

North Carolina East Optimist News

Hello Optimist & Friends,

I want to again say it is an honor and privilege for me to serve as the 2015-2016 Governor of the North Carolina East District of Optimist International. I am humbled by your confidence.

We have another challenging year for all. With our Growth Team and all members working together, this will be yet another year to remember! Our organizations success depends upon YOU!

I invite each of you to join us at our 1st Quarter District Meeting at Boys and Girls Home of North Carolina at Lake Waccamaw. District meetings are not just for club officers; rather they are for all Optimists. I encourage each club to send your members to the business session and training, to learn more about our volunteer organization. This training is vital to keep our clubs active, growing and serving, "Just ask" your members to attend for the training!

Together we can do so much more than alone! This also will afford all members an opportunity to network with other Optimists, participate in an exchange of ideas and projects with other clubs, and take back to their club ideas and projects that



might be expanded to serve youth in their community. We encourage each club to be represented.

We will start our district meeting with registration opening at 3 PM at the Boys and Girls Home in the Fellowship Hall. At 6 PM we walk over to Dale seafood and enjoy great seafood and enjoy the fellowship with other optimists. Then at 7 PM back to the Fellowship Hall to raise money for the Boys and Girls Home and the OI Foundation with our annual

auction. Saturday will get started early with our executive board meeting at 8 AM. Then at 9 AM we will begin our general session. At the general session you will meet all of the new chairpersons for the 2015- 2016 year, get information for Essay and Oratorical contest, Junior golf, club fitness, membership, new club building and updates from all the other chairpersons.

Again, I look forward to the challenges of serving as Governor of the North Carolina East District. The efforts and contributions of all Members will dictate our success. As we grow, we should not lose focus on the real reason we are a part of this great organization. We are truly the "Friend of Youth", so let's support our young people accordingly. Since our mission this year is to grow our District, I'll conclude with these parting words, from Past Governor Auston Pusey, "Remember, Membership is an honor

and privilege....so share it."

Our membership recruitment incentives are outlined in this newsletter to help you set membership recruitment incentives for your club, and to help grow our organization. Let's begin conducting NOW Programs during the first quarter to attract new members. Growth starts at the club level!

Yours in Optimism,

Allan Ludlum

Allan Ludlum

Governor 2015-2016

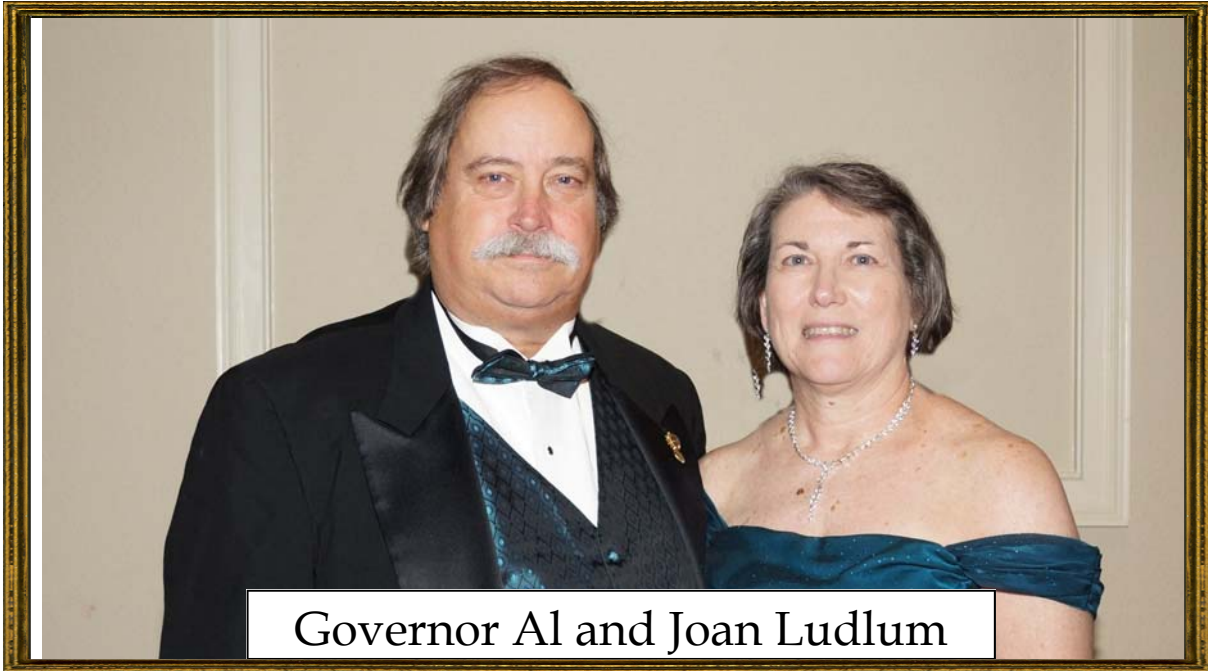
"Right Here Right Now, Being a Friend of Youth in our Communities!"

Boys & Girls Home Golf Tournament Thursday at NCE Convention



From Left: 1st Place, Whiteville's Team, Don Harritan; 2nd Place, Raleigh Dinner's team, Carlton Baird; 3rd Place, Cape Fear's Team, Auston Pusey.

Leaders for 2015-2016



Governor Al and Joan Ludlum



Secr/Treas Don and Judy Harritan



Lt. Governors and Governor Elect 2015-2016



Lt. Governor Zone 1-2, Phil Best.



Lt. Governor Zone 3, Brenda Farmer and John.



Lt. Governor Zone 4, Lou Anna Hardee and Curtis.



Lt. Governor Zone 5, Gary Pender and Louwanna.



Lt. Governor Zone 6, Jerry Medlin and Jean.



Governor Elect Jim Hart.



Spectators at Duck Race

Installing & Pin Pining



Installing, Past Gov. Jimmy Lamm, Installing Officer, OI Exec. Dir. Benny Ellerbe & Gov. Elect Jim Hart.



