

**Important
Announcements
in this issue**

**Membership
Renewal**



**Director
Candidates**



**Annual
Conference
Registration**



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Grand Jurors' Journal



President's Message

By Judi Lazenby

On behalf of the California Grand Jurors' Association, I want to thank the more than 1100 devoted Californians who have volunteered, and are still volunteering, your time, and service to achieving beneficial change in your respective counties through grand jury service.

Some of you will have the opportunity to serve another year. Will the rest of you accept that this is the end of your participation in the California grand jury system? You do not have to.

By serving on your grand jury, you helped preserve this institution of citizen democracy. Now by becoming a member of the California Grand Jurors' Association (CGJA) you can continue to preserve and promote California's regular grand jury system.

The mission of CGJA is to raise public awareness, and educate the public on the important role regular grand juries play in recommending and implementing beneficial change in the efficiency and integrity of local governments.

In addition, CGJA strengthens juries statewide by providing tools, techniques, and juror training to assure that each jury operates under the same standards of efficiency and integrity to which they hold local government.

Further, heightened awareness of the grand jury's watchdog function, renews the public's confidence and trust in local government, knowing that there is this ombudsman-like function to verify that local government is operating properly. Public Awareness is the most effective tool in combating ignorance and the apathy that, unchecked, can destroy even the most powerful of time honored institutions.

As a member of CGJA, you can be as involved as you wish, and expect a warm welcome on whatever level of participation you may choose. There is a membership application/ renewal form in this issue or you can download one from the website www.cgja.org.

Again, thank you for your grand jury service, and we expect to welcome you to continued service to California's grand jury system, as a member of CGJA.

Membership Renewal Time

By Tim Colbie Chair, Membership Relations



The upcoming 2008-2008 membership drive is in full swing! We will be sending out renewal notices to everyone soon, but you can save the postage by using the renewal form included on page 7 in this journal.

As a reminder, we have made several key changes to our membership structure:

Membership is now offered in 12 month terms; it used to be from July 1-

MEET DIRECTOR

John Sitton

Recently appointed
Publications
Committee Chair



John is a graduate of Grinnell College in Iowa with a BA de-

gree in theater and speech. After a try at the theater, he returned to his childhood home in Denver, Colorado, where he took a management position with the first of several retail organizations. In the beginning, because he was young and single, he spent a number of years being transferred around the western United States. His traveling days ended when he was moved to the company executive offices in San Diego, California, where he became vice president of the southwest division. He retired from management in 1996 and then spent the next eight years teaching management skill courses. He retired for good in 2004.

John and his wife Linda, a retired teacher, live in Hollister where he served four terms with the San Benito County Grand Jury. During the '05/06 term he served as foreperson. Currently he is serving as the chairperson of San Benito County Juvenile Justice Commission, as a member of the oversight committee of Gavilan College and as a member of two standing committees of the State CGJA.

He is interested music, theater and of course family. He has two adult children and a number of grandchildren.

Continued from page 1

June 30th regardless of when you paid. Anyone who renewed before June 30th of last year will need to pay by June 30th this year, anyone who paid after that will be due 12 months after we received your last payment. Our renewal letters will include your due date.

Membership dues are now \$30 per year, \$25 per year if you pay for 2 or more years at a time.

Lifetime memberships are available for \$500.

Dues must be current on July 30th for you to receive a ballot to vote.

Should you have any membership questions, please do not hesitate to drop me an email at: tcolbie@carlsontravel.net

Nominations-Elections Committee

By Catherine McKown Chair

Calling All Potential Candidates for the Board of Directors

Have you ever considered running for the CGJA Board of Directors? Directors are responsible for the direction of the organization, not its day-to-day operation. The Board meets once a month via conference call and at two face-to-face meetings during the year. Each Director is expected to be active in the organization and serve on at least one standing committee.



We are looking for a few great candidates for six positions on the Board. Ballots will go out mid-August to all members-in-good-standing (as of July 31) and returned by mid-September.

If you are interested in becoming a candidate, please contact the Nominations-Elections Committee right away at: nominations@cgja.com (in the subject line, write "CGJA nominations").

