



North Carolina East Optimist News

Greetings Optimists

I hope each of you had a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Celebration! In our first quarter I know that everyone was working on major fundraising projects ranging from operating fair booths to selling Christmas trees with many other projects and I am looking forward to hearing of your results! With the economy like it is, I have heard from many clubs that had to literally turn down *too* many requests for "help from families in need" during the holidays and this is heartbreaking to know that children did without at Christmas! Children are in need now more than ever and as Optimists, I know we are stepping up to the plate to help and serve as best we can. This is our common interest and it is what we do best! I appreciate all each of you do for your community – you are making a difference in everything you do! Thank you for taking the time to serve in your club projects, and thank you for taking the time to join us at this district meeting. We will

be continuing to train on membership retention and new members and we will be celebrating



the new members and sponsors! Jerry Kelley and his wife will be joining us to conduct the training. Past Governor Dan Durham will be rewarding last year's achievements and successes during lunch! And we will have updates from our great District Chairs on our projects! We continue to come together to learn, have some fun and great fellowship and enjoy some great food!

We have many important projects to plan for in the next quarter and I hope each club will plan on sponsoring participants in each of these projects. We can make a difference in a child's life with a little planning and communicating. So let's get as many children involved and participating as possible.

Also, our mid-year administrative conference is planned for February 28th. This is an important planning time for our district and your input is vital. Our Growth Team will be setting goals for the remainder of this year. Our district is now at 1,217 members and 31 clubs which leaves too many communities without Optimist Clubs! Remember – working together we can provide more for more Children!

We are Optimist – Friend of Youth!

Yours in Optimism,

Barbara Timmons
Governor

From Webmaster –

Hello Optimist:

We've added a new Tabbed section to the Web site called Building Clubs & Membership. We are still under construction for this page & open to add any thing that helped you build a club or add membership that would help others. I also need your web site info to update that info on the district page.

Thanks – Al Ludlum

From Leadership Development –

Hello Optimist That Need To Be Trained:

I am building our training team at this time for the 4th quarter meeting in 2009. We are taking your suggestions from last August & applying them with what worked at the last session. If you would like to help train or just help set up & assist let me know & we will put you to work.

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.



4th Quarter A&A Winners NCE District 2007-2008

Top Ten Clubs

1. Wilmington Cape Fear
2. Wilmington Winter Park
3. North Raleigh
4. Whiteville
5. Wilson Golden Circle
6. Rocky Mount Evening
7. Wilson Evening
8. Raleigh Dinner
9. Chapel Hill
10. Raleigh

Top Clubs in Each Zone

- Zone 1 Wilmington Cape Fear
Zone 2 Whiteville
Zone 3 Greenville
Zone 4 Wilson Golden Circle
Zone 5 Rocky Mount Evening
Zone 6 North Raleigh

Top Lt. Governors

1. Bennie Bass, Zone 1
2. Carolyn Mason, Zone 6
3. Tommy Peele, Zone 5

Clubs submitting reports:

Wilmington
Elizabethtown
Carteret
Greenville
Washington
Wilson Breakfast
Henderson
Roanoke Rapids
Rocky Mount Breakfast
Garner



Worth Starling,

HEAR YEE..HEAR YEE....Now is the time for **“ALL” GOOD N.C.** East District Optimists to come to the aid of their organization. As our organization cannot continue to survive without bringing in new members and growing. Thus is the same with the O.I. FOUNDATION. The Foundation is the stimulus of this organization...it is the foundation on which scholarships for the Oratorical, Essays, CCDHH are established as well as providing funds for the JOOI and the Jr. World of Golf. Without funds, scholarships and support of optimist projects cannot be rendered. **OPTIMIST DUES DO NOT PAY FOR ANYTHING THAT IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SCHOLARSHIPS OR PROJECTS OF OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL.** As the District Foundation Representative I am here to advise you that the Board of Directors of the O.I. Foundation have advised and declared to all of the District D.F.R.S that if we can successfully raise a total of **1 MILLION DOLLARS** this optimist year, scholarships will be increased from \$1500 each to **\$3000** each. For those of us that have experienced college expenses either for our own children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews we understand that \$1500 is a very, very small amount. The increase from \$1500 to **\$3000** I feel is a substantial amount especially with our economy at this time. I humbly ask your consideration in donating to the **DIME A DAY PROGRAM, 10 CENT A DAY FOR 365 DAYS.(\$36.50).** By your donation you are showing your support to the foundation and its' purpose in serving **KIDS** as well as having the opportunity to win \$100. Will your think of the **“KIDS”** in our communities in the North Carolina East District that we service and **DIG INTO YOUR HEARTS** and give at least to the **DIME A DAY PROGRAM** , or \$100 to the Century Club, or \$250.00 to the President's Club. Make checks payable to the O. I... Foundation.. **ALL DONATIONS TO THE O.I. FOUNDATION ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!** The challenge for the N.C. East District is to raise **\$22,000**... this is approximately \$3600 per Zone. Yes, I know that sounds like a lot, but, knowing the caliber of optimist members and clubs in this district and the strength and leadership of Lt. Governors and Past Governors, ..I am confident it **CAN BE DONE!** Let's work together to make the temperatures rise in the N.C. East to its' **HIGHEST EVER**...let's make it **HAPPEN**.

