

North Carolina East OPTIMIST NEWS

Vol. 6 Issue 3 April 2008



Good morning Optimist! I greet you as we begin the 7th Month of this Optimist Year. I am very happy to report that the District is still plus in membership as of April 24, with a plus two and the District is ranked 8th over all in Optimist International for maintaining membership.

Barbara and I continue to feel honored to travel throughout the NC East District and have now visited with at least one club in Each Zone and have been to at least one Zone meeting in each Zone. I am very proud of all the reports being given by club during Zone Meeting regarding the number of projects and number of area youth being touched by the projects in our six Zones.

I commend all the NC East District Clubs for continuing to live up to the Optimist Motto "Friend of Youth".

I look forward to the 3rd Quarter Board meeting and am happy to invite all Optimists to come to Roanoke Rapids. The City of Roanoke Rapids is also pleased that the NC East District is meeting in Roanoke Rapids. An outdoor Concert is planned on Friday night in the Roanoke Rapids I Park which is in the 700 Block of Roanoke Avenue between the Post Office and the Fire Station at 6:30 and ends around 8:30. This is a free concert and Directions to the Park will be made available at the Comfort Suites.

Please continue to work on Optimist Projects during the busy Summer season along with the Sports activity within your area. I remind you of the District and International Con-

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ventions set for July in Grapevine, Texas and August at Atlantic Beach. Please try to attend one or both and take time to attend some of the training sessions being offered during the conventions. I personally want to thank all Optimists for the many hours of time and effort you have given for the youth in your area and for keeping each club an important club within your city.

Yours in Optimism,

Dan Durham
Governor



N. C. East Optimist District Essay Contest

Just a reminder: The Essay Contest is over and the winners have been selected. Join us at the Third District meeting in Roanoke Rapids on Saturday, May 10, 2008.

We will have another outstanding literary effort from one of our youth in Eastern North Carolina. Interest was as high as ever as nineteen clubs entered essays selected from over 100 entries across our part of the state. Come and be entertained and informed.

Yancey Hines



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.



First Quarter A&A Winners—NCE District 2007-2008

Top Ten Clubs in Each Zone



From Left: No. 1: Wilmington Cape Fear, Ayston Pusey; No. 2: Rocky Mount Evening, David Hodges; No. 3: Whiteville, Judy Harritan; No. 4: Roanoke Rapids, Tina Whitmire; No. 5: Greenville, Lou Anna Hardee; No. 6: Wilmington Winter Park, Tom Lamont; No. 7: Raleigh Dinner, Carolyn Mason; No. 8: Henderson, Eric Pierce; No. 9: Raleigh, David Fritz; No. 10: Garner, Ken Gilliam.

Top Clubs in Each Zone

From left: Zone 1: Wilmington Cape Fear; Ayston Pusey; Zone 2: Whiteville, Judy Harrington; Zone 3: Greenville, Lou Anna Hardee; Zone 4: Wilson Golden Circle, Sheila Little; Zone 5: Rocky Mount Evening, David Hodges; Zone 6: Raleigh Dinner, Carolyn Mason.



Top Lt. Governors

From left: No. 1: Zone 5, Tommy Peele (David Hodges Accepting); No. 2: Zone 6, Carolyn Mason and No. 3: Zone 1, Bennie Bass



Worth Starling,
District A&A Chair

2006-2007 Awards



Past District Governor, Gary Pender, presented awards to his administration leaders at the District Awards Banquet, February 9th, 2008, in Greenville. All of the District Officers and District Committee Chairs were given appreciation awards. Receiving the highest award, Distinguished Lt. Governor, was Jimmy Lamm., Zone 4. Honor Lt. Governor awards were presented to Tommy Peele, Zone 5 and Carolyn Mason, Zone 6.

