

THE NEWSLETTER

GRAND JURORS ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY

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10064 Sunn Circle, Fountain Valley CA 92708

May, 2006

YOUR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	Joe Quiros	(949) 651-0115
1st Vice President	Bob Fauteux	(714) 998-2868
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Director	Bill Nelson	(714) 974-6025
Director	Joe Moreland	(714) 628-8701
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JOIN US FOR LUNCH
Thursday June 1
at Phoenix Club
1340 S. Sanderson Ave Anaheim

Speaker
Courtney Wiercioch
Deputy Public Affairs Director
John Wayne Airport

A ROADMAP FOR JWA



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Orienting New Juries

Two primary objectives of the Grand Jurors' Association of Orange County are to educate the public on the role and function of the grand jury system in California and to attract future grand jury applicants. A new sitting panel will be sworn in for the 2006-2007 Orange County Grand Jury in July. The 2005-2006 panel will be busy making provisions for an orientation session. This orientation has, in the past, been the only training received by the new panel. With the myriad of questions regarding their function along with the issues to address and the organization of the new panel, a period of time is required

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JUNE LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Courtney Wiercioch, Deputy Airport Director- Public Affairs at John Wayne Airport (JWA) will speak to us at our June 1 luncheon. Later in that month, construction of new terminal buildings and passenger loading gates is scheduled to begin. With the defeat of the El Toro Regional Airport referendums, Orange County must find a way to take care of increasing demand for airline service while confined by the limitations of JWA's restricted space and stringent noise restrictions. The airport is already operating near the maximum number of arrivals and departures allowed within existing curfew hours.

Our speaker will give us details of the new expansion project as well as her outlook for what future JWA operations may look like, including consequences for the county and for surrounding area residents.

Courtney Wiercioch joined County government in 1986 after completing her Masters Degree in Political Science at UCI. She was employed at JWA from 1990 -1996, and returned to take her present position in 2004.

She is a graduate of Brea-Olinda High School and lives in North Tustin.

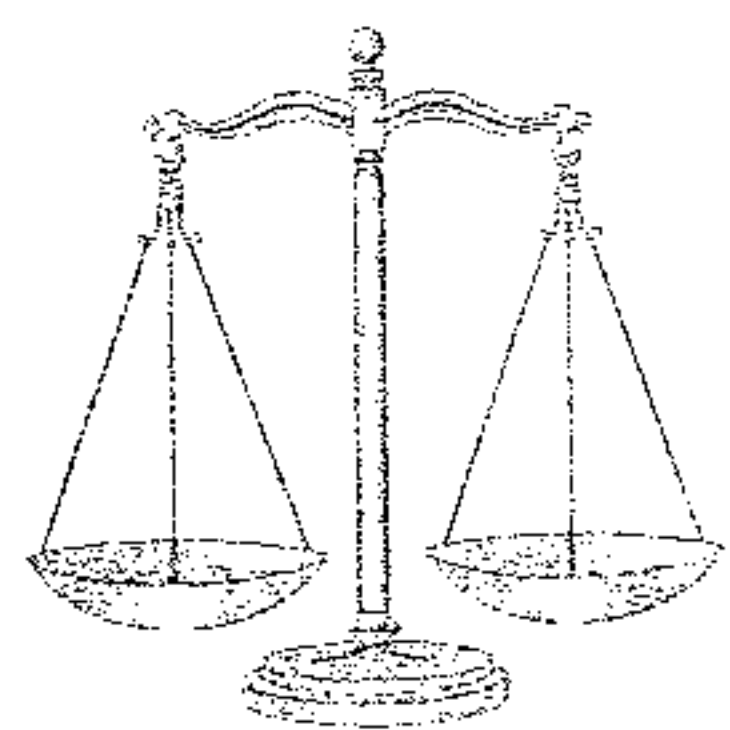
to begin functioning efficiently.

The training provided by the district attorney's office, the legal staff and the various agencies provide invaluable information for setting the new panel into motion. Most orientations - as conducted by an existing sitting panel - are influenced by that panel's own experiences and are structured accordingly.