Benny Ellerbe installing District Secretary/Treasurer Don Harritan.



Installing, Brenda Farmer, Benny Ellerbe, Phil Best & Lou Anna Hardee.



Benny Ellerbe, installing Gov. Al Ludlum & Joan Ludlum.



District Secretary/Treasurer Don Harritan and Judy Harritan.



John & Brenda Farmer, Benny Ellerbe, Phil Best, Sandy Cyphers, Lou Anna & Curtis Hardee



BOYS & GIRLS HOMES

of North Carolina



Hello Optimist

As you plan your new year and your clubs budget I would like to ask that you remember the Children at the Boys and Girls Homes this year. If you attend the 1st Quarter District Meeting please take the time and visit the Optimist Cottage. You will be pleased with how it looks. There are 7 boys in the Optimist cottage and are doing great. The Flemington Academy which is the school on campus run by the Boys and Girls Homes, is doing great. The school is really growing fast and they just had a ground breaking for a new middle school. We could not ask for a better person to run the school as Tom Simmons is doing such a great job. The Lake House for pregnant teen moms is growing as well and they currently have three moms and three babies. They have almost fin-

ished remodeling another building to house three more moms and their babies, that just shows you how much love the staff at the Boys and Girls Homes have for the children in this world today. The pecan trees are full of pecans and it looks like they are going to have a lot of pecans this year. Please call Gary Greene or Ray Cockrell and plan for your club to visit the Boys and Girls Homes and eat with the boys in the Optimist cottage and take a tour of the campus. I look forward to seeing all of you at the District Meeting at Lake Waccamaw.



Gary Pender
NC East District Chair
B&G Homes



From Left donations to Boys and Girls Home during Alter Call: Rocky Mount Evening, Henry Edmundson; Century Club Gift, Billy Edgerton, Goldsboro; Elm City, Linda Shepherd.

New Club Building



Why Build New Clubs?

We, as Optimists, strive to bring out the best in our youth. We do this through our service projects. Optimist clubs have offered people opportunities to give back to their communities and help the youth of their communities since 1919. Whenever an Optimist club forms, the community gets better because Optimists are ready, willing and able to improve their communities by serving others and working to make things better.

Organizing a new club gives more people the chance

to make a difference, to assist those in need and to introduce new projects to a community. There is no limit to where or how many community-based clubs can be formed.

Where there is need, an Optimist club can help. Optimist clubs can also

look different now from how they have in the past, there can be cyber clubs which basically only meet in person to perform projects, but handle the organizing and planning via email, texting, teleconferencing, etc. There can also be clubs which focus on one major project instead of many smaller projects.

We currently have 35 clubs in our District. While we need to maintain the health and vitality of our existing clubs, we also need to consider the communities in our district which do not have an Optimist club. We should consider all the youth who may not get a much needed helping hand as so many do in the communities where we are currently located.

There are several locations which may benefit from an Optimist club setting up shop in their communities. The following are some of the areas which are without an Optimist club. Williamston, Plymouth,

Windsor, Louis-
burg, Kinston,
New Bern, Have-

lock, Jacksonville, Fayetteville, Lumberton, Elizabeth City, Kitty Hawk and the Outer Banks area. There are numerous small towns that may also benefit from an Optimist club, such as Farmville, Ahoskie, Snow Hill, Spring Hope, Zebulon and many others.

Wouldn't you like to know that you helped to build a new Optimist club? Wouldn't it be wonderful to know that you played a part in helping to improve a community and the lives of its youth? I believe we have members in our district who are capable of doing this. After an area is identified as a prime location for a new club, the next step is to start asking people in the community to come to an informational meeting which can help to identify the specific needs of the community. Key people to invite include community leaders, local professionals, relatives, neighbors, friends, colleagues, people you do business with, and religious affiliates. All it takes is one or two key people to help start "a fire" for Optimism in each community and then to help spread that "fire".

Let's look for opportunities to share Optimism all over eastern NC!! Please call me with your ideas and your willingness to help build new clubs in our district. We need you!

Angela Iwaniuk

New Club Building
2015-2016 Cell Phone -
252-289-5050



PERSONAL GROWTH AND INVOLVEMENT

This ten level program through Optimist International helps optimist members to become more knowledgeable about our organization as well as a better volunteer and better person for "FRIEND OF YOUTH."

As Optimists we are already aware of the many benefits of being an Optimist, "A Friend of Youth" and "Bringing Out the Best in Youth" which are the top reasons and benefits but the next benefit is the P.G.I. program.

Through communication training, self-development modules you are taught and other personal growth activities, you will have a deeper appreciation for the organization and also will enhance your very own leadership and personal skills. I guess you could say it affords you the opportunity to learn more about yourself and to grow as an individual and an optimist.

The district recognizes Optimist members as they achieve each new level within the ten level program with a colored border to wear attached to your optimist pin. The ultimate achievement is Level Ten. Each optimist member that achieves Level Ten are recognized on stage at the International Convention and receives a special background insignia to wear with the optimist pen.

Congratulations to all the North Carolina East District Optimists that have attained LEVEL 10.... There are many of you that could easily achieve up to Level 9 by just completing the requested information

in the Passport Booklet.

It's easy to get started and if you have already started, continue to work on achieving all ten levels. It's not too late, even if you have been an Optimist for years..in fact that makes it easier for you to achieve the levels faster. Make it one of your New Years' Resolution as an Optimist to strive to achieve a level or two. You'll be glad you did.

PLEASE SEND ALL REQUESTS FOR LEVELS TO ME AND I WILL FORWARD THE INFORMATION TO OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL. Sending the information to Optimist International will take longer in that they will return the request back to me for submission..

If you would like more information on the P.G.I. Program, check out the Optimist web site at www.optimist.com or give me a call. I am here as the District Chairman to assist you in your desire to grow with our organization.

