

GATEway News



SERVING OPTIMIST CLUBS IN GEORGIA AND TENNESSEE

Volume 1

Issue 2

December, 2021/January 2022



JUST ASK !



Conference and Convention Sites

GATEway District Optimist International 2021-2022



GATEway First Quarter Conference – October 15-17, 2021

Embassy Suites at Chattanooga Hamilton Place
 2321 Lifestyle Way
 Chattanooga, TN 37421
 423-602-5100
 RATE: \$125.00 + tax



2021-2022 GATEway District Kick-Off

GATEway Second Quarter Conference – February 11-13, 2022

Hotel Indigo Athens
 500 College Avenue
 Athens, GA 30601
 706-546-0430
 RATE: \$115.00 + tax



*GATEway District Hall of Fame Recognition
 2020-2021 Awards Banquet*

GATEway Third Quarter One Day Conference – April or May 2022

Date to be Determined

Courtyard by Marriott
 180 Barnes Avenue
 Carrollton, GA 30117
 678-664-5200
 RATE: To Be Determined



*GATEway District Essay Contest Presentation
 GATEway District Oratorical Contest
 GATEway District Communications Contest for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing*

GATEway District Convention – August 4-7, 2022

Unicoi State Park & Lodge
 1788 Highway 356
 Helen, GA 30545
 1-800-573-9659
 RATE: \$139.00 + \$12.00 resort fee + tax



*Lieutenant Governor-Elect Training
 Officer-Elect Training
 District Governor Election
 GATEway District Optimist of the Year Recognition*



Governor

Gerald Johnson

770 437 0000

geraldjohnson@juno.com

PO Box 1160
Carrollton, GA
30112



Secretary

Christy Buss

404 388 9173

cbuss11111@comcast.net

3042 Hazelwood
Ct NE
Atlanta, GA
30345



Treasurer

Kevin Bush

770 364 1743

kgb180@live.com

114 Stonewall
Drive
Carrollton, GA
30117



Past Governor

Albert Still

404 805 6287

Albert_still@yahoo.com

3519 Emperor
Way
Tucker, GA
30084



Gov—Elect

Bruce Peace

706 676 4656

BPeace4@Comcast.net

1958 Little Texas
Road
Rome, GA
30165

News Stories Needed !

Do you have local club news? Do you have committee news? Do you have other Optimist news? Send stories and photos to Dianna Johnson at ddjohnson@juno.com or Gerald Johnson at geraldjohnson@juno.com Next issue deadline is November 10th.



Notes from the First Lady Dianna Johnson:

The Christmas season to me means a time to celebrate that my Lord and Savior, Jesus, was born into this world. I know not all believe, but I know He is real in my life and I pray all will come to know Him as I do. Christmas is also a time to share the love of God with all; we should be doing this all year long. I love being able to meet with family and friends and celebrate.

This December I find myself reflecting on the year as we get ready to begin a new one. Gerald and I will celebrate 32 years of marriage this month. I am optimistic that 2022 will be a great year.

I have included a family favorite cookie recipe this month. Although they are sweet, they have a pastry taste to them. This recipe came from a Southern Living Christmas cookbook dated the year Gerald and I married, 1989.

ALMOND BUTTER FINGERS

½ cup chopped blanched almonds
1 ½ tablespoons granulated sugar
¾ cup (1 ½ sticks) butter, softened
⅓ cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon almond extract
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 egg white

Combine almonds with the 1 ½ tablespoons of granulated sugar and set aside.

Beat together the butter, the ⅓ cup granulated sugar, and the almond extract in a medium-size bowl until the mixture is smooth. Stir in the flour until it is well blended.

Gather the dough into a ball and flatten it. Wrap the dough in aluminum foil or plastic wrap and chill the dough for 1 hour, or until it is firm enough to handle.

Preheat the oven to 350°.

Beat the egg white in a small bowl until it is frothy.

Divide the dough in half. Roll out each half on a floured surface to a rectangle ¼ inch thick and about 3 inches wide. Even the edges with a ruler to measure 2 ½ inches wide. Cut the rectangle crosswise into bars ¾ inch wide. Brush the tops with the egg white and sprinkle them evenly with the almond-sugar mixture. Lift the bars with a spatula to ungreased baking sheets, spacing the bars ¼ inch apart.

Bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes, or until the cookies are golden brown. Transfer them to wire racks to cool. Store the cookies in tightly covered containers for up to 2 weeks.

Gerald Johnson
GATEway Governor

It is hard to believe that we are in the fourth month of the 2021-2022 Optimist year!

It has been exciting to travel the GATEway District and see the hard work our clubs are doing to serve their communities. I wish I had the time to join each club! We really have some great folks working in our Optimist District.

In just a few weeks we will be celebrating Optimist Day on February 3rd.

I would like to encourage each club to honor a member of their community with a “Living The Creed” service award and also present them with a Friend of Optimist one year membership as a thank you for serving your community. The FOO membership will cost you \$100 from OI, but then you will receive \$40 back from OI which means the gift will only cost your club \$60, And what a way to say thank you to someone that serves the community, plus you get a new member and probably a new Optimist worker. This is a great way to honor someone and spread Optimism in your community,.

