

North Carolina East Optimist News

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR "MOVING FORWARD"

To move forward, that's the idea. To improve your game, to increase the score, and to add another win to the column. A few years back Chrysler Corporation increased its sales of cars by quite a percentage with a theme called, "The Forward Look." The idea caught on because people like to be found moving forward.

Moving forward is not simply a matter of doing. It also requires a lot of work. Only by hard work does an athlete become his or her own person. Here in the NC East District we must continue to work to become our own District. Once we stop working, the District is apt to go backward, not forward.

Doug, George and Allan have been working hard to finalize our fourth quarter convention in Myrtle Beach. Information will be coming out soon

about what will be going on at the convention.

Some of the most pleasant memories I have from my sports experiences and teaching is the unity that I had with my players and fellow teachers. Realizing that you are taking the court or field with others, including Optimists in our district, we all have one common goal: working together is a beautiful, uplifting, and satisfying feeling. That is the way we should feel about the NC East Optimist District that we are united and working for one com-



(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

mon goal, to serve the youths in our communities.

Unity in our District should start at the club level, then to the Zone level, and eventually it will get to the District level. Being **united** will help us to become the best District that we can be. So all Optimists in the NC East Optimist District continue to keep up the good work and great things will happen

in our District.

If we believe we can do it, then we do it, we believe

Yours in optimism,
James Lamm,
Governor



to have one auction and split the proceeds between the OI Foundation and the Boys and Girls Homes. We will have a few kids that will be helping us with the auction so come out and meet the kids and get to know them. This is not only a great time to see the Boys and Girls Homes but a great time to fellowship with each other and to meet new optimists so make your plans now and I will see you at Boys and Girls Homes.



Hello Optimist. I hope that everyone is having a great and happy new year. As you all know the second quarter district meeting is on February 6 and 7.

Our meeting will be at the Boys and Girls Homes at Lake Waccamaw NC. For those of you that have never been to the home I think that you are going to

be impressed how good the Homes are. This year there will be an auction on Friday night so clean out your closets or just bring that CHRISTMAS gift that you didn't like anyway. Also this year Bill Edgerton and myself are going



Ray Cockrell, B&G

District Chair for the Boys and Girls Homes
Gary Pender



PERSONAL GROWTH AND INVOLVEMENT

P.G.I.



Linda Shepherd, left, Elm city Optimist , 2 Levels 2, 3, 4, and 5. awarded by Sandy Cyphers, PGI Chair



LouAnna Hardy, left, Greenville Optimist, 2 Levels of PGI awards from PGI Chair Sandy Cyphers

The PGI program is a great way to increase knowledge about what the Optimist clubs do and help growth.

1. Attendance - members have to attend meetings to get credit.
2. Activity - They have to participate in the club programs.
3. Growth - They have to add a member after the first level.
4. Knowledge of the organization- They



Billy Edgerton received 2 Levels of PGI awards.

have to learn things about OI.

5. Self development - Do activities that show you are learning and presenting.
6. Communication- Promote the club by getting information out to the community and members.

This program is a great way to promote your club and get members more active.

You can get more information on the OI web site and order the passport books from OI.

In Optimism,
Carey Foster



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES



Reel OPTIMISM — VIDEO CONTEST —

Effective October 1, 2014, the Community Projects Awards (CPA) program has been discontinued at the International level. Clubs are instead encouraged to submit their projects into the Club Showcase category of Reel Optimism.

The third annual Club video contest asks adult and JOOI Clubs to finish the sentence "Optimists bring out the best..."

2015 Contest Categories

ADULT CLUBS

"30 Second Challenge" - a short piece about how Optimists brings out the best in you, your Club, your community, etc.

"Club Showcase" - a video (3:00 minutes or less) featuring an Optimist Club's community event, project, fundraiser or other activity.

2015 Contest Dates

FEBRUARY 16 - APRIL 15, 2015 - Members and Clubs submit videos following the submission guidelines.

MAY 1, 2015 - Finalists announced and voting will be opened to the public.

MAY 15, 2015 - Public voting ends.

JUNE 1, 2015 - Top vote-receivers in each category will be notified.

JULY 5-11, 2015 - Winning videos will be announced during the 2015 JOOI International and Optimist International Conventions in New Orleans and Clubs will be invited on stage to receive their Club grant.

2015 Contest Prizes

All grants are generously funded by Optimist International, the Optimist International Foundation and the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation.

Reel Optimism THE BEST Overall Award - \$1,000 Club grant

Best 30 Second Challenge (adult) - \$500 Club grant

Best Club Showcase (adult) - \$500 Club grant

Blind draw raffle (from all adult Club submissions) - \$250 Club grant

Angela Iwaniuk, CPA Chair 2014-2015



Good morning optimist. Thank you for your participation in the A & A awards program for the 1st quarter. I recommend if your club is not presently using the program that you reconsider. The program helps each club in the district see what optimist or other programs are being used in the district. Your club can benefit by knowing what programs are successful in other communities within the district.

Your club can speak to other club officers in the district to discuss a program that you may be considering and get face to face ideas from others who can give you good ideas and help with the project.

Each quarter certificates are awarded to the top ten clubs, a certificate for the number one club in the zone and to the top three Lt. Governors. Please consider the program and be a part of the competition within your zone and the district.

Another program that is available from optimist international is the CPA program. This program is designed to have a project your club has completed to be shared with all of optimist international.