REMINDER..PLEASE DO NOT FORGET YOUR ITEMS FOR THE ANNUAL **FOUNDATION AUCTION** AT THE FEBRUARY DISTRICT MEETING ON FRIDAY NIGHT...OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS THERE HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT OF A DECLINE IN ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR THE AUCTION.....LOOK IN YOUR ATTICS, DRESSER DRAWERS, CLOSETS OR GARAGES FOR THOSE CHRISTMAS GIFTS, FATHER/MOTHER DAY GIFTS, BIRTHDAY GIFTS OR OTHER ITEMS THAT YOU MAY HAVE RECEIVED AS GIFTS AND COULD NOT USE OR JUST WEREN'T YOU. ASK YOUR FRIENDS AND REALTIVES TO CONTRIBUTE AND BRING WITH YOU TO THE AUCTION ON FRIDAY NIGHT, FEBRUARY 20TH..... IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF YOUR CLUB OR THE LT. GOVERNOR FROM YOUR ZONE TO ARRANGE FOR ITEMS TO BE PICKED UP..REMEMBER THAT YOUR CLUB RECEIVES RECOGNITION FOR ALL FUNDS RECEIVED FOR THAT ITEM. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS..PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME.

DON'T FORGET TOO..THAT WE WILL BE HAVING THE ALTER CALL FOR DONATIONS ON SATURDAY MORNING... PLEASE MAKE THEM UNRESTRICTED AND CHECKS MADE TO THE O.I. FOUNDATION....

Sandy Cyphers
District Foundation Representative
910-367-3295





DISTRICT FOUNDATION INCENTIVES

HELP REACH THE

GOAL OF

\$22,000

“UNRESTRICTED FUNDS”

1. EACH OPTIMIST MEMBER THAT DONATES TO THE DIME A DAY PROGRAM, \$36.50 WILL HAVE HIS/HER NAME PLACED IN A DRAWING FOR \$100.00.
2. EACH MEMBER DONATING \$100.00 AND RECOGNIZED AS CENTURY CLUB MEMBER WILL HAVE HIS/HER NAME PLACED IN A DRAWING FOR \$200.00.
3. EACH MEMBER DONATING \$250.00 AND RECOGNIZED AS A PRESIDENT'S CLUB MEMBER OF THE HIS/HER WILL HAVE HIS/HER NAME PLACED IN A DRAWING FOR \$350.00. THESE INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR FIRST YEAR WILL RECEIVE A PRESTIGIOUS LAPEL PIN AND ALSO RECEIVE A NUMBERED COLLECTOR'S PLATE.
4. EACH MEMBER DONATING \$500.00 AND RECOGNIZED AS A FRIEND OF TODAY, EACH CLUB PRESIDENT, CLUB FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE WHOSE CLUB DONATES \$500 OR MORE ALONG WITH THE LT. GOVERNOR OF THE DISTRICT WHO'S ZONE RAISES THE MOST IN UNRESTRICTED DONATIONS WILL HAVE HIS/HER NAME PLACED IN A DRAWING FOR A 32" FLAT SCREEN COLOR TELEVISION AND EACH MEMBER OR CLUB DONATING OVER \$500.00 WILL RECEIVE A SIGNED AND NUMBERED COLLECTOR'S PRINT.
5. EACH CLUB PRESENTING AN UNRESTRICTED DONATION OF \$1000.00 OR MORE/OR A CHRISTIAN D. LARSON RECOGNITION OF \$1000.00 WILL HAVE THE CLUB'S NAME PLACED IN THE DRAWING FOR THE SAME 32" FLAT SCREEN COLOR TELEVISION LISTED IN NUMBR 4. ABOVE... Example: \$1000.00 Donation (two chances) \$1500.00 (three chances) \$2000.00 (four chances) \$2500.00 (five chances), \$3000 (six chances), \$3500.00 OR MORE (eight chances).

