



Vol. 12 Issue 1 November 2013



North Carolina East

Optimist News

October 20, 2013

Hello Optimist Friends,

There is no denying that the Optimist year 2013 -14 has begun. All you have to do is look around in our District. You will see that most clubs have installed their new officers, made committee assignments, begun fundraising and are busy promoting Optimism. Lt. Governors have scheduled club visits, conducted annual club planning conferences and have already held Zone meetings. District chairpersons have also been busy sending emails, outlining goals and offering assistance. They have been charged to do anything they can to help YOU be successful this year.

OI President Ron Huxley has made the 2013-14 Optimist theme-“My Optimism” – MO! In a recent article President Ron wrote:

“There are as many reasons why we are Optimists as there are members. You get out of being an Optimist member what you put into it. Choose to make a positive difference today. Share Optimism with others and invite someone you know to participate in service with you.

To “put his money where his mouth is” (so to speak),

President Ron has proposed the following Recruitment incentive. If you add 3 new Optimists to your club in a quarter, your name will be placed in a drawing each quarter for a chance to win \$250.00 that will be presented to your club for youth activities in your name. The youth activity, individuals and club will be featured in OI publications and the OI website.

30 under 30: (\$30 annual OI dues for those new members under 30 years old) will continue all year. This is an incentive to recruit younger members which



may bring new ideas and new energy into your club.

Watch us Grow...WUG: Make a difference in every club and every community. In the first month of every quarter, please compile a list of potential members. The third week of the 2nd month will be designated "Recruitment Week" throughout OI. You need to approach the people on your list. Note that any and all approaches should make a potential member feel wanted and ignite in them a desire to join your club. Sign them up and watch our numbers grow. Use the last month of every quarter to give each one of these new Optimists their first job.

In addition there are District Incentives for membership. These incentives will recognize retention as well as continuous growth and will be in the form of paid District dues and Convention registrations!

I am looking forward to our First Quarter District Meeting on November 8 – November 9, 2013.

Please support the Boys and Girls home auction on Friday night (November 8th). Let's live up to Ray Cockrell's "Optimists Get It Done." Ray, you really should change that to "NC East Optimists get it done!" Thanks in advance to Sandy Cyphers and Barbara Timmons for conducting training on membership and PGI leadership. We will also "Spotlight a Club", which is an opportunity for a club to showcase a project or fundraiser. This quarter the spotlight is on Goldsboro and their "Computers for Kids Program".

Remember to say "Thank You" to the members in your club for their efforts. Think big, act bold, be Optimistic and let's grow Optimism with an "expect only the best" approach. Make your actions speak louder than words!

Optimistically yours,

Errol Warren, Governor



North Carolina East Officers being installed at Convention in North Myrtle Beach

Lt. Governors 2013—2014



Zone 1 Lt. Governor Bennie Bass, Cape Fear



Zone 2 Lt. Governor Judy Harriman, Whiteville



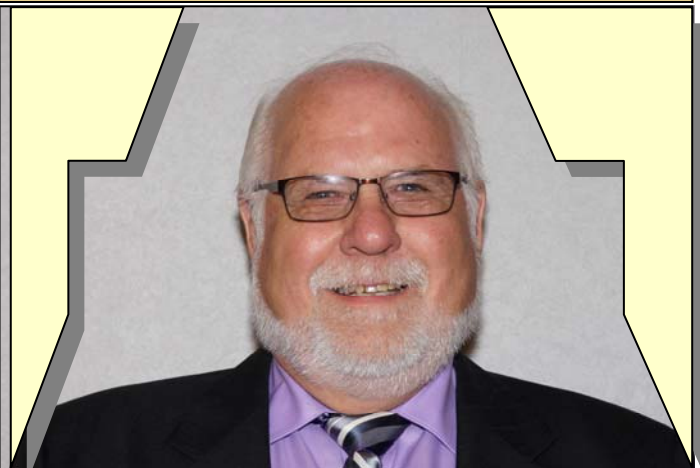
Zone 4 Lt. Gov. Louwanna Pender, Goldsboro



Zone 4 Lt. Governor Carol Collier, Golden Circle



Zone 5 Lt. Governor Jim Hart, Rocky Mount Eve.



Zone 6 Lt. Governor David Bast, Southern Wake

Officers for 2013—2014



Executive leaders for 2013—2014. From Left; Melissa Skinner, Governor Errol Warren, Secretary/Treasurer Al Ludlum, Janie Ludlum, Janice Lamm, Governor Elect Jimmy Lamm.



From left: Robin Bass, Zone 1 Lt. Governor Bennie Bass; Zone 2 Lt. Governor Judy Harritan, Don Harritan; Zone 3 Lt. Governor Louwanna Pender, Gary Pender.



Zone 4 Lt. Governor Carol Collier; Zone 5 Lt. Governor Jim Hart; Zone 6, Mickey Bast, Lt. Governor David Bast.

