

North Carolina East Optimist News

Hello Optimists,

Can you believe it is already our next District Meeting? I welcome each of you to Rocky Mount, NC. We will begin our Friday with registration opening at 3 pm at the Country Inn & Suites. Then at 5:30 pm we will have Dutch meal at Gardner's. At 7:00 pm we will then travel to the Dunn Center. The Dunn Center is now in its 15th season of presenting quality entertainment to the eastern region of North Carolina. The Dunn Center staff and North Carolina Wesleyan College would like to thank all of you who have so graciously supported our endeavors over the past years to make the Dunn Center the jewel of Rocky Mount and Eastern North Carolina. At 7:30 pm we will watch Ray Live! Tribute to Ray Charles. On Saturday we will have our Executive meeting and then our General meeting & then lunch. After lunch Past Governor James Lamm will hand out the

awards for his year.

We are in positive numbers on membership! As of march 1st we are plus 10. Now we need to continue to grow by adding Members, Friend Of Optimist & 30 - 30 members. Please work hard to keep



you current members involved so they know we need their help in our clubs to continue to serve our youth! We added 54 members last quarter, we have added 39 so far this quarter and we have one more month left.

This next Quarter we will focus on New club building! We have some great prospects out there & we will hear more about that this weekend!

Serving you as your governor I have traveled to

meet optimist and put a face with a name to see those of you who are working hard to serve our youth. I encourage each of you to reach out to a friend to share your experience and invite them to work with you as a New optimist!

“Right Here Right Now, Being a Friend of Youth in Our Communities!”

Thanks,
 Allan Ludlum
 District Governor 2015-16
 North Carolina East District of
 Optimist International
 910-763-9372 home
 910-200-4530 cell

International Candidate Qualifications Committee Announces Its Nominees

The Optimist International Candidate Qualifications Committee has announced that it has nominat-



ed the following individuals for International office in 2016-17. Please note that the deadline for self-nominations for President-Elect, At Large Board Director-Elect, and Vice President-Elect is April 1. Qualified candidates who are properly nominated on or before April 1 will also be added to the slate of officers to be placed into nomination for online voting.

President-Elect Nominee: Nick Prillaman
 Vice Presidents-Elect Nominees:

Region 1 Northeast & Great Lakes - Robert McFadyen
 Region 2 Southeast - Hal Sewell
 Region 3 Mid-Atlantic - Lou Anna Hardee
 Region 4 Middle America - Kathy Underwood
 Region 5 Great Plains - Roger Lesofski
 Region 6 Southwest - TBD
 Region 7 West Coast - James Pekney
 Region 8 St. Lawrence - Robert Doyle

Board Director at Large Nominees (listed in alphabetical order):
 Nicole Paquette
 Mark Weinsoff



Members attending District Board Meeting recognized as veterans of US armed forces. From left: Raymond Clark, Goldsboro; Bobby Hensley, Whiteville; Billy Edgerton, Goldsboro; Ray Davis, Wilson Evening; Al Ludlum, Wilmington; Carlton Baird, Raleigh Dinner; Jerry Medlin, South Johnston; Tommy Peele, Rocky Mount Evening; Rich Cash, Raleigh Dinner; Jim Hart, Rocky Mount Evening; Henry Edmundson, Rocky Mount Evening; Gary Pender, Goldsboro and not pictured Wayne Sidelinger, Wilson Evening.

Register Now for the MID-ATLANTIC OPTIMISM SUMMIT and Regional Conference



You are invited to join us for this exciting program developed for all Optimist Members. This unique training experience will provide you with the knowledge and abilities necessary to lead a relevant and thriving organization. Each summit will feature training and skills-building exercises designed to help you become a better leader and to improve the operation of your Optimist Club. More info>>

d Regional Conference

Date & Location Saturday, March 19, 2016 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Hilton Richmond Downtown 501 East Broad Street Richmond, VA 23219

Register now>>

Topics:

The Value Proposition: What's in it for me?

Sharing the Secret

Becoming Good, Better, Best

Maximizing Your Star Power

And more...



