

Editor's Message

By Jerry Lewi

This issue features a complete report on this year's Training program, the largest and best ever. We also have several chapter reports featuring how they aided the training within their individual counties. If we counted all those jurors as well as the one's attending our formal training program, the number of attendees and sites increases even more. CGJA is in favor of local training and we encourage more chapters to get involved in this important activity.

But don't overlook the articles on our Elections and the October Annual Conference. It is not too late to register for the conference that looks to be outstanding based on the tremendous effort by the Kern County host chapter.

Hope to see you there!

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Grand Jurors' Journal



President's Message

By Judi Lazenby
Friends and Colleagues

As I prepare this, my last message to you as President of CGJA, I want to thank the members of the 2006-07 Board for having honored me with this responsibility, and our members and the current Board members for the continued confidence and support I have received.

When I took office two years ago, I had a vision for a new CGJA: a vibrant and professional organization able to support robust growth in membership; financial stability to provide the public benefits for which CGJA was established, and a committed Board to design the future of CGJA in accomplishing its goals.

At the end of the first year of this administration, a year devoted to internal improvements such as developing clear statements of policy to define the responsibilities of the Board and the committees; correcting the bylaws; and implementing a budget designed to achieve financial stability, CGJA was able to celebrate the accomplishment of all its goals.

At the beginning of this past year, this new, vibrant and professional CGJA, established yet another set of goals. Our primary goal was to concentrate our attentions and efforts on our core mission of preserving and enhancing California's Grand Jury System, and, secondarily, to move CGJA to a position of greater presence, relevance and impact.

The greatest achievement this year may have been getting the Governor to issue his proclamation designating the month of February 2008 as California Grand Jury Awareness Month. This achievement was accomplished through joint efforts of CGJA, independent Associations and Chapters. The Governor's proclamation did result in heightened awareness, and similar proclamations being issued by Board's of Supervisors and Cities throughout the state helped educate the public on the important role of California's regular grand juries.

CGJA's training program continues to set new records for juror attendance. This summer CGJA trained almost 800 of the 1100 jurors seated. On behalf of CGJA and especially its Training Committee I want to express sincere appreciation for all the local volunteers who provide the essential logistical support for our five regional training seminars, for our Trainers, and for our guest speakers.

I am pleased to report that CGJA experienced a notable increase of new members, and on behalf of all of us, I welcome each of you to our Association.

Our Public Relations committee has successfully published its first report documenting Grand Jury Achievements to educate the public about the important role grand juries play in bringing about beneficial changes in the community.

Our efforts at improving, strengthening, and facilitating communications and relations with our chapters have had some positive results. There is renewed interest from both Sacra-

Ongoing Activities

Please note that the next Journal deadline is one week earlier than usual due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes

All members are reminded that we are interested in helping local OLLIs create a course for their members. OLLIs are located on almost every campus of the University of California and the California State University systems. A new brochure describing what CGJA can do will be available at the annual conference. Please contact Betty Mattea or Jerry Lewi if you are interested. We believe OLLIs are an excellent way to reach out to interested citizens about the California Grand Jury system

Grand Jury Achievement Report

We hope every CGJA member and all grand juries can add examples of effective grand jury reports by submitting candidate examples. Please see the tab *Grand Jury Achievement* on our website. We believe by publicizing such reports we help make the system more effective.

Membership

See the Membership Committee report for new membership dues policies.

Presidents' Message continued from page 1

amento and Mendocino Counties to form chapters in those areas. CGJA is now able to assist Chapters by hosting their websites. Further, Chapters are now contributing partners in helping to circulate helpful information in response to questions raised, or problems posed, by grand jurors.

CGJA will be hosting the second annual Breakfast of Grand Jury Champions at the Annual Conference next month. This provides a forum for all grand jury resources such as Court Personnel that support juries, Associations of Grand Jurors, and our Chapters to join forces and assets to provide improved support for juries.

We still have much to do as far as streamlining our internal operations so that our volunteers feel that their value is recognized and that their valuable time has been well spent. Each of us has our own talents as well as limits on how many volunteer hours we can dedicate to CGJA and its objectives. Making that time count as well as getting the best fit for our members' talents will be our greatest success. A future goal must include eliminating practices that waste our volunteer's time.

