



North Carolina East Optimist News

Greetings to all Optimists in what is to be *the best district in Optimist International in the 2018-2019 year!*

The first month has flown by already and kept us all hopping with officer installations, the creation of budgets, and the appointment of new committee members and chairmen within our clubs. Now that we have most of the administrative busy work behind us, it is time to get down to the nuts and bolts of our mission as an organization: "By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves."

Our district theme for this year is "**Continuing a Century of Putting Songs in Hearts and Smiles on Faces.**" As we celebrate one hundred years of Optimism, let's remember that our activities not only benefit our youth and our communities, but that the implementation of our projects gives us a sense of accomplishment and brings joy to our hearts while we are helping others.

We are all familiar with club projects. **This year, we will be coming together as a district for quarterly projects in order to make a large-scale dif-**

ference and to increase awareness of the contributions Optimists make to our society. Our first project has been to purchase new winter clothing of all types suitable for elementary school children. Thank you to all of you who have helped in this venture.

As you are aware, many people in areas within our district have experienced devastating loss as a result of recent hurricanes. The clothing you have provided will be delivered to schools in the areas affected.

School personnel will be able to identify the needs and distribute the clothing to children who will surely be ready to smile, knowing that they have new, warm clothing to wear



this winter!

We are already looking ahead to our second quarter district meeting to be held February 22-23, 2019, at the Raleigh/Cary Homewood Suites. On Friday night, we will have our annual fundraiser for the OI Foundation and the Boys and Girls Homes of Lake Waccamaw but **with a slightly different twist**: Instead of our usual auction of bargain items, we will hold a silent auction for bids on items of ultra-high quality. Begin now to solicit the donation of items from merchants in your community. Remind them of the publicity they will receive, not to mention the tax write-off for their charitable contribution! It will be important for each of us to **keep in mind that, with our bids, we are ultimately contributing money to benefit youth** with the added reward of getting wonderful items to take home. Remember: While our previous live auctions might have been about seeing how cheaply we could purchase something used, **the silent auction will be about purchasing a quality item that has taken time and talent to prepare and deserves a quality purchase price!** More information will be forthcoming at the first quarter district meeting in Rocky Mount.

As always, let's **continue to bring in new members and build new clubs** so that we can have a positive impact on greater numbers of youth. Share your enthusiasm for our organization with everyone you meet. If you have an idea for a new club, please contact Terry Corle. Terry has a wealth of Optimist experience and club-building know-how and is ready to guide you each step of the way.

Try something new—If your club has not previously conducted an **Essay Contest** or an **Oratorical Contest**, this is the year to give it a try and put a deserving student on the road to a successful future. Sponsorship of the **Junior Golf** program or a **sports team** will also help assure success for young athletes. Developing a **JOI Club** helps our youth learn the tenets of Optimism at a young age. Club participation in the **Achievement and Awards** program will help your members see how your club stacks up against other clubs in the district.

Meanwhile, do not forget about your own self-improvement. Become a better Optimist by becoming more knowledgeable about Optimist International. Participate in the **Personal Growth and Involvement** program. Also, **start making plans to attend the Optimist International Convention** next summer in Louisville, Kentucky. Your pride in the organization will increase as you mingle with like-minded people from all over the globe and learn how other Optimists are helping to create a better future for our world.

Here's wishing you great joy in the holiday season approaching and a year of health, happiness, and prosperity as we move into 2019. I am...

Forever an Optimist!
Linda Shepherd
2018-2019 Governor



Fresh off the press! Our NC East District money for 2018-2019 — Get your LINDA LOOT!

This year we hope to see lots of “Linda Loot” in our district! If you see lots of it then it means we are doing some wonderful things in the district!

If you bring in a new member you will receive \$10 in Linda Loot! You may also receive \$10 in Linda Loot if you win a door prize or for an award or recognition during the year.

You are probably wondering what you will do with it when you win it? You can spend it! You can use it in the NC East District to pay for meeting registrations, meals, purchasing Optimist merchandise or just about anything in the district except 50/50 tickets.

It's as good as cash! We hope you each receive lots of Linda Loot this year!

District Centennial

“WE’RE OFF”

Yes, we are off and beginning the celebration of 100 years of serving and bringing out the best in youth.

