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# Ramblings

GARDEN GROVE KIWANIS RAMBLINGS, PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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*If the subject is the 22 Freeway, Gary will have his hand up!*

## OCTA Speaks and Gary Doesn't Answer.....

When we have speakers or guests come from the OCTA, it is a sure bet that one Club member will be there to pay rapt attention to what they have to say and ask them probing questions regarding HOV lanes, gasoline taxes and such. So when we had not one but two members of the OCTA show up at our meeting to address us on the **22 Freeway Expansion Project**, you knew that this Club member was sure to be in attendance to ask the hard hitting questions that he is known for. But no, this member was no where to be seen. It turns out that he had to attend an event concerning one of the other primary interests in his life. NAMM, the International Music Products Association convention was being held at the **Anaheim Convention Center** this same week. Was the scheduling of the OCTA speakers for this particular night some sort of conspiracy? No, but **Gary S.** will probably think so. **Peter C.** claims he was representing **Gary** for the evening, but I don't recall any hard hitting questions being brought up.....



*Ed H.'s "HoneyBear" in a bikini!*

### Announcements

- **John Leeb** reported on the **Div. 4 DCM** that he was able to attend on 1/16/06 since he had the day off due to MLK. He said that on Feb. 11th, the **Fountain Valley Kiwanis Club** will be having a Poker Tournament with the grand prize being a trip to **Hawaii**. See [www.fvpoker.com](http://www.fvpoker.com) for more info. March 3rd will be the Div. 4 "Special Olympics Warm-up" Bowling Tournament at **Fountain Valley Lanes**. This event is for kids with special needs to be able to come out and have fun bowling. March 11th will be the "**Total K Day**" Carnival at **CHOC Hospital**. Our Club sets up a "Fishin' Pond" for the kids to come try their luck. Thanks to **John Leeb** and **Jack Wallin** for representing our Club at the DCM.
- **SuperBowl XL** is on Feb. 5th and for the last few years, we have had a SuperBowl party at **KiwanisLand**. **Peter Carter** volunteered **Gary Sunda** and himself to organize this years event. So next week, **Gary** or **Peter** should have more info.
- We will be having a **Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner Ladies Night** on Feb. 16th. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet at Thursday's meeting or contact **President Newkirk** if you plan on attending so we can get a headcount for the event. A fine meal and good great fellowship will be in store for those who attend.
- The **Garden Grove Kiwanis Club** will be hosting our annual **Boys & Girls Club's "Youth of the Year"** award winners on Thursday, Feb. 23rd. The plaques will be ordered (and will hopefully be picked up!!!). Mark your calendars and plan on coming out and help these kids celebrate and enjoy their special evening.
- The new **Garden Grove Sports & Rec. Center** had a Grand Opening Celebration ceremony on Sat., 1/21/06. The Center is at **Garden Grove Park** and **Gerry Newkirk, Jack Wallin, R.C. Gall, Tom Elliot, Shelly Singer** and **Bruce Broadwater** were in attendance from our Club. **Bruce** was one of the dignitaries that got to speak during the ceremonies and even mentioned our Club and **President Newkirk** in his remarks (so he wouldn't get fined at the next meeting he said).

### Happy/Sad

- Rick G.** - Happy \$20 for daughter getting engaged on **New Year's Eve** and for the wedding to be held at **KiwanisLand** on Oct 21st.  
**Tom E.** - Happy \$ that he made it to tonight's meeting. **R.C. Gall** - Happy \$ for no particular reason.  
**Peter C.** - Happy \$ that **Rick G.**'s daughter is getting married on his birthday.  
**Tom P.** - Happy and Sad \$, took his kids and grandkids on a cruise and some of them got seasick, otherwise they had a good time.  
**Ed H.** - Happy \$ for pictures that he brought in of his "kids" and his "honeybear" in a bikini.  
**Bob M.** - Happy \$ glad to be here tonight. **Don M.** - Sad \$ for **Ed H.**'s pictures.  
**Jerry K.** - Sad \$ that **Becky**'s 14 year old cat died. **Charles K.** - Sad \$ that his dog has gone deaf.  
**Tony L.** - Happy \$ for being here tonight and Sad \$ for missing a few meetings.  
**Nadine Nofziger** - Happy \$ because she told her boss to go pound sand and she ended up getting a raise.  
**Jack W.** - Happy \$ for **Terri Schlensker** doing better and Happy \$ because he is going to **Reno** to see his new grandson "**Jack**".  
**Will S.** - Happy \$ that **Rosa**'s biopsy came back negative. **Scott M.** - Happy \$ that **Gerry N.** is so happy.  
**John L.** - Happy \$ for **Tom P.**'s birthday this week, Happy \$ that **OCTA** is here to speak tonight and no **Gary S.** here.  
**Shelly S.** - Sad \$ that no Club members joined the **Grand Jury** this term. Happy \$ to be see **Christina Byrne (OCTA)** here tonight.  
**Gerry N.** - Happy \$ for **Rosa S., Terri S., OCTA** being here, **Jack**'s grandson and to see everyone's smiling faces here tonight.  
**Christina Byrne** - Happy \$ that **22 Freeway** construction is more than half over.

### Program

Our speaker for this evenings meeting was **Rick Grebner**, who is the **OCTA Project Manager** for the **22 Freeway Expansion Project**. Also in attendance was **Christina Byrne**, **OCTA's** External Affairs person for the **22 Freeway Project**. Rick told us that the **22 Freeway** project started on Sept. 22, 2004 at 2:22 pm and they have worked 485 days out of the 800 day project. They are 60% spent and complete and are on time and on budget. This is a \$500M project that is getting funds from **Measure M**, State and Federal sources. **OCTA** is administering the project and this is the first time they have done it by themselves. It is a "Design/Build" project, which means they are designing it and building it at the same time, instead of in two separate phases. This is the first time this process has been used on an active freeway and will save them 3-5 years over the normal process. The design is 95% complete and construction is 60% complete. The **22 Freeway** project will add a HOV (Diamond) lane in each direction, auxiliary lanes between various on/off ramps, a continuous aux. lane between the **City Dr.** and **Beach Blvd.**, improve the "**Orange Crush**" interchange and add sound walls.

### Coming Soon

- February 5 SuperBowl XL
- February 16 Valentines Dinner (Ladies Night)
- February 23 Boys & Girls Club Awards Dinner at KiwanisLand

### Thought For The Week

"The reason women don't play football is because eleven of them would never wear the same outfit in public."

~Phyllis Diller