

# GATEway News



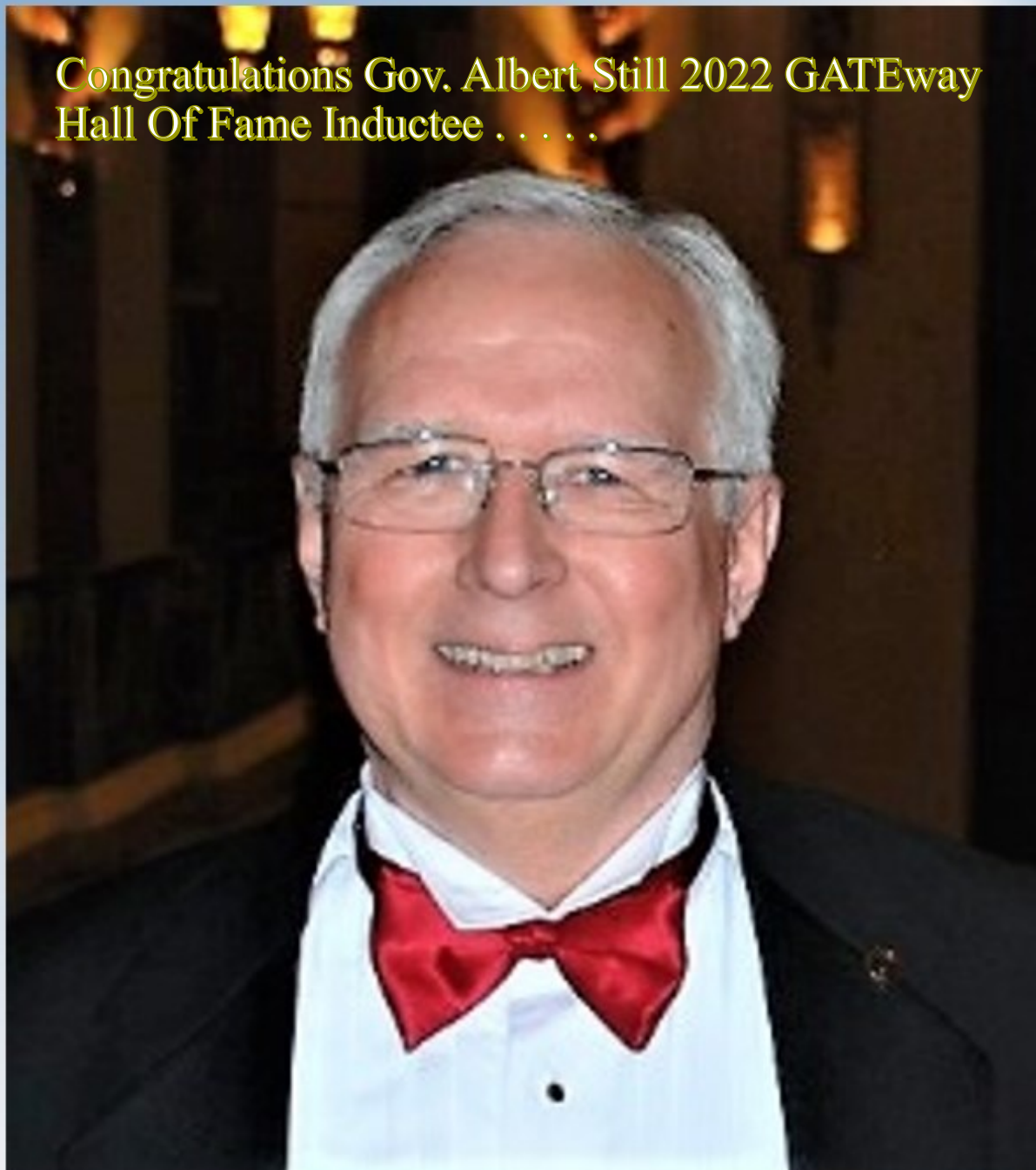
SERVING OPTIMIST CLUBS IN GEORGIA AND TENNESSEE

Volume 1

Issue 5

May/June 2022

Congratulations Gov. Albert Still 2022 GATEway  
Hall Of Fame Inductee . . . . .



INFORMATION THAT YOU NEED . . . . .



## 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](mailto:ddjohnson@juno.com) or Gerald Johnson at [geraldjohnson@juno.com](mailto:geraldjohnson@juno.com) Next issue deadline is November 10th.