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION TRULY WORTH CELEBRATING.

For 100 years this organization has been a friend to youth and as optimist members you have shared and played an important role in the legacy and impact witnessed in thousands of communities and in the lives of thousands of youth.

Celebrating is a time for fun and fellowship, so during our district meetings this coming year, 100 years of OPTIMISM **will be celebrated. Don't be left out,** plan to attend, come celebrate with fellow optimists and see what's going on. FUN! FUN! FUN! SUPRISES! SUPRISES! SUPRISES! Be part of it all!

\$100.00.....Yes \$100 will be awarded to a club in the district that has a Centennial Celebration and is voted by photos submitted to have had the best centennial

Our Centennial, Let's Celebrate!

BRINGING OUT THE BEST



INTO THE NEXT CENTURY

celebration and participation of members within their club. The award will be presented at the Summer Conference in September. So, plan your celebration and send me your photos.

BRINGING OUT THE BEST INTO THE NEXT CENTURY

Every Club, Every Member, Every

Community...to Extend our Legacy of Positive Impact

Sandy Cyphers
N.C. East
Centennial
Chair



scy-

First Timers at 4th Quarter Board Meeting



Ashley Hamilton, Coastal Optimist.



Dale Harris, Coastal Optimist



Tammy Pruden, Coastal Optimist



Linda Isabell Golden Circle.



Jean Gilfus, Golden Circle.



Gail Craft, Wake Forest

New District Officers 2018-2019



From left: John Shepherd, Governor Designate Linda Shepherd; Ellen Foster, Governor Carey Foster, OI Rep Deanna Morrow, Secretary/Treasurer Joyce Leake, Governor Elect, Russell Leake



From Left, Zone 2 Lt. Gov. Tommy Brigman, Zone 3 Lt. Gov. Christie Webb, Zone 4 Lt. Gov. Pamela Franks, Zone 5 Lt. Gov. Jerry Delbridge, Governor Designate Linda Shepherd, Zone 4 Lt. Gov. J. G. Baker, Secretary/Treasurer Angela Iwaniuk, Governor Elect Russell Leake.

1919 Style Clothing. Celebrating 100th Anniv.



From left; Angela Iwaniuk, Linda Shepherd, Sara Corle, Carol Collier, Linda Isabell, Janice Lamm, Jean Gilfus, Linda Watson, Shannon Simons and Sara Robbins.

Marketing, Social Media & Webmaster

Hello Optimists!

This year we are tasked with communicating and promoting our events and activities through social media.

If you have a Facebook page – please let us know. We will share your posts on our main Facebook page. North Carolina East District, Optimist International

If you have a Zone event that would be fun for everyone – let us know about it! We can create an Event on the District Facebook page and then also on the Website. More people will know about it and support you.

Also – everyone can now Donate monies through **the website. We've also placed the link on the Facebook page** (that directs it to the website) for donations. This is an easy way to raise money for the District! Just think how many more kids that we can help!

Here's all our new Contact Info:

The NC East District has a new website!

Please visit <https://optimistnceast.org> and check it out!

The NC East District has a new Twitter page!

Optimist NC East Communications
[@communi93342046](#)

The NC East District has a new Instagram account.

OptimistNcEast

Main email address:

communications@optimistnceast.org

Let's share our successes with other Optimists!

Don't forget about Optimist International Social Media too:

Optimist International Social Media



FB: Optimist International

Twitter: [Optimist Intl](#)
[@OptimistOrg](#)



YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/OptimistIntl>



Instagram: [optimistintl](#)

A little about me – I've been in printing and publishing for the past 35 years. I've worked for Linotype, RR Donnelly and Apple. I've also done marketing and communications for the past 10 years working for myself and others (social media, websites, logo design, business cards, rack cards, banners, etc.). I currently own a small publishing company and volunteer at a few local service organizations in Wake Forest.



Gail Craft District Chair.

We are all here to help the children!

Gail Craft J

Boys & Girls Home Golf Tournament



Al Ludlum, Golf Tournament Chairman, presenting 1st place to the Don Harritan team.

2nd Place Auston Pusey Team; 3rd place Russell Leake Team and Last Place Rich Cash Team.