As an incentive to clubs that participate in this program, each club that awards a Friend of Optimism Membership during the month of February will receive 1,000 bonus points in the GATEway District A&A compilation.

Thank you for the hard work you do, and I look forward to seeing you at the Second Quarter Conference in Athens, Georgia.

Gerald Johnson



Gilmer County Optimist “Living The Creed”

If you take a ride up 575 out of north Atlanta, you will come to a small town in the middle of Gilmer County.... Ellijay, Georgia, the Apple Capitol of Georgia. Like other communities in north Georgia Gilmer County is changing. On a recent Friday the speaker at the local Optimist Club, Kent Sanford, had the numbers to prove it: the population is getting older, the local workforce is shrinking as it ages, the percentage of high school and college graduates are growing because the retirees moving from metro Atlanta to their retirement homes tend to be well educated, real estate and home cost and becoming too expensive for local families, younger workers are moving out of the county to find more affordable homes , and on and on. Numbers show a community facing change.

The needs of the community are what the conversation is about on this early January day, but this is not a new topic for the local Optimist club. The Gilmer Optimist have been working all year to serve the needs of young people and families. They also have been working to share Optimism with others in the community that would like to work to serve the community and help find solutions to some of the problems that the numbers point out.

The Optimist members are obviously excited about what they do and about sharing Optimism. They have completed many projects during the first quarter including Optimist Scarecrows, Stuff The Bus, Sack Pack, Road Clean Up, Chili Challenge, 5th Friday Social, and Trick or Treating at the Park.

**Congratulations to the
Optimist of Gilmer County!**



To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Optimist Creed the Gateway District is honoring those that serve their communities, Optimist members and others will a “Living The Creed” award. Also each a different Optimist club will be selected to receive the Club “Living The Creed Club Award” The first quarter club award goes to the Gilmer County Optimist Club for its service to the community and for the club’s work in sharing Optimism to others.



Optimist Scarecrows invaded the Park! This creative ensemble highlighted a few Optimist Club projects including Suff The Buss, Sack Pack, and road Clean Up which benefit Gilmer County.



The Gilmer County Optimist Club participated in the annual Trick or Treating in the Park. On October first over 5,000 families attended this event and Optimist member decorated and gave out over 9,000 pieces of candy donated by the club.



Gilmer County Optimist President
Rebecca Harrell





The Gilmer County Optimists participated for the first time in the Chili Challenge at Harrison Park in Ellijay. The club did not walk away with any bragging rights, they do claim to have had the best choli there. (Top)

Every 5th Friday the Gilmer Optimist meet at a local venue for a 5th Friday Social. On October first the club met at Ott Farm & Winery for food, fellowship, and even a pumpkin decorating contest! (Below)





“I have been in the Optimist Club just over a year..... I am really enjoying getting to know the other members....and as a former teacher I am really, really enjoy helping the children in our area....”

Sharon Williamson, Gilmer County Optimist Member since 2021



“I am excited about being a Gilmer County Optimist because the Optimist in Gilmer County are involved in every worthwhile endeavor in our community.....”

Trent Sanford, Treasurer Gilmer County Optimist Club



“I am really excited that I am a Charter Member of the Gilmer County Optimist Club, The club brings some of the greatest leaders in our county together to do good work for the families and Children of the community.....”

Betsy Sheppard, Director of Programs, Charter Member 2012



The GATEway District is hosting a Cornhole Tournament

The tournament will be held during the GATEway District Conference, Saturday, February 12th, 2022 at the Hotel Indigo, Athens, Georgia.

When the Club or individual presents a Check in the Presidents March, they will receive a ticket for 2 members to compete in the Cornhole Tournament

CHILDHOOD CANCER IS STILL AN OPTIMIST PRIORITY

MATCHING GRANTS are available!

Hello, My GATEway Optimists Friends, my name is Michele Sansenbach and I am your GATEway District Childhood Health and Wellness Program Chairperson

As you may or not know, in cooperation with Optimist International, Optimist Clubs have developed an all-encompassing program called “**Childhood Health and Wellness Program.**”

What does this entail?

Optimist Clubs throughout the world have recognized a broad range of childhood health-related issues.

The Childhood Health & Wellness Program will build on the highly successful **Childhood Cancer Campaign** to expand our impact. Clubs and Districts will now have the opportunity to initiate projects and services to improve the quality of life for children in their communities across a broader spectrum of needs.

Childhood Health & Wellness will include four focus areas (not limited to the examples below):

- **Healthy Lifestyles** (Child Obesity, Healthy Eating, Physical Fitness, Happy Heart Advice, March of Dimes)
 - **Chronic Diseases** (Childhood Cancer, Juvenile Diabetes, HIV, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Sickle Cell Anemia)
 - **Mental Health** (Depression, Bullying, Abuse)
- Disabilities – Physical, Intellectual & Developmental** (Autism, Special Olympics)

It is estimated that there will be 13.7 million cases of childhood cancer between 2021-2050. Unless there are major improvements in diagnosis and treatments, of this. We can make a difference by investing in our Childhood Health and Wellness Program, Cancer is not the only adversary to our kids!