**Distinguished
Lt. Governor**

Jimmy Lamm. Zone 4



Honor Lt. Governors



Tommy Peele, Zone 5



Carolyn Mason, Zone 6

Honor Clubs

Wilmington Cape Fear
Pres. Charlie Smith
Sec. Katherine Westbury
Treas. Bennie Bass

Laurinburg
Pres. Chip Shytle
Sec. Bear Hughes
Treas. Dan Wilkes

Whiteville
Pres. Fred Priest, Jr.
Sec/Treas. Don Harritan

Goldsboro
Pres. Joann Williams
Sec/Treas. Annie Wilson

Wilson Breakfast
Pres. Calvin Rose
Sec/Treas. Charles Fitch

Rocky Mount Breakfast
Pres. Moses Brown
Sec/Treas. Haywood Evans

Henderson
Pres. Thomas Floyd
Sec/Treas. Thurman Murphy

Roanoke Rapids
Pres. Jim Whitmire
Sec/Treas. Carey Foster

Garner
Pres. James Cameron
Sec. William Oates
Treas. Danny Thornton

Raleigh
Pres. Carolyn Lackey
Sec/Treas. Richard Shirk

JOOI Advisory Club
Pres. Joe King
Sec/Treas. Walt Armentrout

Membership Awards

Awards for 10 New Member

Ayston Pusey, Wilmington Cape
Fear
Bennie Bass, Wilmington Cape
Fear
Benjie McPherson, Wilmington
Cape Fear (Not Pictured)



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Childhood Cancer Campaign



Join the fun! The yellow duck race for the Childhood Cancer Campaign will be held at the Optimist International convention in July. Enter as many times as you would like. For a donation of \$10 you can buy a duck! Entry blanks are available from me or at the district meeting. You do not have to attend the convention to participate. Prizes are \$100 for first place, \$50 for second, and \$25 for third. The registration deadline is June 16th or at the convention.

Two more clubs have had a “Kisses for Childhood Cancer” collection. They are the Golden Circle Club and the Whiteville Optimist Club. On a very rainy day, the Golden Circle Club raised over \$250. The Whiteville Club raised over \$1,000 in 4 hours time.

The Chapel Hill Club continues its efforts to reach its goal of \$6,000. They received matching grants from the local Wal-Mart stores totaling \$2,500. Not all stores participate in these grant programs, but it is worth checking with the community involvement coordinator at your local Wal-Mart or Sam’s Club store to see if your club’s project might qualify for grant funds.

Thanks again to the Cape Fear Club for their donation of \$1,600. Thanks also to the Winter Park Club for their donation of \$500. The Henderson Club also did a one day “Kisses” collection and raised over \$540.

Any club that is interested in holding a “Kisses for Childhood Cancer” collection can contact me for information and supplies. I have several vests on hand and can do up a kit for your club at cost.

Thanks for all you do for the Childhood Cancer Campaign. I spoke to a young lady today who lost a 19 year old brother to AML cancer. Remember, it took many dimes and many years to conquer polio. Childhood cancer seems to be taking a bit more time, research, and money. I look forward to the day that the vaccine will be a reality. After all, I’m a card-carrying Optimist!

Trish Verne, Chair
NC East District
Childhood Cancer Campaign





COMMUNICATION CONTEST for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL 



The first Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing was held at the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf in Wilson on May 1st. Four contestants participated and the winner selected by the judges was Ebony Gooden, 2nd from left in picture below.

The current District Oratorical contests that are held on a Saturday pose a problem with the School for the Deaf as the students leave school and travel to their homes, that can be anywhere in Eastern NC, from Durham to the coast.

By holding the contest at the school during a weekday has generated enthusiasm with the school's faculty and they promise a full oratorical program next year.

Wilson, being fairly central for NC East territory, students should be able to travel from other school districts to participate.

This year only signing students participated but it is anticipated that oral speeches will be included in the next contest, allowing us to present a second scholarship.

A mid week contest will make it a little difficult for Optimist members to attend but the Zone 4 clubs plan to put the contest on their agenda next year.

A contest date will be set early enough so other more distant clubs also may be able to attend.

Bill Edgerton
District Chair
CCDHH

From left:

Amy Runyon, Sophomore, Bailey, NC

1st Place ; Ebony Gooden.
Freshman, Fayetteville, NC

Quisuana Carter, Sophomore,
Clayton, NC

Arlena Swain, Freshman, Plymouth, NC



OI Foundation



optimist international
foundations



Darrell Fulcher
District OI Foundation Chair



Darrell Fulcher, Right, is recognizing the Wilmington Cape Fear Optimist Club for achieving \$50 per member and in particular, Lloyd Moore, second from right. The Cape Fear club donated an additional \$1000 to the Foundation in Lloyd's name for his activity in the club.