Important Dates for Candidates:

- July 1** Declaration of intent to run for Director
- July 31** Candidate must be a member-in-good-standing of CGJA
- July 31** Due date for candidates' statements (200 words or less)
- Oct. 25** Board Retreat at Conference in Bakersfield

If you need more information, please contact the committee (address below) or the committee chair, Catherine McKown, at cdmac1@aol.com or (415) 608-7188

CGJA Nominations-Elections Committee: nominations@cgja.org

Board Retreat May 17, 2008 Sacramento California

By Jerry Lewi

On May 17, 2008, The Board of Directors held one of its rare face-to-face retreats in Sacramento. A retreat is different from a Board meeting in that no official business is conducted. Instead, issues of concern are discussed with the intent of reaching consensus. Any formal action required to adopt these consensus items is drafted and submitted for approval at a future formal Board meeting.

The advantages of a retreat are obvious: The chance to meet face to face results in a much easier and freer exchange of ideas compared to a teleconference. By meeting for an entire day, much more can be accom-

plished than in a two-hour telephone conference. Operating in an environment free of parliamentary procedures is more conducive to productive discussion.

A disadvantage is that not all Board members are able to attend this type of meeting. It takes one to two full days and is at the Board member's personal expense. No association funds are used.

At this particular retreat we discussed a wide range of topics from policy and procedure details to board association goals. Some of the major conclusions are as follows:

Much valuable work has been done to update our Policy

Continued on page 10

CHALLENGES WITH GRAND JURORS

By Walter D. Hofmann, M.D. and David Higgins, Ph. D

May 2008

Serving on a Grand Jury for a year can be one of the most rewarding forms of public service that you can ever experience in the pursuit of community improvement. It is unparalleled in the opportunity to serve with and get to know 18 other citizens, to gain intimate knowledge and insight to your community and how it works (or doesn't!), and to achieve a sense of contributing in a positive way to improvements in your county. It requires a huge amount of time, energy, personal commitment and, to be successful, a willingness to remain open-minded to - and sometimes to be tolerant of - the ideas of others. In the end, a successful jury term, measured by the generation of meaningful reports, is one of the most rewarding experiences you can have. Juries, like any other group of diverse individuals brought together to tackle a common task, present specific challenges that must be addressed in order to be successful. Because Grand Jurors are selected by lottery from varied backgrounds, they have different personalities and no common glue holding them together. Most groups have a specific, unifying purpose, such as family, profession, homeowners, etc. This diversity has many benefits, but here we will discuss only the most common problems that arise within a Jury, based on our experiences as well as those of others that come up with such a motley crew. Most of these challenges are not unique to a Grand Jury - many apply to any working group of 20 or so people working together in close quarters on a long-term basis. However, there is one key difference: unlike a corporate work environment where ultimately there is a "boss" who is the final decision maker, the Grand Jury is a bastion of democratic thinking and

consensus decision making. In successful juries, skills of influence, compromise and persuasion trump "top down chain-of-command" techniques. In this regard, some of the challenges created in the Grand Jury are truly unique.

We present these ideas in good humor. We welcome future dialogue with other past Grand Jurors who can add to, amplify, disagree, or enhance our common knowledge.

GENERAL:

Several glaring, general issues seem to plague most Grand Juries:

1. **Lack of cohesion:** Because of the wide spectrum of jurors' backgrounds, it usually takes several months for them to develop a cohesive, working relationship.

2. **Skills of leaders and followers:**

The choosing of officers and committee chairs presents a formidable challenge to put people into positions best suited to their abilities. I, Walter, appreciate order and organization, so my being parliamentarian was a perfect fit. I, David, spent my professional working years in various management positions in the biotech sector, so my job as jury foreman was appropriate.

3. **Work habits:** Most juries rather quickly emerge into specific working styles:

a. Innovative, creative, energetic folks who come alive with challenges.

b. The nay-sayers and obstructionists who find fault with almost everything presented. The nit-pickers, rigid, opinionated. Hopefully a small segment.

The largest group is those who are open-minded, receptive, and willing to consider any sensible, constructive proposal.

*****REMEDIES:

These above issues are endemic. It is essential for each jury to be aware of, deal with, and make the most of it in spite of them. These problems are quite different from the specific, individual problems that require special intervention.

SPECIFIC:

These are the most disruptive elements we have encountered, with suggestions for specific remedies.

