

# THE GEO OPTIPINION



For the future!



Volume 50 Issue 2

[www.gardenaoptimist.org](http://www.gardenaoptimist.org)

November 2013

A MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE GARDENA EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB  
ZONE 2 – PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OF OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

## President's Message —

One down and eleven more to go. Hey this isn't so bad after all!! It looks like the Club is staying steady as she goes, and we came through the month of October without running into any rough seas.



We kicked off the month on the 1<sup>st</sup> with my first Members' Meeting at Marie Calendar's. We had a good turnout and several of our old time members stepped up to make the meeting lively and interesting.

My thanks go out to Burt and Sadie Nakamura and Glen Shimizu for helping us at the Gardena Heritage Festival on the 5<sup>th</sup>. This was our second year participating, and we had a chance to pass out information on our Club and our Youth Programs.

We had our first Board of Directors Meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> and the Board approved our 2013-2014 Budget. Of particular interest to members, the Club has reduced its membership dues. Regular member dues are now just \$10 per month or \$120 per year.

Next up was our annual Clambake at Carpinteria State Beach. Great weather, great friends, great food and great fun. I also want to especially thank the "crew": Bill, Dave, Deryck, Jared, Jun, and Justin for doing yeoman's work to make the Clambake a success.

At our last meeting of the month on 15<sup>th</sup>, we had a great meeting at Cherrystones and Leonard put on an exceptional spread. Jim Carroll showed a couple of OI videos and wrapped the meeting up with the showing of the Member's Creed video.

Now as we head into November, we will have at our first Members' Meeting a special guest speaker, Mr. Bob Olmsted, who is a candidate for L.A. County

Sheriff. Then for our second meeting we will have our Annual Youth Appreciation Awards Dinner. In between those meetings, we will have our monthly Board of Directors Meeting to take care of club business (everyone's always invited). Don't forget our famous Lau Lau sale coming up on the 23<sup>rd</sup> just in time to stock up for Thanksgiving at the end of the month.

Speaking of Thanksgiving, I want to express my sincere thanks to everyone for your outstanding help, advice, support and counsel thus far. This really is a team effort, and I'm just the head cheerleader around here.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving everyone. Enjoy that special time with family and friends, and I'll be looking forward to seeing you at an upcoming GEO event.

Yours In Optimism,  
Charles "Zee" Zimmer

### Save the Date!

**Nov 5, 7:00 p.m.** - Member Meeting at Marie Callender's Restaurant in Gardena. Special guest speaker Bob Olmsted, candidate for L.A. County Sheriff.

**Nov 12, 7:00 p.m.** - Board of Directors Meeting at JCI.

**Nov 19, 7:00 p.m.** - Youth Appreciation Awards Dinner at Szechwan Restaurant in Lomita.

**Nov 23** - Lau Lau Fundraiser pickup at JCI

**Nov 28** - HAPPY THANKSGIVING

**Dec 10** - See's Candies Fundraiser orders due

**Dec 15** - GEO Annual Christmas Holiday Party and Food/Toy Drive at the JCI.

**CHECK CLUB CALENDAR AT**  
<http://www.gardenaoptimist.org/calendar.htm>  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION & MAPS**

## November 5<sup>th</sup> Guest Speaker

Bob Olmsted is a retired Commander from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. He is a candidate for Sheriff of Los Angeles County, running against the incumbent of 16 years, Lee Baca.

Bob provides a 20 minute presentation outlining the reasons why he is running for Sheriff. Ending the massive culture of corruption within LASD, ending the culture of mismanagement within LASD that has cost taxpayers literally hundreds of millions of dollars and finally, ending the systemic dysfunction inside of LASD.

Bob's presentations are NOT your run of the mill political speeches, far from it. As a matter of fact, the Office of the Sheriff is a "non-partisan" office and therefore, Bob's speeches are 100% non-political. They are 100% "public safety" presentations designed to educate the listener to the problems within LASD and the desperate need for a change in leadership. Bob's website is [www.olmstedinstead.com](http://www.olmstedinstead.com).