There is an Optimist International Foundation Matching Grant Program for CHILDHOOD HEALTH & WELLNESS found on the OI web page:

https://www.oifoundation.org/downloads/Childhood_Health_Wellness_Grant_Application_Fillable.pdf





Gateway Photography Contest

Second Quarter Conference, Athens, Georgia Feb. 11—13 , 2022

Photography Contest For Optimist Members

Go to Gateway Member Photo Contest/Facebook.com and upload your entries.

There are five categories:

1. District Conference/Convention
2. Club Projects
3. Club Fundraisers
4. Club Social Events
5. Other Optimist Events

Each entry should include four photos or more (more photos are welcomed, but points will not be awarded based on the number of photos, we are looking for a story to be told), points awarded for composition, creativity, photo quality, original ideas, anything that promotes the Optimist Creed.

When you upload your photos make sure you include your name, club name, category, and name of event. You may enter multiple times each quarter.



photos make sure you include your name, club name, category, and name of event. You may enter multiple times each quarter.



OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
F O U N D A T I O N

Dime-A-Day

Optimist International and Optimist International Foundation coexist as two separate organizations that support each other. Optimist International Foundation is the fundraising arm of Optimist International, and works to develop funds to support the endeavors of Optimist International and its mission.

When Members and Clubs make a contribution to support Optimist International Foundation, they are, with that gift, supporting Optimist International itself and themselves as a Club as well.

With just one dime a day, you can become part of the movement of "Helping Optimists Help Kids" and become part of a large group of Foundation supporters who realize what a difference they make every day in the lives of children.

Would you consider making a gift of just a dime a day to assist the charitable work of Optimist International?

The Dime-A-Day level is reached by a contribution of \$36.50 to the Foundation within one Optimist Year, and is recognized by the presentation of a pin.

Building a future where every kid counts
Can you spare a **dime a day?**

Sign me up! Please accept my \$ _____ donation. (Enclose check, payable to Optimist International Foundation, referencing "Dime-A-Day" in the memo section.)

Sign me up! Please accept my \$ _____ donation. Charge my MC Visa Discover American Express

Account # _____ Exp. ____/____ Signature: _____ Security Code _____

Sign me up! Please deduct \$3.05 per month from my checking account.

Checking account number: _____ (Please include a copy of a voided check)

Name _____ Email _____

Club Number _____ Member Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please return to: Optimist International Foundation • Dime-A-Day Campaign • P.O. Box 952126 • St. Louis, MO 63195



Have Questions about Optimist International Foundation? Call Kathy Forster at 256-371-0062.

GATEWAY CCDHH CONTEST

Wouldn't it be wonderful if Optimists could help heal the young suffering from DEAFNESS. Until deafness is no longer a problem for children, Optimist Clubs sponsor the CCDHH contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The contest speech is presented orally or by signing. Winners receive a scholarship to help further their education.

Optimist International provides guidelines for us to follow when conducting the contest. We ask that if you plan to have a CCDHH Contest that you follow all the rules as directed.

Please DO Not combine the CCDHH Contest with the Oratorical Contest. Judges and interpreters must come from the deaf community and be able to judge oral and signing speeches. Successful programs usually happen when clubs work with their local school system's programs for the deaf. A recent Audiogram must be included in the student's contest application.

As of now we are not planning any contests before the first of next year. If Covid problems continue in our school systems, there will only be club contests.

We will not conduct Zone or District Contests that might put our contestants in harms way. Heaven knows the young people have enough problems without us adding more!

Please contact Ellen Strait [straitl@cox.net] for further information. Application forms may be found on line from Optimist International.

Thank You,
Ellen Strait
Gateway District Chair
CCDHH

2021—2022 Optimist Oratorical Contest



“Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times”

DATES

Local Club Contest Deadline	March 5, 2022
Zone Contest Deadline	March 19, 2022
Area Contest Deadline	April 2, 2022
District Contest Deadline	May 15, 2022

***For Information Contact District Chair Richard Bracknell
770 314 2425 Richard.Bracknell@carrolltoncityschools.net***



“JUST ASK”

Membership – “Just Ask”

We recently completed the Optimist 1st Quarter and have now begun the new calendar year. With the holidays behind us it is a great time to seek new members for your club. The first step is to **“Just Ask”** a potential new member to attend one of your upcoming meetings or projects. They are more apt to join if they first see what it is your club does in the community.

“JUST ASK”

Speaking of recruiting new members, the following GATEway Clubs have already reached **“5%+1”** during the 1st Quarter. They have all but assured that their club will survive and thrive for another year.

Gilmer County – Zone 2. Started with 75 members and recruited 11 new members.

Douglas County – Zone 4. Started with 22 members and recruited 5 new members.

Atlanta Meet Up – Zone 5. Started with 10 members and recruited 2 new members.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

If your club wants to hear more about **“Just Ask”** or **“5%+1”** reach out to me by one of the methods below.