1. **Lack of respect and minimal common courtesy:**

It is alarming and disheartening to work with people who choose not to be courteous or respectful to one another. They interrupt, talk too long, and cloud the issues rather than help clarify differences.

*****REMEDY:

A set of agreed upon guidelines and rules of order will minimize this problem. The group soon learns to tolerate these disruptions, but it is patience provoking. The majority needs to allow free and open discussion. This annoying minority needs to be **reined** in by sensible limits to their bad habits. (*Ed note: the Penal Code requires Grand Juries to establish their own rules of procedure - we emphasize this in our training of new grand jurors*)

Soapbox tirades and grand standing:

All jurors should be open-minded, intelligent, and tolerant. However, unfortunately, there will always be a few who will constantly pursue their personal agendas at the expense of the good of the whole.

*****REMEDY:

We have discussed this with several presiding judges and they propose to screen-out and not accept any potential grand juror who displays

Challenges continued from page 3

such a narrow, distorted type of tunnel vision. "People with a fixed agenda have no place on a grand jury!"

Personal pride and inflated egos: Some people view their opinions as the only correct one, infallible and accurate. They insist that all differing opinions are wrong and stupid. They bolster these ideas with demeaning epithets.

*******REMEDY:**

There is no easy or workable solution to this problem. In our experience, attempts at personal, heartfelt intervention with ample sincere reasoning often fails to modify it. Sometimes the peer pressure of other, sensible jurors helps to dampen their extremism and the negative effects of this behavior. Tolerance is necessary. We have heard of some cases where the foreperson has appealed to the presiding judge and the offending juror has been dismissed.

CONCLUSION:

Most grand juries function very well despite these identified problems. We know of some rare instances where these problems have been so prevalent that the effectiveness of the jury has been completely compromised. Patience and tolerance on the part of the more sincere, hard-working and cooperatively motivated jurors will minimize all problems described.

BIOS:

Walter D. Hofmann, M.D. was a staff psychiatrist and Medical Director of forensic psychiatry in the L.A. County Superior Courts for over 15 years. He was parliamentarian of the '04-'05 San



Diego Grand Jury. He currently serves as a director for CGJA; Dr. Hofmann can be reached at WDH438@Gmail.com



David Higgins, Ph.D. is a molecular biologist that worked for over 17 years in the bio-tech industry in research, management, and business development. He was the foreman of the '06-'07 grand jury. He is chairman of the newly formed Implementation Review Board for the City of San Diego. Dr. Higgins can be reached at david@drhiggins.net

Grand Jurors Ask
By Jack Zepp

CGJA gets inquiries from various sources, primarily sitting grand jurors. This issue's example is set forth below. Many CGJA members field these questions, though for obvious reasons they tend to be addressed to the trainers and Legal Committee members. Unless CGJA is officially on record with a view, the answer will have been given as an individual opinion, not the official opinion of CGJA. Also, neither CGJA nor its members give legal advice and answers usually include a disclaimer to that effect. The information below is, similarly, neither the formal position of the CGJA (unless so noted) nor legal advice.

Query: Does a grand jury have the right to subpoena documents?

Response: Yes and probably yes. Penal Code Section 939.2 authorizes the issuance of subpoenas to **witnesses** to appear before grand juries. That is the law state-

wide. Although section 939.2 does not mention subpoenas duces tecum (for documents) at least one appellate court has held that they may be issued to compel production of **documents** to grand juries. In *M.B. v. Superior Court*, 103 Cal. App. 4th 1384 (2002), the California Court of Appeal for the Second District (Los Angeles area) held (in a highly publicized case involving charges of molestation by priests in the local Archdiocese) that grand juries have the inherent power to issue subpoenas duces tecum. The court also held that the grand jury need not file the good cause affidavit which is otherwise required for some subpoenas duces tecum. Although this result is technically the "law" only in the Second District, it should be persuasive throughout California. Note that the power to issue a valid subpoena does not mean that the requested documents must unqualifiedly be produced. There are many rules which may shield documents, or portions of their contents, from an otherwise valid subpoena. The point, however, is that the grand jury has the subpoena power even though it is not provided by legislation.