## Clambake

Our annual Clambake at Carpinteria State Beach on October 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> was lots of fun as usual and the weather was super outstanding. There were plenty of old familiar faces as well as some new ones that we love to see every year. It was sure good to see Burt Nakamura and Sadie make it out along with our newest member, Ron Ikejiri, who contributed some great photos to our [Shutterfly website](#). The highlights of the weekend were the great fellowship and camaraderie that was enjoyed at the campsite, the Friday night wine tasting, the Saturday surf fishing, horseshoe tournament, kids games, bingo and of course all the great tasting food (especially those clams). It was the best way to start out our 50th year as a Club.



## New Membership Fees

The Board of Directors have approved the following new fee structure for the 2013-2014 year:

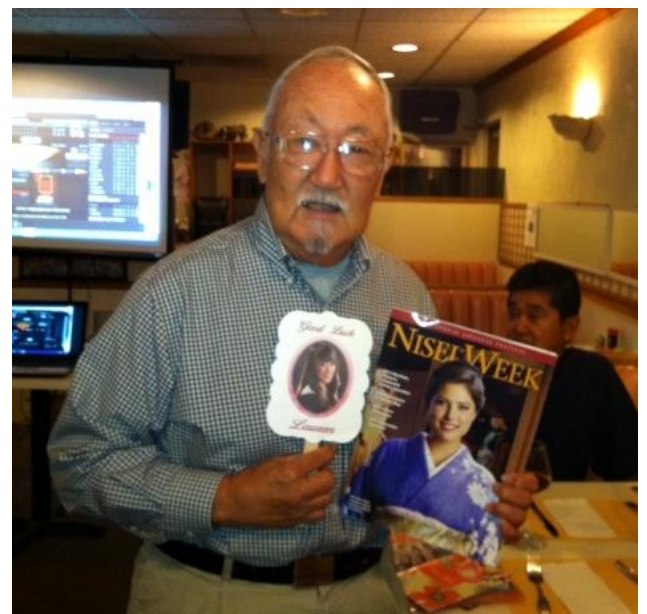
Regular Member Dues	\$120
Life Member Dues	\$80
Multi-Club Member Dues	\$80
Reserve Member Dues	\$75
Family (Spouse) Member Dues	\$60
Charter Member Dues	\$0
Special Dinner Meetings	\$25
Spouse/Guest Dinner Meetings	\$20
Member Dinner Meetings	\$15

The Treasurer will be sending out member statements within the next couple of weeks so please be on the lookout for them. If you feel there is an error in your statement, please contact him and he will work with you to reconcile the discrepancy.

Remember, the Amount Due (Balance) on your statement may be paid in installments of one quarter every three months to maintain your membership in good standing, but for simplicity purposes the Club bills out Member Dues annually. The Club values your membership and wants to acknowledge and thank each of you keeping your accounts current and for contributing to our financial health and solvency.

## Nisei Week Report

At our Member/Guest Dinner Meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup> at Cherrystones, Sei Miyano, who represented the Club at the Nisei Week Coronation Dinner, gave a report to members on his experiences and insights on Nisei Week.



Gardena Evening Optimist Club

**YOUTH APPRECIATION  
AWARDS DINNER**

**HONORING**

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 683**

**TY AOYAGI**

**GARDENA VALLEY JAPANESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE**

**KYLE MATSUMOTO**

**GARDENA POLICE DEPARTMENT EXPLORER POST**

**TRACY LOPEZ**

Tuesday, November 19, 2013, 7 p.m.

\$20 per person

Szechwan Restaurant

2107 Pacific Coast Hwy. Lomita

(310) 534-2280



OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

For more information,

[www.gardenaoptimist.org](http://www.gardenaoptimist.org)

or [info@gardenaoptimist.org](mailto:info@gardenaoptimist.org)



# PORK LAU LAU FUNDRAISER

SPONSORED BY  
GARDENA EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB



Lau Lau is a tasty traditional Hawaiian food consisting of pork, butterfish and taro leaf wrapped in ti leaves and steamed until tender.

