



# Ramblings

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GARDEN GROVE KIWANIS RAMBLINGS, PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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*A romantic dinner and night of Kiwanian friendship!*

## GG Kiwanis Club Sweetheart's Dinner

Club members and their guests who were in attendance this evening were treated to a festively decorated Clubhouse which set the mood for tonight's event. The social hour was topped off with liquid refreshments (served up with a wry comment by stand-in bartender **Ed H.**), appetizers (hand delivered by one of **Jay's Catering** finest staff) and camaraderie provided by all of those in attendance. Once the meeting officially started, **President Craig**, who was resplendent in a pink tie and a fuzzy "cat-in-the-hat" Valentines stovepipe hat, started off the events with the opening pledge, song, invocation and introductions. He then tried to explain the history of Valentine's, faltered and started receiving heckling from the crowd. Instead he invited the tables to start through the buffet line. Those in attendance this evening included **Craig and Monnie Howard** and guests **Lauren, Jenna and Gabie; R.C. Gall and Marilyn Hale; Peter and Suki Carter; Tom and Pat Elliott; Tom Petrosine and Wynn Webber; Shelly and Carol Singer; Don and Maggie Wells; Robin Marcario; Lorelei Howard; Bob and Lennie Main; Ed and Shirley Hodges; Scott and Susan McIlvain; Jerry and Connie Margolin; Jerry and Jan Andreoff; Walt and Diane Donovan; Gary and Sharon Sunda; Don and Gail Nielsen; Efrain and Sophia Davalos; Jerry and Becky Kelly; John and Jenn Leeb; Gerry and Marlene Newkirk** and guest **Amanda**. **President Craig** informed the attendees that **Jack Wallin** and **Marge** were unable to be with us this evening because **Marge** had fallen in the home earlier in the day and was taken to the hospital. (**Editors note:** Speaking with **Jack** after the meeting, he said that **Marge** was back home and doing better and nothing was broken but she was bruised and banged up a bit). Also unable to attend the event was **Jay** and **Eleanor Mastroianni**. **Bob Main** reported that **Jay** was in the hospital for observation, but it was not too serious and he should be home the next day. The attendees wished **Marge** and **Jay** a speedy recovery and hoped that they were feeling better soon.



*Kiwanis Club Valentine's Dinner a sweet event...*

### GG Kiwanis Club Pancake Breakfast

Club VP **Tom Petrosine** informed those in attendance that the **Garden Grove Kiwanis Club Pancake Breakfast** at **KiwanisLand** will be held on Sunday, April 6th from 7:30 am to 11:30 am. The Club is hoping to get many of the items needed for the event (syrup, batter, juice, coffee, eggs, sausage, plates, napkins, plasticware, placemats, etc.) donated by local businesses or Club members. 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. Donation sign up sheets will be available at future meetings, along with more information on the event.

### Maggie Wells, Garden Grove Costco Store Manager

Our guest speaker this evening was **Maggie Wells**, the Store Manager of the **Garden Grove Costco**. She joined the **Costco** family 24 years ago at the **Price Club** in **Colton**. **Price Club** started in 1976 in **San Diego** and was the first warehouse bulk sales type store. **Costco** started in **Seattle** in 1983 and the two companies merged in 1992 to become today's **Costco**. **Maggie** had previously worked for **Reggie Richards** (who was the previous **GG Costco** Store Manager and who is now at the **Moreno Valley** store) and took over as **Garden Grove** Store Manager about 18 months ago. She had been a store manager in **Northern Calif.** before starting as the **Garden Grove** Store Manager. **Maggie** told us that the **Garden Grove Costco** store is also the location of the **Los Angeles Regional** office (which is upstairs from the main store). There are 60 **Costco** stores in the **LA Region**. **Costco** currently operates 531 warehouses, including 389 in the **United States** and **Puerto Rico**, 75 in **Canada**, 19 in the **United Kingdom**, six in **Korea**, five in **Taiwan**, seven in **Japan** and 30 in **Mexico**. The company also operates **Costco Online**, an electronic commerce web site that is 5 years old and had over \$1 billion in e-sales last year. The **Garden Grove Costco** is approx. 140K sq. ft. with the average **Costco** store being approx. 135K sq. ft. and newer stores that open today average at about 160-165K sq. ft. (**Costco** opens about 35 stores a year). The **Garden Grove Costco**, which first opened in 1994, had about \$170M in sales last year. **Maggie** says that even though they sell gasoline, they do it as a convenience for members and that they don't make money from gasoline sales. The **Garden Grove Costco** store actually lost \$250K on gasoline sales last year. **Maggie** gave those in attendance a bit of advice on **Costco** merchandise, "Buy it when you see it", because they have a high turn around on most items.

### Upcoming Events

- 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
- Mar 8th Miss Garden Grove Texas Hold'em Tournament at the Lions Club

### Thought For The Week

*"In today's world, there is nothing more complicated than trying to lead a simple life."*

*Gerry Newkirk*