Rich Cash, Raleigh Dinner club, giving his annual entertaining auction expertise to raise funds for the OI Foundation. The NCE District Foundation auction has become an annual event and raises over \$700. Items to auction are donated by club members and the amount of each sale is added to their donation history.



District Membership

North Carolina East District is currently ranked 8th with Optimist International in new membership standing.

As of March 31, 2008, NCE has 150 new members, 152 deleted for a net loss of 2.

Zone standing in new membership:

Zone 1	+53	
	(Wilmington Cape Fear	+39)
Zone 2	-25	
	(Elizabethtown	+3)
Zone 3	-5	
	(Goldsboro	+1)
Zone 4	-5	
	(Wilson Breakfast	+1)
Zone 5	+4	
	(Rocky Mount Evening	+6)
Zone 6	-8	
	Chapel Hill	+1)

10 Clubs currently have a plus in membership.

13 clubs currently have a new loss in membership.

8 clubs have the same number of members as registered on Oct. 1.

1 club has been revoked.

1 member has received a 5 new member shirt.

2 members will receive the 5 new member shirt on May 10th.

All clubs need to continue to work on new members and continue to retain all current members.

Several good ways to enlist additional members is with the 'NOW' program and the 'JUST ASK PROGRAM'



Jennifer Smith
District Membership Chair



Awards, above and below, for adding 5 new members during the year, October 1, to September 30.



From left, Ayston Pusey, Jennifer Smith and Governor Dan Durham.



Boys & Girls Homes of North Carolina

In 1967 the North Carolina Optimist District undertook to build the Optimist Cottage, a home for twenty boys on the Lake Waccamaw campus of Boys and Girls Homes. A telethon was held on WWAY-TV 3 in Wilmington, N.C. that raised \$60,000 to begin construction of the cottage that opened its doors to the young men of Boys and Girls Homes in 1968. Since then, hundreds of young men have learned "Optimism" rather than despair as a way of life because of the



Optimist Cottage Boys to remove their old beds and desks, while other Optimists put together their new captain's beds and desks. Still others did various amounts of cleaning in the cottage while some others worked outside on yard work and washing windows. A special thanks to Cape Fear Optimist Club President Austin Pusey and Zone 1 Lt. Governor Bennie Bass for coming down on Friday to do a test drive on putting the new beds together.

We would like to recognize the following clubs and individual club members for making the new beds, desks and chairs possible.
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cottage and the Optimists that support it. In celebration of this 40th anniversary, Optimists across the state have extended their 5x12 individual gifts to include an additional \$40 (\$100 total) in recognition of the 40 years of "bringing out the best in kids."

Boys and Girls Homes would also like to thank all the Optimists who participated in "Optimist Day" on Saturday March 1, 2008 at the Optimist Cottage in Lake Waccamaw. The day provided Optimists with a hands on experience at the cottage. Optimist members worked with the



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sible for the Optimist boys: Cape Fear Optimist, Supper Optimist, Winter Park Optimist, Lake Norman Optimist, Boone Optimist, West Jefferson Optimist, Hidden Valley Optimist, West Mecklenburg Optimist,



Walt Armentrout of the Winter Park Optimist Club, Kathleen Steed of the Winter Park Optimist Club, Jean Worsley of the Hidden Valley Optimist Club and Ann and Max Drake of the Chapel Hill Optimist Club.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our Optimist Boys!

Tom Lamont
Boys & Girls Home



Photos submitted by Tom Lamont but all individuals are not identified. All of them were taken during Optimist work day at the Home.



Person Growth Involvement

Wilmington-Winter Park Optimist Club has been working hard on the Personal Growth and Involvement Program this quarter.

