



Grand Jurors' Journal

IMPORTANT!

Note

to

Grand Juries:

Please see

IGS

article on

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President's Message

By Tony Noce

Greetings

For all of those who attended the Annual conference I hope you had as great an experience as I had. I am looking forward to the 2010 Annual Conference which will be held in San Diego. The 2010 Annual Conference committee has already started planning the event and anticipates announcing the hotel selection in the February Journal. My family and I are already planning to spend a whole week in the beautiful city of San Diego. Come join us.

To begin I would like to express the CGJA's sincere appreciation to outgoing CGJA Directors John Sitton, San Benito County (still active as Publication committee chair); Catherine McKown, Marin County (still active as Review Committee Chair); Mary Johnson, Kings County; Serena Bardell, San Francisco County; Diane Masini, Nevada County (still active on Public Relations Committee); and the Ray Hoffman family (deceased).

I would also like to welcome the returning Directors Marsha Caranci, Shasta County; Sherry Chesny, Placer County; Kathy Wylie, Mendocino County; Karin Hern, Marin County; Joann Landi, San Mateo County; Judi Lazenby, Santa Cruz County; Dianne Hoffman, Orange County; Walter Hofmann MD, San Diego County; Jerry Lewi, Ventura County; newly elected Director Keath North, Humboldt County; and recently appointed Director, Owen Haxton, Marin County. The Board is now composed of twelve Directors representing eleven counties throughout the state. Thank you all for your dedication and support of the CGJA.

The Saturday following the conference the new Board and Standing Committee Chairs had a four hour retreat (an informal meeting with no official business being conducted) where ideas, goals and expectations were discussed. Many of the concerns expressed have already been/or soon will be put into action. A strong feeling of cooperation and a spirit of working together prevailed. Since the ballot measure to increase the Board size back to twenty-four Directors failed we look forward to many years of working with a more manageable group. The cost to attend the Retreat was personally absorbed by the attendees.

As we venture forth this coming year I am excited about what lies ahead for our organization in its quest to support the grand jury system and to educate the public about that system and its need to be preserved.

I look forward to the formation of new chapters; a closer relationship with all of our Chapters and Associations through joint CGJA/Chapter-Association projects; an even more expanded training program; an increase in utilizing our website abilities; more membership involvement; a more productive use of volunteers' time and experiences; an expansion of



President Tony Noce opens 2009 Annual Conference October 20, 2009

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Dinner at the Conference



Dinner Entertainment



Becky & Joann Conference Registration Desk



2009 Nominations-Elections Committee Report

By Karin Hern

The recent CGJA election yielded the following results, as reported by the League of Women Voters of San Mateo County, the official ballot counting organization:

1. Election of Directors:

North Region: Sherry Chesny (119 votes) and Keath North (95 votes)

Central Region: Karin Hern (104 votes) and Judi Lazenby (96 votes)

South Region: Tony Noce (117 votes) and Dianne Hoffman (93 votes)

These directors will each serve a two-year term commencing October, 2009, and ending in October, 2011.

2. Proposed bylaws change to increase CGJA Board size: Failed (89 No, 50 Yes)
A total of 238 ballots were mailed to the membership, and 156 voted ballots were received, with 2 disqualified (1 for no signature, the other for an illegible signature).

The voting return was 156 of 238, or 65.5%.

I wish to express my appreciation to members of the committee: Owen Haxton (central), Mary Johnston (south), John Mainland (south), Marsha Caranci (north), and Keith North (north) and especially to all members who agreed to run for the office of director.

requirement for this event. We have received many compliments on a number of aspects of the meeting and I believe I can speak for the Board when I say that we felt a lot of energy and a lot of good ideas to move the association forward.

I want to thank all my committee for their efforts and thank all the attendees for not only being there, but for their very active participation and attentiveness to all elements of the program.

I will be passing all my comments to next year's Chair, Meredith Avery, and her colleagues from the San Diego Past Grand Jurors Association who will be hosting the next meeting in San Diego.

