



# North Carolina East OPTIMIST NEWS



Vol. 4 Issue 4, August, 2006



Above: Anna Dietrich, Greenville Optimist  
1st Place Girls District Oratorical Contest  
April 29, 2006.

Below: Zachary Barnes, Laurinburg Optimist  
1st place Boys District Oratorical Contest  
April 29, 2006.



Other contestants in the 2006 District Oratorical contest are on page 4

# 2nd Quarter A&A Top Club Winners



A&A Awards 2nd quarter, club standing. From left: 1st place, North Raleigh, Jerry Medlin; 2nd place, Whiteville, Richard Johnson; 3rd place, Rocky Mount Breakfast, Bob Chandler; 4th place, Chapel Hill, Carolyn Mason; 5th place tie; Henderson, Thurman Murphy; Raleigh, Carolyn Lackey.



6th place, Wilmington Cape Fear, Bennie Bass; 7th place, Wilson Evening, Doug Lamm; 8th place, Raleigh Dinner, Carlton Baird; 9th place, Winter Park, Jimmy Moore; 10th place, Goldsboro, Louwana Pender. A&A Chairman, Worth Starling is in background.

Top clubs in each Zone:

- Zone 1: Wilmington Cape Fear
- Zone 2: Whiteville
- Zone 3: Greenville
- Zone 4: Wilson Evening
- Zone 5: Henderson
- Zone 6: North Raleigh



Worth Starling, A&A  
Chairman

Top Lt. Governors

- 1st. Place: Barbara Timmons, Zone 6
- 2nd Place: Larry Webb, Zone 5
- 3rd Place: Marie Jordan, Zone 1



The NC East District Convention will be held again at the Holiday Inn Sunspree

Hotel in Wrightsville Beach September 14-17, 2006. The 'Imitations' will furnish the dance music and entertainment for the Governor's Banquet & Ball Saturday night.

Both Friday and Saturday afternoon, District Training Chairman, Jerry Medlin, will hold training classes for all officers elect.

Friday evening, the Wilson Evening Optimist will host a Shrimp-A-Roo at Hugh Mac Rae Park, Shelter #6. In addition to all you-can-eat-shrimp, the meal will consist of specially prepared cuisine Maine potatoes along with Southern Fried Chicken from Nationally known Parkers Barbecue in Wilson.

A social meal has been arranged for Thursday night for those who come on Thursday to play in the Boys and Girls Home Golf Tournament.

Carey Foster  
District Convention Chairman





**District Oratorical  
Chairman  
Tommy Peele**

I would like to thank all Optimist members, along with all students, teachers and parents for making the District Oratorical Contest a success. Congratulations to the ten Zone winners and to Anna and Zachary, our two scholarship winners.



District Girls Oratorical Contest April 29, 2006  
From left: Alexandria Stone, Rocky Mount Breakfast Optimist; Anna Dietrich, Greenville Optimist; Lisa Santiago, Wilson Golden Circle Optimist; Kathryn Leuci, Cape Fear Optimist; Hilaire Thompson, Whiteville Optimist.



District Boys Oratorical Contest April 29, 2006  
From left: Adam Boswell, Wilson Evening Optimist; Zachary Barnes, Laurinburg Optimist; Brandon Turner, Winter Park Optimist; Justin Green, Rocky Mount Breakfast Optimist; Matthew Edwards, Greenville Optimist.

# The Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina

The boys in the Optimist cottage have packed up their belongings and left the cottage. No, they haven't run away from home. They have moved out of the cottage temporarily, while the renovation of the bathrooms take place. Thanks to the efforts of Optimist Clubs throughout the district we have raised the money to renovate the bathrooms and have completed the roof replacement on the cottage. The bathroom renovations are expected to take over a month and during this time the boys and their teaching parents will be staying in the Jaycees Cottage. So that Boys and Girls Homes can replenish the fund for maintenance and upkeep of the Optimist Cottage, we hope to raise another 5 to 7 thousand dollars in the district. Optimist Clubs that would like to help us with this effort should designate their contributions for the Optimist Cottage. Also as a way to welcome the boys back to the cottage after the bathroom renovations are complete, we are asking Optimist Clubs to bring school supplies, towels and washcloths, twin bed sheets, pillows, sports posters, and other special items for the boys when you come to our District Convention at Wrightsville Beach September 14-17. Tom Lamont will pick up the items at convention and deliver them to the Optimist Cottage Boys. Thank you North Carolina District East Optimist for Bringing out the Best in Kids at Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina.



