

# North Carolina East Optimist News

Hello Fellow Optimists,

Members of the NC East District have been busy since October 1, 2010, and it is amazing that we are already into our second quarter.

Reflecting on the first quarter—

- A successful district meeting was held at Atlantic Beach and everyone enjoyed the weekend which highlighted a Fall Festival and costume contest to raise funds for the Boys and Girls Home.
- Clubs were busy with their sale of Christmas Trees which I understand went very well.
- District leaders were busy getting a head start on yearly plans and participated in their **first teleconference** which was well attended.
- Regular updates on the **“State of the District”** are being distributed electronically and your newsletters are very helpful to inform me about the ongoing/planned activities in your club (s).



- **Our membership took a downward turn with a decrease in membership which impacted our rank but most importantly the number of youth served by our district.** The good news is that 50 new members were added during the first quarter and we are on our way to reclaim being the #1 District in Optimist International.

With the second quarter underway—

- Clubs will find the opportunity to earn additional points upon review of the **revised A & A Report.**
- Youth will be encouraged to participate in the Essay, Oratorical, and CCDHH Contests by District Chairs, clubs, and members. Please sponsor contests for youth to compete for scholarships totaling \$10,000.
- The NC East Growth Contest has begun and each of you are encouraged to participate. With the challenge to grow membership and build new clubs to serve youth in our district, Auston Pusey, Membership Chair, and Darrell Fulcher, New Building Chair, are busy and need all members' help. Optimist International has announced new incentives. The District Growth Contest also offers incentives as well as **CASH** awards to qualifying individuals/clubs.
- Lt. Governors are actively working to build new clubs in each zone. Please offer your assistance by contacting your Lt. Governor or Darrell Fulcher, New Building Chair.
- Some clubs are progressing to sponsor new JOOI Clubs; please offer assistance by contacting Jerry Medlin, JOOI Chair.
- Clubs are preparing for baseball registration and anticipate recruitment of new members.

The Second Quarter NC East District Meeting has been scheduled for February 18-19, 2011, at the City Hotel and Bistro in Greenville, NC. On **Friday night**, David Fritz, Optimist International Foundation Chair, has scheduled an auction to benefit the foundation and welcomes your contributions. This event is always enjoyable and we hope you will attend.

On **Saturday**, the Board Meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m.; the Awards Luncheon starts at noon; and the afternoon session will feature David Prather, Past Vice-President of the Mid-Atlantic Region.

I am proud of the NC East District and all the good work that you are doing in your communities. **Our youth depend on us**, so remember—“*Serving Youth Today – Grows Optimists for Tomorrow!*”

Yours in Optimism,

Lou Anna Hardee, Governor

# 4th Quarter 2009-2010 A&A Winners

## Top Ten Clubs



From left: No. 1, Duplin, Eddie Boyette; No. 2, Whiteville, Don Harritan; No. 3, Wilmington Cape Fear, Al Ludlum; No. 4, Goldsboro, Jo Ann Williams; No. 5, Raleigh Dinner, Carlton Baird; No., 6, Chapel Hill, Bob Verne; No. 7, Wilmington Winter Park, Stuart Vick; No. 8, Wake Forest, Cathy Potter; No. 9, Greenville, Charles Ross; No 10, Rocky Mount Evening, Ed Taylor.

## Top Clubs in Each Zone

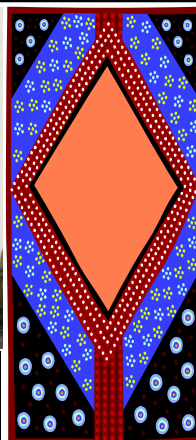


Zone 1, Wilmington Cape Fear, Robin Bass; Zone 2, Duplin, Eddie Boyette; Zone 3, Goldsboro, Jo Ann Williams; Zone 5, Rocky Mount Evening, Ed Taylor; Zone 6, Raleigh Dinner, Carlton Baird. Zone 4 had no entries

## Top Lt. Governors



From left: 1st. Bob Verne, Zone 6; 2nd, Don Harritan, Zone 2; 3rd, Carrie Foster, Zone 5.