Scott Moody

GATEway Membership Chair

706-506-0037

scottmoody@aol.com

Be a Star

Just
Ask



LOCAL CLUB NEWS



Carolyn Tucker ▶ **East Ridge Optimist Club**

December 14, 2021 at 9:56 PM · Facebook for Android · 🌐



East Ridge Optimist Club December 14, 2021 at 9:55 PM ·

Facebook for Android · 🌐

East Ridge Optimists enjoyed their Christmas Dinner prepared by Harry Mackey and their "Sneaky Santa" gift exchange. After the Dinner members worked on their annual Orange Grove Christmas Service Project. It was a fantastic evening.



Becky Clark Watts added 3 new photos to the album: **2021 Christmas Festival and Parade.** December 12, 2021 at 7:26 PM ·

Facebook for Android · 🌐



Gateway Optimist Governor 2021 - 2022 ...

December 9, 2021 at 11:20 PM · 🌐



Gerald Johnson is with **Dianna Day Johnson** and 3 others.

December 9, 2021 at 11:20 PM · 🌐

Christmas Party with the Atlanta Meet Up Optimist Club in Sandy Springs. Great meal and games with a great group of Optimist Members!



Sarah D. Moore December 9, 2021 at 10:51 PM · 🌐

Optimist Club of Trenton/Dade had their annual Christmas Party at the home of Gary and Sharon Moore this evening. Lots of good food, fellowship and "Dirty Santa". As we gathered we signed cards for one of our fellow optimist members, Nadine Michaels who is recovering from surgery. She had a tumor on her brain, but thanks be to God, it was benign. We also remembered Deidra Nida, wife of our Optimist member, Terry Nida who passed away earlier this year. He is missed by all and we will never forget. Merry Christmas to All! Thank you Gary and Sharon for being such wonderful hosts for the evening!



Gerald Johnson December 6, 2021 at 8:58 PM · 🌐

Great time in Athens, Tennessee today. Joined the Optimist Club of Athens at their annual chili dinner....over 600 bowls of chili and soup served! Much food, fun, and fellowship.....



Gwen L. Gable is in Athens, Tennessee. December 6, 2021 at 8:41 PM · Athens, TN · 🌐

Great visit to Tennessee today! Despite a dreary, cold, rainy day, Mother Audrey and I totally enjoyed visiting Sweetwater Valley Farm Cheese shop (smile and say cheese)! Then, the main event of the day: Chili... [More](#)



Sarah D. Moore December 6, 2021 at 9:51 AM · 🌐

Trenton Dade Optimist Members participating in the Dade County EXPO event at Dade County High School. Thanks to Alliance for Dade, sponsors and many volunteers who helped make this the most successful event.... [More](#)



Optimist Club of West Georgia

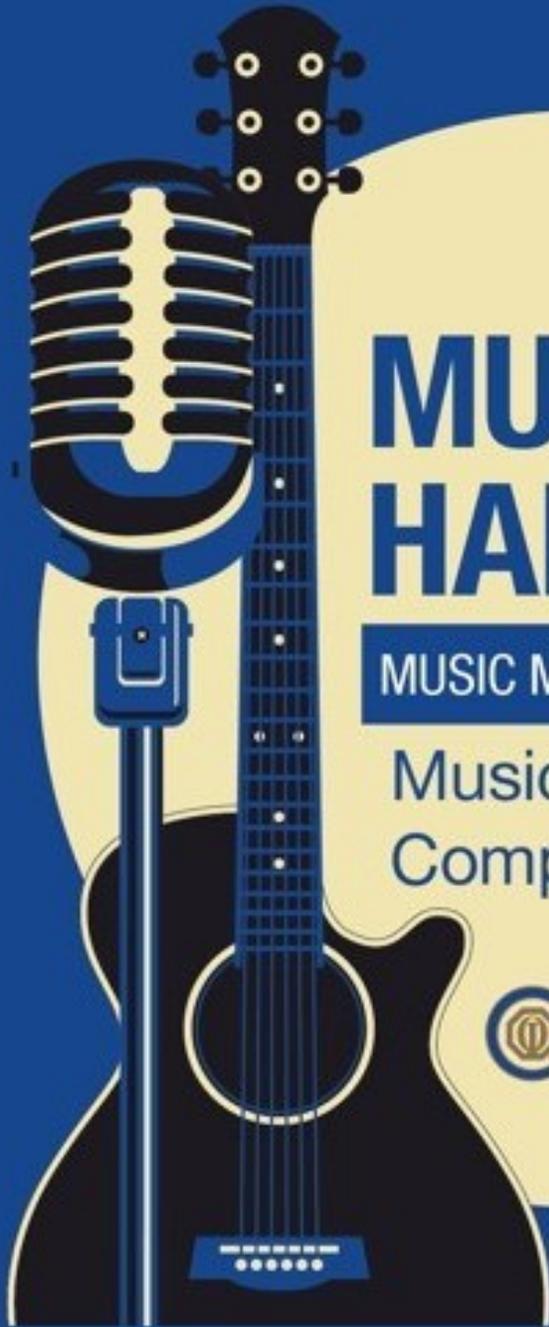
Community Service

[See menu](#)

Optimist Club of West Georgia December 4, 2021 at 11:53 AM · Facebook for Android · 🌐

Optimist Club of West Georgia Members Anna Remshagen and Cathy Robinson Bringing Out The Best in the Carrollton GreenBelt at the fall cleanup of "our" section. [More](#)

Optimist International Forum



MUSICAL HAPPINESS

MUSIC MAKES PEOPLE HAPPY

Musical & Vocal
Competition



Let's talk about this new and exciting program designed to encourage and celebrate the musical talents of our youth.

