



THE NEWSLETTER

GRAND JURORS ASSOCIATION OF ORANGE COUNTY

Volume 27 No. 1

10064 Sunn Circle, Fountain Valley CA 92708

February 2014

YOUR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Pres.	John Moohr	(714) 962-0082
1st V.P.	Joe Quiros	(949) 651-0113
2nd V.P.	Carol Morales	(310) 750-6527
Sec't.	Robin Bowen	(714) 842-1519
Treas.	Bill Underwood	(714) 974-9699
Parl.	Roy Baker	(949) 702-3751
Sgt/Arms	Stuart Fuller	(714) 417-2942
Dir.	Carlos Olvera	(949) 240-2490
Dir.	Lynn Bonas	(714) 998-8395
Dir.	Cheryl Brothers	(714) 839-4509
Dir.(appointed)	Helen Alberts	(714) 558-8783
Dir.(appointed)	Carol Duensing	(714) 328-8961
Webmaster	- Ron Harris	(949) 837-0925

JOIN US FOR LUNCH
Thursday March 6
at
Phoenix Club
1340 S. Sanderson Ave
Anaheim

Speaker:

Ben DeMayo
OC County Counsel, ret.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am honored to have been elected president of our organization at the January 2014 board meeting, and look forward to working together with our new board. For those of you that I have yet to meet, I thought I would provide some background on my professional career. Although retired, I served on the

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MARCH SPEAKER

Ben DeMayo, former County Counsel, will be our speaker at the March Luncheon. He sent the following summary of his career:

"I was a member of the County Counsel office for 32 years. I started as a deputy assigned to child protection cases representing the Social Services Agency. I then represented the Public Guardian-Public Administrator in conservatorship, guardianship and decedent's estates. For the next several years, I handled land use matters, including litigation. I also represented the Local Agency Formation Commission during the incorporation of several South County cities. I represented the Auditor-Controller, Housing and Community Development, including the Orange County Housing Authority, Registrar of Voters, Flood Control District, Waste Management and Public Works. I supervised the Litigation Division of the office before being appointed County Counsel in 2001 and served until 2009."

Please don't miss this outstanding OC public servant's view of the County's current status of issues and opportunities.

Message (contd. from p.1)

2009-2010 Grand Jury for Orange County. As you know the Grand Jury performs civil oversight of local government by reviewing and evaluating county and city agencies, jails, schools and special districts within the county, culminating with a final report with its findings and recommendations. Prior to my Grand Jury service, I spent the bulk of my career as the executive director of various law firms in Los Angeles and Orange County. Before this I worked for Lucasfilm, primarily in a role related to raising financing for *The Empire Strikes Back*. I also worked for The Walt Disney Company for eight years in its Disneyland/Walt Disney World Entertainment Division. I received my Bachelor's degree in Accounting & Investment Finance from the University of Southern California in 1968.

On a personal note, my wife Kathleen and I will be celebrating our 45th wedding anniversary this June. We have two children and four grandchildren.

Filling out our board officers are:

- First Vice President Programs – Joe Quiros
- Second Vice President – Carol Morales
- Secretary – Robin Bowen
- Parliamentarian – Roy Baker
- Treasurer – Bill Underwood
- Sgt. At Arms – Stuart Fuller

I would like to thank Cheryl Brothers, our outgoing president for her hard work and dedication during her term.

The Board's first project this February is to finalize a five year extension of our contract with the Orange County Transportation Authority to review applicants for membership on the Taxpayer Oversight Committee.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our next general meeting on March 6th at the Phoenix Club.

-John J. Moohr



IN MEMORIAM

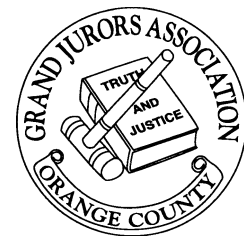
Pauline Yount, 1998/99, panel secretary, passed away July 2013.
John J Collins, Foreman problem 2008/09 Panel
Died December 2013
Mario Lazo, 1994/95 panel
Died Sept 2013



Joe Quiros presented a GJAOC pin to Judge F. Aguire as a token of our appreciation for him administering the oath of office for the 2014 board of directors; and providing an interesting program regarding the state of our court system and the obstacles they will face with their budget in the future.

GRAND JUROR PINS

The Association still has souvenir GJAOC pins available. They will be on sale for \$ 5 at the March lunch meeting. Please ask at the registration table.