To further enhance and augment this orientation/training process, especially for grand juries that do not have such a program, the California Grand Jurors' Association has developed and organized a training seminar to address issues common to all grand juries. This year the training consists of a two day seminar that will be held in five regional cities. The training seminar content includes the following topics: Grand Juries and the Law, Grand Jury Investigations, Grand Jury Interviews, Writing Final Reports and Continuity. The topic of continuity - the review and follow-up to prior final report responses - is also given additional attention. All prospective grand jurors are encouraged to participate in this program in order to proceed more efficiently and "get up to speed faster."

I'll see you on June 1.

- Joe Quiros - president



GJAOC MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Many citizens hear the call to serve their community.

Carlos Olvera, one of our GJAOC directors, is in their vanguard as was recently reported in the *Dana Point News*. Being a member of the 2002/03 Orange County Grand Jury is noteworthy enough. But that's just one of his contributions. Carlos has served his home town as one of its first planning commissioners and is the founder of the Dana Point Heritage Museum and author of an impressive history of the city. He was recently named president of the Dana Point Historical Society for a second term.

Olvera has a special talent for historical research. During 35 years of researching the genealogy of the Olvera family, he chronicled some 17,000 names over ten generations and published "Los Olvera, Journey to America."

Remembering her life as a young girl in Germany during WWII, **Margot Palmgren**, who served on the 1993/94 and 2000/01 panels, has published her memoirs, *Anneliese: A Child of War*. Her book is available through PublishAmerica, or you can call Margot for more information at (714) 533-1884

Robert Fauteux (1994/95 panel and current GJAOC Board member) is currently serving out a term after being appointed to the Villa Park City Council.

Following in her husband's footsteps, **Cathy Green** (1998/99 panel) is serving her second term on the Huntington Beach City Council.

Thank you, Carlos, Margot, Robert, and Cathy. Orange County is richer because of your energy and talents.

If you have a milestone that you would like to share with our membership, please submit in writing to the editor or e-mail to: cherylbroth@aol.com. We'll be happy to include your item in the *Newsletter* on a space-available basis subject to possible editing for space reasons.

- ed.

NOTES & MISCELLANY

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of April 30, 2006
 Orange County Credit Union
 Business Checking Balance
 \$3,980.59
 Certificate of Deposit
 \$5,049.73
 Total
 \$9,030.32
 Hiro Kranz, Treasurer

SURFING THE WEB

You may be interested in visiting a very well done website operated for the benefit of the San Mateo County grand jury association. It's full of articles and links that explain the grand jury system and news from the county superior court: www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/smcagj Check it out.

PHOTOS AND RECORDS WANTED

Old final reports and photos showing some historical interest such as 1950's and 1960's activities—early airports, road projects, jails and juvenile institutions. If the photos can be scanned please send them directly to CastanB@saccourt.com with cc: RootG@saccourt.com Please identify as coming from GJAOC and CGJA. For more information, contact Rose Moreno (714) 846-3219.

