David Schapiro, Editor
September 3, 2026

EXCHANGE
THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEWPORT HARBOR, CA

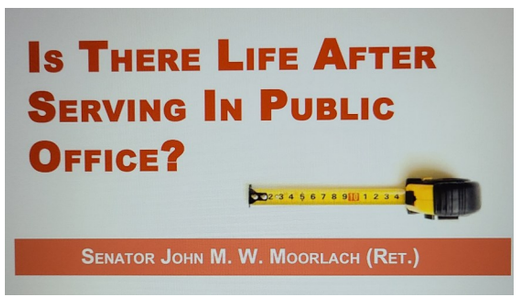
Ph: 949-300-5449
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MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – Last week's buffet luncheon consisting of green salad and the fixings for chicken and ground beef tacos, was held in the main banquet room of the Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club, and there were 27 people in attendance…..**Past-President Ross Stewart** introduced two honored guests: **Bill Allen** and **Tony Lee**, both of whom are members of Exchange Club of Riverside, noting that their club has only male members (!!). **President Leo Fracalosy** began the meeting by crediting **Cynthia Strasmann** for the hard work she has done in putting together a manual outlining and detailing our functions and activities for the entire year, including committee and subcommittee functions and responsibilities (e.g., Field of Honor)….. **Leo** asked **Marianne Amerine** to give the Invocation. **Marianne** asked the Almighty for calm, reduction in anxiety, and that we place a trust in His judgement. **Leo** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

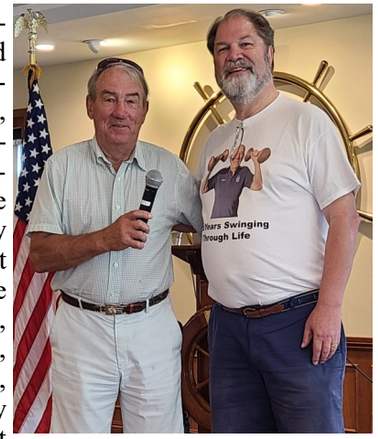
ANNOUNCEMENTS – On behalf of **Diane Daruty**, who is the Chair of the **Newport Spirit Run, Leo** passed around a volunteer sign-up sheet for this year's event, which will be held on **Sunday, October 18th** asking Club members for a couple hours of participation.

SEN. JOHN MOORLACH (Ret.)

–**Program Chair Mitch Mitchell** introduced **John**, who has been an honorary member of our Club for 18 years. **John** then proceeded to relate numerous events and activities during his professional political and personal career. **John** started his career as a CPA and CFP. He was recruited to run for O.C. Treasurer /Tax Collector, ran for O.C. Supervisor, and then was elected to the office of State Senator, a position that he had held for 6 years. **John** is presently retired from public service and is now reflecting and organizing on his experiences and legacy. He expressed his appreciation for the honor of representing the citizens of Newport Beach from 1995 through 2020…..**John** has fond memories of his mother, who passed away last year, and who constantly reminded him: "Don't just sit there, ask me what you can do next", which has been his life-long goal-oriented theme. In 1980**, John** proposed to his wife at dinner at **Five Crowns**, and they spent their first night after their wedding at what was then the **Marriott Hotel in Fashion Island**. The night before his daughter **Sarah** was born, they had dinner at the **Reuben E. Lee**, which became the venue for our ECNH meetings for many years. When **John** first became O.C. Treasurer, he spoke to our Club. …..**John** actually lost his first run for O.C. Treasurer-Tax Collector when he ran in 1994 against incumbent **Robert Citron** (who held the office for 24 years) After Citron resigned in December, 1994 (after the county went bankrupt because of Citron's risky investment strategies), the Board of Supervisors then appointed **Moorlach** to fill the vacancy in March of 1995; he was subsequently elected by voters in 1996 to complete the unexpired term.



