

FROM THE LAFAYETTE OPTIMISTS December 2015

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Lafayette Optimists to the entire community. With the support of the town we have decorated the town center with the lighted wreaths and the lighted evergreen and the Manger scene. The lights on the evergreen are brand new and consist of 1500 LED bulbs and 1500 feet of wiring! That's 5 football fields length of wires to string and Michael Grimm's Tree Service very generously donated the men and equipment to get the job done right !

In Xmas seasons past the Lafayette Optimists have sponsored the Winterfest. This was usually held in the latter part of January. Well, between the vagaries of the weather and other activities attendance has fallen off in recent years so WINTERFEST IS NO MORE. We thank very much all who attended and contributed to prior years including all the local merchants that provided items for the raffle.

You know us Optimists... we don't look at this as a problem or a failure ...rather it's an opportunity to try something else. We began a new event in Lafayette last year and it was such a great event with such a great turnout that we are planning to do it yearly. This year is the Second Annual Lafayette Optimists 7-8th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament. This has Optimists written all over it. Its for the kids...lots of kids as we have hosted teams from Tully, OCS, Fabius, and Marcellus. It's local ...so we can see the results of our efforts and have control of the activity..AND its a charity event as we raised money for a local family in need. Thats an Optimist Trifecta.!

This year the Tournament will be Saturday Jan 9th at the High School. It will again involve the 7th and 8th graders. You don't have to have a player in the game to come and watch. You see a lot of attitude both good and bad at times with professional athletes and even at the college level. Watching these youngsters race up and down the court all you see is effort and concentration. We will again be doing some raffle to again contribute to a worthy cause. Food and drinks will be available and yes the yellow cheezy wheezy stuff will once again be available to top the Nachos. This tournament was suggested by , set up by, and run by Optimist Greg Long with contributions made by lots of members and friends but he championed this event and a champion he is !

Another line from the Optimist Creed is to promise yourself..To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best. If only we could inculcate our youth with this idea, what a world they could mold for themselves. Isn't it better to tell a kid ...in this great country of ours "the sky is really the limit..follow your dreams"...rather than ..."you'll never make much of yourself". You don't have to settle for "OK". The great Les Brown has a saying..."Shoot for the Moon..because even if you miss ...you'll land among the stars !" Of course just expecting the best doesn't work...you have to work for it but why not work for the best not just work to get the job done. To think only of the best will train your mind to eliminate the negative thinking that holds so many people back from their best. Oh you don't think negative thinking really affects you? Why then do most heart attacks occur on Monday...the day people return to their job stresses. What you think affects what you do and what happens to you. The world will provide plenty of challenges and discouragements...why not arm yourself with the best protection available at any price.....an Optimistic Attitude