Trainers from Left: Benny Ellerbe, Executive Director; Mark Harris, Mid-Atlantic Region VP; Jim Boyd, Strategic Growth Director; Janet Graves, Leadership development Committee Member; Dave Bruns, International President.



Optimist Junior Golf Tournament



I trust all of you are doing well and are preparing for next week end's Rocky Mount experience.

Thanks ZONE 3 for the great dinner and for allowing me to fill you in on OPTIMIST GOLF.

Thanks again to the clubs that are working on finding golfers for the June 20th NC East District Qualifier.

I thought that I would give all of you a chance to take a virtual visit to the Champions Course at PGA National, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. This is the site of the Optimist International Championships (THE OPTIMIST) since 1996. You can tune into NBC Saturday (today) and Sunday afternoon 3-6 PM to look at this beautiful facility where the HONDA CLASSIC is being played.

This is the same venue that the kids that live in your

communities can experience if they play in our NC East District Qualifier on June 20th and are fortunate enough to earn one of the District's qualifying spots.

It may be of interest to you that NINETEEN (19) golfers who are participating in this weekend's HONDA CLASSIC played in THE OPTIMIST when they were younger.



David Hodges Junior Golf Chair

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance. Be both careful and cautious in your visit to our fine city next week end. Rocky Mount was ranked by Motovo as the nation's 4th most dangerous small city in the U.S. Welcome to our world.

David
David K. Hodges

New Club Building

New Club Building in 4 Steps

It is no secret that we need new Clubs in the North Carolina East District, and the 2015- 2016 Leadership Team has made the commitment to add new Clubs this year. We have three or four possible new club locations that have been suggested so far this year. I encourage members to move forward in these 4 steps



to help make new clubs a reality for this Optimist year!

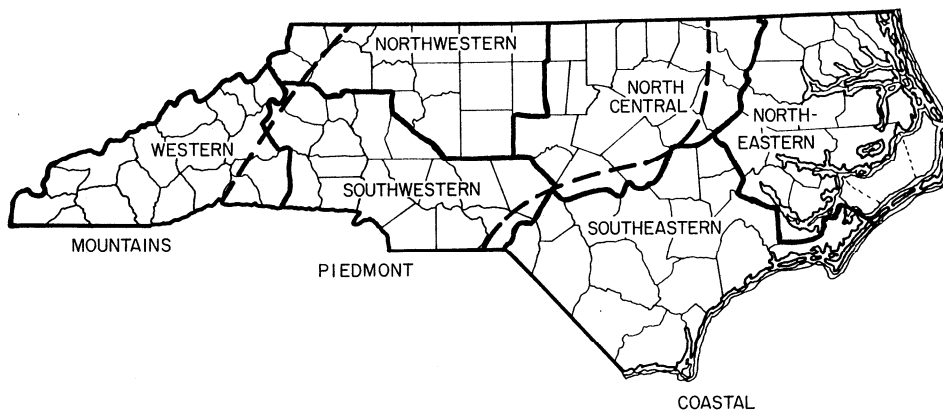
Step 1: Needs Assessment - A needs assessment is exploring the way things are versus the way they could be within a community. This first step is simply identifying the purposes of the new Optimist Club. What are some opportunities for service within the community? How could a Club help bring this about? Can a Club achieve the desired results? What are the costs and benefits of a Club to the community?

Step 2: Recruitment - Recruitment is simply the process of adding like-minded individuals to an Optimist Club for the purposes of "Bringing Out the Best in Kids!"

Step 3: Meetings - Meetings are the process of coming together as an assembly for a common purpose during the formation of an Optimist Club. There are two types of meetings in New Club building – Informational and Organizational. Informational meetings are held to inform prospective members about the mission, values, and structure of Optimist Clubs and to identify service opportunities within the community.

Step 4: Follow-Up - Follow-up is the ongoing process, led by the District, ensuring that each New Club becomes a strong, viable asset with effective leadership that provides excellent service to the communi-

!Our Goal - To Build Clubs and Share Optimism all around Eastern NC!