This year, CGJA suffered the loss of two past Presidents who were major cornerstones of our Association. Neither of these individuals can be replaced, but their loss emphasizes the need in our or any organization to have successors trained to carry on especially for our officers and committee chairs. We have recently implemented a partial successorship program for our committee chairs under which they are subject to annual review and/or replacement by designated persons. This is but a start.

Currently, CGJA and I are named defendants in a lawsuit brought by one of our directors in an effort to resolve some perceived wrongs. CGJA has filed a cross complaint against the plaintiff.

In the 2007 CGJA Election of Directors, our members voted to reduce the number of members in the Board from 24 to 12 directors. This year 2008-2009 the board will operate with 18 members; the result of permanently retiring 6 seats from the board. Next

year 6 more directors' seats will be retired, so that for the term 2009-2010 the board will finally reach the reduced number of 12 directors. In recent years, it had become increasingly difficult to find 12 new members each year, willing and qualified to serve on this board. Finding six candidates a year is much more realistic.

My service as President has been a most rewarding experience. I pledge my continued support for the new Officers, for this Board, and for CGJA in any way I can.

Regards,

Judi

Nominations-Elections Committee

By Catherine McKown, Chair



Article 5 of CGJA's By-laws states that "the President shall appoint, subject to ratification of the Board of Directors, a Nominations-Elections Committee of six (6) or more members; one (1)

per region from the Board of Directors and one (1) per region from the voting membership." The President appointed and the Board ratified the following members:

North: Barbara Carolan and Ivor Thomas

Central: Owen Haxton and Catherine McKown (Chair)

South: Mary Johnston and John Mainland

The mission of the committee is two-fold: #1, to find candidates for Director (to fill the seats of those Directors whose seats expire in 2008) and oversee the election; and #2, to nominate a candidate for each of the officer positions on the Board of Directors.

This was the first election held since the reduction of the number of Directors, determined by the results of the 2007 election. In order to inform the membership, particularly prospective Board members, the committee developed a "Job Description for CGJA Directors" as well as articles that were posted on the website and in the *Grand Jurors' Journal*. This year, two Directors were elected from

Elections Continued from page 2

each of the three regions.

We sent out ballots by first class mail on August 11, 2008, to 257 eligible CGJA members. The mailing included the following: the ballot (including detailed instructions), biographies of the candidates, a plain envelope, and a return envelope to be sent to the League of Women Voters of San Mateo (LoWV-SM). Returned ballots were required to be postmarked by September 23, 2008.

Each CGJA member placed his/her marked ballot in a plain envelope that was enclosed in a return envelope that required a signature on the back. Each outer return envelope was assigned a number, to assure that there were no duplications. The Nominations-Elections Committee provided an official list of eligible voters to the League to use as a tally sheet on the day of the vote count, October 2, 2008.

Net election expenses were \$316.46 which includes a donation of \$125 to the LoWV-SM, detailed as follows: paper, printing, and rubber stamp - \$110.30; mailing labels and envelopes - \$180.71; stamps - \$150.45; donation to LoWV-SM - \$125. In addition, there was a donation of \$250 to CGJA to offset election expenses.

On October 2, 2008, the official ballot tally was performed. Preliminary election results were transmitted to the Nominations-Elections Committee Chair, who, in turn, notified the Board as well as successful candidates in order to facilitate their plans for attending the Annual Conference. The LoWV-SM will retain custody of the ballots for nine months, as prescribed by CGJA. Providing there are no challenges to the election, the League will return the ballot materials to the CGJA Secretary after the designated period.

The Teller Committee, consisting of three members who are appointed

by the CGJA President, will announce the election results at the Annual Conference on October 23, 2008, in Bakersfield.

In order to provide a recommended slate of candidates for officer positions, the committee surveyed the returning Board members to determine if they had an interest in serving and also for their recommendations for candidates. The committee met to discuss these results and came up with a slate to recommend to the Board. The vote for officers will take place at a special meeting at the end of the first day (October 23, 2008) of the Annual Conference. Board members may make additional nominations at this time. The vote is conducted by secret ballot. Only Board members may vote for officers. Directors who are absent will have the opportunity to call in their votes at this special meeting.