## Notes from the First Lady Dianna Johnson:

I so enjoyed having everyone at our home on April 30<sup>th</sup> for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter conference. I hope you all had a good time. This month's recipe is one that takes me back to summers spent at my Aunt Leon's house. She made a cake similar to this one. I came across the recipe in a strange way. I was driving home from work and there was an ad for Duke's Mayonnaise that came on and talked about how moist their mayonnaise would make your cake. I am not a mayonnaise fan, so I thought, "Ewe, gross! Mayonnaise in my cake!". Needless to say, after listening to this add for about two weeks on the radio. I decided to just try it. I am so glad that I did! They were absolutely right about the cake being super moist. I was not a fan of the icing recipe that they had with it so I just used canned frosting. It turned out that it tastes very similar to my Aunt Leon's cake. My cousin later told me that Aunt Leon used canned frosting on her cake also.

As an optimist I have to sometimes remind myself to be open to trying new things. You never know what treasure you will find when you do.

### Duke's Chocolate Cake\*

6 Tbsp. unsweetened cocoa  
3 cups all-purpose flour  
1 Tbsp. baking soda  
¼ tsp. salt  
1 ½ cups sugar  
1 ½ cups Duke's Mayonnaise  
1 ½ tsp. Vanilla Extract  
1 ½ cups cold water

Preheat oven to 350 degrees, grease and flower two 8-inch cake pans (I use a sheet cake pan instead). Sift cocoa, flour, baking soda, salt, and sugar into a medium bowl, mix well.

Combine mayonnaise, vanilla, and water with an electric mixer at low speed. Once smooth, slowly add the dry mixture until just incorporated (do not over beat). Pour batter into cake pan(s) and bake for 30 minutes or until done.

Cool on wire racks and frost with your favorite frosting.

\*This recipe came from the Duke's Mayonnaise web site. It makes the moistest cake.

### Frosting

When cake is done, spread a can of Chocolate Fudge frosting over the top and poke holes in the cake for the frosting to melt into. Put the cake back in the oven for 5 minutes. Then add more frosting after it comes out of the oven.

# Governor's Corner . . . . .

Well summer is finally here, and Gateway Optimist are busy with vacations, home gardens, family reunions, and of course serving their communities. Every week I hear of wonderful projects all over Tennessee and Georgia that so many fellow Optimist are involved in. So many of our communities are being served in wonderful ways. And so many of you have worked to expand our Gateway Optimist family by building new clubs and adding new members to your local clubs. Thank each one of you that worked on projects and added new members to our local clubs!

At the beginning of this Optimist year, we set goals for our District and were conservative in doing so. You have worked hard, and we are on course to achieve these goals. Optimist International President Patsy Garner and Southeast Region VP John Grover have both told District Governors to look at where our districts are and be prepared to adjust as we enter the last quarter of the Optimist Year. I know many districts are planning to reduce their goals, I would like to increase ours. We are only thirteen members below the membership goal that I set for our District by the end of June. We only need three new JOI Clubs by the end of September and three new adult clubs. We can achieve these goals, and then some, we have over thirty-five clubs that as of today are close to achieving honor club status, and several that are headed toward distinguished club status!

Today I would like to challenge our clubs and members to add fifteen net new members by the end of June. I would be excited to tell President Patsy in the middle of the International Convention next week that Gateway has achieved this goal!

Also, I would like to challenge every club to work toward being an Honor Club by the end of September. To help your clubs achieve this we will be putting together Honor Club work teams that will be available to come to your club and work with you as your club finishes a successful Optimist year. More to come on this soon.

Please continue to enjoy your summer and continuing to "Just Ask" and share your Optimism!  
Governor Gerald



# **“Living The Creed” Award.....**

**This year is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Optimist Creed.**

**To honor this event our District is encouraging clubs to recognize citizens in their communities that “Live The Creed” in their everyday life and in service to their communities.**

**There are no specific requirements for this award. The individual club should pick those they wish to honor. Clubs may honor Optimist members or non-members, or both. There also are no limits to the number of awards a club may award.**

**Just pick the person to receive the award, you may send the names to Governor Gerald and he will print them and return to you.**

**[geraldjohnson@juno.com](mailto:geraldjohnson@juno.com) 770-437-0000.**



# GATEway Hall of Fame



Here are just a few words reflecting this year's inductee:

One letter states, this candidate has served in a *"plethora of positions throughout the 10-plus years I have known them; has never hesitated to offer advise and answer questions that I might have, and has served as a mentor, friend and advisor to me."*

