

North Carolina East Optimist News

Hello Fellow Optimist,

It's time to start preparing to attend the NC East District Convention scheduled for August 22nd thru 25th, 2013 in North Myrtle Beach, SC. Excellent training, fun-filled activities, and great food have been planned for all adults, children, and grandchildren.

Jann Van Dreser and Wife Sue will be our OI Representatives and they will be assisting with the Training of the Officer elects. They will also conduct a TOWN HALL MEETING that you will be able to ask question about the happenings of the Optimist Organization.



The Convention will begin on Thursday with the Boys & Girls Home Golf Tournament at Azalea Sands Golf Club starting at noon. Following the tournament, all Optimists are invited to attend Dinner at the GIANT CRAB Seafood Restaurant at 9597 Kings Hwy in Myrtle Beach, SC to honor the Past Governors. This will be a joint Golf Tournament and Dinner on Thursday with the Optimists from the NC West District, this is going to be fun.

On Friday, the Executive Board Meeting will meet at 8:30am in the Windy Hill Board Room. Training will start after lunch so look at the Convention Program for the meeting rooms, time, and groups. The Family Dinner with Magic, Music and Scavenger Hunt will start at 6:00pm. Please bring the Kids because we have plans for the whole family.

Saturday Morning will begin with the Old Timers Breakfast and Fellowship at 7:15am. We will have a Buffet and Donna Tyson will be our Speaker. The General Meeting will begin at 8:30am and will begin with a Memorial Service for all the Optimists that have passed on since our last Convention. We will have someone from passed members Club, to light a candle in their memory. The Town Hall Meeting for all Optimists will begin at 1:00pm followed by the training of Officer elects and all Optimist members.

The Governor`s Reception will begin at 6:00pm with the Dinner starting at 7:00pm. Sandy Cyphers, Past International Vice President, will be the Master of Ceremony for the Banquet. The Dance will begin after the Dinner and the Dance will end at 11:00pm.

On Sunday, we will close the Convention with our parting Buffet Breakfast in the Blue Room Café in the Hotel restaurant. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU for Dan Durham and his Convention Committee that worked so hard to put on the outstanding convention you deserve.

Yours in Optimism,

Jerry M. Medlin

NC East District Governor



Dear Optimists,

I hope everyone had a fun filled summer and are ready for the new Optimist year. The last several months have been extremely busy ones for me. I attended Governor's training over 4 days in Cincinnati in April and returned in July for more training at the Optimist International Convention.

Our Leadership Team, led by past NCED Governors Lou Anna Hardee and Barbara Timmons along with Allan Ludlum, this year's Secretary-Treasurer, has assembled a District Leadership Team that has been charged with providing the information and support you need to succeed. Teamwork begins with communication and it is my desire that you are kept regularly informed of the activities and programs throughout our District. Furthermore, each team member has been asked to establish goals for the year realizing that only with your help can they meet them.

2013-14 promises to be an exciting year. OI is promoting membership retention. Let's make sure that our members are appreciated for their time and talent. I would like to see us as a District evaluate our efforts at the Club level and make a renewed commitment to the youth of our communities. "Bringing out the best in kids" has never been more important.

Our Quarterly District Meetings will again be held in Wilson. This year there will be an emphasis on Leadership Training, the PGI Program, OI Leadership workshops and much more.

In closing, a special thank you goes to Governor Jerry Medlin. As a mentor he has taught me so much over the last year and his patience and support has been appreciated.

Thank you for your commitment and hard work. I look forward to working with each one of you this year. Remember let's "make our actions speak louder than words."

Yours in Optimism,

Errol Warren, Governor Elect
NCED Optimist International



District Membership

New Member Sponsors

3 Members

William Haithcock, Henderson
Alton Peacock, Wilmington Super
Linda Shepherd, Golden Circle
Don Harritan, Whiteville
Auston Pusey, Cape Fear
Carrie Foster, Roanoke Rapids



5 Members

Alton Peacock, Wilmington Super

Carrie Foster, right above, Roanoke Rapids, receiving 50 member recruiting award from Gov. Jerry Medlin

NCE Optimist Convention

August 22-25, 2013 Bay Watch Towers, North Myrtle Beach, SC

The convention for this year will be in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina at the Bay Watch Resort. The dates are August 22-25, 2013.



Dan Durham

The district team is looking forward to seeing you at the beach.