Tom Lamont,  
Girls & Boys Home

HELLO N.C.EAST DISTRICT OPTIMISTS.....WE ARE ONLY TWO MONTHS AWAY FROM FINALIZING ANOTHER OPTIMIST YEAR AND BEFORE WE KNOW IT THOSE TWO MONTHS WILL HAVE PASSED AND WILL BE HISTORY....I HOPE THAT EACH OF YOU CAN HELP LAY A CORNER STONE IN THE HISTORY OF THE EAST DISTRICT BY RENDERING YOUR SUPPORT TO COMPLETE THE BUILDING OF A NEW CLUB IN APEX, NC. WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF JERRY MEDLIN AND A CORE OF OTHER WONDERFUL OPTIMISTS WE ARE GOING TO TRY AND MAKE THIS CLUB A REALITY. THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:00PM AT THE OCEAN STARS SEAFOOD RESTAURANT AT US 1 AND NC 55 IN APEX...WE FEEL THAT THE GROUP IS SOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO CLOSE TO HAVING THE NEEDED 25 PEOPLE TO JOIN BUT WOULD LIKE YOUR ASSISTANCE BY EMAILING ME THE NAMES, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF ANY OF YOUR FRIENDS, RELATIVES OR ETC. THAT YOU MAY KNOW THAT RESIDES IN THE APEX AREA. I WILL THEN IN TURN SEND THEM AN INVITATION TO ATTEND AND CONTACT THEM BY PHONE. THE DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED AT NO CHARGE...IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTACT THEM YOURSELF AND BRING THEM WITH YOU... THAT WOULD BE FANTASTIC! AS OPTIMISTS I HOPE YOU WILL WORK AND ASSIST US IF AT ALL POSSIBLE IN SHARING OPTIMISM TO OTHERS. WE CAN MAKE THIS HAPPEN... PLEASE SEND INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN THAT I WILL NEED TO MAIL THE INVITATIONS ASAP... LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING AND RECEIVING INFORMATION FROM AS MANY OF YOU AS POSSIBLE.



OPTIMISTICALLY YOURS,  
SANDY CYPHERS NEW CLUB BUILDING CHAIR-  
MAN

These pictures show some of the work being done at Optimist Cottage. The pictures of the roof show the shingles being replaced. The others show the work being done to renovate the bathrooms. Note the old blue tiles that are being replaced as a part of the bathroom renovations.

Larry Hewett  
Boys and Girls Homes



**Optimist Cottage  
Boys & Girls Homes**



Max Stephenson, District Boys and Girls Home Chairman

## **\*Optimist International Foundation\***

I hope that all NC East Optimists know how important the OI Foundation is to our organization. With its funding, the OI Foundation is the key that enables all the youth programs that are sponsored by OI to operate. The Foundation pays for the scholarships earned by our kids in the Oratorical, Essay and CCDHH contests. It pays for the leukemia vaccine research and program development for the Childhood Cancer Campaign. It pays for the program materials and leadership for the JOOI youth club program. Over 1.5 million youth are served annually by these programs funded by the Foundation.

However, these are somewhat difficult times for the Foundation. Donations are down significantly from prior years. One reason is the diversion of contribution dollars to world crises such as the several natural disasters the world has faced over the past year or so. As serious as these disasters have been, our kids still need the benefits and opportunities provided by our Optimist programs supported by the OI Foundation. Unfortunately, the Foundation does not receive any significant portion of its income from corporate donations. So it must rely on the Optimist community, people like you and me and our clubs, to fund these vital programs.

I appeal to you and to your club to support the OI Foundation.

How can you help?

1. Make a donation yourself. If you have given in the past, consider increasing your donation to help the Foundation maintain its level of support for the OI youth programs. Think about how easy it would be to donate as little as ten cents per day. For information about the Foundation Dime-a-Day program go



to [www.oifoundation.org/assets/pdf-files/dime-a-daynew.pdf](http://www.oifoundation.org/assets/pdf-files/dime-a-daynew.pdf)

2. Discuss this need among your fellow club members so that they can understand the importance of the Foundation and be encouraged to lend their support.

3. Ask your club to participate in the support the OI programs by making a sizable donation to the Foundation.

Folks, if we don't do it, it's not going to happen. I believe in the Optimist programs and have helped to support them through my contribution to the OI Foundation. I hope you will, too. Send your check to: OI Foundation, PO Box 952126, St. Louis, MO 63195-2126.

Or bring it to me at the NC East Convention at Wrightsville Beach. I'll be glad to forward it to the Foundation headquarters for you.

Please know that all that you do to support our kids and your contribution to the OI Foundation is both important and appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Bob Verne  
District Foundation Representative  
Email: [rverne@nc.rr.com](mailto:rverne@nc.rr.com)  
Phone: 919-942-4144

The 3rd Quarter Board Meeting, Research Triangle Park, April 29, 2006.



Wayne Sidelinger, right, receiving for Wilson Evening, 50 year certificate. Presentation by Gov. Ray



Gov. Elect, Gary Pender, standing, receiving words of wisdom from the current head honchos..