ALL AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED
AT THE
FEBRUARY 2010 AWARDS LUNCHEON

Henderson Optimist

220 Seafood Project-Fred Carswell presented a proposal for a 220 Seafood fund raising project . Meals cost the customer \$6 and the club gets \$2 for each meal. The next available date is **May 11, 2009**. The purpose of the project is to raise funds for Childhood Cancer. A motion was made and approved to authorize a contract with 220 Seafood for May 11, 2009.

Childhood Cancer Yard Sale-Gene Ayscue announced that the Childhood Cancer Yard Sale will be held on **March 7** at the old Winn Dixie building on Dabney Drive. (Note: Tell your friends and neighbors and begin to collect any tangible items you think you can live without. There will be a **workday on SATURDAY, FEB. 7** during which everyone is encouraged to come and help set up for the sale. We are also encouraged to start bringing items for the sale that day. Gene Ayscue has a key to the building and is willing to arrange for items to be placed in the building at various times).

Cape Fear Optimist hosted a Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament to benefit the Boys & Girls Homes of North Carolina on Saturday, January 17, 2009



B25, the plane that Bombed Tokyo, April 18, 1942



F4U, Flown by Navy and Marines during WWII

Optimist International Convention 2009 July 8-11, Kissimmee, Florida

NEW ROOM RATE

\$149++ / night

Resort Fee \$10+ per night

Parking \$12+ per night with in/out
privileges

Room Tax Currently 13% + 1% Osceola
County Assessment **fee**

100% Smoke Free

Everything under one roof

IConnect (Internet access) in each room
for no additional charge

For Reservation: (407) 586-2000
or online at [Gaylord Palm Online housing](#)

Located just 1.5 miles from the Walt Dis-
ney World in close proximity to other
Orlando theme parks and just 20 minutes
from Orlando International airport.

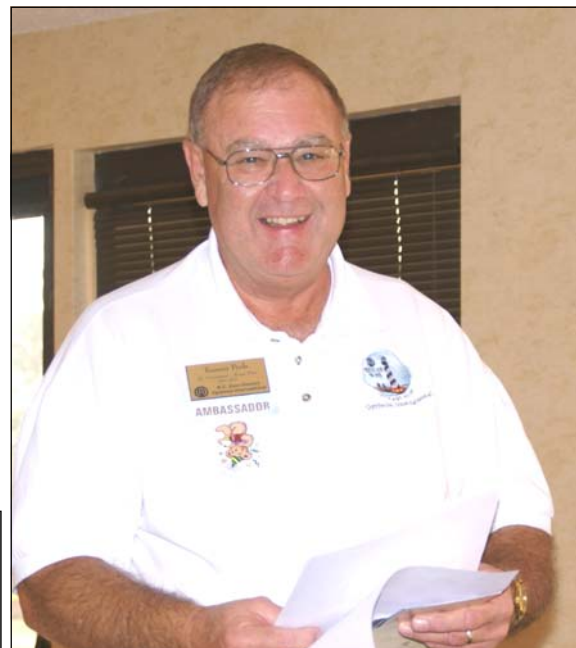
[Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Cen-
ter](#)

[6000 W. Osceola Parkway](#)
[Kissimmee, FL 34746](#)

Tommy Peele
District Chairman
OI Convention



Gaylord Palms



N. C. East Convention

Save the second weekend in September.

We're going to Myrtle Beach,
Where the Atlantic Ocean greets,
And the rooms are all suites!

The prices are so very low,
that even the kids can go,
and bring the grandkids in tow.

Bay Watch in North Myrtle Beach,
Is very, very easy to reach,
Go down 17 or 40, one or each!

OI International big wigs and Barbara,
Convened here, not in Florida,
And if it's good enough for them,
It's good enough for all-of-ya.

.....

Well, I have run our of
rhyme but not information.
Details at the up-coming
District in Selma on Febru-
ary 21st. See you there!