Awesome job the following members:

James Rackley - level 2
 Jinjer Richarson - level 1
 Ned Gregory - level 2
 Debbie Gregory - level 2
 Barry Stephens - level 1 and level 2
 Joseph Szaloky - level 1
 Phil Best - level 2
 Tim Burluson - level 1
 Allan Ludlum - level 4
 Jim Jeffords -level 1, level 2 and level 3
 Walt Armentrout-level 1,2,3,and 4
 Billy Narron- level 1 and level 2
 Frank Clemmons level 1 and level 2
 Joan Ludlum - level 1
 Eddie McMillan - level 1
 Todd Klinedinst - level 1
 Elizabeth Moore - level 3
 James Hatchell - level 3
 Brenda Hatchell - level 3
 Michael Smith - level 1,and level 2
 Kathleen Steed -level 1
 Timmy Burluson - level 1
 Donne Lemont - level 3
 Todd Sammons - level 1
 Tom Lamont, Jr. - level 4
 Jimmy Moore - level 4

Kevin Gaylord - level 1
 Cliff Winefordner - level 1
 Menton Padgett - level 1

Wilmington - Cape Fear, NC
 Darrell Fulcher -levels 1,2,3,4,5,and 6
 Debra Fulcher - levels 1,2,3,4,5, and 6
 Robin Bass - level 5
 Kathy Westburg Brenner - level 4
 Robin Long - level 3 and level 4

Have a Great Day!

Ellen

The following people have completed the next levels in the PGI program:

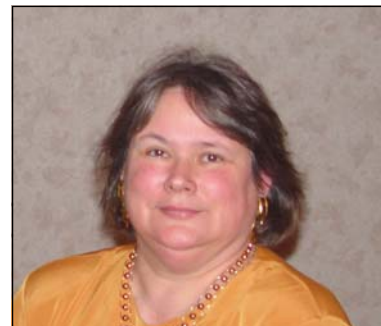
From Cape Fear Optimist Club of Wilmington, NC

Darrell Fulcher level 6
 Debbie Fulcher level 6
 Kathy Westbury Brenner level 4
 Robin Long levels 3 &4
 Robin Bass level 5

Have a Great Day!

Ellen

District PGI Chair



Ed Taylor
 District Activities Chair



**Governor Elect
Barbara Timmons
North Raleigh Club**



District Oratorical Contest



The District Oratorical contest will begin at 10am May 10th at the third quarterly Board meeting in Roanoke Rapids. The introductions, presentation of participation certificates and the judges decisions for the winners will be announced at the Oratorical Luncheon.

Each boy and girl winner will give their award winning oration.

The pictures of all contestants in the contests will be in the 4th quarter bulletin, due out in August.

Marion Barnes,
District Oratorical Chair

Ashley Walker
Governor
NCE District
JOOI
Home Club; Rocky Mount Evening



NCE District Convention Sheraton Hotel Atlantic Beach, August 21-24, 2008

North Carolina East District Optimist International

Fellow Optimists,

In just a short while now, we will be getting together again for fun, business, fun, training, fun, dining, fun, dancing and fun at our annual district convention. Did I mention that we will be having fun, too? We will meet old friends and make new ones. It will be held August 21-23 at the Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel in Atlantic Beach. It has been a while since we have had our convention there and I am looking forward to our



return. The entire hotel has been recently renovated and is in excellent condition. Bring your kids and grandkids for a mini family vacation.



Bob Verne
District Convention
Chair

The theme this year will be **“Christmas in August”**. So gather up some festive duds, pump up your Christmas spirit and look forward to having a rewarding good time.

In addition to business meetings and fun events, there will be detailed training for the incoming 2008-2009 Lt. Governors, Club Presidents and Club Secretary-Treasurers. The convention isn't just for the District and Club officers, all Optimists in the District are urged to take part. The district convention is always a rewarding and fun event. So, come on down!

Some Highlights: On Thursday afternoon there will be a Golf Tournament to benefit the Boys & Girls Homes. Following the golf tournament, all Optimists and their guests are invited to a port-side Hawaiian luau in Morehead City to honor our Past Governors. Our thanks for sponsoring this event go to Past International Vice President, Denard Harris and his Portside Marina and also to the Carteret Optimist Club.



On Friday, there will be an Executive Committee meeting in the morning and classes

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for officer training in the afternoon. Later we will meet for food and fun at a Family Dinner.



After dinner entertainment will be a “Womanless Beauty Pageant.” There, the “beauties” among our men will compete for fame and prizes. Clubs are asked to sponsor one of their members for the contest. All money raised from the pageant will benefit the kids through the O. I. Childhood Cancer Campaign.