A special thanks to committee members for their work on the 2008 CGJA election of Directors and Officers.



Membership Relations Committee Report

By Tim Colbie, Committee Chair

A lot has happened at MRC this year and the membership drive is in full swing. The board approved several new membership options this past year as follows:



1. We are now offering a lifetime membership at \$500.00. One payment will guarantee all benefits of membership and you will never have to remember to renew your membership.
2. The board approved a multi year membership plan. This plan allows you to purchase two (2) or

more years at the current \$25.00 yearly rate. It will make it easy to write of \$50, \$75 or higher and get the discounted membership rate of \$25. per year.

3. The board also approved a membership increase to \$30 per year if you are renewing or joining for the first time.

The board also authorized renewal dates based on the date you joined. For example, if you join on April 15, 2008 then your annual renewal date will always be the 15th of April.

Should you have any membership questions, please do not hesitate to see me at the conference or drop me an email at:

tcoblie@carlsontravel.net



Public Relations Committee Report

By Jerry Lewi



The Public Relations Committee achieved most of its goals for 2008 and also expanded its membership by the addition of Walter Hofmann.

Several Chapters have identified liaison personnel to the committee and we would welcome any other chapter representatives.

Objectives and Goals;

- Our principal objective to issue the first Grand Jury Achievement report was met
- We have improved the quality of the Journal and the website which is manifested in the number of favorable comments we have received from CGJA membership.
- We have been unsuccessful in producing a video regarding the

PR Committee Continued from page 3

grand jury system, but have identified and publicized a number of individual county videos that serve much the same purpose. Further progress on this objective is dependent on identifying a source of funding.

- We have made progress on promoting and offering Osher Lifelong Learning Institute presentations. One more was made this year at California State University Fullerton and several more are promising candidates.
- We have prepared several press releases for other committees in accordance with established practice.

PR Report continued on page 9

Operations Committee Report

By Serena Bardell, Chair

Operations (Ops) continues to move forward through its GRIP arm with its efforts to index all 58 counties' grand jury reports, a project of great magnitude and even greater import to all who value the grand jury system. Linda Baker's work on this is commendable, as is Jerry Lewi's support. To reach Linda, please email her at baker1@q.com



The Excellence in Reporting subcommittee, under the excellent leadership of chair Orley Ryals, worked diligently to apply the meticulous standards required of it to

the media and jury reports submitted for consideration and reached conclusions on both, to be announced, as always, at the Annual Conference in Bakersfield.

Efforts to coordinate next year's Annual Conference are also underway, with the generous cooperation of this publication's editor and CGJA PR Chair, Jerry Lewi.

Ops welcomes those interested in participating in its various projects to contact chair Serena Bardell (contact info listed under committee chairs) or to seek her out at the AC.

TRAINING COMMITTEE SUMMARY OF TRAINING 2008

By Lew Avera Committee Chair

2008 TRAINING PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE:

This year's training program exceeded all previous years in terms of number of attendees and number of locations as shown on page 6. In making the comparisons to prior years there were programs/locations provided in prior years and not provided in 2008, and programs provided in 2008 which had not been offered in prior years. The special summary line provides the information needed to compare total numbers for the years 2004-2008. We were especially pleased to welcome jurors from El Dorado, San Mateo and Alpine Counties for the first time. See separate story regarding our experience in Alpine.

COMMENTS/OBSERVATIONS RE THE 2008 TRAINING PROGRAM:

Growth: While there are small shifts among the various sites and programs, overall the training has increased each year. This is especially encouraging during these economic times with budget cuts.

Additional Programs: 2008 has seen the addition of a Foreperson workshop in Redding and the scheduling of two Report Writing workshops in October and November. Both of these were done based upon the success of these programs in 2007 and the Training Committee's belief that there is demand for these programs.

