

North Carolina East OPTIMIST NEWS

Vol. 5 Issue 4 August 2007

Dear Optimist and Friends:

Welcome to New Bern for the 2007 NC-East District Convention. Here you not only have the opportunity to learn but to have fun at the same time. Your convention chairperson, Sandy Cyphers, and her committee, have worked very hard to bring you a great and enjoyable experience.

Our convention is a great opportunity to learn new ways to "Bring out the Best in Kids." I urge all incoming District chairpersons, Lt. Governors, Club Presidents, and Secretaries/Treasurers to take advantage of the training provided for you. I invite any optimist member that is interested in our training to please take part also. When you leave this convention, I hope that each if you take home a memorable experience.

Louwanna and I are very honored to

have served you as Governor and First Lady this year, we hope each of you have a great learning and fun time while you are here. Remember we have until September 30 to

reach Honor or Distinguished Status. Let's not drop members. Let's bring in new optimists instead.

THANK YOU FOR "BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN KIDS."

GARY D. PENDER
GOVERNOR 2006-2007



The LOVE year is nearly over, and I thank you for all you do for the children of North Carolina East. Governor Gary has done a great job of motivating your District to grow. I EXPECT NCE to be Distinguished this year! There's one club already (thanks to VP Designate Doug Lamm), and Governor Gary and Past Governor Sandy Cyphers will build the other two required for Distinguished status! Keep it going for Governor-Elect Dan next year!

I encourage you to never forget the Pen-nies of the world. They all have worth, and we must do all we can to make sure they are saved.

You are special friends to Wayne and me, and we look forward to seeing you again soon!

*LOVE,
Ronnie Dunn, President
Optimist International*



A & A Awards for 2nd Quarter

Top Ten Clubs

- 1. Wilson Evening 7250
- 2. Whiteville..... 5675
- 3. North Raleigh..... 5250
- 4. Raleigh 4350
- 5. Wilmington Cape Fear 4050
- 6. Roanoke Rapids 2600
- 7. Rocky Mount Evening 2500
- 8. Henderson 2450
- 9. Raleigh Dinner 2350
- 10. Chapel Hill Tie 2225
- 11. Goldsboro..... Tie 2225

Top Clubs in Each Zone

- Zone 1. Wilmington Cape Fear ... 4050
- Zone 2. Whiteville..... 5675
- Zone 3. Goldsboro..... 2225

- Zone 4. Wilson Evening 7250
- Zone 5. Roanoke Rapids..... 2600
- Zone 6. North Raleigh 4350

Top Lt. Governors

- Zone 6. Carolyn Mason 18,225
- Zone 4. Jimmy Lamm..... 11,750
- Zone 5. Tommy Peele 9,500

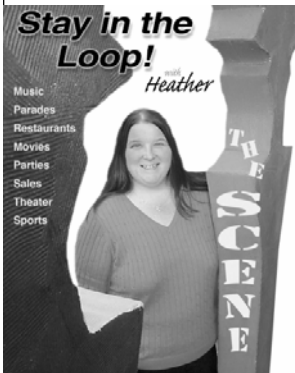


Worth Starling, A&A Chair

Reprint from the Wilson Daily Times,
Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Optimist Club chapter inspired by young cancer survivor

Remember Bennett Lamm?



He was just 4 years old when doctors discovered he had a malignant brain tumor, known as medulloblastoma. The Daily Times published his story about a year ago and has done a couple of follow-ups since then.

Bennett is now 6 and cancer free. He'll be starting first-grade this month.

A club named for the courageous youngster has been formed for the sole purpose of raising money to help prevent childhood cancer.

The Bennett Lamm Optimist Club of Wilson is a flagship chapter of the Wilson Optimist Club. It was formed earlier this year. Relay for Life was the first fund-raiser for club members, who raised more than \$1,000.

The club is sponsoring a blood drive Tuesday from 3 to 8 p.m. at the American Legion Building at the Wilson County Fairgrounds.

No, it's not a fund-raiser, but what better way to start helping people than by giving blood? Club member Amy Lamm Bass said the club was approached by George Holland with the American Red Cross and asked to host a blood drive. Holland said blood supply is at a critical level. This drive will be a little different. Children are welcome to come, but since they can't give blood, drive organizers have created a unique way to get them involved.