**Dan Durham**  
District A&A Chair

# International Convention 2011

The International convention will be in Baltimore at the Marriott Waterfront, July 3-5. I will have more information at the February meeting, but, convention chair, Dennis Lane said there would be a lot of activities going on and it would be crowded. He said if you were not used to heavy traffic and \$26 a day parking (the hotel does not own the lot), you may want to come in by bus, train, or plane.

Public relations is a new district office. The idea is to get clubs to promote their club and activities. Clubs may want to go to the Optimist site, [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org), go to members, and then marketing to get some ideas on how to promote your club. If any club is doing anything that works well, please let me know so I can share it with the rest of the district. Clubs may also want to go to [www.eoptimist.org](http://www.eoptimist.org) and check out this site as a possibility.



Have a Great Day!

Carey

**Join the Fun!  
Pre-Convention Optimist Night at  
Oriole Park at Camden Yards**

**Baltimore Orioles vs. St. Louis Cardinals**

**Thursday, June 30, 2011—7:05 PM  
(T-Shirt Thursday—First 10,000 Fans 15 & Over Receive Free T-Shirt)**

**Tickets--\$20 US  
(Upper Box)**

**Mail your check payable to GJOC Convention Baseball to:**

**GJOC Convention Baseball  
P. O. Box 442  
Phoenix, MD 21131  
USA**

**Reservations and payment must be received by Tuesday, May 31, 2011.**

**Questions? Contact Optimist Mary Lu at  
[baseballtix@yahoo.com](mailto:baseballtix@yahoo.com)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_



Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

**No refunds or exchanges!**



Baltimore Inner Harbor



## Boys & Girls Home, Walt Armentrout Memorial Award



Tom Lamont, left, presents The Walt Armentrout award to Whiteville Optimist Club. Receiving the award in honor of Richard Bradley Johnson, from left; Don Harritan, Judy Harritan and Les Craft.



Receiving membership awards from Gov. Auston Pusey, center, Al Ludlum, left, Winter Park and Don Harritan, Whiteville..

# District Membership

Greetings Fellow Optimists. This is the time of year for us to start planning our NOW (New Optimists Wanted) programs. Some clubs have started spring ball sign-ups. Every parent who signs up their child to play ball is a potential member of our organization. Give them a tri-fold with information about your club. Be proud of what we stand for and share it.

By now everyone should be familiar with the recently introduced recruiting incentive by Optimist International. For every 3 Friends of Optimists your club recruits, you may add a new traditional club member into your club with no initial processing fee (\$15) and no International dues until September 30, 2012. This incentive is in effect for the second and third quarters.

Speaking of recruiting incentives, our District has some very serious recruiting incentives of its own. If you haven't seen a copy of our recruiting incentives, please e-mail me or see Governor Lou Anna or myself at our District Meeting.

Also, consider a recruiting incentive within your club. It's easy, fun, and rewarding to your club. You'll get a lot of return for your investment in membership and don't forget, for each new member we bring into our organization, we help an additional 30+ children.

"Remember, membership is an honor and privilege....so SHARE it"



Auston Pusey  
Membership chair

Auston Pusey  
NC East District Membership Chair 2010 - 2011

As the Immediate Past Governor of our District, one of my obligations is to find a new qualified Governor Candidate for the 2012 - 2013 year.

As a reminder, if you've served as Club President, you are an eligible candidate. I encourage you to consider this position. It can be as rewarding as you choose to make it and I assure you, you'll receive support from a great group of passionate fellow Optimists.

If you'd like to discuss, please contact me or any of the past Governors in our District.