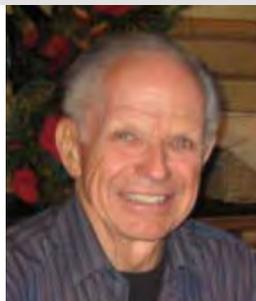
For a more detailed description of the conference discussions, please log on to our website, www.cgja.org, and click on "Conference Summary." This conference summary was prepared with skill and dedication by our Secretary, Joann Landi. This summary also served as the basis for many of the articles on the conference in this issue.

A word about my colleague, Di Masini: We had looked forward to seeing Di at the conference in her farewell as a board member and as the official photographer for the conference. Unfortunately, at the last minute, Di took ill and was unable to make it even though she lives close by in neighboring Nevada County. Fortunately, Donna Noce (Tony's daughter) and Larry Walker, both of Kern County, stepped in and took most of the pictures in this issue. Thanks to them. Di is now back in good health and continues to be the production manager for the Journal and Webmaster.

Editor's Message

By Jerry Lewi

My message this issue is as the 2009 Annual Conference Chair. I am pleased to report that, by all accounts, our conference was a success. Financially, while a little disappointed in the attendance, we did at least break even, which is a



Sonoma Chapter

**We congratulate and welcome the new Sonoma County Chapter of CGJA under
Melissa Jones, President**

Annual Conference

Open Forum

The traditional and popular Open Forum was chaired by Ron Miguel.

Panelists were Marsha Caranci, Bill Trautman and Walter Hofmann.



L—R Marsha Caranci, Bill Trautman, and Walter Hofmann

21 attendees had the opportunity to offer comments and questions on matters of interest to grand juries. Some of the topics included education in schools about grand juries, how to deal with compliance issues, policies regarding keeping grand jury records and efforts to recruiting younger people to serve on grand juries.



Life After Grand Jury Service



L—R Ron Miguel, Lew Avera, and Ted Freeman

This panel included three members who subsequent to their grand jury service, have served in important roles in their local government. Ron Miguel and Lew Avera serve on the San Francisco and Orange County Planning Com-

mission, respectively, while Ted Freeman sought and achieved elected office as a Town Councilman in San Anselmo (Marin County).

All agreed that after grand jury service, they opted to seek other opportunities to serve their communities and made use of their grand jury skills particularly in the area of working in groups and reaching out to the media. The biggest difference between grand juries and their later offices was the need to comply with California's open meeting law, the Brown Act. This created quite an adjustment as they were used to the secrecy and confidentiality requirements of the grand jury.



Public Participation on Main Street

This program was developed and presented by the Sacramento Chapter to help grand jurors, past and present, be aware of promoting transparency and accountability of local governments. Joe Maloney, Sacramento Chapter President, chaired the session. Panelists were Terry Amsler, Institute for Local government, an affiliate of the League of California Cities; and Ronda Saffo, Center for Youth Citizenship

Amsler stated that he directs collaborative government initiatives amongst local governments, especially cities. The grand jury kind of represents that. The mission is good government at the local level and resources for local officials.

Public Engagement involves a broad range of methods to inform and involve the public - (1) information, (2) consultation & (3) deliberation. This improves local agency decision making, better outcomes, more informed residents, participation beyond the usual, enhanced community buy-in and support, faster project implementation, more trust among residents and in local government, development of community leadership and habits of community participation, legal requirements.

Local officials' resistance and doubts: same people participate, not enough time, residents not sufficiently informed, residents not interested, local official's elected/hired to do the job.

Conference Continued from page 3

Involving the public in local budgeting: public information & outreach, surveys, advisory commissions, workshops, deliberative forums, neighborhood councils/committees are other techniques for citizen involvement.

Amsler offered the following tips for success: Clearly identified engagement goals, well framed issues, committee decision makers, approaches matched to goals, adequate time & resources, clear goals for who will participate, inclusive approaches, well run processes, results should influence decisions, close the circle with participants, learn from the experience.

Ronda Saffo explained how she would like to develop curriculum on local government for schools to prepare personally responsible and community minded youth. They focus on preparing children and youth early about good citizenship and look at character traits. They encourage respect, responsibility, etc. The teachings are based on the educational level of the children/young people and begin in kindergarten.