The OC was then victim of the largest bankruptcy in U.S. history, and **John** managed to successfully reverse the course. Consequently, he has given numerous lectures, and has been mentioned in more than 400 books, publications, and media outlets, (e.g. L.A. Times, O.C. Business Journal, Westways Magazine, and many others). At the end of 1995, he was quoted by The Register as saying "What a year! I don't believe that I've ever put in so many hours, worked so many Saturdays, presented so many speeches, and been quoted in so many articles as I have in these past 12 months!"….. **John** is currently the publisher and editor of his blog entitled www.moorlachupdate.com which he uses in part to explain his history, opinions, contacts, and exploits. John also presently writes for the **Epoch Times**, in which he contributes opinion pieces on fiscal and public policy topics, including CA school district bond measures, County and City budgetary issues, and others. He identifies as Director of the CA Policy Center's Center for Public Accountability and presented some interesting statistics, noting that in 2017, CA was 43rd out of the 50 states, and was in the 20th percentile with respect to fiscal responsibility. He described CA as watching a train-wreck in slow motion…..**John** has had some interesting interactions with historians, e.g. **Chris Epting**, and has written the foreword to Chris's latest book, published this year, entitled **"Hidden History of Orange County, California"** He also mentioned interacting with **Kevin Starr**, who wrote 9 books on the history of California besides being a professor and lecturer. He has also interviewed **Seymour Beek**, another of our active members, to discuss what we can do to celebrate our 250th anniversary…..**John** stated a few interesting facts: He noted that **Father Junipero Serra** founded the Mission at San Juan Capistrano on November 1, 1776, so OC is also technically celebrating its 250th as well!.....In Washington, D.C., each U.S. State is represented by 2 bronze statues, and California is represented by **Father Serra** and **Ronald Reagan…**.. OC broke away from LA County in 1889, largely because it took so long for residents to travel to the LA County Courthouse for business…..**John** mentioned the CA County rankings with respect to the school districts financials, with LA County scoring very low, whereas OC school districts have been steadily moving up. On a City level, Newport Beach has also been moving up in the rankings, and is currently in 11th place among the 34 cities in the OC. (Irvine and Tustin are at the top)….. John stated that in order to balance the budget fiscally, the usual mechanism for increasing revenue is by increasing taxes, which is generally not popular. He indicated that he has found a lot of errors in the financial statements among City documents, and has requested disclosures about how these statements are generated, with inadequate responses. **("Other than that, the weather is great here!"). John** has again expressed his appreciation for our club and for the support and friendships which we have generated for him…..In answer to **Mitch's** question regarding the chances of having a Republican as governor, **John** mentioned that currently, the likelihood is very small. **Ed Note: Please visit John Moorlach's blog**



Leo and John Moorlach , (wearing Ed Romeo's 100th Birthday T-Shirt

OPPORTUNITY DRAWING – This week's raffle tickets were held by **Michael Call** and **Ken DuFour**, who each took home $26.

THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEWPORT HARBOR
UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	SPEAKER/SUBJECT
Sep 3	Walter Stahr: Candidate, N.B. City Council
Sep 10	Judge Terri Flynn-Peister: Insight into the Orange County Court System
Sep 17	Business Meeting



Pres. Leo Fracalosy

Lunch will be served at next Thursday's meeting at 12:20 p.m. You will be emailed an invitation before the meeting. Please notify Lisa Jelke by Sunday evening if you are planning on attending.

Please visit our website

www.exchangeclubofnewportharbor.com

Spindrift

EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEWPORT HARBOR

Box 1022, Newport Beach, CA 92659-0022

Newport's First Service Club, 1926 * Re– Chartered January 18, 1959
National Club Achievement Award 2009 * National Service Award 2001, 2004, 2009, 2010, 2011
National Big E Award 17 Years * District Best Club Newsletter Award 2001—2006, 2009, 2010, 2011
National Club Membership Achievement Award 2005, 2009
National Excellence Award 2009

National Awards

First Place

Best Club Bulletin Editor, 2001
Best Club Web Video 2011
Best Club Public Relations 2017

Meets at Bahia Corinthian Yacht Club
1601 Bayside Drive, Corona del Mar
Thursdays 12 Noon