J.O.O.I.
JUNIOR OPTIMIST OCTAGON
INTERNATIONAL

I've got that JOOI, JOOI, JOOI, JOOI down in my heart.....how about we have that JOOI, JOOI, JOOI, JOOI in the North Carolina East District. How I wish our district could build and grow JOOI Clubs...by doing so we could grow our adult membership...think about it...the young join a JOOI Club..have fun being involved in the community with projects and meeting other youth and then they age out.....YEAH.....then what happens? THEY JOIN AN ADULT OPTIMIST CLUB...who knows..it may be a club in the North Carolina East or one in another district...wherever, their membership, involvement and participation would help keep this organization alive, growing and continuing for future generations.

Did you know that JOOI stands for Junior Optimist Octagon International and is a service-leadership organization? This organization connects all the Optimist JOOI Clubs throughout the United States, Canada, France and the Caribbean. JOOI's mission is an all inclusive youth organization that embraces the positive values of optimism, respect for self and others, and independence of mind through the unlimited opportunities of community service and partnership with Optimist International.

There are unlimited reasons for adult clubs to sponsor JOOI Clubs...

1. Provide positive alternatives to negative influences, like gangs and drugs
2. Help youth learn about citizenship, teamwork, communication and self-esteem
3. Involve youth in community service
4. Provide leadership training skills for youth
5. Make a difference in a youth's life..Bring Out The Best In Kids!

When an adult club forms a JOOI Club....EVERYONE IS A WINNER!

I'm here as the JOOI District Chairman and as a member of the International JOOI Committee to help your club and this district be a winner...Lets take the bull by the horn, get on the ball and BUILD MORE JOOI CLUBS...

I would be glad to visit your clubs and make a short power point presentation referencing JOOI Clubs. If you are interested in JOOI or have any questions please contact me....



Sandy Cyphers
 N.C. East District JOOI
 Chairman



Governor's Reception at Bay Watch Towers in August.

2nd Quarter 2012-2013 A&A Winners

Top 10 Clubs



No. 1, Duplin, Joan Williams; No 2, Goldsboro, Madison Howell; No. 3, Cape Fear, Robin Bass; No. 4, South Johnston, David Bast; No. 5, Roanoke Rapids, Carey Foster.



From Left: No. 6, Northern Wake, Barbara Timmons; No. 7, Greenville, Lou Anna Hardee; No. 8, Rocky Mount Evening, Sam Toler; No. 9, Wilson Evening, Horace Goff; No. 10, Wilson Golden Circle, Carol Collier.

Top Clubs In Each Zone



Zone 1, Cape Fear, Robin Bass; Zone 2, Duplin Joan Williams; Zone 3, Goldsboro, Madison Howell; Zone 4, Wilson Evening, Horace Goff; Zone 5, Roanoke Rapids, Carey Foster; Zone 6, Northern Wake, David Bast.

2nd Quarter A&A Winners

Top Lt. Governors



No. 1, Zone 5 Lt. Governor Yancey Hines; No. 2, Zone 6 Jennifer Timmons, (Barbara Timmons), No. 3, Zone 3 Lt. Governor Lou Anna Hardee.



Wilson Evening Installation. From left. Front row. Leland Galloway, Treasurer; Ray Davis, Vice President; Wayne Sidelinger President; Lt. Governor Carol Collier, installing officer; Back row. George Lamm, Vice President; Doug Lamm Director; John Eberwein, V. President; Errol Warren, Governor, NC East District.



Random photos taken at NC Eat Convention in North Myrtle Beach in August.



Elm City Optimist Club at Charter Banquet. Newest Optimist Club in North Carolina East District



Carey Foster displaying photos taken while attending Optimist International Convention in Cincinnati Ohio in July.

District Club Services

Hello fellow Optimists, I'm Auston Pusey, Club Services chair for our East District. Below, you will find the criteria for achieving different levels of awards per Optimist International.

While our main focus shouldn't be on awards, I feel it is important to inform you of the availability and to encourage you to set your goals and go after them.

1. "Bringing Out The Best" Club.

Banner patch then year bar thereafter.

Complete at least 2 service project a year.

Submit President's Pride report.

Sponsor at least one member.

Be Current on District & OI Dues.

Recognize club member or local community individual.

2. Honor Club.

Banner Patch, year bar with Club President's name.

Thereafter a year bar with Club President's name.

Complete at least 3 service projects a year.

Submit President's Pride Report.

Recognize Club Member of local Community Individual.

Grow club by net plus 1.

Be current of District and O dues.

3. Distinguished Club

Watch for Club President and Secretary/Treasurer.

Banner patch with club presidents name.

Thereafter a year bar with club president's name and watch.

Meet Honor Club Criteria.

Net of plus 15 or Charter a New Club.

Good luck in your prospective leadership roles.

Auston Pusey

Club Services Chair 2013-2014



Governor's Reception at Convention in August.