Who's Watching the Watchdog

*By Jerry Lewi,
Panel Chair*

This panel discussion had the objective of discussing whether or not various constituencies had any responsibility for reviewing and overseeing grand jury work given the strict independence of grand juries. Panel members included Judge David DeAlba, Sacramento County Superior Court; Robert Lewis, Sacramento Bee; former Grand Jury Foreman Donald Prange; and Judi Lazenby, Past President of CGJA.



“Watchdog” Panelists: L—R Judge DeAlba, Robert Lewis, Donald Prange, and Judi Lazenby

The short answer to the question posed was, “All of the Above.” Each panelist described how the area he or she represented had or could have a responsibility for watching over grand jury work. Judge DeAlba described the court’s responsibility to be sure that grand juries issue reports under their jurisdiction and to be sure proper procedures were followed. The court has the ability to dismiss and replace a grand jury not living up to its charge when sword in. He also presented examples of how grand juries can sometimes be out of control and must be reigned in by the court.

Robert Lewis said that there is some frustration that the reports don’t always lead to substantive changes. He gave an example of a scathing report issued on child protective services. There is a way for the press to beat the drum on behalf of a report. There is some hope in the newsroom that the local chapter will keep the pressure on to follow up on reports. The Association is a good source to stay on the press. The Bee devotes resources to government accountability unlike some other news groups. Public agencies seem to play the “delay, delay, delay” game hoping that the press will just go away. He believes that the press can do a little more in the area of following up on reports that were initially very newsworthy. One problem is that, due to grand jury confidentiality, it is difficult for the press to validate.

Donald Prange supported the concept that grand juries should follow up on responses to prior reports to see if legal responses are received and, when recommendations are accepted, that they are implemented. He believes grand juries have a responsibility to do this.

Judi Lazenby presented the argument that CGJA, as a non-profit organization with approved Articles of Incorporation, have a legal duty to see that grand juries do what is expected of them. Judge De Alba agreed with this position.



Conference Continued....Committee Reports to Membership

Legislative Affairs Committee

By William E. Trautman

The primary function of the Legislative Affairs Committee is to advise the CGJA of developments in government and to assist the Association in formulating its positions on public affairs which may affect the Grand Jury system in California.

The Legislative Affairs Committee has recently been reconstituted with a new Chair, Bill Trautman (Napa) and Co-Vice Chairs Ralph Johnson (Marin) and Judi Lazenby (Santa Cruz). Judi and the remaining committee members are a "Who's-Who" in the CGJA. But the committee is looking to expand its membership to better serve its primary and additional functions. While the committee does not and cannot give legal advice, it responds to questions from grand juries and others about the grand jury system. These responses are based on the committee members' experience and knowledge of both the limitations and expanses of grand jury jurisdiction and actions. The committee members also actively monitor proposed legislation dealing with grand jury issues and advocate an independent, effective and productive grand jury system in accordance with the Association's policies and advocacy positions.

Grand Jury inquiries to the CGJA should be directed to CGJA President, Tony Noce. He, in turn, refers such inquiries to the Legislative Affairs Committee as appropriate. In responding to such inquiries, our committee collaborates with the CGJA Training Committee when necessary and appropriate to take advantage of the trainers' experiences. Some of the issues the committee has dealt with recently include the limitation of judicial authority over grand jury final reports, proposed legislation that would require grand jury action as a prerequisite to certain county approvals, grand jury jurisdiction over public officials as well as many more.

If you are interested in joining us, let us know.



Membership Relations Committee

Daniel Mufson, Ph.D., Chair

Chapter President's Meeting- CGJA Annual Conference Meeting October 29, 2009



One of the MRC committee's functions is to: *Develop and maintain relationships with each chapter to facilitate the exchange of information and to coordinate on matters of common concern.* Therefore, each Chapter President was invited to participate in a pre-conference lunch to meet one another to discuss

common issues; to open chapter-to-chapter dialogue. Representatives from nine chapters, three associations and a nascent chapter (Sonoma) met and discussed the agenda items as best we could with the poor acoustics, the breadth of the tables and ordering and eating lunch. We will ask for a better venue for next year's meeting in San Diego - an actual roundtable where we can see each other!