In the children's corner (which is actually a separate room from where blood collections are taking place) kids will be entertained and taken care of while mom and dad give blood. The children

will make cards. Club members will take those cards to children receiving treatment at Duke University Medical Center. Bennett had his surgeries and receives follow-up care at Duke. Bennett and his parents, Kevin and Shannon Lamm, will be at the drive. I'm not sure if big sister Sidney will be there.

The group is already working on fund-raisers to do after the drive.

"We're just trying to make money for the children that need it," Amy Bass said.

And they welcome anyone who wants to help. The club has about 30 members. Most are family members and friends of Bennett. Meetings are held bimonthly at Parker's Barbecue. Call club president Alton Lamm at 243-0233 or Kevin Lamm at 237-0972 to get involved.

All the money the club raises will go toward childhood cancer research or be given to families in need.

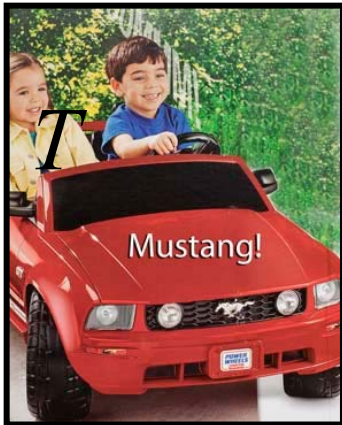
Staff at Duke let the club know when a family there needs funds for anything -- food, clothing, medical expenses, etc.

I cannot give blood on Tuesday because I donated at the newspaper's drive two days ago. I am counting on my readers to take my place. Roll up your sleeves. You'll feel amazing.

The Scene appears every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If you have an event or story that you want to share with Heather, e-mail thescene@wilsontimes.com or call 265-7811.

If you or your group have an event that you would like to enter on our community calendar, go to www.wilsontimes.com and click on the link for submitting information to the calendar.





District Convention OI Foundation Raffle

Now you have two chances to win a great Kid's ATV:



Two electric ATV's will be raffled at this summer's NC East District Convention in New Bern. The drawings will be held Saturday, August 25, 2007, at the convention. BUT, you do not have to be present to win. (In fact, the winner of the first AVT raffled in February, Caroline Lackey, president of the Raleigh Optimist Club, was not present at that meeting.) Raffle tickets have been sent to all clubs and district officers. You can purchase and return to me in the enclosed envelope or send with someone who is going to the meeting. Of course you can also purchase tickets at the meeting.

How does it work? The first raffle ticket drawn will get first choice and the second lucky winner gets the other ATV. If you are not present, we will deliver your prize. Also, there will be several other runner-up prizes awarded only to those present at the convention.

Why support the Foundation Raffle?

All funds from this event will be pledged to the OI Foundation Childhood Cancer Campaign. The effort to develop a vaccine for one form of Childhood Cancer is still underway at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, one of the premiere research hospitals in the world.

Win a great gift for your children or grandchildren. Think of the photos you can take and share of your young driver.

Re-affle the AVT as Caroline Lackey did for her Raleigh Club. She raised over \$600.00 dollars for her club with the ATV she won in February.



NOTE: All Tickets that are mailed must be received by Yancey Hines by Monday, August, 20, 2007. Money will be refunded for those received after that date.

Tickets: One Ticket\$ 1.00

Six Tickets \$ 5.00

25 Tickets \$20.00

Make all checks payable to the OI Foundation Childhood Cancer Campaign.

If you are not attending the Convention, here is what you do:

- (1) **On the back of each "Ticket" portion of the ticket, carefully print your Name, Address & Phone Number so we will know how to deliver the ATV to you.**
- (2) **Mail the appropriate amount of money to me with the enclosed envelope, or**
- (3) **Have someone bring your entries and money to the District Meeting.**

Questions? Need more tickets? Call me at 252-492-4376 or email me at nhines@nc.rr.com.

In Optimism,
Yancey Hines
OI District Foundation Representative



This beaver was the NC East entry in the Foundation "Silent Auction" event this year in Montreal.
Yancey



2007 District Essay Contest

The essays for the 2007 Optimist International NC East District

Essay Contest have been judged and the results tallied. I received essays from 17 clubs with approximately 120 students participating in local contests.

The three top essays were from Zones 5 and 6. The first place essay is being sent to Optimist International for additional competition. The 1st place winner, 2nd place, and 3rd place were announced and awards presented at the NC East District Meeting on May 5.