Angela Iwaniuk (252) 289-5050

New Club Chair 2015-2016

PERSONAL GROWTH AND INVOLVEMENT

The P.G.I. Program offers every Optimist Club member the opportunity to grow personally and learn more about the Optimist Organization while advancing through ten levels of involvement in personal growth and achievement. To receive booklets, call Optimist International 314-371-6000 Ext. 214 and ask for Barbara Zurcher or call me at 910-367-3295.

Congratulations to Lou Anna Hardee from the Greenville Optimist Club for achieving Level X.

Also congratulations to Linda Shepherd from the Golden Circle Optimist Club for achieving Level 6 (Linda is so close to achieving Level 10 since she was one of the Builders of Excellence for the Elm City Club), GET HER DONE LINDA! The following achieved Level 2 and are also from the Golden Circle Club, Brenda Farmer, Angela Iwaniuk, Diane Johnson, Linda Watson and Betsy Winborne.

I am so proud of each of you and know our district is proud of your achievement...continue the good work and get those articles in for possible submission to the Optimist Magazine to assist in your reaching the LEVEL VII achievement. DON'T STOP NOW....you are soooooo close.

There are others of you that are soooooo close...such as Doug Lamm, Billy Edgerton, Judy Harritan, Robin Bass, Kathy Brennan, Janis Edgerton, Jackie Young, Gary Pender, Louwanna Pender and Bob Verne. Join with others in the district that have received the distinction of Level X...Wayne Sidelinger, Al Ludlum,

Bennie Bass, Auston Pusey, Barbara Timmons, Dan Durham, Ellen Foster, Carey Foster, Lou Anna Hardee and Sandy Cyphers.

If you would like for me speak with you referencing the P.G.I. Achievement and Recognition please call me. Many of you have already achieved Levels 1 thru 4...work on achieving at least one or two more levels by the end of the year....

Remember to send all your information to me as the District Chairman and I will forward to Optimist International.

Every district optimist member that participates and successfully achieves a level in P.G.I. through July 30th will have a chance for one night motel stay at the summer conference in August at North Myrtle Beach.

District P.G.I. Chairman

Sandy Cyphers

P.O. Box 3523

Wilmington, NC 28406



OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

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



It is time to start planning of the OI Convention June 30 - July 2 at the Hilton Quebec hotel.. I will have some brochures at the district meeting if you did not get one at the last one. You can also go online to register or print forms to mail. There is also information on deals for flights, train rides, and transportation from the airport to the hotel. Also there are deals on car rentals. They will also have some information on tours and attractions there as well as in the brochures. I would suggest to go in a few days early or stay a few days after the convention to see the sights. If you don't have a passport, I would start working on it now.

In Optimism,

Carey Foster

OI Ambassador Chair



Bald Eagle surveys the Lake Waccamaw Boys and Girls Home during the NC East District Board meeting in November.

A&A Club Winners – Top Ten Clubs

4th Quarter 2014-2015



From Left: No. 1 South Johnston, Jerry Medlin; No. 6 Golden Circle, Brenda Farmer; No. 4 Goldsboro, Raymond Clark; No. 2 Elm City, Linda Shepherd; No. 5 Roanoke Rapids, Russell Leake; No. 3, Chapel Hill, Trish Verne.



From Left: No. 7, Wilmington Cape Fear,, Darrell Fulcher; No. 8, Wilson Evening, Ray Davis; No. 9, Rocky Mount Evening, Sam Toler; No 10 Tie, Greenville, Curtis Hardee and Wake Forest,, Gary Pender.



A&A Club Winners 4th Quarter 2014-2015

Top Club in Each Zone



From left: Zone 6, South Johnston, Jerry Medlin; Zone 1, Wilmington Cape Fear, Darrell Fulcher; Zone 2, Whiteville, Bobby Hensley; Zone 4, Elm City, Linda Shepherd; Zone 5, Roanoke Rapids, Russell Leake.