Yancey Hines



Yancey Hines, District
Convention Chairman



The district Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH) will be held in Wilson at the School for the Deaf on Thursday, May 6th. All clubs are encouraged to seek out the deaf students in your school system to participate in this contest. A meal will be provided. This contest reaches and benefits students that generally don't get that much recognition. You can pull up all the information on the Optimist Web Site. If you have any questions, please call or E-mail me.

Bill Edgerton, Chairman
919-920-8541
bedgerton4@nc.rr.com



Congratulations to all those clubs in the district that helped raise \$13,078.97 for the Childhood Cancer Campaign last year. NC East District ranked 5th over all, and 3rd in the US. We donated \$10.54 per member. In October, 2008, Optimist International made a donation of \$50,000 to the Johns Hopkins research program. The total amount donated is now \$610,000, over half way to reaching our \$1 Million goal. Thank you, one and all, for all you do to make this a success.

The Chapel Hill Club has started their Kisses For Childhood Cancer fund raising. Donations are down, as expected, so more collection dates are scheduled to help make up for the difference. The needs are even higher than before. The club received a surprise donation of \$2,500 from the Norman and Bettina Roberts Foundation. The club also received a larger than usual donation of \$6,000 from the Cardinal Track Club for its assistance at the three race events of 2008. The last event on Thanksgiving Day has grown by a couple hundred participants each year. This year there were over a thousand men, women and children who ran the course, including a Bronze Olympic winner.

The duck races were a hit at last years convention. If you didn't participate then, you have another chance this year. The cost of each duck is \$10 and the proceeds go to the CCC fund. There will be three winners, and you don't have to attend to win. I'll have entry forms at the district meeting for those who are interested.

Bob and I will be leading a "Kisses for Childhood Cancer" workshop at the International Convention. The date is Saturday, July 11th, from 10:30 am to 11:45am. If you plan to attend the convention, help us spread the word about an easy fund-raiser for CCC. Please let me know if your club is planning a "Kisses" fund-raiser this year.

I recently talked with a young mother whose four year old son did not survive childhood cancer. It is a long struggle to get through the treatments, and it changes everyone in the family. The progress we are making treating childhood cancer helps the research for a cure for all cancer patients. Gas cards, phone cards, and gift cards are especially appreciated by the families and staff in this economic crunch. The Childhood Cancer Campaign is a small way we can help. Again, thanks for all you do for the kids and their families.

Trish Verne, Childhood Cancer Campaign
Chair



Boys & Girls Homes of North Carolina

The Fourth Annual Optimist Day Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina, Inc. Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina March 7, 2008

Help us reach our goal of having 100 Optimists participate in this special day!

The Fourth Annual Optimist Day at Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina at Lake Waccamaw is planned for Saturday, March 7, 2009. Optimists from all over the state are invited for fun and fellowship and a chance to meet the boys in the Optimist Cottage and see our beautiful campus. This is a great opportunity to introduce new Optimists to the Boys and Girls Homes. The day will include campus tours, a visit to the country store, a work project, fellowship lunch and a chance to personally meet our new President Gary Faircloth.

Specific details will be provided later, but one goal is clear. We want this annual event to be a special day for all Optimists with the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina. Please put March 7, 2009 on your calendar and make this the best Optimist Day yet. Optimist Clubs are encouraged to bring Jr. Optimist Club members and all children and grandchildren of Optimist Club members who can come and spend some time with the boys in the cottage.

This year we are focusing on making this truly an Optimist family affair! For more information on Optimist Day at Boys and Girls Homes, please contact:





Tom Lamont, Director Civic Club
Development Boys and Girls Homes of
North Carolina, Inc.
(910) 646-3083, ext 241
e-mail: tom.lamont@bghnc.org



**Our goal is to have over 100 Optimists
on our campus on Saturday, March 7, 2009!**

Optimist Century Club “For the Love of Kids”

In 1968, the Optimist Cottage at the Boys and Girls Homes at Lake Waccamaw was dedicated to the service of abused, neglected, or otherwise on-the-street children. Since that time, Optimists from across North Carolina have continued to serve as friends of children of the Boys and Girls Homes with their visits, involvement, and financial support.