You would complete a 5 minute video to tell about the project and the winner

is given cash and is recognized at the national convention. I can provide information or the download is available on the district web site.



Dan Durham
District A&A Chair

Hello Optimist:

I hope at this time of year, I find you and your club in good shape, adding members, planning youth events, getting ready for essay and oratorical competitions and getting the word out to your community that your club is a "Friend of Youth! As your Governor for the year 2015-2016, I hope your club is taking time to get ready for your 2015-2016 year by securing your officers for the positions of Club president, Club secretary and Club treasure. Please do not delay this process, as the deadline is just around the corner in the month of May. If you have already secured these positions then please go to the Leaders website (www.leadersoptimist.org) and complete your officer elect forms.

I am also still looking to fill some committee chairs for our optimist year of 2015-2016, if you are interested in holding a position, please see me at the upcoming second quarter district meeting at Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina. This is an opportunity to step up from not only being just involved in your club but being involved in your district. We have a lot of experience to pass on to new committee chairs and you can be one of them.

Our team has completed setting our locations for our

district meetings in 2015-2016. The locations will be in Rocky Mount, Wilmington, Research Triangle Park and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina for our 2016 convention. Also at this time if you have any ideas or suggestions about our district meetings please share those with me at our second quarter district meeting or by e-mail or by phone. If your club has any major outings or events on its calendar for 2015-2016 year then please send me those dates. I do not want to schedule any district meetings in conflict with your club events.

I am looking forward to our optimist year 2015-2016 to serve as your Governor. I also want to make our district meetings exciting, interesting and informative. So when you get back to your club and talk about the district meeting you will get other club members excited and want to attend the next one.

Yours in Optimism;

Al Ludlum

Governor Elect.



Golden Circle New Member: Brenda Farmer, New Member - Diana Riford and Carol Collier



President, Brenda Farmer, New Member Llewellyn Joyner and Sponsoring Member, Norma Duell



Fun at Diversified Opportunities

NCEast District Convention

Landmark Resort

Myrtle Beach, SC

Lets get excited.

We are looking forward to another District Convention at Myrtle Beach SC this year.

We will be at the Landmark Resort at Myrtle beach where the guest rooms and the meeting rooms are all under one roof. After listening to members, we visited 8 different hotels trying to find a new location that would be more accommodating to all of our functions.

The entertainment and training will be



finalized at a later date, but be assured that Governor Jimmy will see that we are entertained. Gov. Elect Al Ludlum will have training.

Go to the NC East Optimist web site to review the

LOW prices and all of the amenities available at the Landmark Resort.



Doug Lamm
District Convention
Chairman



"How My Optimism Will Help Me Press On To 'Greater Achievements of the Future'"



What's like to win the District Optimist Oratorical Contest? Listen to 2013-2014 winner Emily Hunt:

The Optimist Oratorical Contest was an incredible experience and an amazing adventure for me! In the

process of writing my speech (the topic being - How My Passions Impact the World) it was truly incredible to see my passion almost take on a life of its own on paper. The first time I delivered my speech I was encouraged by so many people at my local level. As I progressed in the contest I continued to be surrounded by more and more supportive and positive people. At the final District competition, my nerves were high and as I tried to occupy myself in the waiting - it was then that I read a banner that displayed the Optimist Club Creed. My nerves were quelled as I realized that this was exactly what I needed to absorb at exactly the right time. The next thing I knew, I was smiling like a goofball and people were congratulating me on winning First Place! And I think I owe all this to a little optimism right at the perfect time. – Emily Hunt

Part One: 2015

Fellow Optimists, at our last meeting we decided:

Everyone in any occupation needs to be able to speak well in public;
An Optimist Oratorical Contest is leadership training for every occupation;
A handful of dedicated and committed club members can hold a contest;
The Optimist website has all the information you need.

Here are the citations for everything you need:

<http://www.optimist.org/e/member/scholarships4.cfm>

On the right side of page above you will find a box containing "Oratorical Contest Quick Links." This box contains the individual information you need.

Click on the Rules and Application page: (<http://www.optimist.org/Form/Oratorical RULES PAD-E 14 15.pdf>) (You can enter your club information and data into this page).

The next two items give you all of the paperwork you need to properly run and legally report your contest and enter your contestants in the Zone and District Contestants. (The fourth item does not apply here.)

Procedures to follow:

All contests are "gender combined." Boys and Girls compete together.

The top three winners in the district contest from previous years are not eligible.

Minimum Number of Participants: Combined gender Zone and District contests must have no fewer than three participants.

However in cases where the minimum number of three (3) contestants at the Zone contest **cannot be met**, there is one option: Send winners directly to the next level of the contest.

Each Club enters TWO contestants in the Zone Contest and each Zone will enter TWO contestants in the District Contest.

Carefully print out and STUDY the rules.

Collect all of the appropriate paperwork: (Entry forms and birth certificates, etc.)

Make sure all required signatures on all forms are completed (club president, parent, student, Lt. Governor, etc.)

Submit all forms before deadlines.

See individual Lt. Governor for Zone
Deadlines

The District Deadline for having completed entry forms to Yancey Hines is Friday, May 1, 2015.

Go ahead & do it. Every student who enters, win or lose, will benefit...a lot.