Top 3 Lt. Governors



No. 1, Zone 6, Lt. Gov. David Bast; No. 2, Zone 4, Lt. Gov. Rickie Wester; No. 3, Zone 3, Lt. Gov. Gary



Dan Durham, NCE
District A&A Chair

District Membership 2014-2015

Greetings Fellow Optimists. Congratulations to those of you working hard to help the NC East District grow. We have made a huge turnaround in our membership over the past couple months. After a bumpy start to the new year, we are now plus 6 in membership and ranked number 6 Internationally. Great job!!!

During our second quarter meeting we will be passing out several Wal-Mart gift cards for our recruiting incentive. Also, remember, for each new member you recruit, your name will be entered in a drawing for hotel accommodations at our convention in Myrtle Beach this year.

We will also be handing out several milestone pins, ranging from 10 to 50 members recruited. As a side note, Optimist International didn't start tracking membership numbers electronically until the early

90's, so I'm sure some of our more senior members have reached several milestones that they haven't been given credit for. I can only go by the records they have provided. If you'd like to know how many members you have recruited, I will have the records with me this weekend.

Keep up the good work and remember why we do what we do. According to statistics provided by OI, each new member contributes to helping 30 plus children.

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

Auston Pusey

Membership Chair NC East District



Golden Circle hosted a fantastic Valentine's Party at the Free-Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex on Saturday - Feb. 13th. Thirty teenagers attended as well as several staff members and seventeen of our club members. The club provided wonderful snacks and refreshments, conducted a bingo game for awesome prizes and added a photo booth for this year. This was a rewarding and fun event.



COMMUNICATION CONTEST for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL 

The NC East District CCDHH Contest will be held on
April 28, 2016 at NC School for the Deaf in Wilson



Topic: *"How My Best Brings Out The
Best In Others"*

Angela Iwaniuk (252) 289-5050

New Club Chair 2015-2016



OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Optimist International Foundation – “Helping Optimist Help Kids”. You have heard me talk about the Foundation many, many times. As their motto indicates, it does help Optimist help kids. Jan and I have been supporters of the Foundation for many years. I can’t support something financially unless I believe in what they do. I certainly believe in what the Foundation does. It helps fund all of the materials that we get from OI. It also provides all the scholarship funds for the Essay, Oratorical and Hearing Impaired contest. Just in these three contest, kids in The North Carolina East District get \$10,000 in scholarships each year.

To promote excitement in making donations to the Foundation, George Lamm, of the Wilson Evening Club, has agreed to do a BBQ Rib Cookout for the two winning clubs. In order to give all clubs an equal chance of winning, one prize will go to the club whose membership and club donates the most total dollars. The second winner will be the club that donates the most dollars per member. Let’s create excitement while helping a very worthwhile cause.

Try to get your members to become “Dime-A-Day”

givers. If your members donated \$36.50 for Dime-A-Day, your club could be well on the way for the cook-out. Please bring your club’s donation to the district meeting next week-end. All donations made by the club and its members count toward these totals.

The Friday night auction that benefited both the OI foundation and Boys & Girls Home netted over \$1700. To be divided equally.

Carey & Ellen Foster recognized for \$250 Presidents Club Donation

Billy Edgerton

District OI Foundation Chair.



Bill Edgerton, OI Foundation Chair.



Gary Pender, left, is recognized for achieving \$2500 level in donations to OI Foundations.

JOOI



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

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

There are unlimited reasons for adult clubs to spon-

sor JOOI Clubs...

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

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

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

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

Sandy Cyphers
N.C. East District JOOI Chairman
910-367-3295

District Convention – Myrtle Beach SC.

FUN...make plans to have it! ENTERTAINMENT...make plans to enjoy it! GOOD FOOD...make plans to eat it! TRAINING...make plans to participate! PRIZES...you're sure to take home at least one! LAUGHS...I promise you some of those! QUACKS...we will have some of those at the annual Childhood Cancer DUCK RACE! FELLOWSHIP...you will enjoy with fellow N.C. East District Optimists!