Grant Writers Sought

The Board of Directors has several projects in mind to enhance our activities. However, execution exceeds our financial resources. Therefore, the obvious solution is to seek a grant. We are looking for experienced grant writers to help us. If you have an interest, please contact:

Judi Lazenby or Jerry Lewi.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Relations Committee Report

By Jerry Lewi, Chair

cgjaprguy@roadrunner.com



As reported in the last Journal, we were pleased with the number of local activities regarding Grand Jury Awareness month.

Now we would be interested to get feedback on the results of these activities in enhancing recruiting actions or any other case in increasing the awareness of the grand jury system in a local community.

On a related matter, we have also been reporting about a number of counties that use videos as a recruiting tool. We would also like to know how people in those counties feel about the effectiveness of these videos whether they are posted on a website or shown to live audiences, such as petit jury pools. Again please give us your feedback.

Our committee's major activity now is to complete the first edition of the *Grand Jury Achievement Report*, documenting effective grand jury work as reported in earlier journals (see the **Grand Jury Achievement** page on our website). The goal is to have a printed report available for sale at this year's Training Seminars.

We have invited chapters not currently represented on the committee to appoint liaison personnel to our committee. We have had responses from several, but not all. If your chapter is not currently represented and you would like to appoint a contact person, please let me know.

We are also assessing suggestions

made at the recent Board retreat about how to increase our outreach activities toward that part of CGJA's mission statement that directs us to educate the public about the California Grand Jury system.

On a personal note, I have just moved. You may note my new address and phone number. Email remains the same, although this was fraught with difficulty. My email was down for two weeks, so I apologize if anyone tried to reach me in vain. If so, please try me again.

Just to complicate my life, at the same time my computer died, and I lost all my files which by now have been recovered.

Legal Affairs Committee Report

By Kathy Wylie, Committee Chair

The Legislative affairs committee is pleased to announce the availability of the updated 2008 version of



the California Grand Jurors' Association Legal Compendium. The Compendium is a basic document for Grand Juries and

the Courts in California and contains all known laws, case law, and Attorney General opinions.

In 1994, the Generic Handbook Committee, Chaired by Lila Thomas, first identified the need for an all inclusive document of Grand Jury Law, case law, and AG opinions as a reference for grand jurors.

In 1996, during negotiations with Senator Quentin Kopp's staff and others for a reintroduction of SB 2000, (vetoed in 1994, but subsequently reintroduced as SB 1457 and signed by the Governor in

1996), the topic of a generic handbook and the need for a Compendium of Grand Jury law for use by grand jurors was introduced during meetings arranged by Senator Kopp.

These meetings included representatives of the Assembly, Senate, the Governor's Office, Legislative Counsel, Judicial Council and the CGJA.

Dan Taranto and Clarence Dilts, representing CGJA, introduced the concept of the Compendium to these meetings.

The concept was so favorably received that they were requested to prepare a draft Senate Resolution supporting production of the Compendium by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR).

The first edition was published, gratis of the Governor's Office, and Nancy Patton, Deputy Director of OPR, personally delivered 100 copies to Clarence's doorstep in Placerville, just in time for him to deliver them to the 1997 Asilomar Conference.

OPR failed to include the case law however, and in 1999, Jack Zepp undertook the first updating for 2000 and expanded the Compendium to include the case law and A.G. opinions.

The California Governor's Office cover letter in the 1997 Compendium which is reproduced in the 2008 edition, exemplifies acknowledging the contributions of Clarence, Dan, and Senator Kopp's staff member, Randall Henry, for their roles in the Compendium's production.

The 2008 Compendium will be available for the cost of printing, (one per county) at the CGJA Training sessions.



Committee Reports Continued on page 9

ALL ABOARD – DESTINATION BAKERSFIELD

CGJA 27th Annual Conference October 23-24, 2008

The Grand Jury System, “Created by Our Forefathers, Preserved by Our Citizens:
A Learning Experience You Will Never Forget”

Form a traveling group, get your ticket and register for the CGJA Annual Conference. Don't miss out on all the excitement and fun while increasing your knowledge about the grand jury system.

Enclosed in this month's CGJA June Journal issue and on the CGJA web site (www.cgja.org) is a copy of the official conference registration form. Fill it out and mail it in. At this time there are initially 100 room nights reserved for conference attendees and they should fill up fast.