Sandy Cyphers

N.C. East District P.G.I.
Chairman

P.O. Box 3523

Wilmington, NC 28406

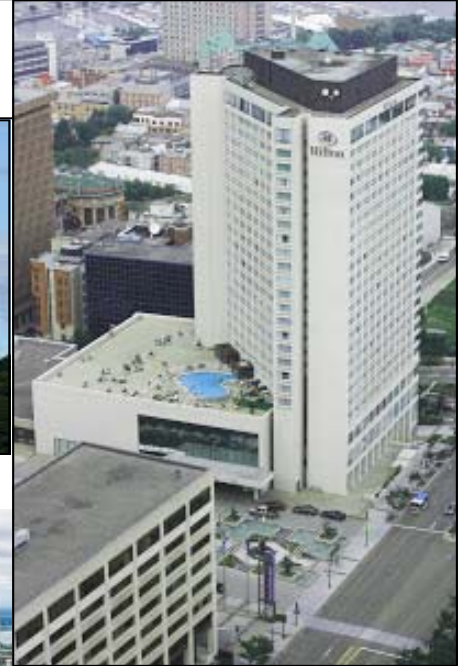
910-367-3295



Photos prior to duck race

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

International Convention for 2016 will be in Quebec City, Canada June 30 to Jul; 2. Headquarters Hotel Hilton Quebec.



Good morning optimist, welcome to the 2015-16 optimist year. I look forward to working with your club this year. a great way to share the programs and activities that your club has provided for the youth in your community is to participate in the district activity and achievement program. this program allows

Thanks to all who supported and participated in our District Fund Raiser. We sold a total of 172 tickets and added \$3440 to our District Treasury.

your club to brag about your club through the hard work the club has done in the youth activities being provided in your community. The A

& A program awards a certificate of achievement for the top ten club each quarter and for the top club in each zone for the quarter. A certificate of participation for each club

that was not in the top ten each quarter is also provided. The top three clubs are given a certificate for the full 2015-16 year. Your Lt. governors are also given a certificate each quarter for the top three achievers each quarter. I look

forward to receiving your quarterly reports for this year. this year the reporting forms will available on the district website and the same form will be used for all four quarters and will be on January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15.



be

A&A Club Winners – Top Ten Clubs

3rd Quarter 2014-2015



No 1, Golden Circle, Brenda Farmer; No. 2, Cape Fear, Auston Pusey; No. 3, Goldsboro, Raymond Clark; No. 4, South Johnston, David Bast; No. 5, Henderson, Tommy Farmer.



No. 6, Whiteville, Don Harritan; No. 7, Wake Forest, Absent when photo was taken; No. 8, Wilson Breakfast, Accepting, Carol Collier; No. 9, Chapel Hill, Trish Verne; No 10, Raleigh, David Bast.

A&A Club Winners 3rd Quarter 2014-2015

Top Club in Each Zone



Zone 1, Cape Fear, Auston Pusey; Zone 2, Whiteville, Don Harritan; Zone 3, Goldsboro, Raymond Clark; Zone 4, Golden Circle, Brenda Farmer; Zone 5, Henderson, Tommy Farmer; Zone 6, South Johnston, David Bast.

Top 3 Lt. Governors



No. 1, Lt. Governor David Bast; No. 2, Lt. Governor Rickie Wester, Accepting Carol Collier; No. 3, Lt. Governor Jim Hart.



Dan Durham, NCE District A&A Chair

Banquet, Saturday Night, District Convention



DePratt & Linda Watson, John & Brenda Farmer, Wanda & Doug Lamm.



Will & Angela Iwaniuk. Janice & Jimmy Lamm.



Barbara & Dan Durham, Carey & Ellen Foster, Jan and Billy Edgerton.



OI Rep. Benny Ellerbe, Al & Joan Ludlum, Judy & Don Harritan.



Rich & Patsy Cash, Betty & Carlton Baird.



John & Linda Shepherd, Carol Collier & Rickie West-er.



Al Ludlum's family, my sister Susan Phipps, her husband, Mike Phipps, my Daughter Casey Ludlum, her boyfriend, Lucas Borton & my mother Mercedes Ludlum



Sandy Cyphers & Ray Spitz



Henry Edmundson, Sam Toler, Tommy and Valoria Peele



Yancey & Nancy Hines, Trish & Bob Verne.



Lou Anna & Curtis Hardee, Darrell and Debra Fulcher, Auston Pusey.



Thurman Murphy, Jim and Linda Hart.



James & Cheryl Bowen, Melissa Skinner & Errol Warren.

Governor's Reception



District Membership 2014-2015

Greetings Fellow Optimists. There are a lot exciting Membership Recruiting Incentives going on in Optimist International and more specifically in our NC East District. As for Optimist International Incentives, please log onto the main web site (www.optimist.org) and you will see all incentives available, both at the club level and individual level. One of my personal favorites is the progressive pin levels, starting at 10, then 25 and advancing in 25 member increments through 250. If you don't know for sure where you stand, you may contact Jackie Moore at OI Headquarters. Include your name and club number. My challenge is for ALL members to shoot for their next pin level! As Membership Chair, I pledge to achieve my next level.

I won't go into detail, but Governor Al has extended the gift card program from last year. We will most likely reach out to other venues, as well as Wal Mart for the \$10 gift cards. Also, there will be several opportunities for you to win Hotel Accommodations for our annual NC East Convention. Details will be

provided at the first quarter meeting.

I would like to encourage all clubs to evaluate their rosters and clean them early, so as to have the whole year to recuperate their losses. We NEED new blood and I encourage you to seek new members with new ideas. The 30 for 30 has been extended. Recruit a new member 30 years or younger and their dues are only \$30 for their first year.

I'm looking forward to a great year of growth for our District. Our organization needs our support and most importantly, the real beneficiaries of our efforts is our youth.