Another letter states that this candidate is *"deeply devoted to the success of our members, clubs and district. Their involvement in our organization dates back to a different time in our District's history, through organizational changes, as well as life changes, it is remarkable that they never lost their interest or excitement for the things that our members and our Clubs can accomplish in our communities if we work together."*

**Congratulations!**  
**GATEway District**  
**Hall of Fame**  
**Inductee**  
**C. Albert Still**





## Update from Tom Brumbeloe

### GATEway Junior Golf Chair

The GATEway district Junior Golf Tournament was on Thursday, June 2nd at Canongate in Sharpsburg, GA. We had 6 golfers qualify for THE OPTIMIST in Miami. That is a four-day tournament with a stay of four/five nights. The best junior golfers in the world will attend, and this may be the only opportunity for our district kids to compete in an environment like this.

The cost for the golf, meals (some meals), and the hotel room is \$1468. That number includes no travel expenses to get to Miami. I hope the clubs will step up to raise the money to help these kids participate.

The district will pay for the golfer portion of the fee (\$730) for our first-place boy and girl in the oldest age groups. My club, the Canton club will sponsor that. There are already plans to help the qualifiers from Rome and Jasper, but it's possible that the clubs may not have \$1500 and other help would be needed. Some golfers may need only \$500 or \$1000 to help them attend. Each golfer may be different.

I am asking and imploring you to have your clubs help out in some way for these kids. Please call me if you have questions. They would need an answer within about 2 weeks. Obviously the more clubs that help, the easier it will be.

Please email me if you would like to reach out to a parent of a golfer. I would like to know who is helping whom and how much. I very much want to see that each kid below is helped.

Thank you all so very much!



# 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](https://www.oifoundation.org/downloads/Childhood_Health_Wellness_Grant_Application_Fillable.pdf)



# President's March for Optimist International Foundation

**All Members are invited to participate!**

We are having a 2nd President's March for the Optimist International Foundation! It will be at the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Convention. Members will be able to join the walk and give us your donation to OIF. Remember, a club must donate \$100 to OIF as a requirement for Honor Club. If a Club donates \$500, the Club will receive the plaque of the print. Also, the Club can do the Honor/Memorial Veteran patch for \$100. The forms are at <https://oifoundation.org/clubs.html>.

If you will not be in attendance for the convention, please mail your donation check to me or you can make your donation online at: <https://oifoundation.org/donate.html>. If it's the club donation, be sure to check the box for club and also put a comment in the comment box.

Please bring your check and join the march to support Optimist International Foundation. You can get the forms for Individual Donations for Dime-A-Day, Honor/Memorial Veteran Patch, Presidents Club, Friends of Today and Christian D Larson at <https://oifoundation.org/individuals.html>. If you would like, you can donate online at <https://oifoundation.org/donate.html>.

Be sure and register for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Convention,

<http://gatewayoptimists.org/convention-registration-2022q4/>

Thanks for all you do!

Kathy Forster  
GATEway District Foundation Representative  
Phone: 256-371-0062  
Email: [kforster428@gmail.com](mailto:kforster428@gmail.com)



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

# Dime-A-Day

**O**ptimist 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 Registration**  
**4th Quarter Convention, August 4-7, 2022**  
**Unicoi State Park & Lodge**  
**1788 Highway 356**  
**Helen, GA 30545**



<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>
<u>Club Office 2022-2023</u>	<u>District Office 2022-2023</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>
<u>Club Office 2022-2023</u>	<u>District Office 2022-2023</u>

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

There will be a separate off-site Saturday activity 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:**

- ♦ **Full Registration for Members will include:** All meetings, breaks, Saturday lunch, Saturday night banquet & Sunday breakfast
- ♦ **Full Registration for Spouse/Guest will include:** Saturday activities, Saturday lunch, Saturday night banquet & Sunday breakfast

		Dietary Needs	
Optimist	\$135.00 before 7/22/22, \$145.00 after 7/22/22 or on-site		\$
Spouse/Guest	\$135.00 before 7/22/22, \$145.00 after 7/22/22 or on-site		\$
One Day	\$40.00 (includes meetings & coffee break only)		\$
<b>Individual tickets may be purchased for the following:</b>			
Saturday Lunch	_____ at \$39.00		\$
Saturday Night Banquet	_____ at \$52.00		\$
Sunday Breakfast	_____ at \$34.00		\$
<b>Total Enclosed:</b>			\$ _____

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" & send with registration form to: David Harter, 7616 Navarre Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919. Pre-registration must be postmarked no later than **Friday July 22, 2022**. Cancellation, if necessary, must be made no later than **Friday, July 29, 2022**. You may reach David by email at davidhartern@yahoo.com or by phone at 865-250-1511.