GEO will be selling 1 lb. Lau Lau for \$8.00 to help raise funds to support the youth in our community. Pre-orders will be taken until November 8th.

(Pork Lau Lau will be pre-made and picked up frozen)

**Lau Lau pick-up on Saturday  
November 23, 2013 from 1pm-5pm**

**Pick-Up Location:**  
Japanese Cultural Institute  
1964 W. 162nd Street, Gardena, CA 90247

**For more information:**  
Charlie Oyagi (310) 324-3004  
Email: charlieoyagi@gmail.com  
Charles Zimmer (310) 245-8509  
Email: zeezim@sbcglobal.net



# GEO Lau Lau Order Form

Qty @ \$8 ea \_\_\_\_\_ Request Tickets  or Will-Call

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make checks payable to: GEO)

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Info: [charlieoyagi@gmail.com](mailto:charlieoyagi@gmail.com) or 310-324-3004 or cell 310-625-1596

Tickets will be mailed to your address, or  
Will-Call orders will be confirmed via your email address

Pick-up on Saturday, November 23, 1pm to 5pm at  
Gardena Valley JCI, 1964 W 162nd Street, Gardena, CA 90247

Mail order to:  
Charlie Oyagi  
2125 W. 152nd Street  
Gardena, CA 90249

**Last day to order – November 8, 2013**

No. of Lau Lau ordered \_\_\_\_

**Keep this part for your records**





The GEO Essay Contest Committee is now seeking entries for the Optimist International 2013-2014 Essay Contest. The contest affords young people the opportunity to write about their own opinions regarding the world in which they live. The approach can encompass a young person's personal experience, the experience of their country or a more historical perspective. In addition to developing skills for written expression, participants also have the opportunity win a college scholarship.

**Topic: "How Dreams Lead to Success"**  
**When: Club Deadline Jan. 31, 2014**  
**Who: Youth under age 19 who have not yet graduated from high school or the equivalent**

The Optimist International Essay Contest was first sponsored in 1983. Club winners advance to the District contest. District winners are awarded a plaque and a \$2500 scholarship and are invited to attend an awards luncheon at the District's 3rd Quarterly Meeting in May 2014. All scholarships are administered by Optimist International and funded by the Optimist International Foundation. Winners of an Optimist International scholarship must claim their scholarship by the age of 25.

Students interested in entering our club's Essay Contest may [click here](#) for the official rules and entry form, or they may contact Jim Carroll, Essay Chair, at (310) 415-0196 for more information.

Entry forms are to be mailed to:

**Gardena Evening Optimist Club**  
**P.O. Box 2132**  
**Gardena, CA 90247**  
**Attn: Essay Chair**

Or emailed to: [info@gardenaoptimist.org](mailto:info@gardenaoptimist.org)

The GEO Oratorical Contest Committee is now seeking entries for the Optimist International 2013-2014 Oratorical Contest. Every year since our foundation, we've actively recruited contestants from local schools, churches, other organizations, and our own members for our club's Oratorical Contest. This speech contest is designed to inspire today's youth to motivate and inform others through the art of public speaking. It provides young people with the opportunity to compete for a college scholarship and express their views on a pre-assigned topic.

**Topic: "How My Passions Impact the World"**  
**When: Club Deadline Mar. 2, 2014**  
**Who: Youth under age 19 who have not graduated from high school or equivalent**

Each contestant must prepare a speech that is four to five minutes in duration, and given in front of an audience and three judges. Optimist members and qualified members of the community are selected as judges. This is a combined gender contest and our club's first and second place winners will then compete at the Zone level. The winner of the Zone contest will move up to an Area contest for Zones in the same geographical area. The winner of the Area contest goes on to the District finals which will be held in May 2014 at the District's 3rd Quarterly Meeting. The District prizes are: 1st Place-\$2,500 scholarship, 2nd Place-\$1,500 scholarship, and 3rd Place-\$1,000 scholarship.