Saturday will start with an “Old Timers’ Breakfast.” Not-so-old-timers and guests are welcome, too! Later there will be more officer training and the district Board of Directors meeting. The convention will end with a bang at the Governor’s Banquet and Ball on Saturday evening. At the banquet, the new District officers will be installed. At the ball, the talented Robert McDuffy, a very popular Crystal Coast singer and DJ, will provide the music. His Jimmy Buffet style of singing and selections from his thousands of tracks of recorded contemporary and old favorite music will be a highlight of the weekend.

During the Ball, you can get your “Prom Picture” taken for free (with or without your spouse, children or grandchildren) by Past District Governor and ace professional photographer Yancey Hines.

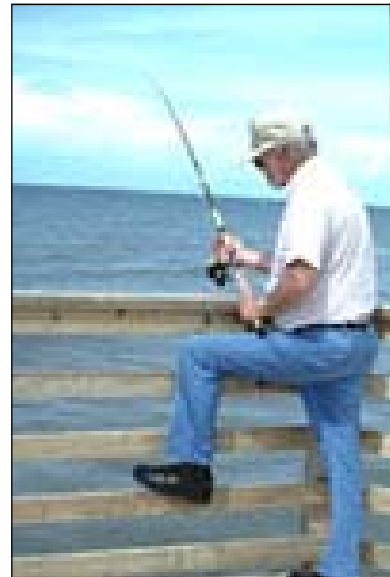
On Sunday morning, we will close the weekend with a parting breakfast at the hotel.

Fun for Kids and Adults: For all the kids, “Molly the Pirate” from the hotel staff will entertain the kids in the “Little Pirates Club” activity program. For everyone, Ed Moore from the Raleigh Club and his sand sculpture crew “Sandy Feat” will be building one of their creations on the beach for all to enjoy and, possibly participate in the construction.

Soon a packet of information containing registration materials and sign up sheets for the various events will be mailed out to club officers and district personnel and put on the district web site. An early warning: Be sure to note two important pre-registration deadlines: **July 22nd** for the hotel reservations, and **August 11th** for the convention registration.

Best Regards and an early Merry Christmas to all,

Bob Verne,
District Convention Chairman



2008 NC East District Junior Optimist Golf Tournament

For the first time in several years, the weather cooperated with us at Keith Hills Country Club. We were able to get in 36 holes in the two days without any rain delays.

We had fifty-seven (57) golfers this year with twenty-four (24) shooting qualifying scores for the International tournament this summer. With twenty-four qualifiers, that gave us very high percentage of over 42% , This was one of the strongest field of golfers we have had in a long time and probably will be the strongest in the nation this year.



This year's winners were:

Girls 14-15	1 st	Sarah Bae	Raleigh, NC
	2 nd	Katie Seymour	Wake Forest, NC
Boys 14-15	1 st	Erik Benson	Norwood, NC
	2 nd	Bailey Rose	Wilson, NC
Girls 16-18	1 st	Katherine Perry	Cary, NC
	2 nd	Caroline Ellington	New Bern, NC
Boys 16-18	1 st	Jonathan Miles	Wilmington, NC
	2 nd	Jonathan McCurry	Sanford, NC

Jonathan Miles and Katherine Perry won an all expense trip to Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, to represent our district this summer in the International tournament. Due to changes in the rules this year, we are only permitted to send nine (9) participants. The more players we have will determine how many qualifiers we may have for the next year.

This years tournament would not have been a success without the help of my fellow Optimist. I would like to thank the following:

Rocky Mount Evening: David Hodges, Errol Warren, Henry Edmondson
Tommy Peele

Winter Park: Alan Ludlum, Billy Narron

Garner: Jerry Medlin, Bill Oates and his cooking crew

North Raleigh: Barbara Timmons

Raleigh Dinner: Carlton Baird

Goldsboro: Gary Pender, Jackie Young

Greenville: Max Stephenson, Bob Darylrimple

Laurinburg: Don Barringer

I hope I have not forgotten anyone that helped during the hectic time of the tournament.

Again, I would like to thank everyone that assisted to make this one of the best tournaments in a long time.