District Leadership Development

Hello Optimists,

The 2013-14 Optimist Year is well underway and what an exciting time to be an Optimist and for me--to serve as the NC East Leadership Development Chair.

As you strive to 'Bring Out the Best in Kids" and to "Make Your Actions Speak Louder than Words," Governor Errol Warren and I have put together plans to offer training at each meeting for the upcoming year.

For those who were not in attendance at the NC East Annual Convention, this year we will be using a mentoring concept to help members grow through PGI and other OI programs. At the NC East First Quarter Meeting, we have two lovely ladies kicking off the training—Past International Vice President and Past Governor Sandy Cyphers and OI Certified Trainer and Past Governor Barbara Timmons.

One session on PGI, specifically Parliamentary Procedure with a special presenter from Barton College, will be conducted by Sandy. A session on Membership will be conducted by Barbara. Both sessions will run concurrently on Saturday immediately after lunch. It is our intent that this training will afford members an opportunity to grow and learn personally as well as help your club achieve points via the

Achievements and Awards Program.

Club Presidents, please encourage all your members especially your younger members to attend and participate in the training provided. While this is just a beginning, it does not stop here. At the NC East Second Quarter Meeting, plans are to continue with another PGI training session; and, two additional sessions of interest to all will be added. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Our goal is to continue acquainting/training members for leadership roles at the club and district level and our hope is that everyone leaves with a burning desire to help our clubs and district grow in our mission of providing hope and a positive vision for the youth in our communities.

Please let me know if I can assist you in anyway. I look forward to working with you as you "Make Your Actions Speak Louder Than Words!"

Yours in Optimism,

Lou Anna

Lou Anna Hardee



NC East District Optimist Membership

Hello Optimists and welcome to our new Optimist year 2013-2014! I hope this will be the best year ever for your club in growth and serving the children in your community!

Let's talk about growing your club . . . What are your membership needs this year? Would you be able to complete more projects if you just had a few more members? What about the members on your roster that are not coming to the meetings?

These are good questions and I want to help you get the answers! Let's start with your existing members – how can you get your members involved and coming to your meetings and events? Are you communicating with these members? How are you communicating with them? Get personal and make phone calls and send personal notes! Let them know they can help make a difference!

What about getting new members? Can you think of five people you come in contact with that would be good members? Do you have your “elevator speech” ready when someone ask what an Optimist is? Do you have your club brochure in hand when you are talking to people? When your club is completing a project, does the community know it is your club doing the work? What tools are you utilizing to get your club name out in the community?

Does your club need some “*Membership Magic*”? Your answer (I hope) is YES!!! Well, I invite you to stay for our “*Membership Magic*” training after the district meeting **or** invite me to your meeting for some training! Learn to utilize all the tools available to your club to increase your membership and complete more projects. **After all – the ultimate goal is to “serve more children”!**

Are you aware of the different types of membership? Regular, Life, College, FOO and 30/30! Did

you know that each club President can request a package of applications (100) free and FOO free applications free? Have you ordered yours? Equip each of your members with applications. At the Club President training during our District Convention, I challenged each Club President to call OI and request the application packs and if their club got all 100 applications completed and submitted by the next convention, Governor Errol and I will have a special incentive for you! Will your club be the one to receive that incentive? It will be exciting to see just which club will!

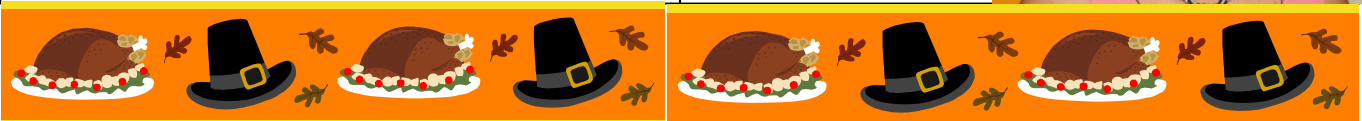
One tool that you should implement is the “New Optimist Welcome Program!”



I have brochures and this will be covered in the training. This is a strong tool and with the correct planning you can easily have this program each quarter and increase your membership! Interested?

This will be a year of growth for our organization and let's plan on getting our district out in the community serving more children!

Barbara Timmons
District Membership Chair



District Essay

“How Dreams Lead To Success”

This year's Essay Topic will be very interesting for the youth of our community to write about and just as interesting for us to read. It is very exciting to give kids an opportunity to use and improve their writing skills by entering our annual Optimist Essay Contest.

Now is a good time to begin contacting the schools and letting them know about our contest and also to set the date for your own club's contest. Remember, the deadline for submitting the winning club entry to the district is February 28, 2014 and since students will be out during Christmas, it would be wise to line up contestants prior to the Christmas break if possible, so that the students will have plenty of time to prepare and write their essay.

