



Ramblings

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GARDEN GROVE KIWANIS RAMBLINGS, PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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Just when you started to forget about construction on the 22!

Kiwanians Hear About the 22 West End Project!

We had several visitors with us this evening for our **Garden Grove Kiwanis** meeting. **Ed Hodges** and **John Phan** brought guest **Tom Pham** with them to experience some good **Kiwanian** cheer and a hearty meal from **Jays Catering**. We also had **Christina Byrne** and **Niall Barrett** from the **OCTA** who were here as our program this evening. **President Tom Petrosine** kicked off tonight's meeting by reminding us that our **Club's Sweetheart Valentines Dinner** was next week on Feb. 12th and if you aren't on the sign-up sheet, let him know so we can get an accurate head count for the event. He then called on **Amy Koshinski** to complete her official **Club** introductory duties by naming the members at two tables in order to officially become a **Club** member. She sailed through all of the names at the table she was sitting at and also at a second and received a rousing round of applause and her official **Club** badge, which entitles her to all **Club** benefits and privileges (like working in the Corn booth, selling Pancake Breakfast tickets and bussing your own table). I wonder if **President Tom** has let her know about the final initiation task of catching the greased pig in the **Park** at next week's meeting?



Construction on the 22 Freeway will begin again in 2010!

Program

Tonight's program was on the **OCTA's West County Connector Project**. The Project Manager **Niall Barrett**, along with Community Relations Officer **Christina Byrne** gave the **Club** members a presentation on the project and answered many questions. This project will pick up where the previous **22 Freeway** project ended and concentrate on the freeway from **Valley View Street** north to the **605 Freeway**. It will add lane connectors from the **22 Freeway** HOV (Diamond) lanes to the 405 HOV lanes and also from the 405 and 605 HOV lanes. It will cause the **Valley View, Seal Beach and 7th Street** overpasses to be rebuilt, add sound walls, add an additional HOV lane on the 405 between the 22 and 605 freeways, and rework of all on and off ramps in these areas. Construction is scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 2010 and last until Oct. 2013. The project is planned to cost \$400M (\$200M from State funds and \$200M from Federal funds) and will create an estimated 12,000 jobs (although most are temporary). The final project plan was reworked so as to cause no loss of houses or private property along the project. Any widening to the Freeways will occur on Freeway easement property and also along the **Seal Beach Naval Weapons Center** property. Much more information, pictures and maps can be found at the **OCTA** website at <http://www.octa.net/westcounty>.

Happy/Sad

- Robin M.** - Happy \$ to be here this evening and Happy \$ that her neighbor who was ill is doing better.
- Shelly S.** - Happy \$ to be here tonight. **Walt D.** - Happy \$ for the good program we had tonight.
- Don S.** - Happy \$ for the program. Sad \$ for **Will S.** who is ill and unable to see his new granddaughter up close.
- Don M.** - Happy \$ to be here tonight and for the program. **Jack W.** - Happy \$ to hear about **22 Freeway**.
- Fred W.** - Happy \$ for **Amy K.** to join **Club** and Happy \$ to be here tonight.
- Amy K.** - Sad \$ she was late this evening. Happy \$ to successfully name two tables and become official **Club** member.
- John P.** - Happy \$ for his new office and to be here. **Tom Pham** - Happy \$ to get to be with us at our Club.
- Bob M.** - Happy \$ for the good program tonight and that **Gary S.** was not too obnoxious this evening.
- Ed H.** - Happy \$ for the program. Happy \$ that his wife **Shirley** got a hole in one while golfing. Sad \$ that it wasn't him.
- Gary S.** - Happy \$ for the presentation that **OCTA** gave to us this evening.
- Don N.** - Happy \$ to be here tonight and for the program. Happy \$ that **Amy K.** is now officially in the **Club**.
- R.C.** - Happy \$ for the program this evening and for having the Diamond Lanes on the **22 Freeway**.
- Tom E.** - Happy \$ to learn about the **22 Freeway** and the upcoming construction projects.
- Gerry N.** - Happy \$ for hearing about the **22 Freeway** project, the Diamond Lanes. Happy \$ for **Amy K.** joining **Club**.
- Craig H.** - Sad \$ for missing meetings and for **John L.** moving to West side. Happy \$ for the program this evening.
- Christina Byrne** - Happy \$ that he Steelers won the SuperBowl.
- Niall Barrett** - Happy \$ to get to come talk to us this evening about the 22. Happy \$ that he is going to **Ireland** for a visit.
- John L.** - Happy \$ for **Amy K.** and Happy \$ that he spent a good Sunday with a bunch of **Kiwanians** at **Ed H.**'s party.
- Tom P.** - Happy \$ for our program tonight. Happy \$ for the good job that the president did this evening.

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 12th **Valentine Sweethearts Dinner** - Speaker will be GG Police Chief Joe Polisar
- Feb. 19th **Garden Grove Boys & Girls Club Awards Night at KiwanisLand**
- Feb. 26th **Speaker will be Clay Block, Garden Grove Jeweler, who will talk about gems**

Thought For The Week

"There is a fine line between fishing and just standing on the shore looking like an idiot."

Gerry Newlark