Contact Yancey Hines: 252-432-9315 (cell); 252-492-4376 (home); nhines@nc.rr.com

Street Address: 268 Dabney Woods Lane, Henderson, NC 27537

**Part 2: 2015-2016
The Optimist International Oratorical Contest makes A Big, Big Announcement for next year!**

THE OPTIMIST ORATORICAL CONTEST in 2015-2016 IS GOING REGIONAL AND WORLDWIDE WITH AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO REAP VERY SIGNIFICANT MONITARY REWARDS, BUT WITH SIGNIFICANT NC EAST DISTRICT BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS!

Optimist International and St. Louis University have partnered to host an exciting new enhancement to the

Optimist Oratorical Contest and scholarships beginning in 2015-2016. Optimist Clubs will send their Oratorical winner to the District contest as usual – but the deadline date will be earlier in 2015-2016. The District Chair will set the Club deadline date to send Club winner information to the District. The change – the District deadline to submit the District winner information to Optimist International **will be May 15, 2016.** (Thus the third NC East Optimist meeting must take place some comfortable time before May 15, 2015) The new Regional/World Championship Contest will be **June 23-24, 2016.** Each Optimist District will have the exciting opportunity **to send two of their District Oratorical Winners to St. Louis** to compete with the winners of the Districts in their Region for a \$10,000 scholarship. (Thus there are obvious budget considerations here for transportation and lodging for students and parents) The winner of each Region (8) will compete with the winner from St. Louis University's Global Region for a \$15,000, \$10,000, or \$5,000 World Championship scholarship. **There is the potential for a student to win \$27,500 in scholarships!** There will be a workshop at the convention in New Orleans to see how your Club can be a part of this exciting new venture by taking your current Club's Oratorical Contest to new heights or to learn how to get your Club involved if you don't yet conduct an Oratorical Contest. For more information contact *pro-*
grams@optimist.org.

Yancey Hines
District Oratorical
Chair



How to start a fight.

My wife and I went to her high school reunion. She kept looking at a drunken man swigging his drinks. I asked. "Do you know him?"

"Yes, she sighed, he's my old boyfriend. We split up because he drank so much and he hasn't been sober since".

"My God", I said, "Who would think a person would go on celebrating that long".

And that's how the fight started.

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



What's Happening July 9-11th, 2015?
The 97th Optimist International Convention.

Where's it taking place? Hilton Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana

Who should be there? **OPTIMISTS! OPTIMISTS!, OPTIMISTS!**



Why should you be there? Great Training, Fellowship, Opportunities to meet other optimists, marketing, FUN and MORE FUN!...and also the opportunity to see Governor Elect Al Ludlum be recognized on stage

and current Governor, Jimmy Lamm.

Cuisine in New Orleans isn't the only thing spicing up the city. Trip Advisor 2010 Traveler's



Choice® Destination Awards ranked New Orleans as the top destination in the world for night life. Taste for yourself why Bon Ap-pétit named New Orleans one of America's





New Orleans Louisiana



Top 5 Restaurant Cities.

New Orleans offers a compact geographic footprint providing close proximity of hotels to the French Quarter and attractions, creating a true destination experience. The Louis



Armstrong International Airport is just 20 minutes from the hotel.

Nowhere else does it occur more effortlessly or more joyously. Jazz, America's only original art form, was born here while Rhythm & Blues, Gospel, Cajun and Zydeco all express the rich melting pot that is New Orleans.



You need to make your reservations early.....To book your reservations for convention at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, visit www.optimist.org/convention and scroll to the Housing Section or call (800) 445-8667 or (504) 584-3959.



When calling, remember to mention the group name "Optimist International."

If you have any questions, e-mail convention@optimist.org or



call 800-500-8130, ext. 205 or 221.

Sandy Cyphers

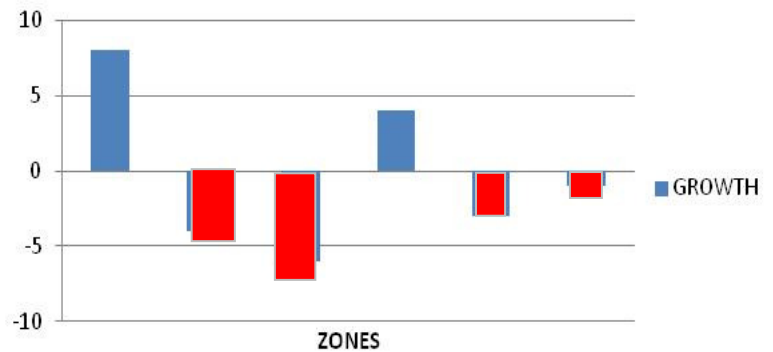
N.C. East District O.I. Ambassador

Be forewarned, if you are driving, parking at the Hilton is \$35 per day.