Course Evaluations: Participants in all programs are asked to provide an evaluation of the program. These evaluations over the years have provided the opportunity to continually improve the programs as well as the skills of the trainers. The large majority of evaluations for this year's programs were very favorable. It is clear that our programs provide a much needed resource for grand juries around the state.

In some cases, while extremely helpful, the amount and complexity of material tends to overwhelm new grand jurors. Many grand jurors attending for a second time indicate that the material, rather than being boring the second time around, is even more helpful because they now understand many of the unique nuances to grand jury work.

Program and Instructor Development: In order to continue to improve the programs and the skills of the instructors it is important to devote time to this in the off season. For the past two years we have been able to assemble all instructors for a development workshop. This was a one-day workshop in 2007. We were able to expand this to two days in the spring of 2008 and provided the opportunity for each instructor to deliver a program and receive feedback from the instructor group. It also provided a unique opportunity for each instructor to hear and view the entire five course program. This will be a major part of our development program for 2009.

Volunteer Support: One of the major factors contributing to the success of our programs is the volunteer support at each program and location. Without this support we would not be able to conduct the training. This support includes setting up the

facilities, conducting registration and sign in at the site, acting as timers in the various sessions, handling CGJA promotional materials, and answering questions regarding the many opportunities for service in CGJA.

We are greatly indebted to these volunteers for making our program a success.

TRAINING PROGRAM OVERVIEW: The CGJA annual training program is organized into a series of workshops generally structured around a group of five core courses, with selected electives available at most of the locations. In addition, there is a special one-day program just for forepersons and forepersons pro tem. Workshop structures are as follows with a description of the five core courses to follow.

Regional Training Seminars: These are the mainstream workshops delivered in five cities located central to their regions and drawing participants from surrounding or proximate counties. They contain the five core courses and electives as follows and account for the majority of grand jurors trained:

- Grand Juries and the Law
- Grand Jury Investigations
- Grand Jury Interviewing
- Writing Final Reports
- Grand Jury Continuity
- Electives

On-site Seminars: These are special one or two-day programs conducted for a specific county or group of counties delivered at the county location rather than having the grand jurors travel to a different location. The programs are organized around the five core subjects of the regional programs and include electives when appropriate.

Foreperson and Pro Tem Workshops: These are three specialized workshops structured to meet the unique needs of those in the leadership positions. They are focused on four areas of content:

- Grand Jury Law for Forepersons
- Requirements for an Effective Grand Jury
- Requirements for an Effective Foreperson
- Conflict Resolution

Report Writing Workshops: There are two offered in the 2008 training program. They are full one-day programs and represent an expanded version of the core Report Writing curriculum. In addition, they provide the opportunity for greatly expanded practical applications to include reviewing sample reports and working with their own real-time draft reports.

SUMMARY OF CORE COURSES: The program content is designed specifically for new grand jurors to provide them with the tools and necessary additional knowledge to perform their basic civil oversight functions. They are designed to complement local programs and orientation provided by the individual counties. Attendees at the larger regional programs receive the training in groups of 25-35.

Grand Juries and the Law: Designed to acquaint grand jurors with the structure of the law and how it relates to the grand jury and the agencies that they will investigate.

Grand Jury Investigations: Includes general investigative techniques and specific investigative requirements and limitations of grand jury work.

Grand Jury Interviewing: Includes general interviewing techniques with emphasis on developing and using effective questions for information gathering.

Writing Final Reports: Provides the organization, process, scheduling, and tips for writing meaningful and effective investigative reports.

Grand Jury Continuity: Provides historical perspectives of grand juries as well as the role of the current grand jury in ensuring effectiveness of grand juries from year to year.

ELECTIVE PROGRAMS: following are the elective programs which were offered during the 2008 training year. These were offered at different locations, depending upon local interest and availability of speakers.

