



THE NEWSLETTER

GRAND JURORS ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY

Volume 22, No.3

10064 Sunn Circle, Fountain Valley CA 92708

August, 2008

YOUR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Director	Karen Evarts	(949) 673-1432
Director	Glen Stroud	(714) 835-7691
Newsletter Chair	Cheryl Brothers	(714) 839-4509

JOIN US FOR LUNCH
Thursday September 4
at Phoenix Club
1340 S. Sanderson Ave Anaheim

Speaker
Tom Merchant
Department of
Homeland Security

"A Southern Calif. Update"

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

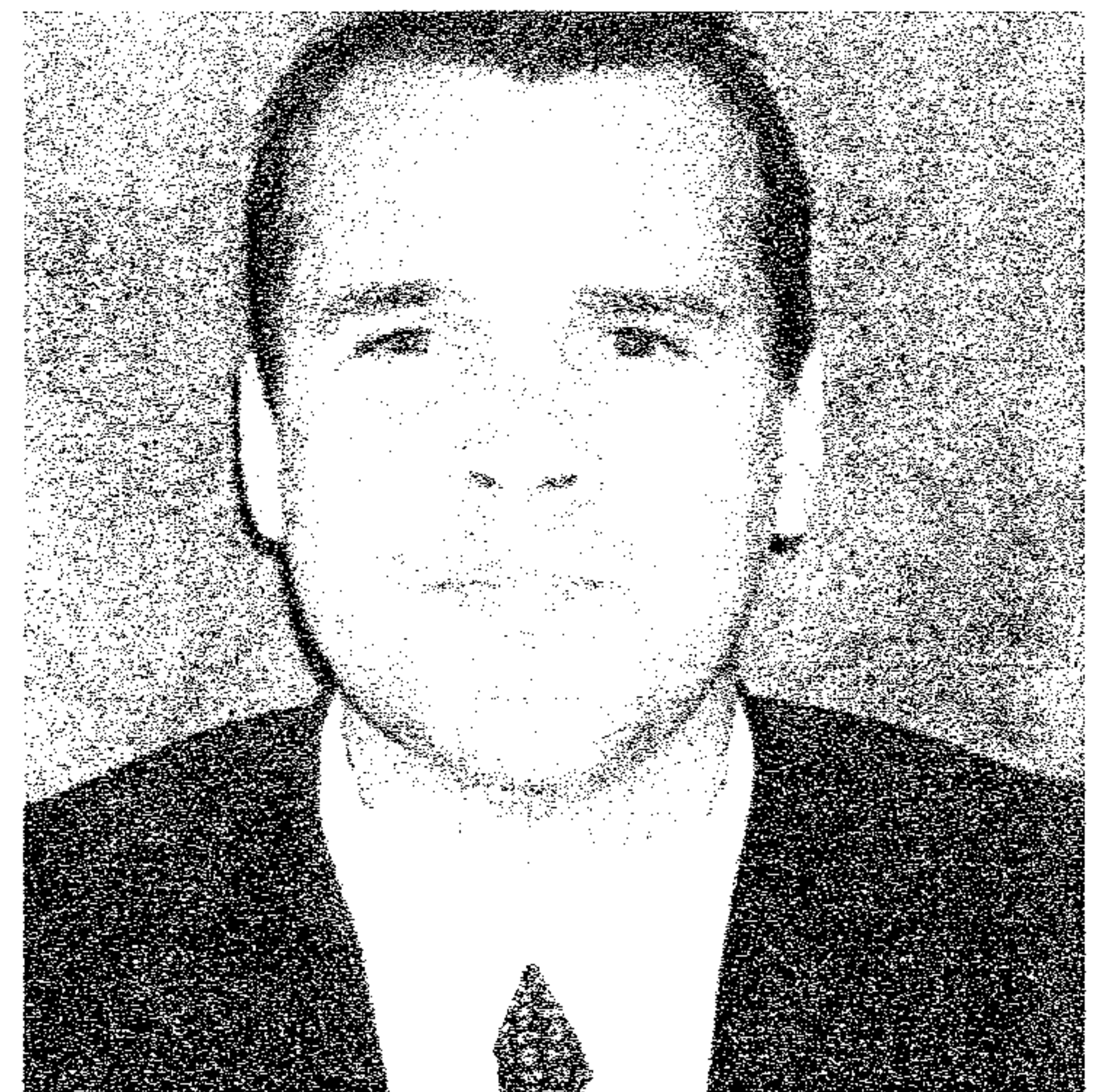
Odds and Ends

At our June luncheon meeting, we were present for a very timely message from Webster Gillory, OC Assessor and Chriss Street, OC Tax Collector about the effects of the current housing market crisis and the impact on property taxes. There were several questions, and the message was to hang on.

Your president was at the training session of the 2008/2009 Grand Jury pitching the benefits of membership in the Grand Jury Association of Orange County. I saw some familiar faces. We all met again at their swearing in by Presiding Judge Hon. Nancy Wieben Stock and the recognition of a job well done for the outgoing 2007/2008 Grand Jury. It was there that I had the distinct pleasure to meet our new Sheriff Sandra Hutchens. Since we share the same pride of residents of Dana Point, I look forward to having her as a speaker soon.