The Kern County local CGJA Chapter members and their many volunteers along with the County of Kern and the City of Bakersfield are anxiously awaiting the opportunity to produce the most informative and the most entertaining CGJA conference ever. They are putting together a program that will be of interest to everyone that is involved in the grand jury system. The proposed conference schedule includes:

A chance to informally meet your CGJA officers and directors.

An opportunity for forepersons to meet with 10 former Kern County forepersons in an informal face-to-face get-together.

The opportunity to enjoy the welcoming ceremony which includes a youth color guard flag presentation, a national anthem singer, the Fire Department's raising of their 100' American Flag, welcoming messages from the Mayor of the City of Bakersfield, a Kern County Supervisor, the Kern County Chapter President and hopefully the music of a high school pep band. All that is missing is a military fly-over which believe it or not we are hoping to have.

The CGJA will make its annual report to the membership. The results of the 2008 election for new directors will be announced. CGJA Standing Committee reports will be included in the conference manual as will CGJA Chapters' yearly reviews

The following awards will be presented: Excellence in Reporting for a grand jury's Final Report, Excellence in Reporting by the Media, and the Angelo Rolando Memorial Award.

With all the new and exciting events that have happened this past year the annual reports should be very interesting, and informative.

Participate in an Open Forum about how to present the grand jury system in your local school system.

Experience the opportunity to ask questions and get answers from county and city officials who are involved in the grand jury system every year such as the District Attorney, County Counsel, Court Executive Officer, Public Defender, Mayor and City Manager who have over a 100 years of experience and are eager to share their experience and to answer your questions.

Enjoy the opportunity to share the benefits of being a member of the state-wide CGJA organization with other attendees.

Learn more about grand jury current subjects of interest such as grand jury stipends, the indictment process and criminal grand juries.

Find out how different counties recruit new grand jurors every year.

Tour the Kern County Grand Jury facilities.

Observe the Superior Court lobby display which will be focusing on the CGJA and the grand jury system the month of October.

Participate in our Silent Auction which will provide winning bidders the opportunity to take home great donated Bakersfield mementos.

Our conference committee still has hopes that the Governor of the State of California will be our keynote speaker. This can not be confirmed until September when the Governor's schedule is finalized.

For those guests who accompany attendees the committee is coordinating activities with the City of Bakersfield's Convention and Visitor's Bureau highlighting the many exciting tourist attractions within the county. So get a group together, plan your trip, attend the conference, enjoy your stay at the host hotel voted #1 in Kern County this year and 6 of the last 10 years and have a learning experience you will never forget.

For further information contact the Conference Chair Tony Noce

mailing address: 2808 Houchin Rd., Bakersfield, CA 93304-5629, by phone at (661) 835-7591 or email at anthonyskids@yahoo.com



California Grand Jurors' Association Membership Form

CGJA promotes government accountability by improving the training and resources available to California's 58 regular grand juries and educating the public about the substantial local government oversight and reporting powers these grand juries have.

Please check all that apply:

New member * Associate member** Renewal Donation

Please check one:

12 month membership @ \$30 2 years or more (specify if more _____) @ \$25/year Lifetime @ \$500

Please type or print legibly

Name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

California County of Service _____ Year(s) served on Grand Jury (e.g., 2000/01) _____

Are you a member of a local chapter or association? _____ Chapter/association _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____ Email address: _____

CGJA will not share your name, address, telephone number or e-mail address without your consent. By paying your dues, you are consenting to share your postal address for the purposes of receiving the Journal and postal mail related to the business of the CGJA, including, but not limited to, compliance with California Corporations Code section 6330, et. seq. For the purpose of this application, providing a telephone number or e-mail address grants consent for CGJA to use that information as a method to contact you.