Dan Durham
Convention Chair



Greetings Fellow Optimists. I have good news and bad news. First the bad. Our organization is in desperate need of our help. We are currently down by over 2800 members Internationally and our District is down by 85 members (as of 8/13/2013). Search your communities for civic minded people, such as yourselves, and ask them to join you in serving kids.

Now the good news. This is my final newsletter article as Membership Chair. Between serving as Governor and Membership Chair for the past 4 years, I've tried to encourage growth in as positive way as I knew how. We've had our ups and downs, but overall I feel we've been a great supporter of our organization in bringing in new volunteers. Please support Governor Errol Warren and new Membership Chair, Barbara Timmons. Most importantly, keep in mind why we need new members. It's all about helping the KIDS!

Mind you, I'm not going anywhere. I'll still be serving in the District in a new role. "Remember, membership is an honor and privilege.....so SHARE it"

Auston Pusey

Membership Chair



Auston Pusey
Membership Chair

Goldsboro Optimist host "Optimist Kids Fun Day"



Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina



Gary Pender
District Boys & Girls
Home Chair



Gary Pender, left, receiving the Boys & Girls Home Walt Armentrout Award. Presented by B&G Home representative, Ray Cockrell



JOOI

JOOI clubs are truly something Optimists everywhere can be proud of. JOOI clubs do, "Bring Out The Best in Kids". And did you know that new JOOI clubs are sprouting up at a rate nearly twice that of adult clubs.

It is a good feeling being part of the JOOI program. Have you thought of contributing a little of your time to give more young people the opportunity to be in a JOOI club? You just need to make a connection with someone in your local school or with a neighbor that is active in school programs or perhaps your church. Identifying a school faculty or staff member can be a challenge since most are already carrying a heavy schedule but often it is the really busy person that will take on one more project.

At this point you have accomplished the most challenging aspect of starting a new JOOI Club! That's because there is usually lots of enthusiastic students ready and willing to volunteer including taking on the Club leadership roles.

Your reward is seeing the students make your effort a success. With a little encouragement along the way, it is the students that handle the organizing details like advertising the program in the school, conducting meetings, and deciding on community projects to support or maybe starting a new project.

To get started take a few minutes, seek out an Optimist JOOI program member... you too can make a difference.

David Fritz,

District JOOI Chair



Third Quarter Board Meeting, May 18, Hampton Inn, Wilson





Luncheon meal for May board meeting prepared by Bennett Optimist, George Lamm, Pres. Shown preparing drink, Bennett Optimist members, from left Doug Lamm and Ricky Wester.

Friday Night Dinner Together at 2nd Board Meeting



2nd Quarter 2012-2013 A&A Winners

Top Ten Clubs



From Left: No. 1, Goldsboro, Gary Pender; No. 2, Northern Wake, Barbara Timmons; No. 3, Cape Fear, Bennie Bass; No. 4, Wilmington Supper, Al Ludlum; No. 5, South Johnston, David Bast.



From left; No.. 6, Wake Forest, Cathy Potter; No. 7, Wilson Evening, Will Tyson; No. 8, Golden Circle, Diane Johnson; No. 9, Tie, Rocky Mount Evening, Sam Toler; and Washington, Lou Anna Hardee.

Top Clubs in Each Zone

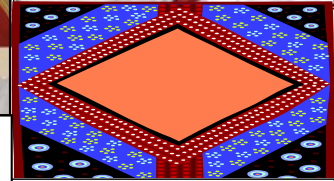


From left; Zone 1, Cape Fear, Al Ludlum; Zone 2, Duplin, Joan Williams; Zone 3, Goldsboro, Billy Edgerton; Zone 4, Wilson Evening, Will Tyson, Zone 5, Rocky Mount Evening, Sam Toler; Zone 6, Northern Wake, Barbara Timmons.

Top Lt. Governors



From left. 1st, Zone 5, Lt. Governor, Jennifer Timmons (Standing in Barbara Timmons); 2nd, Zone 3 Lt. Governor, Lou Anna Hardee; 3rd, Zone 5, Lt. Governor Yancey Hines.



Dan Durham
District A&A Chair



COMMUNICATION CONTEST for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL 



CCDHH Winner: From left; Heather Allandice, mother of Zoe Allandice, CCDHH winner and Billy Edgerton, District CCDHH Chair. Initial contest held at the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf, May 9, 2013, in Wilson, sponsored by the Goldsboro Optimist.

OI Convention, Cincinnati

Sandy Cyphers, Past Vice President, MidAtlantic Region, receives three awards from OI Past President Jack Creswell for her accomplishments in 2011-2012



Past VP Sandy Cyphers receiving award for #1 Vice President 2011-2012 from OI Past President Jack Creswell.