- Local Agency Formation Commissions
- Jail Inspections
- Special Districts
- Local Government Organization
- Group Process

<p><i>Continued from page 5</i></p>  <p>CALIFORNIA GRAND JURORS' ASSOCIATION</p> <p>TRAINING STAFF</p> <p>2008</p> 	<i>Grand Juries and the Law</i>	<i>Grand Jury Investigations</i>	<i>Grand Jury Interviewing</i>	<i>Report Writing</i>	<i>Continuity and Independence</i>	<i>Group Process</i>	<i>Foreperson Workshop</i>
	<p>*Lew Avera Jr. Orange County</p> <p><i>* Committee Chair</i></p>	<p>Marsha Caranci Shasta County Sherry Chesny Placer County Bob Geiss Orange County Dianne Hoffman Orange County Duane Mason Shasta County **Ron Miguel San Francisco County Thomas Staple Orange County **Lead Instructor</p>	<p>Marsha Caranci Shasta County **Sherry Chesny Placer County Judi Lazenby Santa Cruz County Ron Miguel San Francisco County John Sitton San Benito County</p> <p><i>**Lead Instructor</i></p>	<p>Bette Flick Orange County **Bob Geiss Orange County Jerry Lewi Ventura County Catherine McKown Marin County</p> <p><i>**Lead Instructor</i></p>	<p>Ted Freeman Marin County Bob Klamt Orange County **Jerry Lewi Ventura County</p> <p><i>**Lead Instructor</i></p>	<p>Lew Avera Jr. Orange County</p>	<p>Lew Avera Jr. Orange County</p>



Location	Program	2008		Number of Attendees				
		Dates	Counties	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Salinas	Monterey	Jan 9-10	1	19				
Fullerton	Regional	Jul 14-15	7	72	76	62		
Stockton	San Joaquin	Jul 17-18	1	19	19	19		
Sacramento	Foreperson	Jul 20	15	25	33	26	46	
Sacramento	Regional	Jul 21-22	19	184	171	158	192	200
Redding	Foreperson	Jul 23	9	11				
Redding	Regional	Jul 24-25	11	111	114	111	95	69
Concord	Foreperson	Jul 27	16	24	19	18		
Concord	Regional	Jul 28-29	19	141	146	114	109	133
Visalia	Regional	Jul 31-Aug	9	116	109	94	74	61
Merced	Merced County	Aug 2	1	19		17	6	19
San Andreas	Tuolumne, Amador, Calaveras	Aug 4-5	3	71	63	70	53	
Markleeville	Alpine County	Aug 6-7	1	11				
Ventura	Ventura	Aug 19	1	19	19			
Bakersfield	Report Writing	Oct 25						
Sacramento	Report Writing	Nov 14			48			
Total			50	842	817	689	575	482
Additional sites in 2004 & 2005, not held in 2008							61	40
Grand Total			50	842	817	689	636	522


CALIFORNIA GRAND JURORS' ASSOCIATION
TRAINING PROGRAM ATTENDANCE
2004 To 2008*

**Includes January-September. Does not include report writing workshops in October and November.*



San Luis Obispo Chapter

By Sandra Parker, Vice-President

FOREVER A LEARNING PROCESS

The San Luis Obispo chapter hosted the 'newly former' 2007/08 Grand Jury at their August luncheon.

It is always motivating to be informed as to some of the methods of operation, trials and tribulations of each G.J. experience. A few noteworthy observations from the meeting:

When first interviewed, most felt the judges were fairly well informed as to the grand jury function.

Inquiry should be made as to an applicant's computer literacy. Although not required, a modicum of familiarity certainly would make the path to research and report writing much easier.

Regarding CGJA training:

The entire grand jury and three alternates attended the state training.

Both the foreperson and pro temp attended the state session on Foreperson Training.

Local training:

Held two roundtables to acquaint the Grand Jury with mechanics and organization of local government entities; one with Mayors and City Managers and the other with the General Managers of community service districts.

Topics which should be given more attention in the CGJA training program:

Detailed information on the legal process and mechanics of obtaining a subpoena.

How to overcome conflict of interest between County Counsel, D.A. and Grand Jury's needs.



Include more 'generic' information on the structure of cities, counties, and special districts, or at least a format for each GJ to hold a similar roundtable in their county.

Some ideas on how to "attack" an investigation nuts & bolts suggestions.

Areas in which our organization (as well as CJGA) could further contribute to the Grand Jury process:

General education of the public is paramount and should be aggressively ongoing.