Make hotel reservations directly with **Unicoi State Park & Lodge** at 1-800-573-9659 & reference GATEway District Optimist International. Or go to [www.unicoilodge.com](http://www.unicoilodge.com) & click on the "Book Here" blue button at the top of the page to select dates, room information & rate options. Enter GATEway online promotional code 09879 & check availability. All room rates are \$139 + \$12 lodge fee + tax per night. The first night's deposit is required to guarantee reservations. **CANCELLATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT PENALTY UP TO 7 DAYS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.** The hotel cut-off date is **July 15, 2022**. After that date, room rates may increase & reservations will depend on availability.





## UNICOI STATE PARK & LODGE

1788 Highway 356  
Helen, Georgia 30545  
1-800-573-9659

**RATE: \$139.00 + \$12.00 resort fee + tax per night**

### Highlights Include:

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

### **GATEway District Seventh Annual Convention August 4-7, 2022**

You're invited to attend! Registration is \$135 per person and can be completed online at [www.gatewayoptimists.org](http://www.gatewayoptimists.org) or by mail. **The deadline is Friday, July 22, 2022** for early registration. Make hotel reservations directly with Unicoi State Park & Lodge at 1-800-573-9659 and reference GATEway District Optimist International. Or go to [www.unicoilodge.com](http://www.unicoilodge.com) and click on the "Book Here" blue button at the top of the page to select dates, room information, and rate options. Enter online promotional code 09879 and check availability. The first night's deposit is required to guarantee reservations. Cancellations will be accepted without penalty up to 7 days prior to arrival. **The hotel cut-off date is Friday, July 15, 2022.** After that date, room rates may increase and reservations will depend on availability.

# Membership – “Just Ask”

With the beginning of Summer and the start of the Optimist 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 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 this Optimist year through the end May. They have all but assured that their club will survive and thrive for another year.

**Cedartown – Zone 1. Started with 22 members and recruited 4 new members.**  
**Canton – Zone 2. Started with 27 members and recruited 3 new members.**  
**Hickory Flat – Zone 2 – Started with 19 members and recruited 4 new members.**  
**Jasper – Zone 2. Started with 49 members and recruited 8 new members.**  
**Laurel Canyon – Zone 2. Started with 58 members and recruited 4 new members.**  
**Woodstock-Midday – Zone 2. Started with 22 members and recruited 4 new members.**  
**Holly Springs – Zone 2. Started with 25 members and recruited 5 new members.**  
**Gilmer County – Zone 2. Started with 75 members and recruited 19 new members.**  
**Cleveland-White – Zone 3. Started with 15 members and recruited 2 new members.**  
**Forsyth-Cumming – Zone 3. Started with 35 members and recruited 4 new members.**  
**Sawnee-Cumming – Zone 3. Started with 56 members and recruited 12 new members.**  
**Carrollton – Zone 4. Started with 32 members and recruited 7 new members.**  
**Douglas County – Zone 4. Started with 22 members and recruited 6 new members.**  
**Kennesaw – Zone 4. Started with 29 members and recruited 5 new members.**  
**Atlanta Meet Up – Zone 5. Started with 10 members and recruited 2 new members.**  
**Newton-Rockdale – Zone 5. Started with 2 members and recruited 2 new members.**  
**Lagrange – Zone 6. Started with 17 members and recruited 3 new members.**  
**Senoia – Zone 6. Started with 26 members and recruited 3 new members.**  
**Hope 4 Tomorrow – Zone 6. Started with 18 members and recruited 3 new members.**  
**Scenic Chattanooga – Zone 11 – Started with 13 members and recruited 2 new members.**  
**Murfreesboro – Zone 12. Started with 20 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**



# Sharing Optimism through New Club Building

One of the best ways we can share Optimism is by bringing in new members and building new clubs in the communities within our district. Governor Gerald reports that we have received credit for building three new clubs this year. We will receive credit for the Bellevue Club (co-sponsored by the Tucker Club) which was built at the end of last year, an International Club in Kathmandu (sponsored by the Sawnee Cumming Optimist Club) and the Born to Shine Club (sponsored by the Holly Springs club and the Hickory Flat Club). Congratulations to everyone who had a hand in making these new clubs happen.