The top three essays (in ZONE order) are:

Zone 5 Henderson Kathleen Elizabeth Carswell

Zone 6 Garner Jordan R. Hill



Judy Harritan,
District Essay Chair

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From left: Gary Pender, Governor NCE; 2nd Place: Jordan R. Hill (representing Garner); 1st Place: Kathleen Carswell (representing Henderson); 3rd Place: Andrea McKerlie (representing Raleigh); Judy Harritan, District Essay Chair.

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Zone 6 Raleigh Andrea McKerlie

Thank you to each club that participated. Hopefully, next year participation will be even greater. Remember that the Essay Contest is a scholarship opportunity for our youth.

Judy J. Harritan
2007 Essay Chairman
North Carolina East District
Optimist International
jharritan@ec.rr.com

“I Want to Make a Difference Because...”

484 Words

Kathleen Carswell
119 East Stratford Drive
Henderson, NC 27537

(252) 438-2803

Northern Vance High School

January HENDERSON
OPTIMIST CLUB



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“I Want to Make a Difference Because...”

484 Words

I want to make a difference because I believe I have been given gifts and talents that should be shared with others. Each person only has one chance to live life; therefore, he or she should make a difference daily to better her life as well as to touch others. Making a difference does not require large accomplishments; a difference can be made each day in the way we live our lives. For example, a teacher has the opportunity to make a difference in a student's life through showing they care while they teach.

For the last five years, I have had the opportunity of working with children in various capacities through my church and school. These experiences have been life changing as they have influenced my decision to pursue a teaching career. I have realized that the love I have for children, my organizational skills, and my caring personality are all gifts that have been bestowed for me to use in order to reach out to others. Teaching at various church activities and through my Teacher Cadet program at school has reinforced my calling in education.

Last semester, I had the opportunity of working with first graders at a local school. One child in particular had a difficult home situation which was obvious in the way that it affected his school experience. As I got to know him, I began to sense that the caring I provided was not familiar to him. One day, the young boy told me that he loved me; I replied, sincerely, that I loved him back. In the days that followed, he would whisper in my ear, “Do you really love me?” Seeing his eyes quickly brighten and the big smile that followed when I said, “Of course I

do,” made me realize I possibly was making a difference in his life. However, it also made a difference in mine knowing that a simple act of caring had the potential to impact his life.

Think about the people that impacted your life growing up. All of us have favorite individuals and memories that we quickly recall. When I think about the people that have impacted my life, besides my parents, it is individuals who have been a “teacher” through my church, school, or sports. My hope is I can use my talents that I have been given to influence others just as those who have made a difference in my life.

Marian Wright Edelman once said, “We must not, in trying to think about how we can make a big difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make which, over time, add up to big differences that we often cannot foresee.” I may never know how my actions affect another person, but if I use my God-given talents in service to others, then I will have the satisfaction of knowing my efforts were of value to others.



I want to thank all of the Optimist clubs that held Oratorical Contest this year. It is one of the finest youth programs that Optimist International promotes.



Each boy and girl District winner this year receives a \$1500 scholarship to attend any school of their choice.

It has been an honor to serve the NC East District as Oratorical Chair this administrative year.

Bob Verne
District Oratorical
Chairman

Bob Verne



Boy Contestants, NC East District Oratorical Contest.

From left: Front row; Darius Jones, Warrenton; Bradley Burleson, Winter Park, Wilmington; Back row, from left: Brandon Watson, Wilson Evening; Jacob Subash, Greenville, Boys Contest Winner; Joseph Gore, Whiteville.

Oratorical participants:

Girls:

Lindsay Bastian, Wilmington (Zone 1)
Anna Fairfax, Whiteville (Zone 2)
Terrie Nelson, Goldsboro (Zone 3) (Winner)
Sloan Lyndon, Wilson Golden Circle (Zone 4)
Noel Martin, Roanoke Rapids (Zone 5)

Boys:

Bradley Burluson, Wilmington Winter Park (Zone 1)
Joseph Gore II, Whiteville (Zone 2)
Jacob Subash, Greenville (Zone 3) (Winner)
Brandon Watson, Wilson Evening (Zone 4)
Darius Jones, Warrenton (Zone 5)



Girl contestants, NC East District Oratorical Contest:

Front row, from left; Anna Fairfax, Whiteville; Noel Martin, Roanoke Rapids;
Back row, from left; Sloan Lyndon, Wilson Golden Circle; Lindsey Bastian, Cape Fear;
Girls Contest Winner Terrie Nelson, Goldsboro.