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2013

A. Revenue & Expense for the 2013 year -

Revenues \$13,496.61

Expenses \$13,855.19

Deficit \$358.58

B. Assets as of 1/1/2014 -

Checking Account Balance
\$5,405.83

Certificate of Deposit Balance
\$8,956.52

Total Assets

\$14,362.35



Superior Court Judge Frederick. Aguirre administering the oath of office to the new and returning 2014 directors:

L - R Stu Fuller, Carol Morales, Bill Underwood, Dianne Hoffman, Carlos Olvera, John Moohr, Lynn Bonas, Cheryl Brothers, Joe Quiros, Robin Bowen, Terry Dancey, Roy Baker

GJAOOC OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

Want to make a difference and take advantage of an opportunity to serve on a GJAOOC committee? GJAOOC has ten committees listed in our Bylaws. Four are standing committees and six are ad hoc committees.

There are three types of committees:

A. STANDING Committees -

1. Program Committee, chaired by the 1st Vice President
2. Membership Committee, chaired by the 2nd Vice President
3. Nominating Committee
4. Audit Committee

B. ACTIVE AD HOC Committees

5. Taxpayer Oversight Committee Selection Panel, for OCTA Measure M Series Bonds expenditures (1 vacancy exists)
6. Editorial/Public Relations Committee, which produces this quarterly newsletter
7. Legislative Committee, which focuses on legislation pertinent to the CA Grand Jury system

C. CURRENTLY INACTIVE AD HOC Committees

8. Tracking & Implementation (TIC) Committee, known in other CA counties as Implementation Review(IR) Committees to follow up on open responses to past GJ reports. The California Grand Jury Association has recently issued IR guidelines, and the OC Board of Supervisors granted GJAOOC review authority in 1994.
9. Public Service Committee, to report on County Boards, Commissions and Committees for potential openings for GJAOOC members' service.
10. Speakers Bureau, to supply material/presentations for GJAOOC members to give to organizations to build public awareness & encourage GJ recruitment.

Committee descriptions are posted at www.gjaoc.org under "Committees". They are also on pp. 5 & 6 of your GJAOOC Bylaws 2013 green booklet.

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Chairs for the Program & Membership Committees are specified in the Bylaws. Chairs for other committees are appointed by the GJAOC President. The Bylaws specify that the Audit Committee shall have no more than 1 Board member and at least 1 regular member on it.

Please respond to the following 3 requests.

1. Committee interest - Please list in priority order the committees on which you would be interested in serving. If not interested, just state None. If not available to serve now but later, so state that as we would like to know of your interest.
2. Committee chair interest - Please designate which committees you would be interested in chairing.
3. Please provide any other comments or suggestions that you would like the Board to consider, including any speaker/topic ideas for the Program Committee to consider for presentation at our luncheons.

Please respond by email to: WilliamFUnderwood@earthlink.net or

by mail to William F. Underwood, 9885 Colony Grove, Villa Park, CA 92861,

and we will pass them along to the right persons on the Board by 3/6/14.

Alternately, you can just bring your written response to the Thursday, March 6th quarterly luncheon check-in table at the Phoenix Club.

Committee membership often can be a precursor to and provide insight for potential GJAOC board membership, if you are so inclined.

Our GJAOC is one of, if not the largest county associations for past grand jurors in the state. The GJAOC offers a forum for former grand jurors who wish to continue their activities in county, city and other local governments.

The California county grand jury system is unique in the US for a citizens watchdog system over civil agencies, and well worth protecting and keeping vibrant. OC grand jurors are very special people to volunteer, be screened, be selected and serve full time for a year or more.

So consider volunteering your services to making our GJAOC even more robust and make a difference where we live.

- *Bill Underwood, GJAOC Treasurer*

SUBSCRIBE TO GJAOC'S POSTS

In addition to informative content, the Association's website, GJAOC.org contains timely news posts. The news posts appear in the Recent Posts block at the top right of the Home page.

To be notified by email of a new post, subscribe by entering your email address in the Subscribe via Email block at the lower right of the Home page and click on the Subscribe button.

Check your email inbox for a new message from the Grand Jurors Association of Orange County and click the Confirm Follow button on this email. You will receive a second email confirming your subscription and providing information on unsubscribing.

That's it. You will now receive an email each time a new post appears.

Besides timely news posts, the site will have announcements for our quarterly general meetings, our newly revised bylaws, historical and new newsletters, and current grand jury reports as they are released.

We want to thank our web master Ron Harris for making all this happen.