Sandy with awards received at OI Convention in Cincinnati, OH. Presidents "100% Award And Then Some."



Sandy, receiving congratulations hug from Past Pres. Jack Creswell and Governor Jerry Medlin, second from right receiving "Builder of Excellence" awards.



Current Governors being introduced on stage at OI Convention in Cincinnati, 5th from left, our Governor, Jerry Medlin.

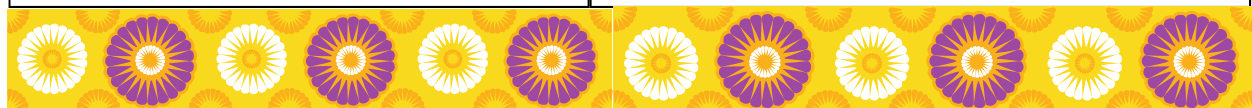


Governors for the 2013-2014 year are introduced on stage at the convention. North Carolina East Governor is Governor Elect, Errol Warren, 5th from right and Melissa Skinner, 4th from right.



Governor Jerry Medlin on stage at Cincinnati to receive distinguished Governor Award.

Builder of Excellence awards included presentation to NCE Roanoke Rapids Past Lt. Gov., Carrie Foster, far right..



NEW CLUB BUILDING IN THE N.C. EAST DISTRICT....

A MUST AND A NECESSITY!!!!

YEAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH.....

Another optimist year is coming to an end...as the saying goes..."It seems just like yesterday that we were beginning the New Year". My, My how times does fly...with only a little over a month left a lot of work in this district remains unfinished in order to receive the recognition as a DISTINGUISHED OPTIMIST DISTRICT, but most importantly to share and afford other people in communities the opportunity to be optimist members. I am only one person and cannot do the job along...I need the team of North Carolina East Optimists to work together to make our district successful again. This district has given birth to two new clubs within the last month....The Elm City Optimist Club and the Monkey Junction Sports Optimist Club. These clubs will work in "Bringing Out The Best In Kids" in their respective communities I have no doubt. They are comprised of a group of energetic, enthusiastic, dedicated and motivated new optimist members. So yes, two if not more clubs can be finalized prior to September 30th. It is important that we as optimists and the clubs in this district work with these new clubs and any new club built to help them survive and grow in optimism. I am willing to work with each of you..to share my knowledge, my time and passion to take optimism to other communities....all you have to do is ASK. Lets finish this optimist year in the plus+++++



Sandy Cyphers

Leadership and NCB Chair

Remember optimists are for and about kids.....think about it? More clubs...more kids to participate in sports, oratorical, essay, J.O.O.I, OIJGC..the list is unlimited...

WE MUST ACHIEVE!.....WE WILL SUCCEED!.....I BELIEVE WE CAN!

I ask you to work with me and other optimists the next few weeks to deliver new optimist clubs in our districtto share with others what we as optimists already know... BEING AN OPTIMIST IS A REWARDING AND GRATIFYING EXPERIENCE.....WE NEED TO FINISH STRONG!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sandy Cyphers,
District Chair , New Club Building

NEW CLUB BUILDING

Elm City Optimist Chartered July 29, 2013



Elm City Optimist club, chartered July, 29, 2013. Front Row from left; Lisa Craven, board member; Donna Upchurch, Treasurer; Betty Dyke, President; Jonathan Russell, Vice President; Shannon Russell, Secretary.

Back row, from left.; Mary Ellen Bass, Beth Boykin, Judy Elks, Fletcher Duke, Christy Bissette, Eddie Doll and Melvin Cooke.

Also charter members but absent when photo was taken, Debra Bass, Claudia Spenser, Frank Woche, Susan Woche and Michael Rabil.

From left Jimmy Lamm, Lt. Gov. Zone 4, represent co-sponsor **Wilson Evening**, Linda Shepherd, representing co-sponsor **Golden Circle**, Sandy Cyphers, OI Representative overseeing charter meeting and Sharron Russell new club secretary.



District Essay Contest

How can I Help My Friends Realize Their Value

District Winner

Madison Caroline Chandler

Sponsored by Chapel Hill Optimist



It is a Wednesday afternoon, 4:30pm. Rain beats against the windows as I sit in the back of a dimly-lit classroom, tutoring a tenth-grade girl in math. She sighs, frustrated, glancing around at her classmates, mostly already finished with their homework and carelessly chatting away. She has a test the next day, but she just isn't getting it. She has expressed to me several times how much she hates math, and how dumb she feels in class. She can't ever seem to get the right answer, and she doesn't know why. She feels hopeless, worthless.