The outgoing grand jury has been extended free membership to the end of the year and being our guest at our September Luncheon. So we look forward to having them as members of the association.

(continued on p.2)



SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON SPEAKER - TOM MERCHANT

Mr. Merchant is the Resident Agent in Charge for the Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Inspector General, Office of Investigations, stationed at El Segundo, California. This office is one of twenty five investigative centers in the country, and has oversight for Southern California.

Merchant was born and raised in Orange County, is an alumnus of Cal State Fullerton. He was admit-

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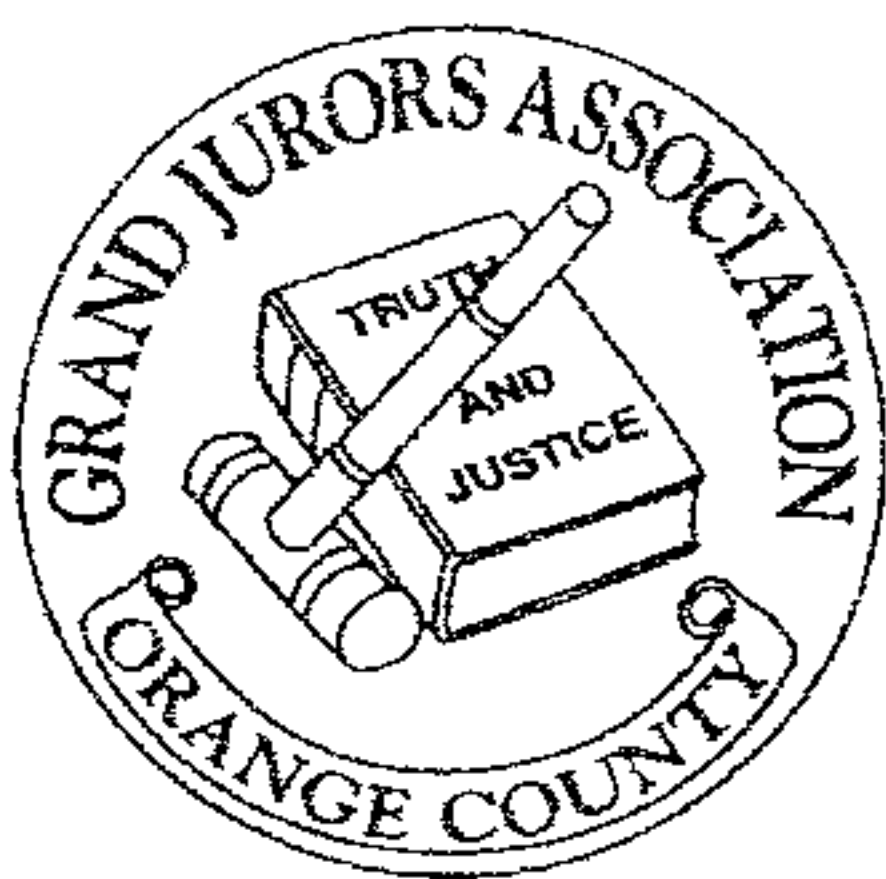
President's Message
(contd. from p.1)

And all of us well remember Alan Slater, Superior Court CEO, who drew the names of the 19 each year. He has now retired after 36 years and his replacement is Alan Carlson, former CEO of the San Francisco Superior Court system. Welcome to Mr. Carlson. And the Honorable Kim G. Duning has been elected Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Orange. She was formerly the Assistant President Judge.

I had the pleasure to met the new foreperson of the 2008/2009 Grand Jury. He is James R. Perez. He has had over 20 years in federal service, and more recently, a volunteer leader in several non-profit organizations in Garden Grove.

Now, we are all looking forward to seeing many of our friends at the upcoming luncheon.

- Carlos N. Olvera, president



BY-LAW MODIFICATION

The Board of Directors has been requested to consider modifying the By-Laws so that individuals who have served on a Special Grand Jury may be eligible to join our association as an associate member.

If you wish to comment on this request, please contact a Board Member or attend one of the Board meetings. By-Law revisions must be approved by the membership at a general meeting.

More on this issue in the next *Newsletter*.

Luncheon Speaker
(contd. from p.1)

ted to the California Bar after graduation from Southwestern University Law School in Los Angeles, and continues his studies at the Naval Postgraduate School.

Mr. Merchant has served in various security positions with the Federal Government since 1999. He advanced to his present position in 2005.

Be sure and join us on September 4. You will hear of current issues the DHS is addressing and get a peek at investigation operations.

JACK ZEPP REMEMBERED

Jack Zepp became a member of the GJAOC after service on a Marin County GJ. Jack served as a member and strong advocate for the California Grand Jurors Association. Jack died this summer and his expertise will be missed.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

If you read our last Newsletter, this is a reminder. If not, this is a 'heads up'.

