

The Orange Coast Optimist Club  
of  
Santa Ana

*RAK KAN NEWS*

*Edited By Judy James*

AUGUST 2001

P.O. BOX 28802•SANTA ANA •CA•92799

**GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Summer at OCO is not what it used to be . . . what happens to those lazy summer days? OCO baseball has comeback to life, OCO volleyball clinic, OCO basketball camp, and of course the Nikkei Games. Is this a reflection of the President and the Board??? Of course not, it is the reflection of our members. You are the ones that make all of this happen. You are the heart and soul of OCO – the volunteers to help coach, to be team reps, to commission 3-on-3, to run track events, and just bringing your kids to everything are just examples of how all you make OCO run. If I do not say it enough . . . THANK YOU 1,000,000 X's.

Our last two events, the Scholarship Dinner and the Steak dinner, are events that go hand to hand. From one, we receive all of your generous contributions and the other, we give it back to all of the deserving graduating High School Seniors. I have attended the Scholarship Dinner for the past several years and I am amazed every year. However this was a special year, because we honored someone that grew up in OCO and represents what we wish to see in all our kids – that goodness within that shines around him. His everyday action casts those rays for others to follow. How many times do we look for role models for our kids? Here at OCO we are lucky because with our Jr. Optimist and Octagons we are developing our own role models – not Kobe, Shaq, or Tiger, but people that we can point to and our kids can actually meet.

What a great and DELICIOUUUUUS Steak dinner. I want to thank all of the people from Judy James, Linda Kimoto, Jayne Ito, Jr. Optimist and a cast of too many to mention . . . with a special thanks to Jimmy Otsuka and Crew – you guys and gals made OCO look great again!!

Still waiting for that summer break to relax . . . president bob.

**NOMINATIONS**

Yes, it's that time of year again . . . nomination time!! Enclosed with this month's newsletter, you'll find a nomination form and a brief summary of our members. PLEASE take the time to complete the nomination form and mail it back to the P.O. Box indicated! It only takes a minute to fill it out and your input really does count! If you always wanted to be on the board, but were afraid to ask . . . (hmmm, sounds like a book I've heard of) . . . please do not hesitate to write your own name in . . . all nominations are kept confidential! Please mail back the form no later than August 15th!

## BASKETBALL CAMP



Basketball Camp is in full swing as we speak, or should I say, as I'm typing! YUP, I brought my laptop to the gym and I am watching my boys play their games in the Annual OCO Basketball Camp as I'm *trying* to write this newsletter. So if you see a lot of typos . . . sorry, I was a little side tracked! This year, Linda Kimoto is baffled on how quick the camps filled up! We have a whopping 150 kids enrolled in Session I and as of today, Tuesday, there are 135 kids registered for Session II (that will fill up to 150 by Friday, with no doubt). What is it this year? Who knows . . . but this is a good example of reasons not to procrastinate when registering for events . . . which brings me to the Nikkei Games . . . don't wait until last minute . . . download those forms today and mail them in . . . or make the necessary phone calls to get the forms. (See Nikkei Games) But back to the Basketball Camp . . . by personal observation I can tell that all the kids are having a great time . . . even the ones that were crying at 9:00 on Monday morning! With all the great coaches and counselors that are working the camp, how could a kid not have a great time! Thanks to Eric Hamamoto and Linda Kimoto for their hard work and dedication in making this camp such a success!

## NIKKEI GAMES

The Nikkei Games is approaching fast . . . it doesn't seem that long ago that we were getting ready for it last year! All applications can be downloaded via the Nikkei Games Link on our website . . . [www.ocoyouth.org](http://www.ocoyouth.org) . Please do not wait until last minute to register, like our basketball camp, supplies need to be ordered in advance and that requires knowing an approximate number. The following is a brief schedule of the Nikkei Games:

Tuesday, August 14	Golf Tournament Cypress Golf Club
Saturday, August 18	3-on-3 Tournament CSULB, Pyramid
Sunday, August 19	Track & Field CSULB, Track
Sunday, August 19	Martial Arts CSULB, Pyramid
Fri-Sun, Aug. 24-26	Baseball TBA
Sat-Sun, Aug. 25-26	Volleyball Rancho Alamitos H.S.