When contacting the Public Schools it may be helpful to go to the County Administration office first, if you don't already have good contacts for the schools. In most of the elementary schools there are AIG Teachers who normally head up the Essay Projects and in most high schools there is usually a Guidance Counselor or an English Teacher who will inherit the Essay Project. And don't forget about all the private schools and home-schools in your area. Some of our best essays in recent years have come from students attending private schools or home schools.

In our modern times of "texting" instead of formal writing let's give students a chance to use and im-

prove their formal writing skills. While "texting" is probably here to stay, most educators believe we need to also keep formal writing as a necessary skill and it seems most students don't have trouble "switching" between the two very different methods of writing if they have adequate opportunities.

Your club's essay chairman should have received a packet of information regarding the Essay Contest, but if you don't have it, you may also get the information from the OI site or by contacting me. I will be glad to help your club in any way - our goal is to get lots of great essays and to give one deserving student a \$2500 scholarship for the winning District Essay! Thanks for all your work on this important OI project!

Angela Iwaniuk

District Essay Chair

Email: ncangel49@aol.com

Phone: 252-289-5050



District Oratorical Contest

Topic: “How My Passions Impact the World”

It is hoped that all clubs in the district will participate in this year's Oratorical Contest. The contest is designed to inspire today's youth to motivate and inform others through the art of public speaking. It provides young people with the opportunity to compete for a college scholarship and express their views on a pre-assigned topic. More than \$150,000 in college scholarships is awarded annually through this program. The NCE District awards three scholarships: \$2500 (first place); \$1500 (second place); and \$1000 (3rd place).

How to Enter: Interested students should prepare a 4 to 5 minute speech on the pre-assigned topic to be presented at their local Optimist Club's contest. The speeches are judged at the Club level, Zone level, and then at the District level.

Applications, official rules, and a program guide are available from the Optimist International website www.optimist.org. The program guide contains full instructions and planning materials for organizing and conducting your Club's Oratorical Contest. All members can now view and conveniently print planning pages for any International Program from your home computer. To view the 2013-2014 District Oratorical Planning Pages, participant application, or other promotional material visit the Optimist International home page and click on scholarship programs.

Boys and girls who are under the age of 19 and who have not yet graduated from high school will compete together in a combined gender contest.

Topic: For the 2013 - 2014 contest, the topic is: “How My Passions Impact the World”

Length of Speech: The speech must be at least 4

minutes but not over 5 minutes in length.

Key Dates: The names of the zone oratorical contest winners must be provided to the District contest chair by May 1, 2014. See your Lieutenant Governor to find out when your Zone contest will be held.

Important: By May 5, 2014, the following three documents must be provided to the District contest chair:

Zone/Regional/District Entry Form

Copy of the applicant's proof of age (birth certificate or passport)

A typed, double-spaced copy of the speech.

The District Oratorical Contest will be held on May 17, 2014, at the 3rd quarter District meeting held at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Wilson, NC.

Some Hints on Getting Oratorical Contest Candidates

1. **START EARLY!** Most public, private, and charter schools set their curriculums and select their educational projects over the summer or early in the first part of the academic year. This makes it important for clubs to make these contests known to the faculty and staff at or before this time. Note that the Optimist Oratorical Contest is recommended by both the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the American Association of School Administrators. This endorsement can go a long way when your Club is requesting that principals and teachers offer this program to their students.

2. **Contacts** for each of the North Carolina public schools, charter schools, Google, Bing, Yahoo or private schools can be easily found by doing a search (search, or whatever you use on your computer). For example: search NC Public Schools, NC Charter Schools, or NC Private Schools. Or you can search more locally by typing in something like Wake County, NC Public Schools (or your local county or city) into

your search engine. The directory for North Carolina public schools is located at: www.ncpublicschools.org/nceddirectory

3. News releases are a good way to announce your upcoming contest and to recognize the winners (and publicize your Club's efforts) after the contest. A variety of sample news releases are available on the O.I. website. All you have to do is fill in the blanks! The news releases can be found at the following location: www.optimist.org/e/member/marketing3.cfm

4. You can inform the public of the availability of the contest through a public service announcement (PSA) on your local community radio station. A 30-second PSA on the Oratorical Contest can be downloaded from the O.I. website and delivered to the station. The Oratorical Contest PSA is located at: www.optimist.org/e/member/marketing4.cfm

5. Many clubs have had success in getting contest candidates through their home school organizations. Because the families who home school their children are usually more flexible in their curriculums, they are often open to trying something new. Their website is located at: www.nche.com

6. For Club Contests be sure to order medallions and certificates of participation from Optimist Supply (www.optimistsupply.com). Since you will have two representatives from your club advance to the Zone contest, it is recommended that two gold medals be awarded at the local club level. Also, it is suggested that you order a silver and bronze medal for the next highest finishers. Therefore, the two advancing contestants will be identified only as the gold medal winners and not identified as first and second place. This also applies to Zone Contests.

All of this information and more can be found in the 2013-2014 NCE District Handbook and Directory. It is time to get started.

