



Ramblings

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GARDEN GROVE KIWANIS RAMBLINGS, PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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We know at least one member who wishes there was a casino in Garden Grove...

Jerry Kelly Reveals Winning Blackjack Strategy!

Tonight's **Garden Grove Kiwanis** meeting was orchestrated by V.P **Will Swanstrom**, as **President Tom Petrosine** was out on some sort of secretive mission or another. **Will** started the meeting with his unique sense of humor by blowing an "ah-ooga" horn instead of ringing the **Kiwanis** bell. He then introduced our guests for the evening. **Ralph Vaden** was here as a guest of **Gary Sunda**. The two have been friends for over 45 years and meet when their wives were room mates in college at **UCSB**. **Will** also introduced **Robin Marcario**, whom we have missed seeing for several weeks. **Jack Wallin** was back with us after missing last week while he was out in **Palm Desert** visiting former member **Al Lastuck** and his wife **Carol**. **Jack** reported that **Big Al** was not doing to well and was having a lot of complications due to **Alzheimer's**. But he thought **Al** did recognize him and reported that **Carol** was doing well. Our **Club's** thoughts and prayers go out to **Al** and **Carol**.



Our Program this evening was Jerry "The Gambler" Kelly, who has written a booklet on his winning Blackjack strategy.

Announcements

Gary Sunda reported that at the **Garden Grove Elk's Club** Car Show last Saturday, his classic **Corvette** won the Grand Exalted Ruler's trophy. He also donated \$10 to our **Club** for those who came by to visit with him while he was there with the car. He thanked **Don Nielsen**, **Peter** and **Suki Carter**, his wife **Sharon**, his friend **Ralph Vader** and **Jack Wallin** for supporting him during the event.

Program

Our Program this evening was our own **Jerry Kelly**, who spoke to us on his winning strategy at playing **Blackjack**. **Jerry** says that not only do you need to have a positive attitude about winning at **Blackjack**, you also need to have a strategy. He bases this on his many years of playing the game, where at first, he had the same mindset as most casual players. He would "take with him the amount of money he could afford to lose" and just play hoping luck would be with him this time. After several years of this, he decided to develop a strategy on how to win based on his studies of the game and books written about the game. The first element of his strategy is money management. **Jerry** advises to set your budget on what your bank will be. Then set your initial bet and limit the amount you will raise your bet to 3 times your initial bet. Finally, when you have doubled your set budget, get up and walk away from the table a winner. **Jerry's** second element of his winning strategy is to only play at a table that the dealer uses two decks of cards to play the game. The third element is that he keeps count of the "high" cards (A-K-Q-J-T) and low cards (2-3-4-5-6) that have been dealt out and doesn't bother with what he calls neutral cards (7-8-9). **Jerry** uses a plus/minus system to simplify the way he keeps track of the cards. If there are four "high" cards and six "low" cards dealt out in a round of hands, then the deck is at a "plus two" (more high cards left in the deck than low). If the next round of hands has seven "high" cards and four "low" cards dealt out, then that is a "minus three" for the round and the deck would go to a "minus one" (more low cards left in the deck than high). **Jerry** keeps this in mind because knowing when there are a lot of high or low cards left in the deck helps to decide on when to split pairs, double down, hit on certain numbers or increase the bet. He starts over every time the dealer shuffles the deck. This is not illegal, but the casino's frown on it (they don't like to lose money!) and they can ask you to no longer play **Blackjack** in their casino if they suspect you of counting cards and winning a lot of money there. He suggests sitting down with a deck of cards and practice keeping track of "high/low's" before heading out to a casino. **Jerry** has been playing weekly this summer at **Vegas** and at the local casinos and he is up on average \$500 a week.

Happy/Sad

- Robin M.** - Happy \$ for the newsletters being distributed electronically. Happy \$ to be here this evening.
- RC** - Happy \$ because he is going to win the drawing tonight. **Ralph Vaden** - Happy \$ to come visit with us.
- Don N.** - Happy \$ for the Program this evening and for our guests. **Peter C.** - Happy \$ to be here tonight.
- Gary S.** - Happy \$ for those who visited at the **Elk's** car show and that he won a trophy. Happy \$ **Ralph** is here.
- Jerry K.** - Happy \$ to get to talk to us as the Program tonight. **Efrain D.** - Happy \$ for guests and Program.
- Walt D.** - Happy \$ for being here tonight and for getting the **Blackjack** lesson.
- Ed H.** - Sad \$ he missed getting to see **Gary S.** at the Car Show. Sad \$ no one saw his picture in the paper.
- Brent H.** - Happy \$ for Program. Sad \$ his stepson turned 21, they went out to celebrate and he overdid the celebrating.
- Jack Wallin** - Happy \$ that his grand daughter is coming to visit this weekend.
- Will S.** - Happy \$ to hear **Jerry K.'s** Program tonight. Happy \$ that he won big at poker on Tuesday night.
- Gerry N.** - Happy \$ to hear about winning **Blackjack** strategy. Sad \$ missed seeing **Gary S.'s** Car Show win.

Upcoming Events

Sept. 10th G.G. Kiwanis Club Installation Dinner - OC Supervisor Janet Nguyen is Guest Speaker

Thought For The Week

"Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity." ~ Jerry Kelly