I grab the review packet she is working on, flipping through it and gaining her attention. She looks up at me with a defeated look on her face, on the verge of a breakdown.

"Hey listen to me," I say, giving her a reassuring grin. "We can do this— you can do this!"

We worked for the remainder of the afternoon on the packet, carefully solving each equation and writing down every key step. Towards the end, we reached a problem similar to the one we had been practicing. She looked up at me and smiled, letting me know that she had this one under control. I watched as her hand flew furiously across the page, scribbling numbers while at the same time pressing the tiny buttons on her calculator. When she had finished, she looked up at me, glowing with pride and eyes bright with understanding.

"Ok, maybe I'm not so bad at math after all."

Since that day, I have had several similar experiences in which others were able

(Continued on page 17)

to see what they were really capable of. Because of moments like these, helping others realize their true potential has become one of my strongest passions. While the girl I tutored was not necessarily one of my best friends, I still consider her a friend nonetheless. In fact, the term “friends” does not have to refer exclusively to my closest pals – it can also mean my peers, my acquaintances, and those people whom I interact throughout the course of the day. Everyone is worth something, and there is nothing more rewarding than making it a priority to help people realize their true value.

To me, the term “value” has a triple meaning in the context of helping others. First, it refers to my friends’ value to me – their friendship, their loyalty, and all of the qualities they possess which make them an important part of my life. In order to help them to see how much they matter to me, it is imperative that I let them know how appreciative I am of them. I can take the time to tell them how much they mean to me, show them my appreciation by reciprocating their loyalty and trust, or simply treat them with the respect they deserve as a friend.

Second, is their value to others and to society – their worth as seen in the eyes of the outside world. Everyone is gifted in some way, and helping others to realize their strengths and abilities empowers them to become the best person they can be. By letting people know that they can become valuable members of the world, the world in turn is a better place. Whether it be through small compliments, acknowledgement of accomplishments, or simply an encouraging word when needed, taking the time to help others develop confidence and awareness of their place in society is something of great importance to me.

The last of the three meanings of “value” is the value of my friends to themselves. Self-awareness and self-respect are qualities which, when cultivated, lead to a fulfilling and meaningful existence. I know from experience that self-awareness and confidence are often hard to come by, so any chance I get to let people know how important it is to love yourself is a chance to make an impact in someone’s life.

For everyone of my friends who has ever felt hopelessly or worthless, I want to be able to say that I played some part (be it big or small) in their journey of self-respect and a full realization of their value. When people realize how much they mean to me, to the world, and to themselves, they will hopefully all feel the same way that tenth-grade girl did on the Wednesday afternoon – that they can do anything, and that maybe they’re not so bad after all.

2nd Place winner:

Lydia Pierce

Sponsored by Raleigh Optimist

As society increasingly encourages the individual to undertake egocentric lifestyle, the meaning of the word friend is being undermined. All too often, we fancy that friendship is merely a relationship with another person in which we expect to benefit in some way. In contrast, Noah Webster defines the word friend this way, *“One who entertains for another sentiments of esteem, respect and affection, which lead him to desire his company, and to seek to promote his happiness and prosperity”* (Webster). Fundamentally, being a considerate companion involves understanding how to help your friend realize his unique importance and worth. There are essentially three ways this can be accomplished: by demonstrating you genuinely value your friend as he is, by encouraging him to pursue his potential, and finally, by taking the initiative to serve him because of who he is.

During his opening season with the Brooklyn Dodgers, Jackie Robinson, the first African-American accepted into Major League Baseball, often encountered ridicule and racial taunts from jeering crowds (Morris). At one point in the game, the crowd became excessively aggressive after Robinson fumbled two ground balls (Waitley). As Robinson stood humiliated on second base, his white teammate PeeWee Reese strode over to Robinson. Reaching his friend, Reese compassionately put his arm around Jackie’s shoulder (Morris). With this simple but profound act of affirmation, Reese fearlessly proclaimed his deep respect and devotion for Jackie despite the color of his skin. Recalling the event, Jackie Robinson stated, *“Pee Wee kind of sensed the sort of helpless dead feeling in me and came over and stood beside me for a while. He didn’t say a word, but he looked over at the chaps who were yelling at me and just stared... I will never forget it”* (“Two Men”). Ultimately, the sincere act of accepting a person for who he is as an individual, regardless of his faults, beliefs, quirks, or background, allows him to recognize his significance.