We learned that several chapters extend membership to sitting jurors and offer a social event for them. From this discussion it was mentioned that the CGJA ought to provide free membership to sitting jurors along with the Journal. The MRC had discussed this recently as well. This suggestion was brought to the Board at a Saturday retreat. If we adopt this policy, it will enable us to bring sitting jurors into the CGJA at no real cost—it then becomes our job at the chapter level to keep these people as members. It also solves another problem, which has been how to otherwise identify many sitting jurors.

The poor response to the EIR awards was mentioned and each chapter was asked to step up and commit to submitting their county's best report for next year, which was affirmed.

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A survey form was distributed which queried current chapter practices. The results from seven respondents indicated: that it is difficult to recruit new members; most chapter work is done by a core group [no surprise here]; some counties have a very serious problem in GJ recruitment; and that court personnel are not always welcoming CGJA efforts.



The results provide some insight into what issues CGJA should further evaluate for consideration to support its Mission Statement:

- Do counties get less than minimal annual applicants for GJ service?
- Do courts support CGJA programs?

Can we increase CGJA membership via an outreach policy for sitting jurors?

The attendees want to continue this meeting at future conferences. There was some discussion of holding regional meetings from time to time to support one another. Marian Mosley would like to do so in the Central Valley and Betty Mattea has suggested doing so in the Bay Area.



Public Relations Committee Report

By Jerry Lewi, Chair

This past year we achieved or made progress on all of our goals and are looking to add some new ones.

We have published the second edition of the *Grand Jury Achievement Report*, but, frankly are disappointed that we are not getting more candidates to enlarge the database. We have appealed to the chapters for help and advice on how to improve the system. The current report is a for-sale publication for the modest sum of \$10.

Two more courses have been presented at *Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes* – UCLA and Humboldt State University. Additional courses are committed at Fresno State and UC San Diego early next spring. Several others have expressed interest. Please let us know if you believe a course can be offered at an OLLI Chapter near you.

We continue to improve the website and the *Grand Jurors' Journal*, neither of which can we do without inputs from all.

There are now excellent prospects that a recruiting video will be produced in conjunction with our Humboldt Chapter and in particular, Keath North, Chapter President and newly elected CGJA Board member. The plan is to use this short video as a springboard to a longer more complete version. Meanwhile we continue to publicize all known county recruiting videos, especially those available through the Internet via local grand jury websites.



Training Committee

By Betty Flick, Committee Public Relations Chair

As we complete 2009, the Training Committee will have trained over 850 California county grand jurors via five regional seminars, 10 onsite trainings, four foreperson workshops, and three report writing workshops. In spite of tight budgets, the counties were able to send more attendees than in past summers so registration revenues covered expenses. Curriculum changes to provide more information on panel continuity and the addition of presentations on local government kept the content relevant and useful to the attendees. Because interest and attendance at the report writing workshops continued to increase we were able to add a Southern California location to that workshop schedule.

All of our trainers are volunteers and come from all regions of California. We are pleased to have welcomed five new members to the committee beginning this year: Dianne Hoffman, Karen Jahr, Jerry Lewi, Bill Trautman, and Kathy Wylie. Two committee members, Sterling Harwell and Sherry Chesny resigned. Sherry Chesny, was the original organizer of the Training Committee 8 years ago and has served continually, building it to what it is today. Her dedication to the CGJA mission is reflected in her willingness to continue be available as an informal consultant on all aspects of program delivery.

Awards 2009

Lifetime Achievement Award: Joann Landi



Joann Landi receiving Lifetime Achievement Award from Owen Haxton. This award, which is not presented annually, is made on the basis of many years of dedicated service to the association. Haxton nominated Landi for this award.

Angelo Rolando Award : Jerry Lewi



Jerry Lewi receiving the Angelo Rolando Award from Duane Mason, Committee Chair. Lewi was cited for his longstanding service and as one of the associations' most respected and knowledgeable trainers of newly impaneled grand jurors.

