



THE NEWSLETTER

GRAND JURORS ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY

Volume 25 No. 1

10064 Sunn Circle, Fountain Valley CA 92708

February 2012

YOUR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President Cheryl Brothers (714) 839-4509
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2nd VP Glen Stroud (714) 835-7691
Sect'y Robin Bowen (714) 842-1519
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Dir. Connie Buenaventura
Parliam'an Carol Duensing (714) 328-8961
Sgt at Arms Terry Dancey (949) 376-6666
Webmaster Viola Sadler (714) 828-7497
Dir. (vacant)
Dir. Carol Morales (310) 750-6527
Dir. (vacant)

JOIN US FOR LUNCH
Thursday March 3
at Meridian Sports Club
1535 Deerpark, Fullerton

Speaker
Phillip E. Yarbrough
President - Rancho Santiago
Community College District

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

GJAOC is a leader and role model for other grand juries and associations throughout the state. Our members who have attended the CA association conferences over the past years have generously shared our policies and procedures with others.

Since the beginning of this year, I have been contacted by three association chapters seeking more information on how we do our business here in Orange County. Our members have found that not all CA grand juries are equal in resources and they have discovered that we have a wealth of experiences and information. One more example of O.C. being a donor county.

After completing the annual audit review, Bob Fauteux declared the financial record keeping in order and filed our form 990 and the CA tax returns for 2011. Thanks Bob.

Between our board elections in November and swearing-in at the December meeting, two of our board members elect passed away. Larry Callahan and Ed Wylie were eager to serve, but that was not to be the

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MARCH LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Phillip E. Yarbrough, President of the Board of Trustees, Rancho Santiago Community College District, will be the speaker at the March 1, 2012 luncheon meeting

The issues and the solutions needed to deal with the curtailment of public education funding by Sacramento as it affects the community college districts will be reviewed.

Yarbrough has been a District trustee since 1996. He is president of a mortgage and real estate investment company.

He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Business and Finance and his Masters of Arts degree in Economic from Cal State University with studies in real estate and finance and macro-economics theory and an emphasis in government budgets.

Active in many community activities, he served as an Executive Board Member with Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and the Orange County Chapter of the American Lung Association. He served as the Orange County Coordinator for the Concord Coa-

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Message (contd. from p.1)

case. The board will make appointments to fill those vacancies at a special meeting immediately following the March lunch program. If you are interested, or need more information regarding these two 2 year terms, contact any board member by the end of the program on March 1st and you will be considered for appointment.

-Cheryl Brothers, President

Speaker (contd from p.1)

lition, a non-profit federal deficit reduction organization.

The meeting is open to the public and starts at 11:30 am. For reservations and meeting information contact Bob Fauteux at 714-998-2868 or Joe Quiros at 949-651-0113, jmquiros@cox.net.

OUR WEBSITE IS UP NOW.

Our association has its own website. Although in its nascent stage, the website can be whatever we want it to be. We have the main frame going, but would like to build on that. The "News" section will especially be one that can be updated for announcements from you the members. I can only place items that come to my attention, so please let me know what is going on with our former Grand Jury associates.

The "Gallery" section is currently heavy with photos from my own stints on the Grand Jury. BUT, please send me photos in .jpg for-

mat that you think might be appropriate for the website. At this point, we will not identify people in the photos, but you know who you are.

Website is: <http://GJAOC.org>

My email address: vrsadler@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP

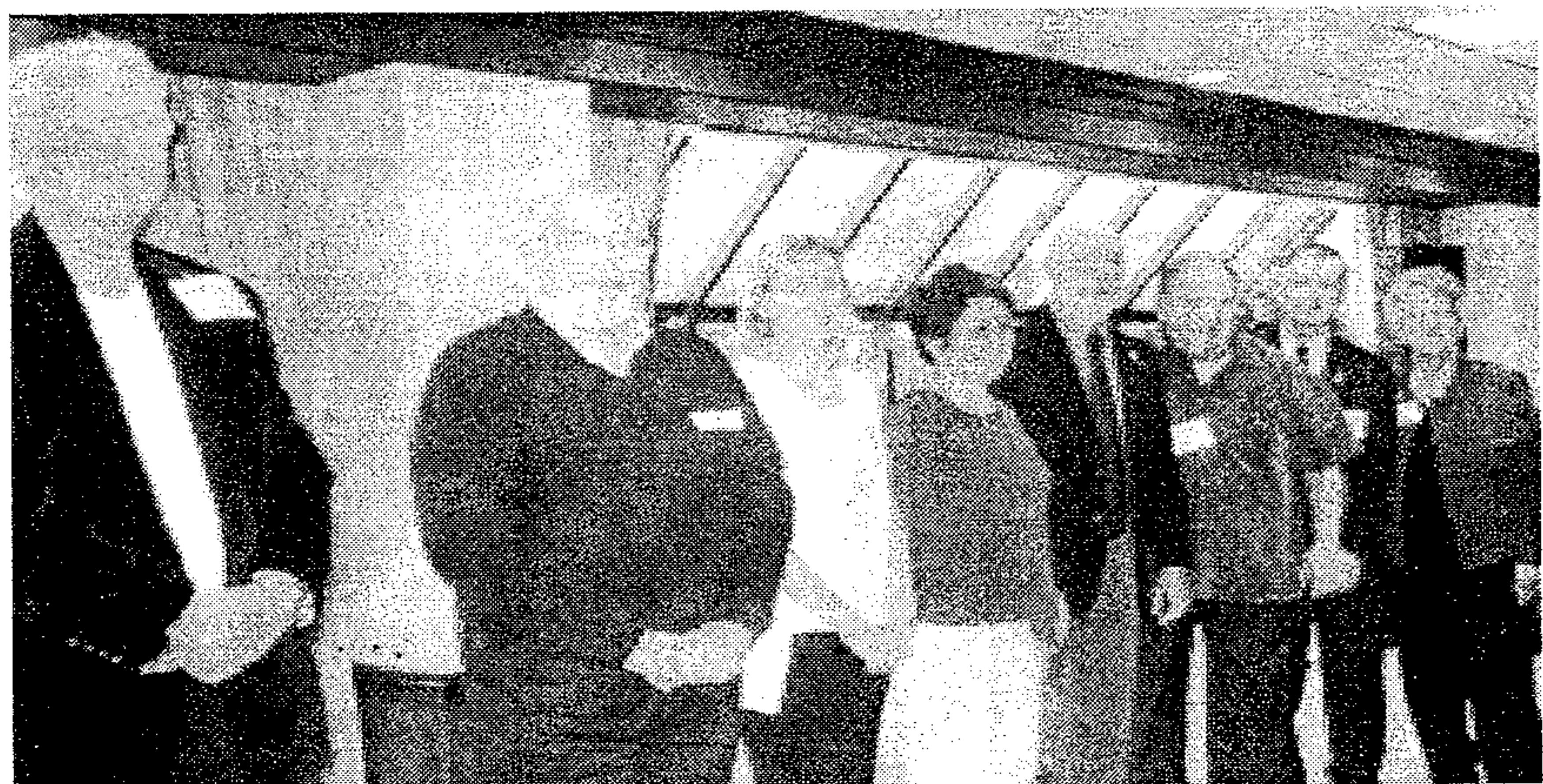
According to Glen Stroud, our membership V.P., we have 119 paid members. Glen will be mailing reminders to prospective members this month. Dues are still only fifteen dollars. You may send checks to Glen at 1617 W. Santa Clara Ave., Santa Ana, 92706; or you may pay at the door at the March meeting. We will have a list of already paid members at the luncheon.

A GRAND JURY SUCCESS STORY

Gadflies, watchdogs and whistleblowers basked in validation and vindicati when a Sacramento jury closed the book on the library corruption scandal with a clean sweep of convictions.

"You swear people in and all of a sudden a lot of the truth comes out," said Don Prange, foreman of the Sacramento County Grand Jury, which forced the case that has placed three defendants on the precipice of prison. "That's how we got to where we're at, and I'm really pleased." A Sacramento Superior Court criminal jury finished the work begun more than four years ago by a library whistle-blower, The Sacramento Bee, a citizen activist and Prange's grand jury.