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:00 P.M. EST



Optimist Day

February 3, 2022

Optimist International and its members celebrate Optimist Day around the world each year on the first Thursday in February. On Optimist Day, members show their pride in belonging to an Optimist Club by wearing Optimist Club apparel – shirts, pins, hats, jackets, etc. – and posting a photo on social media with [#OptimistDay2022](#).

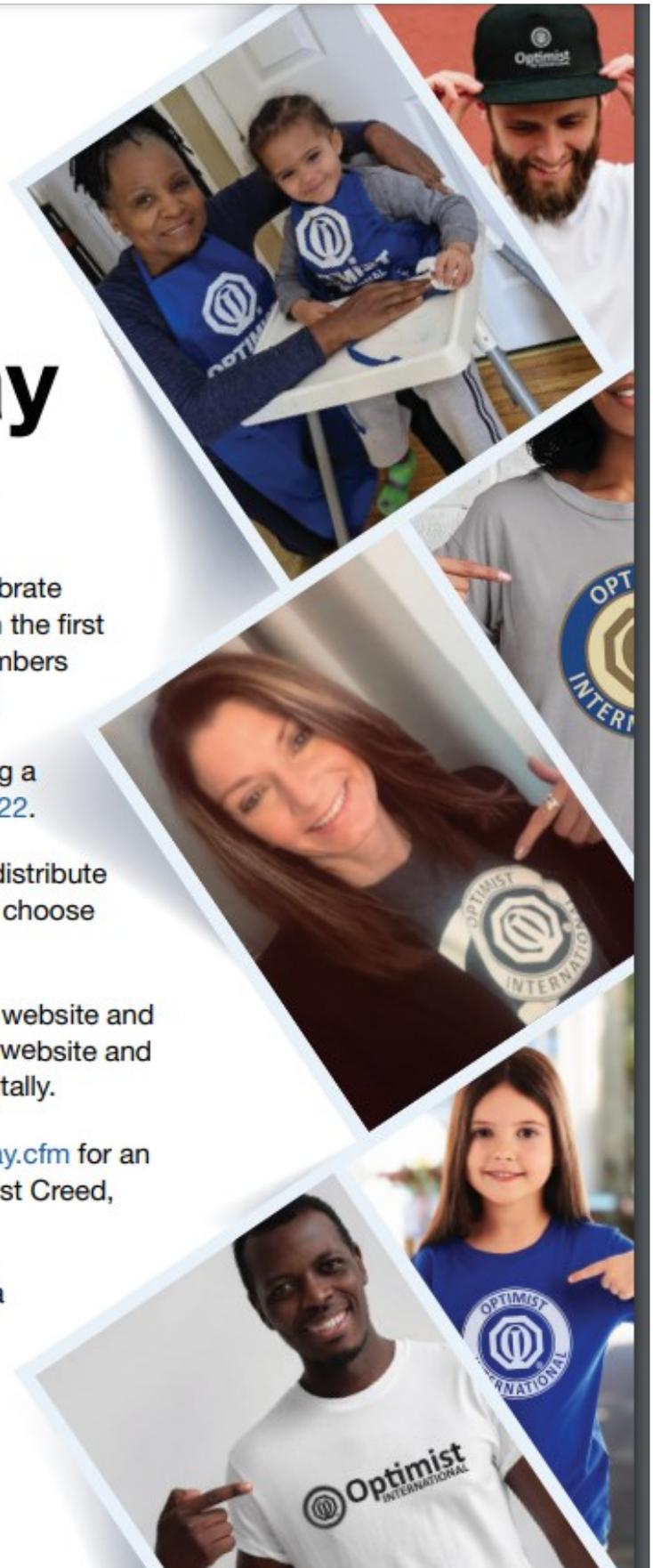
Optimist Clubs may choose a location and distribute copies of the Optimist Creed so others may choose optimism for themselves.

Add a printable Optimist Creed flyer to their website and encourage community members to visit the website and download their very own copy or save it digitally.

Visit <https://optimist.org/member/optimistday.cfm> for an Optimist Day Proclamation, printable Optimist Creed, flyer, and press release.

Optimist Day gear, apparel, and memorabilia are available at our online licensed merchant stores [Schumsky](#) and [Ansell's!](#)

On Optimist Day, and every day, be proud to be an Optimist.





Let The Celebration Begin!

Come share your enthusiasm and celebrate your success at the Hotel Indigo in historic Athens, Georgia at the GATEway District's Second Quarter Conference February 11-13, 2022.

