

## **The 21 Club**

### **Social Hour with Wine & Cheese and a Presentation Tuesday, February 24, 2015**

The third meeting of the 2014-15 academic year will be held on **Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**, starting at **6:00 PM**. The format for this meeting will be one used in past years by the club: first, it will be held at a club member's residence (Club 21 Board member Tim Ross has graciously volunteered his house! **(4909 Calle de Tierra NE 87111)**); second, instead of having the usual formal dinner, we will have a "Wine and Cheese" social period (there will be no formal dinner for this meeting), which will last until about 7:30 P.M. The subsequent presentation will be delivered by Professor Walter Gerstle and his colleague in the School of Engineering, Professor Ron Lumia (please see the title of the talk and brief abstract at the end of this announcement, below).

#### **ABSTRACT**

**"Engineering, Education, Spirituality, and Religion in Kerala India"**  
Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Walter Gerstle, Department of Civil Engineering  
Ron Lumia, Department of Mechanical Engineering

Both of us recently visited, at different times, Amrita University, and its associated ashram, in Kerala India. Amrita is a very young university started by Mata Amritanandamayi, also known as Amma, the "hugging saint", who is its current chancellor and spiritual leader. We will present a slide show together with our thoughts regarding engineering, education, and religion in this beautiful part of India.

Bio for Walter Gerstle:

Walter Gerstle is a professor of civil engineering at the University of New Mexico with an emphasis on structural engineering. He has been active in researching the computational modeling of concrete structures since 1980. Gerstle obtained his BS degree from the University of Colorado, and MS and PhD degrees from Cornell University. He is a licensed professional engineer.

Bio for Ron Lumia:

Ron Lumia is a professor of mechanical engineering at the University of New Mexico, who works in the area of robotics and automation, software development, and microrobotics. Dr. Lumia obtained his BS degree from Cornell University and the MS and PhD degrees from the University of Virginia.