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Tomodachi

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Richard Shinomoto

Hi Everyone!

This year's Pancake Breakfast was a great success. I would like to thank Richard Hardy with the Kiwanis club for providing the grill and cooks. They did a fantastic job with the pancakes. Without their help the lines would not move as smoothly. Johnson Sensei made the lunch item served by Judo at the Holiday Boutique. As always this year's breakfast and lunch was Ono.

Becky Shinomoto and Helen Hikiji are the soul organizers in getting all the vendors for this year's Holiday Boutique. It seemed that everyone was getting an early start on their Christmas shopping. As I walked around the gym, I would see people stop and chat with friends that they have not seen in awhile.

I would like to thank Ted Yoshimura and Bob Yamada for all the hard work they do for the center. They removed all the classroom doors to have them open into the hallway. It took them 2 days to do all 12 doors. They will be working on the 2 outside doors so they will open out to the parking lot. The outside doors now open into the classroom. All the work is being done to make the center safer for everyone in case of an emergency. Next will be removal of all propane tanks from the storage containers. They will be put into a cage between two storage containers for safe storage. Thanks again for all your hard work. Great job!!

Attention, all graduating seniors! We will be accepting applications for the NERIO/SEJSCC Scholarship. The form will be available on the SEJS website (SEJSCC.org). The deadline for the Scholarship will be earlier this year on January 30, 2015. The scholarships will be presented at the annual Recognition Dinner on Saturday March 21, 2015. Scholarship winners must be present, at the dinner, to receive their award.

The annual Center clean up will be held on Sunday, Feb 22, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00. The center would like several volunteers from each organization to help out. We will be working outside and cleaning inside. Bring your gloves, rakes, buckets and cleaning supplies etc. The center appreciates all the help it can get to make this a wonderful center.

I wish everybody a safe Holiday Season!!

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

May - June

Ms Shirley Oshiro	\$50.00
Ms Tazue Hayashi	\$300.00
In memory of Utaka	
Mr. Kat Shimamoto	\$100.00
Anonymous	\$50.00
Norwalk Nikkei Seniors	\$3,000.00
In memory of George Hatanaka	
Ms Mitzi Okazaki	\$50.00
In memory of Aki Suyenaga	

*Thank you for your kind generosity
and continuing support.*

SPECIAL NOTICE

Due to new BANK rules, acronyms (SEJSCC) is no longer allowed on checks. All checks must be spelled out. Please use pay to the order of "Southeast Japanese School" for all checks to the Community Center.

Thank you for your continued support.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Nerio Scholarship Applications

Deadline

January 30, 2015

Download the fillable forms at

sejscc.org

NORWALK YOUTH SPORTS

By Kandi Kawakami

Hot Shots - 9th Grade Girls Team

The Hot Shots were very successful in the latest tournaments, coming in 1st place in the Hollywood Dodgers tournament and 2nd place in the VFW Tournament, playing 10th Grade Gold division! They always have a great time together!

The girls have started playing basketball on their respective high school teams. Good luck to all team members!

Thank you Coach Kirk and Coach Wesley for preparing them for high school basketball.

Girls: Kalei Iwami, Kira Escovar, Tracey Nakamura, Hailey Russell, Sarah Ito, Stef Berberabe, Kailah Tokushige and Nicolle Kawakami



By Kurt Kohara

** NYS Rebels 2014 Tournament Results **

- West LA Tournament Champions (Division: Boys 2)
- South Bay FOR Tournament Runner-Ups (Division: Silver)
- Tigers Tournament Consolation Winners (Division: Gold)
- Hollywood Dodgers Las Vegas Champs (Division: Yellow)
- VFW Tournament Champions (Division: Silver)

Congratulations Ryan, Joshua, Jeremiah, Christian, Kameron, Franklin, Jett, Keoni, Kevin, Chris and Nico. Great job guys and keep up the hard work! We are very proud of you! I would like to introduce a very warm welcome to our 3 new additions (formally of the Knights): Kevin Tai (Parents: Dave & Shirley Tai), Chris Eguchi (Parents: Dave & Lynda Eguchi) and Nico Lee (Parents: Dwight & Liz Lee). Special thanks to Rebels Coaches: Russell, Dave E. and Dave T.; Team Reps: Colleen (retired), Lynda and Liz; Uniform "Specialist": Shirley; Photographer: Ray S.; Videographer: Rey C.; All Rebels families and friends for your dedicated time and support!



The 12th Grade Boys NYS Thunder celebrated their final VFW tournament by placing 2nd place in their division.