District Membership 2014-2015

NEW MEMBERS IN FIRST QUARTER NC EAST DISTRICT - OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL



One Two three Four Five Six

CLUB NAME	10% GOAL	1st QTR
WILMINGTON-CAPE FEAR, NC	8.2	11
WILMINGTON-SUPPER, NC	2.0	0
WILMINGTON, NC	1.6	-3
WILMINGTON-WINTER PARK, NC	6.7	0
Total for Zone 1	18.5	8
DUPLIN, NC	3.1	-2
ELIZABETHTOWN, NC	3.4	-2
LAURINBURG, NC	7.1	0
WHITEVILLE, NC	3.8	0
GREATER SPRING LAKE, NC	1.6	0
Total for Zone 2	19	-4
GOLDSBORO, NC	4.4	2
GREENVILLE, NC	2.1	0
WASHINGTON, NC	3.5	-2
CARTERET, NC	1.7	-6
Total for Zone 3	11.7	-6
WILSON-BFT, NC	2.9	1
CHOWAN-EDENTON, NC	1.9	0
WILSON-GOLDEN CIRCLE, NC	3.6	3
TARBORO, NC	0.9	0
WILSON, NC	2.4	0
BENNETT-WILSON, NC	2.4	0
ELM CITY, NC	2.1	0
Total for Zone 4	15.39	4
ROCKY MOUNT-BFT, NC	1.0	0
HENDERSON, NC	4.9	0
ROANOKE RAPIDS, NC	3.4	0
ROCKY MOUNT-EVENING, NC	3.7	-3
ROXBORO, NC	2.1	0
Total For Zone 5	15.1	-3
WAKE FOREST, NC	1.9	0
NORTHERN WAKE, NC	2.1	-1
SOUTH JOHNSTON, NC	4.5	-6
RALEIGH-DINNER, NC	1.3	0
GARNER, NC	5.2	3
RALEIGH-NORTH, NC	1.0	0
RALEIGH, NC	5.4	2
SOUTHERN WAKE, NC	0.8	1
CHAPEL HILL, NC	1.2	0
ORANGE COUNTY, NC	2.5	0
Total for Zone 6	25.9	-1
Total For District	106	-2

Our membership goal for the 2014-2015 year was set at a 10% net growth for each club, each zone and ultimately for the entire district.

At the end of the first quarter we are pleased to announce that two Zones are in the plus category with membership. Congratulations to Zone 1 for achieving plus 8 members and to Zone 4 in achieving plus 4 members.

We also promised to reward the first club in the District who reached their 10% goal and we have 2 clubs that reached their 10% goal in the first quarter. Way to Go Wilmington Cape Fear Club for reaching your 10% goal in only 2 months and also to Southern Wake for reaching your 10% goal in the first quarter. We will be planning a hot dog cook-out for the Cape Fear Club when the weather warms up and we will send a certificate to the Southern Wake Club.

Let's all share our Optimism with our friends, neighbors and family members this year by inviting them to become a part of our wonderful organization!



Brenda Farmer

NC East District JOOI

Welcome to the NC East District 2nd Quarter District Meeting

Feb 6-7, 2015



Currently our district has Five JOOI clubs! There are a total of **21 newly chartered JOOI clubs** throughout **Optimist International Regions with a total of 315 new JOOI**

assistance in facilitating a service project. This grant can make your project just more feasible and make your service goals more attainable. Apply today!! The sooner you apply the better!

JOOI Convention Information:

July 6-8, 2015 - New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Excerpt from last years convention: JOOI Club Members from United States, Canada, Anguilla and Jamaica met in sunny San Diego, California for the International JOOI Convention. Everyone had a wonderful time with group activities, workshops, guest speakers, campaigns and elections for their new International Board of Directors. JOOI Members also explored Coronado Beach where they participated in a Beach Clean-Up service project. The convention ended with the President's Banquet followed by the President's Dance.

Barbara Timmons,
NCE District JOOI
Chair



Members since October 1, 2014!

Is your club missing out on the benefits of working with JOOI members? Ask me how they can help your club and how you can get a JOOI club started in your area!

Would you like to learn more? Our OI website has great information and there is a separate JOOI website: <http://www.junioroptimists.com>.

JOOI News from Optimist International:

This year Junior Optimist International has set aside \$1500 for grants. Starting January 28th until February 28th every JOOI Club has the opportunity to apply to assist your club in benefiting others on a larger scale. The grants are to be used to provide as-

Childhood Cancer Campaign

What could be more emblematic of childhood than a kid with a toy train? Sure boys play with trains but girls do too. Remember the Lionel Girls' Set with the pink steam locomotive? This writer, soon to turn sixty-seven, personally knows two women with whom he grew up and who are his current age one of whom got her first train at age two. The other's dad gave her a train when she was six months old!

Everyone who reads this I assume is already familiar with Optimist International's Kisses For Cancer program.

Around a year ago the North Raleigh Optimist Club entered into an agreement with the Southeastern Division of the Train Collectors Association (SETCA) to allow Kisses for Cancer solicitation at toy train swap meets put on by the division.

The Train Collectors Association is a non-profit Pennsylvania corporation founded in 1954 with a worldwide membership of nearly thirty thousand. It is divided into twenty divisions of which SETCA, founded in 1970, is one. The Southeastern Division comprises Virginia south of the Richmond/Staunton line but not including those cities as well as North and South Carolina.

At each SETCA swap meet (meets occur about once a quarter typically in January or February, May, August, and December) the North Raleigh Optimist Club is provided a table free of charge by the division. The club typically takes along its club banner to display along with the usual Kisses for Cancer equipment (vests, canisters, etc.) - and of course a bountiful supply of Hershey's Kisses. It has been determined that a clear glass jar is a better holder for money than the canisters - when the public can see the money it tends to contribute more and so the canisters are rarely used anymore though they are still present. Some toy train cars are also on the table,

including a gondola filled with kisses!

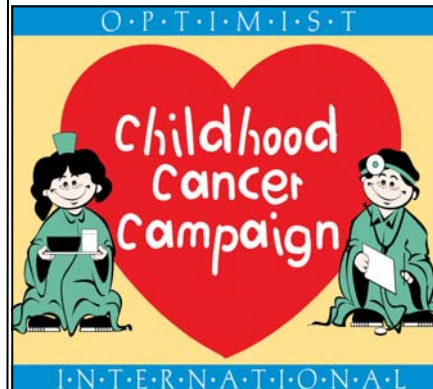
Recently the club has also instituted a raffle to raise additional money. The items raffled so far have been toy train sets and a copy of the book *The Polar Express* autographed by the book's author.