If you are available to help with any of the activities, or need further information, please call Jesse James @ (714) 531-1251.

## STEAK DINNER

This year's Steak Dinner seemed bigger and better didn't it?? Maybe it was because of our new location . . . the OCBC gym . . . it was a lot more comfortable and roomy, but some say the raffle seemed distant, not as exciting!! Nevertheless, it was a success as always and that is due to all those who helped, donated, and attended. This was the first year that we almost sold all the 200 tickets prior to the event . . . What a great feeling!! Many thanks to the all the members (too many to name individually), Octagons and Jr. Optimists that helped cook, prepare, clean, organize the door prizes, watch the drinks, serve food, held the raffle, sold tickets, bought tickets and helped make the evening a fun one!

**ORANGE COUNTY  
NIKKEI  
JUNIOR GOLF**



This year there were some major changes in the OCNJG program . . and they were great changes!!! One change was the location . . the program was moved to the San Joaquin Golf Course in Irvine. This Golf Course and the coaches who worked the program were excellent and very accommodating! The other change was the dates of the program, instead of one day a week for 5 weeks, this year the program was held everyday, Monday thru Friday! The 80+ kids really seemed to enjoy this! Many thanks to Ellen Natsume and Jeanne Tsuruta, the OCNJG chairwomen!! Also thanks to Susan Shimizu and her parents who are ever so dedicated to helping everyday and provides us with all their past knowledge and experience!!

**OCO  
VOLLEYBALL**

This year OCO started a volleyball program for kids in 5th thru 8th grades at Rancho Alamitos. This year we had 80 kids sign up to learn the fundamentals of volleyball . . and they all had a great time! Thanks to Chairperson Teddy Matsumoto and all the members who have helped with this great program!



**BASKETBALL REGISTRATON**

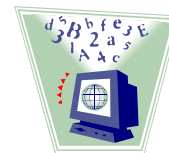
Basketball registration will be held on Saturday, September 15th, at 10:00 a.m. Please make sure to bring your child's medical and insurance information with you! For further information, please contact Linda Kimoto at (714) 842-7822.

**Installation Banquet**

Yes, it's that time again, a new year, with a new board of directors (well, as long as you send in your nomination form)! This year our installation banquet will be held on September 22nd. At the time of publication, the location has not been determined. Keep the date open so you can help send off the old board with much thanks for a great year and bring in the new board!! Look for next month's newsletter for further details!!

**NEWSLETTER ON-LINE**

The newsletter is available on-line! If you would no longer like a newsletter mailed to you because you can view it on-line .. Please e-mail me at [judyjames@socal.rr.com](mailto:judyjames@socal.rr.com) and I will take you off the mailing list and OCO will save on postage!



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***DATES TO REMEMBER . . .***

JULY 30-AUG 3	OCO BASKETBALL SESSION I
AUGUST 5	NIKKEI GAMES PARADE
AUG 6—AUG 10	OCO BASKETBALL SESSION II
AUGUST 10	NOMINATIONS FORM DUE
AUG 18-19	NIKKEI GAMES
SEPTEMBER 15	BASKETBALL REGISTRATION @ RANCHO-10 A.M.
SEPTEMBER 22	INSTALLATION BANQUET @ TBA

**WEB SITES addresses**

OCO:	<a href="http://www.ocoyouth.org">www.ocoyouth.org</a>
OCO Jr. Optimist:	<a href="http://www3.cybercities/o/ocojroptimist">www3.cybercities/o/ocojroptimist</a>
SEYO:	<a href="http://www.seyo.org">www.seyo.org</a>

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