

ANNUAL REUNION LUNCHEON - May 10, 2013



Ann Marie Melaneph, event organizer, welcomes our guests.

Ann Marie Melaneph (e-mail: Social Annie) is our award-winning Social Chair and event organizer - both for the Chapter and for Regional meetings. Here she monitors the front desk; makes sure all members and visitors are checked in and collect their credentials and meeting materials.



Chapter President Mike Chernock welcomes members and an impressive abundance of honored guests and dignitaries.

Attendees included members from several past Civil Grand Juries and the seated Civil Grand Jury, spouses, a Marin County Supervisor, and CGJA dignitaries.



A good group attended including current jurors, Chapter members, and some spouses as well as the dignitaries at the head table.



Mike presented Judy Chapman with a well-deserved "Exceptional Service" award for local service to the Marin Chapter. The presentation immediately followed by Bill Trautman, CGJA President, who awarded Judy the CGJA version of the "Exceptional Service" award. This is approved award and Judy is the first recipient.





Mike, with the help of Marin County Board Supervisor Susan Adams, presented Owen Haxton with another well-deserved "Exceptional Service" award. Ms. Adams read the commendation aloud.



The Honorable James Ritchie, Presiding Superior Court Judge, spoke about the fiscal crises facing the Courts. He spoke also of the unique relationship between Marin Civil Grand Juries and members of the Marin Superior Court. All in attendance (including Court Executive O Turner) agreed that this relationship is a major factor in making Marin one of the flagship chapters in the State.



CGJA President Bill Trautman took time out of his busy schedule to attend the meeting. He discussed a variety of activities supported by the CGJA (including the new guidelines for Implementation Review and Continuity). In his final remarks he lauded the Marin Chapter for the quantity and quality of our contributions to the CGJA. (Note: Marin has more CGJA members than any other chapter in the State.)



CGJA Vice President and San Francisco Chapter President Beate Boulton, focused on the new era of cooperation between chapters around the State. She pointed out that the most visible proof of this lies in the success of our Regional meetings where people from the Bay Area (as far away as Santa Cruz) come together quarterly in Marin to discuss mutual issues and share multiple solutions to those issues.



Paul Branson, Community Mobility Manager for Marin Transit, defined and quantified the many transportation services Marin Transit offers to seniors, persons with disabilities, and low-income residents. By random chance, the seated Grand Jury recently investigated and reported on what they had with Marin Transit. A number of the seated jury members attended the annual meeting and generated a lively Q&A. The honest interaction between Paul and the seated Jurors was cordial and left both sides with more data than they had before they arrived at the meeting.

Following the social portion of the meeting, an election was held among the members present. Last year's Board of Directors were re-nominated and, lacking additional nominees, the slate was unanimously approved by members in attendance.

END