The raffle really increases visibility and seems to increase contributions as well.

A one day swap meet usually yields somewhere between a hundred and a hundred and fifty dollars. A larger two day meet (such as SETCA's December meets but also including an unrelated two day meet sponsored each November by the Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club) can bring in as much as five hundred dollars.

Here is a photograph, next page, taken at a recent swap meet.

Ken Mitchell,



Trish Verne, CCC Chair



Members of North Raleigh Optimist Club at SETCA swap meet. L to R: Tom McCutcheon, Don Richards, Carol Hoal, Gene Dodd, Alan Hoal

From North Raleigh 'The Powerful Pen'

More on how to start a fight.

My wife was standing nude looking into the bedroom mirror. She was not happy with what she saw, and said to me, "I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly.. I really need you to pay me a compliment.

I replied, "Your eyesight's damn near perfect".

And then the fight started.

Another how to start a fight.

My wife sat down next to me as I was flipping channels. She asked, "What's on TV?"

I said "Dust". And that's when the fight started.

New Club Building

2015 N.C. EAST DISTRICT NEW CLUB BUILDING

North Carolina has 100 counties with approximately 370 cities, towns and municipalities. The majority of these do not have Optimist Clubs...thus they are not serving the children in their communities. The North Carolina East District has so many opportunities to add clubs in this district...if each of us would just stop and think of the unlimited possibilities where a New Club could be built...we would be overwhelmed! So many possibilities for kids to play sports, participate in contests, be mentored by adult optimists, and receive scholarships. The list goes on and on to how having an Optimist Club in a community could help be a 'FRIEND OF YOUTH' and assist in "Bringing Out The Best in Kids".

I will help and assist any optimist and any club in building a new club.....All you have to do is ask. As the saying goes, two heads are better than one. Currently in the district, work is being done on a club in Bailey, NC and the possibility of a sports club around the Rocky Mount area. The five Lt. Govern-

nors committed to working to build clubs in Oxford, Nashville, Navassa, Selma/Smithfield, New Bern and Pembroke.

May I remind you of our organization's VISION STATEMENT:

Optimist International will be recognized worldwide as the premier volunteer organization that values children and helps develop them to their full potential. This vision can only be a reality if we each take a part in helping to grow this organization.

I ask you to help the Lt. Governors, your Presidents and the district in building a club or clubs... Get with the N.C. East Team and work to MAKE IT HAPPEN! Remember I am here to help or assist in anyway. "JUST ASK".

Sandy Cyphers



District Essay Contest

Topic: "Optimism Should be a Priority".

700 words minimum. 800 words maximum.

District 1st place winner will receive a \$2500 scholarship.

The District money award replaces any International money award previously given to winner.

Key Dates:

Club entries must be delivered to District Essay Chair, **Sandy Cyphers**, and postmarked no later than February 28, 2015.

Please note: Sandy Cyphers is the District Chair for the District Essay Contest

Entries must include the following documents.

1. District Essay Contest Entry Form.
2. Copy of the club winner's application form.
3. Copy of the club winner's birth certificate.
4. A typed, double-spaced copy of the essay with cover sheet.

The winners will be announced and introduced at the 3rd District Board Meeting in May. Copies of their essays will be in the 4th quarter Bulletin.

A&A Club Winners

4th Quarter 2013-2014.



1st Place, South Johnston, rep not present; 2nd Place, Roanoke Rapids, Carey Foster; 3rd Place, Tie, Golden Circle, Brenda Farmer and Chapel Hill, Trish Verne.

A&A Zone Winners 4th Quarter

2013-2014



Zone 1, Winter Park, Tom Lamont; Zone 2, Whiteville, Mark Harritan; Zone 3, Goldsboro Raymond Clark; Zone 4, Golden Circle, Brenda Farmer; Zone 5, Roanoke Rapids, Carey Foster; Zone 6, South Johnston. Rep not present.

Club Services

Hello Optimists,

With the arrival of 2015, it is the time that many individuals make New Year Resolutions. That being said—has your club set a goal to be a: “Bringing Out the Best Club,” an “Honor Club,” or a “Distinguished Club?” I hope you have made a resolution to be a “**Distinguished Club!**”

It is also a time that Optimist Clubs might review programs being provided as “Friends of Youth” in their community. It is a time that clubs could identify club resolutions such as: grow membership; conduct fund raisers; ensure district and international dues are paid timely; build new clubs; support sports programs; conduct activities for visibility in the area, and make plans for the remainder of the year.

So, what are **your club resolutions** and what will **your club strive** to do during 2015? Awards that Optimist International provides to clubs, districts, and regions were shared in the last bulletin. However, I felt it important to remind/share again; They are:

2014-15 Presidential Incentives

Points will be accumulated on a quarterly basis. The Districts and Region that have the most points will receive a paid registration for the New Orleans Convention for the first and second quarters and for the Quebec City Convention for the third and fourth quarters.

A. QUARTERLY DISTRICT & REGION AWARDS-Top District in Each Region & the Top Region

(1) 10 points per New Club Built (Adult or

JOOI)

(2) One point per New Adult Member added including Charter Members (does not include JOOI members)

(3) 120 Day List-10 points each District that has two or less Clubs on the list at Quarter end. Bonus: 15 points for each District with no Clubs on the list at Quarter end.