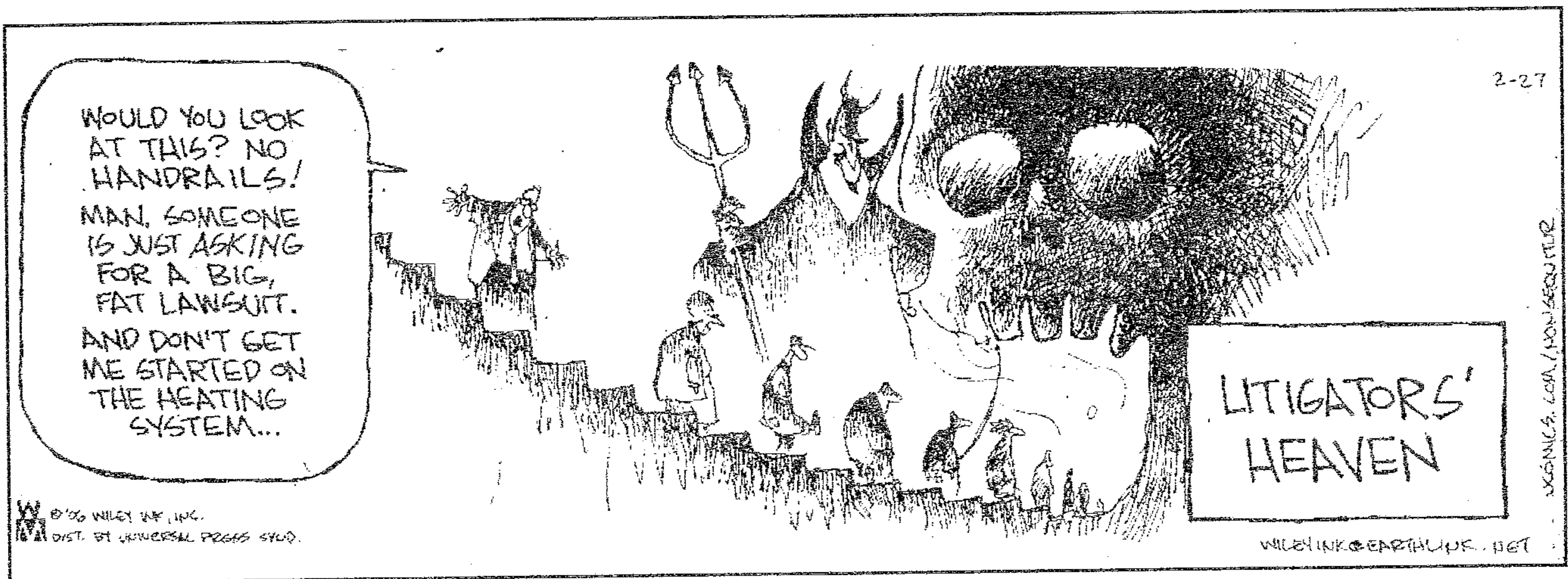
IN MEMORIAM

Warren Benson
 2004/05 panel

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Rose Moreno calls our attention to some worthwhile O.C. volunteer programs:

- *Caring Connections; Friendly Visitor Program* - Become a friend to the lonely or disabled. (714) 479-0107 ext 273
- *Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP)*- Help others in understanding Medicare and make the best choices. (714) 560-0424 ext 225
- *The Ombudsman Program* - Become an advocate for residents of long-term care facilities. (714) 479-0107 ext 226
- *SmileMakers Guild* - Help coordinating fund raising events. (714) 479-0107 ext 223



JURY SERVICE - A CONTRIBUTION TO OUR COMMUNITY

The following are comments made by California Chief Justice Ronald M. George on the subject of jury service.

In his opinion, we as Americans, sometimes take for granted the rule of law that protects our freedoms and trial by a jury of one's peers is among the fundamental democratic ideals of our nation. When we serve as jurors we should remind ourselves that these ideals exist only as long as individual citizens are willing to uphold them.

He went on to say jury service lies at the heart of our American judicial system and it is the duty and responsibility of all qualified citizens, but it is also an opportunity to contribute to our system of justice and to our communities. For many, he feels, serving as a juror is a memorable and even a profound experience. Although voting is a privilege of citizenship, jury service is a civic obligation and is often the most direct participation that individuals have in their government.

Jury service makes demands on our time, however, in recent years California courts have made efforts to improve jury service. Most notably, the courts have adopted a one-day-or-one-trial system in which a juror reporting for service either is assigned to a trial on the first day or is dismissed from service for at least 12 months. It was found that this system is far more manageable for prospective jurors, the majority serve for just one day, and of those selected for a trial, most complete their service within one week.

SUPERIOR COURT HAPPENINGS

Expanding the South County Justice Center

In early March the Board of Supervisors approved taking the next step in planning a new 18-courtroom facility at the Crown Valley Parkway site in Laguna Niguel. It authorized architectural and engineering work necessary to finalize the design and prepare for contractor bidding on construction.

"The existing Justice Center has been unable to handle jury trials for the past five years due to severe building deficiencies and overcrowding," said Presiding Judge Nancy Wieben Stock.

The cost for the new facility is estimated at \$118 million. When completed, the South County Justice Center will be able to resume holding jury trials and will greatly improve Superior Court service to the community's 50,000 residents.

RECIPES FOR SUCCESS

The CA Grand Juror's Association is looking for "recipes for success." If your panel wrote a final report that brewed up positive results, please jot down all pertinent information and forward to Rose Moreno. (rsmoreno@peoplepc.com). Members are also invited to submit real food recipes that have titles such as: "Jailhouse Chili," "prudence pudding," "parole pralines," "Grand Jury Curry," etc. Rose will forward favorites to the state.

EVER WONDER?

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

Why is it that doctors call what they do "practice"?

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?