The convention committee has already been hard at work preparing for this special conference. They are working diligently to make this a great conference for the district.

A special weekend by the Atlantic Ocean filled with loads and loads of OPPORTUNITIES.

Your attendance will make it a 'SUCCESS!'

So make plans to attend this conference and get others from your club to attend and experience all the above.

I look forward to seeing you there. Location not selected at this time.

Sandy Cyphers, Convention Chair

District Club Fitness/Club Services Chair

Hello Optimists,

In my last communication to you, I encouraged each member and club to think about what they could do "to serve more youth" in our communities. You were encouraged to take a look at your club and your community, **assess where you were, where you would like to be, set your goals, and determine action needed to meet those goals.** I am happy to report that you have done just that and at the time of preparing this report, the NC East District was plus 7 in membership, ranked number 6 in Optimist International, and the Mid-Atlantic Region was on the leader board as number 1. So, when you look at where you were and where you are now in many areas, you certainly deserve a **"round of applause."**

Many of the clubs are well on their way to becoming an Honor and/or Distinguished Club but **WE ARE NOT DONE YET!** If we were in the world of football and basketball, we would be in the final minutes of the second quarter and half-time is fast approaching. However, we are not in the world of football and basketball, we are in the game of serving youth and March 31 marks the mid-point of the Optimist Year. To be successful in the third quarter and run up the score in the fourth quarter, we must continue our efforts and push a little harder to recruit new members, Friends of Optimist (FOOs), and build more Optimist Clubs so that when we are in the final minutes of the fourth quarter, the final score will indicate a win for the NC East District but more importantly a win for all the youth being served and those to be served. In addition, if you are adding FOO's to your membership, make it a fundraising event! Remember--for every FOO that is added to your club roster, the club gets \$40 back (10 FOOs = \$400)!

I am happy to see that we have clubs who are trying new things for their area. I know of one club who is

conducting an oratorical contest this year for their first time and they have also conducted "Kids Speak Out" in an effort to acquaint younger students



with public speaking in preparation for future oratorical contests. From another club, I also have heard from a club member who stated "when someone brings up an idea, we see what needs to be done and then do it." This is testimonies of true Optimists!

So, I encourage you to continue growing your clubs, planning **NOW Programs**, participating in **PGI, Personal Growth and Involvement**, and the **Achievement and Awards Programs**. Keep up-to-date in the area of **finance and reporting**; be instrumental in **helping** build a **New Club**.

If it was up to me and for all that you do, "all" Clubs would be **"Honor"** or **"Distinguished"** and the NC East District **"Distinguished."** But, to reap that status and receive that designation by Optimist International, we must be mindful of the incentives outlined by our NC East Governor and Optimist International. And about being mindful, are you aware that there is over \$2,000 worth of monetary incentives at the district level? If not, take a look below:

2015-2016 NC EAST

DISTRICT INCENTIVES

Membership

Auston Pusey, Chair

- 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. (\$456)
- 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. (\$456)
- 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. (\$202)

Club Presidents TOP 5

Incentives

- For each Club that completes **ALL** of the following by Aug 1st, 2016 (\$531)
- 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 (\$531)
 - 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 Treasurer's name placed in a drawing for their registration to be paid and will receive 1 night hotel room at the 2016 District Convention.

New Club Building

Angela Iwaniuk, Chair

- Any Club that completes the building and

paperwork of a NEW CLUB prior to Aug 1st, 2016 (\$177)

- o 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.

PGI Program (Personal Growth & Involvement),

Sandy Cyphers, Chair

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. (\$177)

A & A Program (Achievements and Awards) – Dan Durham, Chair

Any club that completes an A & A Form for each quarter for the A & A program prior to Aug 1st, 2016 Club President will have their name placed in a drawing to receive their registration and 1 night hotel room at the 2016 District Convention (\$177)

Note: Those entered in multiple times in the above drawings can only win one of the above drawings entered. (Total = \$2707)

So, what will be your status and/or designation?