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

Auston Pusey

Membership Chair 2015 - 2016



\$10 Gift Certificates for bring in a new member.

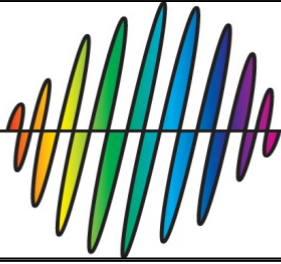
- Dane Brown 1
- Harry Edmondson 1
- Rusty Ramsey 2
- Charles Fitch 1
- Kevin Hiderman 1

- James Charard 1
- Mark Ward 3
- David Whales 1
- Eloise Register 1
- Janice Lamm 1
- Ricky Reinwand 1

The following members received certificated for attending OI Convention in New Orleans.

- Sandy Cyphers
- Barbara Timmons
- Dan Durham
- Billy Edgerton
- Jan Edgerton
- Carey Foster

- Ellen Foster
- Joyce Leake
- Russell Leake
- Al Ludlum
- Ronnie McLamb
- Linda Shepherd
- Wayne Sidelinger
- Errol Warren



COMMUNICATION CONTEST for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL 

Topic: “How My Best Brings Out The Best In Others”

This contest is designed to offer a chance for young people who are deaf or hard of hearing to present *their thoughts on a topic in a public forum*. This experience helps to develop the leadership skills and confidence to present in sign or orally to a large *audience*. *The program also provides a valuable opportunity to compete for a \$2,500 college scholarship*. Nearly 500 clubs and 45 districts sponsor this wonderful program each year!

How to Enter Contestants place entries with their local club by completing an application and winning that club’s nomination for the District Contest.

Applications are available from the District CCDHH Chair. However, any one can easily download applications and contest rules from the Optimist International web site at www.optimist.org or the NC East District website at www.nceast-optimist.org.

Eligibility The contest is open to young people through grade 12 who are recognized by their school as deaf or hard of hearing and are verified as such on the contest entry form. Students interested in participating in the contest must submit the results of an audiogram conducted no longer than 24 months prior to the date of the contest from a qualified audiologist. Students must be certified to have a hearing loss of 40 decibels or more by a qualified audiologist and supported by the audiogram to be eligible to compete. Students with a lower level of hearing loss should be encouraged to participate in the Optimist Oratorical contest, as opposed to the CCDHH contest. Students attending either public school or schools providing special services are eligible to enter. A student who has won an Optimist International CCDHH scholarship of any kind is not eligible to re-enter this contest.

Topic For the 2016 contest: “How My Best Brings Out The Best In Others”

Contest Organization and Prizes: **The District contest will be held on April 28, 2016 at the Eastern NC School For The Deaf in Wilson, NC. The presentations are judged in a single contest at the District level. Students may use sign language, an oral presentation or a combination of both to compete. Both styles are judged using the same criteria. The District winner will be presented with a \$2500 scholarship.**



Key Dates: The following documents must be received by the District contest Chair by April 14th, 2016.

1. A copy of the application.
2. A copy of the applicant's proof of age.
3. A typed, double-spaced copy of the speech.

For more information, contact the District CCDHH Chair:

Angela Iwaniuk (252-289-5050)



Friday Night Buffet



N.C. EAST DISTRICT ESSAY CONTEST

Offer the Opportunity to the youth in your communities!

Topic: “Lead by Example: Reality or Fiction”

The Essay Contest provides young people the opportunity to write about their own opinions regarding the world in which they live.

Interested students prepare an essay on the pre-assigned topic between 700 to 800 words in length and submit it to their local Optimist Club. The essays are judged at the Club level, District level and the International level.

Applications, official rules and a program guide are available from the Optimist International website. The official Club Essay Contest program planning guide (Club Chair Packet) contains full instructions, forms and planning materials for organizing and conducting your Club’s Essay Contest. The planning guide includes a copy of the entry application and official rules. It is available on the Optimist International website at www.optimist.org/Documents/Essay_Club_Chair_14-15.pdf

A package of materials on how to plan for the Essay Contest is available on the Package Programs page of the OI website:

www.optimist.org/e/member/programs5.cfm.

Eligibility: Contestants must be under the age of 19 years who have not yet graduated from high school or the equivalent, regardless of when the



Club, Zone, or District contest is held. There is no minimum age. See the official contest rules for additional eligibility requirements. Students attending school on military



installations outside the United States are eligible to enter in their last home of record. Students who have previously won an Optimist International Essay Scholarship are not eligible to compete in this competition again.

Prizes: Club Level – medallion. Clubs are allowed to give monetary awards of up to \$500 per winner for the Essay contest in addition to the official medallions. The Club level awards may be given in the form of a scholarship, savings bond or cash prize but are completely discretionary.

District Level – Winner receives a plaque and a \$2,500 college scholarship.

International Level – First-place: winner’s plaque, recognition in The Optimist magazine

● Clubs entries must be delivered or mailed to the District chair and be postmarked no later than **February 28, 2016**.

Sandy Cyphers

N.C. East District Essay Chair

2026 Albert Circle

Wilmington, NC 28403

910-367-3295



Photos of Duck Race

District Club Fitness/Club Services Chair

Hello Optimists,

As Club Fitness District Chair, I would like to encourage each member and club to think about what we can do “to serve more youth” in our communities. At the NC East District Annual Convention, you were encouraged to take a look at your club and your community, **assess where you are** and **where you would like to be**, **set your goals**, and **determine action needed to meet those goals**. If you have not already done this, please do so quickly. We are already mid-way of the first quarter and with the holidays fast approaching, Christmas Tree Sales for many clubs, and other commitments, it will be 2016 before we realize it.