(4) Foundations-One Point for every \$200 of unrestricted funds donated to either the OIF or CCOF during the Quarter with a limit of five points.

B. BANNER AWARD PROGRAM

(1) Club level

a. One new roll-up Creed banner per Adult Club Built.

b. One new roll-up Creed or Purposes banner for adding 15 New Adult Members (JOOI and Friends not included). Bonus: One additional new roll-up Creed or Purposes banner for adding another 15 New Adult Members (total of 30 New Adult Members).

(2) District level

a. One new roll-up Creed or Purposes banner for having built three New Adult Clubs.

C. BUILDERS OF EXCELLENCE

New Clubs may be sponsored by two existing Clubs and up to **four** Builders of Excellence may be named.

D. 30 UNDER 30 PROGRAM

The 30 Under 30 Membership program will continue during the 2014-15 Optimist year. A New Member that is aged 30 or under may join Optimist for \$30 International dues and Registration fee for one year. When the year is over, the Member pays full International dues.

With the upcoming Essay, Oratorical, and CCDHH Contests, and many other activities in which members will be involved, please remember:

IRS 990 Form must be filed by February 15, 2015

Club Candidate Qualifications Committees should soon begin considering who will lead their club for the future year as Officer-Elect Reports will be due May 20.

District Candidate Qualifications Committee should soon begin seeking nominations/election of the 2015-16 Lt. Governors due at 3rd Quarter NCE District Meeting.

Wishing you a successful 2015 and please, let

me know if our team can help in any way. Remember, serving youth today—grows Optimists for tomorrow!

Yours in Optimism,
Lou Anna

Lou Anna Hard-
ee, Chair of Club
Services, 2014-
15



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT – SARA BATTS ROBBINS Golden Circle Optimist

twelve and a half years ago on an Easter weekend, what I still call my perfect granddaughter was born. Weighing eight pounds six ounces, full termed, black hair and huckleberry blue eyes she was perfectly healthy—or so we thought. Less than thirty-six hours later and she was on her way to Greenville in a crash truck (a nor'easter prevented a helicopter from flying). Sara-Grayson was born with an imperfectly formed heart. She was in NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit), open heart surgery at nine days old, PICU (Pediatric Intensive Care Unit), out on the floor. Ronald McDonald House became home for her parents. I stayed there the night she had surgery.

The professional and caring doctors, nurses, social workers at the hospital and the staff and volunteers at Ronald McDonald House made a time of worry, stress, fright and helplessness easier to bear.

I vowed that when I retired from teaching that I would “pay it forward.” My experience at Vidant Hospital’s Ronald McDonald House has been enjoyable and rewarding. It’s a great feeling to be remembered week to week. My favorite times are with the children

whether they roll in bundled in a red wagon, pushed in a wheelchair or walk in pushing their own IV poles. For a few minutes they can have a cookie, play or go out on the patio; in other words—be a kid. Sometimes their adults can be not as excited, but when that happens I try to remember how we were feeling a few years ago (worried, frightened, confused and helpless). Then it’s easier to understand and a whole lot easier to offer them a warm muffin!

To keep our two Houses running as homes, we rely on Wish List item donations. Up to 27 families stay with us every night and many more use our common area inside the hospital each week. Your donations help make their stay as comfortable as possible. Items in BOLD are our most pressing needs. Also check out our online Wish List at www.amazon.com. Search the Wish Lists for Ronald McDonald House of Eastern North Carolina and have items shipped to us.

Donations can be delivered between 7:00am and 11:00pm Sunday-Saturday at: 529 Moye Boulevard, Greenville, North Carolina 27834.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT – SARA BATTS ROBBINS





OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Once again, I am serving as the District Chair for the OI Foundation. This is an area of our organization that I feel is very necessary. The Foundation does many things to help our clubs with their slogan of "Helping Optimist Help Kids". Many of you have heard this from me many times, but it must be said again. They help fund all of the materials we get from Optimist International. They also fund all of the Scholarship Contests. Much of the money we give, comes back to our district in one way or another.

The District Goal for this year is \$23,000. My personal goal is to present the materials to every club and member in such a way that they will see the benefits of contributing to the Foundation. I will be happy to talk with your club or with you individually about the Foundation. To meet our goals, we do need every club participating. For individual members, we have the Dime-A-Day which is \$36.50 for the year. For this

donation, you get a pin "and a hug from my wife." A good starting level for clubs is \$365. or a dollar per day. You get a banner patch "and a hug from my wife."

There are many levels of giving, but if you or your club have not been contributors to the Foundation, I would really like for you to consider the above as a starting point. Just so you will know, unless I am willing to give of my time and resources, I would never ask someone else to do so.

Thank you for considering this. If you have questions please contact me, Bill Edgerton, 919-920-8541 or bedgerton4@nc.rr.com.