Club Fitness Advisors

Club Fitness Advisors

As Club Fitness Advisors, we are here to support the health and continuous growth of each club within our NC East District. Our job is to check the pulse of each club, to chart growth or non-growth of individual clubs, and to assess the reasons for each.

We want to work closely with our Governor, the six Lt. Governors, the New Club Building Chair, and anyone else who wants to see the healthiest clubs in the entire Optimist organization right here in our own district.

Active members make good members, and there are certainly jobs enough to go around. Members who are not involved will probably become members somewhere else. As leaders, we should make all our members feel that they are a vital part of whatever is

going on.

We are all working toward the same goal, and that is to build character into young people so they can become productive, responsible adults who can in turn train others and interest others to become a part of this great organization.

Help us help you!

Russell and Joyce Leake



Russell & Joyce Leake Club Fitness Committee

100th Anniversary International Convention

International Convention Ambassadors

Now is the time to start thinking about attending the 101st Optimist International Convention which will be in Louisville, Kentucky June 30-July 3, 2019. For those of you who don't care to fly, we will see about chartering a bus to take us to this amazingly beautiful and historic city. Louisville (Looavul, Luhvul, Loueville, Looaville, Looveyville), no matter how you want to say it, is famous for its delicious cuisine, a fantastic Waterfront Park, *the Belle of Louisville*, the oldest operating steamboat in the U.S.A., and, of course, Churchill Downs—home of the famous Kentucky Derby. Your children and

grandchildren would love to join you on this trip as numerous fun activities are already being planned for them.

OI is offering a couple of opportunities to earn a \$100 Louisville Convention Registration fee.

Districts with 2 new Clubs and +15 in members by March 31, 2019 can earn \$100 registration for EVERY MEMBER!

Clubs with 1 new Club and +5 members by March 31, 2019 can earn \$100 registration for EVERY MEMBER!

This is definitely a trip you don't want to miss, so plan on joining us as we visit one of the **"Friendliest Cities in America"** (according to Travel + Leisure Magazine!



Russell & Joyce Leake
International Convention
Ambassadors



Communications Contest for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing



Topic for the 2018-2019 School Year is: **"Is There a Fine Line Between Optimism and Reality?"**

This year we hope to expand and include a larger reach to include deaf and hard of hearing individuals in public and private schools in the NCEast District. I will be in contact

with Directors of Exceptional Children's programs in all of the counties NCEast District serves.

I have special interest in promoting this wonderful opportunity for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I retired with 30 years as a teacher and my last 17 years as a High School Principal working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing students.

Deadline dates for Zone and District contests will be announced in February. Although the District contest will be held at the 3rd Quarter District Board meeting in May or possibly at another more central location. Zone Lt. Governors, with District Chair, will schedule Zone contests if necessary.

The Optimist International Foundation funds a \$2500 scholarship but the NC East District must meet minimum student participation. To participate students must be enrolled in school up to and including grade 12. A hearing impaired student must have a hearing loss of 40 or more decibels.

Local clubs must sponsor all contestants. I'll be asking clubs to sponsor a student if they are attending a school in your area. Call, email or text me if there is any question about the program.

Thanks,

Brenda Farmer
 922 Raleigh Rd.
 Parkway
 Wilson NC 27896
 Cell 252-290-5346
 Email: bfarmer48@yahoo.com



Brenda Farmer
 CCDHH Chair 2018-2019



Diane Devaugh, Old Timers Breakfast Speaker.



Nicole Fontana, North Myrtle Beach Council woman.

Leadership Development

Leadership Development Challenge

What is leadership development? What does it mean to our district? To many of us it probably means someone to oversee the training for the district each year. We need training for new Lt. Governors, we need training for President and Secretary/Treasurer positions.

According to Wikipedia, **leadership development** expands the capacity of individuals to perform in **leadership** roles within organizations. **Leadership** roles are those that facilitate execution of a company's (or an organization's) strategy through building alignment, winning mindshare and growing ^{the} capabilities of others.

I believe we need to be constantly giving new people opportunities to develop leadership skills by giving them more leadership roles in our clubs and in our district. It seems to me that in recent years we haven't had enough people willing to "step up" to certain leadership positions. Perhaps we need to start by doing a better job of asking, encouraging and ^{mentoring} others.