Please consider adding a donation: \$ _____ Do you wish your donation to remain unpublished? Yes ___ No ___

CGJA is a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation and designated an IRS Section 501(c)3 Tax Exempt Corporation. Both dues and contributions to the association are deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Make check payable to California Grand Jurors' Association or mail or fax credit card information
Applicable fees will be charged on returned checks

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ or Credit Card amount \$ _____

MasterCard / Visa only - please fill in the information below

Card Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. Date _____ - _____

3 digit security code from back of card. _____
--

Billing name (if different from above) _____

Billing address (if different from above) _____

Signature _____

Mail or fax to: CGJA Membership, 973 East Ave. Suite M, Chico, CA 95926-1357 Fax: 530-345-9142

*Individual (voting) membership is open to any person who is serving or has served as a member in good standing on a county grand jury in California. Members elect a Board of Directors to conduct association business. Members are eligible to serve on association committees, attend the association's annual conference at locations throughout California and receive the *CGJA Journal*, containing periodic updates of association and grand jury developments

**Associate membership is open to persons who are interested in the association but have not served as a grand juror. Such persons may enjoy all benefits of membership except the right to vote or hold office.

Please continue on to the membership volunteer form—support our important work with your time!!!!

Continued from page 8

CGJA Volunteer Interest Application

Contact Information	
Name	
Street Address	
City, ST, ZIP + 4	
Home Phone/Work Phone	
E-Mail Address	
Interests	
Tell us in which areas of our organization you are interested in volunteering	
Administration	Committee made up of the officers of the Assoc. and the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees
Finance	Oversees the financial management of the Association
Legal	Monitors legislative activity at the state level regarding issues that affect the Grand Jury system
Membership Relations	Handles all membership matters including chapter formation
Operations	Plans annual conference, maintains P&P, Grand Jury archiving, fund raising
Public Relations	Manages website, publish <i>Journal</i> , educate public in support of California's Regular Grand Juries
Training	Develops annual training programs for new sitting grand jurors presented at various locations
Periodic & Special	Committees are: Nominations, Ad-Hoc By-laws, Angelo Rolando Award, Audit, Grant Writing
Other	
Special Skills or Qualifications	
Summarize special skills and qualifications you have acquired from employment, previous volunteer work, or through other activities, including hobbies or sports	
Previous Volunteer Experience	
Summarize your previous volunteer experience	
Participating in CGJA committees or as a Director or Officer may require a waiver of your expressed CGJA privacy preferences within the scope of performance of those duties	
Signature _____ Date _____	
Thank you for completing this application form and for your interest in volunteering with us	
Mail or fax to: CGJA Membership, 973 East Ave. Suite M, Chico, CA 95926-1357 Fax: 530-345-9142	

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Training Committee Report

By Lew Avera Committee Chair

The Training Committee is looking forward to conducting the most extensive and comprehensive training program in CGJA history during the summer and fall of 2008. With participation continuing to increase over the past few years, we expect to see additional growth this year, and have also broadened the standard course offerings. Some specific items of interest follow.

Trainer Workshop

On May 15 and 16 the Training Committee conducted a two day hands-on workshop in Sacramento for all trainers. The primary goals of the workshop were to better coordinate and integrate the five core subjects of the standard program, seek possible improvements in the workshop structure, and of course, improve the delivery capabilities of the CGJA trainers. Seventeen members attended the workshop. All agreed that there is no substitute for face to face work in improving the training and that the investment in this workshop should yield noticeable improvements in our future delivery.

New Training Brochure

CGJA training has a new public face as represented by its new program brochure for 2008. Through the extraordinary efforts of Barbara Judson, a very talented graphic designer and member of the 2004-2005 Orange County Grand Jury, the brochure has an entirely different and eye catching design. From the previous two color 8 ½" x 11" type schedule, the new brochure has been converted to an eight page folder type presentation of several colors, with pictures and graphic designs. We believe this will represent a noticeable re-branding of our training programs.

Additional Workshops

As the core workshops...Law, Investigations, Interviewing, Report Writing, Continuity...continue to attract increasing numbers, so too do several of the more specialized offerings.

Since its inception in the summer of 2005 the one-day Forepersons' workshop, previously offered in Sacramento and Concord, has grown over the past two summers. As a result, we are scheduling a third offering this summer in Redding with the goal of attracting, for the first time, a number of participants from the most northern counties in the state.

A special one-day Report Writing program has been offered on occasion in the past in October/November of each year. Due to the extraordinary success of a single workshop in November in Sacramento, we have added as part of our standard offering two such workshops, October in Bakersfield and November in Sacramento. From last year's success, we are confident that these will be well attended and be of infinite value to the many grand juries as they begin developing their reports for the year.

