

Want to be an Optimist?

The Optimist Club is an international organization with each local club operating autonomously. Each raises its own money (OCPH sponsors the Kelly Miller Circus every other year as its major fundraiser) and elects its own officers. While our club does endorse some international initiatives, it primarily offers initiatives/programs that impact local youth in the most positive manner, given club resources.

The Optimist Club of Pleasant Hill (OCPH) is honored to be part of such a great community and the desire to enhance the lives of your children is our goal. Members work diligently and happily in offering a number of opportunities for local children. During 2009, the club facilitated 13 youth initiatives and continued its community service project at City Park. Club members touch the lives of over 1,000 local youth yearly.

Some initiatives are geared to recognition of individual youth while others are group initiatives. Some of the 2009-10 initiatives include:

- Three senior scholarships (\$500 each)...added one more this year
- Essay Contest (three winners receive monetary recognition and the 1st place winner can advance to other Optimist contest levels)
- Easter Egg Hunt for toddler through 4th grade (assisted by PH Chamber); average between 250-500 kids
- Teacher/staff appreciation in the spring (thank you favors of recognition to each teacher, & support staff member, office assistant, bus driver, cooks etc.)
- Youth Appreciation (yearly program at different PH school) at the middle school with ice cream sundaes for all students and staff and sponsoring an assembly. We are specific in ‘thanking students for a good job and doing their best’ and our goal is that this small recognition will help encourage ‘optimistic’ youth and adult citizenship. The club also recognizes one high school organization with a quarter page ad.
- Youth Bike Rodeo (OCPH partners in this PH Police Department program). Club members register participants and serve as station judges (during Cass Co. Fair)
- Jr. Golf Clinic in June
- PH Library summer reading program
- Adopt-a-Family (2008 adopted two families with children)
- NEW THIS YEAR: Diaper Drive. Facilitate a diaper drive to assist families with young children and benefit children.

The Optimist Club of Pleasant Hill consists of about 20 members. We are a small group of community folks who desire to “bring out the best in kids” and “put kids first”. The club has a breakfast meeting twice monthly on the 2nd and 4th Saturday, 8:15 a.m. at Community Bank.

We need more parents and grandparents who share our optimistic vision for your children and your community. Should you be one of those, please contact a member or call Myra at 540-4449.

*Kids are our business...our only business
Call today and join the Optimists in “bringing out the best in kids!”*