the most interesting nugget of the day was a survey of angel portfolios that underscored the extent to which return is driven by a rare, outsized, exit event; and the consequent need to build a broad portfolio. Also of interest was the quantification of the extent to which dilution from subsequent rounds of investment are under-appreciated when structuring the initial angel investment.

Last year we sent Nicola to San Diego to represent the Band at the annual DEMO conference (see the Events section for discounts to DEMO 2009). This year we obtained admission for two Band members. Our SiG leader Jan Jannink will attend and we have one more pass available (valued at \$1995) for anyone who is interested (please email Nicola if you would like to go).

Both Bob and Jan are planning events in February for their SiGs. Bob, who heads our telecom/security/semiconductor SiG is arranging two types of events. The first is meetings with individual Valley luminaries to discuss their thinking on the latest innovations and directions. The second is coffee and donuts meetings with groups of cutting edge companies to discuss the latest developments in their areas. Jan Jannink is holding the kickoff meeting for the Internet SiG at 2.30pm on Wed. Feb. 25. The agenda will include a discussion of trends and predictions for what will grow in the next year and his early success with Meetup.com. Please see the new SiG update section (page 3) for more information.

Finally, our Social Chair, David Deacon has two events planned. See the Social Events section for more information but the first is the contribution of his Tahoe estate, which normally rents for a pretty penny, for a Band Member ski weekend. About a half-dozen Band members are lined up to ski from Saturday, Feb. 28 to Monday March 2; there is still room so let Dave know if you would like to attend (david@bandangels.com).

- Ian