

Bringing out the best in our youth, our communities and ourselves. Our Club serves youth through participation in various Optimist International sponsored programs and through Club projects that are designed to address local needs and interests.

Through our various projects and programs the Forsyth-Cumming Optimist Club:

- Co-Sponsors largest youth **Oratorical Contest** in the United States with the Sawnee-Cumming Optimist Club (Scholarships awarded, \$500 locally, \$2500 District, International Regional \$5,000 and Worldwide \$15,000).
- Sponsors annual **Essay Contests** for High School youth (Monetary Awards – Local 1<sup>st</sup>-\$300, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$200, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100, District \$2,500)
- Recognizes **Rising Student Program\*** – Male & Female rising 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders,
- Honors a **“Youth of the Month”** with a plaque and a personalized bank account (checking or savings) for \$100 at BB&T.
- Co-Sponsors Christmas party for Mentor Me
- Sponsors Birthday parties for boys at the Boys Lodge as well as provide them with healthy snacks monthly
- Sponsors a yearly Track and Field event for elementary age children partnering with Forsyth County Parks and Recreation Department
- Sponsors a yearly Fishing Derby in partnership with other local civic organizations and businesses
- Donates funds to various organizations, youth led projects or teachers through our **Mini- Grant Program** – Apply on our website.
- Provides thousands of dollars in **college and technical school scholarships** annually. (Usually 10 \$1,000 scholarships)
- Raises funds for Childhood Cancer Campaign to help find a cure for childhood cancer or sponsor a local child with cancer.

\*See info on next page

**Items in red directly impact students and teachers in your schools!**

P.O. Box 111  
Cumming, Georgia 30028  
[www.FCOptimists.org](http://www.FCOptimists.org)

## **Rising Student Award**

The Rising Student Award is given to students who best represent the Optimist Creed.

The Rising Student Award Recipients will be selected by the school administration towards the end of the school year, usually in April. Awards will be given in May.

**Elementary Students:** A male and female 5th grade student rising to middle school will receive a certificate.

**Middle School Students:** A male and female 8th grade student rising to high school will receive a plaque, a \$50 cash award and will be invited along with their parents to join the Forsyth-Cumming Optimist Club for breakfast at a monthly meeting.

The Rising Student Nomination Form is to be completed by a school administrator online on our website by the deadline date indicated in an annual packet you will receive providing further information. It will ask you for the School Name, your name, title, email address, phone number, a male and female students name and a place for any comments you may have.