Excitement is in the air as Optimist from across Georgia and Eastern Tennessee come together to celebrate the GATEway District's dedicated and hard working leaders and members. There will be great training, lots of fun and fellowship, recognition of our past successes, the celebration of a new inductee into the GATEway District's Hall of Fame, and much more! Don't miss it!

Make your hotel reservations today. You must make your reservation by Wednesday, January 19, 2022 in order to receive the rate of \$115.00 per night. Call the hotel direct at 1.866.808.1483 and use code GD2, or use the following link: [GATEway District Conference February 11-13, 2022](#)



www.gatewayoptimists.org

First Ladies Bonus Recipe

Raspberry Shortbread

1 cup butter, softened	1 ½ cups powdered sugar
2/3 cup sugar	3 ½ table spoons water
2 ½ cups all-purpose flour	½ teaspoon almond extract
1 (10 oz.) jar seedless Raspberry jam, divided*	

Beat butter and sugar at medium speed with an electric mixer until light and fluffy. Gradually add flour, beating at low speed until blended. Divide dough into 6 equal portions; roll each portion into a 12 x 1 inch strip. Place strips on lightly greased baking sheets. (I use a Pampered Chef baking stone ungreased)

Make a ½-inch wide by ¼ inch deep indentation down center of each strip using the handle of a wooden spoon. Spoon half of jam evenly into indentions. Bake at 350 ° for 15 minutes. Remove from oven; spoon remaining jam into indentions. Bake for 5 more minutes or until lightly browned.

Whisk together powdered sugar, water, and extract; drizzle over warm shortbread. Cut each strip diagonally into 10inch slices. Cool in pans on wire racks. Yield: 6 dozen.



Local Club News



Debra Bracknell Langley ▶ Optimist Club Of Temple Ga.

January 19 at 1:13 PM · Facebook for Android · 🌐

Pictures of our Optimist Club meeting Monday night

👍 Mary Forster Still and Dot Sayer

← Optimist Club of West Georgia - This eveni...



Optimist Club of West Georgia

This evening Club Members Cathy Fontenot, Gayle Murrow, Anna Remshagen, Cathy Robinson and our Official Photographer Holly Pope packaged 383 science projects for the West Georgia Youth Science Technology Center, which which will introduce the new projects to West Georgia area students.

Mobile Uploads · Jan 10 · Facebook for Android · 🌐

[View Full Size](#)



Optimist Club of West Georgia

Community Service

[See menu](#)

Optimist Club of West Georgia January 10 at 7:13 PM ·

Facebook for Android · 🌐

This evening Club Members Cathy Fontenot, Gayle Murrow, Anna Remshagen, Cathy Robinson and our Official Photographer Holly Pope packaged 383 science projects for the West Georgia Youth Science Technology Center, which which will introduce the new projects to West Georgia area students.



Gerald Johnson December 17, 2021 at 12:12 AM · 🌐

Great time with Optimist Club of Carrollton friends at our annual Christmas party.....



Sarah D. Moore December 25, 2021 at 8:39 PM · 🌐

Merry Christmas from the Optimist Club of Trenton/Dade. We had a great time of good food and fellowship at the home of Gary and Sharon Moore who were great hosts. We have completed a lot of our programs and... [More](#)

👍 Charlie Rom and Dianna Day Johnson



Senoia Optimist Club December 14, 2021 at 5:35 PM · 🌐

Members of the Optimist Club of Senoia recently donated items to the Fortify Resource Center in order to help foster / kinship families. Fortify is a faith based, non-profit ministry created to support foster children, foster families, child welfare services, and biological families in Region 4 which is a multi-county area that includes Coweta, Fayette, Spalding, and others.

Please check out the Facebook page for the Fortify Resource Center ("fortifyrc") and help as you are able. The email for the Griffin, Georgia office is fortifygeorgia@gmail.com, and their phone number is 770-800-9789. The website is <http://fortifyga.org/>. From this site, select "Resource Center" to see a list of items that can be donated.



Deanna S. Morrow December 16, 2021 at 4:13 PM · 🌐

Well this is my first try at a charcuterie board! Terry and I decided to give it a try. Lots of internet searching!!! Getting ready for the Carrollton Optimist Club's Christmas party tonight at the beautiful home of Gerald and Dianna Johnson. Looking forward to seeing old friends!



Donna Johnson December 21, 2021 at 12:46 AM · 🌐

The Optimist Club of Temple celebrated the end of 2021 by inducting new members, Jeff and Sandie Shackelford. We also recognized Matt Roden of KRG for the Gateway Optimist Community Service Award. Matt's vision is to help revitalize our downtown, as well as, serve our youth in a variety of ways. Finally, we recognized Richard Bracknell with a "Living the Creed Award" for his efforts in several community and club activities. It was an Awesome night of food, fellowship and fun!

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Optimist Club, contact Donna or Michael Johnson!



Gateway Optimist Governor 2021 - 2022

November 19, 2021 at 5:14 PM · 🌐



Gerald Johnson is with Dianna Day Johnson and 2 others in Villa Rica, Georgia.