NYS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

This year's Norwalk Youth Sports Pancake Breakfast and Boutique was another success. Our guests enjoyed the delicious Hawaiian style breakfast prepared by our volunteers. It was great to see all the NYS parents and players working together for this event. As an added bonus, everyone was able to get a jump on their Christmas shopping at the boutique. There were many vendors with great ideas and crafts. Congratulations to Mark Shin from the NYS Dragons the lucky winner for this year's pancake breakfast \$100 raffle! Thank you to this year's coordinators for all their hard work: Darlene Lim-Ninja's; Kristy Hawman-Defenders; Diana Sarigumba-Firecrackers; Kim Acosta-Wolves.

Last, but not least, we especially want to thank the companies and groups who donated their time and food items to us: Richard Hardy and his helpers from the Kiwanis Club, Suburban Optimist Club (grill and generous donation), Sunny Delight, Starbucks (Cerritos), Coffee Bean (Cerritos), Dunkin' Donuts, Pacific Ranch Market (eggs), and Jay and Naomi Hosoda Print n' Copy Center (thank you banner). The ongoing cooperation between Norwalk Youth Sports and the Southeast Japanese School and Community Center makes us proud to be a part of this community.



HIKARI TAIKO

Mary Jane Mayeda

This year has come and gone so fast and it is almost Christmas already!

We are getting in gear for our 30th anniversary and Christmas party on December 14th.

We have been very busy with classes teaching them the pieces they will perform for the Christmas party program.

Hikari Taiko held a small Halloween party on October 25th. Please enjoy the pictures of the costumes.

January 11, 2015 we will be starting a new Basic 1 class at 11:00 am. Anybody interested should contact Mary Jane at MJMHikari@aol.com as class is limited.



SEJSCC BOARD MEMBERS

If you wish to contact any of the board members, please call the Center and leave a message.

Calvin Chang
Lynn Chang
Linda Kusuda
Kimie Matsumoto
Fred Matsumoto
Carrie Nakatani
Jim Niuro
Ernie Nishii
Mas Onoda
Richard Shinomoto
Tosh Teramoto
Bob Yamada
Ted Yoshimura

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Editor: SEJSCC Staff; Advertising & Mailing: SEJSCC Staff, Mas Onoda, Gakuen PTA and Norwalk Nikkei Seniors.

Reminder... Nov. 1 Host: Gakuen
Serving Udon
Dec. 6 Host: Kendo
Serving: Kendo special
Jan. 3 Host: Taiko
Serving Lasagna
Dinner served at 6 pm

B	I	N	G	O
7	25	44	57	62
15	22	40	50	70
11	30	39	46	74
2	28	37	55	68
10	27	39	59	75

BINGO

6:30 pm
First Saturday Of the month
Come join us!

NORWALK DANCE CLUB

Connie Ciranna

October Halloween Dance 2014

NDC – “Hawaiian Night Social” August 23rd, 2014

Aloha! What a nice evening with 93 attendees from GVNC, Langley, NDC, friends, plus the Na Wahine ‘O Kawena dancers! Helen had many helpers preparing the Spam Musubi. They were Edna Kurihara, Harriet Yamada, Jean Ikemoto, Lynn Hori, Betty Lee, Betty Oshiro, & Dennis & Aileen Maruki, as well as Helen. Helen also had Richard Oye, Ben San Miguel, George Real, Harriet Y., & Dennis & Aileen placing the salad, fruit, & cucumber slices on each plate. After consuming the yummy food, we were all treated with the beautiful dancing of the 14 Hawaiian dancers. We also were entertained by George Real who sang two songs as the ladies danced. There was so much expression in the various Hawaiian dances! We all thank you, Karen Toyoshiba, for teaching these ladies! We must also thank Yuso K. for providing the music for the evening, & everyone who supports the Norwalk Dance Club.

Happy Anniversary Norwalk Dance Club, 2014!

On Saturday, September 27, NDC celebrated their 38th Anniversary Bento dinner & dance. The 69 guests enjoyed the delicious Bento from Maki Yaki #5 Japanese Restaurant. Then to top it off, everyone received a slice of Chocolate Mouse cake from Joyce Bakery. Thank you Helen for ordering such a wonderful meal! Well, after all that good food, it was time for dancing. Edna led three line dances. The first one was “Kick & Scoot”, second one, “Strait Cha-Cha”, & lastly, the “Circle Waltz”. Yuso K. provided the dancers with a variety of dance music so we wouldn’t forget all those dance steps that Glenn Yata has taught us. NDC thanks GVNC, Langley, & friends for supporting their dances.

