

# THE GEO OPTIPINION



Volume 48 Issue 5

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

February 2012

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

## President's Message —

Aloha GEO Members and Friends,

I have returned from a short vacation from Hawaii. I went with a buddy to the Sony Open golf tournament. I enjoyed playing three other golf courses.



Of course, I brought my ukulele to jam with friends and relatives. I even found salsa dancing in Honolulu, Waikiki and Aiea. The food was 'broke the mouth.' Zippy's is giving Leonards a run for their money with malasadas.

Thanks to Stacy, president elect, for chairing the board meeting and dinner meeting while I was absent. As a reminder, some new members don't know about our name Gardena "Evening" Optimist. The evening means we enjoy eating in the evening at our dinner meetings discussing our current community project. For those of you who have not attended recently, please join in on the fun and fellowship. We meet at different restaurants in the community on the first and third Tuesday evenings at 7:30. Club member Patty Yanaga has done a tremendous job of lining up new and different dinner venues and guest speakers for our enjoyment. Thanks Patty!

Justin Carroll has volunteer to chair the Ho'olaule'a GEO food booth. We are looking forward to this new youthful energy. More details will follow in later newsletters.

Last month, our club joined the Westside Optimist club for their dinner meeting at the world famous Pann's coffee shop. They reminded us of

the benefits of earthquake preparation.

Please see the attached flyer about the ukulele jam with Pumana. Of course, there will be a potluck of food after the jam. It is always fun jamming with a real professional band.

It has to be "asian-hawaiian style" to always be around good "ono" food and lots to eat!

In Optimism,  
Ron Hom

### Save the Date!

**Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> SUPER BOWL SUNDAY!**

**Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM Dinner Meeting at JB's Dining Room**

**Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> -- PSWD Quarterly Meeting at Knott's Berry Resort Hotel.**

**Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 2-4:00pm Ukulele Jam at Keiro. See Flyer**

**Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> -- VALENTINE'S DAY -- GEO Board meeting changed to Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>!!**

**Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> -- Club dinner meeting TBA**

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



The GEO Essay Contest Committee is now seeking entries for the Optimist International 2011-2012 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 my Positive Outlook Benefits my Community"**

**When: Club Deadline Jan. 31, 2012**

**Who: Youth under age 19 as of 12/31/11 who have not yet graduated from high school**

The Optimist International Essay Contest was first sponsored in 1983. Club winners advance to the District contest to compete for a \$2,500 college scholarship. Each District winner is automatically entered into the International Essay contest where a panel of judges selects the first-place winner. The international winner will receive an engraved plaque and recognition in *The Optimist* magazine.

Students interested in entering our club's Essay Contest may go to [www.gardenaoptimist.org](http://www.gardenaoptimist.org) 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 2011-2012 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 Optimism Helps me Overcome Obstacles"**

**When: Club Deadline Mar. 3, 2012**

**Who: Youth under age 19 as of 12/31/11 who have not graduated from high school**

Each contestant must prepare a speech that is 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. There's a girl's category and a boy's category. Our two club winners (one girl, one boy) will then compete at the Zone level. The winners of that contest will next move to an Area contest, which is comprised of Zones in the same geographical area, and those winners will then go on to the District finals to be held at the 3rd Quarterly Meeting in May 2012. District winners will each receive a \$2500 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 on our website at [www.gardenaoptimist.org](http://www.gardenaoptimist.org)

JAPANESE AMERICAN OPTIMISTS AND GARDENA EVENING OPTIMISTS  
PROUDLY PRESENT

# Ukulele Jam with Pumana Etua

Grab your 'ukulele... bring your family & friends to make music together and have FUN!  
Pumana members will teach us a few songs and then we'll have the opportunity to play along!

When: Saturday, February 11, 2012

Time: 2:00 to 4:00 pm

*Potluck & Raffle after the Jam*

Where: Keiro Retirement Home

325 So. Boyle Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90033

*In the Activity Center - turn right after the guard station*

Cost: \$5 / General public

**Free** to Keiro residents and their families; Keiro staff and Optimists members

Who: *All ages and all ukulele playing levels are welcome*

RSVP: Steve Awakuni at 310-320-5450 / email: sawakuni@sbcglobal.net

Jeanette Mena at 661-714-5534 / email: jeanette.mena@att.net

Please respond by February 6, 2012.

Seating is Limited - Call wiki wiki!

**Special Raffle: Jake Shimabukuro Concert Tickets 2/ 19/ 12 in Redondo Beach!**



Pumana is a group of talented musicians willing to share their love of  
Hawaiian music.

Learn more about Pumana at: <http://pumana.com/>.

**OFFICERS**

President ..... Ron Hom  
 President Elect ..... Stacy Cascadden  
 Vice President ..... Ron Shintani  
 Vice President ..... Terry Terauchi  
 Secretary ..... Dave Allen  
 Treasurer ..... Sid Halushka  
 IPP ..... Eric Takaki

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<u>First Year Members</u>	<u>Second Year Members</u>
Justin Carroll	Hank Arima
Bill Coonce	Jim Carroll
Jeanette Mena	Deryck Koga
Glenn Shimizu	Emily Lopez
Terry Weber	Patty Yanaga

**EDITORIAL COMMITTEE**

Jim Carroll-Chairman	Ed Kambe-Assistant
	Jeanette Mena

**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**



**SUPER BOWL**