



# Ramblings

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GARDEN GROVE KIWANIS RAMBLINGS, PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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*GGPD Gang Unit Pays a Visit!*

## Club Learns About Gangs and Gang Life

In addition to our speakers for this evening's program (see below), **Gary Sunda** brought his friend **John Gilco** who was in town from Chicago, where he is a sales rep from **Schumacher Electric Corporation**. This company is owned by **Don Schumacher**, the drag racing legend, and who is the current owner of eight National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) Racing Teams. **John** was out here visiting and he and **Gary** will be attending the **NHRA Winternationals** at the **Pomona Raceway**.



*The Kiwanis Club Pancake Breakfast is back!*

### GG Kiwanis Club Pancake Breakfast Returns

**Club VP Tom Petrosine** and **Club Secretary Efrain Davalos** announced that the **Garden Grove Kiwanis Club** will be conducting a **Pancake Breakfast** fundraiser at **KiwanisLand** on Sunday, April 6th from 7:30 am to 11:30 am. The **Club** used to hold an annual Pancake Breakfast event and it was decided to restore this occasion after it had been discontinued for a few years due to similar types of events that were held by other community organizations. We will try and get as much of the items required to hold this event (syrup, batter, juice, coffee, eggs, sausage, plates, napkins, plasticware, placemats, etc.) donated. There will also be an advertising placemat set up for the event, so start thinking about businesses that you know of who would be willing to donate supplies and sign up for the placemat spots. **Tom** and **Efrain** will be providing additional information and will be passing around donation sign up sheets at future meetings. Make sure to save the date of **April 6th** for this event.

### Garden Grove PD Gang Unit

Our program tonight was on Gangs in our Community and was presented by **Detective Peter Vi** and **Master Officer Dave Lopez** who are members of the **Garden Grove Police Department's Gang Suppression Unit**. The **Gang Suppression Unit** was formed in 1991 to address the problem associated with unlawful gang activity in the city and is made up of nine officers and a supervisor. The mission of the **Unit** is to reduce gang violence and activity within the **City of Garden Grove**. Their primary role is high visibility, street level enforcement and investigation of specific gang related crimes such as homicide, assault, home invasion robbery, extortion, counterfeiting, and drug and weapons violations. The **Gang Suppression Unit** also works to educate the public about gangs in the local neighborhoods by making presentations to schools and community groups in order to help educate families, teachers and the community on how to recognize kids at risk of becoming involved in unlawful gang activities. The **Unit** works closely with other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies and is known as a source for expertise and intelligence of gang activity. There are many gangs that exist within the north part of **Orange County**. There are traditional gangs that occupy certain geographical areas (street gangs) and there are also gangs who are not "turf" specific, such as "taggers" and "party crews". These are the ones who are responsible for a large portion of the graffiti throughout the community, although street gangs also contribute to the graffiti problem. Most street gangs in our area are Hispanic and Asian gangs. **Garden Grove** has six home grown Hispanic gangs located within the city limits and several Asian gangs. There are different reasons why kids join gangs. Some join for protection from other gangs, others are drawn by parties, girls, and drugs. Some are looking for a sense of respect and power, while others find a feeling of support, caring and attention in a gang. It becomes a substitute family to them. Others grow up in a neighborhood where it is almost a way of life to be in a gang.

### Happy/Sad

*Due to the GGPD program having so much useful information and the meeting going late this evening, the Happy/Sad was moved to the end of the meeting. The bucket was passed around as members were bussing the tables and it made it impossible to hear everyone's pledges. These were the ones that I could hear, sorry for the ones that were missed!*

**Don N.** - Happy \$ to see **Gary S.**'s friend **John Gilco** here tonight.

**Gary S.** - Sad \$ for missing last week's meeting. Happy \$ for anniversary celebration he and **Sharon** had last Thursday.

**Bob M.** - Sad \$ that **Larry** and **Jean Shaffer's** sister **Joy** passed away.

**Jay M.** - Happy \$ for having the **GGPD Gang Squad** members here tonight.

**Craig H.** - Happy \$ for his wife **Monnie** who is having a Birthday today .

**Gerry N.** - Happy \$ for **Monnie's** birthday and that she was getting to spend at least part of it without **Craig**.

### Upcoming Events

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|----------|---|
| Feb 14th | Valentine's Sweethearts Dinner Ladies Night event                                 |
| Feb 21st | "Film Night" - History of the Pacific Electric Rail Road                          |
| Feb 22nd | Bolsa Grande High School Key Club Officer's Installation Dinner at KiwanisLand    |
| Mar 6th  | Garden Grove Boys and Girls Club "Youth of the Year" awards dinner at KiwanisLand |

### Thought For The Week

*"Most people who drive like they own the road, don't even own the car."*

*Gerry Newlink*