Personal Growth Involvement Chairman, Ed Taylor, encouraging members to participate in the program



Boys & Girls Home Representative, Tom Lamont with his guest at the Friday night Dinner



Executive Board Meeting



Trish, Bob, Billy, Jan, Judy and Don, displaying the harmonization of a smile



# JOOI Activities





District Youth Clubs Chair  
Barbara Timmons  
919-426-5824



In the summer 2006 issue of "The Optimist" magazine on page 24. there is an article of how the 3 JOOI Clubs, East Wake High School, Knightdale High School and Wake Forest-Rolesville High School assisted 6 Optimist members, to prepare meals for the guest staying at the Ronald McDonald House. In addition, we held a three club social, including a visit to a hockey game. We had a great time and plan on making this an annual social for the Zone! Two of the Advisors also joined the fun.



The Childhood Cancer Campaign has received enough funds to create the OI Research Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at John's Hopkins Medical Center. We still need to raise more funds to reach the commitment of \$920,000 to sustain the fellowship, so your continued support is needed. We have several children within the OI community that this disease has affected.

The Boys and Girls Home recently collected three large jugs of pop-top tabs. Their total to date for this quarter is 27 lbs. of tabs. Thanks to those who collected these so far and to Tom Lamont who brought them to me. This year we have donated over 120 lbs. to Ronald McDonald House. I look forward to receiving any tabs you have collected at the next district meeting.

Several clubs are planning golf tournaments that will benefit the CCC. The Chapel Hill Club is assisting at a ROCK FOR CANCER event called "Play It Forward". This evening of music, featuring many local bands, will be held in Chapel Hill on Septem-

ber 23rd. The proceeds will benefit the pediatric cancer patients at both Duke and UNC Memorial Hospitals.



The four goals of the CCC Program are:

- Provide support to cancer patients.
- Provide support to families and care partners.
- Provide support to healthcare providers.
- Provide support for cancer research.



Thanks for all you do.  
Trish

### **Al Ludlum, Web Master**

A note from the web master to ask ALL optimists. If you have an e-mail address please e-mail it to me at [aludlum@nceast-optimist.org](mailto:aludlum@nceast-optimist.org) and if at any time they see a problem with web site links or wrong information to also email me about the corrections.

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## I'm Unique Because

Most individuals believe that being unique is synonymous with possessing a great talent or living in the public eye. This generalization is simply not true. Being unique is as simple as having a favorite color or loving a particular motion picture. Being unique is an expression of oneself, demonstrating to others that no two individuals are exactly alike. I believe that I am unique because I am a self-motivated individual not influenced by the confines of stereotypes and popularity. I alone determine who my friends are and the manner in which I carry myself. In short, I hold the ability to look past the façade of social standings and forge my own path.

Stereotypes have and will always be present in our society. They provide an easy method of determining the character of an individual. However, this social nomenclature is not always correct. This summer I had the privilege to attend a six-week academic enrichment program. I was exposed to a plethora of individuals of varying races and beliefs. In turn, these students were also exposed to me, an atypical cheer leader according to the stereotype. Not only did I have brown hair, I possessed a brain. My college level coursework perplexed many a participant in the summer program. The last night of the program proved the most inspirational for me. I was approached by many new friends who all told me that I had completely reversed their perceptions of the behavior of cheerleaders. These statements thrilled me, since I have always aspired to abrogate stereotype in our culture. That night I realized that I was truly unique.

The concept of popularity proves another flaw in our society. A famous maxim states that "What is popular is not always right, what is right is not always popular ethics". I believe it necessary to have a diverse group of friends, to not just be affiliated with one particular group of people. The most important goal of any relationship is "to make all your friends feel that there is something in them (Optimist Creed). This proves impossible if you are in constant competition with your "friends" to remain the best dressed, most athletic, constantly talked about individual at your school. My ability to surpass such obstacles proves again that I am unique. I feel completed to surround myself with an assorted group of individuals by participating in cheer leading, student government, and several academic organizations.



Candy Nichols, District Essay chairman.

The philosopher, Aristotle, once affirmed, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act, but a habit (Aristotle)". The same outlook can also be applied to the idea of being unique. I have made it my "habit" to attempt to blur the conventions and social standings that hold each of us back. Stereotypes can be proven incorrect, popularity can be proven relative, and conformity can be proven dolorous. It is my firm belief that I am unique because, not only do I recognize these constraints, I rise above them.