Continuity: Develop a format for follow-up on prior reports, particularly those which had a commitment from the responding agency. Perhaps initiate a year down the road, to ensure that recommendations were implemented. If not, alert the then sitting GJ of the discrepancy and publicize the information. Need to hold agencies' feet to the fire.

At the meeting, the Chapter had hard copies of last year's Grand Jury Final Report for members. Also, copies of the CGJA membership application as well as information regarding the October conference were presented.

Marin County Chapter

By Catherine McKown, Chapter President

The MC-CGJA orientation and training of the 2008-09 Marin Grand Jury took place on July 8-10, and 15-17. All 19 jury members attended, as well as most of the alternates. The six days were a combination of informative presentations by former jurors and encounters with government officials from around the County.

It went smoothly; the jurors met

and asked questions of the movers/shakers in Marin, including: the Presiding Judge, the County Counsel, the County Administrator, the D.A., the Public Defender, the Sheriff, the President of the Board of Supervisors, and other County department heads. There was a particularly riveting report from the County Coroner. The new jury also heard from the Marin County Superintendent of Schools as well as Ted Freeman (the Mayor of San Anselmo who is a CGJA member and trainer) and political pundit Dick Spotswood.

Past President Betty Mattea and the Orientation & Training Committee planned the event; many chapter members were presenters, including: Irwin Taranto (Emcee and organization of the program); Karin Hern (GJ Law as well as Continuity); Betty Mattea and Catherine McKown (Organization and Resources); Marty Miller (Investigations, Topics, Complaints); Connie Kloh (Report Writing); Patrick Layne (Continuity); Roberta Robinson and Jan Gross (Interviewing); and a panel of former jurors led by (outgoing Foreperson) Roberta Robinson, including Ken Howard, Anya Shandler, Ziad Hamdon, and Rick White. A fun welcome reception for the new jury and alternates, concluded the six days of orientation and training.

Humboldt Chapter

By Keath North, President



In early July, the Humboldt County Chapter conducted three four-hour training sessions for the incoming 2008-2009 Grand Jury of Humboldt County. The

sessions were organized by veteran grand juror and former foreperson, Allan Edwards, along with his able assistant, Diane Lehman. Several local Chapter members were present to provide refreshments for

Summary of Board Actions

By Joann Landi, Secretary



**8/26/08
Board Action
Summary**

Ratified re-
vival of three-
member In-
vestigative
Committee of

the Board to act on behalf of
Board in litigation matter

Approved listing Independent
Former Grand Juror Associations
on our website and in the Jour-
nal subject to Associations' con-
sent

Approved alternative plan for
producing a 2009 Annual Con-
ference

Approved Letter of Interest to
be submitted annually by Com-
mittee Chairs

Approved proposal by Opera-
tions and Public Relations for
joint effort to revive GRIP

9/23/08 Board Action Summary

Ratified recipients of 2008 An-
gelo Rolando Memorial Award
and Excellent in Reporting
Awards

Amended Bylaw Article 9 chang-
ing function and name of the
Executive Committee



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We are always looking for more
way to increase public awareness
of the California Grand Jury sys-
tem. Most public relations func-
tions see their job to promote
their organizations. We seek to
promote the California Grand
Jury system first, and CGJA as a
secondary objective.

Finance Committee Report

By Ivor Thomas Treasurer

CGJA is experiencing both record financial growth and unprecedented expenses in its operations; we began the year budgeting \$88,000 in income and expense, an approximate 15 percent increase from 2007. My current projections are that CGJA will exceed \$100,000 in income this year and that current expenses will only allow for a small surplus. CGJA operates on a cash based accounting system, so outstanding invoices and future expenses are not shown in the current Treasury reports.

It is very common for invoices for summer training seminars to still be outstanding into September and even early October; at the time of this writing, there are \$9,367 in outstanding invoices and Annual Conference registration and Report Writing Workshop registrations are in full swing. Additionally, the Treasury reports do not show expenses that will be incurred for the annual conference, which we intend to be a break even proposition, or the expenses for the upcoming workshops. The board also recently authorized up to \$20,000 in legal expenses that were not anticipated in the 2008 budget but could be incurred, if needed, without a net loss.