EIR Award Media Coverage



Editor Connie Korbel and Reporter Kathy Lee of the Mendocino Beacon/Fort Bragg Advocate receiving the EIR Award for outstanding media coverage



President Tony Noce, Association and Chapter Secretary Joann Landi and Mike Miller, Chapter President at a recent San Mateo Chapter Luncheon

EIR Award Outstanding Grand Jury Report

Members of the 2008-2009 Mendocino Grand Jury, Wendy Roberts, Carol Rosenberg, Barbra Reed, and Betty Hook receiving the EIR award for the outstanding Grand Jury Report from Dan Mufson, EIR Committee Chair. Juror Charlotte Saunders was not present.



California Grand Jurors' Association Budget vs. Actuals: APPROVED 2009 BUDGET - FY09 P&L

January - November 2009

	Total			
	Actual	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
3000 Administration Income	599.95	500.00	99.95	120.0%
3200 Finance Committee Income	3,329.86	2,485.00	844.86	134.0%
3401 Membership Committee Income	6,565.00	8,750.00	(2,185.00)	75.0%
3600 Annual Conference Income	8,818.45	10,125.00	(1,306.55)	87.1%
3800 Publications and Merchandise	1,872.00	3,000.00	(1,128.00)	62.4%
3900 Training Income	76,868.55	73,810.00	3,058.55	104.1%
3998 Miscellaneous Income	(2.00)		(2.00)	
3999 Uncategorized Income	1,199.86		1,199.86	
Total Income	99,251.67	98,670.00	581.67	100.6%
Expenses				
4000 Administration	12,372.23	5,906.00	6,466.23	209.5%
5000 Finance Committee Expenses	2,756.23	1,531.00	1,225.23	180.0%
6000 Membership Committee Expenses	709.27	835.00	(125.73)	84.9%
7000 Operations Work Groups Expense	12.26	500.00	(487.74)	2.5%
7500 Annual Conference Expenses	7,580.89	10,125.00	(2,544.11)	74.9%
7800 Publications and Merchandise Expense	1,366.35	2,000.00	(633.65)	68.3%
7900 Professional Services	1,860.00		1,860.00	
8000 Public Relations Committee	2,869.18	4,473.00	(1,603.82)	64.1%
9000 Training Com.	66,944.26	73,300.00	(6,355.74)	91.3%
9998 Uncategorized Expense	2,400.00		2,400.00	
Total Expenses	98,870.67	98,670.00	200.67	100.2%
Net Operating Income	381.00	-	381.00	0.0%
Net Income	381.00	-	381.00	0.0%

Kings County Chapter

By Eldora Trigueiro, Secretary

The 2009-2010 Grand Jury hosted an Open House on Wednesday and Thursday, October 14th and 15th, 2009, mainly for the Kings County Government Complex. The purpose of the Open House was to create general awareness of the function of the Grand Jury and to aid recruitment for the next Grand Jury. We, the Kings County Chapter of the Kings County Grand Jurors' Association co-hosted this event, by serving refreshments..

Announcement from the Institute of Government Studies

Recently, we received the following announcement

Jerry: I have an announcement that might serve as an article in a future newsletter issue. If not, could someone e-mail to your membership if you have a listserv of some sort? Or do both, if possible. Here is the announcement:

Our library is a state-mandated depository for local government publications, and as such, with your members' support, has been collecting paper grand jury reports for many years. I will be retiring at the end of this month (10/30/09), and Paul King (pking@berkeley.edu, phone: 510-643-3825) will be replacing me as contact person for our depository program. At this time we are NOT requesting grand juries who have never sent us paper copies to do so, but would ask that those who are now doing so to please continue, until such time as they cease distributing paper copy. Please notify us if this cessation happens. Our preferred mailing address for these documents is:

IGS Library/UC Berkeley

ATT: Library Director

109 Moses Hall MC2370

Berkeley CA 94720-2370

We also would like to point out to your membership that we are now beginning to harvest digital copies of grand jury reports on a regular basis as well. You may view our growing collection at:

<http://cdm266301.cdmhost.com/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=%2Fp266301coll6>

Thank you for your crucial support of our depository efforts over these many years.