The culmination came in convictions returned against the library's former security chief, and his wife,. They ran a billing operation good for a \$780,000 take.



NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED

Terry Dancey, John Moohr, Carol Morales, Connie Buenaventura, Robin Bowen, Glen Stroud, Robert Fauteux, Cheryl Brothers

NOTES & MISCELLANY

BOARD OFFICERS

We have a new Treasurer - John Moohr has volunteered to take over the position at the request of Connie Buenaventura. John noted that the software being used was obsolete and could no longer be updated. The board approved and purchased a new version of Quickbooks which will continue the integrity of our treasury reports.

MEASURE M OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Chair Stroud met with OCTA staff on 1/26, and they plan to review applications starting 4/24, with interviews May 3-18. The application deadline is May 2. Committee members this year are Chair, Glen Stroud, Joe Moreland, Robin Bowen, Joe Quiros and Dave Kalb.

IN MEMORIAM

Lauren Leonard
1982/83 Panel

Charles Chodzko
2000/01 Panel

Ed Wylie
1997/98 Panel

Larry Callahan
2002/03
2006/07 Panels

LETTER FROM BUTTE COUNTY

Subject: Grand Jury Selection Process - Clarification

January 20, 2012

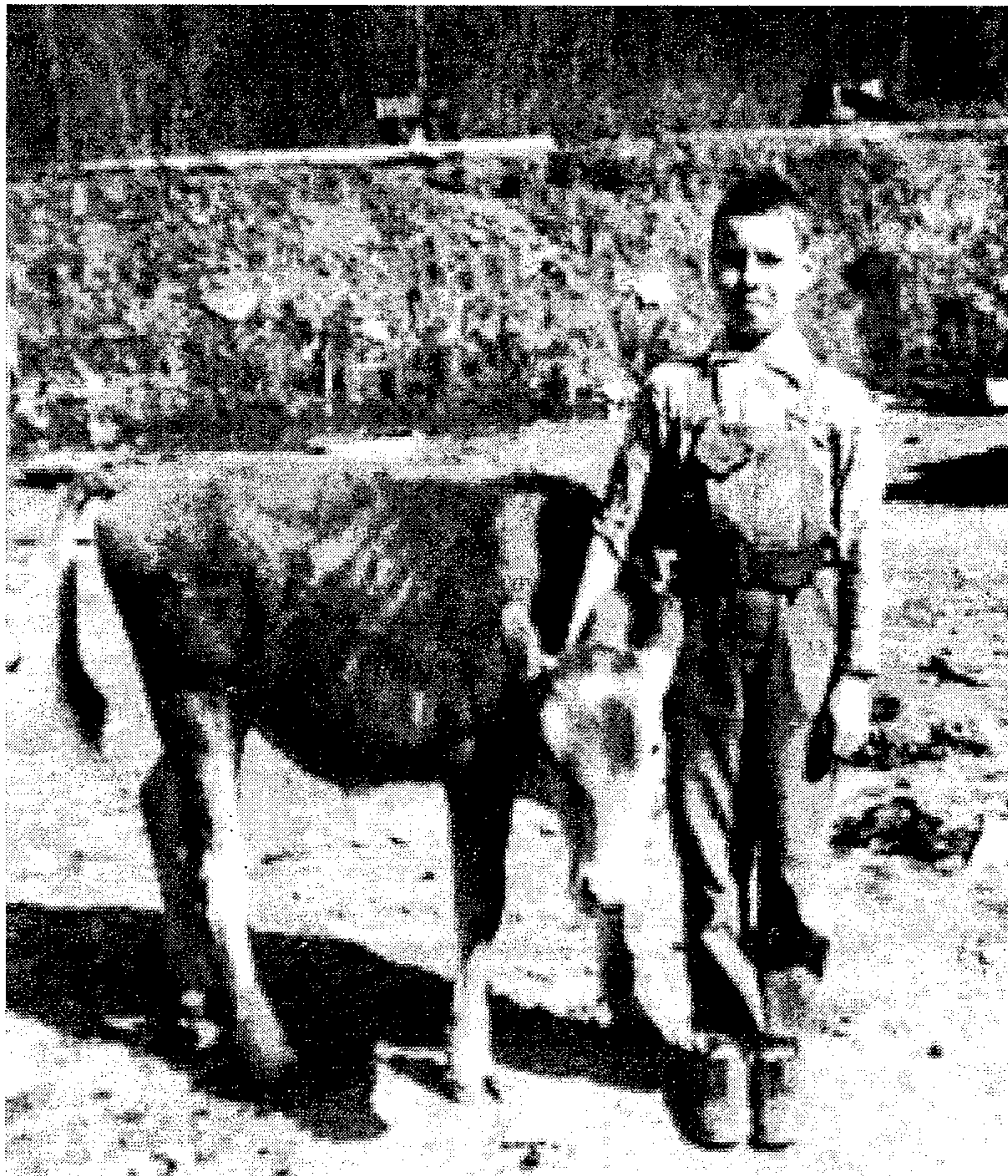
Dear CGJA Chapters and Associations

In response to my email regarding how Butte County selects its GJ's I received 13 responses.

FIRST: Thank you! All of your responses were very informative and helpful. I intend to build a matrix to show the local Butte County Superior Court about alternatives to the present Butte County system for selecting GJ's.

SECOND: In reading some responses I believe that I may have misrepresented the selection system in Butte County. I believe that some of you MAY have inferred that the Butte County REQUIRES any person selected by the computer from voter registration roles to SERVE. This is not the case! The letter to the person selected ASKS if the person is interested in serving on the GJ. If yes, then they goes through screening processes (by court personnel) much like that used in most California Counties. What I was trying to bring to your attention is the fact that Butte County does not allow Butte citizens to VOLUNTEER WITHOUT BEING SELECTED BY A COMPUTER SELECTION OF COUNTY REGISTERED VOTERS. (When I lived in Marin I responded to an GJ ad and was screened and accepted, only to resign due to an overseas assignment. Later when I moved to Butte County and applied for the GJ, I was rejected as I had not been selected by the computer!!!!) In Butte county, you cannot apply for a GJ position unless you have been selected by a computer from the voter registration roles!