Honor Club

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

Distinguished Club

Meet the Honor Club

Criteria plus

- o Net of 15 or Charter a New Club

The answer and the success of you or your club remains to be determined by your goals, actions, and the effort you put forth.

Remember – *“Serving Youth Today -- Grows Optimists for Tomorrow”* and as Governor Allan Ludlum says – *“Right Here Right Now, Being a Friend of Youth in Our Communities.”*

Yours in Optimism,

Lou Anna

Lou Anna Hardee

Chair, Club Fitness Advisor and Finance

Committee

NC East District



Random photos during 1st Quarter Board Meeting, Boys & Girls Home, Lake Waccamaw.



Normandy Beach, France, 65 years later.

Childhood Cancer Campaign

Now that Spring is here, it is time to plan for the Childhood Cancer Campaign activities and fundrais-



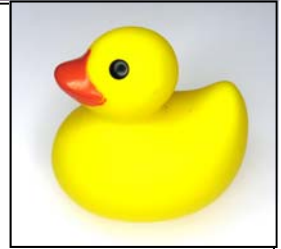
ing events. The Harris Teeter stores only allow outside the store fundraising in April. The dates and locations must be applied for about six weeks in advance, so plan now. Other stores

in the district may be contacted individually.

If clubs are planning to donate stuffed toys to the hospitals, these items will be available at the local stores at greatly reduced prices after the Easter holiday. These toys provide comfort to young children during treatments at our local hospitals. They also bring comfort to children caught up in emergency situations that involve police intervention. Contact your local police to find out about their policies to help children in crisis situations.

Several clubs are providing End of Treatments Bells to area hospitals. The Chapel Hill Optimist Club has donated a bell to Duke Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Department. The date for the unveiling ceremony is yet to be scheduled.

The expansion project at the Chapel Hill Ronald McDonald House is almost finished. The kitchen in the new Hearth Building is a wonderful addition. Donations of cooking utensils and other equipment will be greatly appreciated. The expansion doubles the number of families that can stay in a beautiful, safe, home away from home while their children undergo treatment at UNC Hospital.



June is Childhood Cancer Campaign Month. Plan now to publicize your projects and fundraisers. Through research and new treatments, there have been many recent reports of progress in the treatment of cancer. Cancer is a complicated disease, but we are making progress toward a cure, one child at a time.

Thank you for all you do for the kids. When you help a child, you help the whole family.

Trish Verne
Childhood Cancer Campaign Chairman



N.C. EAST DISTRICT ESSAY CONTEST



Thank you to all the clubs that submitted entries for the District Essay Competition. Who will the winner of the \$2500.00 college scholarship be? Make plans to attend the third quarter district meeting and hear the winning essay along with the winner.

Sandy Cyphers
N.C. East District Essay Chairman

District Oratorical Contest 2016

The Optimist International Oratorical Contest Makes a Big, Big Announcement

THE OPTIMIST ORATORICAL CONTEST in 2015
-2016 WILL INCLUDE A REGIONAL AND
WORLDWIDE COMPETATION

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 winners (two) to their Zone and 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 Zone & 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 the District**

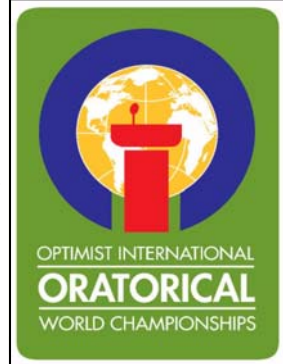
Oratorical Winners to St. Louis to compete with the winners of the Districts in their Region for a \$5,000 scholarship.

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 \$22,500 in scholarships!**

Learn how to get your Club involved if you do not conduct an Oratorical Contest.

For more information contact

programs@optimist.org.



