



OPTIMIST CLUB OF PLANT CITY **2021-2022 CLUB ACTIVITIES**

YOUTH APPRECIATION WEEK: The Club recognizes eight or more Plant City area deserving young people for their academic, athletic, and community service accomplishments at a banquet held in their honor with their families.

YOUTH FLAG FOOTBALL PROGRAM: In cooperation with the Plant City Parks & Recreation Department, the Club furnishes support each fall for over 200 boys and girls ages 4-14 on 20 teams. The League Director and several officials are Club members.

YOUTH BASKETBALL PROGRAM: In cooperation with the Plant City Parks & Recreation Department, the Club furnishes support each winter for over 300 boys and girls ages 8-16 on 30 teams. The League Director, many coaches, and several officials are Club members.

YOUTH SOCCER PROGRAM: In cooperation with the Plant City Plant City Parks & Recreation Department, the Club furnishes support each spring for over 1,200 boys and girls ages 4-18 on 100 teams. The League Director, many coaches, and several officials are Club members.

TRI-STAR SPORTS SKILLS COMPETITIONS: In cooperation with the Plant City Parks & Recreation Department, the Club furnishes awards and assistance for competitive skills contests for football (punt, pass, kick), basketball (dribble, pass, shoot) and soccer (dribble, pass, shoot), annually serving about 300 youths ages 8-16. Awards are given to the top male and female performers in each age group.

ORATORICAL CONTEST: The Club hosts a judged competition each winter for youths under 19, with awards for the top three orators. The top two competitors advance from the Club competition to compete at the Zone and possibly Region levels, each having a chance to win a \$2,500 scholarship at the District (state) level.

CITY-WIDE EASTER EGG HUNT: In cooperation with the Plant City Parks & Recreation Department and other sponsors, the Club provides egg hidiers, group leaders, hotdog cooks, and food/drink servers for over 1,100 youths who come out to try and find their share of over 10,000 eggs.

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM: The Club sponsors a Little League baseball team each spring under the Club's name.

RESPECT FOR LAW PROGRAM: The Club reinforces respect for the law by hosting a group of at-risk middle schoolers each year at a banquet honoring a local Officer of the Year.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES SCHOLARSHIPS: Each year the Club awards at least \$6,000 in scholarships to deserving Plant City High School graduates, both college-bound and to those needing additional training or certifications to go straight into the work force. This awards program is co-sponsored by Construction Technology Group (President: Rick Baldwin).

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: The Club participates with other civic clubs in the city in selecting a Outstanding Citizen of the Year and help coordinate the annual banquet. A Plant City Optimist Club member was selected for the 2022 recognition.

PLANT CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT “KID COMFORT PACKS”: The Club works with our local Police Department to provide teddy bears, coloring books and other items that can be used for children that find themselves in a traumatic situation, such as a serious car accident or a forceful removal from a home.

FOOD BANK SUPPORT: Each year, the Club provides financial assistance for youth out-of-school summer/weekend food bags for food-insecure students. At the Christmas tree lot, the club collects non-perishable food for distribution to area needy families.

OTHER YOUTH SUPPORT AS NEEDED: The Club assists with other youth program assistance as needed, such as the Plant City Family YMCA, Plant City High School Special Olympics, Plant City High School athletics state championship team recognitions, and more.

FUNDRAISERS

PLANT CITY OPTIMIST CLUB / PLANT CITY PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT GOLF CLASSIC: The Club, along with the Plant City Parks & Recreation Department, sponsors a golf tournament each fall with 80-100 golfers. All funds raised are used to support our Club activities.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LOT: The main fundraiser for the Club is the Optimist Club Christmas tree lot, located at Plant City High School. The lot annually sells 900-1,000 trees with all funds raised used to support our Club activities and Plant City High School athletics (our site sponsor).



FOUNDED FEBRUARY 18, 1963
OPTIMIST CLUB OF PLANT CITY, INC.
PO BOX 1755

PLANT CITY FL 33564-1755

WEB SITE: WWW.PLANTCITYOPTIMISTCLUB.ORG
E-MAIL: PRESIDENT@PLANTCITYOPTIMISTCLUB.ORG