November 19, 2021 at 5:09 PM · Villa Rica · 🌐

Lunch meeting with friend Scott Lehmann, John Maxwell Team Member, about his speaking at the February Second Quarter Conference of the Gateway District of Optimist International. Scott will be leading a session on Leadership within a Nonprofit Organization. Scott Lehmann, Jeff Bulloch Lehmann, Dianna Day Johnson,



Gateway Optimist Governor 2021 - 2022

November 12, 2021 at 6:34 PM · 🌐



Gerald Johnson November 12, 2021 at 6:33 PM · 🌐

This weeks Optimist Club of Carrollton guest speaker was our own Kevin Bush. Kevin shared stories about this years Braves season. District Governor Gerald Johnson presented Kevin with a proclamation naming him the most Optimistic Braves fan in the Gateway District of Optimist International.....



Gateway Optimist Governor 2021 - 2022 is with ...
Michael Woodward and Gerald Johnson in
Nashville, Tennessee.

December 29, 2021 at 4:16 PM · Nashville, TN · 🌐

Delivered the Creed Banner to the Belleview Optimist Club in Tennessee today.....with Builder of Excellence Michael Woodward.....



Gerald Johnson is with **Dianna Day Johnson** and **2 others.**

December 7, 2021 at 9:14 PM · 🌐

Lt. Governor Dianna Johnson's Zone 12 Gateway District meeting in Smyrna, Tennessee.....



Gateway Optimist Governor 2021 - 2022

December 4, 2021 at 9:09 PM · 🌐



Gerald Johnson December 4, 2021 at 8:52 PM · 🌐

Carrollton Christmas Parade hosted by the City of Carrollton and the Optimist Club of Carrollton. Great event with a crowd full of friends! Merry Christmas to all!



Optimist Club of Trenton-Dade November 27, 2021 at 9:15 AM · 🌐

REACH Scholars.....Exemplary Students from Dade Middle School

Two students from Dade Middle School were chosen by a strenuous application process to be selected as "scholars" in the REACH scholarship program.... [More](#)



Gateway Optimist Governor 2021 - 2022

November 12, 2021 at 3:04 AM · 🌐



Hall County Optimist Club November 12, 2021 at 12:48 PM · 🌐

Special Guest Speaker at the November 4th meeting - Jennifer Deaton Principal of Sugar Hill Academy and Rick Parham, President.



Gwen L. Gable November 11, 2021 at 3:11 PM · 🌐

Emory Optimist Club members visited Kingsbridge Retirement community in Atlanta GA today! Members were welcomed by staff as we delivered a large assortment of greeting cards to be used by residents. We also helped celebrate Veteran's Day and the Atlanta Braves World Series Win!

Hall County Optimist Club and Donna Johnson



Optimist Club of Carrollton, Inc. is with **Dianna Day Johnson** and **Gerald Johnson**. November 19, 2021 at 6:37 PM ·

Optional Club of Carrollton members keeping the Little Free Pantries stocked.....



East Ridge Optimist Club November 4, 2021 at 8:38 PM ·

Facebook for Android ·

East Ridge Optimist members attended the 1st Quarter Zone 11 meeting hosted by Lt. Governor Sarah Moore along with the Trenton/Dade Optimist Club. Thanks Sarah for an evening of fellowship, fun and information.



Gwen L. Gable November 11, 2021 at 7:19 PM ·

Emory Decatur Optimist Club members visited Benton House Assisted Living community on Veterans Day bringing a large quantity of greeting cards for their residents to use. Great plans for expanding the club's... More





Zone 11 First Quarter Zone Meeting with Lt. Governor Sarah Moore.



Zone Four First Quarter Zone Meeting with Lt. Governor Donna Johnson.

Share Your Enthusiasm!

GATEway Optimists are just as enthusiastic about the success of others as they are about their own! Come share your enthusiasm with your fellow Optimists at the GATEway District's Second Quarter Conference, February 11-13, 2022 at the Indigo Hotel in historic Athens, Georgia. Governor Gerald and his leadership team have an exciting conference weekend planned for you! There will be lots of fun and fellowship, training for our leadership and members, recognition of our present and past successes, our annual awards banquet, the celebration of a new inductee into the GATEway District's Hall of Fame, and a whole lot more! Make sure you're there! Don't delay! Register and make your hotel reservations today!

Make your reservation by Wednesday, January 19, 2022 to receive the rate of \$115.00 per night. Call the hotel direct at 1.866.808.1483 and use code GD2, or use the following link: [GATEway District Conference February 11-13, 2022](https://www.gatewayoptimists.org)



www.gatewayoptimists.org





Celebrate Your Success!

GATEway Optimists are always excited about their fellow Optimist's success! They're always encouraging and supportive. Come celebrate your fellow Optimists at the GATEway District's Second Quarter Conference, February 11-13, 2022 at the Indigo Hotel in historic Athens, Georgia. Governor Gerald and his leadership team are working hard to help you have the most successful Optimist experience possible! They've planned an exciting conference for you! There will be training for our leadership and members, recognition of our present and past successes, our annual awards banquet, lots of fun and fellowship, the celebration of a new inductee into the GATEway District's Hall of Fame, and a whole lot more! Make sure you're there! Register and make your hotel reservations today!