Ben Burch, Library Assistant III/
Depository Program Manager, Institute of Governmental Studies Library, UC Berkeley



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Looking ahead, the Committee is in the process of reviewing the entire curriculum, making changes and additions which will keep it current with grand jury practices and procedures. The trainers will meet in February, 2010 to collaborate on these changes and further develop their presentation skills in preparation for the summer seminars. As they do this, the lineup of regional programs and onsite locations will be modified to best meet the current needs of the panels.

Revenues generated by the training committee provided us the opportunity to continue to invest in and improve training through curriculum review, enhancement of trainer skills, and delivery of effective training at a reasonable cost to the counties.



California Forward, a New Organization

One of the featured conference speakers was, Jim Mayer, Executive Director of *California Forward*, who described this new organization dedicated to help California with long term solutions to many structural problems. Mayer is well-known to CGJA as he addressed the 2003 conference when he was Executive Director of the Little Hoover Commission, the closest thing to a state grand jury.



California Forward was launched about 18 months ago and is supported by philanthropic organizations, individuals, etc. and is bipartisan. There is consensus that the governance of California needs to be fixed. This is about a process to agree on the problems and the solutions. They anticipate that it will take about 6 years to see a change. The co-chairs are Tom McKernan (CEO of AAA) and Bob Hertzberg, former Speaker of the Assembly. Members of the organization are people who have held office, people from different parts of the State, civil rights advocates, from both the Democratic and Republic party. Another part of the strategy is to recognize that there is no one thing that can be changed to solve the problem.

When they started in March, 2008, there was a group working on redistricting. Gerrymandered districts make it hard for elections to work. The census will be done in 2010 and redistricting will be done in 2011. A ballot measure was passed to take redistricting out of the hands of the legislature; now the challenge is implementation.

They decided to look at the budget process which has become more dysfunctional. They looked at other states to find the best practices. Recommendations from other commissions pretty much matched the best practices of other states. In California there is no fiscal discipline. The most important thing to be done with the state budget process is to build trust. We pass legislation with no payment mechanism. Policy must have a payment mechanism built in. We need performance/results based budgeting; there are models in local government.

In regard to lowering the 2/3 standard to pass a budget, they are working on language that would require a 2/3 vote to raise a fee to supplant a tax. The initiative has been filed and will be on the 2010 ballot.

CGJA Chapter News

San Francisco Chapter *By Beate Boultinghouse, President*

Reaching Out to the Community – The Good and the Bad



Hello to all. I, Beate Boultinghouse, was privileged to be chosen President of the San Francisco chapter of the California Grand Jury Association for this term. If you just stumbled over my first name, it is pronounced like the car Miata, but starting with a "B". As president of this wonderful group of former jurors, my most pressing goal this year is to increase the number of applications to the Civil Grand Jury within the budget allotted to us. Perhaps this is a goal of yours as well.

In the past, we have done the usual outreach by speaking with a variety of neighborhood organizations, adult schools, and organizations such as the Rotary. We created a DVD expounding on the experience of being a grand juror, and a brochure to leave in the court's jury assembly rooms and at local libraries. There have been public service announcements on local TV leading up to the application deadlines in April. Despite all these efforts, the applications have dwindled from a high of 50 about 6 years ago to a mere 33 last year. Is this decline a sign of the times, apathy, lack of information, or demographics?