We also need to continue to work on our individual leadership skills ourselves, all of us! Most people believe that great leaders are developed and not born with all the perfect skills and character traits to be a great leader. This means that we each need to put some work into improving ourselves as well as helping others to improve.

You may say "Why should I put work into doing something for a civic or volunteer organization"? I mean after all, we aren't getting paid, we don't have a boss who will give us an annual review. But I believe our mission as optimists means a great deal to most of us and we each need to commit to do a better job in whatever role we play in the organization.

Studies have shown that all of us can change, all of us can improve but it takes focus and feedback to make positive changes in our character and in our skills. I challenge every Optimist member to pick at

least 2 or 3 character traits and each day to try to do a better job living up to these traits and ask others for feedback, not someone who will simply say what you want to hear, but someone who will give us honest feedback so that we can continue to improve or change in areas where we may be weak.

Here is a list of some very important character traits that great leaders have possessed throughout our history:

1. A clear vision
2. Courage
3. Integrity & Honesty
4. Responsibility (Say what you will do and then follow through)
5. Good Communication
6. Good Delegation Skills
7. Commitment
8. Confidence & a Positive Attitude
9. Humility (not arrogant and have respect for others)
10. Creativity

I challenge each Optimist to choose at least 2 or 3 of the above traits and start putting some focus on improving in these areas. Wouldn't it be awesome if we became a district full of wonderful leaders?

Also, If you need me or others in the District to come to your clubs to provide training, we would be delighted to do so! We have OI training available for "Managing Change", "Protocol", "Time Management", "How to run a successful meeting" and several other interesting topics.

Please let me hear from you if Leadership Development can be of assistance to you or your club with any training needs.



Angela
Iwaniuk

NC East District New Club Building



Sandy Cyphers, left, 7 time Builder of Excellence recipient and 2017-2018 NCB Chair, presenting to North Carolina East Districts' newest club, Coastal Optimist, club banners. From left, Ashley Hamilton, Secretary, Dale Harris, Treasurer and Tammy Pruden, President.

Build a new Optimist club, something we hear all the time from Optimist International and our district leaders. So now you are going to be hearing it from me. Governor Linda asked that I be her New Club Building Chairperson for 2018 - 2019 Optimist year, and her goal is to build at least six new clubs during the year. To build six new clubs, we need every current club in the district to be working actively on finding a location, a community, or a need for an Optimist club. Special recognition to the club and persons who can start a new club!

Clubs wanted:

Sports Clubs (existing sports organizations that would want to take advantage of our insurance program)

Club within a Club

College Clubs (34 colleges to choose from in eastern NC.)

Happy Hour Club (young professionals in their 20's and 30's.)

Special Needs Clubs

Church Clubs

Military (8 bases in NC East)

Independent organizations that need

structure and guidance

Company clubs (club within an organization—Optimist Club of BB&T, for example)

Community clubs (the morning coffee club, retired military personnel, your neighborhood men & women)

You find the need and location, and we will help make it happen.

A new club only needs 15 charter members and a sponsoring club. Which existing club will be first to get the ball rolling?

Terry S. Corle
Membership Chair
tscorle@gmail.com

703 727-3951

Elm City
Optimist
Club



District Convention Photos



From left, Shannon Simons, Jean Gilfus and Linda Isabell.



Dallas Pridgen and Carol Collier.



From left, Gary Pender, Louwanna Pender, Faye Warren and Errol Warren.



Christie Webb and Donna Upchurch.



Fashions from 1919. From left, Carol Collier, Sandy Cyphers, J.G. Baker Pamela Franks and Angela Iwaniuk.

District Convention Photos



Lt. Governors 2018-2019: From left, Zone 6, J. G. Baker; Zone 5, Jerry Delbridge; Zone 4, Pamela Franks; Zone 3, Christie Webb; Zone 2, Tommy Brigman; District Secretary Treasurer, Angela Iwaniuk.



From left, Gene Whicker, Pamela Franks and Sam Toler.



From left, Joan Ludlum, Al Ludlum, Louanna Hardee and Curtis Hardee.



From left, Angela and Will Iwaniuk, Barbara and Dan Durham.