Yours in Optimism,

Auston Pusey  
Candidate Qualifications Chair 2010 - 2011

# Childhood Cancer Campaign



This year's Childhood Cancer Campaign is off to a good start. The Duplin Optimist Club has held its first "Kisses For Childhood Cancer" fundraiser. The Chapel Hill club has scheduled 5 dates at Harris Teeter stores. The Raleigh and North Raleigh Clubs have fund-raisers planned for later in the summer. The Cape Fear Club held another successful Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament. I look forward to hearing what your club has planned. The district will also have a "Yellow Duck Race" at the convention in September.

At the International Convention in Baltimore, MD in July we will again have a presentation by the doctors conducting the research that we are funding. Arrangements are also being made to visit the facility. Donations of surgery dolls, pillowcases and other items will also be delivered to the children at the hospital.

The Chapel Hill Club delivered doctor kits, surgery dolls, Reflections books, "The New Normal" videos, pillowcases, activity projects and over \$4,000 in donations to UNC and Duke Hospitals. The club provided brunch for the Chapel Hill Ronald McDonald House. Pillowcases were available for the parents to select for their children being treated at the hospital and their siblings. The directions for making the pillowcases and surgery dolls will be available at the district meetings.

During the ConKerr Cancer Pillowcase Project at UNC, I met a cancer survivor named Morrow. She and her mother came to a club meeting and spoke about their experience and her treatment for non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. There is a need at the hospitals for games and other items to entertain the teenagers during their treatment sessions. Please ask your teenagers and grand children for ideas that we might provide for the kids. There is a TV at each treatment station that could play DVD's or videos. The resource desk keeps some books for the patients to share and could help keep a library for the kids.

Is your club considering a project to help kids with childhood cancer? If so consider applying for the matching grant program that OI offers. The maximum amount of the award is \$2,500 and is intended to help get a project completed. No funds will be awarded to fund another foundation's project. Contact me for further information and forms.

Mark your calendars for the Mile of Hope weekend at the Sheraton Hotel in Atlantic Beach. The date is May 6-7-8th. Come celebrate Mother's Day with the kids and their families. For more information check the web site at [www.mileofhope.org](http://www.mileofhope.org).



Trish Verne  
CCC Chairperson



## District Club Services

### LEADERS ARE MADE.....

The beginning of 2011 was a time for resolutions. Resolutions such as losing weight, exercising more, finding a new job, giving more time to yourself, your family, your church, volunteering and the list could go on and on. As optimists we too needed to make New Year Resolutions....to be better optimists in our communities and better optimist leaders in our club and district. Kids in our communities need us MORE than ever to provide opportunities for them through scholarships, J.O.O.I., sports, raising funds to find a cure for childhood cancer and how to protect themselves from predators through the Internet Safety Program.

As optimists we need to resolve to grow our visibility in our communities. Make it known to others what our organization entails and who exactly and what exactly the Optimist Organization is and who we are, "A FRIEND OF YOUTH", striving to "Bring Out The Best In Kids."

I challenge each of you in the remaining months of this Optimist Year to resolve to be better optimists and leaders. As Leadership Development District Chairman I am here to assist and help you in whatever way I can to make yourself and the leaders in your clubs the best they can be. We are trying on the district level to provide training for you at each district meeting. It is up to you to have the interest and desire to want to learn, to grow in optimism and be the very best leader you can. I urge you to make plans to remain for the afternoon training session at the February District Meeting. For you that had the opportunity to be part of the first quarter training session we all learned a lot. Well, this is another opportunity for you to learn even more. Please do not let our Governor and those that are giving their time to come and assist us in training down. We can only be as good as you the members will assist in taking part.

In closing I would like to quote the words of Abraham Lincoln..."ALWAYS BEAR IN MIND THAT YOUR OWN RESOLUTION TO SUCCEED IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY OTHER ONE THING."

