



# Happenings

The Bulletin of the North Carolina East District of Optimist International



OCTOBER, 2000

## WELCOME GOVERNOR, LUANN POOLE

We welcome North Carolina East District Governor Luann Poole, and extend to her our support and best wishes for a successful year.

Luann has been a member of the Optimist Club of North Raleigh since 1996 and during that time has held the office of Club President twice, as well as Lt. Governor of Zone 6.

Luann is married to Owen Poole and has two children and two grandchildren.



### A Message From Your Governor....

*It certainly has been a hectic year so far. Having been elected to the position as your Governor, Owen and I have already been blessed with many wonderful opportunities. I was amazed at how many people in the North Carolina East District have made me feel so welcome. It was such a pleasure meeting each and every one of you.*

*My theme this year is "**Reaching High For Our Children**". I hope, with your efforts, we can reach more children than we ever have in years past. To achieve this goal, we must work together as a unit. I realize we have inundated you with talk of growth this year, and it may sometimes seem monotonous, but I really urge you to take my plea to heart. It is vital to our survival for this to be accomplished. We must all work together for the year 2000-2001.*

*A common bond of helping our communities and children everywhere closely binds all Optimists together. Not only will you experience outstanding fellowship, but you will also gain satisfaction from your accomplishments. I promise that I will assist you in any way possible - all you need to do is ask.*

*I have selected one of the most experienced and educated staff of chairpersons and Lt. Governors to train all of you with confidence. They will be visiting your clubs in the near future for any help you may need in realizing your goals.*

*I hope I can make this year a **FUN** year for all of you. Remember, without fun in the clubs it becomes*

*a job. When it becomes a job, the incentive to volunteer is lost.*

*Owen and I hope to see all of you at the District Meeting in Goldsboro on October 20-21.*

### **DISTRICT CONVENTION SUCCESSFUL**

The 1999-2000 District Convention was held at Atlantic Beach August 17-20 with a recent record of 174 Optimists and guests in attendance.

A golf tournament was held on Thursday at the Bogue Banks Country Club with proceeds going to Boys & Girls Homes.

The Friday Family Night was sight to behold with six Optimists vying for the title of "Miss Womanless Optimist of 2000" which was won by Dennis Cyphers of Winter Park.

Rodney Kemp, the "Fish House Lair" provided down-east story telling at the Old Timer's Breakfast, while Ed Creech, Atlantic Beach Mayor Pro-Tem, welcomed Optimists to kick off the business session Saturday morning.

The convention concluded with the traditional Governor's Ball featuring keynote speaker, O.I. International Vice President, Theodore W. Golding from Kingston, Jamaica, and the introduction of 2000- 2001 District Officers.

We extend congratulations to outgoing Governor, Tom Taylor, and to all committee members who made this such a memorable convention.

### **FIRST QUARTER DISTRICT MEETING TO BE HELD IN GOLDSBORO, OCTOBER 20-21.**

The first quarter district meeting will be held **October 20-21** at the **Quality Inn & Suites (U.S. 70 East by-pass), Goldsboro, NC.**

Be sure to make your reservation and don't miss Friday's Family Night

"Halloween Festivities" - costume is required.

Pre-registration deadline is October 10th. with checks made payable to NC East District and mailed

to Bob Verne, 6803 Turkey Farm Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 who is coordinating reservations.

For advanced reservations:

Optimist -\$11.00, spouse \$10.00, children

Free

Luncheon:

Optimist - \$10:00, spouse \$10:00

### **COLUMBUS DAY, OCTOBER 9**

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Each fall, on the second Monday in October we celebrate Columbus Day. Among many myths about Columbus is that he boldly set out across an unknown sea while everyone else, even his crew, believed the world was flat. In truth, few people in 1492 believed in a flat earth. Most knew the world to be round. It casts a circular shadow on the moon and sailors could see ships disappear on the horizon.