District Milestones:

Bronze Benefactor \$10,000 Wilson Evening

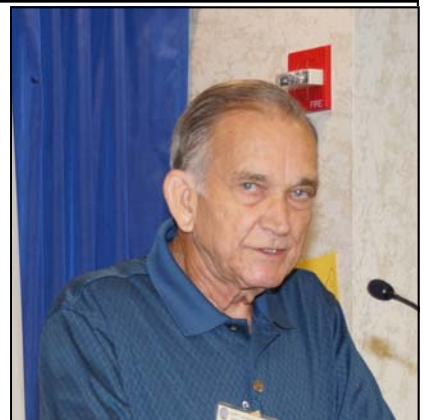
Honored Benefactor \$2500 Auston & Alice Pusey

Benefactor \$1000 Dan & Barbara Durham

COMMUNICATION CONTEST FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

The title for the CCDHH contest this year is "How My Optimism Will Help Me Press on to Greater Achievements of the Future". This may be the longest title ever for the contest, but it is very appropriate. Youth today, as well as adults, need all the Optimism and Hope that they can get. You will have the opportunity to help spread that Hope and Optimism in your community. Ms. Vernelson, with the North Carolina Department of Instruction, will send the information out to every school system in the state. If your club contacts the person dealing with the deaf in your school system, you may be able to get a contestant for the contest. This is a great opportunity for the student to compete for the \$2,500. scholarship.

I will need the information on how many will be participating by April 1, 2015. That will give me time to set up preliminary contests, if there is a need. The final contest will be held at the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf in Wilson on Thursday, April 30th (details still have to be worked out).



For additional information you can go to the web site or contact Bill Edgerton, 919-920-8541 or bedgerton4@nc.rr.com.

NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

First Quarter District Convention Meeting

City Hotel & Bistro - Greenville, NC

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 7, 2014

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

James Lamm	Governor
Errol Warren	Past Governor
Angela Iwaniuk	Secretary/Treasurer
Tom Lamont	Lt. Governor Zone 1
Gary Pender	Lt. Governor Zone 3
Ricky Wester	Lt. Governor Zone 4

Other Guests: Lou Anna Hardee - Club Services Chairperson and Doug Lamm - Convention Chairperson

The following clubs were represented: Zone 1 - Wilmington, Winter Park; Zone 3 - Greenville, Goldsboro; Zone 4 - Wilson Evening, Wilson Golden Circle; Wilson Bennett; Zone 5 - Rocky Mount Evening

Governor Jimmy Lamm called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

All participated in the Pledge of Allegiance and Doug Lamm gave the invocation.

Governor Jimmy Lamm welcomed everyone.

The Fourth Quarter Board Meeting Minutes were reported by Gary Pender for Alan Ludlum. Two changes were made (last page "Distant" was changed to "District" and "Canada" was changed to "Candidate") Motion to accept with changes was made by Gary Pender - Goldsboro Optimists, seconded by Tom Lamont - Winter Park Optimists - Approved.

Fourth Quarter Financial Report was made for Alan Ludlum. Motion to accept was made by Erroll Warren - Rocky Mount Evening Optimists, seconded by Gary Pender - Goldsboro Optimists- Approved.

Governor Jimmy Lamm addressed the executive committee board to get the board confirmation of secretary-treasurer appointee Angela Iwaniuk. Ricky Wester made a motion to approve and Tom Lamont seconded. The executive board approved confirmation.

The 2014 - 2015 North Carolina East District proposed budget was presented. After the budget was reviewed and questions were answered, Tom Lamont - Winter Park Optimist, made a motion to accept the proposed budget. Rickie Wester - Wilson Bennett Optimist seconded. The budget was accepted & approved by all.

Zone Reports were given by all of the Lt. Governors who were in attendance. Those with written reports distributed copies.

There was discussion of the Oratorical Contest voting policy change. There was a proposal made last

quarter to change the voting for separate or combined gender contests to take place in the third quarter instead of the 4th quarter and there was also some interest in making a permanent policy change to make our District Oratorical a combined gender contest each year unless a future change is proposed, so that annual voting will not be required each year. Follow-up will continue at the next Executive Board Meeting after clarification with OI to determine how to proceed with the proposed changes.

Lieutenant Governor of Zone 3, Gary Pender - Goldsboro Optimist, suggested that the board begin preparing for rezoning of the district. The Zones are showing more disparity in the number of clubs and members and he believes it is definitely time to look at equalizing the zones and to also consider geographical locations more closely in the possible realignment of zones. Governor Lamm will be contacting the Rezoning Committee members prior to the next Executive Board meeting to determine if they are ready to submit a proposal for rezoning. Alan Ludlum is the Chair for the Rezoning committee and other members include Erroll Warren and Jerry Medlin. Follow-up will take place at the second-quarter District meeting.

Governor James Lamm thanked his team members for their commitment. He reminded us of the upcoming District meetings and he expressed his hopes that changing locations each quarter will help to rejuvenate our District meetings and encourage attendance.

We closed with the Optimist Creed by all.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM

Angela Iwaniuk
District Secretary-
Treasurer



The Rocky Mount Evening Optimist Club recently presented the Christian D. Larson Award to long time members Roy Tyson and Randy Todd.

Presentation of award at nursing home by Club Members to Randy Todd. left to right: Vivian Davis, Norman Davis, David Hodges, Randy Todd, Tommy Peele, Valoria Peele

NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT -
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

FIRST QUARTER BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING

City Hotel & Bistro ~ Greenville, N.C.

Saturday, November 8, 2014

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

James Lamm	Governor
Allan Ludlum	Governor-Elect & Past Dist. Secretary/Treasurer
Angela Iwaniuk	District Secretary/Treasurer
Errol Warren	Immediate Past Governor
Tom Lamont	Lt. Governor Zone 1 - Winter Park
Gary Pender	Lt. Governor Zone 3 - Goldsboro
Ricky Wester	Lt. Governor Zone 4 - Wilson Bennett

Clubs Represented: Cape Fear, Chapel Hill, Elizabethtown, Elm City, Goldsboro, Greenville, Henderson, Roanoke Rapids, Rocky Mt Evening, Roxboro, Whiteville, Wilmington, Wilson Bennett, Wilson Golden Circle and Wilson Evening.