From Left, Jerry Delbridge, Tonya FayeHardee, and Tommy Brigman.



From left, Jimmy Lamm, Janice Lamm, Ray Spitz and Sandy Cyphers.



J. G. Baker, Michala Baker, Jan Edgerton and Billy Edgerton.

District Convention Photos



Dale Harris, Ashley Hamilton and Tammy Pruden.



Judy Taylor, Ed Taylor, Bob Verne and Trish Verne.



Greg Craft, Gail Craft, Judy Harritan and Don Harritan.



1919 fashions, Linda Shepherd, Jean Gilfus, Shannon Simons and Will Iwaniuk.



From left, Deprat Watson, Linda Watson, Rich Cash and Patsy Cash.



Billy Edgerton, Jan Edgerton, Ray Cockrell and Kimberly Cockrell.



Craig Boring & Deanna Mor-



Jim Hart.



Terry Corle and Sarah Corle.



Banquet head table. From left; John Shepherd, Governor Designate Linda Shepherd, Ellen Foster, Governor Carey Foster, OI Representative Deanna Morrow, District Secretary Treasurer Joyce Leake and Governor Elect Russell Leake.

District Membership

Optimist International Mission Statement: By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.

Your mission this year is to bring ONE (1) new Optimist member into your home club or the district during the 2018-2019 Optimist year.

That's it, not two or three (only if you choose to do more) during the year, and you have 12 months to accomplish your mission.

Why do we continuously talk about membership at every meeting throughout the year? Well, I'll tell you why. For every Optimist member in the district, we can

help/assist/make a difference in 30-35 kids in our communities. Currently we are making a difference for 29,370 kids in our communities.

Just think: If we can double our membership this year, that number goes to 58,740 kids. Estimated children ages 5 – 9 in our district based on 2014 figures are 323,000.

What do children need in today's environment? You're correct, **Nurturing Homes & Communities.**

Children thrive when they grow up in safe, stable, and nurturing environments. Policies and programs that strengthen families, prevent abuse and neglect, and provide effective treatment for victims of abuse and neglect are critical to ensure positive outcomes for our next generation.

We can make a difference, one child at a time.

You can make a difference, one new member at a time.

Terry S. Corle
Membership Chair
tscorle@gmail.com
703 727-3951

Elm City Optimist Club



Optimist International Foundation Awards

Golden Benefactor \$50,000.00

Wilmington Cape Fear

Distinguished Benefactor \$5,000.00

Robert and Patricia Verne

A&A Club Winners 3rd Quarter 2017-2018

Top Ten Clubs 2017-2018



No. 1, Garner, J. G. Baker; No. 2, Rocky Mount Evening, Sam Toler; No. 3, Golden Circle, Sara Robbins; No. 4, Goldsboro, Dawn Clark; No. 5, Roanoke Rapids, Ellen Foster.



No.6, Northern Wake, Ed Taylor; No. 7, Raleigh Dinner, Rich Cash; No. 8, Henderson, Allan Gill; No. 9, North Raleigh, J. G. Baker; No. 10, Greenville, Pamela Franks.

Achievement & Awards 2017-2018

Top Clubs In Each Zone 2017-2018



No participation in Zone 1 & 2. Zone 3, Golden Circle, Sara Robbins; Zone 4, Rocky Mount Evening, Sam Toler; Zone 5, Northern Wake, Ed Taylor; Zone 6, Garner, J. G. Baker.

Top 3 Lt. Governors 3rd Quarter 2017-2018



No. 1, Lt. Governor Zone 3, Russell Leake; No. 2, Tied, Lt. Governor Zone 5, Ed Taylor; No 2, Tied Lt., Governor Zone 6, J. G. Baker.



Dan Durham, District A&A Chair
2017-2018

Achievement & Awards 2018-2019

We are excited to announce that the quarterly reporting form and process are being revised this year! Google Forms will be used to collect data from each club, although you can certainly print the form if you would rather. Google Forms will allow us to aggregate our information seamlessly to easily see the impact we are having. Some other key changes you will notice:

Items will only appear on the form in the quarters in which they will be reported! Specific dates for the quarter will also be on the form to help guide your memory!

Point values align with the District's primary mission and focus areas!