Boys & Girls Homes of North Carolina

The **Optimist Cottage** at Boys and Girls Home is in dire need of their own van. The other civic club cottages already have vans and the Optimist has found it necessary to appeal to their neighbors when they need transportation. Every effort is being made to secure the necessary funds by the end of this Optimist year. A full progress report will be given at the convention.



The administration has set a goal for a 10-12 passenger van, similar to the picture above.

North Carolina West Optimists are joined with NC East in this van project.

The Past Optimist Governors of North Carolina are also making a contribution.

Over and above the normal donations, Tom Lamont and Sandy Cyphers have joined forces and are putting on a Friday night extravaganza. Their goal is to raise \$1000 on this night.



Tom Lamont
Boys & Girls Home Representative.

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 and if at any time they see a problem with web site links or wrong information to also email me about the corrections.



JOOI Activities

Good morning, Optimists,

We have another year drawing to a close with Governor Gary's year winding down and plans well under way for Governor-elect Dan's year which we all expect to be a success. This is not the time to forget about the kids.

Even though school is out for the summer, it is still a good time to build a youth club. There are many locations that make good target areas for new clubs in addition to schools. Churches, community centers, home schools, parks, youth athletic facilities are just a few.

I believe it is easier to form a youth club than an adult club. Many of you are like me and have children (or grandchildren) who have grown up knowing you are an Optimist and helped with your club's projects. They are perfect candidates to be the key person to form a new youth club. Many of their friends will be eager to join, too. I have found they can and will find an adult to be the Advisor for the new club. Typically this is someone they are familiar with who is already working with youth.

There is no deep, dark secret to forming a youth club. Optimist International has done some of their best work in preparing material to help the adult and youth clubs. It starts from the initial idea all the way through formation and operation. There is no lack of supporting information in written form or from the staff in St. Louis.

There is also no lack of support from the District. Our district has a unique club built and operated for the express purpose of helping to build and support youth clubs. The NCE District JOOI Advisory Club is made up of Optimists who are dedicated to youth clubs. Our membership is District-wide and will help you form a youth club or support and maintain a club.

Keep up the good work with youth clubs. As we all believe: A person is never bigger than when he stoops down to help a child. We need and your community needs your help by building a youth club where you live. You can do it!

Joe King
District Youth Club Chair



Joe King
JOOI Youth Clubs Chair

NC East District Training

The Convention is just around the corner and we will provide training for Officer Elects; President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Lt. Gov. at the convention. We have an Outstanding group of Instructors; Bob Verne training Presidents, Carey Foster training the Secretary and Treasurer, and Doug Lamm training the Lt. Governors. All the District Committee Chairmen will be at the training on Friday from 1:00PM to 4:00Pm to present their program for the coming year and to answer your questions. We will have a lot of passout material that will be valuable to the Officers Elect.



This training is very important to the Officers Elect for 2007-2008 to be informed and start your year off with a BANG. Again the training is on Friday, August 24 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm and on Saturday, August 25 from 1:30pm to 4:15pm. **PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.**

We probably had the best well mannered group of golfers this year that we have ever had.

Regretfully, we were unable to complete two rounds of golf at this year's District Tournament due to rain on Sunday.

Rob Pate from Nashville, NC won the over all tournament at the district level with a two under par 70, and Ashley Denton from Wendell, NC won the girls division with a seven over 79. Both of these golfers received an all expense trip to Florida to compete in the International Junior Optimist Tournament in July.

Adam Stephenson from Greenville, NC had the best showing at the International Tournament tying for 19th place overall. Rob Pate missed the cut. Ashley Denton tied for 37th place and Kelli Forbis from Pikeville, NC tied for 97th place. Overall, I think we had a good showing at the International Tournament. My hat is off to this young golfers. I believe we will be hearing more from them in the future years.

It has been my pleasure serving as the chairman for this event for the past several years and I hope the next chairman has as much fun as I have had.