William Arthur Ward states, *“Flatter me, and I may not believe you. Criticize me, and I may not like you, Ignore me, and I may not forgive you. Encourage me, and I will not forget you”* (Ward). Here, Ward reveals another responsibility of a true friend. Encouragement is one of the most powerful declarations of value one can bestow on a friend. All Olympic champions possess some source of encouragement, whether it is from a coach, parent, or friend. A once successful Olympian asserts, *“I don’t think friends and*

family realize how important they can be to a performance. Knowing I could count on their support grounded me, and kept me focused on my job" (McCann). Encouragement supplies your friend with fortitude and courage to press on and face the obstacles of life.

The ultimate avenue for affirming your friend's worth is by serving him unconditionally. For most, taking the initiative to serve is a foreign concept. All too often, the desire to fulfill our own ambitions causes us to overlook the needs of a friend. Service is usually a sacrifice and rarely convenient. One finds such sacrificial love in the biblical account of Jonathan and David's comradeship. During the years after he slayed the giant Goliath, David's life was in constant jeopardy as King Saul sought to have him killed (ESV, 1 Samuel 19:1-24). In contrast, Saul's son Jonathan recognized David's courage and integrity. Hence, he devotedly committed his service to David (I Samuel 18:1-4). At the expense of risking his own life, Jonathan protected David from Saul's jealousy because he considered the life of David more significant than his own (I Samuel 20:1-42). Such selfless service is rare but possible. Essentially, as a companion it is your duty to serve, and your service is an expression of your love, and your love is a declaration of your friend's value.

Fundamentally, a true friend is someone who is passionate about securing the success of his companion and is willing to do this at all costs. PeeWee Reese accepted Jackie Robinson. Countless coaches, parents, and friends have faithfully encouraged athletes to pursue the prize. In brotherly love, Jonathan committed his service to David. Each of these examples illustrates that in order to truly reveal the significance of a friend you must choose to steadfastly affirm, enthusiastically encourage and thoughtfully serve. In return, as St. Francis of Assisi asserts, *...it is in giving that we receive*" ("Francis of Assisi").

Third Place:

Casey Sokolovic

Sponsored by Greenville Optimist

By first defining what is a friend and establishing what my value is, I can then help my friends realize their own value. My value system and how I value myself has been taught to me by my family, my friends, my peers, and a community support network. These lessons have been molded into what helps to shape the way I act and how I choose to live my life. This support network has demonstrated and helped to teach

me what a friendship means and helped me establish my own sense of values. Positive role modeling, encouragement, constructive corrective advice and support are how I conduct myself in order to be a good friend to others.

I have learned from winning and losing and success and failure. With this combination, I have developed a sense of and answer the questions who am I, where am I, and what do I want to achieve. My family is my guidepost and I rely on them to help me maintain my focus and direction. With this type of support I, in turn, can be a similar guidepost for my friends.

A friendship is developed over time through shared experiences, spending enough time to get to know a person, shared interests, similar goals, and often, forged, through good time and bad times.

I help my friends realize their value by the methods I have been taught: encouragement and providing support, being a role model, and a willingness to give them "tough love" telling them the truth, even if it is difficult to hear. A friend is willing to stand alone.

Sincere encouragement and being a support system, I have found, is an important way to help a friend realize their value. People always say, "You can do it!" or "I know you got this!" too many times to where it loses its meaning. By recalling a specific event and reminding them about it helps and is more sincere, which will reinforce that they can accomplish their goals. Also, by supporting your friend in difficult situations and guiding them through helps them see their potential. Through encouragement, support and belief in them, I can raise their confidence and self-esteem so they know they can accomplish any task and believe in their abilities.

One of the best ways to help my friend realize their value is by my action as a role model. Being a role model and doing the right thing speaks more than words. If I can be a role model to my friends, then they will subconsciously act similarly. By my friends acting properly and realizing it, this will help them realize their value not just as a friend, but as a person, too. Working hard in school, volunteering, offering sound advice in a positive manner, and not engaging in risky or dangerous activities are influential actions.

Friends, of people who call themselves friends, often avoid giving negative feedback or criticism because they do not want to upset or cause conflict. However difficult, offering constructive corrective advice or giving your honest assessment of a friend's behavior is an act of true friendship. Instead of trying to save their emotions

and bring them down, tell them the truth to help them know what they need to do, whether it is for a personal situation or just a matter of a shirt looks good on them. They will realize their value by knowing that telling them the truth in difficult situations is the best thing to do and they will know that you are good friends.