Don Harritan

District Oratorical Chair

1108 Woodland Drive

Whiteville, NC 28472

Res.: 910-642-6467

Cell: 910-840-0339

Email: dharritan@ec.rr.com



Whiteville installs Officers for 2013-2014



From left: Don Smith, Director; Mark Smith, Director; Mark Harritan, President; Don Harritan, Sec/Treas; Brad Johnson, Director; Bobby Hensley, President Elect; David Heath, Past President. Not present are Directors, Glenda Wolfe, Evan Gore, and Eric Underwood

Childhood Cancer Campaign

Several clubs responded to the September Challenge issued by the Teenage Cancer Health Alliance of the Triangle. Donations received at Duke Pediatric Hematology/Oncology by October 31st were to be matched up to \$10,000. The Chapel Hill Club and the Whiteville Club responded to the challenge. Thanks to both these clubs and to any others that met the challenge.

The North Wake Club assisted Special Spaces of the Triangle with the bedroom renovation project of a very young stroke victim. Local TV has featured Caleon to call attention to the families' needs. Several businesses donate the supplies necessary to renovate these special children's rooms and playrooms with non-allergenic paints, furniture, and fabrics. The transformation of Caleon's room took place on November 2nd. Several local restaurants provided meals to help the workers get the job done in one day.

Dr. Stuart Gold, head of the UNC Pediatric Hematology/Oncology clinic visited the Chapel Hill Club recently. The best news about childhood cancer is the progress that has been made raising the cure rate of leukemia

to more than 90%. The not so good news is that with the population increases we have more cases of childhood cancers. Much of the success is because children can tolerate heavier doses of treatments than adults.



Thanks to the Rocky Mount Evening club, the Golden Circle Club, the Whiteville Club and the Cape Fear Club for their donations to the Childhood Cancer Campaign. Their club donations and the money raised at the Rubber Duck Race during the fourth quarter meeting totaled \$3,450 for cancer research. Thanks to all for your help.

Yours in Optimism,

Trish Verne, Childhood Cancer Campaign Chairman



Contributing to Childhood Cancer Campaign at August Board Meeting were: clockwise starting from right: Wilson Golden Circle, Linda Watson; Whiteville, David Heath; Cape Fear, Taylor Bass; Rocky Mount Evening, Sam Toler



Golden Circle, Wilson, Installation



Front row from left: Brenda Farmer, President; Carol Collier, Secretary; Angela Iwaniuk, Treasurer; Back row: Governor Errol Warren; Kathy Sandifer; 2nd Vice President; Linda Shepherd, 1st Vice President; and Diane Johnson, Past President.



Personal Growth & Involvement

I am sure that each of us enjoy traveling, learning and experiencing new things as well as being acknowledged all while having a good time and fun. As we begin our new optimist year I would like to each of you a **PASSPORT** to all the above through the P.G.I. Program. I assure you that you can and will experience its **ELEMENTS....Activities, Attendance, Communication, Growth, Knowledge of the Optimist Organization and Self Development**. In participating you will be recognized for your involvement, commitment, dedication and completion. This program is great in that it allows optimists personal growth at their own pace. So you can be a tortoise or you can be a jaguar...**YOU DECIDE**.

INCENTIVES:

Optimist members that achieve levels in P.G.I. from October 1, 2013 thru September 30, 2014 will have their names placed in a drawing for \$100.00. Each level that a member achieves during this optimist year will add an additional chance for the \$100.00 drawing. (For members that were already on a level as of October 1, 2013..then each additional level achieved after that date their name will be placed in the drawing)...

Clubs....The club that has the most member(s) participation and completing levels from October 1, 2013 thru September 30, 2014 will receive \$100.00. (if there is a tie a drawing will be done to select the winner).

What a thrill it would be for Governor Errol and I to see optimist members from the N.C. East District recognized on stage in Las Vegas at the International Convention receiving their **P.G.I. LEVEL 10 achievement**.

There will also be excitement with the achievement of any member receiving and achieving any of the levels.

I am available to assist each of you to learn, grow and achieve. Call me and let me help you or your club make this program work and do what it is intended to do for optimist members.

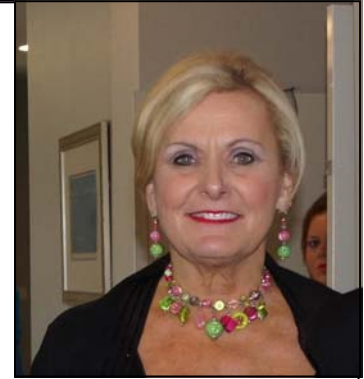
As District P.G.I. Chairman I would like to afford our members the opportunity to advance and gain new heights through the P.G.I. levels and be recognized for their accomplishments.

I'm willing to help if you are willing to achieve.