That being said, let’s turn our focus on serving youth in our community but also by obtaining the recognition you deserve, as well. Governor Allan Ludlum has announced his Incentives for 2015-16 and Optimist International’s 2015-16 Incentives remain unchanged which are:

Honor Club

- Complete at least three service projects a year and submit President's Pride Report
- Recognize a Club member or local community individual by completing an Award Certification Document
- Grow Club by net plus 1
- Be current on District and OI dues

Distinguished Club

- Meet the Honor Club Criteria plus
- Net of 15 or Charter a New Club

The above incentives are doable and to achieve these incentives, be vigilant in your efforts to grow your club’s **membership** by recruiting new members and Friends of Optimists, but also by retaining the members you have. All members want to be involved, so “*Just Ask*” and see what they want to help with. Plan a **NOW Program** and also, be aware of other incentives that may be provided by the NC East District Membership Chair.

Another area for consideration is **PGI, Personal Growth and Involvement**—this is a program where “all” members can get involved and reap self-satisfaction as they reach additional levels in improving one’s personal growth. See Governor Ludlum’s incentives for PGI participation in this bulletin.

Participate in the **Achievement and Awards Program**—be proud of your club’s activities and file the A & A Report by requested dates. Use the A & A Reports for your club to assist with the President’s Pride Report next September.

Another “**important item**” is **finance and reporting**—ensure that all dues are paid and reports filed by specified timelines which are included

in the NC East Directory and on-line at www.nceast-optimist.org

Last but not least, **New Club Building**—take a look around you and see if an area could benefit from a new Optimist Club. Once determined, work with the New Club Building Chair to make this a reality to serve more youth.

My goal is for “all” Clubs to be “*Honor*” or “*Distinguished*” and the NC East District “*Distinguished*.” I will strive to give my 100%; so, let’s have **100% participation** by **all clubs** and if there is anything that our district chairs or I can do to assist you, please contact the respective chair or me. Remember—“*Serving Youth Today -- Grows Optimist for Tomorrow.*”

With this being the first bulletin for 2015-16, I want to challenge each club to have the most successful year ever. And according to Governor Allan Ludlum – “*Right Here Right Now, Being a Friend of Youth in Our Communities.*”

Yours in Optimism,

Lou Anna

**Lou Anna Hardee,
District Chair
NC East Club Fitness**



????

Lets ask ourselves a few questions??? You be the judge of whether you pass or still may be in the learning process...

1. WHERE COULD WE AS OPTIMISTS IN OUR RESPECTIVE CLUBS FIND FUTURE OPTIMIST MEMBERS?
2. WHO OR WHAT INDIVIDUALS COULD HELP WITH OUR OPTIMIST CLUB PROJECTS?
3. WHO ARE POSSIBLE PERSPECTIVE LEADERS IN THE FUTURE FOR THE OPTIMIST ORGANIZATION?
4. HOW AND WHERE DO WE FIND THESE INDIVIDUALS?

THE ANSWER.....J.O.O.I. Junior Optimist Octagon International

It is a true fact that J.O.O.I. members have become great adult optimist members that help with thousands of projects conducted by optimist clubs. They have become leaders in their respective clubs and in the International organization. These future members and

leaders can be found down the road from us, around the corner from us, across the street, in elementary, middle and high schools, in a sport group, a boy or girl's scout troop, a church group, a library group, a sport's group, a boy's or girl's club....the list could go on and on and on....

Now, Why not share J.O.O.I. with kids in your club's community? It's easy "JUST ASK" for help to get started and your club would be on its way to "Sharing Optimism" with our younger generation while also reaping rewards from building a J.O.O.I. group. Ask me know how I can help you or your club start the process..."Just Ask"...

Sandy Cyphers
N.C. East District J.O.O.I. Chairman
2015-2016 Optimist International J.O.O.I. Chairman
910-367-3295



Random Convention Training Photos. Contributed by Darrell Fulcher, Training Chairman



Hospitality Room



The Hospitality Room was hosted by Zone 4 but many members from other clubs spent considerable time preparing food and serving. Many thanks to Wilson Evening, Golden Circle, Goldsboro, Rocky Mount Evening, Elm City, Roanoke Rapids, Wilson Bennett, Greenville, Cape Fear.





Tom Lamont receiving Presidents Award from OIF Chair Billy Edgerton

Dime-A-Day Awards

- Kathy Brenan
- Mark Harritan, Whiteville
- Debra Fulcher, Cape Fear
- Jimmy Lamm, Wilson Evening



First, I would like to thank all of the clubs and the individual members in our district for your contributions last year. Out of 40 districts in Optimist International, we came in as number 12 in dollars per member and number 19 in total unrestricted dollars donated to the OI Foundation. The NC West District was 33rd and 23rd respectively. We did not meet our goal for last year, but we did better than most.

My hope is that we can meet our goal during the current year. Our goal for 2015-2016 is \$22,755.97. We have donated near that amount during a few years and surpassed it one year. This is an achievable goal, but it will take all of us to meet it. I was recently approached with an idea that I think will enable us to meet the goal. The details will be provided before our February meeting. It will pertain to all clubs and the club, including its members, that donate the most dollars per member will win a fantastic prize.

The details will be provided later, but the contest will be for the entire year. As most of you know, the motto of the Foundation is "Helping Optimist Help Kids". The Foundation is a very integral part of our organization and is worthy of our support.

If you have any questions about the Foundation, please let me know. I am willing to talk with anyone or any club about the Foundation.

Bill Edgerton

Happy



Thanksgiving

Optimist Junior Golf Tournament



Junior Golf is alive and well in NC East.

Optimist International has not to date provided District Golf Chairmen with information and de-

tails of the 2016 Optimist International Junior Golf Championships program. We hope to get that information soon so that we can secure venues and set dates for this year's NC East District's tournaments. Nevertheless, NC East District is surging on toward quickly becoming Optimist International's leader in support of Junior Golf.

This past July Governor Al , Ken Dixon, Eric Norville, and I drove down to Palm Beach Gardens, Florida for a week and volunteered as shuttle drivers at PGA National at THE OPTIMIST. The event is run like a well-oiled machine, and it is amazing to witness just how special this event is to the kids. Optimist International ranks Junior Golf as the "hottest thing that our organization has going". This year a third week was added to THE OPTIMIST, and OI has developed "Tour of Champions" events to further serve youth.