There were 6 little scarecrows standing next to Mr. Pumpkin & his two ghost friends sitting on the stage. They were watching all the 69 dancers dancing on the floor. The first little scarecrow asked, “Where are all these people from?” Mr. Pumpkin said, “They’re from NDC, GVNC, & Langley.” The second little scarecrow asked, “Who’s that guy with the bushy hair?” The third scarecrow said, “Oh, that’s Yuso who plays the music.” “Oh, look!” said the fourth scarecrow. “They’re now eating pizza, some salad, & a piece of pumpkin-crush cake. The fifth little scarecrow said, “I heard that Helen H., Edna K., & Harriet Y., made the cakes. “ “Well, everyone must have liked it. It’s all gone.” The sixth little scarecrow asked, “Aren’t the table decorations cute? Some people are drawing faces on those little foam pumpkins.” “Mr. Pumpkin, what kind of dances is Minnie Mouse teaching?” the scarecrows ask. “Oh, one is called “Old Time Rock & Roll”, & the other dance is called “Cupid Shuffle”, said Mr. Pumpkin. “Well, I guess it’s time to thank everyone for letting us enjoy the evening”.



JAPANESE SCHOOL

Philip Loveridge

Our school had a very successful October this year. Undokai went well even though we were dealing with a new location and a competing event at the park, thanks to the efforts of Jean and the Intermediate B class. The Undokai was held in conjunction with a welcome to all new students and their families. This year we welcomed many new families and a new kindergarten teacher, Hana Fisher. The following week we had the Pancake Breakfast and Boutique where no one was turned away for not having cash thanks to Ernie pushing us into using new tech at the school.

The next cultural experience will be the "3,5,7 Festival". This is the celebration of children who are 3,5, and 7 years old. Traditionally, children wear special kimono for a visit to the Shrine and parents purchase "Chitose Ame", a special candy for this festival. Students in the kindergarten and beginners class will get an opportunity to dress in the traditional kimono and take pictures. Also, in November the Gakuen students will be performing for the Keiro no Hi luncheon. This is a traditional holiday in Japan to say thanks to our elders for all they have done for us.

The school is turning 90 this next year and we are looking for good pictures of the various events from the

past few years to memorialize in the yearbook. Please let either me or Principal Matsumoto know and we will provide a way for you to submit photos.

The end of year holidays are approaching quickly and we all have competing priorities but there is planning to be done still so please come to the next PTA meeting on November 8th.



SOUTHEAST JAPANESE SCHOOL 90TH ANNIVERSARY

2015 marks the anniversary of Southeast Japanese School and Community Center. Please save the date for the celebration scheduled to be held June 28, 2015. The committee will publish a book commemorating the event. We are looking for photos and historical information of any club or organization that joined SEJSCC. If you are a member of any organization presently at the Center, please contact the responsible person in your organization if you can offer assistance. We are also in need of assistance for those clubs and organizations that are no longer offered at the Center. If you have any information for groups such as Chigirie, Rod and Reelers, Kimekomi Ningyo, Karaoke, Tanden, or any other group that no longer meets at the Center, please let us know. If you can help us, please contact Kimie Matsumoto at kimimatsu@yahoo.com.

We invite you to place an advertisement of your organization or business to help defray the cost of the book. This will be a great opportunity to highlight your business and is an excellent way to show your continued support for our school with a congratulatory message.

Please find the advertisement form on page 9 of this publication. Early bird deadline is January 15, 2015. Deadline for submission is April 15, 2015. Questions regarding advertising in the book can be sent to Kimie Matsumoto at kimimatsu@yahoo.com.

We welcome your donation if you do not require an advertisement space. Donations made to Southeast Japanese School are tax deductible and will be acknowledged in the book.



NORWALK KENDO DOJO

The end of September marked the annual Southern California Kendo Federation Team Tournament. As always, the tournament exemplified a high level of kendo. This year, Yoon Courtney, Fu Linda and Domen Sumi, came away with the second place trophy in the Women's Division. Congratulations!

