



Ramblings

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GARDEN GROVE KIWANIS RAMBLINGS, PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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The Park Looks Great!

GG Kiwanis has Special Guests This Evening!

Upon arriving at the **Clubhouse** this evening, it was hard not to notice how beautiful the **Park** looked with its fresh cut and green grass or how all of the trees were gently swaying in the gentle breeze or all of the colorful flowers that are in bloom around the place. **Jack W.** does such a good job of making sure the **Park** looks great and it really makes you feel proud to belong to this organization and be able to provide this oasis to our community and our members! The **Garden Grove Kiwanis Club** had some special visitors tonight and I'm not just talking about our speaker **Chuck Truman**, who is related to **President Harry S. Truman**. See below to find out more about him. **Mallory Vega**, President of **Soroptimist International of Garden Grove** also stopped by for a visit and to thank the **Club** for letting them meet in the **Clubhouse** and the beautiful surroundings. She said that one of her favorite times is when they are meeting here and it is raining so she can look out the windows and see the rain falling through the trees and onto all of the grass and bushes. **Mallory** presented **KiwanisLand** with a \$1500 donation from the **Soroptimists** to show their appreciation. Thank You to **Mallory** and to **Soroptimist International of Garden Grove!**



KiwanisLand was looking in fine form this evening!

Happy/Sad

- Peter C.** - Happy \$ to be here this evening. **Tom E.** - Happy \$ to be here with all of the gentlemen and the lady.
R.C. - Happy \$ for the good Program we had tonight. **Will S.** - Happy \$ for the interesting Program.
Gary S. - Happy \$ for **Chuck** being here to speak. Happy \$ for 50th High School Reunion last week in **Palm Springs**.
Jerry K. - Happy \$ that for going with **Becky** to her 50th H.S. Reunion in **Ohio**. (No way **Becky** can be going to a 50th!)
Jay M. - Happy \$ for the Program tonight. Happy \$ for his and **Eleanor's** 55th Wedding Anniversary on July 10th
Ed H. - Happy \$ for the Program this evening. Happy \$ that he has never had a 50th anything yet!
Walt D. - Happy \$ to be here this evening and for the Program. Sad \$ that he will be out of town and miss next week.
Bob M. - Happy \$ for the Program and that **Pres. Truman** made the decision to drop the bomb and save American lives.
Bruce B. - Happy \$ to have **Chuck T.** here. Happy \$ that when he was 10 yrs old, he got to see **Harry Truman** in 1948
Tom P. - Happy \$ for the Program tonight and that he didn't have to listen to **Craig** stand up there and speak all night.
Charles K. - Happy \$ to be here this evening and for the great Program tonight. Happy \$ for his Birthday.
Jack W. - Happy \$ that Marge is feeling well and has recovered so nicely.
Brent H. - Happy \$ the great vacation that he just got back from and for the Program that we had this evening.
Robin M. - Happy \$ for **Chuck T.** being here and the Program that he gave us this evening.
Chuck T. - Happy \$ to talk to us tonight. Happy \$ for the unique gift that **Will S.** offered to get for **Jay M.** for his Anniv.
Craig H. - Happy \$ for the Program this evening, that he is "baching" it this weekend and for **Gerry N.** being back.
Gerry N. - Sad \$ that he missed two weeks due to work and last week due to vacation. Happy \$ for great speaker tonight.

Program

Our speaker this evening was **Chuck Truman**, who not only is related to **President Harry S. Truman** (an 8th cousin), but is also a co-worker at **Raytheon** in **Fullerton** with **Craig Howard**. **Chuck** is a **Garden Grove High School** graduate (Class of 1970) and served in the **Navy** during the **Viet Nam** war on the carrier **Enterprise** and the amphibious ship **Mount Vernon** as an electronics technician. After his military service ended he started working for **Hughes Aircraft** for a while, then started his own telephone company in Washington State for a few years. He returned to **Raytheon** (which merged with **Hughes** in 1998) in 2005 where he is now a field engineer for their radar systems. As such, **Chuck** gets to "travel" to **Afghanistan** and **Iraq**, which are both war zones, to inspect, service and advise on the **Raytheon** radar units that are in service with the **US Military**. **Chuck** had to undergo various training (first aide, cultural, etc.) and was issued body armor (25 lb vest) and a 14 lb Kevlar helmet. He is paid hazard pay while "in-country" and the company pays for his life insurance for being in a war zone. **Chuck** flies into **Kuwait City** on a commercial airline and then gets bussed to **Ali Al Salem Air Base** where he awaits (sometimes several days) for a C-130 military transport into **Baghdad, Iraq** where he serves at **Camp Liberty** or a C-17 transport to **Bagram Air Base** in **Afghanistan**. **Chuck** has served 4 duties in **Iraq** and 3 duties in **Afghanistan**. Each duty can be anywhere from 3 to 8 weeks long and he is assigned a soldier who acts as his "protector" in case of any disturbances. **Chuck** had a slide show that he presented while he talked about his experiences, answered questions and gave the audience a glimpse of what it is like to serve as a civilian in a US war zone.

Upcoming Events

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| July 10th | Post 4th of July Ladies Night (OC Supervisor Janet Nguyen will be Speaker) |
| July 24th | Joke Night at KiwanisLand |
| Sept. 25th | New Officer Installation Dinner |

Thought For The Week

"This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave."

Gerry Newlark