On October 19, 2015, 10 NC East District members and volunteers prepared and served lunch to 71 girl golfers, 24 coaches and over 150 parents and spectators at the 2015 Girls High School 3-A Golf Regionals at Wedgewood Country Club, Wilson, NC. The event served as a Pre-Qualifier for the NC East Optimist Qualifier in Spring 2016. It is a goal this year to focus on getting more girls interested in playing in Qualifier. I believe that we will soon host one of the largest fields of junior golfers for THE OPTIMIST in the Optimist world.

I encourage all NC East District Optimist members to get on board and support our Junior Golf program. There are junior golfers in every community in NC East that want to play in a great golf tournament like ours if they just had the chance.

The NC East District has some of the best junior golf-

From left: David Hodges, Big Ben and Gov. Al Ludlum. Not sure the moral of this photo.



ers in the world. I promise that our District's work with our junior golfers has not gone unnoticed. We are building goodwill in your community with every young golfer we serve.

Be a part of Optimist International's best District in Junior Golf. Volunteer to help and you'll soon see why Junior Golf is Optimist International's number one program.



David Hodges Junior Golf Chair

- **The International Goals for the 2015-16 year - (Same as 2014-15)**

- **Honor club** - Complete at least three service projects a year and submit President's Pride Report.
- Recognize a Club member or local community individual by completing an Award Certification Document.
- Grow Club by net plus 1
- Be current on District and OI dues
- **Distinguished Club** - Meet the Honor Club Criteria plus
- Net of 15 or Charter a New Club



2015-2016 NC EAST DISTRICT INCENTIVES

- In the **Membership area- Auston Pusey Chairperson**
- We will continue the Wal-Mart Cards (or possibly another Vender) for each Regular, 30 Under 30 or New Friends of Optimist (FOO) members added.
 - *Yes, the 30 Under 30 member program will continue for the 2015-16 year, please take advantage of this program to bring in new younger members to your club.*
- Also for each Regular and/or 30 Under 30 member added, your name will be in a drawing (First Place) to get 2 nights hotel room at 2016 District Convention and (Second Place) to get 1 night hotel room at 2016 District Convention.
- Also for each Friend Of Optimist member added your name will be in a drawing (First Place) to get 2 nights hotel room at 2016 District Convention and (Second Place) to get 1 night hotel room at 2016 District Convention.
- Membership Pin Levels - For each Level you reach (5, 10, 25, 50, 75, 100, 125) your name will be in the Regular and/or 30 Under 30 drawing (**(ABOVE)**) (First Place) to get 1 night hotel room & Registration at 2016 District Convention and (Second Place) to get Registration at 2016 District Convention.
- For **Club Presidents** I have a **TOP 5 Incentives**
- For each Club that completes **ALL** of the following by Aug 1st, 2016
- 1. Donates to OI Foundation.
- 2. Donates to CCC.
- 3. Donates to Boys & Girls Home.

- 4. Sponsors 3 Golfers in Jr Golf.
- 5. Is + 5 in Membership.
- The clubs completing all the above will have their club's President, Secretary and Treasure's name placed in a drawing for their registration to be paid and will receive 1 night hotel room at the 2016 District Convention.

- **Club Presidents TOP 10 Incentives**

- For each Club that completes 7 out of the 10 of the following by Aug 1st, 2016

- 1. Donates to OI Foundation.
- 2. Donates to CCC.
- 3. Donates to Boys & Girls Home.
- 4. Sponsors 3 Golfers in Jr Golf.
- 5. Is + 5 in Membership.
- 6. Conducts an Essay or Oratorical program
- 7. All Dues paid on time & Current to NC East District & Optimist International.
- 8. Complete Officer Elect for by May 20, 2016.
- 9. Conduct a NOW program and add 3 members.
- 10. Increasing PGI Levels or Start a PGI program.
- The clubs completing all the above will have their club's President, Secretary and Treasure's name placed in a drawing for their registration to be paid and will receive 1 night hotel room at the 2016 District Convention.



- For a **New Club Built**

- Any Club that completes the building and paperwork of a NEW CLUB prior to Aug 1st, 2016
- Each BOE (Builder of Excellence) will have their name(s) placed in a drawing to receive their registration and 1 night hotel room at the 2016 District Convention.
- For the **PGI Program (Personal Growth & Involvement)**

Any member that completes a level in the PGI program prior to Aug 1st, 2016 will have their name placed in a drawing to receive their registration and 1 night hotel room at the 2016 District Convention.

Those entered in multiple times in the above drawings can only win one of the above drawings entered.

Childhood Cancer Campaign

On September 10th Mariah Andrews, 13, was the first to celebrate the completion of her chemotherapy



by ringing the newly installed "End of Treatment Bell" at the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Center at the UNC Children's Hospital. The bell was donated by the Optimist Club of

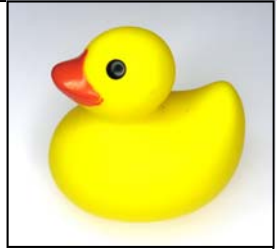
Chapel Hill in memory of charter club member James E. Casey, past president and originator of the "Kisses for Childhood Cancer Campaign." Celebrating with Mariah was her mother LaShawnda Williams, Doctors John Hipps and Stuart Gold, pediatric nurses and hospital staff, Optimist Club members and members of Jim Casey's family. News reporters from WRAL, WNCN, and the Durham Herald news paper recorded the event which aired on the evening news shows and the Friday edition of the Durham Herald.

Three years ago, Mariah was diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma, a form of cancer that affects the early muscle tissue. Since then she has been through a full round of chemotherapy, suffered a relapse, and was then treated with a different type of chemotherapy. Her tumors are smaller now and she is finished with chemotherapy, but still faces radiation and surgery in the future. She doesn't complain because, "It doesn't change anything". Mariah will soon be able to attend public school again after her three years of



treatment.

