

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 2016 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 -

September -

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

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

Date: September 6, 2017

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Location: Silver Palace
15326 Whittier Blvd.

PAST EVENTS

ANOTHER GREAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

We had great weather for our 49th Annual Suburban Optimist Pancake Breakfast, Boutique and Community Fundraiser on April 1. We are grateful for all the help from Orange County Buddhist Church Boy Scout Troop 458 and our SOC Sports Group and parents. We couldn't do it without them. Over \$18,000 in ticket sales/donations and almost 1,300 breakfasts served.

Everyone enjoyed the custom made Krusteaz pancakes, scrambled eggs (donated by JJ Snackfoods), sliced oranges (donated by Produce World in Orange and Fred Katsuda), rolls (donated by Galasso's Bakery) and the wonderful facilities at UFCW Union Local 324. Red Shell Miso Dressing was donated by Hiro Watanabe. Our gratitude to Orange County Buddhist Church for use of their refrigerator for storing our supplies and to Southeast Japanese School (Norwalk) for storing our grills and equipment.

We missed regulars-members Steve Okamura, Ellen Higa, Don Enriques, and Stan Yee of the Jetts. We were short-handed with most of not getting any breaks-we got through the morning.

Charter members who attended were: Charter President Bob Wada, Jim Yamashita, Muneo Hamano and Bob Hirai. It was great to see Bobby and Jane Iwashita. Bobby looked great and we are thankful for his recovery. Missed him flipping pancakes. Other former members/spouses attending: Helen Takata, Amy Tsubokawa, and Gary Taira. Apologies to any I missed.

Thanks to Toshiko Matsuzawa for providing her delicious miso shiru (soup) and rice.

Special thanks to Becky Ishii, who brought her sisters, Ruby and Terry, and Susan Fukushima for manning our ticket table. Special thanks to Alan Ishii of VFW and Calvin Togashi of OCBC for coming out to help over many, many years. Thanks to all who came out to support us by working, attending and/or purchasing tickets. Special thanks to SEYO for selling tickets. This is one of our major fundraisers for our youth work including Senior Recognition (Youth Recognition Night) dinner and scholarships for graduating high school seniors.

OCO Mochitsuki Taikai 2016 December 31st at Tanaka Farms, Irvine

This year celebrated the fifth annual Mochitsuki Taikai which brought together around 1000 attendees with 35 teams participating in the Pound Off Challenge! Our SOC team was there once again to defend last year's title and managed to achieve a respectable 3rd place (see photo below). It was a fun event for everyone ringing in the New Year with friends and family enjoying loco moco, traditional ozoni, lots of great food from the pot luck and of course excellent sake for all legal participants (thanks Glenn Tanaka). The event centers around the Kagami-mochi decoration contest which consists of two round oval rice cakes, top one smaller than the bottom cake, stacked on top of each other with a photogenic carefully selected mandarin orange on top. The mochi is made by each team pounding steamed rice using the traditional wooden mallet (kine) into the stone mortar (usu). The completed displays were judged by shape, size, uniformity and overall craftsmanship. This was a pot luck event, however this year the Entry Fee for each team was to provide a sample dish of their favorite oshogatsu food with a short written description about the food item and fond memory about it or why it is your favorite. Hope you can join us this year.

**SOC Christmas Dinner
Boys & Girls Club of Garden Grove - December 10, 2016**

The annual SOC Christmas Dinner party for the Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove (BGCGG) was held on December 10, 2016 at BGCGG located at 9860 Larson Avenue. We invited 125 kids and there were over 50 families who attended. Once again, the BGCGG kids and their families really appreciated the way there were treated and entertained by the games and Star Wars performance by the Saber Guild group and being served dinner by the 7th and 8th grade boys/girls teams. All BGCGG families in attendance had a good time as was evident from the smiles on their faces during the event.

We provided delicious Chinese food along with hot dogs and chili for the kids. For the fourth year in a row The Saber Guild performed with Darth Vader and other Star Wars characters in an exciting light saber battle. This year Santa (graciously performed by our new SOC Board member Mark Watanabe) was busy handing our presents to all the kids with the assistance of SOC Sports and Octagon kids who did a great job of keeping the younger kids entertained.

Thank you to Ray Okazaki for taking the lead and coordinating another great Christmas Dinner. Thank you to the 7th and 8th grade parents and kids for wrapping the gifts and transporting the gifts to the BGCGG. Thank you to the Saber Guild Star Wars group and Al Baez for entertaining the families. A big Thank You to Sharon Okazaki and Maile Okazaki for buying all the gifts and organizing the gift exchange. Thank you to the Octagon and SOC members for sorting the gifts, plating the food and assisting with the games. Thank you to Ellen Higa for picking up the Christmas tree decorations and supplies. Thank you to Dave Higashi and Scott Iwamoto for picking up the Chinese food.

50th ANNUAL SUBURBAN OPTIMIST GOLF TOURNAMENT

ANNUAL DHH YOUTH RECOGNITION NIGHT

OPTIMIST YOUTH RECOGNITION NIGHT

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.

Nisei Week - August

Boys and Girls Club Christmas Party - Dec. 2017 - TBD

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

July 8-10, 2018 - Ottawa, Ontario

July 1-3, 2019 - Louisville, Kentucky

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

2016-2017 OFFICERS

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