LETS MAKE THIS THE BEST YEAR IN P.G.I.....!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sandy Cyphers,

District P.G.I. Chairman,



NCE District New Club Building

There are so many communities in the NC East District that do not have Optimist clubs to serve the children The need is there for each community! As of October 1st, 2013 our district has 38 clubs. We have the opportunity to add **many** clubs to our district! *Think of the children in other communities that need our help. Let's come together and provide the opportunities for children that need us!*

I have attached the New Club Building Rules and Requirements for 2013-2014. These guidelines are easier than before to help your club build another club. Make this a **commitment and goal** for your club. There are

many in our district that are willing to help your club build another. Ask your club members for contacts in other communities and get started. Governor Errol and I will help you in every way. We look forward to helping you grow our district and providing opportunities for the children in these communities.

I will have the New Club Commitment Form and the Step by Step guideline for each club at the District meeting. I can help you get your new club set up in the "New Club" database on the OI web site. Each club should have a New Club Building Chairperson and I will be calling each club President to get that person's

contact information.

This will be a great year for the children in Eastern North Carolina because of the *difference you make in their lives!* I look forward

to hearing from you and working with you this year!

Jennifer Timmons, NC East District Chair –
New Club Building

The Sanderson Family and The Mile of Hope

By Charlie Wood

Gary and Louwanna Pender met the Sanderson family during the “Mile of Hope 2013” at Atlantic Beach and invited them to be a guest at our October 1st club meeting. Chris and Kim Sanderson are the parents of Austin and Anna Beth (pictured below with Raymond Clark). Both kids have a condition called neurofibromatosis which causes the growth of tumors along nerves in the skin, brain, and other parts of the body. Anna Beth has had a cancerous form of the disease and has to have frequent checkups with out-of-town doctors and medical facilities. Our club is sponsoring the Sanderson family this year to help them with their travel expenses for Anna Beth.



The “Mile of Hope” is a Childhood Cancer Campaign project sponsored by the Optimist Club of Raleigh along with other Optimist Clubs in Eastern North Carolina. It provides the children and their families, from eastern NC, an opportunity to enjoy a break from their hospital routines for some sun, fun, food, fellowship and to have an optimistic vacation.

Each year during this sponsored event, Gary and Louwanna obtain a hot dog donation from Carolina Packers and cook them up at the “family cookout” which is held on the beach.

Saturday, November 23rd, the same day the trees are delivered. We will meet at the tree lot at 8:00 am and set up the lot before the trees arrive at about 11:00 am. I think we can do all of this in one day and not use up an additional Saturday. After the trees are delivered, and after they have been unloaded, we have a hot dog lunch. After lunch, we will finish setting up the trees on the lot before we leave for the day. I will have the sign up sheet at our next two meetings. We need all the

help we can get, and there is something

for everyone to do. We can

always use some help in making the

wreaths. If you have any questions or need to sign up, please

contact Bill Edgerton at 919-920-8541 or bedgerton4@nc.rr.com



Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

For the past several years all of our contestants for the CCDHH contest have come from the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf. There is no problem with that, except for the fact that most, if not all, school systems in North Carolina have deaf students. I realize how hard it is to get those students to participate. However, this year I think we will have an advantage over previous years. Just before our contest last year Ms. Vernelson with the North Carolina Department of Instruction heard about our contest. Her job with the state is dealing with the deaf. This year we will coordinate with her and the west district to promote the contest state wide. If the teachers get the information from her and from the Optimist, I am

sure we will have students from all across our district. I am the most excited about the program for this year, than I have been before. The deadline for having the student information is in early April because I think we will have enough participation to warrant a preliminary contest. We will still have to work out the details on the preliminary contest because we have never before had to do one. For additional information please go to the Optimist website or contact me at bedgerton4@nc.rr.com or 919-920-8541.

THANKS,
BILL EDGERTON



Presentation of the Christian D. Larson Award
Honoring the Memory of Eugene "Gene" Lilley



The Optimist Club of Raleigh was pleased to have Marjorie Lilly as our guest September 30th at our Installation Banquet for the 2013-14 officers and Board. President Stan Pickett presented Marjorie Lilley with Christian D. Larson Award, honoring the memory of her husband,

Gene Lilley, who died earlier this year.

Gene Lilley joined our club in 1966 and immediately distinguished himself as one of our most enthusiastic and dedicated Optimists. His "fingerprints" were all over nearly every successful club project and activity, up to the time of his death, despite several years of failing health. Gene was an eternal optimist and, indeed, was a friend to all kids and to every person who knew him. No one could be more deserving of this recognition.



District OI Foundation Chair, Bill Edgerton, presents Wayne Sidelinger, Wilson Evening, the OIF Christian D. Larkin Award.



Optimist International Foundation

To all of you who have been donating to the Foundation, THANK YOU, and to you who have not, I hope to be able to say "thank you" to you next year. The slogan of the Foundation is "Helping Optimist Help Kids." In doing that, all of our literature is partially or completely funded by the Foundation. Also, all of the scholarships for the Essay Contest, the Oratorical Contest and the Hearing Impaired Oratorical Contest are provided by the Foundation.