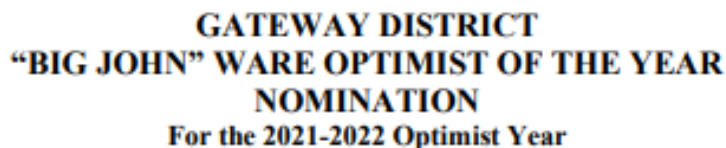
We have other activities in progress with hopes of bringing these clubs online this Optimist year. For example, efforts are underway in Columbia TN to form a club. LTG Governor Christy Buss and members from Zone 5 and 12 have attended events to introduce the Optimist benefits to the community.

The process of club building is unique. In some cases, clubs have been built in a few days, but it most likely takes weeks or even months to form a club. It is never too late to start the process. We are not restrained to any timeline, but we do want to bring on strong/functional clubs in order that they may begin serving the community.

It often takes just one strong contact in the community to start the process. I ask each of you to consider contacts you know who could be good resources and would be willing to help us in our mission as *Friends of Youth*. Please let your Lt Governor or me know if you have contacts.

Let's finish this year strong by bringing in **at least** 3 more new clubs.

Bruce Peace  
New Club Building Chair



email: [albert\\_still@yahoo.com](mailto:albert_still@yahoo.com)

**DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS JUNE 30, 2022**

City/State/Zip	Phone
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This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

(Use additional sheets if needed)

**\*Attach supporting statements to this application if appropriate\***

Club name	Club number
-----------	-------------

Do you wish this to be kept a secret from the nominee?? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Unless stipulated, this application will be forwarded to the nominee for personal verification of offices and positions held and the dates held. This award will be presented at the District Convention.



# **YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HONOR A MEMBER OF YOUR CLUB**

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**DUE DATE JUNE 30, 2022**

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**Greetings GATEway Optimists!**

The time has come for nominations to be submitted for a deserving member of our District to be recommended for the Big John Ware Optimist of the Year. This should be someone who goes over and above for their club, community and the GATEway District!

Attached is a nomination form to be completed for the person you are nominating. A club in good standing can also make a nomination. These nominations are due to me by June 30, 2022. You may email them to me at [albert\\_still@yahoo.com](mailto:albert_still@yahoo.com) or you can mail them to me at *3519 Emperor Way, Tucker, GA 30084*.

Please give this some sincere thought and make your nomination NOW!

The Optimist of the Year will be announced during the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Convention on Saturday, August 6, 2022.

Thank you for all you continue to do for our wonderful District!

**Albert Still**  
**Immediate Past Governor**  
**GATEway District Optimist International**  
*404-805-6287*  
*albert\_still@yahoo.com*

# OPTIMIST PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



## Highlighting “The Optimist Creed”

Photographers for the contest should be students at any age up through high school and prior to post-secondary education. Students are asked to submit photos that illustrate/exemplify one of the ten verses/lines of “The Optimist Creed”.

## Purpose

To expose young people to “The Optimist Creed” and our philosophy of Optimism and to assist them with developing an interest in the area of photography.

1. This provides an avenue for a student’s artistic expression through photos.
2. The contest introduces both students and parents to “The Optimist Creed” as our philosophy. It makes them aware of a local Optimist club, its activities, and can serve as an opportunity to promote membership.

## Rules

Each Optimist club may conduct its own contest and select the winners by whatever method of judging the club deems appropriate but should adhere to guidelines. Many clubs will utilize experienced photographers/art teachers as judges (some of your club members may have this type of experience).

1. A club may conduct their contest with students from elementary through high school. Entries may be from any age range, or a club may wish to limit its own contest for example, to middle school, or high school.
2. Club should select three winning photos to be identified as a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prize. You have an option to select a Grand Place/Grand Prize winner overall as well. Club will decide whether it will give medals, plaques, or something else as their prizes. All contestants should receive a participation certificate. If all entries are to be displayed at an event, you can conduct a “People’s Choice Award” as well, this would be done by ballots (one ballot per attendee).
3. Photos are to be judged for the photography quality and for how well the photo illustrates/exemplifies the verse of the Optimist Creed, which is identified on the photo mat frame. A beautiful photograph which does not match the Creed statement it attempts to illustrate, is not necessarily better than a lesser photo that is more to the point.
4. Photos may be any of these sizes: 4” x 6”, 5” x 7”, or 8” x 10”, black and white or color photo. **NO photo-shopping** enhancements should be used other than basic cropping of the photo.
5. Photos should be matted, with “The Optimist Creed” verse/line stated clearly on the front of the mat frame, so judges will know what the photo is to exemplify. The photographer’s name and other identifying information, including the entry form should be attached to the back.
6. To increase the number of entered photos, a club may allow each student photographer to submit more than one photo, up to three. However, **no contestant may be awarded prizes for more than one photo.**

