



Okinawa International Women's Club Fall 2016

OIWC RECENT EVENTS

SEEKING NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

Welcome Tea Party

OIWC kicked off its membership year with a welcome tea party on August 17, 2016 at Kadena's Officer's Club. New and old members met the hardworking Japanese and foreign side (American) board members who put all these fantastic events together. Past members reunited with their friends and new members learned about the function of the club and exciting opportunities of becoming a member.

Kimono Luncheon

September 12, 2016 marked the first official luncheon of the membership year with over a hundred members and a record number of new members (over 80!) attending.

The beautiful Laguna Hotel hosted our kimono show, impeccably coordinated by our program board members Emiri Miyauchi and Doreen Cabotaje. There were several different styles of kimonos displayed with descriptions of their purpose and how they are worn, providing great cultural insight into the complex world of kimonos. Everyone was encouraged to learn the coal miner's dance Tanko bushi at the end of the fun filled lunch.



Halloween Luncheon

October's luncheon was hosted by the foreign side at Camp Kinser's Surfside Club, which had an American seasonal theme of

Halloween, complete with a costume contest! Members played games like musical chairs and learned the tradition of dressing up in costume and trick or treating.



Katsuren and Salt Factory Tour

Fifty OIWC members gathered at the Katsuren castle ruins to learn about the ancient history of this area on October 25, 2016. Led by our tour board members Miyuki Tominaga and Kristina Wiedie, and armed with self-guided phone apps, the ladies trekked the ancient stone walls with fantastic panoramic views at the top. They then enjoyed a quick stop for a buffet lunch at Ayahashi Restaurant on the way to Hamahiga Island. At the picturesque Shirumichu shrine, the Japanese showed how to pray to the fertility gods for luck. Then it was on to Nuchi Masu (meaning 'salt life' in Okinawan) for a video explaining the unique processing of Okinawan ocean salt. We also viewed the salt factory, received a salt beauty gift, and were able to buy a few items at the salt store, including salted ice cream! A few ladies also went to member Tokie's house for tea and snacks.

Looking to get more involved in OIWC? We are actively recruiting for the following positions:

- ✦ **Hospitality:** Coordinate access, greet and escort, formally invite and present gifts for VIP guests.
- ✦ **Social:** Seeking crafty person to create table decoration centerpieces, which are distributed as gifts after luncheons.
- ✦ **Parliamentarian:** Executes and streamlines meetings via Roberts Rules or a similar meeting organizational style.

If you are interested please contact:
OIWC4Secretary@gmail.com

Upcoming Event

The December Bazaar is a much anticipated event with crafts and baked goods for sale to help fundraise for our end of the year donation. Each culture group works together to create a craft, gift baskets are donated from companies, and members show off their cooking skills. Everything is sold or raffled to raise money for charity.

Save the date:
10:00 AM Monday,
December 12, 2016
Laguna Garden Hotel
RSVP ¥2800 by Friday,
November 18!



November Luncheon

On November 1, 2016 the OIWC ladies had a special flamenco performance during the luncheon at EM Resort Costa Vista Hotel. Miki Sanaga danced and sang while accompanied by guitarist Kenji Nishii. The skillful duo goes by the group name Raiz de Hierba and performs every third Saturday in the Spain Lounge in Naha.

Our former board member Patricia Saras moved her family back to their roots in Mexico after her husband retired from the Navy. She tragically lost her son, Blas, and we wanted to show our support to the movement against violence in Mexico. Members held up signs with the slogan #VaPorBlas in support. We offer her family our condolences.

Fun Facts

- ✘ Furisode is a colorful but formal style kimono with long sleeves for unmarried women.
- ✘ The Nuchi Masu salt factory owner used to be an orchid grower and his method of misting plants pioneered his salt making methods.
- ✘ The first known mention of trick-or-treating in print in North America was in 1927.

NEW DROP BOX LOCATIONS

Charity Wharton: Courtney
[904-1111](tel:904-1111) Okinawa-ken, Uruma-shi, Ishikawa Higashionna, 387-2, Residencia del Sol B

Jayne Touchstone-Starwalt:
 Kadena

[4-28-6](tel:4-28-6) Chibana, Okinawa City
 Reem Demler : Foster
[1373E](tel:1373E) New Chatan Housing

BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: COOKING

There are several different board members that work hard to coordinate all of our events. Let us take a look at our Cooking Board members.

Who: Mia Smith and Ryoko Gushiken

What: Collaborate together to organize and execute monthly cooking events.

When: On September 26, 2016, they held a Greek cooking class in Yomitan with the participation of 12 members, making classical Greek dishes.

Next: Their next event will be in January

Contact: oiwc4cooking@gmail.com



Photo credits: Melanie Stofka

Okinawa International
 Women's Club

Website: www.oiwc.weebly.com

Facebook: [OIWC](https://www.facebook.com/OIWC)

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