

The Optimist Gist



Treasurer Report

- ❖ Total of 2,113 kids were impacted by last year's efforts
- ❖ All approved donation requests are up to date and have been paid
- ❖ Johnny shared Optimist Proposed/Actual Budget
- ❖ Ask Johnny if you would like to see the document
- **Highlights:**
 - \$38,170.00 was total revenue and \$37,984.40 was used throughout the year.
 - 97% of the revenue was spent on local youth programs.
 - Only 3% of the revenue was spent on website, postage, and fellowship.

Party On!

Optimist members are already kicking off the planing for their annual holiday party. See some of our planning highlights below:

<u>Kick off for reservations will be November 1</u>; Look for reminder cards and email blasts! Check the website for all details!

Last year's stage was a great addition for both the bands and those of us dancing & enjoying the music. This year we will also be launching a "Raise the Stage" donation campaign to help us finance the stage!

Sharon Party Logistics Highlights:

Sharon is working with Carl, the new manager at the Racquet Club Angels will return to help support the event

Stay tuned for arranging donations and putting together baskets for raffles

Johnny Music/Sound/Lighting Highlights

Johnny will stay in touch with the bands and check on rental of the stage Bands will play until 11:00

Todd – Beer Highlights

Discussed number of kegs; Todd will approach same groups as last year for donations

Joyce - Reservations

Let Joyce know about reservations people have made through you. Reservations can also be made through Paypal.

Membership Dues

- To date, we have added 4 new members!
- ❖ Dues can be paid by check or using the PayPal button on the website
 - all three levels are available
 - dues letter is available on line
- A Payment by check (PNOF) is a welcome option, because PayPal does take a small portion
- PayPal is still a useful option as it helps accessibility/ease



Date: Saturday, December 7, 2019

Time: 7PM – 11PM

Location: The Fox Chapel Racquet Club

Featuring: Neid's Hotel Band and

Compadres

Link: Toy Drive Party Link or

www.pittsburghoptimist.com/toy-drive

Details: \$30 per reservation in advance and \$40 per reservation at the door Food/Beer/Valet provided!

How you can help:

- Sell reservations and promote the party
- Donate (alcohol, gift cards, etc.) to the baskets of cheer
- Help reserve donations for food/baskets

Diane - Food Donations

Diane will check prior places who have donated (feel free to add!)

Andora Aspinwall Everyday Gourmet
Atria's The Chef & I Catering
II Pizzaiolo Cornerstone Restaurant
Jimmy Wan's Dietch's Bar and Grille
Spice Affair The Hartwood Restaurant
Walnut Grill Italian Village Pizza

Simple Elegance

Luke and Mike's Front Porch Tayern in the Wall

> Mail dues check (PNOF) to: Somer Obernauer 616 Glengary Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15215

> > Membership Options



Old Business

Riverview Programing



- Joyce presented the Impact Award from Riverview School District
- Recognizing Raiders program is up and running – already recognizing students!
- Junior High Town Hall meetings monthly
- 2019-20 T-shirts are here!— kids selected colors

Kriston Scholarship

- ❖ 2020 applications available through FCASD Guidance Department
- Will need fundraising for this soon

CAB Scholarship

Handout provided by George Weir Building a committee to focus on the scholarship

- George, Toni, Nealee, Johnny, and Mary Lou
- ❖ If interested in joining the committee, please see George

Two scholarship winners are in school (Nathan year 2 & Joshua year 1)

- ❖ Helpful if they connected with the committee & each other 2020 Scholarship applications ready by Jan 1
 - Committee will revise the application
 - ❖ Goal: to shorten application & possibly propose short answer questions or less formal essay vs formal essay
 - John Bongiovanni is also looking at partnering with other scholarship organizations

Goal of increasing number of applicants (due by the end of April)

- ❖ May increase size of award (now \$1000 for max of 3 yrs)
- Could open to other "vocations" for applicants
- Recruit from HS partner w/ guidance not just send letters
- Recruit from Vocational Schools admissions people could invite and select students
- ❖ Partner with other vocational scholarship organizations





Sponsoring Camp Lauri Ann West

Friday Speaker Series

The Optimists and Lauri Ann West Community Center continuO to enjoy a fruitful partnership. In addition to supporting programs and supplying grants for supplies for the gym and maker's studio, the Optimists sponsored the Friday Speaker Series at the LAWCC Summer Camp. The Center was able to bring in educational visitors for their 334 campers, ages 5 through 12, each of the 9 weeks from the following places:

- The Pittsburgh Zoo
- The Warhol Museum
- ❖ Assemble Pittsburgh
- Jump Bunch
- Pittsburgh Creative Reuse
- Magician Billy Heh

Todd Veltri shared, "We like donating to programs where we can make a big impact. The Optimists believe in young people and empowering them to be the best they can."

The Summer Camp Speaker Series fit our mission statement perfectly!

RESERVATIONS
ACCEPTED
BEGINNING
NOVEMBER 1st