If you know of any youth who may be interested in entering our club's Oratorical Contest, contact Jim Carroll at (310) 415-0196 for more information. The official entry form is available [here](#).

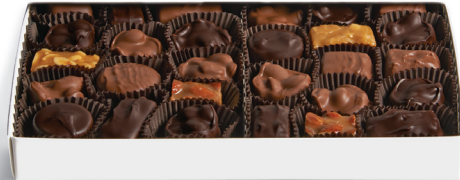
# See's CANDIES®

## 2013 Winter Fundraising Program

### Pre-Sell Form



**Assorted Chocolates**  
Gift-wrapped for Christmas  
2 lb \$35.00 Item#319  
1 lb \$17.50 Item#318



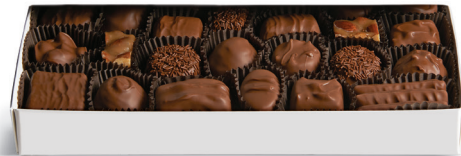
**Nuts & Chews**  
Gift-wrapped for Christmas  
2 lb \$35.00 Item#335  
1 lb \$17.50 Item#334



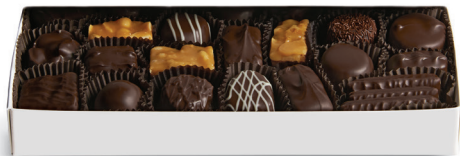
**Toffee-ettes®**  
1 lb \$17.50 Item#316



**Assorted Peppermint Wafers**  
8 oz \$8.75 Item#358



**Milk Chocolates**  
Gift-wrapped for Christmas  
1 lb \$17.50 Item#326



**Dark Chocolates**  
Gift-wrapped for Christmas  
1 lb \$17.50 Item#330



**Assorted Molasses Chips**  
8 oz \$8.75 Item#360



**Peanut Brittle**  
1 lb 8 oz \$17.10 Item#355



**Assorted Lollypops**  
1 lb 5 oz \$16.75 Item#296



**Truffles**  
1 lb \$19.90 Item#902



**Jolly Snowman Gift Box**  
4 oz \$7.25 Item#9127



**Mini Holiday Assortment**  
4 oz \$7.25 Item#596



**Gift Certificate**  
1 lb \$17.50 Item#767

# See's CANDIES®

## 2013 Winter Fundraising Program

### Pre-Sell Form

Keep the top section for your records and return the bottom to your coordinator.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

		1 lb Truffles #902	2 lb Assorted Chocolates #319	1 lb Assorted Chocolates #318	2 lb Nuts & Chews #335	1 lb Nuts & Chews #334	1 lb Milk Chocolates #326	1 lb Dark Chocolates #330	1 lb 8 oz Peanut Brittle #355	1 lb Toffee-ettes® #316	8 oz Asst. Peppermint Wafers #358	8 oz Asst. Molasses Chips #360	1 lb 5 oz Asst. Lollypops #296	4 oz Jolly Snowman Gift Box #9127	4 oz Mini Holiday Assortment #596	1 lb Gift Certificate #767	TOTAL \$
Suggested Selling Price		\$19.90	\$35.00	\$17.50	\$35.00	\$17.50	\$17.50	\$17.50	\$17.10	\$17.50	\$8.75	\$8.75	\$16.75	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$17.50	
Customer Name/Phone																	
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Total Quantity of Each Item																	

## 2013 Winter Fundraising Program

Please fill out form completely.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