Patrick Holt



Patrick Kevin Holt, Winner, District Essay Contest, April 28, 2006. Sponsored by Rocky Mount Breakfast Optimist

# **NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT - OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL**

## **THIRD QUARTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Sheraton RTP Hotel, RTP, N.C.  
Saturday, April 29, 2006

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

Ray Potter	Governor
Gary Pender	Governor-Elect
Allan Ludlum	District Secretary-Treasurer
Yancey Hines	Immediate Past Governor
Bob Verne	Past Governor
Don Harritan	Lt. Governor Zone 2
Louwanna Pender	Lt. Governor Zone 3
Barbara Hester	Lt. Governor Zone 4
Larry Webb	Lt. Governor Zone 5
Barbara Timmons	Lt. Governor Zone 6

Governor Ray Potter called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

### **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by All**

Invocation given by Thurman Murphy.

Governor Ray Potter recognized first time attendees.

2nd Quarter District Board Meeting Minutes report, given by Allan Ludlum. Motion to accept was made by Jmmy Moore of Winter Park – Seconded by Linda Watson of Wilson Golden Circle - Approved.

2nd Quarter Financial report, given by Allan Ludlum. Motion to accept was made by Earl Moore of Rocky Mount Evening – Seconded by Joe King of Raleigh - Approved.

Allan Ludlum reported information from OI about the 501 C3. Discussion was opened up from the floor on this item.

OI Foundation Report & Alter Call was given by Bob Verne. Bob also handed out forms to the clubs to complete to assign a contact person as the clubs OI foundation chairperson. The Henderson Club was awarded a print for a donation to the foundation. 50-50 Raffle was being conducted today with the drawing at lunch.

Childhood Cancer Campaign & Alter Call along with a wealth of information, given by Trish Verne. Pop-top tabs collected at this meeting about 40 lbs. Doug Lamm has been in St Louis judging the CPA books & said about 98% of the CPA's were done on fund raising for CCC.

Oratorical Contest information for 2006-2007 was handed out by Bob Verne, information will also be loaded on the NC East web site.

PGI program information, given by Ed Taylor. Only 5 clubs are actively involved in PGI, Ed would like to see more get involved.

2005-06 2nd Qtr A&A Awards were handed out by Worth Starling.

Boys and Girls Homes report & Alter Call, given by Tom Lamont. Still need about \$20,000 to do the entire repair & upgrade work needed. Yancey Hines of the Henderson club has donated 10 photos of the Boys & Girls Homes Church

*(Continued on page 14)*

*(Continued from page 13)*

to be used by the Boys & Girls Homes as fund raising items.

Membership report, given by Ray Potter. District received a PACE setters award for being in the top 11% of the districts. Told clubs to keep checking the T-Shirts & Incentive for a Jacket or Golf Shirt for Club presidents that net +3 members until 9-30-06.

Growth & Club services report given by Doug Lamm; Youngsville club charter was revoked by OI. District attempted to contact membership & officers.

New Club building information and score for Coach RAY was given by Sandy Cyphers. District now at 31 clubs & still need to build 2 clubs.

Newsletter information, given by Wayne Sidelinger. April newsletter handed out. Wayne asked for photos.

NC East Web site information, given by Allan Ludlum, also asked to please send club info & photo and any incorrect information that needed to be corrected.

Elections for the Lt. Govs for the 2006-2007 year were held at this time by Bob Verne. Results given to Gary Pender – Gov. Elect. Zone 1- Jimmy Moore; Zone 2 – Ronald Riggins; Zone 3 – Candy Nichols; Zone 4 – Jimmy Lamm; Zone 5 - Randy Todd & Zone 6 - Carolyn Mason.

Activities - CPA district awards were handed out by Carey Foster. Only three clubs participated in the CPA's.

JOOI Clubs report & update, given by Barbara Timmons. We now have 11 JOOI clubs in the district.

Break was taken at 9:45 am, meeting reconvened at 10:00 am.

2006 NC East Convention information was given by Carey Foster. Lt Govs will be contacted as well as club presidents about duties for convention as the date gets closer.

Junior Golf report, given by Carlton Baird for Ken Dixon. NC East district was the first tournament for IO this year. We had thirteen (13) to qualify for the International Tournament. Considering we only had 63 participants, that is a great number of qualifiers. Six (6) girls and seven (7) boys. Roxboro lead everyone with nine (9) golfers. Rocky Mount Evening was next with six (6) golfers.

Candidate Qualifications information was given by Bob Verne for Yancey Hines. Gary Pender was elected as Gov-Designate.

CCDHH report was given by Gary Turner. Event was not held this year due to no contestants.

Tommy Peele gave instructions for the Oratorical Contest to be held after this meeting.

Closing remarks by Ray Potter. Gov. Potter handed out Club Awards to the Carteret club for 5 years of service & the Wilson club for 50 years of service. Also announced Candidate Qualifications – Dan Durham for Gov. for 2007-2008.

Meeting closed with the Optimist Creed by membership.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

Allan Ludlum  
District Secretary-Treasurer



# THE OPTIMIST CREED

## Promise Yourself



To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear  
and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.



NCE District Bulletin  
1104 Windemere Dr. NW  
Wilson, NC 27896