Friendship is more than texting, hanging out, playing sports together and going to the same school. It is about investing time to get to know someone, shared value sets, similar future goals and dreams, a willingness to be there in good times and bad, offering advice in a "tough love" situation when needed, and being willing to stand alone and be counted on to be honest, even if it might not be the popular thing to do. Being a true friend is not easy; it requires dedication and a lot of love for that person. To be there for them, you have to know your value and support them, that is what makes a real friend. Encouragement, support, roles modeling, and telling the truth are just aspects of helping friend to realize their true value. You cannot choose family, but you can choose your friends.



Contestants



From left: Chandler Hicks; sponsored by Cape Fear; Chelsi Odom; sponsored by Chapel Hill; Lauren Anne DiMuzio; sponsored by Whiteville; Janae Brown; sponsored by Golden Circle .



From Left: Tierra Marsh; sponsored by Wake Forest; Adam Dietrich; sponsored by Greenville; Elizabeth Clayborne; sponsored by Henderson; Elizabeth Anne Hensley; sponsored by Whiteville;



From left: Annabell Webb; sponsored by Henderson; Katherine Kirby; sponsored by the Golden Circle; Martha-Scott Benson; sponsored by Golden Circle; Max Masterson; sponsored by Carteret; April Hopkins; sponsored by Cape Fear.

NCE District Oratorical Contest Winners



From left: First Place and winner of \$2,500 Scholarship
 Adam Dietrich - sponsored by the Greenville Optimist
 Second Place and winner of \$ 1,500 Scholarship
 Chelsi Odom - sponsored by the Chapel Hill Optimist
 Third Place and winner of \$1,000 Scholarship
 Max Masterson - sponsored by the Carteret Optimist



Darrell Fulcher, District Oratorical Contest Chair

Childhood Cancer Campaign



The month of July has been very busy with special activities. Three members of the Chapel Hill Club sponsored a Watermelon Party and Seed Spitting Contest for the kids at Duke's Camp Kaleidoscope. Thirty-six patient campers and their medical staff counselors tested their skills at the long distance challenge and the bulls-eye accuracy event. Prizes

were handed out to all the participants. "Camp K" is hosted by Duke Hospital for children with chronic and terminal illnesses, including childhood cancer. This was the 34th year that this camp experience has been offered by Duke.

UNC hosted a talent night featuring the teen cancer patients. On display were pictures the teenagers had taken with cameras provided by the clinic. Many pictures were of scenes in their lives, special places they visited and special people in their lives. Each child had a chance to shine as they provided the entertainment with songs, raps and playing their instruments.

A recent visit to the Chapel Hill club by Jessica Ivens, a child life specialist at UNC Childrens Hospital, outline several needs that our clubs could help fill. The Chapel Hill Woodturners Club has made 50 wooden finger tops that will be delivered to the patients at the hospital. Each child will be able to personalize the top by coloring it themselves.

We will have the annual Rubber Duck Race for Childhood Cancer on Saturday August 24 at the convention in North Myrtle Beach. All the funds raised will be for the research at Johns Hopkins Hospital for a leukemia vaccine. Tickets for the ducks are \$10 per duck, or \$25 for three ducks. You do not need to be present to win. The ducks will hit the water at 4:30pm in the outdoor Lazy River. Priz-

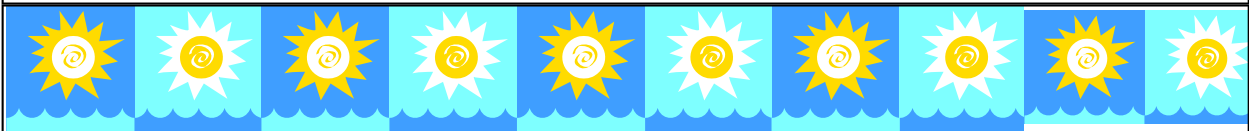


es will be presented at the dinner later. First prize is \$100, 2nd is \$50 and 3rd is \$25. Tickets will be on sale up until race time. Come join the fun!

September is National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. There have been several high profile cases in the news lately that have brought more attention to the children affected by cancer. Some of the best news is that we have reached a 95% cure rate with leukemia. As good as that is, more children will die from cancer than from the next four deadly diseases combined. We can help in many ways that are very simple. What can you and your club do to raise awareness for this awful disease?, How can you help these kids through this difficult time in their lives with your programs and funding?