		1 lb Truffles #902	2 lb Assorted Chocolates #319	1 lb Assorted Chocolates #318	2 lb Nuts & Chews #335	1 lb Nuts & Chews #334	1 lb Milk Chocolates #326	1 lb Dark Chocolates #330	1 lb 8 oz Peanut Brittle #355	1 lb Toffee-ettes® #316	8 oz Asst. Peppermint Wafers #358	8 oz Asst. Molasses Chips #360	1 lb 5 oz Asst. Lollypops #296	4 oz Jolly Snowman Gift Box #9127	4 oz Mini Holiday Assortment #596	1 lb Gift Certificate #767	TOTAL \$
Suggested Selling Price		\$19.90	\$35.00	\$17.50	\$35.00	\$17.50	\$17.50	\$17.50	\$17.10	\$17.50	\$8.75	\$8.75	\$16.75	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$17.50	
x Quantity of Each Item																	
Amount Due																	



## **THE POWER OF KINDNESS**

*“Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.” ~Leo Buscaglia*

Quite frankly, this is the part about kindness that we all understand. But it's the other part that many of us fail to grasp.

That is...practicing random acts of kindness can change our lives!

The great English writer, Aldous Huxley, was a pioneer in the study techniques to develop human potential. In a lecture toward the end of his life, he said this:

*“People often ask me...what is the most effective technique for transforming their lives?”*

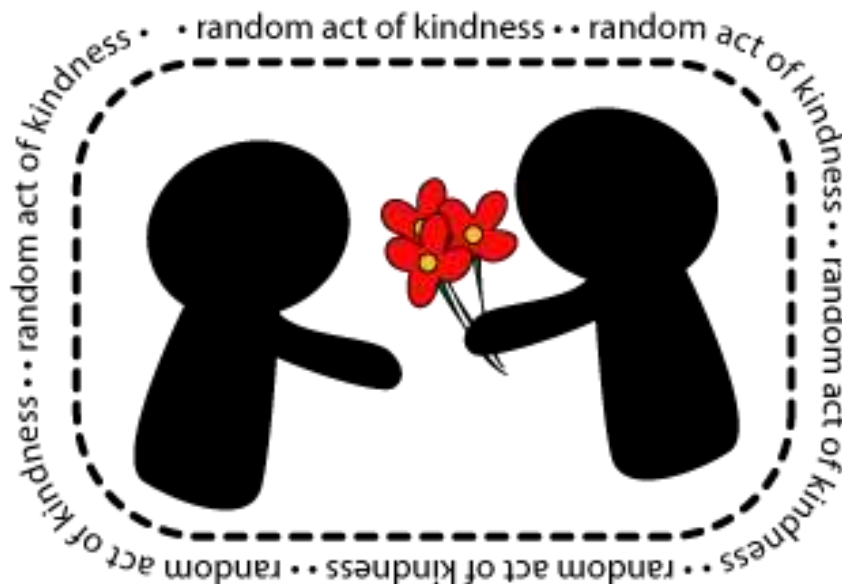
He then said,

*“It's a little embarrassing that after years and years of research, my best answer is—just be a little kinder”*

This is the paradox of the power of kindness. It doesn't feel powerful at all. In fact, it almost feels too simple to be important. But as Huxley said, it is the #1 thing that can transform your life.

Kindness, more than anything, is an attitude that brings us back to the simplicity of being. It is also the one way you can be assured of making a difference with your life.

*“Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind.” ~Henry James*



### OFFICERS

President .....Charles Zimmer  
 Vice President .....Justin Carroll  
 Vice President .....Bill Coonce  
 Secretary .....Stacy Cascadden  
 Treasurer .....Jason Coonce  
 IPP .....Stacy Cascadden

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<u>First Year Members</u>	<u>Second Year Members</u>
Jun Goeku	Dave Allen
Ed Herrera	Jim Carroll
Ron Shintani	Sid Halushka

### EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Jim Carroll-Chairman      Jeanette Mena -Assistant  
 Mikey Williams - Photographer

### THE OPTIMIST CREED

#### PROMISE YOURSELF:

- To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
- To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
- To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
- To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
- To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.
- To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
- To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
- To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.
- To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
- To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

—Christian D. Larson

**THE OPTIPINION**  
**P.O. BOX 2132**  
**GARDENA, CA 90247**

### PSWD 2013-2014 THEME



**To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.**

### HAPPY THANKSGIVING



**November 28th**