## DISTRICT DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

Please make the following corrections to your District Directory:

**Lester Craft**...e-mail address:

**lcraft@nccoast.net**

**Madeline Jefferson**, Sec. Chapel Hill Club... e-mail address:

**msjefferson@mindspring.com**

**Bob Verne**, Dist. Secy/Treas...e-mail address: **rverne@yahoo.com**, Office number: **(919)865- 2708**, Fax number: **(919) 967-0467**.

**Worth Starling** (Ambassador)...no "s" on name.

**Charlene Barbour**, CCDHH...e-mail address: **cbar@cobra2.com**.

**Marie Jordan**, Treasurer, Cape Fear...e-mail address: **mosterbucks@aol.com**.

**Frank Blackley**, Sec/Treas. Winter Park...e-mail address: **frblackley@cs.com**.

**Pat Patton**, Lt. Gov. Zone Two...e-mail address: **pattoner@tartan.sapc.edu**.

**Ben Chapen**, Sec/Treas.S.Brunswick Isle...note correct spelling of his name, also street name is **Copas Road**.

**Rosa Pittman**, Lt. Gov. Zone Three...e-mail address: **rosa@bbnp.com**.

**William"Bill" Shaw**, Sec/Treas. Rocky Mount Breakfast. e-mail

(work) **bill@logcabinhomes.com**,

(home) **Brenbill@costal.net**.

**Roger Root**, Sec/Treas. Raleigh Club...e-mail: **rogrott@attglobal.net**.

**Carey Foster**, Gov.-Elect...fax #**(208)693-8502**.

**Robert Michaud**, President Raleigh Club...e-mail: **mishaud@wcp.com**.

**R.Blair Harrell**, President Roxboro Club...note correct spelling of first name.

**Dennis Lambert**, President Henderson Club... Phone # residence: **(252) 492-2861**

Phone # work: **(252) 438-8104**

## FROM THE MOUTHS OF BABES

A panel of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year olds - "What does love mean?" Here are some of their answers:

*...love is that first feeling you feel before all the bad stuff gets in the way.*

*...love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving lotion and they go out and smell each other.*

*...love is when you go out and eat and give somebody most of your french fries without making them give you any of theirs.*

*...love is what's in the room at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen.*

*...love is like an old lady and an old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well.*

*...love is when your puppy licks your face after you have left him alone all day.*

*...I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and then has to go out and buy new ones.*

*...I let my big sister pick on me because my mom says she only picks on me because she loves me. So I pick on my baby sister because I love her too.*

*...God could have said magic words to make the nails fall off the cross, but he didn't. That's love.*

## MEET YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Lester Craft - Membership:** "Our goal is to have each club in the district to have sufficient membership to fulfill our "Friend of Youth" motto, and to be able to accomplish other needed projects in the community,

O.I. has determined over the years that the most successful means of securing new members is for each Optimist to - Just Ask Someone! Another alternative is the NOW program which has been very successful in securing new members."

Each club is charged with working diligently to increase membership this year.

**Ben Spradley - Youth Clubs:** "Did you know that building a youth club satisfies Distinguished Club requirements? Youth clubs can be built at almost any age level. Youth clubs can fill a need to help your club operate its programs and activities". So what are you waiting for - start building a youth club!

**Jerry Medlin - Junior Golf:** "The club eliminations will be held this spring with the District eliminations scheduled for early June. The winner goes on to the World Tournament at PGA National in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida on July 12-22, 2001. Both boys and girls are eligible and I encourage all clubs to start early to secure candidates for the tournament".

**Carlton Baird- Club Services and Tracking:** "The purpose of this committee is to foster and enable the district to have healthy clubs. Emphasis is placed on the prevention of problems and identification of clubs that may need assistance and recommending activities and programs which may aid in correcting these problems." Club presidents should be aware of any deterioration or lack of growth in the club and avail themselves of this service.

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**Bruce Phillips - New Club Building:** “Our governor is charged to be the top governor in O.I. and we should help her achieve this goal. More importantly, we need to help the youth in our district by building more clubs and thus reaching more youth. Look around you - how many communities in your area could benefit from an Optimist Club?” New club building along with membership is the lifeblood of our organization. “If you believe in propagating Optimism, start today by building a new club.”