Trish Verne

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



Al Ludlum

OI Foundation

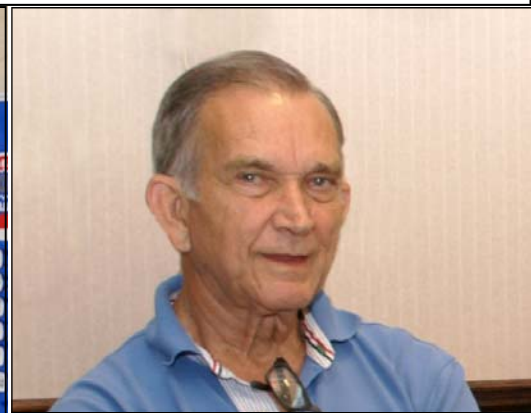
Dime-A-Day donors:

Sandy Cyphers	Jerry & Jean Medlin	David Heath
Darrell & Debra Fulcher	Lester and Carolyn Craft	Marc Smith
Don and Judy Harritan	Terry Wicks	Bobby Hensley
Gary & Louanna Pender	Yancey Hines	Wayne Sidelinger

Most of you have heard me say many times how important the Foundation is to our organization. Many of the things we do could not be done without the funding from the Foundation. Having said that, let me thank you for what you have done already



Gov. Jerry present OIO Foundation \$365.00 award to Duplin Optimist, Joan Williams.



Billy Edgerton, OIF District Chair



\$500 patch plus print to Cape Fear, Al Ludlum and Auston Pusey



Print and Distinguished Benefactor, Raleigh Dinner, Carlton Baird.

for the Foundation. Our district (Optimist members and clubs) is very generous in giving to the Foundation. We are generally in the top ten in total amount given and in dollars per member given. We are just barely hanging in there now at tenth and ninth place, respectively. I'm confident that, after our convention, we will remain in the top ten for the year. There are members and clubs that are waiting for the convention to make a donation. Please don't forget to bring your checks. ONCE MORE, THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO TO HELP THE FOUNDATION "HELP OPTIMIST HELP KIDS".

THANKS, BILL EDGERTON



OIF Patch & Print to Goldsboro, Gary



OIF Patch and Print to Rocky Mount Evening, Sam Toler



OIF Print to Whiteville, David Heath



OIF Print to Raleigh, Dayne Brown

OIF Plate for \$200 plus donation:

- Darrell & Debbie Fulcher
- Gary & Louwanna Pender
- Don & Judy Harritan
- Yancey and Nancy Hines

**North Carolina East District
Optimist International
Third Quarter District Meeting
Hampton Inn & Suites I-95, Wilson, NC
District Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, May 18, 2013**

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

Jerry Medlin	Governor
Errol Warren	Governor Elect
Barbara Timmons	District Secretary-Treasurer
Bennie Bass	Lt. Governor Zone 1
Lou Anna Hardee	Lt. Governor Zone 3
Jimmy Lamm	Lt. Governor Zone 4
Yancey Hines	Lt. Governor Zone 5

The following clubs were represented:

Zone 1-Cape Fear; Zone 2-Whiteville, Duplin, Laurinburg

Zone 3-Goldsboro, Greenville

Zone 4-Golden Circle, Wilson Evening

Zone 5-Henderson, Roanoke Rapids, Rocky Mount Evening, Rocky Mount Breakfast

Zone 6- Raleigh, Raleigh Dinner, Garner, Chapel Hill, Southern Wake, Northern Wake, Wake Forest, South Johnston

Governor Jerry Medlin called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was cited by all.

Invocation was given by Billy Edgerton.

Governor Jerry welcomed our 1st timers and asked them to stand and be recognized. He also recognized our Past Governors and Past International Vice Presidents.

Second Quarter Board Meeting Minutes were reported by Barbara Timmons. Motion to accept made by Gary Pender of Goldsboro – second by Sam Tolar of Rocky Mount Evening – Approved.

Second Quarter Financial Report was made by Barbara Timmons. Motion to accept made by Gary Pender of Goldsboro - second by Bruce Andrews of Garner – Approved.

District Oratorical Chair Darrell Fulcher discussed the events for today in holding the District Oratorical Contest which will begin promptly at 10:00 AM. He thanked and introduced the team which has helped with the contest which includes: Governor Jerry Medlin, Gary Pender, Jimmy Lamm, Bill and Jan Edgerton, Dawn Clark and Deborah Fulcher. He presented each with the Oratorical Medallion.

District OI Foundation Chair Billy Edgerton presented the OIF awards from the second quarter. He had an alter call and thanked everyone for their continued support.