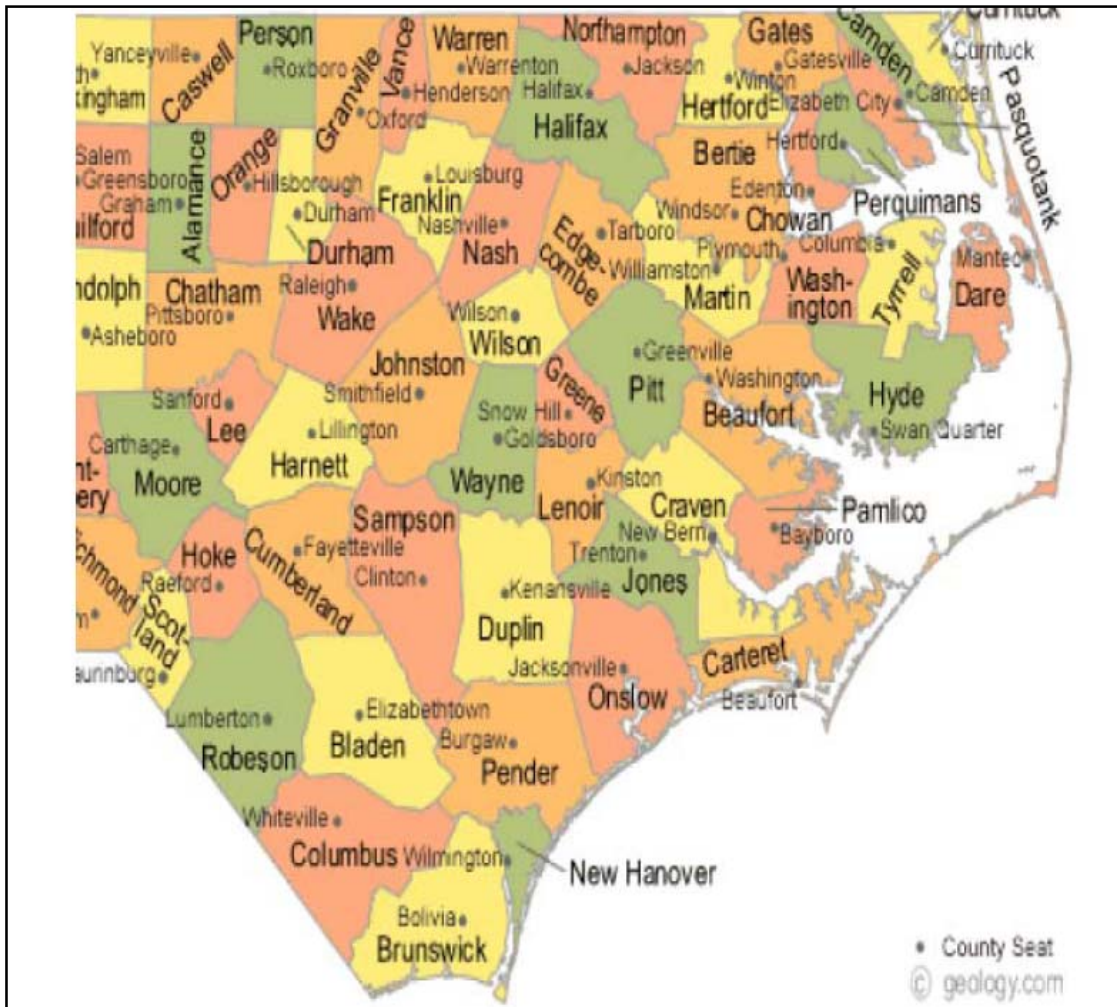
Sandy Cyphers  
Leadership District Chairman/District Club Services  
Chairman  
Past Governor 2002-2003



#### **CLUB SERVICES CHAIR**

**Sandy Cyphers**  
**4917 Seabrook Ct.**  
**Wilmington, NC 28403**  
**910-367-3295**  
**scyphers@ec.rr.com**

# Growing North Carolina East District New Club Building



## Where do you see your club building a new Optimist Club?

The North Carolina East Districts new club building growth goals is one new club in each zone.

Your help is needed to grow our organization. Each Lt. Governor is equipped with New Club Building Kits and is ready to support new club building.

Other new club building resources in the North Carolina East District: Builders of Excellence, Past Governors, Future Governors, District New Club Building Chairperson, Optimist Interna-

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tional Vice Presidents (past and present) and our Governor.