## NORTH CAROLINA OPTIMIST LICENSE PLATE PROGRAM

A proposal was made at the District Convention to explore the possibility of applying to the State Department of Motor Vehicles to have a North Carolina license plate issued with the O.I. Friend of Youth logo.

A minimum of 300 applications must be attained in order for the license plate to be produced. The cost is an additional \$10.00 per year over and above the cost of a regular plate.

Applications are available from Robert Verne, District Secretary/Treasurer, 6803 Turkey Farm Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. In the event the required 300 applications are not received, all collected fees will be refunded.

## CLUB HAPPENINGS...

**Golden Circle, Wilson** held their installation banquet this month with Jerry Godwin, Clinical Resources Manager at Wilson Memorial Hospital as guest speaker. Later this month, about 10 members will be ushering at the Edna Boykin Center/Show Shangri La Acrobats. Of immediate concern is that the club has dropped 11 members and possible even more to come. Club growth will be critical issue this year in order to regain the Honor Club status, which eluded them last year. Their first project of the year is “Youth Appreciation”.

**Laurinburg Optimist Club** held their 39<sup>th</sup> Annual installation banquet at St. Andrews Presbyterian College with about 150 in attendance. They are looking forward to a special event next year as they celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**The Optimist Club of Washington** has a unique program in order to get feedback from members about the lack of attendance and the effectiveness of meetings and programs. Questionnaires have been distributed to members soliciting their comments and asking for suggestions on how to improve attendance and other matters of concern.

**Goldsboro** sent out a most interesting Bulletin last month in which it described their installation

banquet including a large area of white space in the center of the page with a footnote that read; “The above picture is of our speaker at the last meeting - regrettably, the photographer was out of film!” The club has set some energetic goals this year: 1) Start more Youth Clubs in schools of churches, 2) Have members work on PGI (personal growth), 3) build a new Optimist Club, 4) challenge each member to bring in at least 1 new member. Good Luck, Goldsboro!

**Elizabethtown** will hold its installation and awards banquet on October 9<sup>th</sup> with Lt. Governor, Pat Patton as guest. And congratulations on your newest member, Dr. Shelly West. What is Raleigh’s loss is Elizabethtown’s gain.

**Optimist Club of Whiteville** held their banquet with Lt. Governor, Sandee Cyphers-Bohn installing officers, and with District Governor, Luann Poole, as guest. Earlier this month they invited several organizations to their regular meeting to receive annual donations.

**Raleigh Breakfast** will hold a NOW meeting in November. The club continues its recognition of good citizenship among students at Sanderson High School. They will be sponsoring a youth basketball team through the YMCA, and when you get to the State Fair this year be sure to stop at their concession stand behind Dorton Arena.

**Youngsville’s** motto this year is “Let’s Have Fun”. They feel this will go long way in building fellowship and attendance. Additionally, emphasis is being placed on recruiting members of diverse gender and ethnic backgrounds hoping for Distinguished Club status.

**Henderson** held its installation banquet on September 21<sup>st</sup> with District Governor, Luann Poole and husband Owen as guests. President Dennis Lambert has specified 21 traditional projects they plan to undertake plus a new partnership with an area wilderness camp.

They are considering a local golf tournament, and plan to have one or more contestants for Jr. World Golf. A “member-a-month” is their goal for membership.

**Roxboro** will hold their installation banquet on October 9<sup>th</sup>. President Blair Harrell and the board are gearing up to develop their goals and objectives for the year.

As District Bulletin Editor, I want to thank the club presidents, Lt. governors, and committee chairpersons who provided information for this first district bulletin.

I would hope that club bulletin editors would include me on their mailing list so that

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information about future club activities can be reported.

### **Do It Anyway...**

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfishness and having ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies. Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you. Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight. Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, others may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough. Give the world the best you've got anyway.

*Mother Teresa*

## **Remember the District Meeting October 20-21 in Goldsboro**

...and the Festivities on Friday night. Plan to wear a costume to join in the fun.

*Tom McCutcheon, Editor*

*(919) 782-2377 - TMcCutcheo@aol.com*