In addition to the scheduled group workshops in various cities around the state, on-site training, where we go to a specific county or counties, remains in increasing demand. From four of these in the training year of 2007, we expect to see six in training year 2008.

Scheduled workshops are shown on the CGJA website.

New Training Committee Member

The Training Committee welcomes new member, Sterling Harwood.

Sterling is from Marin County where he was a grand jury member and is very active in the Marin County chapter of CGJA. We look forward to Sterling's contribution to our CGJA programs.

Operations Committee Report

By Serena Bardell, Chair

The principal issues Ops has been concentrating on have been the Ops Com Procedures for its various areas of responsibility and the location of the '09 Annual Conference (AC). Because of the long tradition of announcing the following year's AC site at the current year's AC, the committee tries to keep from disclosing too many details in advance.



Ops chair Serena Bardell submitted a detailed and documented report on the '07 AC in San Francisco, which she also chaired, and has been working with the committee to finalize an equally detailed set of guidelines for future conferences, so that AC planners will not have to "reinvent the wheel" each year. Those guidelines will become part of the Ops Procedures for the Annual Conference.

Any CGJA member with knowledge, experience, and energy to dedicate is welcome to join Ops and contribute to such projects as indexing grand jury reports, evaluating candidate juries and media for Excellence in Reporting, supporting counties hosting annual conferences, maintaining CGJA Policies, and providing representation to the body that is responsible for CGJA publications.

Summary of Board Actions

By Joann Landi, Secretary



April 22, 2008 Board Action

Accepted response from Special Committee regarding Director allegations

Changed name of Legal Affairs Committee to the Legislative Affairs Committee

Approved Article 6 Bylaw change to include method for implementing reduction in the number of Directors

May 27, 2008 Board Action

Approved establishing 3-member panel to provide forum to hear and evaluate claims of violations of policy, monetary obligations, etc.

Approved members of the 2008 Angelo Rolando Aware Committee

Established June-December, 2008 meeting frequency and eliminated July meeting

Approved restated Operations Committee policies



Retreat continued from page 2

and Procedure manual. Some final editing is required.

We need to reform the makeup and operation of the Executive Committee.

The newly formed publications working group gave a progress report regarding its operations.

The more important topics discussed included the following:

- Methods to increase awareness of the grand jury system throughout the state
- Methods to increase membership and to increase retention of current members
- Methods to improve relationships between chapters and the state association

We expect to report on these activities in future Journals.

CGJA Members in the News

By Diane Masini



Courtesy of NCTV

Learn how Grand Juries work to support and strengthen democracies. Grand Juries are citizen opportunity to hold accountable our government and politicians. Find out how you can become a Grand Juror in your county or participate in The California Grand Jurors Association, an organization that promotes public education of the California Grand Jury System and its role in government accountability.

Rosemary Metrailler (L) Hosting Nevada County Connected, produced by Jackie Mason for Nevada County Public Television, interviews Sherry Chesney (C) and Mac Small (R)

The full interview can be seen at: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=8744827537694010808&q=Nevada+County+Connected&ei=EVIASJ-9NIT0rQPmLDTCA&hl=en>

Grand Juries in the News *By Diane Masini*



The Nevada County Board of Supervisors issued a resolution declaring April Grand Jury Awareness Month in Nevada County.

At a recent Board Meeting, The Board presented the Resolution to Mac Small Foreman of the 2007-08 Grand Jury.

Left—Right: Supervisors Nate Beason, Hank Weston, and John Spencer, Mac Small, Grand Jury Foreman, Supervisors Ted Owens and Sue Horne.

