



# Optimist Gist

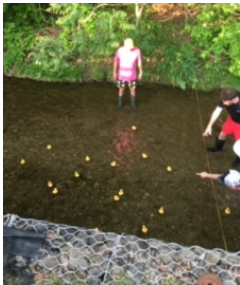


Home Run Derbys, Toy Drives, and ducks oh my! These are just a few events that our local chapter of the Optimist Foundation organizes annually to raise money and support local youth programs. In addition to these events, The Pittsburgh North Optimist Foundation, PNOF, supports All of Us Cares Camps & Backpacks for Hunger, Band Together Pittsburgh, Blawnox Baseball Association, Circle Camps, Camp Guyasuta, H.O.P.E, scholarships, and Allegheny County Wrestling Championships to name a few.

The annual Home Run Derby, hosted at Emmerling Park, gives kids 14 and under an opportunity to show off their ability to swing for the fences and have a chance to compete during MLB All-Star Week. Members and additional volunteers register athletes, pitch, field, and manage the event. Check our website for information about this year's event!



Each year PNOF hosts its annual Toy Drive party. The evening is filled with dishes from local restaurants, holiday cheer, local bands, and of course toys! The event has been held at the Fox Chapel Racquet Club with amazing music provided by the Compadres and the Nied's Hotel Band. Toys are collected for the Spirit of Christmas and distributed to local families to help brighten their holidays. In addition to great bands, spirits, and food, different prize baskets are up for raffle. This year's event is already booked for Saturday, December 7 2019. Be on the lookout for reservations as the event has sold out in the past!



Get your ducks in a row! The annual Lucky Ducky Derby is held each year in May at Squaw Valley Park in conjunction with The Fox Chapel District Association. Forty ducks hit the water in each heat and race to the finish line; first and second place winners of each heat get to choose from a wide variety of prizes. Participants can purchase and name a duck for a chance to race to win. Our amazing sponsors allow us to provide a great event each year. Be on the lookout for information to get you ducks in the water!



Members of PNOF meet once each month at local venues to discuss opportunities, plan upcoming events like the three listed above, listen to guest speakers, and promote optimism. The Foundation strives to support our community's youth and accompanying programs. We appreciate all of the support from local businesses and community members who help make PNOF possible. Without their support we could not continue to do what we do. If you are interested in getting more information about becoming a member or have an event or program that you feel the Optimist Foundation could impact, please visit our website, <https://www.pittsburghoptimist.com>, or email Joyce DeLuca at [joyce\\_deluca@comcast.net](mailto:joyce_deluca@comcast.net).

