



# Ramblings

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GARDEN GROVE KIWANIS RAMBLINGS, PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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*The loss of three past members.*

## Sadly, It Really Does Come in Threes....

Even though tonight was a ladies night event and we started off tonight's Garden Grove Kiwanis meeting on a happy note with the pre-meeting social hour, once **President Don** called the meeting to order and presided over the opening ceremonies, he had to deliver some sad information to those in attendance (who were: **R.C and Marilyn; Shelly and Carol S.; Jack and Marge W.; Peter and Suki C.; Tom and Pat E.; Scott and Susan M.; Bruce and Peggy B.; Gerry and Marlene N.; Jay M; Ed H.; Tom P.; Don N.; Will L.; John L.; Rick G.; Craig H.; Josh L.; Ronnie Guyer and Van Tran**). News had come that former members and past Club presidents **Jon Elliott** and **Mike Lancier** had both been found dead in their residences on different days in the last week. Coupled with the news last week that former member **Bob "Stumpy" Watkins** had passed, it has been a tough couple of weeks for former Club members. **Mike** had been Club president for the 2000/2001 service year and had a house and a successful telecommunications business here in Garden Grove. **Jon** started his Club president term in Oct, 2004 and had to turn over the reigns in Jan., 2005 due to some health reasons. He also was our Club liaison with Troop 1776, the Boy Scout Troop that we sponsor and meets here at the Park. There may be a small memorial service for Jon at the Park for friends and family. More info will be forthcoming. All three of these gentlemen enjoyed supporting the Club and KiwanisLand Park and were enthusiastic about helping the community and kids in any way that they could. They will be fondly remembered and missed by the Garden Grove Kiwanis Club, family and friends.



*Sad news about the passing of two more former members, both of whom were past Club presidents.*

### Announcements

**Jack W. and Marge** announced that the Park had been heavily used this past week. **Pollies Pies** had a corporate event here with 800 people in attendance, the **Shriners** were here for a Lobster cookout and the **Girl Scouts** used the Park for Day Camp. **President Don** also announced that we had received several donations to KiwanisLand. **St. Columbian Church** donated \$400 for use of the Park for an event that they held here. **Karen Elliott** (Jon's Ex-wife) donated \$100 in memory of **Jon** and his love of the Park. She is also interested in working with the **KiwanisLand Board** to create some type of "memorial" type of equipment that kids would use at the Park with a plaque on it in memory of **Jon**. Also, the following have donated to KiwanisLand in memory of **Bob Watkins**: **M/M Bill Calliham, M/M Richard Haussmann, Patricia Soldano and Robert Stopher.**

### Happy/Sad

Tonight's Happy/Sad were mostly on the Sad side, with a majority of them being presented in memory of either **Jon Elliot, Mike Lancier, Bob Watkins** or some combination of the three. Those included in this giving were: **Scott and Susan McIlvain, Peter and Suki Carter, Ed Hodges, Bruce and Peggy Broadwater, John Leeb, Will Swanstrom, Rick Glasby, Jack Wallin, Craig Howard, Gerry and Marlene Newkirk, Shelly and Carol Singer, Jay Mastroiani, and Don Nielsen.** In addition, the following Happy /Sad's were also presented:

- Pat Elliot** - Happy \$ that **Tom E.** is able to drive again.
- R. C.** - Happy \$ that the **Park** is looking so good and for the maintenance crew that keeps it that way.
- Tom P. and Bruce B.** - Sad \$ to hear that **Tom E.** is back driving again (they both had the same reaction to the news).
- John L.** - Sad \$ that his summer is almost over and he will returning to work again in a few days.
- Will S.** - Sad \$ that a friend of the family had also recently passed.
- Rick G.** - Happy \$ that he is now able to be walking without crutches. Sad \$ that **Cathy** fell today and sprained her ankle.
- Marlene Newkirk** - Happy \$ for both of **Craig & Monnie H.'s** "daughters" who are competing in **Miss GG Pageant.**
- Gerry N.** - Happy \$ for birth of **Jay M.'s** new great grandson who was born this past week
- Jay M.** - Happy \$ for upcoming event on Sept. 13th at his newly remodeled facility. Sad \$ that **Larry S.** won't be able to attend but Happy \$ that **Tom E.** agreed to be Master of Ceremonies (after some arm twisting).
- Craig H.** - Happy \$ for **Jenna and Gabby** to participating in the in **Miss GG Pageant** and for **Park** looking good.

### Tonight's Speaker

The honored guest and speaker this evening was **Assemblyman Van Tran**. **Van** is a former **Garden Grove City Councilman** and was elected to the **Calif. State Assembly** in Nov, 2004. He represents the **68th Assembly District** in **Orange County**, which includes the cities of **Anaheim, Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove, Newport Beach, Stanton, and Westminster**. He and his wife **Cyndi** were blessed in June with the birth of their first child, **Alexander**. So between a new son and trying to get a State budget passed, **Van** said he hasn't been getting much sleep lately. He told us about the woes in getting the State budget balanced and passed and that he has introduced a bill (**AB495**) to increase the amount of homeowner's exemption from \$7000 (set in 1974) to \$25000. **Van** also talked about casinos and how a true "Vegas" style casino must have State approval. He said the Governor is not in favor of urban casinos and it will be difficult to get one approved with the current Gov.

### Coming Soon

- Aug. 30**            **Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe Representative to brief us on proposed Casino Project**
- Sep. 13**           **Ladies Night Meeting held at Jay's Catering**

### Thought For The Week

*"Do not mourn a good man who died. Rather we should thank God that such a man lived." ~ Anon*