Darrell Fulcher

District Oratorical Chair

919-656-7339 Cell



Phot 1stQuartet Board Meeting, Lake Waccamaw

**NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
FIRST QUARTER DISTRICT MEETING
Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina
Lake Waccamaw, NC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
Saturday, November 14, 2015**

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

Allan Ludlum	Governor
Jim Hart	Governor-Elect
James Lamm	Immediate Past Gov.
Don Harritan	District Secretary/treas.
Angela Iwaniuk	Past District Sec/Treas.
Judy Harritan	Recording Secretary
Phil Best	Zones 1 & 2 Lt. Governor
Brenda Farmer	Zone 3 Lt. Governor
Lou Anna Hardee	Zone 4 Lt. Governor
Gary Pender	Zone 5 Lt. Governor
Jerry Medlin	Zone 6 Lt. Governor

The following clubs were represented:

Zone 1: Wilmington Cape Fear, Wilmington; Wilmington Winter Park

Zone 2: Elizabethtown; Whiteville

Zone 3: Wilson Golden Circle; Goldsboro; Wilson Evening

Zone 4: Greenville; Roanoke Rapids; Rocky Mount Breakfast; Rocky Mount Evening

Zone 5: Chapel Hill; Henderson

Zone 6: Raleigh Dinner; South Johnston

Governor Allan Ludlum called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Gary Pender led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the invocation by Billy Edgerton.

Governor Ludlum welcomed everyone and recognized first-time attendees and the Past Governors who were present.

Past District Secretary/Treasurer Angela Iwaniuk presented the minutes of the 2014-2015 4th Quarter Meeting. Motion was made by Carlton Baird (Raleigh Dinner Club) with a second by Gary Pender (Goldsboro Club) to accept the minutes. Motion was approved.

Iwaniuk presented the 4th Quarter Financial Report. Motion was made by Gary Pender (Goldsboro Club) with a second by Carlton Baird (Raleigh Dinner Club) to accept the financial report. Motion was approved.

Governor Ludlum thanked James Lamm and Angela Iwaniuk for their leadership efforts in 2014-2015.

Finance Committee Chairman Lou Anna Hardee presented the 2015-2016 District Budget for approval. Per Executive Committee action, Governor Ludlum reported that Lt. Governors' mileage will be adjusted to indicate correct mileage for club visits. Motion to accept the budget was made by Phil Best (Wilmington Club) with a second by Linda Watson (Wilson Golden Circle Club).

Hardee reported that the District Financial Review Committee (Lou Anna Hardee, Errol Warren, and Henry Edmondson) will conduct a quarterly review of District Finances.

Committee Reports:

- **Bulletin:** Wayne Sidelinger encouraged clubs to submit pictures, especially of programs being conducted by the clubs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate Qualifications: James Lamm recognized Governor-Elect Jim Hart. Hart reported that he was pleased with the energy from the attendees at the Friday night auction for OI Foundation and the Boys and Girls Homes. He said he was excited about serving the District and that he would be calling on people to help the District next year. • A&A Awards: Chairman Dan Durham presented 4th quarter awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top 10 Clubs (#10 Wake Forest & Greenville; #9 Rocky Mount Evening; #8 Wilson Evening; #7 Wilmington Cape Fear; #6 Wilson Golden Circle; #5 Roanoke Rapids; #4 Goldsboro; #3 Chapel Hill; #2 Elm City; #1 South Johnston) • Top Club in each Zone (1 - Wilmington Cape Fear; 2 - Whiteville; 3 - Goldsboro; 4 - Elm City; 5 - Roanoke Rapids; 6 - South Johnston) • Participation Awards (22 clubs participated in A&A) • Lt. Governor Awards (#3 Gary Pender; #2 Ricky Wester; #1 Dave Bast) • Membership: Chairman Brenda Farmer presented gift cards to members who sponsored new members. Membership incentives will continue for 2015-2016. Governor Ludlum reviewed incentives from OI and the District. • Childhood Cancer: Chairman Trish Verne reported the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NC East District sent \$4,760 to OI for Childhood Cancer • Thanks to clubs who are collecting can tabs • Ronald McDonald House grand opening on 11-13-2015. 5 new buildings; 2 playgrounds; doubled lodging space • 150 therapy dolls to be made by the elemen- 	<p>tary and middle schools in Rolesville</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "End of Treatment Bell" for inspiration to youth completing cancer treatment. For additional information, contact Trish or Bob Verne. • Boys & Girls Homes of North Carolina: Chairman Gary Pender <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful auction on Friday night; thanks to Rich Cash, Carlton Baird, Billy Edgerton, and Joan Ludlum for their help • Update on BGHNC: Optimist Cottage; Flemington Academy; Foster Care Program; Lake House • OI Foundation: Chairman Billy Edgerton discussed Friday night auction (\$1434 raised with 1/2 to OI Foundation and 1/2 to BGHNC); announced barbecue cookouts for 2 clubs for OI donations; OI goal for this Optimist year is \$22,755.97; encouraged participation in Dime-A-Day and President's Programs; and accepted OI Foundation donations from clubs and individuals. • CCDHH: Chairman Angela Iwaniuk asked clubs to make local schools aware of the CCDHH contest on April 28 at NC School for the Deaf in Wilson. • New Club Building: Chairman Angela Iwaniuk asked that clubs let her know of areas for prospective new clubs. • Oratorical Contest: Chairman Darrell Fulcher provided handouts which included information on changes in this year's contest; entry form; etc. Fulcher announced that Bob Verne will be Judge Host and Jan Edgerton will serve as Contestant Host for the District Contest. Because of changes by OI and confirmation of the host hotel, the date of District Contest has not been confirmed. Lt. Governors are asked to provide to Fulcher the date, time, and location of Zone Contests. The 2016 Oratorical topic is "How My Best Brings Out
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the Best in Others".

