



THE
NEWSLETTER
GRAND JURORS ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY

Volume 14, No. 4

10064 Sunn Circle, Fountain Valley CA 92708

November, 2000

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

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Director - Jodie Harrod - (949) 720-1020
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JOIN US FOR LUNCH

**Thursday, Dec. 7
at Phoenix Club**

**1340 So Sanderson Ave, Anaheim
Speaker:**

**C. Robert Jameson
Presiding Judge
O.C. Superior Court**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we approach the end of the year, we can look back to a very successful time. Several of our Association members have been placed on Advisory Boards for various County departments. The Selection Committee, which nominates candidates for the Measure M Citizens Oversight Committee, finished its interviews and forwarded their nominations to the OCTA.

In view of the next Association luncheon and its date, December 7th, we all need to look back with thanks and prayers to those who gave their lives to end the horrendous period of World War II.

Now after looking back, we need to look forward. We presently are scheduling discussions with the County and the sitting Grand Jury regarding the Tracking and Implementation responsibility for evaluation of concurring replies to previous Grand Jury recommendations. This project was granted to our Association by the Board of Supervisors several years ago. We are also in the initial planning stage for the Statewide California Grand Jurors Association annual conference which is to be held in Orange County in September, 2001. Jodie Harrod was given the "opportunity" to organize the event. She has indicated that she can use all the volunteers who are interested in helping. Any assistance will be most welcome. We must all work together to make this a well-remembered event.

Have a happy Thanksgiving. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Jack Baird

HOLIDAY LUNCH SPEAKER

Our speaker for the December 7, 2000 luncheon will be Orange County Superior Court Presiding Judge C. Robert Jameson.

For sixteen years Judge Jameson has served the Orange County Court system. He was appointed to the Central Municipal Court by Governor George Deukmejian in 1984 and elected in 1986. He has been with the Superior Court since 1987. He assumed the position of Presiding Judge last year. Before coming on to the bench, Judge Jameson was the District Attorney for Yolo County.

The highly respected jurist is a graduate of University of California at Davis, and holds a J.D. from Hastings College of Law (1968). He will also administer the oath of office to your new Board of Directors at the luncheon.

LUNCH OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2000

The Phoenix Club was the venue for an old friend of the Orange County Grand Jury. On his return visit as Sheriff, Mike Carona highlighted the areas of change since his initial visit which took place during his election campaign in January, 1999.

- The Sheriff's department is developing a computer "talk" system.
- Is implementing increased drug and alcohol counseling through chaplainship programs.
- Citizen Advisory Council (Mike Harris representative).

- Has reduced recruitment vacancies.

- Personnel has increased from 3200 to 3700.

Sheriff Carona reiterated the need for more jail space in the County.

NEW BOARD

Two new members will join your Board of Directors effective January 1, 2001. Jim Nolan 99/00, will assume the duties of Sergeant at Arms and Cheryl Brothers 92/93, will continue her oversight of the Newsletter as a board member. At the same time, Mike Harris and Elsie Carruthers will finish their terms.

Our congratulations to Cheryl and Jim and our deep gratitude to Mike and Elsie who served your Association with distinction: Mike as President and Elsie as Treasurer. Their contributions of time, energy and talent made the Association grow and prosper.

'IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN'

Just a reminder that membership dues for the calendar year 2001 are due and payable January 1, 2001.

It is almost unbelievable that another year is almost gone and that for those who believe that time started 2000 years ago, it will soon be the new millenium. For those of us who understand that B.C.E. means Before Common Era, it was all over last new year's eve. You will, hopefully, receive a statement in the mail before our De-

ember meeting. In any case, we will be accepting dues at the December 7th lunch.

We fell just short of our goal of 200 members this year. The best we could do is 198. In truth, since in the last 10 years there were only 171 Grand Jurors, maybe we're not doing so bad. The only thing this proves is that we have to try harder next year, so expect several letters inviting non-members to join us.

RECRUITMENT BEGINS FOR 2001/02 PANEL

By now you have probably received a packet from Superior Court with materials to be distributed to candidates for the next Orange County Grand Jury. (It's hard to believe that the time has come so soon!)

Names will be collected by the Court Chief Executive Officer, Alan Slater, until the end of January. The process of selection of the final 30 names will be completed in May, 2001 with the drawing of the jurors and alternates on May 16.

In addition to the mailing to former Grand Jurors, the information packet has been widely distributed throughout the county. The objective is to attract a large, diverse pool of candidates for the next panel.

The hotline number for an application form is (714) 834-6747.

NOTES MISCELLANEA

TREASURERS REPORT

As of October 29, 2000
 Checking account balance:
 \$7,159.52
 Custom Time Deposit:
 \$3,076.06
 Total Reserves:
 \$10,235.58

Elsie Carruthers, Treasurer

WEB FACTS

Those of you who are handy on the internet can find the Grand Jury reports from the last two years at <http://www.oc.ca.gov/superior/gjreports.htm>.

