

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 2013 Winners:

February - Nancy Suzuki

March - Dean Wada

April - DJSJ (Dam, Jesse, Susan & Judy)

May - Pam & Cindy Miyda

July - James Takenaka

August - VFW Youth Group

Grand Prize - SOC Sparks

President's Message:

The Suburban Optimist Club and Foundation would like to thank Jim and Marian Yamashita for generous gift of \$100. Jim, is a former club president (1972 - 1973) and an honorable charter member. We thank you Jim and Marian for your continued support and commitment to helping the youth in our Southern California community.

As we start our Club's 48th year, I am truly thankful for our founding members. Because of their foresight and hard work much of our youth programs were set into motion. (Could you imagine what it would be like without the SEYO organization that they started?) Their legacy of community commitment that they forged will still stand well past our Club's bicentennial anniversary, and I hope to continue along the path that was set by my predecessors.

Looking forward to a very busy but rewarding year.

In optimism,
Scott Iwamoto

Scott Iwamoto Installed for Second Term

Thirty-Two Members, Guests and Friends gathered at the Vessel's Club at The Los Alamitos Race Track to witness the Installation of our Officers, Directors and "Do It Again" President for the 2013-2014 Year. The meeting was opened by our MC, Ray Okazaki, followed by the Flag Salute led by Maile Uyehara. Officiating was out Lt. Governor, Bob Eastland and his wife Bette. MC Ray Okazaki set a record for the shortest time spent on an Installation Program... 20 minutes!!! All of the Officers and Directors remained the same. We had to get it done because the 4th Race, Which was coming up, was the feature race for SOC... The track announcer introduced SOC as the horses approached the starting gates. Six Members of our club got to meet the Owner and Trainer of the winning horse and had their picture taken with them and the winning Jockey. Photo to come.

Besides out Lt. Governor and Wife, we had four guests from Bella Vista Optimist Club, Mike & Gayle Izuno and Kaz & Amy Yozozawa, who came to support our function. Amy made money on the horses. The SOC Handicapper/Money Maker was Al Baez. Seemed like he was going back to collect after every race!!!

Everyone enjoyed the Appetizers, Shrimp Cocktail, Pizza, Vegetable and Cheese Platters. As soon as the Meeting (Installation) part of the event was completed, Dinner was served. The entries were Sliced Bar-B-Que Tri-Tip, Baked Salmon, Twice Baked Potatoes, Caesar Salad, Bread & Butter and Apple Pie Ala Mode. We had our choice of drinks. The meal was excellent as well as the service.

For the Ladies, our club had little packages of cookies from Kelly's Kookies. We wanted to make sure that everyone had something to take home. Thanks to Stan for picking up the cookies. Also, this year, we had a Raffle and some of the prizes were: Sacks of Rice, 6-Pack of Beer, Mu-Gi-Cha and Arare. Thanks to Sharon Okazaki for picking up all the prizes.

The Final Drawing of the Youth Fund Raffle took place at the conclusion of the Business Meeting. The ticket was drawn by Maile Uyehara, and it was won by the SOC Sparks Girls Basketball Team. Maile Okazaki's Team.... Congratulations!!!

A Good Time was had by all.... But we left a mess on the floor... Used Parley Tickets. Thank You all for coming out and supporting our function... See you next year....

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

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

Date: November 10, 2013

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Location: Silver Palace
15326 Whittier Blvd., Whittier, CA

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 Iwamoto if you wish to lend a helping hand.

Christmas Party (Boys and Girls Club) - December 2013 - Chairperson: Ray Okazaki
Christmas Party (Laurel High School) - December 2013 - Chairperson: Bob Iwashita
Tri-Star - January 2014 - La Serna High School - Chairperson: Ray Okazaki
Valentines Dinner - February 2014 - TBD - Chairperson: Bobby Iwashita
Pancake Breakfast - April 2014 - Chairperson: Dan Fukushima
Youth Recognition - May 2014 - TBD - Chairperson: Bob Iwashita
Deaf & Hard of Hearing Recognition - June 2014 - Chairperson: Stan Enomoto
Golf Tournament - June 2014 - Chairpersons: Miles Yano/ Ray Okazaki

If you wish to attend one of these quarterlies, please contact Scott Iwamoto at (626) 336-1330.

PAST EVENTS

SUBURBAN RECEIVES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

In 1966, a group of 57 men with Charter President Robert "Bob" Wada started the Suburban Optimist Club. Suburban has stood the test of time. The Nisei Week Festival Board recognized Suburban for its lifetime of service to the youth of our community. We are forever grateful for what these men envisioned and accomplished. We are grateful for the charter members who have passed who devoted so much of their time and money.