We know of some key building locations and your assistance is needed. You may know of others.

**Key Locations:**

**Zone 1 – Southport, Jacksonville, Leland, Hampstead**

**Zone 2 – Clinton, Fayetteville, Lumberton, Raeford**

**Zone 3 – Kinston, Goldsboro, New Bern, Smithfield**

**Zone 4 – Greenville, Washington, Tarboro, Nashville**

**Zone 5 – Elizabeth City, Murfreesboro, Enfield, Currituck**

**Zone 6 – Durham, Apex, Clayton, Knightdale**



As you can see we have great opportunities and we need to respond to this call to service now.

The Lt. Governors of each zone are empowered and instructed that growth of our organization and service to the youth is our greatest gift as Optimist.

For assistance or support, please contact me by email @ [dfulcher@rgdinc.com](mailto:dfulcher@rgdinc.com) or cell phone 919-656-7339.

Best Regards  
Darrell Fulcher



Orioles Baseball Stadium



**Optimist Day at  
Boys and Girls Homes  
of North Carolina  
Saturday, March 26, 2011  
43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the**

**Optimist Cottage**

**Mark your calendars now to come to Boys and Girls Homes to celebrate the renovations to the Optimist Cottage.**

**Friday, March 25**

Optimist Committee Meeting, 2 p.m., Chapel Fellowship Hall – Optimist Committee members, district governors and other Optimist leadership are invited.

2:00-2:45 p.m. Statewide Chair Ron Jones will welcome everyone.

Information packets will be provided by Tom Lamont including statistical information on giving in both districts. President Gary Faircloth will provide Boys and Girls Homes report which will focus on the accreditation process.

2:45-4:45 p.m. Tour of Campus

Chapel Exhibition Center

School Country Store

Gymnasium Selected girls cottage

Vocational Facilities Flemington Hall Administration Building

Solomon Center Optimist Cottage

Farm

5 p.m. Dinner in Optimist Cottage, spouses invited – and introductions and special comments. Following dinner, Ron Jones will meet with committee to answer final questions.

**Saturday, March 26**

**43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Optimist Cottage**

8-9:30 a.m. Service Project

9:30-10 a.m. Registration and Refreshments in Chapel Fellowship Hall



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10 a.m. Boys and Girls Homes Program with Gary Faircloth on Boys and Girls

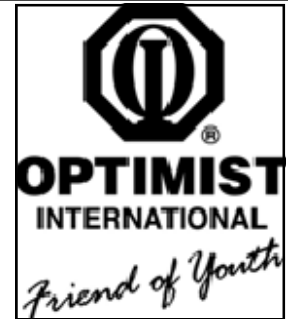
Homes priorities

11 a.m. Tours of campus

12:15 p.m. Special Presentation at Optimist Cottage to celebrate the 43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

12:30 p.m. Lunch, Chapel Fellowship Hall followed by program including children from the campus

2:00 p.m. Departure



### Hello Optimist

It saddens me to tell you that Tom Lamont no longer works for the Boys and Girls home. What a great loss not only for the home but for the kids. Tom is loved by all the kids and by all Civics groups that he spoke with. He brought love, joy, caring and compassion to our District meetings. Tom was awesome in keeping us informed with what was going on at the Boys and Girls home. But on a good note he is still an Optimist so when you see Tom tell him thank you for a job well done.

The Boys and Girls home has hired Gary Green to work with the Civic Clubs. Gary's most recent position is with St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, NC. as Communications Director.

As NC East Chairman of the Boys and Girls home I look forward to working with Gary in the future. Lets all give Gary a warm NC East Optimist District Hello.

Gary Pender  
District B&G Chair



### 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.





**AUCTION TO BENEFIT  
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION**



**What to Bring?**

- Re-Gift Items ...Perfect!
- Gift baskets... Marvelous!
- Homemade Items ...Absolutely!
- Outdoor Stuff...You Betcha!
- Kitchen & Bath...Sure!
- Sports Gear... Of Course!