The form will tally points for you – no need to do the math!

Feel free to explore the form: [A&A Reporting Form](#).

I look forward to working with you in the new year; please feel free to reach out with questions: heather.a.bower@gmail.com.



Heather Bower A&A Chair 2018-2019

Questions on 2018-2019 A&A Report Form abbreviated. Please report each quarter. All activities worth 1 point.

- 1 Club Name.
- 2 Club Number.
- 3 Zone Number.
- 4 Club Type, Sport or Traditional.
- 5 Number of members beginning of quarter.
- 6 Number of new members.
- 7 Number of members who left club.
- 8 Develop and maintain a web site.
- 9 Number of club posts on on Social Media.
- 10 Number of Press Releases.
- 11 Number of club bulletins.

- 12 List external partners in service projects.
- 13 List service projects.
- 14 List contributions to OIF , CCC or other.
- 15 List contributions to Jr. Golf.
- 16 List projects recognizing Heroes in Uniform.
- 17 Have you completed a membership drive.
- 18 Have you recognized an outstanding member.
- 19 Which member attended the Quarterly District Meeting.
- 20 Which members attended Quarterly Zone Meeting.
- 21 Have you started another optimist club.
- 22 Have you sponsored a JOI or college club.
- 23 How many levels awarded in PGI

Personal Growth & 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."**

Through communication training, self-development modules you are taught and other personal growth activities, you will have a deeper appreciation for the organization which 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 pin.

Congratulations to all the North Carolina East District Optimists that have attained the distinction of LEVEL 10: Sandy Cyphers, Carey Foster, Ellen Foster, Bennie Bass, Austin Pusey, Allan Ludlum, Lou Anna Hardee, Barbara Timmons, Wayne Sidelinger, Dan Durham.

There are many district members that could easily achieve by just completing the requested information in the Passport Booklet for Level 9: Linda Shepherd, Janis Edgerton, Kathy Brennan, Judy Harritan.

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.

2018-2019 District Award! Each club that partici-

pates in submitting members in this program each quarter will have its name placed in a drawing for \$100.00. Also, each P.G.I Club Chairman will also have their name placed in drawing for a prize. Drawing will be held at the Summer Conference.

PLEASE SEND ALL REQUESTS FOR LEVELS TO ME AND I WILL INTURN FORWARD THE INFORMATION TO OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL.

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. Lets make it a "GREAT YEAR" in recognizing you the members.**

Sandy Cyphers

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

P.O. Box 3523

Wilmington, NC 28406

910-367-3295

scyphers@ec.rr.com



THE OPTIMIST

International Junior Golf Championships



Greetings NC East Optimist Members,

I trust you and your Clubs are doing well and are underway with your efforts in supporting Youth in your communities for this new Optimist year (Oct 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019).

As NC East Chairman of Optimist Junior Golf, I am pleased to have the opportunity to once again encourage each of your Clubs to make Optimist International's and NC East District's biggest project...Junior Golf....a part of your priorities for this new Optimist Year. There are young golfers residing in every NC East Zone that would love to participate in a golf tournament like ours. Although more junior golfers participate in NC East District Qualifiers than any Optimist District in the world, with your Club's



Past NC East golfer Bailee Twiford of Coinjock at the NCHSAA 2018. Bailee will play golf next year for Western Carolina University

participation we can do much more.

Please don't let the young golfers in your community down by not sharing information on our OPTIMIST



tournaments. Optimist International is the world leader of all civic/service organizations in service to youth through the sport of golf. Many young golfers have been recipients of college scholarships, in part, due to their participation in NC East Optimist Qualifying tournaments. We are most blessed to partner our NC East Qualifiers with several of the best junior golf organizations anywhere. The Peggy Kirk Bell Golf Tour, NC Junior Golf Foundation, and the Tarheel Youth Golf Association have teamed with NC East District to provide young golfers a chance to participate in one of the most respected international junior golf events in the world.

We plan to hold five NC East District Qualifiers that will be held this Spring (March..April..May). We hope to firm up dates for these events before the end of November. NC East has been assigned the most qualifying spots than any Optimist District so we anticipate another great junior golf season.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions related to NC East District Optimist Junior Golf. I am willing to come to your Club or Zone meetings to fill your membership in on junior golf opportunities.