The Southern California Kendo Federation Fall Promotional Exam was held on October 19, 2014 at the University of La Verne for 4 kyu to 4 dan divisions, while testing for 6 kyu and 5 kyu divisions was administered at Norwalk Dojo the previous week. All the kenshi who tested passed and several with perfect scores. Those who advanced in rank include: 6 kyu - Kim Ashley, Kim Alvin, Kim Sun, 5 kyu - Kim Ryan, Cho Daniel, Cho Ryan, 4 kyu - Cheon Kevin, Kim Noah, Choi Jonathan, 3 kyu - Hahn Lance, Moon Joshua, 2 kyu - Tseng George, 1 kyu - Lim Steve, 1 dan - Ji Daniel, Trost Jeffrey, 2 dan - Yoon Courtney, and 3 dan - Huang Michael, Amano Shingo. A special congratulations to Domen Sumi for passing the 4 dan exam and becoming our dojo's newest Sensei. A job well done to all those who tested.

Norwalk Kendo Dojo practices Mondays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm and Fridays from 7:30 to 10:00 pm. We also practice Iaido from 9 to 10:30 pm on Mondays. New members are welcome; beginners are accepted at the start of each odd month. Please see our website at <http://www.eanet.com/norwalk> for information about Norwalk Kendo Dojo, including upcoming and past events as well as how to join, or send email to norwalkkendo@gmail.com.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Nerio Scholarship Applications

Deadline

January 30, 2015

Download the fillable forms at sejsgcc.org

CALENDAR

Advisory Committee Mtg-1st Wed Monthly 7pm Center Bd Mtg-2nd Wed Monthly 7 pm

Nov	1	Monthly Bingo	6:30 pm
	9	Keiro no Hi Luncheon (Respect for Elders Day)	12:00-2:00 pm
	29	No School (holiday)	
Dec	27	No School (winter break)	
Dec	31	New Year's Eve Dance	6:30 pm
Jan	3	No School (winter break)	
Jan	15	Early Bird 90th Anniversary Book Ad deadline	
Jan	30	Nerio Scholarship Applications due	
Jan	31	Gakuen New Year Party	6:00 pm
Feb	14	California Association of Japanese Schools Seminar	8:30-4:00 pm
Feb	22	Center Clean up	9:00-12:00

Please support Japanese School Fund-raising

Purchase Marukai Gift Certificates

Available in \$10 denominations

Ask any Board member

Also available at the Monthly Bingo

Southeast Japanese School & Community Center Activities List

If you are interested in any of the activities at the Center, please contact the person listed below

Southeast Gakuen: Kimie Matsumoto 562 863-5996

Ikebana (Flower Arrgmt): Ogawa Sensei 714 893-1245

Japanese Classical Dance: Akemi Jensen 562 691-2764

Norwalk Youth Sports: Rich Tamaki rytamaki@yahoo.com

Judo: Bill Matsubara 562 483-9374

Kendo: Brian Yoon email: yoombrian@hotmail.com

Karate: Brock Nishimura 714 826-9128

Hikari Taiko: Mary Jane Mayeda 562 924-1454

Norwalk Nikkei Seniors: Toby Fusato 562 860-7368

Guitar Class: Yuji Hata 562 695.1908

Na Wahine 'O Kawena: Karen Toyoshiba 562 863-5996

Hawaiian Karaoke Club: Stan Shimomura 562 865-9672

Ukulele Class: Kamaki Keawe 714 928-7157

Norwalk Dance Club: Edna Kurihara 714 847-1173

NORWALK JUDO DOJO

By June Uyekawa

As the weather starts to cool, the kids are back in school and the holidays approach, we find ourselves very thankful for the continuous support and overwhelming generosity from our judo parents.

We often list winners of tournaments, the accolades given to certain judoka and their commitment to their sport, however we would be remiss if we did not recognize those families who have given their time and energy into the numerous fundraisers that are held at the Southeast Japanese Community Center. These children have been given this opportunity to experience what judo has to offer because their parents have made this sacrifice of time and energy to bring them to practice and compete in tournaments.

Many of the families who have supported their children at these tournaments have now noticed that we make it a point to all go out to dinner after the tournament. As we become acquainted with the extended families, we feel a great sense of warmth and companionship that is nurtured after each tournament. It's now become a family event we look forward to as much as the tournament itself. This does not happen overnight. You have to plant the seed, water it and let it flourish on its own. Pretty soon, we look up and see a huge orchard that has grown through the constant care and attention of you, the families, la familia, ohana, jia, kazoku...

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity."

—Melody Beattie, *The Language of Letting Go*

Thank you to the following families for volunteering their time and efforts to the success of the Pancake Breakfast held on Oct. 11th in no particular order:

Dy Family, Arellano Family, Gomez Family, Matsubara Family, Uyekawa Family, Sugahara Family, Morishima Family, Kuritani Family, Lee Family, Blas Family, Jun Family, Sonoda Family, Romero Family, Sensei Johnson and of course, Sensei Fukuma and Family. The event not only provided breakfast by NYS, also to -go lunch menu items such as orange chicken, spam musubi and imagawa-yaki, courtesy of Norwalk Judo...and if you listened close enough you could hear the laughter and see the smiles provided to you at the order window—free.