CGJA Officers

President
Judi Lazenby
 1961 Main Street #198
 Watsonville, CA 95076
 831-724-0790
judilazenby@aol.com

Vice President
Kathy Wylie
 P.O. Box 309
 Mendocino, CA 95460
 707-937-4228
kathy@mcn.org

Secretary
Joann Landi
 178 South Palomar Drive
 Redwood City, CA 94062
 650-365-4184
joannelandi@aol.com

Treasurer
Ivor Thomas
 6078 Maxwell Drive
 Paradise, CA 95969
 530-872-4127
ithomas@cgja.org

CGJA Directors

North

Sherry Chesny, Placer
sherry.c@cebridge.net

Tim Colbie, Butte
tcolbie@vacation.com

Ray Hoffman, Nevada
nrhoffman@comcast.net

Diane Masini, Nevada
domasini@sbcglobal.net

Ivor Thomas, Butte
ithomas@cgja.org

Kathy Wylie, Mendocino
kathy@mcn.org

Central

Serena Bardell,
 San Francisco
sbardell@aol.com

Earl Heal, Solano
helearlniki@earthlink.net

Karin Hern, Marin
Karin.hern@sbcglobal.net

Joann Landi San Mateo
Joannelandi@aol.com

Judi Lazenby, Santa Cruz
judilazenby@aol.com

Catherine McKown, Marin
cdmac1@aol.com

South

Lew Avera Jr., Orange
lewavera@cox.net

Dianne Hoffman, Orange
cgjaimailbox@yahoo.com

Walter D. Hofmann MD,
 San Diego
wdh438@gmail.com

Mary Johnston, Kings
grammiemj@comcast.net

Jerry Lewi, Ventura
cgjaprguy@roadrunner.com

Anthony Noce, Kern
anthonyskids@yahoo.com

John Sitton, San Benito
sitton_john@yahoo.com

CGJA Chapters

Fresno County Chapter
Joan Niboli Gray, President
joanegrays@comcast.net
 Website: fresno.cgja.org

Humboldt County Chapter
Keath North, President
Krn48@aol.com

Kern County Chapter
Leone Harrison, President
gjaminis@earthlink.net
 Website: kern@cgja.org

Kings County Chapter
Betty Hampton, President
 5666 Benicia Ave.
 Kingsburg, CA 93631

Los Angeles County Chapter
Bill Turner, President
billturner26.2@att.net

Madera County Chapter
Debbie R. Smith, President
drdebbief@aol.com

Marin County Chapter
Betty J. Mattea, President
bjmattea@sonic.net
 Website: www.mgja.org

Monterey County Chapter
Ray Wuco, President
carmelwuco@redshift.com

Napa County Chapter
Sue Branson, President
suebtax@aol.com

Nevada County Chapter
Ray Hoffman, President
nrhoffman@comcast.net

San Benito County Chapter
John Sitton, President
sitton_john@yahoo.com

San Francisco County Chapter
Jack McNulty, President
jlmn413@hotmail.com

San Luis Obispo County Chapter
Jim Ragan, President
jimragan@charter.net

San Mateo County Chapter
Mike Miller, President
okmiller@pacbell.net
 Website:
www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/smcagj/

Santa Clara County Chapter
Richard Ruth, President
rruth8592@aol.com

Solano County Chapter
Wanda Kiger-Tucker,
 President
kigertucker@juno.com

Standing Committee Chairs

Finance Committee
 Ivor Thomas
 530-872-4127
ithomas@cgja.org

Legal Affairs
 Kathy Wylie
 707-937-4228
kathy@mcn.org

**Membership &
 Chapter Relations**
 Tim Colbie
 530-624-4656
tcolbie@vacation.com

Operations
 Serena Bardell
 415-931-7249
sbardell@aol.com

Public Relations
 Jerry Lewi
 805-532-1321
cgjaprguy@roadrunner.com

Training
 Lew Avera Jr.
 949-388-8910
lewavera@cox.net

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The Mission of the California Grand Jurors' Association is To promote government accountability by improving the training and resources available to California's 58 regular grand juries and educating the public about the substantial local government oversight and reporting powers these grand juries have

Format for submitting letters and articles to the Grand Jurors' Journal
Articles should be e-mailed to Jerry Lewi, Editor
cgjaprguy@roadrunner.com
Articles submitted by e-mail should be saved in Rich Text Format and transmitted as an attachment to the e-mail message.
If e-mail is not available, articles should be faxed to Jerry at 805-241-7912
Letters to the editor are limited to 200 words. (One hundred words for "Kudos" thank-you letters).
The Journal will highlight opinion articles written by readers, experts, and issues advocates. They may be 500 to 600 words in length.
We are especially interested in articles on Grand Jury issues or solutions to improving public education of the grand jury system in California.

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