Ken Dixon
Chairman, NC East Junior Optimist Golf



**NORTH CAROLINA
EAST DISTRICT
OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL**

**THIRD QUARTER BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING**

Embassy Suites ~ Cary, N.C.
Saturday, May 5, 2007

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

Gary Pender Governor
Dan Durham Governor-Elect
Allan Ludlum District Secretary-Treasurer
Ron Riggins Lt. Governor Zone 2
Jimmy Lamm Lt. Governor Zone 4
Tommy Peele Lt. Governor Zone 5
Carolyn Mason Lt. Governor Zone 6

Also, delegates from the following clubs:

Cape Fear Wilmington
Chapel Hill
Garner
Golden Circle—Wilson
Goldsboro
Greenville
Henderson
Laurinburg
NC East JOOI
North Raleigh
Raleigh
Raleigh Dinner
Roanoke Rapids
Rocky Mount Breakfast
Rocky Mount Evening
Whiteville
Wilson Evening
Wilmington
Winter Park

Governor Gary Pender called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Yancey Hines

Invocation given by Yancey Hines.

Governor Gary Pender recognized first time attendees.

2nd Quarter District Board Meeting Minutes report, given by Allan Ludlum. Motion to accept was made by Tommy Peele of Rocky Mount – Seconded by Sandy Cyphers of Winter Park - Approved.

2nd Quarter Financial report, given by Allan Ludlum. Motion to accept was made by Joe King of Raleigh – Seconded by Bill Taylor of Wilmington - Approved.

CCDHH report was given by Billy Edgerton. Event was not held this year due to no contestants.

Newsletters information, given by Al Ludlum for Wayne Sidelinger. April newsletter handed out. Wayne needs 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.

Childhood Cancer Campaign & Alter Call along with a wealth of information, given by Trish Verne. Wilson Golden Circle raised \$1020.00 by using Candy Kisses method. Chapel Hill has raised \$3400.00 toward a goal of \$6000.00.

Activities - CPA district awards were handed out by Sandy Cyphers. Topics for the 2007 year were given out, "Community Projects & Fund Raising". It was suggested that credit to the A&A awards for doing

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CPA's.

Boys and Girls Homes report & Alter Call, given by Walt Armentrout. \$1800.00 raised by 5 x 12's, \$26961.00 raised to date. Boys are back in their cottage after renovations. Plaque is mounted in cottage with clubs & individuals who helped raise & donated money for the cottage renovations.

Judy Harrington gave an Essay up date.

PGI program information, given by Ed Taylor. Presented pins to Winter Park Members. Ed would like to see more members to get involved with program.

Junior Golf report, given by Ken Dixon. NC East district was the first tournament for OI this year. Andy Hutson the OIJGC Chairperson was at the event to help kick it off. We had ten (10) to qualify for the International Tournament. We had 65 participants. Saturdays round was completed, but Sundays round was rained out. Rob Pate won the 16 – 18 boys with a 2 under par score. We had 17 clubs that did not sponsor players this year. Roxboro sponsored 8 players; Greenville sponsored 4 & sponsored a hole. We also had 9 other hole sponsors.

2007 NC East Convention information was given by Sandy Cyphers, Lt Govs will be contacted as well as club presidents about duties for convention as the date gets closer. Packages will be mailed to ALL officers in July.

Carlyle Teague gave new Club building information. One new club built in Wilson; it will be a Childhood Cancer Campaign club.

Break was taken at 10:00 am, meeting re-

convened at 11:40 am.

2006-07 2nd Qtr A&A Awards were handed out by Worth Starling. The number one district club is Wilson Evening & the top Lt Gov. is from zone 6 Carolyn Mason.

Elections for the Lt Govs for the 2007-2008 year were held at this time by Gary Pender. Results given to Dan Durham – Gov. Elect., Zone 1- Bennie Bass; Zone 2 – Don Harrington; Zone 3 – none elected; Zone 4 – none elected; Zone 5 – Tommy Peele & Zone 6 - none elected.

OI Foundation Report & Alter Call was given by Yancey Hines. Auctions & raffles from first & Second Quarters have raised \$4866.03. This ranks the NC East 9th for funds raised for the OI Foundation. In August, at the convention, Yancey will raffle another Mini ATV & asked that you cook an item from the NC East Cookbook & bring it to the Aug meeting to be judged. OI Foundations awards were handed out.

Meeting closed with the Optimist Creed by membership.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

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