- Leadership Development: Chairman Darrell Fulcher presented participation certificates and thanked all who participated in training at Convention. In honor of Veterans Day, Fulcher recognized all veterans in attendance. Fulcher also reported that a leadership module would be presented at each District meeting and asked for suggestions for future modules.
- Junior Golf: Chairman David Hodges reviewed 2015 tournament results. For 2016 he encouraged participation by more girls. Hodges reported that the number from the District that can qualify for the OI tournament has not yet been determined.
- OI Convention: Chairman Carey Foster encouraged members to plan to attend the Convention in Quebec, Canada next summer. More details will be provided in the future.
- NC East District Convention: Chairman Sandy Cyphers encouraged everyone to attend. Tentative date is August 18, 2016. Cyphers announced a Convention Committee meeting to follow lunch.
- Essay Contest: Chairman Sandy Cyphers announced deadline for entries is February 28. See OI website for details on topic, age limit, etc. The topic for 2016 is "Lead by Example: Reality or Fiction".
- PGI: Chairman Sandy Cyphers recognized individuals who have reached new levels. Cyphers encouraged everyone to participate in PGI. Incentives will be awarded for individual and club participation.

- JOOI: Chairman Sandy Cyphers reported a name change to JOI (Junior Optimist International) is being considered by OI. The District's newest club is The Vikings, sponsored by Elm City.
- Club Fitness: Chairman Lou Anna Hardee presented a training module ("Renew-Refresh-Revitalize"). Handouts with details were provided.
- NC East Web Site: Chairman Allan Ludlum reported an update is being completed to include current information.

Governor-Elect Jim Hart briefly summarized the meeting information and shared his enthusiasm for a great

beginning for the NC East District year.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. with the Optimist Creed led by Gary Pender.

Don Harritan, District Secretary/Treasurer

Judy Harritan, Recording Secretary





Coastlie Bar Harbor, Maine



Elm City Optimist Club

Tuesday night, the Elm City Optimist Club gave out \$500 in gift cards to the Chatman family. Little Kailee was diagnosed on her 4th birthday a few months ago with leukemia. Hopefully, the Walmart gift cards will help with food, gas and any other needs they may could use a little help with right now. The club held a 5K Kids Cancer Run back in October to help families like the Chatmans. A big THANK YOU to all our sponsors, especially our presenting sponsor, Elm City Furniture for their generous donations. The Chatman family and future cancer patient recipients really appreciate it. Please say a little prayer for the whole family. Thanks,



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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