The bell was designed by Tracey Payton from Cheshire, United Kingdom. It honors her daughter Emma Payton and her friend Maria Watt, who are both child-



hood cancer survivors. This bell is the first one that has been shipped outside the UK. The background for the bell is a plastic shield that features a clouded blue sky with a rainbow arching across to a red heart. The red heart is the design used for the first bead given to patients in the "Beads of Courage" program that charts every treatment a patient receives during their illness.. The inscription on the plaque reads: Ring the bell Three times well, Its' toll to clearly say, My treatments done, This course is run, And I am on my way." On the background of the bell for UNC there is a small memorial brass plaque that says, "In memory of James E. Casey, "A true friend of youth," from the Optimist Club of Chapel Hill." Children will be able to ring the bell to celebrate the end of their treatment milestones and encourage other patients that there is an end to their treatments too.

The purchase of the bell was coordinated by Bob Verne from the Optimist Club of Chapel Hill and Stephanie Mazze, a psychosocial program coordinator at the hospital. Plans are under way for the presentation of an End of Treatment Bell to the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Department at Duke Hospital. Many thanks go to the Chapel Hill club and the staff of both hospitals for their efforts to support and reward the patients and families affected by childhood cancer. For more information **about** the project, contact Bob Verne, and check



out the club face book site for more pictures.

Last year the NC East District donated \$4,760 to the Childhood Cancer Campaign for the research project at Johns Hopkins and the CC Fund. Thanks to each club for your help and support to conquer this disease.

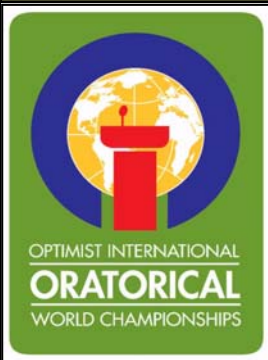
Trish Verne

CCC District Chair



Golden Circle

District Oratorical Contest 2015



Optimist International Oratorical World Championships

Now is the time to begin planning and promoting your Club's Oratorical contest. The topic for the 2015-16 school year is: "How My Best Brings Out the Best in Others." Optimist Clubs will send their Oratorical winner to the District contest, and each District winner will have a chance to compete in the Optimist International Oratorical World Championships for \$22,500 or more in scholarships! For more information about the Oratorical Program, click here or email programs@optimist.org.

Additional information related to club, zone and district contest will be available at the NCED first quar-

ter district meeting in
Lake Waccamaw, NC
Nov. 13/14, 2015

Please contact me if
you have question or
comments:

Best Regards

Darrell Fulcher

919-226-7511 Work

919-656-7339 Cell

919-319-6877 Home

Darrell.fulcher@syngenta.com

*Success is no accident. It is
hard work.*

*Perseverance, learning, stud-
ying and most of all love of
what you are doing or learning*





Rocky Mount Evening Installation

From left to right are.....President Sam Toler, Board Member James Bowen, Secretary Cheryl Bowen, Board Member Tommy Peele, Internal Vice President Ed Taylor, Board Member Errol Warren and External Vice President Ray Goodwin.



Roanoke Rapids Officers

The officers for the 2015-2016 Optimist year are left to right Ellen Foster-Board Member, Carey Foster-Secretary, Dan Durham-Board Member, Marian Barnes-Board Member, Barbara Durham-Board Member, Joyce Leake-Vice President, Russell Leake-President, and Roy Barnes- Treasurer. Not Pictured: Renee Little-Board Member, Tony Lashley-Board Member, and Past President-Sammy Fayed. If you need anything else please ask! Russell



Wake Forest Optimist

Buddy Bench has been installed at Wake Forest Elementary in Honor of Cathy Potter:

Back Row (L-R) Jennifer Nyland, Brantley Denton

Front Row (L-R) Cathy Potter, Deborah Dial





Garner Office Installation

New officers at the club for 2015 - 16

Front row from left to right; Secretary, Bill Oats - Vice President Elect, Eugene Monroe; President, Edward Lilley; Treasurer Danny Thorton; Back row, Board Ron Morrow; Darin Hall, Bob Harvin, Jack Austin, Wade Evens, Richard Benbow, Jerry Whitby, Dennis Will, & Eddie Whitehead.



South Johnston Optimist Elects Officers For 2015-2016 The South Johnston Optimist Club Officers for the 2015-2016 year are seated left to right: Lynn Wilkins, treasure, Donna Tart, Secretary, Danny Holland, president-elect, Mickey Bast, President. and back row, board of directors, Pam Holland, Nea Lynster. Dave Bast. Jerry Medlin, and Judy Lee, Vice President.



Dinner Optimist and Northern Wake Optimist combine talents to work booth at the State Fair



Golden Circle at Ronald McDonald, Diversified Opportunities, Middlesex Baptist Children's Home

Golden Circle Install Officers



Linda Shepherd, President; Kathy Sandifer, 1st VP; Janice Lamm, Board Member; Joy Bell Finch, Board Member; Norma Duell, Secretary; Back Row - Governor Allan Ludlum; Celia Wise, Board Member; Carol Collier, Board Member; Kathi O'Rock, 2nd VP; Diane Johnson, Board Member; Angela Iwaniuk, Treasurer & Tom Lamont, Speaker/Entertainer.

Wilson Evening Officers



Front row, left to right: President, Wayne Sidelinger; 1st Vice President, Ray Davis; 2nd Vice President, George Lamm. Second Row, left to right: Board Members, Al Boulo and Marvin Register; Treasurer, Sheryl Neff; Secretary, Allen Stallings. No pictured, Board Members Horace Goff and Leonard Baker.



Brenda Goodwin, Rocky Mount Evening whipping up a batch of Brunswick stew for selling at the annual Rocky Mount Fair. She probably can tell you how many servings are in a 55 gallon batch.