Governor James Lamm called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag & the invocation were given.

Governor James Lamm recognized first time attendees and introduced other guests.

The minutes for the 4th Quarter meeting were presented by Alan Ludlum. A motion to accept was made by Louwanna Pender of Goldsboro - Seconded by Trish Verne of Chapel Hill - Approved.

The 4th Quarter Financial Report was presented by Alan Ludlum. A motion to accept was made by Sandy Cyphers of Wilmington, Winter Park - Seconded by Trish Verne of Chapel Hill - Approved.

2014-2015 Proposed Budget - presented by Alan Ludlum - Past District Secretary/Treasurer. Motion to accept as proposed & final budget was made by Gary Pender of Goldsboro - Seconded by Doug Lamm of Wilson Evening Club - Approved.

At 8:45 chairperson reports started.

Leadership Development was discussed by Chairperson, Sandy Cyphers. She highlighted the training that took place at the Annual Convention in Myrtle Beach and stressed the fact that our organization needs to continue to grow and train leaders for our future success. Sandy also provided information about upcoming events for Leadership Development.

Next, Sandy (OI Ambassador) talked about the 2015 International Convention which will be held in New Orleans, LA on July 9 - 11, 2015. She encouraged

everyone to plan to attend the convention and suggested that we look into renting a 15 passenger van to help accommodate a large group of us traveling together. She also passed out a few Mardi Gras beads and 100 Grand candy bar to members who answered questions.

Sandy next discussed New Club Building and reminded everyone to continue to look for opportunities to build new clubs this year.

Sandy also gave out PGI awards and recognition for 2013-2014. The following members have progressed in PGI. Lou Anna Hardee + 2 levels; Billy Edgerton + 2 levels; Linda Shepherd + 5 levels and Wayne Sidelinger has moved to the highest level, level 10. Next, she drew the names for the \$100 incentives and Wayne Sidelinger won \$100 incentive and the Greenville Club also won a \$100 incentive.

Sandy discussed Women's Philanthropy and is requesting donations for the Foundation through Women's Philanthropy. Each \$100 donation will earn five entries into a drawing for a 2-night stay at Landmark in Myrtle Beach.

Sandy also reminded everyone about the Essay Contest Deadline of February 28, 2015. Chairperson, Joan Williams was not present and had asked Sandy to remind everyone to read the Bulletin article with all the information surrounding this year's Essay Contest - which will be titled "Optimism should be a priority".

The 2013-14 fourth quarter A & A Awards were handed out by David Hodges. The top club in the District was South Johnston and the top three clubs for the "Club of the Year" were #1 - South Johnston -

#2 - Wilson Golden Circle and #3 - Whiteville. The top Zones for the year were First Place - Zone 3 - Second Place - Zone 6 and Third Place - Zone 5.

The Junior Golf report was also given by David Hodges. No dates have been set at this time and several locations are being evaluated. The tournament will probably take place in May. More information will be available after the first of the year.

The 2014 NC East Convention was recapped by Lou Anna Hardee, last year's chairperson.

2015 NC East Convention information was given by Doug Lamm, which will be held at Landmark Resort August 20- 23, 2015, more information to follow as dates get closer.

Linda Watson gave the College Club report and she encouraged members to look for opportunities to start some new college clubs.

The NC East Web Site information & Internet Safety report & information was given by Allan Ludlum. He asked for clubs to send him updated information for club web sites or Facebook pages.

The Childhood Cancer Campaign & Roll Call information was given by Trish Verne.

A break was taken between 10:15-10:45 am. At 10:45 chairperson reports restarted.

The Boys and Girls Homes report & Roll Call was given by Gary Pender and Ean Callahan. The Annual

Optimist Work Day will be held on March 14, 2015.

The 2014-15 Membership Chairman, Brenda Farmer reminded everyone of the new membership incentives for this year which is a \$10 Walmart gift card for bringing in a new member. Our challenge for this year is to grow our clubs, zones and districts by 10%. This should be a very reachable goal and the first club in the District to reach their goal will be treated to a hot dog cookout later in the year.

Community Activity Report and information was given by Lou Anna Hardee.

The oratorical contest information & remarks were given by Yancey Hines. This year's topic is "How my optimism will help me press on to the greater achievements of the future." Yancey had a handout which members used for brainstorming on different ways to recruit contestants.

2013-14 OI Foundation information & Roll Call was given by Bill Edgerton. CCDHH information was

also given by Bill Edgerton.

Candidate Qualifications information, given by Errol Warren.

Governor-Elect, Alan Ludlum gave a brief overview of his plans for his upcoming year (2015-2016).

Closing remarks were made by Governor James Lamm. The meeting closed with the Optimist Creed being recited by all members. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Angela Iwaniuk

District Secretary-Treasurer



Many of the photos in this issue of the Bulletin were taken and contributed by Yancey Hines.

Goldsboro Optimist



Edmund Farfour, left, is presented with the Christian D. Larson Partners Award from Raymond Clark, President of the Optimist Club of Goldsboro.



Children are the Light of the Future



*If we believe we can do it,
then we do it, we believe!*

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.

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 anyone sees a problem with the web site links or wrong information to also email me about the corrections.

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