In 1981, the North Carolina Past-Governors of Optimist International recognized the importance of an endowment as a means of providing for the ongoing financial support of the Optimist Cottage and the programs of care for the Home’s children and endorsed the concept of raising \$1,000,000 to endow the operation of the Optimist Cottage. To that end the 5 x 12 Club was established. Individual members pledged \$5 per month for 12 months for a total of \$60 per year. At the Optimist West District Convention in August 2002, the NC Optimist Boys and Girls Homes Endowment goal of \$1,000,000 was attained! The 5 x 12 annual pledge played a major part in reaching this goal.

Following the accomplishment of this goal, the question became “What now?” That led to the establishment of the “Climbing the Next Mountain” program to support the programs of care for the children. The ultimate goal for Optimists is to raise \$150,000 per year for the operation of the Optimist cottage. Through the combined earnings, other efforts and a new focus on individual contributions called the Optimist Century Club Fund, the goal for funding the operational needs of the Optimist Cottage can be achieved.

You can become an annual Optimist Century Club member by pledging one hundred dollars (\$100) to the support of the Optimist Cottage to make a difference in the life of a child. You can do this in one payment or in combination of payments to occur during the club year. In return, you will become an annual member of the Optimist Century Club and will receive a commemorative pen and your club will be credited with your gift. The same

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motivation of caring that led to the establishment of the Optimist Cottage and the development of a million dollar Optimist endowment, will spur individual Optimists to continue efforts to provide, hope, build dreams, and further accomplishments of those children who find peace and solace in the Optimist Cottage.

To make your contribution, complete the attached Optimist Century Club form and mail it with your check to the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina, Inc., P. O. Box 127, Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina 28472. Your efforts "For the Love of Kids" will be greatly appreciated.

Optimist Century Club

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Optimist Club _____

District _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

I _____ **pledge a minimum of \$100 to the Optimist Century Club of the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina. Please credit the Optimist Club of** _____.

Signature _____

Date _____

Payment of pledge should be completed by September 30 of the current club year.

The man is 85 years old and loves to fish. He was sitting in his boat the other day when he heard a voice say, 'Pick me up.' He looked around and couldn't see any one. He thought he was dreaming when he heard the voice say again, 'Pick me up.' He looked over the side and there, floating in the water, was a frog. The man said, 'Are you talking to me?'

The frog said, 'Yes, I'm talking to you. Pick me up, then kiss me and I'll turn into the most beautiful woman you have ever seen. I'll make sure that all your friends are envious and jealous because I will be your bride!'

The man looked at the frog for a short time, reached over, picked it up

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NC East District Essay Contest

“The Power of Youth”

When I was first introduced to Optimism, this was the motto of Optimist International. When I was invited to visit and later join this great organization, I found this motto frequently in the literature that OI published. In its written form, this motto has immense power. It described what we as Optimist stand for. Someone took the time and went to the trouble to write it down for everyone then to see and read.

The written communication has inspired Man since we dwelled in caves. Even today archaeologists study and marvel at cave drawings. Once books were transcribed word for word by hand because the written word commanded such power. We find inspiration, escape, peace, adventure, humor, drama, everything, in the written word.

Optimist International’s mission, which makes us unique among service clubs, is our sole purpose of working with youth. I believe that is why you joined your club. Of the many outstanding projects sponsored by OI, the Essay Contest continues to support the ideal of literary excellence. Each year, all over the world, thousands of teenagers undertake the task of writing an essay to enter in our contests. They are encouraged, supported, recognized, and rewarded by parents, educators, and Optimists.

The Essay Contest is an easy project to conduct. It doesn’t take many kids to hold a contest, but why limit it to only a few? As they say, “The more the merrier!” Your own club members can serve as judges. OI provides all the material, including the topic, rules, judging guidelines, and score sheets.

It is NOT TOO LATE! You have until February 28 to conduct your contest and postmark your club’s winning essay to me. Please do not let the youth in your area down. Conduct an essay contest this month. It will be rewarding for the contestant, for your community, for your club, and for you. Remember, we are Friend Of Youth.

Thank you,
Joe King
District Essay Chair



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carefully, and placed it in his front breast pocket. Then the frog said, 'What, are you nuts? Didn't you hear what I said? I said kiss me and I will be your beautiful bride.' He opened his pocket, looked at the frog and said, 'Nah, at my age I'd rather have a talking frog.'

