



Happenings

The Bulletin of the North Carolina East District
of Optimist International



Carey Foster, *Governor* February 2002 F. Carllyle Teague, *Editor*

A message from the Governor . . .

Dear fellow Optimists:

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. I just returned from Tucson, AZ for the winter Governors conference. We were ranked number 17 over all, but are still 9 members down for the year.

OI is promoting March as NOW month, and is asking each club to conduct a NOW (new optimists wanted) program. If you are not sure about how to conduct one, Contact membership chair, Yancey Hines; club services chair, Charlene Edwards; or myself. Better yet, we will do a workshop on one at the district conference in Wilmington February 15 - 16.

Gary Schrum, PGI chair will also do a PGI module at the district meeting to help get everyone started on the personal growth involvement program. Please be reminded that Essay Chair, Ed Taylor must have the essay contests in his hands by February 28th. Now is the time to have the oratorical contest information in the schools. The district contest will be held May 18th at Kill Devil Hills, during the third quarter conference.

Optimist international will be starting to send out public service announcement about Optimism in the near future. Each club is asked to send in the email address of the clubs in your area. I have zone one's, and a few from zone 4. I heard several of these last week and they are very good.

Andrew Sutton, from Optimist International Foundation, will be our guest at the district meeting in Wilmington. He will present us with information on what the foundation does, how it is financially, and how they can help clubs with the pass through program. It has been several years since a representative has been to visit us, so take advantage of this.

I read something interesting the other day, I would like to share with you in closing. Medical research has shown that people who give 80% effort of themselves at tasks actually out perform those who gave 100%. The reason being, that stress, exhaustion, and burn out tend to reduce, enthusiasm, dedication and performance. They also concluded that when efforts got to 50%, boredom and indifference tended to set in and greatly reduced performance. Therefore, in an unprecedented move for Optimists in NC East, I am asking each person to give 80% of yourself to Optimism. So get out there and give 80% to club projects, membership, new club building, fellowship in your club, and time for yourself to grow as an Optimist.

Have a Great Day!

Carey

NC EAST DISTRICT WILL BOOST OPTIMIST FOUNDATION EFFORT

THE SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING IN WILMINGTON WILL HAVE SOME SURPRISES IN TALENT. SANDEE SPRADLEY IS PUTTING TOGETHER A TALENT CONTEST TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE FOUNDATION, THIS SHOULD BE INTERESTING.

ANDREW SUTTON, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, WILL BE OUR SPECIAL GUEST AND PRESENT SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTRIBUTION.

THE OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL, IS CONDUCTING A MAJOR FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN, NAMED "PAVE THE WAY TO HIGHER EDUCATION". THE PURPOSE OF THE CAMPAIGN IS TO BUILD A \$10 MILLION ENDOWMENT FOR HIGER EDUCATION BY THE YEAR 2005.

THE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMNET WILL ALLOW US TO ESTABLISH A STRONG FINANCIAL BASE FOR FUTURE FUNDING. THE FUNDS RAISED WILL SECURE FUTURE FUNDING FOR OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS BUT WILL PROVIDE THE MEANS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED EACH YEAR.

IF YOUR CLUB WOULD LIKE A PROGRAM OR HAS QUESTIONS CALL ME WILLIAM MILLS 252-946-8989

Club Happenings . . .

Club Happenings are activities and projects reported in the various newsletters from clubs across the district. To be sure your club is represented here, send each issue of your club newsletter to me, District Bulletin Editor, F. Carlyle Teague, 5208 Doncaster Court, Raleigh, NC 28612 or at e-mail, carlylet@touchnc.net.

Chapel Hill is looking forward to the UNC-TV Festival fundraising on March 17; **Wilson Evening** held their turkey barbecue before Christmas; **Raleigh Breakfast** surrendered their charter at the end of December; **Rocky Mount Evening** held Tri-Star Football; **Rocky Mount Breakfast** honored Vester Harris for thirty years as club bulletin editor; **Goldsboro** helped serve a Christmas meal to 150-200 women and children at "Lighthouse."

Elizabethtown held fundraisers and had State Representative Edd Nye as a speaker; **Greenville** is working to develop more good publicity for the club; **Whiteville** had the All-Star Soccer Game; **Wilmington** took a visiting group to Boys and Girls Homes; **Farmville** participated in the Farmville Halloween Carnival; **Roanoke Rapids** sponsored basketball teams and ran concession stand at recreation league games; **THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF Raleigh** had successful Christmas tree sales, sponsored 50 children on the Salvation Army Angel Tree and is working on a golf tournament; **Winter Park** collected coats during their Christmas tree sales; **Raleigh Dinner** supported the Angel Tree project, held Respect For Law and supported the Shepherd's Table meals; **North Raleigh** is distributing their weekly bulletin solely by e-mail.

AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

All NC East District Optimists will want to be in Wilmington February 15 and 16, 2002 for the February Board Meeting.

Exciting plans are in place for an interesting, informative and entertaining meeting. Beginning with the OI Foundation Fundraiser, the talent show, on Friday night, right through Past Governor LuAnn's awards luncheon, everything should make for a great meeting. More specific information is included in other articles in this newsletter, but the bottom line is . . . Don't miss it !

Registration information for the meeting and for the hotel has gone out and the deadline is fast approaching. (The hotel deadline has passed, but probably there are still rooms available.) The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Four Points , (formerly a Ramada Inn where we have had meetings in the past) on Market Street.

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE 2000-2001 TOP CLUBS . . .

1— Goldsboro

2 — Greenville

3 — Wilson Evening

FROM PAST GOVERNOR LUANN:

I have just received my final scoreboard for the year 2000-2001 and I was so excited that I wanted to share my excitement with you.

Our North Carolina East District has ended the year as number 3 out of 53 districts. We had a net growth of 102% with these numbers we should all be proud of what we have accomplished last year.

Our newest club the Carteret Optimist Club has over 60 new members and this shows how they helped our district become so strong. With this many new Optimist think how many children will be reached this year.

I had a wonderful team last year that worked beside me and it takes a good team to succeed. I would like to say thank you for all of your time and effort that you spent last year to make a difference in our district.

I want to also thank every Optimist member in NC East for his or her support and hard work last year.

I will be giving out awards for the year 2000-2001 at the next district meeting in February at Wilmington North Carolina.

I hope all of you will try to attend this meeting so I can personally thank you in person.

Let us all work hard this year to keep the growth up so we can serve even more children in the future.

In Optimist Spirit,
LuAnn Poole

MEMBERSHIP IS CRITICAL FOR EFFECTIVE PROJECTS

As Optimists, we are all aware of the need for significant membership numbers to accomplish the projects that are needed for the youth in our community.

The last figure I heard, it is estimated that each Optimist member serves an average of thirty youth during the year. How many additional youth need to be served in your area, and how many new Optimists would it take to serve those youth ?

The bottom line is that keeping our membership numbers up is one of the most important jobs we have, outside of direct service to youth.

Governor Carey and Membership Chair Yancey Hines are putting special emphasis on membership, especially the NOW program this year. What is your club . . . and YOU, doing to assure a strong membership ?

The month of March has been designated as NOW Month in the NC East District. If you need help with NOW or any other membership issue, contact Governor Carey, Yancey, or Club Services Chair Charlene Edwards. You'll get all the help you can use.

A SHORT COURSE IN HUMAN RELATIONS . . .

The six most important words: "*I admit I made a mistake.*"

The five most important words: "*You did a good job.*"

The four most important words: "*What is your opinion.*"

The three most important words: "*If you please.*"

The two most important words: "*Thank you.*"

The one most important word: "*We*"

The least important word: "*I*"