

RICE PAPER

SUBURBAN OPTIMIST CLUB OF BUENA PARK

P.O. Box 727, Placentia, California 92871

Zone 1, Pacific Southeast District

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ATTENTION MEMBERS!

SOC REVERSE RAFFLE

We would like to congratulate our 2017 Winners:

February - Steve and Vicky Feeko

March - Gloria Shum

April - Paul Jay Fukushima

May - Vicky Feeko

June - Mike and Gayle Izuno

July - VFW Youth Group

August - OC Sansei Bowling c/o Glenn Wada

September Grand Prize - Dean Wada

President's Message January 2018

Greetings and Happy New Year 2018! I am now into my second year journey as president of the Suburban Optimist Club of Buena Park (SOC) with lots of benefit, fundraising and community service events in addition to youth sports activities ahead of us this year. I am very proud to continue to be a part of a great organization with a mission statement "to provide the structure and leadership in support of the community through civic and youth oriented programs for families in Southern California and to provide the environment where tomorrow's leaders can build character, self-esteem and self-confidence." I would like to thank all the newly appointed SOC Board members for your dedication and support in the coming new year.

I look forward to the many worthwhile activities that SOC conducts and sponsors such as High School Senior Recognition/Awards Dinner, Boys & Girls Club Christmas Dinner, Tri Star Competition, Pancake Breakfast fundraiser and Deaf and Hard at Hearing Recognition/Awards Dinner.

Our Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at Silver Palace Restaurant, 15326 Whittier Blvd., Whittier, CA. If you would like to attend please let me know at miwakiwa@earthlink.net

AKEMASHITE OMEDETO GOZAIMASU!!

In Optimism,
Al Baez

With Great Sadness

One of Suburban's cherished charter members, Jim Yamashita, passed away December 19. Memorial services are at Sky Rose Chapel at Rose Hills at 1PM Saturday January 27. Please pass on. We will miss him dearly. He was a staunch supporter of our Suburban Optimist Club and SEYO. He was very active in keeping the veterans of the 442 connected and remembered. He was a role model for many of us.

SOC REVERSE RAFFLE

This year again, we will have seven monthly \$500 drawings and a final drawing of \$2,500 held at next year's installation dinner. Each monthly winner's ticket will be "returned to the barrel" and is eligible to win remaining drawings. We strongly encourage each member to sell at least two tickets and forward the entire ticket to Dan Fukushima for validation. This is first fundraiser of the year, and We'd like to see the club get off to a good start. Ticket can be sold through the first monthly drawing in Feb. 2018.

VALENTINES DINNER

February 13, 2018 at Olive Garden, Whittier

The SOC Valentines dinner will be held on Feb. 18. This will be a change of location. So for all thoses who would like to bring a significant other (complimentary) we will have our Valentines dinner at Olive Garden Whittier, 13500 Whittier Blvd. starting at 6pm..

If you plan on attending, please contact Tracy Okida @ 562-900-8887 or tracyokida@yahoo.com by Feb. 1.

Hope to see you there....

YOUTH APPRECIATION NIGHT March 8, 2018

We will be honoring the Eagle Scouts in BSA Troop 578 as well as Gold Award Recipients in Girl Scout Troop 881 from the Orange County Buddhist Church. Lets all come out and support this event. This is the BSA troop that comes out to setup and take down the table and chairs for our Pancake Breakfast. The Event is being held at Hibachi Grill Buffet, 14021 Pioneer Blvd., Norwalk 90650 from 6:30-8:30pm. See you there !! If interested in attending, please contact Kent Suzuki @ 562-400-0188 or knsuzuki@yahoo.com.

It's Pancake Breakfast time again This is our 49th Year!!!

Please set aside the date-April 21. Cancel all vacations, business trips, etc.

NEW LOCATION. Norwalk-Southeast Japanese School & Community Center 14615 S. Gridley Rd, Norwalk. Need you anytime from 5 AM to 12:30PM. Looking forward to seeing all the faces-young and old. We need everyone to come out and lend a hand. There are sit-down jobs, stand-up jobs, and dirty, greasy jobs. Every year it's a success because of YOU. Thanks, in advance, for coming out and making this great fundraising event.

Any questions, call or email Dan 714-961- 0990, danfukushima@roadrunner.com.
If you are interested in participating in the boutique, contact Al Baez at (714) 752-3565 or miwakiwa@earthlink.net.