Our primary goal in the Finance committee this year has been to improve the use of our accounting software, to cross train and document procedures, and to further refine a system of accounting controls while dividing the duties of accounts receivables and accounts payable. We have greatly improved our systems, but like most progress, we have succeeded in identifying more complex procedural issues for which we must refine solutions to sustain growth and prosperity for the long term.

Balance Sheet	
	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
General Fund	40,578.60
Restricted funds	21,583.30
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 62,751.90
Fixed Assets	
Property and Equipment	3,912.95
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 3,912.95
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 66,664.85
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Total Credit Cards	818.73
Total Liabilities	\$ 818.73
Equity	
Retained Earnings	45,882.12
Net Income	19,793.90
Total Equity	\$ 65,676.02
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 66,494.75

Alpine County continued from page 9

afternoon after completing the Tri-County training in San Andreas, Calaveras County. The team found a jury with a very good demographic balance and eager to learn. Their questions were good and we believe we helped them get off to a good running start. We have received some good follow-up questions that tells us they are eager to do a good job.

We were pleased to be invited to Alpine County to present our CGJA Training Seminar to their new jury. We conclude that regardless of their small size and somewhat unique circumstances, their reports and investigations echo many of the same themes as all other counties. This validates the concept that all counties must have a Grand Jury.

Profit and Loss- YTD 2008	
	Total
Income	
Administration Income	795.67
Finance Committee Income	1,366.99
Membership Committee Income	10,920.00
Annual Conference Income	6,245.00
Publications and Merchandise	2,517.04
Training Income	63,017.65
Total Income	\$ 84,862.35
Expenses	
Administration	2,540.53
Finance Committee Expenses	1,485.07
Membership Committee Expenses	353.51
Annual Conference Expenses	169.05
Publications and Merchandise Expens	978.60
Public Relations Committee	2,380.91
Training Com.	57,160.78
Total Expenses	\$ 65,068.45
Net Operating Income	\$ 19,793.90

Humboldt County Continued from page 7

the group, and lend their support to the effort.

The curriculum was designed to accomplish two important goals: (1) to place the jurors at ease with the sense that they will be able to accomplish the daunting tasks before them, and (2) to give the jurors "actual practice" with the things they will be doing.

As this was the first time our two-year-old Chapter has offered training, we were particularly interested in feedback from the participants. I'm happy to report, that in spite of some glitches we scored an average of 4 (on a 1 to 5 scale) on the evaluation sheets. Lessons learned have as much to do with venue as with the content of the instruction.



Shasta County Past Grand Jurors Association Year in Review

By Marsha Caranci, President

The Shasta County Past Grand Jurors Association (SCPGJA) had a successful year in reaching our goals and achieving our purposes, which include increasing public awareness of the grand jury system within our community and encouraging citizens to apply for grand jury service.

Last spring we showed our promotional Power Point presentation to several local community groups, to a large crowd at a local Volunteers Fair, and to a group of prospective grand jurors at a community wide informational meeting which we sponsored. We also purchased an LCD projector to use for such presentations. We celebrated Grand Jury Awareness week by receiving a local proclamation from our Board of Supervisors and by hanging a street banner in downtown Redding.

Our efforts were successful in that Shasta County received a record number of applications for grand jury service in 2008. SCPGJA participated in the screening of the applications, as well as the interviewing process, and the result was the seating of a highly qualified group of jurors, along with about 10 alternates. SCPGJA also participated in the local orientation for the new jurors and alternates.

Our association was happy to again host the Redding CGJA Training Seminar in July and provided all the volunteers needed to make the seminar a success.

We have recently welcomed several new members to SCPGJA and we look forward to another successful year of promoting the grand jury system and Shasta County.



Training In Alpine County

By Jerry Lewi



Alpine County Court House Photo by Marsha Caranci

For the first time in CGJA history, we have trained the Alpine County Grand Jury at their site in Markleeville, the county seat. This is history making and unique for a variety of reasons. First of all, we were invited by the newly appointed Presiding Judge Richard Specchio, who wanted to see that the Grand Jury there would make an impact. He sat in on the entire two-day session.