Multiple Outstanding Club Awards
California/Nevada District

OFFICERS

President.....Leo Fracalosy
President Elect.....Richard Swinney
Vice President, Programs.....Mitch Mitchell
Secretary.....Lisa Jelke
Treasurer.....George Lesley
Immediate Past President.....Ross Stewart

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

One Year Term	Two Year Term
Marianne Amerine	Barbara Kirkham
Michael Newcomb	Gina Lesley
Lauretta Stansfield	Claudette Mekalian

AMERICANISM.....TBD
Field of Honor.....Richard Swinney
Freedom Shrines.....Gale Demmer
Proudly We Hail.....George Lesley

COMMUNITY SERVICE.....Leo Fracalosy
John Crean Book of Golden Deeds.....Garry TeWinkle
Crime Prevention.....TBD
Fire Prevention.....Jerry Strom
Service to Seniors.....Ed Romeo
Adopt a Family.....TBD
Child Abuse Prevention.....Richard Swinney

FUNDRAISING.....Ken Dufour / George Lesley
Movie Benefit.....George Lesley
Budget Committee.....George Lesley/ Ken DuFour
Sports Books.....
Football Pool.....Mike Gertner

SOCIAL COMMITTEE.....TBD
Birthday Recognition.....Fran Murphy
Christmas.....Cynthia Strasmann
Member Welfare.....TBD
Social Events/Fellowship.....TBD

MEMBERSHIP.....TBD
Education.....Mike Gertner
Club Roster.....TBD
Inductions.....Past Presidents
Membership Badges.....Ken Dufour
New Member Orientation.....Sponsors
Recruitment.....All Members

YOUTH PROGRAMS.....Cynthia Strasmann
Youth of the Year.....TBD
A.C.E. Program.....Cynthia Strasmann
Young Citizenship Award.....Cynthia Strasmann
Patriotic Art.....Cynthia Strasmann
Buddy Bench.....Cynthia Strasmann

PROGRAMS.....Mitch Mitchell / Diane Daruty
Meeting Setup.....K Dufour/R Shlemon/M Newcomb
PUBLIC RELATIONS.....TBD
Media Coverage.....Dave Schapiro
Spindrift Editors:.....D Schapiro/D Daruty/M Newcomb
INVESTMENT.....Richard Swinney

ACTIVE PAST PRESIDENTS

Mike Gertner	CDM Club 67-68	Wally Ziglar	7/13-6/14
Mike Gertner	9/78-8/79	Leo Fracalosy	7/15-7/16
Garry TeWinkle	9/79-8/80	Ken Dufour	7/17-6/18
Mitch Mitchell	9/83-8/84	Richard Swinney	7/18-6/19
W.C. Fox	9/91-9/92	Ken Dufour	7/19-6/20
George Lesley	9/93-8/94	George Lesley	7/20-6/21
W.C. Fox	1/00-6/00	Mike Gertner	7/21-6/22
Duncan Forgey	7/05-6/06	Ken Dufour	7/22-6/23
Jerry Nininger	7/09-6/10	Shirley Lashmett	7/23-6/24
Dr. Bob Wood	7/11-6/12	Roy Shlemon	7/24-6/25
Leo Fracalosy	7/12-6/13	Ross Stewart	7/25-6/26

ANNUAL ACTIVITY CALENDAR

JULY
National Convention
Membership Drive

AUGUST
Membership Drive
Installation 29th

SEPTEMBER
Sports Books
Membership Drive

OCTOBER
Crime Prevention Month

NOVEMBER
One Nation Under God
Proudly We Hail
Movie Benefit

DECEMBER
Christmas Party
Santa School Program
Families Helping Families

JANUARY
ECNH Birthday
Education Meeting

FEBRUARY
Community Service Month

MARCH
National Exchange Birthday
Club Nominations

APRIL
Child Abuse Prevention Month
Club Elections
A.C.E. Awards
Youth of the Year Awards

MAY
Freedom Shrine Month
GIVEAKIDAFLAGTOWAVE
Young Citizenship Award
Field of Honor

JUNE
Milestones of Freedom
Installation Banquet
District Convention