District Membership Chair Auston Pusey and Governor Jerry presented district T-shirts and Governor Pins to each member that sponsored a new member in the 2nd quarter. Auston advised he will be sending out the 4th quarter incentive. During the 3rd quarter, each member that sponsors a new member will have their name in a drawing for free convention lodging.

District A&A Chair Dan Durham and Governor Jerry recognized the awards for the 2nd quarter club achievements.

District Convention Chair Dan Durham gave us an update on the convention which will be held at the Bay Watch Resort in North Myrtle Beach, SC. There will be a convention committee meeting immediately following this district meeting.

District Bulletin Chair Wayne Sidelinger advised that he would keep his request short and sweet! Please send more pictures!

District Junior Golf/Webmaster/Internet Safety Chair Allan Ludlum advised that the Jr Golf tournament is re-scheduled for June 15 & 16 in Laurinburg and he advised of the benefits as well. Hole sponsors for \$100 will be needed and the players cost is \$100. Allan also advised that he has dvd's of the internet safety program and would be glad to send them to anyone that wanted them. There are no changes in this program. He asked that each club send him the link to their web site, facebook page and their bulletins so that he may get this on our district web site.

Governor Jerry reported on the status of New Club Building for our district and the need to continue to move forward in building these clubs for the children in each community. He also discussed the need for member re-

tention and will be sending out new incentives for the 4th quarter by the end of June.

Boys and Girls Home at Lake Waccamaw Representative Gary Pender introduced Ray Cockrell and they reported on the home and what they are doing now. They thanked us for the donations from the clubs. Ray reminded us that “Optimist make a difference”! Gary thanked us for our participation April 13 on Optimist work day at the campus. He also thanked Whiteville Optimist for providing and preparing the meal. They had alter call.

Governor Elect Errol Warren thanked us for the opportunity to serve as our Governor in 2013-2014. He is getting his team members in place and looks forward to working with us. He reminded us to get our club officer elect reports in by May 20th and that we will be holding our Lt. Governor elections today. Please keep these important positions in mind. He reminded us “Let your actions speak louder than our words”.

Governor Jerry discussed correct membership record keeping in relation to our members participating in our events. These members **MUST BE ON THE ROSTER**. Our club membership dues pay for the liability insurance.

We took a break from 9:40 AM to 9:50 AM.

We reconvened and prepared for the District Oratorical Contest. It was held at 10 AM and concluded at 11:28 AM.

OI Ambassador and PGI Chair Carey Foster advised that the dates of the international convention are July 4-7 and will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio. Carey encouraged our clubs to send their club officer elects to the conven-

tion. He also talked on the possibility of a train ride if any of us would be interested. There were no new levels of achievements for PGI this time.

District JOOI/College Club Chair David Fritz recognized the Wake Forest Optimist on their new JOOI club at Wake Forest High School. He also reminded us that there are a few “potential new JOOI members” in our audience! David also advised he will be working with Yancey Hines, Bob Hassebrock, Dennis Will and Joe King on new clubs.

CCC District Chair Trish Verne shared the different events that our clubs had participated in and talked about the surgery dolls, “bling” hats for teen girls and the pillow cases that were made and donated. She reminded us of the “Duck Race” that will take place at the District Convention. The ducks will be \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Also, she has with her CCC pins which is for sale \$10 each. She shared with us the facts about cancer for children addressing survival, number affected and the cost to treat. She took an alter call.

Governor Jerry thanked each of us for being a part of the district meeting and for our work toward growing our district. He gave instructions for each zone to gather in designated areas and hold Lt. Governor elections. The elections started at 11:58 AM.

We stopped for lunch at 12:30 pm. Thanks to the Wilson Evening Optimist Club for preparing and serving lunch today.

District Essay Chair Bruce Andrews presented the winners.

District CCDHH Chair Billy Edgerton presented the winner.

District Oratorical Chair Darrell Fulcher presented the winners, introduced the judges and presented them with medallions. Each judge was given time to answer questions and give remarks.



George Lamm of the Wilson Evening Optimist Club thanked us for the opportunity to serve lunch. He advised the proceeds will benefit CCC for their club. His club also donated door prizes.

Governor Jerry again congratulated each participant in the contest that was celebrated today. He concluded by thanking everyone for their support of this important program today and their club participation. He also gave a last call for the 50/50 draw. Then proceeded to draw tickets for the \$ winner and the door prize winners.

We closed with the Optimist Creed recited by all.

Barbara Timmons

District Secretary-Treasurer



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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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