We have many clubs and individuals that give regularly because they know that it is a worthwhile project. My goal

this year is to get everyone, in whom I come in contact, to give a minimum of the Dime-A-Day or \$36.50 for the year. If I can get everyone to see the need in having the Foundation, then the goals will be met without any problems. If you have any questions please see the Foundation web site or contact me at bedgerton4@nc.rr.com or 919-920-8541,

THANKS,
BILL EDGERTON



Bruce Andrews left, Garner Club' receiving Print and Banner Patch for \$500 & \$365 donations respectively.

Joan Williams receiving Print, Banner Patch & Distinguished during Lifetime \$5,000.

David Fritz Presidents Club award \$250 per year.



Sam Toler, Rocky Mount Evening, right, receiving award for Imminent Benefactor, over \$10,000

Dime-a-day award presentations were made to:

- Joan Williams
- Stan Pickett
- Henry Edmondson
- David Fritz



John Pecora, Henderson, receiving Print and Banner Patch, \$500 and \$365.



A Special “Thank You” to the Optimist Club of Raleigh

At our meeting Monday September 9th, our Club had a pleasant surprise visit from Mary McLaurin, Director, and Betty Waldon from the King’s Jewels. They described the benefits that their kids have experienced during the 24 years they have been holding

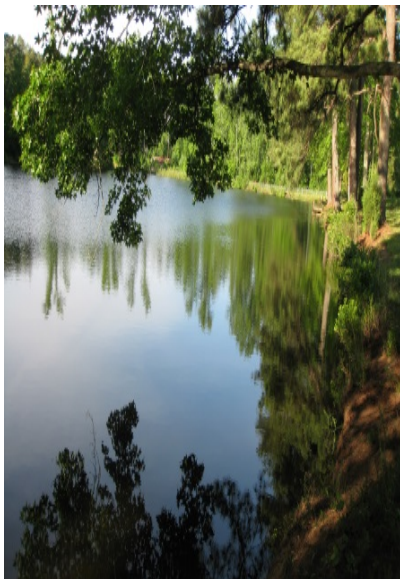


overnight camping events at our beautiful Optimist Farm. They told us that camping at Optimist Farm is consistently identified by the kids as the highlight of their time with the King’s Jewels. They presented us with this simple framed “Thank You” from their most recent group, decorated with

colorful thumb prints of many of the kids. This “Thank You” will be proudly displayed in our Optimist Farm Lodge as a reminder of what we are about: “Friend of Youth!”



There is nothing any better than seeing these and other kids’ happy faces as they escape their daily routines and personal situations to enjoy outings at our farm. Our ongoing goal is to increase the number of youth activities and events made possible by our beautiful 69 acre farm located in rural Wake County south of Raleigh’s Lake Wheeler Park.



Every year we are able to host many youth groups, such as Scouts and the King’s Jewels, for day-long and overnight camping events. We have many large open fields, wooded areas, a lodge which can accommodate 80 or more guests and a beautiful fish-

ing pond. We take great joy in being able to make this Club asset available for the benefit of our area youth!



North Carolina East District

Optimist International

Fourth Quarter District Convention

Bay Watch Resort- North Myrtle Beach, SC

District Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, August 24, 2013

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

Jerry Medlin	Governor
Errol Warren	Governor Elect
Barbara Timmons	District Secr/Treas
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, Wilmington, Winter Park;

Zone 2-Whiteville, Duplin, Elizabethtown;

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, South Johnston.

Governor Jerry Medlin called the meeting to order at 8:41 AM.

The Royal Rangers Color Guard from Roanoke Rapids

presented the Flag.

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

Invocation was given by Dan Durham.

A memorial service representing our fallen Optimist members from this past year was observed by First Lady Libbie Jean Medlin. As each member's name was read, a member from their club came forward and lit a candle in their honor. There was a total of 12.

Governor Jerry introduced North Myrtle Beach Councilman Bob Cavanaugh. Councilman Bob thanked us for again choosing to come to North Myrtle Beach as we are always welcome. He shared improvements that have been made and those that are in progress. These improvements are being implemented to continue to enhance the area for visitors such as us. He invited us to come back in April and again next year!

Governor Jerry introduced our OI Representatives Jann Van Dresser and his wife Sue.

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.

Third Quarter Board Meeting Minutes were reported by Barbara Timmons. Motion to accept made by Gary Pender of Goldsboro – second by Carlton Baird, Dinner Optimist – Approved.

Third Quarter Financial Report was made by Barbara Timmons. Motion to accept made by Tommy Peele of

Rocky Mount Evening - second by Lou Anna Hardee of Greenville – Approved.

District Convention Chair Dan Durham gave us an update on the ongoing convention . He advised that registration is up from last year.

