



Ramblings

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GARDEN GROVE KIWANIS RAMBLINGS, PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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Fun, Festivities, Food and a KiwanisLand Donation Too!

Spirited Ladies Night Event

The Ladies Night event this evening was very festive and in honor of the recent 4th of July holiday, the **Clubhouse** was decorated with plenty of patriotic and spirited décor and table top centerpieces that contained old fashioned sodas that brought back memories of old-time summer celebrations! This was all provided by **President Craig** and **First Lady Monnie Howard**, who wanted to put everyone into a celebratory mood for the evening. Our special guest and speaker for the evening was **County Supervisor Janet Nguyen** and her husband **Tom Bonikowski** along with her Chief of Staff **Andrew Do**. **President Craig** claimed that this was his last Ladies Night while serving as our **Club's Commander in Chief** and was so moved by this that he donned a special Red, White and Blue "Cat in the Hat" style hat while presiding over the festivities. Also joining in on all the fun and frolic of tonight's event were:



The Clubhouse was decked out in Post 4th Patriotic Red, White & Blue theme for tonight's event!

Craig & Monnie Howard; Gerry & Marlene Newkirk; Gary & Sharon Sunda; Peter & Suki Carter; Dick & Sarah Lobin; Jerry & Connie Margolin; Ed & Shirley Hodges; Efrain & Sophia Davolos; Jerry & Becky Kelly; Tony & Emma Lombardi; Fred & Mary Waggoner and their neighbor **Cheryl; Will Swanstrom** & his daughter **Jenna; R.C. Gall; Tom Petrosine; Don Schlensker;** and last but not least, **Don Nielsen**

Happy/Sad

Per **President Craig's** instructions, tonight's Happy/Sad was a "theme" event. Participants were asked to name the fireworks related item that best describes their significant other.

Peter C. - Skyrocket

Tom P. - Firecracker

Jerry M. - Sparkler

Tony L. - Cherry Bomb

Tom Bonikowski - CrackerJack

Gerry N. - Big Bang

R.C. - Sparkler

Efrain D. - Roman Candle

Ed H. - Sky Rocket

Fred W. - Ground Bloom Flower

Don N. - Crackling Cactus

Craig H. - Grand Finally

Will S. - Punk

Don S. - Sky Rocket

Jerry K. - Sparkler

Dick L. - Fountain

Gary S. - Piccolo Pete

Program

Tonight's Special Program was **Orange County's** First District Supervisor **Janet Nguyen**, who just happens to also be a former **Garden Grove City Council** member. **Janet** was first elected to the **Supervisor** position in a historic special election where two Vietnamese-American candidates received half of the total votes cast in a field of 10, separated from each other by only 7 votes. She was sworn in on March 27, 2007, after a lengthy court battle that went all the way to the **California Supreme Court**. In doing so, she became the first woman ever to represent the **First District**, the first Asian-American and the first Vietnamese-American to serve on the **Orange County Board of Supervisors**, and the youngest Supervisor ever to be elected in **Orange County**. She won a full, four-year term in 2008 in another historic election when all three major candidates were Vietnamese Americans. This is also the first time in the **County's** history that two women have served on the **Board** at the same time. **Janet** was born in 1976 in **Saigon, Vietnam** and she and her family escaped their homeland on a small wooden boat sailing across the **South China Sea** in search of freedom. After passing through numerous refugee camps, **Supervisor Nguyen** and her family arrived in **California** in 1981 where they eventually settled in **Garden Grove**. She graduated from **Garden Grove High School**, is a graduate of the **University of California, Irvine** where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and still lives in **Garden Grove** with her husband **Tom**. As **Supervisor** of the **First District**, **Janet** represents over 600,000 people, covering the cities of **Garden Grove, Santa Ana, Westminster**, and the unincorporated community of **Midway City**. **Orange County** ranks as the sixth most populous county in the nation and the second most populous county in the **State of California**. **Orange County** has the seventh highest county budget in the nation with a budget of over \$6 billion and over 18,000 employees. The **Board of Supervisors** passed this year's budget (unlike the **State**) and this budget covers many different projects and departments such as the **John Wayne Airport** and expansion, **O.C. Sheriff's Department, Health Department, Parks Department, County Assessor, Tax Collector, Registrar of Voters**, etc. **Janet** is looking at the **Pacific Electric Railway** right of way and what it can be used for to help **County Transportation** efforts, how to get a **County Park** in the **First District** and how to get more **Parks Dept.** budget to the **District**, and how to get regional wireless coverage for the **County**. **Janet** also presented **KiwanisLand** with a \$17,500 grant that she was able to procure from the **County** in order for us to extend our walkways to the back of the **Park** so that the physically challenged can gain full access to the entire grounds.

Upcoming Events

July 16th

GG Chamber Mixer at GG Auto Body (Tony Lombardi's Business). Starts at 5:30 pm

July 24th

Joke Night at KiwanisLand (Those with tender ears, consider yourself warned!)

Thought For The Week

"You know you've reached middle age when you chose your cereal for the fiber and not the toy inside!"

Gerry Newkirk