City Hotel and Bistro  
Greenville NC

# Auctioneer Rich Cash!

OIF Benefits to Clubs

- Club Campaign Funds
- Pass Through Program
- Club Grant Program
- Scholarships

.. Mark Your Calendar ..



*OIF Mission: Seeking, receiving and managing funds and real and personal property for the benefit of Optimist International and its Member Clubs in it charitable, literary and educational activities.*



David Fritz  
District OIF Chair



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OI Web  
[www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org)

## District Essay Contest

The Optimist Essay Contest is truly an opportunity for our clubs to "Bring Out the Best in Kids!" The contest gives young people the opportunity to develop skills for written expression by writing about their own opinions regarding the world in which they live. And by doing so, they also have the opportunity to win a college scholarship!



There are some changes in this year's contest that you should be aware of.

- The essay length has been increased to 700-800 words
- The scholarship amount for District winners has been increased to \$2500.
- Although District winners will go on to compete at the International competition, this year there will not be a scholarship awarded at this level. The International winner will receive an engraved plaque and recognition in *The Optimist* magazine.

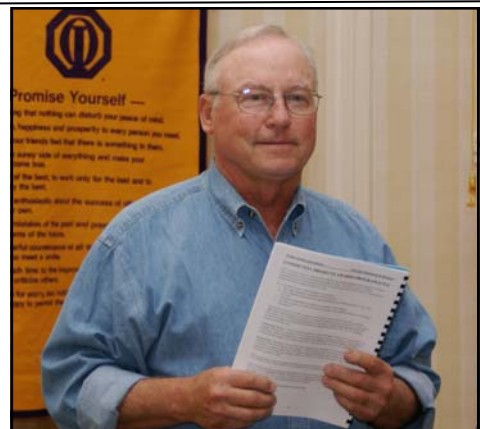
The deadline for club entries (one per club) in the District contest is February 28, 2011. Full information on the details of submission requirements and links to official rules and program guides are available on the District website [www.nceast-optimist.org](http://www.nceast-optimist.org). There is also information there on how to get participants from both the regular schools and the non-traditional school organizations, such as home schools, private schools and charter schools. One key to the successful recruiting of contest participants is to get the schools involved early, before they have their plans too firmly set.



I hope your club members enjoy the opportunity to see these kids truly excel through their essays.

Bob Verne  
Essay Contest Chair  
[rverne44@gmail.com](mailto:rverne44@gmail.com)  
(919) 942-4144

Denard Harris, District Activities Chair



# District Oratorical Contest



**Attention:** Governor, Lt. Governors, Club Presidents, and Members

We are fast approaching a very rewarding event and time in the NC East District. The NC East District Oratorical Contest will be held at the Sheraton Imperial, Research Triangle Park, on May 20-21, 2011.

Every club in the NC East District should promote the Club contest, participate in the Zone contest, and strive for excellence at the District Contest.

To-date, a number of clubs continue to organize their club contest and a few zones are finalizing their plans for a date and location to host the zone contest. One item you can place on your calendar is the district contest which will be one of the very best. Every opportunity will be made for the entire day to be about the contestants and their families.

Please make a place in your club and community for a young person to be heard through the Optimist International Foundation's and North Carolina East District Oratorical Contest and note the following:

**Topic for the 2010-2011 year: "If I were Leader of the Free World, the First Issue I would Address would be..."**

**Eligibility: NEW CRITERIA!** The contest is open to students under the age of 19 as of December 31st of the 2010-2011 school year (December 31st, 2010).

**Time Lines:**

Club Contest completed before April 8, 2011

Zone Contest completed before April 22, 2011

Zone Contest winners' documentation due by May 2, 2011

District Contest at Sheraton Imperial, Research Triangle Park, May 21, 2011

**Scholarships to be awarded:**

The District will conduct separate gender contests and award each boy and girl first place winner a \$2,500 scholarship. Clubs will conduct separate gender contests with the first place boy and girl winner advancing to the Zone Competition. First place boy and

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girl winners of the Zone Competition will advance to the District Competition.

