

Vine Grove Optimist Programs & Community Projects



Respect for Law/Day of Non-Violence - These programs encourage peace and harmony within our community. We accomplish this feat by honoring law enforcement officials and by sponsoring our annual Day of Non-Violence Festival. During our Day of Non-Violence Festival this club sponsors a fingerprinting booth along with dozens of other activities free of charge for the youth in our community.



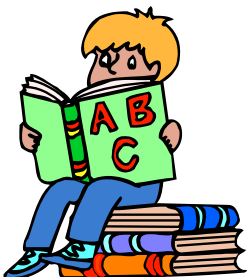
Youth Safety - Keeping children safe in their leisure activities has been an important part of Optimist programs for many years. For many, many years this club has sponsored a Bicycle Rodeo during our Day of Non-Violence Festival. This rodeo emphasizes bicycle safety.



Vine Grove Optimist Club Scholarship Program - Every year our club awards a \$1000 scholarship to a local graduating senior. The scholarship is awarded based upon essays and resumes submitted to a scholarship committee appointed by our current President.



Tri-Star Sports Skills Contest - This program brings together the youth of our community in the spirit of fun competition! The Tri-Star program offers exciting opportunities to promote self-confidence and physical fitness. Since this program does not involve physical contact or advanced skill, it is the ideal activity for every child, including those with disabilities.



Vine Grove Youth First - This organization is an outgrowth of the club. It is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to promote activities for the educational development of the children of our community. It houses a youth library and provides a tutoring program for children struggling with reading.

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Project Santa Claus - This program recognizes that there are many children in our community whose parents/guardians are not able to provide them with the kind of Christmas that we provide for our children. With help from local schools, our members go shopping and then spend most of the night wrapping the gifts for many local area families.



Sponsorship of Boy Scouts - Our club charters a local Boy Scout troop and provides them with a place to meet. Boy Scouts is an awesome way to encourage citizenship and comradery among the boys of our community



Steve Spillman Scholarship - Every year our club contributes \$500 toward the Vine Grove Police Department's Steve Spillman Scholarship Fund. This scholarship is awarded to a local area senior who is planning a career in law enforcement.



Benevolent Fund - Every year our club earmarks money for the Benevolent Fund. The fund is used to make charitable donations to many individuals and non-profit organizations. Some of the examples are youth sports teams, local area volunteer fire departments, the "Shop with a Cop" program, local area schools, and donations to individual youths for education trips, etc.



Childhood Cancer Campaign - Optimists have become a champion for those dealing with childhood cancer! Through this unique program, Optimists are building awareness of the disease that kills more children than any other. This club donates money to Optimist International, who supports research to find a cure.



President's Project - Each year the current President chooses a community project that benefits the children of Vine Grove. One year a new playground was built in Optimist Park, another year money was donated to the three local schools to upgrade computer labs, etc.