Alpine is the smallest county in California, total populations 1200. 97% of the land is owned by the U.S. Government Bureau of Land Management. There are no incorporated cities, although there is the Kirkwood Municipal Services District that actually is in three counties, mostly in Alpine. Downtown Markleeville is about one and one-half blocks, population 200. The one hotel is comfortable, all twelve rooms, with no phones in the room and no cell phone service.

There is no jail in Alpine – they contract with neighboring El Dorado County, so the issue of jail inspection is moot. The local newspaper is in Gardnerville, Nevada which presents interesting coverage problems.

As a small county, Alpine is allowed an 11-person jury, which still gives them the highest ratio of jurors to county employees. Their County Counsel and District Attorney are part time, so Judge Specchio decreed he will be the jury's principal legal advisor. The jury meets monthly but even that is problematical as some jurors can't make it over the mountain during the winter due to road closures.

Many of these jurors moved to Alpine from elsewhere in the state to enjoy the beauty and small town environment. Three once lived in Ventura County, Jerry's home, and two came from Orange County, Lew's home.

The team of Lew Avera, Marsha Caranci and Jerry Lewi trudged up the mountain the

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2008 CGJA Annual Conference Schedule

Thursday, October 23, 2008

- 8:00 am CGJA President convenes conference. Appoint Tellers recess to 1pm
- 9:00-1:00 pm Conference registration
- 9:30-10:30 am "Meet Your Directors" and "Grand Jury forepersons get-together"
- 9:30-11:00 am Recruiting video presentations
- 11:00-12:00 No host lunch break

Outdoor Activities

- 12:00-1:00 Pre-conference opening presentation including Lake Side School District Steel Drum Band, Color Guard, Flag display, National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance

Conference moves indoors to general meeting room

- 1:00-2:00 Chair welcomes conferees, introduces CGJA President who reconvenes the conference and greets all
Welcome by local chapter President and theme announcement The Grand Jury System "Created by Our Forefathers, Preserved by Our Citizen; A Learning Experience You Will Never Forget"
City of Bakersfield and County of Kern welcoming
- 2:00-3:00 Open Forum: Questions from the floor relating to sitting grand juries
- 3:00-3:55 Panel: "Educating/Working with Schools"
- 3:55-5:15 Panel: "Civic Leadership: "Working with the Grand Jury"
- 5:15-5:30 Announcement of CGJA Director Election results
- 5:30-6:00 Special meeting of CGJA Directors to elect CGJA new officers
*recruiting videos will be shown for attendees
- 6:00-6:45 No host refreshments, Silent Auction begins, music by students
- 6:45-7:30 Dinner, presentation of directors, officer election results, Angelo Rolando Memorial Award presentation, music provided
- 7:30 Silent Auction ends
- 7:35 Keynote address: Governor of California (not confirmed Sept. 01, 08)

Friday, October 24, 2008

- 7:00-9:00 am Breakfast, recruiting video presentations, music provided
- 7:30-8:45 Chapter/Association Pres. & Court Liaisons breakfast meeting
- 9:00-10:20 Panel: "Final Report Response Follow-up"
- 10:20-11:00 Report to membership, questions answered regarding CGJA, review of Chapters/Assoc./CGJA committees, and the announcement of next years Annual Conference dates/site
- 11:00-Noon Panel "Grand Jury Achievement Reports"
- Noon-1:30 Lunch, music provided
- 1:30-2:00 Awards Ceremony: Excellence in Reporting presentations and introduction of the Angelo Rolando Award Winner.
- 2:00-2:50 Open forum: "Grand Jurors' Current Topics of Interest"
- 2:50-3:45 Open forum: "CGJA's efforts in assisting the counties with recruiting and selecting new jurors"
- 3:35 Adjournment of the California Grand Jurors' Association conference
- 3:45 Tour of the Kern County Grand Jury office facilities and the courthouse lobby display highlighting the grand jury system.

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Our website is a great informational resource for grand juries to use. Our "links" and "local Grand Jury information" pages will take you to websites that can assist in research and information
 Visit us at www.cgja.org



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Celebrating
26
Years

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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