**More information available at:** [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org)

Go to Member area, select “Programs” and then go to either “Scholarship Contests” or Planning Guides; guides are also available under the “Club” and “District” tabs at [www.optimistleaders.org](http://www.optimistleaders.org)

For this event to be a truly rewarding experience for our youth, your assistance is requested.

Yours in Optimism,

Tracy A. Riddle



## **COMMUNICATION CONTEST for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing**

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL 

The Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH) will be held at the NC School for Deaf in Wilson. The contest is tentatively scheduled to be held May 12, 2011 at 6:00pm. All clubs are asked to search out the students that qualify in their local school systems.

If you would like further information, please go to the Optimist web site or contact Bill Edgerton at 919-920-8541 or E-mail at [bedgerton4@nc.rr.com](mailto:bedgerton4@nc.rr.com)

THANKS,

**BILL EDGERTON**  
District CCDHH Chairman



**Billy Edgerton**  
CCDHH Chairman

Future International Conventions

2011

Baltimore, Maryland

July 3-5, 2011 (Sunday-Tuesday)

2012

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

July 12-14, 2012 (Thursday-Saturday) - Dates pending

2013

Cincinnati, Ohio

July 4-6, 2013 (Thursday-Saturday) - Dates pending

# Goblins came out of their hive at the Board Meeting During Halloween Weekend in Atlantic Beach







Friday night at the 1st Quarterly Board meeting, an auction of cakes, cookies and other mouth watering desserts was held to benefit Boys & Girls Home. Tom Lamont, left was the auctioneer and Carlton Baird was the gofor.

# Junior Golf

## Junior Golf Championship OIJCG

The 2011 Optimist International Golf Championship Tournament for the North Carolina East District will be held at the Keith Hill Country Club in Buies Creek, NC. On Saturday, April 30, starting at about 12 noon and Sunday, May 1, starting at about 8AM. The Golf Course phone is 910-893-5051. Once again the tournament is open to all boys & girls ages 10-18. The entry fee is \$75.00. All Optimists, friends and guests are invited to attend and watch the Junior Golfers compete for the NC East Title, Boys and Girls. We have club hole sponsorships from \$50 to \$500 that can be purchased, forms are on the NC east Web site [www.nceast-optimist.org](http://www.nceast-optimist.org). The Garner Optimist Club will be providing soft drinks, Hot Dogs & chips on Saturday after the players complete their rounds. I am also looking donations of Bottled Water, Power Aid, Gator Aid, Nabs / Snack Crackers, Energy Bars & candy bars. These items will be provided to the kids during the tournament.

OIJGC Chairperson  
Allan Ludlum

**NC East Web Site [www.nceast-optimist.org](http://www.nceast-optimist.org)**

Hello fellow optimist,

I encourage each of you to explore the NC East Optimist web site. This is where you can find information about the Essay and Oratorical contest, District & Convention meeting information, NC East Junior Golf information, and contact information for district chair persons and clubs officers. You can even read your club & other clubs newsletters (If they sent me a copy). If you find a broken link please email or call me so I can repair it. Thanks & happy surfing from the web master.

Allan Ludlum



Allan Ludlum, District Junior Golf chair and District Webmaster



**North Carolina East District  
Optimist International  
First Quarter District Meeting  
Sheraton Atlantic Beach Oceanfront Hotel  
District Board of Directors Meeting  
Saturday, October 30, 2010**

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

Lou Anna Hardee	Governor
Auston Pusey	Immediate Past Governor
Jerry Medlin	Governor Elect
Barbara Timmons	District Secretary-Treasurer
Tom Lamont	Lt. Governor Zone 1
Jo Ann Williams	Lt. Governor Zone 3
Linda Watson	Lt. Governor Zone 4
Gene Dodd	Lt. Governor Zone 5

The following clubs were represented: Zone 1-Cape Fear, Winter Park, Port City; Zone 2-Whiteville, Duplin; Zone 3-Goldsboro, Greenville; Zone 4-Golden Circle, Wilson Evening; Zone 5-Henderson, Roanoke Rapids, Rocky Mount Evening; Zone 6- Raleigh, Raleigh Dinner, North Raleigh, Garner, Wake Forest, Chapel Hill.