AUTHOR AUTHOR

Sheriff Mike Carona is co-author of a book named Save My Son which explains his thoughts regarding mandatory lock-down drug and alcohol treatment and job training facilities for nonviolent drug offenders. According to Carona such programs promise to reduce recidivism and reverse the national trends of imprisoning massive numbers of addicts. See www.hazelden.org.

IN MEMORIAM

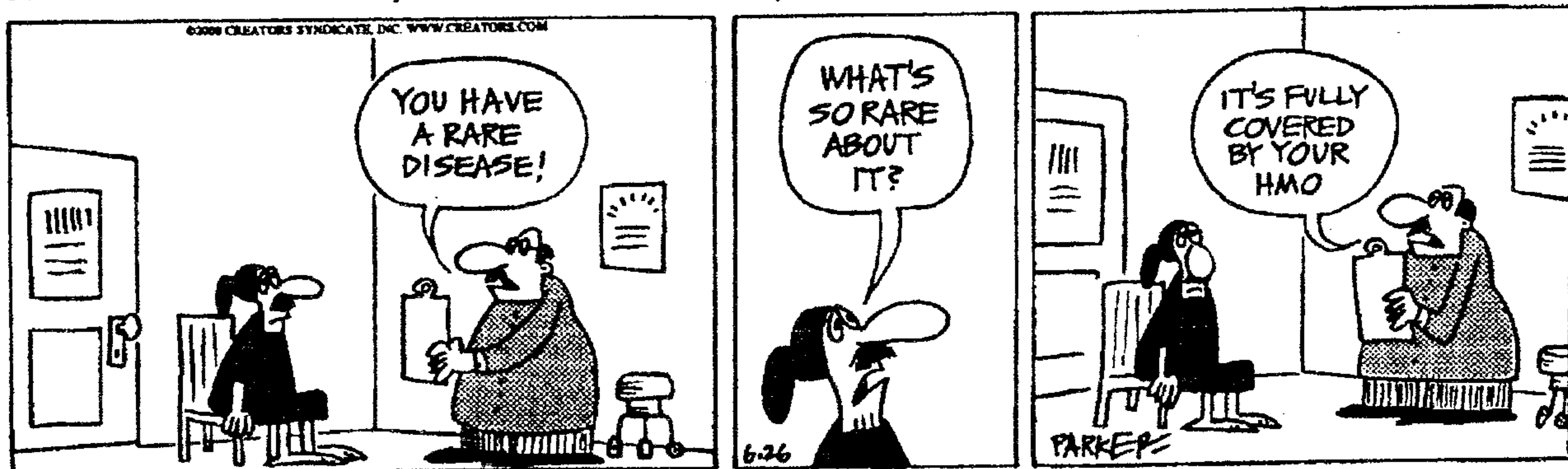
Kathryn Grant
 Dana Point
 1990/91 Grand Jury

TRACKING AND IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

The GJAOC Board has agreed to proceed with tracking the implementation of concurring recommendations for another Final Report. We have sent a letter to the County CEO stating our willingness to continue this project for the 99/00 final report.

John Baird and Bob Geiss met with members of the sitting Grand Jury to determine each entity's scope of work on tracking and have agreed to proceed separately. If you are interested in working on this or need more information, please call Bob Geiss.

THE WIZARD OF ID By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



CALIFORNIA GRAND JURORS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The California Grand Jurors Association recently held their 19th Annual Conference at the Sheraton Sacramento Hotel in Rancho Cordova on Friday and Saturday, September 22 and 23. Approximately 75 members and sitting grand jurors attended. Former State Senator Quentin Kopp, now a Superior Court Judge in San Mateo County, was the keynote speaker discussing "Future Considerations for the California Grand Jury." When told of the Orange County efforts to recruit qualified grand jurors, he wanted to be kept informed and sent any pertinent information. He was very impressed with our plans.

"Grand Jury Reform Issues" was the topic of a speech by Professor Clark Kelso of the McGeorge School of Law at University of the Pacific. It appears there is always the attempt to weaken, if not delete, the Grand Jury from our system. Be aware!

For the first time, the Board of Directors held a retreat prior to the Conference in order to establish goals and standing/working committees for the next year. The newly elected President, Jack Zepp of Marin County believes this practice should be continued.

The Conference next year will be held September 14 and 15 at the Costa Mesa Hilton. Please contact Jodie Harrod if you would like to help or have ideas about speakers.

ADDING TO FINAL REPORTS ON WEBSITE

Newly selected board member Jim Nolan 99/00, has proposed that the GJAOC lobby the Superior Court to establish a policy to attach agency responses to final reports on the GJ website.

It is hoped this will give the readers a more complete picture of the entire process and that the added scrutiny will improve the substance of some responses.

We all know from experience that the purpose of final report recommendations is to prompt some action. Until the response is received, no one knows the agency's intention or how to react. This last piece of the puzzle needs to be added on our website in order to complete and present the whole picture to all interested parties.