Ken Dixon



1st Place Girls 14-15
Sarah Bae, Raleigh



2nd Place, Girls 14-15
Katie Seymour, Wake Forest



1st Place Boys 16-18
Jonathan Miles, Wil-
mington



1st Place Boys 14-15
Eric Benson, Norwood



2nd Place Boys 14-15
Bailey Rose, Wilson



2nd place Boys 16-18
Jonathan McCurry,
Sanford



1st Place Girls 16-18
Katherine Perry, Cary
←

2nd Place Girls 16-18
Caroline Ellington, New Bern
→



Bill Oates, left, and the Garner Optimist cooking team who provided hamburgers, chips, snacks and drinks for the golfers again this year.

AWARDS

(Continued from page 5)

Allan Ludlum is recognized for his year as District Secretary/Treasurer



Judy Harrigan, Whiteville Optimist, is presented an Optimist jacket for membership achievement by Gov. Gary.



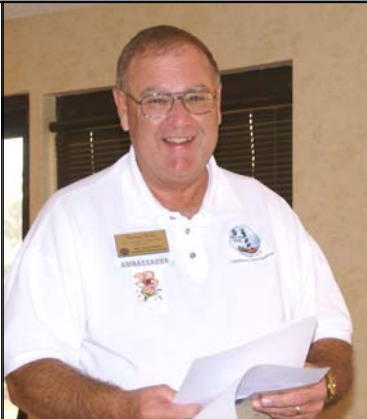
Dave King, Winter Park Optimist is presented an Optimist jacket for membership achievement by Gov Gary.

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION GRAPEVINE, TEXAS



Tommy Peele,
OI Ambassador
(International
Convention
Chair)

Dates July 2-5,
Gaylord Hotel.



NC EAST District OPTIMIST 2ND QUARTER BOARD MEETING

2/9/8

The following clubs were present: Cape Fear, Winter Park, Whiteville, Elizabethtown, Wilson Evening, Wilson Golden Circle, Goldsboro, Greenville, Roanoke Rapids, Rocky Mount Evening, Rocky Mount Breakfast, Henderson, Chapel Hill, Raleigh, Raleigh Dinner and North Raleigh.

Gov. Dan Durham called the meeting to order and Yancey Hines gave the invocation.

Mayor Pat Dunn welcomed the Optimists to Greenville.

Governor Dan made introductions and welcomed first timers to the meeting. A moment of silence was presented in memory of past governor R. M. Williams.

Carey Foster presented the minutes of the 1st quarter meeting. Alan Ludlum made the motion and Max Stevenson the second. It passed unopposed.

Carey Foster presented the finance report. Walt Armentrout made the motion and Gary Pender the second, to accept. The motion passed unopposed.

Ken Dixon announced that the Jr. golf tournament would be April 26 -27 in Buies Creek.

Jennifer Timmons gave a report on the JOOI clubs.

Billy Edgerton gave a report on CCDHH.

Yancey Hines gave a report on the Essay Contest.

Bob Verne gave a report on the district convention which will be held in Atlantic Beach August 21-24th.

Tommy Peele gave a report on the OI convention to be held July 2-5 in Grapevine TX.

Ellen Foster gave a report on PGI and presented awards.

Ed Taylor gave a report on CPA booklets.

Barbara Durham gave a report on Membership.

Past Gov. Gary Pender gave a report on candidate qualifications.

Trish Verne gave a report on CCC.

Jerry Medlin gave a report on leadership development.

Walt Armentrout and Tom Lamont gave a report on the Boys and Girls Homes.

Worth Starling presented A&A awards.

Wayne Sidelinger gave a presentation on how to do a bulletin.

Allan Ludlum gave a report on the web site.

Marion Barnes gave a report on the oratorical contest.

Carlyle Teague and Sandy Cyphers gave a report on new club building.

Daryl Fulcher gave a report on the OI Foundation.

Sandy Cyphers presented the budget. Billy Edgerton made the motion and Walt Armentrout the second to accept the 07 – 08 budget. It passed unopposed.

Barbara Timmons made remarks as governor elect.

Governor Dan Durham made closing remarks.

The meeting was closed by reciting the Optimist Creed.

Carey Foster

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