Governor Lou Anna Hardee called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Governor Lou Anna Hardee.

Invocation by Jerry Medlin.

Governor Lou Anna Hardee recognized first timer attendees, Charter Club Members, Past International President, Past International Vice Presidents, International VP Elect and Past Governors in attendance as well as Club Presidents.

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Board Meeting Minutes were reported by Allan Ludlum. Motion to accept made by Linda Watson of Golden Circle – second by Carey Foster of Roanoke Rapids – Approved.

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Financial Report was made by Allan Ludlum. Motion to accept made by Sandy Cyphers of Winter Park - second by Eddie Boyette of Duplin – Approved.

NC East District Convention Report was made Darrell Fulcher.

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NC East District Budget Proposal was made by Doug Lamm. A motion to accept as preliminary was made by Sandy Cyphers of Winter Park – Second by Carey Foster of Roanoke Rapids.

**District Chair Reports:**

- Club Services/Leadership Development upcoming training was reported by Sandy Cyphers.
- Candidate Qualifications Chair Auston Pusey invited those interested in serving as Governor to let him know. He has discussed this position with several. He also reminded the district of the importance of new members and reviewed the awards on the district level and OI level.
- Allan Ludlum passed out the information for the upcoming Jr Golf tournament. He also requested us to send him the information that needs to be posted on the web site including club bulletins. Internet Safety Program has new CD's and each club can request a copy.
- Tom Lamont and Gary Pender gave updates on events/needs at the Boys & Girls home in Lake Waccamaw. Gary reported that Ed Taylor of Rocky Mount Evening won the Gas Grill in the raffle and it raised \$535.00 Tom took the alter call for donations.
- Darrell Fulcher reminded the District of the prior commitment to build three new clubs in our district and requested that we should be looking for any potential areas to help the kids.
- Bob Verne reported on the Essay Contest dates of February 28<sup>th</sup> for the club winners to be in to him.
- Tracy Riddle reminded us about the upcoming Oratorical and contest dates for the district will be at our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter meeting. Zone winners should be to her by May 2, 2011.

We took a break from 10:15 AM to 10:30 AM

- Gary Pender reported the dates for the upcoming District Convention of Sept 8-11, 2011 and we will be at the Bay Watch Resort in North Myrtle Beach. He asked that we email him any suggestions.

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*(Continued from page 22)*

- Carey Foster reported the International Convention will be July 3-5<sup>th</sup> in Baltimore, Maryland. He will be getting us information on train transportation for those interested. He also updated us on the PSA for our club announcements and urged us to get our clubs on a face book page.
- Dan Durham congratulated the clubs that participated in the A&A the prior quarter and handed out the awards.
- Wayne Sidelinger advised the district bulletin is on the district web site and requested “useable” photos with remarks of who is in the photo when you submit them to him. Good quality photos copy well!
- David Fritz reported on the theme for the OI Foundation this year of train cars and reminded us of the OI Foundation Auction for our next district meeting. He also took Alter Call.
- Jerry Medlin reported that seven clubs in our district want to build JOOI clubs this year. He also talked about the upcoming year which he will be serving as Governor and is asking for our input to help him and his team make decisions for our district during his year.
- Lou Anna Hardee had closing remarks and reminded everyone of the New Club Training that will take place after lunch.
- Meeting closed with the Optimist Creed by membership.



The meeting adjourned at 11:50 PM.

After Lunch Buffet, New Club Building training was conducted by Darrell Fulcher with 22 members attending.

Barbara Timmons  
District Secretary-Treasurer

## Build an Optimist Club

# 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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