We started the fall off with the Nanka Fall Jr & Sr Judo Tournament on Sept. 14th at Westminster High School. Congratulations to the following judoka: 1st place winners: Juliana Lemus, Daisy

Perrey, Ariana Lemus, Tanner Sonoda, Joshua Chen, Trevor Sonoda, and Tiahna Arellano. 2nd place winners: Conor Uyekawa, Xavier Torres, and Joshua Nam. 3rd place winner: Aidan Vigil. Great effort and showing to the following judoka: Weston Uyekawa, Carter Cortes, Joseph Chavez and Billy Matsubara.

Switch gears to the West Covina Novice Judo Tournament on Sept. 28th. 13 competitors, some first timers as well. Congratulations to the following bringing home the 1st place trophy: Ariana Lemus, Juliana Lemus, Conor Uyekawa and Kay Sugahara. Our sole 2nd place winner was Jayden Tani. Rounding out the group with our 3rd place winners are Kylie Perry, Carter Cortes, Ren Uyehara. Others who participated, however did not place: Sergio Lemus Jr., Daniel Lemus, Vincent Chavez, Aidan Vigil and Dayne Uyehara.

The annual Nanka Open Judo Team Tourney always provides camaraderie and team building amongst the judoka. Seven teams represented Norwalk and the experience itself was priceless.

Girls yonen (8 to 9 year olds) lightweight (66 lbs avg, max. 85 lbs) Competitors were Robyn Shin, Juliana Lemus and Heaven Torres—congratulations in a 3rd place finish.

Girls yonen bantam (10 to 12 year olds) lightweight (98 lbs) Ariana Lemus, Rachel Shin, and Katie Gomez.

Boys yonen bantam (10-12 year olds) lightweight (66 lbs avg, max. 85 lbs) Weston Uyekawa, Trenton Dy, and Steven Romero.

Boys shonen (13-16 year olds) light weight (avg 120 lbs) Joseph Chavez, Conor Uyekawa and Xavier Torres—congratulations 1st place.

Boys shonen (13-16 year olds) Medium weight (120 to 140 lbs) Joshua Chen, Albert Lee and Joshua Nam—congratulations in winning 1st place.

Seinen brown/black belt (17 years & older) over 176 lbs. Billy Matsubara, Andre Lee, and Joshua Nam—congratulations 2nd place.

Seinen brown/black belt (17 years and older) over 176 lbs Alex Fukuma, Godwin Obele, and Kris Witowich—congratulations 2nd place.

Something about the team tournament brings out the fight in our judoka—watching the girls/boys pat each other on the back for moral support, bonding together as a group to give each other last minute advice—you get the sense that they know the task at hand and will do their best not to let their fellow competitor down.

Compassion. Definition—kindness, humanity, warmth, sensitivity, solicitude, feeling, care, concern...products of a team tournament.

December 20th, Saturday marks our annual Judo Christmas Party, come join us.

Happy Holidays to all of you and a healthy, peaceful 2015.



NIKKEI SENIORS

Toby Fusato

The Norwalk Nikkei Seniors took their annual one-day trip to the Valley View Casino for a fun outing. Some members enjoyed the Buffet lunch, others ate in the restaurant or at the snack bar. There were a few lucky winners and others who donated their money to the casino and a few also won enough points to get a free T-shirt.

The Nikkei Seniors held their annual Picnic at the Community Center on September 23rd. Our infamous Chef, Helen Hikiji and her assistants, Gloria Sakoda, Mitzi Shiba, Tamako Yamada, Arlene Takeshita and Harriet Sugita did a wonderful job cooking the delicious hotdogs and hamburgers. Janice Igarashi conducted the "Toss the Ring" which was won by Sumie Kawaguchi.



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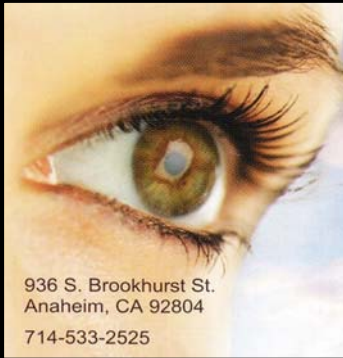
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- Zero Point Options
- Interest-Only Payment Option²
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