Make your reservation by Wednesday, January 19, 2022 to receive the rate of \$115.00 per night. Call the hotel direct at 1.866.808.1483 and use code GD2, or use the following link: [GATEway District Conference February 11-13, 2022](#)



www.gatewayoptimists.org



Cheer the Success of Others!

Encouragement is a guiding principle in the GATEway District. GATEway Optimists are always cheering their fellow members on to greater achievements. And what better place to demonstrate your encouragement and support for your fellow Optimists than at the GATEway District's Second Quarter Conference, February 11-13, 2022 at the Indigo Hotel in historic Athens, Georgia. Governor Gerald and his leadership team are working hard to develop a conference that will encourage, inspire, and motivate you to do great things! There will be training for our leadership and members, recognition of our present and past successes, our annual awards banquet, lots of fun and fellowship, the celebration of a new inductee into the GATEway District's Hall of Fame, and a whole lot more! Make sure you're there! Register and make your hotel reservations today!

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www.gatewayoptimists.org

GATEway News



500 College Ave, Athens GA 30601
www.indigoathens.com
706.546.0430

Complimentary WiFi for guests and meetings
One block from downtown with 150+ dining, shopping, & entertainment venues
24-hour fitness center
Flat screen TV's; spa inspired showers with Aveda products
Security on-site; dedicated parking lot with secure access to lobby & guest floor elevators
Gallery @ Hotel Indigo-Athens featuring quarterly exhibits of artwork
IHG Rewards Club points awarded for every stay
Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design Award-Winning Hotel
Exceptional Rate @ \$115 per night
Onsite parking @ \$5.00 per night

	<h2 style="margin: 0;">GATEway Registration</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Second Quarter Conference, February 11-13, 2022 Hotel Indigo - Athens 300 College Avenue Athens, GA 30601</p>	
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<u>Optimist's Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	
<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	
<u>City, State, Zip</u>	Is this your first District Meeting? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<u>Club Name</u>	<u>Club Number</u>	<u>Zone Number</u>
<u>Club Office 2021-2022</u>	<u>District Office 2021-2022</u>	

Complete this section only if Spouse/Guest is registering:		
<u>Spouse/Guest Name</u>	Is this Spouse/Guest first District Meeting? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Does your Spouse/Guest (Optimist) prefer attending: <input type="checkbox"/> General Session <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Guest Activity		
<u>Club Name</u>	<u>Club Number</u>	<u>Zone Number</u>
<u>Club Office 2021-2022</u>	<u>District Office 2021-2022</u>	

Additional Information about the Hotel:

Hotel Indigo is the eco-friendly boutique hotel with sophisticated updated accommodations in the heart of historic Athens, GA, located one block from the vibrant downtown area where dining, shopping, and entertainment venues abound. **A parking fee will be charged for overnight guests. The parking rate is \$5 per night.**

Additional Information about Spouse/Guest Activities and Children's Activities:

There will be a separate off-site Saturday lunch and tour planned for spouses/guests at this conference. Details will be announced at a later date. There are no special activities planned for children at this conference.

Registration Fees:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Registration for Member will include: All meetings, breaks, Saturday lunch, and Saturday night banquet with entertainment • Full Registration for Spouse/Guest will include: Saturday activities, Saturday lunch, and Saturday night banquet with entertainment 		
		<u>Dietary Needs</u>
Optimist	\$125.00 before 01/28/22, \$135.00 after 01/28/22 or on-site	_____ \$
Spouse/Guest	\$125.00 before 01/28/22, \$135.00 after 01/28/22 or on-site	_____ \$
One Day	\$40.00 (includes meetings and breaks only)	_____ \$
Individual tickets may be purchased for the following:		
Saturday Lunch	_____ at \$30.00	_____ \$
Saturday Night Banquet	_____ at \$50.00	_____ \$
Sunday Breakfast	_____ at \$25.00	_____ \$
Total Enclosed:		_____ \$

Notice: When purchasing individual tickets, Optimist members must pay the \$40 Daily Registration fee in addition to the meal ticket price for each day registered.

Make checks payable to "GATEway District Optimist International" and send with registration form to: David Harter, 7616 Navarre Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919. Pre-registration must be postmarked no later than **Friday, January 28, 2022**. Cancellation, if necessary, must be made no later than **Friday, February 4, 2022**. You may reach David by email at davidhartern@yahoo.com or by phone at 865-250-1511.

Make hotel accommodations by calling the Hotel Indigo-Athens directly at 1-866-808-1483 and reference Gateway District Optimist International (block code: GD2). Or use the following link: [GATEway District Conference February 11-13](#). From there select the room type (Rate \$115.00/Standard King or Standard Double Queen Beds). Hotel cut-off date is **January 19, 2022**. After that date, room rates may increase and reservations will depend on availability.

The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself

GATEway Optimist
P. O. Box 1160
Carrollton, Georgia 30112

Gerald Johnson,
Governor
770-437-0000
geraldjohnson@juno.com

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.