At our September General Meeting, the Nominating Committee will present a slate of nominees to be elected to the Board for two years. According to the By-Laws, by the time you read this it will be too late to nominate by mail. However, you will still be able to nominate from the floor at the September meeting with the approval of the nominee either in person or written.

There are two open seats where Board Members have served six years and must step down. There are four seats where incumbents have chosen to opt for re-election. At this point, the Nominating Committee has a full slate of nominees. However, if you have the urge to donate about two hours a month to help direct the activities of the association and have a friend who will nominate you from the floor, you will be welcomed with open arms.

Even if you do not choose to become a director, we urge you to attend the September meeting and take part in the democratic process of choosing the directors of your association.

NOTES & MISCELLANY

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of July 22, 2008
Orange County Credit Union
Business Checking Balance
\$6,115.41
.Certificate of Deposit
\$6,998.03
Total
\$13,113.44
Joe Quiros, Treasurer

IN MEMORIAM

Thomas J. Elder
2007 - 08 Panel

Jack Zepp
GJAO Member

BOOKMARK PROMOTION

Rose Moreno has designed a bookmark to promote the Grand Jury service complete with contact information regarding how and when to apply.

Bookmarks will be available at the September luncheon. Please take some home with you to distribute to friends and acquaintances.

2008-09 JURY SELECTED

The 19 members and 11 alternates of the 2008-2009 Orange County Grand Jury were selected on May 13 from a drawing held in Dept. C1 of the Central Justice Center.

Composition of the incoming Grand Jury includes 15 Caucasians, two Hispanics, two African-Americans; 10 males and 9 females. The average age of those selected is 69 years old, ranging from 51 to 81.

Canvassing efforts for Grand Jury members included the following: More than 3,000 applications were mailed to prospective applicants, and flyers were distributed to 1,190 companies and 111 minority organizations, and advertising and articles in newspapers and on the Web. Also, sitting members of the Grand Jury and the Grand Jury Recruitment/Selection Committee spoke to organizations and appeared on local television and radio programs to inform the community of the opportunity to serve on the Grand Jury.

After a six-day training program, the 19 members officially took the oath of office and began their one-year term on July 1.

Those selected are:

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Robert Beardsley | | |
| 2. Darlene Hibbs | 8. Terry Fleskes | 14. James Perez (foreman) |
| 3. Allen Layne | 9. Donald Hauptman | 15. Linda Hudak |
| 4. Ivan McKinney | 10. Phalba Henderson | 16. Janet Buell |
| 5. Michael Dresser | 11. Gloria Wildman | 17. Charles Holt |
| 6. Cathey Bertot | 12. Iola Gallardo | 18. John Collins |
| 7. Marilyn Reardon | 13. Ella Nixon | 19. Abel Barboza |

Alternates

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Donald Stone | |
| 2. Richard Wall | 7. Dennis Bean |
| 3. Richard Fisher | 8. Delane Thyen |
| 4. William Norwine | 9. Robin Bowen |
| 5. Donald Lauda | 10. Edward Andrade |
| 6. Mary Wells | 11. Stuart Fuller |

LIFE AFTER GRAND JURY SERVICE

2007 - 08 GRAND JURY REPORTS

These reports are available by going to <http://www.ocgrandjury.org/reports.asp>

Patricia Murray served as an Orange County panelist in 1996 and 1997. She impressed everyone with her skill in taking notes in shorthand and in her typing dexterity. After her move back to San Bernardino County Pat applied for service on the grand jury in that county. She made the cut and put in a year there as a panelist.

After her second term as a grand juror Pat was asked to return to her role as Fontana's city clerk. Before her move to Orange County she had served Fontana in that role and in many other capacities. She is credited with having a direct impact over the Southpark Specific Plan, the Empire Center Specific Plan, the opening of Fontana A. B. Miller High School and the construction of the Metrolink Station.

On June 28, 2008, there was a special ceremony where a park in the Village of Heritage was named in her honor.

- Rose Moreno

- The State of O.C. Jails
- Is O.C. Going To The Dogs?
- What Is O.C. Doing About Teenage Pregnancies?
- Are Charter Schools Getting Passing Grades?
- Water Budgets, Not Water Rationing
- Moulton Niguel Water District
- O.C. Campaign Reform Ordinance - Fair Campaign Practices Commission
- O.C. Human Resources Procedures Out Of Date, Out Of Time
- After The Big One, Will Critical County Services Survive?
- A Snapshot of Juvenile Facilities in O.C.
- Restaurant Inspections – What No One Is Telling You
- Can the Emergency Operations Center at Loma Ridge Survive a Disaster?
- No County for Old Boomers — When O.C. Baby Boomers Retire, Where Will They Live?
- “Man Down, Will He Get Up?” Nursing Care at O/C.’s Jail Facilities
- The Anatomy of Safe and Sane Fireworks Sales in O.C.
- Paradise Lost: If a Tsunami Strikes the O.C. Riviera
- Bankruptcy Controls – Going, Going, ...
- Grand Jury Casts Vote Of Confidence In O.C. Election Process