7. Clubs can select their winners by any procedure they desire (a single judge, small panel of qualified judges, vote of members at a club meeting where the photos are displayed). A scoring criteria sheet has been provided in the Optimist Photography Contest information. This contest is new and is a club level contest, but the club's first place photo should be sent to the District for display during the District Oratorical Contest, and receive voting for a "People's Choice Award". This is another avenue to engage participants, their parents/guardians, and other attendees at an Optimist program. One ballot per attendee is permitted. A ballot box will be provided and a person designated to tally those votes and announce the winner at the District Oratorical Contest, plus provide something as the award for being selected the "People's Choice Award" winner for the District. Please share a copy of the winning photos with your district and OI. Please recognize winners in your club's newsletter, etc. All clubs should complete their contest by August 1, 2020, but may determine their own due date/deadline date for photos to be submitted for judging.
8. If contest winners will be by a ballot vote of the attendees (one ballot per person), the votes will be tallied with a weight of 5 points for a first place vote, 3 points for a second place vote, and 1 point for a third place vote, with the highest vote totals being awarded the prizes. Depending on the number of photos submitted, some adjustment to the procedures may be required in order to clearly establish the top three photographs.
9. If there are any additional questions, contact the Chairperson for the contest.
10. RULES AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

## The Optimist Creed

### Promise Yourself –

- 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.



For more information about  
Optimist International Programs,  
please visit [optimist.org](http://optimist.org),  
e-mail [programs@optimist.org](mailto:programs@optimist.org)  
or call us at 800-500-8130

**OPTIMIST PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

Highlighting "The Optimist Creed"

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

OPTIMIST CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB #: \_\_\_\_\_

Line/Verse of the Optimist Creed that photo will exemplify: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I took the picture myself. \_\_\_\_\_

(Student's Signature)

You have permission to print the picture, information, and photo of my child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent's Signature)**Due date for photo entries:** \_\_\_\_\_**Place above application on the back of each photo submitted (max of three).****Photos should be mounted in a frame mat. Line of creed needs to be on the front of the mat frame. Photos can be 4" X 6", 5" X 7", or 8" X 10".****NO PHOTOSHOPPING OF PHOTOS, ONLY CROPPING IS ALLOWED.**

Submit your photo entries and form to: \_\_\_\_\_

Via mail or deliver to: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Good evening ,

I am sending the attached details and applications please for these upcoming contests:

**-Optimist Musical Happiness Competition:**

Deadline for Entry: March 1<sup>st</sup> , 2022 (very sorry for the late announcement on this one, but still time for inspired songwriting !).

Song Topic: Optimist Two Categories are Instrumental and Vocal .

Contestants: Between the age of 11 and 19 .

\*1<sup>st</sup> , 2<sup>nd</sup> , and 3<sup>rd</sup> place cash prizes !

\*\*This contest has only the international level , and entries are submitted through YouTube. (Included in the contest details is the link ). A Winner announced on March 20<sup>th</sup> International Day of Happiness.

**-Optimist Visual Arts Contest:**

Deadline for Entry (for the International level) : May 1<sup>st</sup> , 2022.

Topic: Optimist. Two Categories- Painting and Drawing.

Contestants: Elementary School Age, (11 or younger).

1<sup>st</sup> , 2<sup>nd</sup> , and 3<sup>rd</sup> place cash prizes!\*\* Club contests can be held prior , and can be judged and awarded at your discretion. First and second place winners in each category can advance to the international ,(suggested).

**-Optimist Photography Contest:**

Deadline for Club Contest: End of the school year.

Topic: A tenet from the Optimist Creed.

Contestant: Elementary through high school age.

1<sup>st</sup> , 2<sup>nd</sup> , and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prizes !

District wide contest will be held at our August Conference , with winners from the club contests.

Thanks so much for your help , please forward this message to your clubs leadership.

Optimistically,

Alan Flint,

Supply Chair,

Arts and Music Chair ,

GATEway Optimist District 678-409-5940

# The Optimist Creed

## Promise Yourself

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

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

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