Learn about the OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS and other Optimist

Optimist Junior Golf



Golf information at www.optimist.org/golf.

Exchange student from Thailand ("Plern") shown with Jeff Boykin, Girls Golf Coach at Hunt High School in Wilson. Plern led the Big East Conference this fall and helped her Hunt teammates reach the NCHSAA 3-A Championships in Pinehurst this October

Optimist Junior Golf is not limited to our work with the OPTIMIST Championships. I recently attended **the NC High School Athletic Association's 2018 Girls 1A-2A Championships** in Pinehurst at Foxfire Golf Course, 3A Championships at Lingleaf Golf Course



Exchange student from Thailand ("Plern") shown with Jeff Boykin, Girls Golf Coach at Hunt High School in Wilson. Plern led the Big East Conference this fall and helped her Hunt teammates reach the NCHSAA 3-A Championships in Pinehurst this October

and the 4A Championships at Pinehurst #3. It was great to see so many of our past NC East girls play in Pinehurst over the course of the two-day tournaments. It was nice to get a chance to talk with the **girls' coaches and parents.**

Legendary High School Girls Golf Coach Carolyn Rietz Past NC East golfer Bailee Twiford of Coinjock at the NCHSAA 2018 Coaches at Wakefield High School in Wake Forest Bailee will play golf next year for Western Carolina University

Congratulations to Katherine Schuster of Kill Devil Hills for verbally committing to play college golf for Clemson University.

Katherine Schuster shown here at 2018 NCE OPTIMIST Qualifier at UNC Finley Golof Course, Chapel Hill, NC

NC East Optimist members are invited to serve on the NC East District's Junior Golf Committee for 2018-2019. For details on how to volunteer and to choose a work assignment at one of **this year's junior** golf events please contact me.



David Hodges, Jr. Golf Chair

David Hodges

Chairman NC East District Optimist Junior Golf Member, Optimist International Junior Golf Committee, 2016-2017. 2018-2019

dhodgesoptimist@gmail.com

252.908.3034

OI Foundation



Cape Fear: Golden Benefactor, \$500 Print and \$364 Patch; Al Ludlum, Auston Pusey, Curtis Keith, Jeff Wood and Craig Boring, OI Foundation Rep.



Honored Benefactor, J. G. Baker accepting for Jerry & Libbie Medlin, .



Distinguished Benefactor Bob & Trish Verne.



\$500 print, Sandy Cyphers, Craig Boring OIF Rep.



Print & \$365 Patch, J. G. Baker & Craig Boring OIF rep.

OI Foundation



Billy Edgerton OI Foundation



\$500 Print & \$1000 Christian D. Larson Plaque. Jim Hart.



Carol Collier OI Foundation Chair 2018-2019

Dime a day members.

Gail Craft
James Hart
William Knight

Jerry & Libbie Medlin
Jean Gilfus
Nancy Stamper
Lisa Baron
Leland Walters
Becky Sykes

Mary Elder
Madison Powell
Yancy Hines
J. G. Baker
Edward Taylor
David Hodges

Leonard Daniels
James Richardson
Wayne Sidelinger
Robert & Patricia Verne
Donna Upchurch
Emma Stevens

I am extremely honored to be your new OI Foundation Representative for the 2018-19 fiscal year. I know this is going to be an exciting year with our always enthusiastic Governor and her newly appointed Chairpersons and Lt. Governors. The fact that 2019 is our Centennial year, just adds to the excitement!

I joined the Golden Circle Optimist Club in October 2006. I am now in my twelfth year as an Optimist and I have loved every minute of being a part of this organization. I have had the privilege to serve in many capacities on both the club and district level. Each office has afforded me the opportunity to meet so many energetic people from various clubs and zones that I now consider my extended family.

As you know, my job is to raise money for the OI Foundation. My goal this year is for every club in the district to have 100% participation in the Dime-A-Day program. I feel like this is the very least each member can do for Optimist International. One dime a day for a year equal \$36.50, however our gov-

ernor has suggested that we step it up just a little to \$40.00 in honor of our Centennial year. Of course this is not required to be a Dime-A-Day participant, it is merely a suggestion. The extra \$3.50 per member from each club will certainly add up and help with the many programs that Optimist International supports for our youth.