With the addition of some members new to our team from last year's grand jury, we have reenergized our efforts. Some of you may have seen the *Grand Jury Gazette* published by the 2008-09 Civil Grand Jury of San Francisco. It was available at the CGJA annual meeting in October. Included in the publications are information about the jury, how it came to be, how it functions. There is a letter from the foreperson and a recap of the jury's trip to Hetch Hetchy Reservoir just outside Yosemite National Park, as well as their visit to the county jails. There is a synopsis of each of the CGJ reports published in 2009. There are some photos. There is a form for

Sandra Parker

By Jim Ragan

Sandra Parker, vice president of the San Luis Obispo chapter, passed away on November 4, after suffering a brain aneurysm on October 14. Sandra served on the 1999-2000 San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury and is a former CGJA Board member. She was a regular at CGJA's annual conferences. She was known for her generous contributions to the community in many capacities and her zest for life. In the San Luis Obispo chapter, two of her most significant contributions were organizing the annual "Grand Jury Awareness Month" declarations in the county and obtaining speakers for the monthly luncheons. The chapter honored her at its November 24 luncheon.



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our Public Awareness efforts supported by another proclamation and recognition from the Governor; an increase in membership and support; an increase in our Osher presentations; an increase in EIR Award submittals and Grand Jury Achievement submittals; our BLOG usage; continued financial stability and accountability supported by our recently reestablished Finance Standing Committee; and a continuation of providing valued advice to the many questions from juries and the public.

Did I mention that I am excited (to borrow a teaching method from one of our Trainers, John Sitton)?

Happy Holidays to all from the CGJA organization and my family.

Summary of Board Action

By Joann Landi

September 8, 2009 Special Meeting

Approved recommended Angelo Rolando Memorial Award nominee

Approved Grand Jury Excellence in Reporting recipient

Approved Media Excellence in Reporting recipient

Approved the 10/31/09 Retreat Agenda

September 22, 2009

Regular Meeting

Approved recommended nominee for Jack Zepp Lifetime Achievement Award

Approved additions to Annual Calendar of Critical Dates

Ratified Teller Committee appointments

Ratified CGJA Chapter Member Award proposal

Confirmed Committee Chair appointments for 2009-2010

November 24, 2009

Ratified appointment of Owen Haxton to fill vacant Central Region directorship

Ratified appointment of Keath North as Vice President

Ratified reactivation of the Finance Committee

Ratified 2010 Board meeting schedule

Dissolved Litigation Ad Hoc Committee

Ratified Presidential appointments for 2009-2010

Ratified proposed CGJA History Ad Hoc Committee

Approved Membership Relations Committee proposal for introductory membership

Ratified posting Board Agenda and Packet content on a secure website

Accepted application for formation of a Sonoma County Chapter of CGJA



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requesting a certain topic be considered by the jury. There is also information about how to apply to be a juror.

The *Civil Grand Jury Gazette* has been distributed to library branches. Copies have been made available at various key locations in the court house. They will be distributed during speaking engagements.

In the past, we have tried to get the local papers to publish the reports of the Civil Grand Jury. Because they did not see any profit in it, they refused our request. However, since the *Grand Jury Gazette* was already printed and ready to go, this year the *San Francisco Examiner* agreed to insert it in the October 25 Sunday edition. The results have been beyond expectations. In the short month since it hit the streets, numerous calls have come to the court house asking for applications.

We were also able to secure a one page "advertisement" in November's Voters Guide which was mailed to all voters in the county. We anticipate some response from this as well.

We are also going to make a presentation to the local Chamber of Commerce explaining to the members what we perceive as advantages to having them encourage their employees to serve on the Civil Grand Jury to satisfy their Community Involvement goals. By having some of the workforce participate in the jury, we hope to realize more diversity rather than mostly retired or non-working people.

We feel the key to a responsive citizenry is educating and informing them of this wonderful opportunity to serve their city.

If you have experienced any successful outreach methods, I would love to hear about them. Perhaps they would be helpful to our efforts here in San Francisco, or to others that may be struggling also. please, feel free to write or call.

Help Wanted
Don't just be a member of CGJA, become a participating member
All committees will welcome your involvement as new people and their ideas is what will keep our organization moving ahead in both educating the public and training grand jurors

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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
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**The Mission
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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
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Articles should be e-mailed to
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Articles submitted by e-mail should be
saved in Rich Text Format and trans-
mitted as an attachment to the e-
mail message.
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should be faxed to Jerry at 805-531-
1121
Letters to the editor are limited to
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The Journal will highlight opinion arti-
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We are especially interested in arti-
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to improving public education of the
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