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BOOK REVIEW

A Place to Lay My Head

A moving tale of a moving young life!

Moving from one location to another is no easy task. Imagine moving seventeen times before you are sixteen. Such was the life for a former grand juror.

From a broken-down barn to a tent to a lean-to to a chicken coop, it was a matter of finding shelter without a lease agreement, a deposit, or a background check. They may have been poor, but only in material goods. Theirs was a life filled with memorable times and mishaps and

with unforgettable and forgettable characters.

As a grand juror I discovered the diversity in fellow grand jurors most interesting and intriguing. As a member of the Association I continue to marvel at such diversity. Joe Moreland's recently published *A Place to Lay My Head* is a pleasurable read and an eye opener as to how we differ from each other and yet are alike. His book is a wonderful legacy for his children, his grandchildren and descendents yet to be. It should serve as an inspiration to the rest of us to record in some way details of our lives and the lives of

our parents. Such "olden days" should be preserved with written words, with audio tapes or with videos so that our children and their children need not guess as to how our lives were.

Good job, Joe! Wish I could recall and recount as vividly as you have. I'm also glad you survived your foolish escapades with blasting caps!

-Rose Moreno

Joe A. Moreland will be offering autographed copies of his self-published memoir, "A Place to Lay My Head" at the March 1 luncheon for \$20 (\$5 of each sale will be donated to GJAOC).

(Butte County -contd from p3)

Given this clarification (my apologies), would you please review your responses and advise me if you need to change anything in your response. As it is my intent to go to the Court Judges with a decisive recommendation, I would appreciate a response, yea or nay, from each of you.

Sincerely and again thank you for your initial response.

Sincerely

John Welton

President, Butte County Chapter