District Junior Golf/Webmaster/Internet Safety Chair Allan Ludlum reported on the Boys and Girls Golf Tournament which the East and West District Optimist members participated in. They raised a total of \$849 for the B&GH! He also reported on the Jr Golf tournament in which 24 students participated in and qualifiers went to Florida. No winners there but they all placed well. Allan is investigating the possibility of partnering with NGJG for next year. More to come on that.

District Bulletin Chair Wayne Sidelinger advised that he would keep his request short and sweet! Please send more pictures! Governor Jerry thanked him for all he does for our district and we gave Wayne a round of applause in appreciation!

District A&A Chair Dan Durham and Governor Jerry recognized the awards for the 3rd quarter club achievements.

District New Club Building Chair Sandy Cyphers reported we have a new Club in our district – Elm City Optimist Club. She asked them to stand and be recognized. They chartered July 30, 2013 with 17 members. It is great to have them with us and we look forward to hearing how much they are helping the children in their community.

CCC District Chair Trish Verne advised that September is National CCC Month. She 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 4:30 PM this afternoon. The ducks are \$10 each or 3 for \$25 and she encouraged us to join in the fun at the Lazy River. She shared with us the facts about cancer for children addressing survival, number affected and the cost to treat. She took an alter call.

OI Ambassador and PGI Chair Carey Foster reported on the international convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio and advised pictures are in the Hospitality Suite. Next years convention will be July 10-12 in Las Vegas. There were no new levels of achievements for PGI this time.

We stopped for break at 10:00 AM – everyone was invited to the Hospitality Suite. We convened at 10:34 AM.

District OI Foundation Chair Billy Edgerton presented the OIF awards from the third quarter. Billy advised the goal for the district is \$26,000 and we are currently at \$17,000. He encouraged us to support the “dime a day” program as well as the other programs available. He had an alter call and thanked everyone for their continued support.

Governor Jerry advised that the Childrens pictures on the wall were provided by the kindergarten class of Mrs Klause of Sanford Creek Elementary and by two pre-school classes of Primrose School of North Raleigh. The children were asked to draw something that “makes them happy”. There were many drawings taped to the walls of the ballroom.

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 3rd quarter. Auston also announced the 3rd quarter winner – Tommy Peele – he received two nights convention lodging and free registration.

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 advised that it costs \$104,000 per year to operate our Optimist Cottage. Ray reminded us that “Optimist make a difference”! They had alter call.

District Membership Chair Auston Pusey advised we are down in membership and during the month of August and September, each time a new member is added – the sponsor’s name goes in the hat for a drawing. There will be a \$300, \$200, and \$100 drawing. Governor Jerry talked about how important membership is for our children in each community. He passed out Membership Commitment forms and asked for us to complete and turn in.

District JOOI/College Club Chair David advised that currently there are lots of opportunities during this time of year to get into the schools for their open house. There are several JOOI club possibilities in the district and he offered to help in any way.

Governor Jerry advised that the Executive Board voted to have the Combined Gender Oratorical Contest in 2012.

Governor Jerry reported that we have a qualified candidate for Governor-Elect 2014-2015 – Jimmy Lamm,

Lt Governor of Zone 4, Wilson Evening Optimist. Jimmy was recognized and congratulated.

Governor Elect Errol Warren thanked us for the opportunity to serve as our Governor in 2013-2014. He announced his team members in place and thanked them for stepping up. Governor Elect Errol reminded us of the training after lunch and encouraged each of us to participate. He reminded us “Let your actions speak louder than our words”.

OI Representative Jann Van Dresser thanked us for our hospitality and encouraged us to keep moving forward. He looked forward to seeing everyone in the training this afternoon and would welcome any questions.

Governor Jerry thanked each of us for coming to the convention and for our work toward growing our district. Governor Jerry encouraged us to continue to grow our clubs and collected our membership commitment forms.

We closed with the Optimist Creed recited by all.

We adjourned at 11:55 AM



Barbara Timmons

District Secretary-Treasurer



The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself-

- To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
- To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
 - To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
- To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
- To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.
- To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
- To forget the mistakes of the past and press on 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

First of all, I would like to thank everyone who attended the 2013 NC East Annual Convention in August. Special appreciation is extended to all who assisted with the training of incoming officers. I have heard many positive comments from several Optimists relative to the convention and training; I am a firm believer in "you get in return what you put in." That being said--please make plans to continue attending the training that is offered for the upcoming district meetings.

The Convention Committee will "kick-start" their plans at the First Quarter District Meeting immediately following the Boys and Girls Home Auction. At that time, plans will be made relative to who/what will be scheduled to ensure another successful event. Currently, plans are to return to

Bay Watch in North Myrtle Beach, SC, so please mark your calendars for August 21-24, 2014; as details are finalized, we will let you know.

If you wish to offer any comments and/or suggestions, feel free to contact me. This is YOUR convention. Thank you.

Lou Anna

Lou Anna Hardee, Chair

NC East Convention Committee