The Board invited all fourteen of the living charter members to help celebrate receiving this prestigious award. We are especially proud of our five cherished charter members who showed their continuing support by remaining members all these years and by their attendance:

Robert M. "Bob" Wada, Charter President
Jim Takata, Charter Vice President
Jim Yamashita, Charter Board Member
Muneo Hamano
Henry "Hank" Nakano

Other charter members who attended were: Bob Hirai, George Mimaki and Hiro Shinoda. All stood up to be recognized by the audience.

Members who came in support were: Dan Fukushima, Dave Higashi, Norman Nishizu and Gene Murakami.

Our gratitude to our dear friend Jesse James who nominated Suburban and lobbied for its selection. We are grateful to members of our baby club, OCO, who came out to support us: Jesse & Judy James, President Glenn & Shirley Tanaka, Marsha Hamamoto, Teddy and Judy Matsumoto (Teddy processed the photos and provided copies), Clay Sakurao, Howard Kunihiro, Masa James, Neddy Bokosky, Duane & Stacy Yoshinaga.

Here's to many more years of service to the youth in our community.

YOUTH RECOGNITION NIGHT

We had 39 seniors attending the 47th Youth Recognition Dinner on Thursday, May 9th. Including parents, friends, and Club members a total of 115 were present at the Knott's Berry Farm Resort Hotel. Captain Tim Murakami from the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department was the guest speaker. He presented an excellent speech which was very relevant for the graduating students. His humor and experiences kept the attention of all in the audience. We want to thank club member, Gene Murakami for arranging to have his nephew as speaker. Our Club awarded 3 boys and 3 girls scholarships of \$500.00 each. Bobby Iwashita and Stan Enomoto had a heck of a time deciding on the winners.

We had a good turn out of members and hope more will attend next year's event.

LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL CYCLE AWARD #5 MAY 17, 2013

The Final Cycle Award for the 2013 School Year was presented by Bob Iwashita to Lauren Kerr for Showing Responsibility, Determination and Perseverance in attaining her goals. It was heart warming to see 14 family members and friends at the Awards Assembly, showing support for her accomplishments and her future. She is a Junior, but just might have enough credits to graduate this year. Gook Luck to Her.

We have two more functions left for this School Year for Laurel High. June 13 is their Youth Rec. Night, to be held at Knott's Berry Farm Hotel and Resort, Starting at 7pm. Please come out and help us support and encourage these graduates and give them a warm send off. We'll be providing then Dinner, Achievement and Scholarship Awards. Contact Stan Enomoto if you plan to attend.

The last function will be a Hotdog Luncheon to be served on the last day of school, which will be June 19. We usually start cooking around 9am. Hotdogs, Potato Salad, Chips, Drinks and maybe Cake. If you have time, come out and join us. It'll be over before Noon.

46th ANNUAL SUBURBAN OPTIMIST GOLF TOURNAMENT
May 20, 2013 - Yorba Linda Country Club

The 46th Annual SOC Golf Tournament held on May 20, 2013, at Yorba Linda Country Club, was a huge success. It was a typical sunny Southern California day. You couldn't ask for a better day to spend time with friends, playing golf and chasing a little round white ball that didn't go where it was aimed. We had a record number of 146 players, which set a record as the largest field in the history of the SOC Golf Tournament. All of the players and sponsors were very generous and donated many prizes and money. Steve Okamura, as usual, did a great job as MC. The hungry golfers were treated to the delicious duo of tri tip and salmon at the awards banquet, prepared by Yorba Linda CC. Nisei Week Princess Erika Hayami Fisher added culture and class to the event. Thanks to Steve Okamura's daughter, Jenny Albert, for setting it up with the Nisei Week committee.

The winner of the grand prize of \$1,000 was Mike Albert, who just happens to be Steve Okamura's son-in-law, who is married to Steve's daughter, Jenny. And, a side note, Steve didn't draw the winning ticket. It was drawn by the Nisei Week Princess Erica.

Any event cannot go smoothly or successfully without the hardworking volunteers (made up mostly of SOC Board members) and sponsors. On behalf of the golf committee, I would like to convey our appreciation to all of the volunteers and the sponsors. Also, a huge "Thank You" to the golf committee, who begin meeting in December to start planning the golf tournament. The golf committee members are: Miles Yano, Steve Okamura, Ray Okazaki, Dan Fukushima, Stanley Enomoto, Scott Iwamoto, Bobby Iwashita, Al Kusano, Henry Mano, Don Miyada, Gene Murakami, Norman Nishizu, Tracy Okida, Herb Omura, Eric Shishima and Eiji Yoshihiro.

Jim Takata, one of our charter members, who normally plays, was one of our volunteers. He claims that this is the first time he's missed playing. See you next year, Jim. Hope you will be playing.

LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL
YOUTH RECOGNITION NIGHT
JUNE 13, 2013

The First ever Laurel High School Youth Recognition Night was held on Thursday, June 13 at the Knott's Berry Farm Hotel & Resort, where SOC recognized 36 Graduates of the Class of 2013. Many of the students had completed their requirements and graduated earlier in the year, but they all came back for the Dinner (some were already in College or Working), also participating in this very happy occasion were 85 Parents, Teachers and Laurel Staff, our Club Members and Guests, including Dave Boyer, President of the School Board and two Board Members, and Chandalee Wood, Former Laurel Teacher, our Guest Speaker and PSED Zone 1 Lt. Gov. Bob Eastland and his wife, Bette.

The program began with Don Enrigues leading us in the Flag Salute followed by a welcome and the introduction of the Head Table and Guests by the Principal, Heidi Olshan. This was followed by the Famous Knott's Chicken Dinner Buffet, which Bob Iwashita's grandson, Zachary, visited Three times. Great chicken, potatoes, veggies, biscuits and apple or raspberry pie.

After Dinner, our Guest Speaker Recognized the Graduates with Praise and Words of Encouragement to continue to further their education and do their best in their future endeavors. The Laurel Staff the Introduced each Graduate and presented them with their Certificate and Gift. A Flash Drive with the Laurel HS Logo and "2013". The SOC and Laurel HS presented four Scholarships Totaling \$1000, to deserving graduates. (Anonymous Donations covered the Academic Scholarships).

To complete the Program, Bob Ostmann and the Audio-Visual Dept. put together a video featuring the Graduates and School Staff that was just outstanding. We will get a copy to show the club.

The Entire School could not believe that SOC was providing this Dinner, Certificates and Gifts to the Graduating Seniors. There were so many Happy faces, and the Parents were all very Thankful. Many Thanks to Leslie Vitiello and the School Staff for the decorations. Also many thanks to Heide Olshan, Leslie Vitiello, Herb Omura, Stan Enomoto and Laurel HS for the "Got Optimist" Shirts.

One Footnote to this event. Many of the students at Laurel come from difficult circumstances. Couple of the students live in a shelter, and with some friends. There are many days that students can't afford to buy lunch. Ms. Vitiello always had a loaf of Bread and Peanut Butter and Jam for these emergencies. Their Primary Schools did not work out for them, but they came to Laurel because they knew the importance of having a High School Diploma. Many had perfect attendance and some of the Graduates were Juniors, but they worked hard and earned enough credits to graduate early. There was something about Laurel that had the kids coming back... Teachers like Leslie, who challenged them and kept their interest.

Many of the parents could not afford to pay the full cost for the event, so our Board graciously reduced the individual cost so more parents could attend. There were just a few that could not afford to pay at all, so Laurel covered their expenses. We are so fortunate to have such a giving club, to show the kids that we care about them. One of the Teachers mentioned that our support and interest in Laurel HS has had a great positive influence on the students. We showed interest in them. Good Luck Laurel High Graduates and Thanks You SOC Board.

2nd ANNUAL WALK THE FARM

On Saturday, June 15, SOC Octagon participated in the 2nd annual Walk the Farm. The event was held at Tanaka Farms in Irvine. Money raised goes to farmers in Japan to help rebuild after the earthquake and tsunami. Thirteen members manned the booth from 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Octagon members made posters to let the walkers know whom we represented. We cut and distributed grapefruit to the walkers. Other organizations handed out various fruits and vegetables.

Most of the members stayed after their shifts to hang out and walk the farm. Tanaka Farms had a produce market with a variety of fruits, vegetables, and baked goods. It was a fun day and we hope to participate again next year.

Submitted by Devon Nishizu
SOC Octagon Secretary and Event Coordinator

Editorial ~ We need your help!!

With this issue of *The Sunnyside*, the process of publishing this newsletter is changing. Due to monetary constraints, *The Sunnyside* will *no longer be mailed* to our membership. The concept at this point, is that the President of each club will receive an electronic version. It is hoped that our Club Presidents will either print copies for their membership or forward the electronic version to each member of their club. Until now, print copies have been mailed to all the membership of the District using labels generated by the data base at Optimist International.

There is a concern regarding how many of our members will no longer receive this newsletter due to a variety of challenges (lack of computer, cost of printing/ink to presidents, etc.) We would appreciate hearing feedback from each person who has any concern! Your comments could be directed to either our new District Governor, Barry Dolgovin, at: barrman262@yahoo.com, Neal Pierce, Secretary/Treasurer at: napierce@aol.com, or your editor at logosmith@juno.com. Your help in this matter is most appreciated!

~ The Editor

2013-2014 OFFICERS

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