See you at the Breakfast. No excuses, please.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

February Board Meeting - All new and old officers are encouraged to attend.

Date: February 7, 2018
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Location: Silver Palace
15326 Whittier Blvd.

UPCOMING SUBURBAN BUENA PARK OPTIMIST CLUB PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Attention members! We need your support and help with the upcoming programs and events. Please contact the Chairperson or President Baez if you wish to lend a helping hand.

Tri-Star - January 21, 2018 - TBD - Chairperson: Norman Nishizu
Valentines Dinner - February 18, 2018 - Olive Garden Whittier - Chairperson: Tracy Okida
Boy and Girl Scouts Recognition - March 8, 2018 - Hibachi Grill Buffet - Chairperson: Kent Suzuki
Pancake Breakfast - April 21, 2018 - Norwalk-Southeast Japanese School & Community Center - Chairperson: Dan Fukushima
Youth Recognition - April 26, 2018 - TBD - Chairperson: Ray Okazaki
Deaf & Hard of Hearing Recognition - May 17, 2018 - Chairperson: Stan Enomoto
Golf Tournament - May 21, 2018 - Chairpersons: Miles Yano/ Ray Okazaki

If you wish to attend one of these Events, please contact Al Baez at (714) 752-3565 or miwakiwa@earthlink.net.

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

July 8-10, 2018 - Ottawa, Ontario
July 1-3, 2019 - Louisville, Kentucky

If you wish to attend one of these Conventions, please contact Al Baez at (714) 752-3565 or miwakiwa@earthlink.net.

PAST EVENTS

Mochitsuki Taikai 2017

OCO's 6th Annual Mochitsuki POUND OFF!! Took place Saturday, December 30, 7:00 am at Tanaka Farms, 5380 University Dr., Irvine, 92612. This year we had another fun event with good weather. A total of 29 teams competed with outstanding and very creative Mochigome presentations with over 1,500 people in attendance. All necessary equipment was supplied, usu, kine, cooked mochigome, mochiko, etc. The early morning delicious Loco Mocos got everyone in a fun holiday spirit. Look forward to see you there this year.

Christmas Party for Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove (BGCGG)

On December 9, 2017, SOC held its annual Christmas party for the Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove (BGCGG). This year we hosted 130 kids (infants to 17 y/o) and 47 families to the party. It was a wonderful Christmas party due to entertainment provided by the Star Wars characters taking pictures and doing a saber fight and a skit, the 7th and 8th grade teams worked hard to welcome the BGCGG families and keep the kids entertained prior to dinner with games and arts and craft. The Chinese food provided by Bob @ Silver Palace was a big hit. Of course, the chili and rice prepared by Nancy Suzuki made a great appetizer for the SOC Sports kids.

The BGCGG kids and their families really enjoyed themselves and felt like "guests" by the way they were treated from being entertained by the Star War characters, the games and being served dinner by the 7th and 8th grade teams. The BGCGG kids and families smiling faces during the party and as they left is the reason we look forward to this party every year.

Thank you to the Star War characters and Al Baez for getting the characters. Thank you to Kent Suzuki being "Santa" this year and patiently taking pictures with the families after the kids received their gifts. A big thank you to Sharon Okazaki for buying all the gifts. She manages to buy two or three gifts per child on just \$15 per child. Thank you to all the parents lent a helping hand in the kitchen and the gym. Thank you to the Jr. Optimist for supervising the 7th and 8th grade teams and plating for dinner. Thank you to Mark Uyehara for buying the Christmas tree and Ellen Higa for buying the tree decorations. Thank you to Bob @ Silver Palace for providing much more Chinese food than we paid for. Thank you to Raken Mai for allowing us to share Christmas with your families. *THE BIGGEST THANK YOU GOES TO THE SOC 7th AND 8th GRADERS WHO DID A WONDERFUL JOB OF MAKING THE NIGHT SPECIAL FOR THE BGCGG FAMILIES.*

2017-2018 OFFICERS

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VICE-PRESIDENT EXTERNAL
VICE-PRESIDENT INTERNAL
VICE-PRESIDENT COMMUNICATIONS
SECRETARY
TREASURER
SEARGENT-AT-ARMS
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