Duck Race Enthusiasts



Elm City Installation



Pictured L to R: Board Members Christie Webb and Missy Toler, Secretary Lisa Downing Craven, 2nd Vice President Toni Welborn, Treasurer Jonathan Russell, Vice President Frank Woche, and President Jacqui Queen.



Zone 4 Zone meeting and Shrimp-A-Roo



First Timers at Convention

From Raleigh Dinner Optimist:; Terry Wilson, Tommy Wilson, Al Barbour & Sherry Barbour

**NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT
- OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
FOURTH QUARTER BOARD OF DI-
RECTORS MEETING**

Beach Cove Resort – Myrtle Beach, SC

Saturday, August 29, 2015

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

James Lamm	Governor
Allan Ludlum	Governor
Angela Iwaniuk	District Sec/Treas.
Errol Warren	Immediate Past Gov.
Tom Lamont	Lt. Governor Zone 1
Ricky Wester	Lt. Governor Zone 4
Jim Hart	Lt. Governor Zone 5
David Bast	Lt. Governor Zone 6

Clubs Represented:

Cape Fear	Chapel Hill
Elm City	Goldsboro
Greenville	Henderson
Raleigh	Raleigh – Dinner
Roanoke Rapids	Rocky Mount Breakfast
Rocky Mt Evening	South Johnston
Wake Forest	Washington
Whiteville	Wilmington
Wilson Bennett	Wilson Golden Circle
Wilson Evening	

Governor James Lamm called the meeting to order at 8:45 am.

After the pledge of allegiance to the flag, the invocation was given by Linda Shepherd.

A tribute was paid to NC East Optimists who passed away during the year. Bill Edgerton read out the name of each deceased Optimist and af-

ter each name, Governor James Lamm sounded the bell for a Remembrance of Past Optimists. We have lost 14 members over the past year.

An official welcome to Myrtle Beach was given by Bob Cavanaugh, Myrtle Beach Councilman.

Governor James Lamm welcomed everyone to the third quarter district meeting with a special welcome to all first timers.

The minutes for the 3rd Quarter meeting were presented by Angela Iwaniuk. A motion to accept was made by Horace Goff of Wilson Evening Club – Seconded by James Bowen – Rocky Mount Evening Club - Approved.

The 2nd Quarter Financial Report was presented by Angela Iwaniuk. A motion to accept was made by Dave Bast of South Johnston Club and seconded by James Bowen of Rocky Mount Evening Club. --Approved.

The annual revisions to our District Policies were presented by Angela Iwaniuk. A motion to accept was made by Jim Hart – Rocky Mount Breakfast Club and seconded by Horace Goff – Wilson Evening Club --Approved. Revised Policy will be on the NC East District Website.

Wayne Sidelinger gave the District Newsletter updates.

Next, Dan Durham, A & A Chair, recognized the top 10 clubs for the second quarter and the top club in each Zone, as well as the top Lt. Governors in the District.

Billy Edgerton updated the group on the OI Foundation and closed with an altar call for new donations.

Darrell Fulcher, incoming Leadership Development Chair thanked everyone for the wonderful training sessions held on Friday and reminded everyone to attend the Town Hall meeting in the afternoon to learn WHAT you need to know, WHAT you have to know and WHAT is important in 2015-2016 for the N.C. East Optimist District.

Carlton Baird shared information regarding Boys & Girls Home and had an altar call for new donations.

Allan Ludlum gave out the awards from the Golf Tournament held on Friday.

Trish Verne shared information regarding Childhood Cancer and had an altar call for new donations.

New Club Building Chair, Sandy Cyphers reminded everyone that we still have some time to start any new clubs that we have worked on during the year.

Brenda Farmer gave her Membership Report Updates and passed out \$10 Gift Cards to all who have brought in a new member during the 3rd Quarter.

A short break was taken in the business session. After the break David Hodges updated the group on the OI Junior Golf Championship and all the achievements made by our district this year and outlined his plans for even greater achievements in the year ahead.

OI Convention Ambassador, Sandy Cyphers encouraged everyone to begin planning to go to next year's International convention which will be held June 30 – July 2, 2016 in Quebec City, Canada. She also reminded everyone to have their passports ready and updated.

Errol Warren, Candidate Qualifications Chair, introduced Jim Hart as a candidate for 2016-2017 District Governor and opened the floor for any further nominations. There were no other nominations. David Bast made a motion to accept Jim Hart as our Governor for 2016-17 and James Bowen seconded – Approved.

Governor Elect Allan Ludlum addressed the group regarding his plans for the new Optimist

year. The dates for the district meetings are as follows:

- Nov. 13 & 14 –Boys & Girls Home, Lake Waccamaw (Auction on Friday night for OI Foundation and B&G Home)
- March 4 & 5 – Rocky Mount, NC
- May 6 & 7 – Sheraton in RTP
- Aug. 18-21 – Myrtle Beach, SC

Convention Chairman, Doug Lamm thanked Allan Ludlum for all his work on planning and preparing for the convention and invited everyone to enjoy the banquet on Saturday evening.

Governor James Lamm thanked everyone for all the support he has received during his year as governor and as our “coach” he reminded everyone that we are now in the final quarter and the last few minutes of the “game”, so we need to keep our momentum up and even try to make a few outstanding plays to win the “game” for a successful year

The meeting was closed with the Optimist Creed being recited by all members. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Iwaniuk
District Secretary-Treasurer



District Candidate Qualifications Committee Chair

Jimmy Lamm

This empty space is for prospective District Officers for 2016-2017



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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Cell 252-290-2858

Published by Wayne Sidelinger

Email wsidelinger@nc.rr.com

Bulletin Editor.

NCE Web

1104 Windemere Dr. NW,

www.nceast-optimist.org

Wilson, NC 27896

OI Web

Tel Day 252-237-6778

www.optimist.org