COMING TO A NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR YOU

2008/2009 NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT OPTIMIST

ORATORICAL CONTEST



What a great program to:

- * Provide service to the youth in your community
 - * Educate young people
 - * Give our youth a chance to be heard
 - * Identify leaders and future optimist
- * Promote Optimism in your community and club
 - * Grow membership in your own club
 - * Adopt a new program in your club and get members involved
 - * And finally, provide financial support for continued education to
- * a young boy and/or girl to learn more about the 2008/2009 NCED Oratorical Program contact:
- * Your club president, club oratorical chairperson
 - * Your zone Lt. Governor
- * Darrell Fulcher – District Oratorical Chairperson
 - * Governor Barbara Timmons
- * Optimist International – www.optimist.org



Darrell Fulcher
District Oratorical Chairman
2008-09

CLUB SERVICES CHAIRMAN

Ed Taylor

2813 Jason Drive

Rocky Mount, NC 27803

Home Phone: 252-443-7523 Work Phone: 252-451-2968

Email ed.taylor@fcsbank.com

PURPOSE: To help make the Club as strong as possible through proven, Optimist Club methods – specifically through working toward and the attainment of Honor Club status.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:

- . Track Club's progress toward attaining Honor Club status.
- . To assist the Club President in promoting attendance at District/Zone meetings.
- . To encourage new member inductions, orientation and involvement into the Club in a timely and memorable fashion.

As Chairman, I am to urge Club leadership to develop an action plan for attainment of Honor Club status in addition to ongoing Club Services needs.

a) What is going to be done? b) Who is going to do it? c) When is it going to be completed?

Club Recognition - Honor Club

Membership: Clubs with 1-74 Members net +5 (as of October 1, 2008); Clubs 75 or more net +1

Finances: to Optimist International by September 30, 2009

Complete three service projects & submit a minimum of one CPA entry

Submit Officer-Elect Report by May 20, 2009; submit President's Pride report by September 30, 2009

Club President or Board Member attends 50% of District meetings

Distinguished Club



Requirements for Honor Club and do any of the following by September 30, 2008:

Alternate A – Build a New Optimist Club

Sponsor a New Club with at least 25 Charter Members between October 1, 2008, and September 30, 2009, or Build two (2) Pilot Clubs with a minimum of 15 fully paid Charter Members. The Club must also complete the New Club Follow-up Program.

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Alternate B – Membership Growth

For a Club of 25 or more Members on October 1, 2008: Show, by September 30, 2009, a net increase of 25 or more

For a Club of 24 Members or fewer on October 1, 2008: Show, by September 30, 2009, a net increase of at least 15 Members

Alternate C – JOOI Club Sponsorship & Membership

Part 1 - Sponsor a new JOOI Club – minimum of 15 fully paid Charter Members

Part 2 - The Sponsor Club shows a net increase of at least 15 Members.

*All dates refer to the 2008-2009 administrative year, which runs from October 1, 2008, to September 30, 2009.

Start an Optimist Club in Your Community!



One winter morning at breakfast a couple was listening to the radio. They heard the announcer say, "We are going to have 8-10 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so the snowplow can get through." The wife went out and moved her car.

A week later while they are eating breakfast, the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 10-12 inches of snow today, you will need to move your car to the odd-numbered side of the street so the snowplow can get through." So the wife went out and moved her car again.

The next week, while they were eating breakfast, the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 12-14 inches of snow today and you must park..." Then the power went off! The wife was very upset. With a worried look on her face she said, "Honey, I don't know what to do. Which side of the street am I supposed to park on?"

With the love and understanding in his voice that all men who are married to blondes exhibit, her husband said, "Why don't you just leave it in the garage this time."

Attached is a photo of the presentation of the Champion's Trophy for the 2008 Optimist Stew Bowl. Rocky Mount Evening Optimist Club was the winner and Henry Edmondson, Club Treasurer and Club Stew Miester is shown being presented the Trophy from 2008 NC East District Governor Dan Durham as Zone 5 Lieutenant Gov. Tommy Peele looks on.

The Rocky Mount Evening Optimist Club challenges all Clubs in our District to enter the 2009 Stew Bowl. All proceeds from the Brunswick stew sales are to benefit Childhood Cancer. The contest will be aired on TV station WHIG. The contest location, date and time has not yet been set, but is anticipated in February 2009. Any Club interested in joining us can contact me at 252-908-3034 or email me at

dhodges@simmonsandharris.com.

If the club doesn't cook Brunswick stew the club can have anyone in their community represent their club. There is no entry fee for any club participating and the competing club can collect the monies from their club's sales to designate to whatever Childhood Cancer organization or use they choose. Thanks.



Junior Golf Tournament will be held in Laurinburg, June 6-7.

Donald Barringer
District Junior Golf Chairman
919-426-5824

College Clubs
Doug Lamm
252-243-0233

Personal Growth & Involvement (PGI)
Gary Pender
919-920-9190

Membership
Bennie Bass
910-815-3814



Wilmington Clubs Have Joint Fund Raising Project

Jeff Gordon Chevrolet is going to give away a Chevy Malibu to some lucky person that buys a ticket for five dollars. The total amount of money raised will go to the Optimist Clubs that have baseball programs. Each club will be selling tickets, and they



keep all the money from the sales for their youth program. Contribute \$5 to help their youth program, and you might win a car.

Chapel Hill Optimist held a NOW meeting February 4th at Jim's Ribs in Chapel Hill. Ten members took part in the meeting and two guests. The guests were given information on Optimist International and the Chapel Hill club and invited to become members..

Whiteville Optimist is planning on a busy spring. Essay contest to be completed by Feb.13. Youth Appreciation set for February 16. Oratorical contest set for Mar 26. CCC "Kisses For Cancer" project planned. Optimist Day at B&G Home March 7. Respect for Law March 16. Registration for Baseball all the month of February. April 4th the first game.

President Jerry Medlin, Garner Optimist has enrolled two new members. Installed were Dennis Will and Josh Whitaker. Sponsoring member was Bob Havin. The club's annual BBQ fundraiser was held in January.

Jeff Watson and Butch Barber have just joined the Roanoke Rapids club. Also, the clubs annual Stew Sale is underway. Buying price is \$7 per quart. Maybe they'll have some at the Board Meeting.

Wilson Evening Optimist sponsored their annual Cub Scout Pinewood Derby, January 31st at the NC School for Deaf in Wilson. Winners were from left: Tiger Scout, Preston Barnes; Wolf Scout, Tyler O'Neal; Bear Scout, Christopher Clark and Webe-los Scout, Andrew Wantech .



Cape Fear Optimist hosted a Red Cross Blood Drive on Valentines Day, Feb 14th.

North Carolina East District, Optimist International 1st Quarter Board of Directors Meeting

November 8, 2008

Attendees:

Executive Committee Members: Barbara Timmons, Bob Verne, Auston Pusey, Emery White, Sheila Little, Carey Foster, David Fritz, Dan Durham, Gary Pender.

Clubs Represented: Bennett-Wilson, Cape Fear, Chapel Hill, Elizabethtown, Garner, Golden Circle, Goldsboro, Greenville, Henderson, Laurinburg, North Raleigh, Raleigh, Raleigh Dinner, Roanoke Rapids, Rocky Mount Breakfast, Rocky Mount Evening, Roxboro, Whiteville, Wilmington, Wilson Evening, Winter Park.

Minutes:

Governor Barbara Timmons called this first quarter regular District Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:05 am.

2007-08 Secretary-Treasurer Carey Foster presented the minutes from the fourth quarter 2007-08 Board of Directors meeting. Allan Ludlum moved to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Carey Foster also presented the 4th quarter 2007-08 financial report. Dan Durham moved to accept the financial report as presented. Motion passed.

Finance Committee Chair Bob Verne presented a proposed budget for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

Jerry Medlin moved to approve the budget. Motion passed.

Governor Barbara introduced the district committee chairs for the 2008-09 year.

The following committee reports were received:

- o Boys & Girls Home Carlton Baird & Tom Lamont.
- o Junior Golf Don Barringer.
- o OI Ambassador Tommy Peele.
- o Childhood Cancer Campaign Trish Verne.
- o Membership Bennie Bass.
- o PGI Gary Pender.

The following training modules were presented:

- o New Club Building Ronnie Dunn.
- o JOOI Luke Hearn.
- o Membership Wayne Dunn.

Ronnie Dunn and David Prather gave a presentation on "The Leadership Secrets of Santa Claus".

Worth Starling presented the 4th quarter and over-all A&A awards for the 2007-08 Optimist year.

The following training modules were presented:

- o Essay Contest Joe King.
- o O.I. Foundation Sandy Cyphers.

Governor-Elect Auston Pusey offered his comments and discussed his goals for the next Optimist year.

Governor Barbara Timmons offered her closing comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm with a recitation of the Optimist Creed.

Robert D. Verne



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.



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