I can't wait to see everyone at our first District meeting in Rocky Mount and talk more about all the wonderful things the International Optimist Foundation is doing to "Bring Out the Best in Youth, in our Communities, and in Ourselves"!

Optimistically yours,

Carol Collier

OI Foundation Chair 2018-2019



Linda Shepherd, Carol Collier and Billy Edgerton in Ottawa.



Jerry Riggins B&G Home Chair

Ray Cockrell, B&G Home

Thank you for loving our children! We are so grateful for all that Optimists do to provide love and support for the children at B&GH.

It was a little over 50 years ago that some special friends and Optimists came together and decided to have a significant impact on the children at Boys and Girls Homes. In 1968, the Optimist Cottage was opened on the Lake Waccamaw campus and has served as a home for thousands of children since that day. Thank you for continuing to support that effort today. You are still making a difference for our children!

As we take some time to gather at Myrtle Beach, we will engage in learning and fellowship with other Optimists. It will also be a time of rest and renewal to recharge and re-energize for the days ahead. The campus at B&GH is much like that for our children. It is a safe haven from the experiences of abuse and

neglect. It is a safe place of healing and renewal for the challenges ahead. With your help, we are providing that place for our children to discover their greatness. We have great friends in Optimist!

Anytime! Anywhere! That is when and where we will go to bring your clubs up to date on the positive work happening for children and your Optimist Cottage at B&GH. We will do a formal presentation, an informal talk or just sit and chat with you and your club. To schedule a program, call Ray Cockrell (910/840-7107, ray.cockrell@bghnc.org) or Gary Pender (919/920-9190, gpender@nc.rr.com). We would love the opportunity!

I look forward to visiting with all of you at the beach. Stop by to see my display and say hello.

Yours in Optimism,
Ray



Optimist Cottage Boys & Girls Home Lake Waccamaw

Childhood Cancer Champaign

(New Name) Childhood Health & Welfare



Don Harritan 1st Place in Duck Race.



Jimmy Lamm Last Place in Duck Race.

Trish Verne District Chair CCC 2017-2018



Donna Upchurch 2nd Place in Duck Race.

Challenge:

Each club within our district is being challenged to continue supporting pediatric cancer patients and to continue contributing to Childhood Cancer (New name, **“Childhood Health & Welfare”**). To show our support of young cancer patients each club is challenged to bring to our district meetings 20+ hats (see picture) for cancer patients at Duke, UNC and Vidant. Sizes will vary from infant to adult. Hats can be home-made or store bought. HINT: many kids like silly hats. Thank you for accepting the challenge and showing Optimist support.

Hear about Bella’s Hats at our next meeting. Keep bringing in the tabs from cans!

Sara Robbins



David Hodges 3rd Place in Duck Race.



Sara Robbins, District Chair
2018-2019

Junior Optimist International



Hello Optimists and welcome to a new Optimist year! It is my pleasure to represent you as the East District JOI Chair for the 2018-19 cycle. With that

said, it's time we all roll up our sleeves and get right to work creating new opportunities for our kids! The goal of OI is twofold....grow our membership and retain existing members along the way. What better way to grow than to do it from the ground, up? That initial building block, of course is the kids in our local area.

As a baseball coach I am always stressing to each player the importance of "building your brand." Taking care to grow your name in a way which will make your parents proud and give you a springboard for the future. The same holds true with our "Senior" Optimist clubs. As an organization committed to youth, we should make every effort to include these young people in the process. This we do through the JOI program.

For the nominal enrollment fee of \$50 and an annual OI fee of \$60 you can create a club for the cost of one meal at an upscale restaurant. Dues for each person are \$8 yearly for an Alpha Club (ages 6-9) member and \$10 for JOI or Octagon Clubs. School groups, Sunday school classes, sports teams or any community youth group are avenues for the creation of new JOI clubs.

We want to retain our existing JOI clubs during the upcoming year and look to grow by at least 3 during this period. No reason we can't! There's a world of youthful energy just waiting to be har-



River Rats JOI club guys picking up trash near a cabin we use when we camp out and fish along Fishing Ck in Halifax.

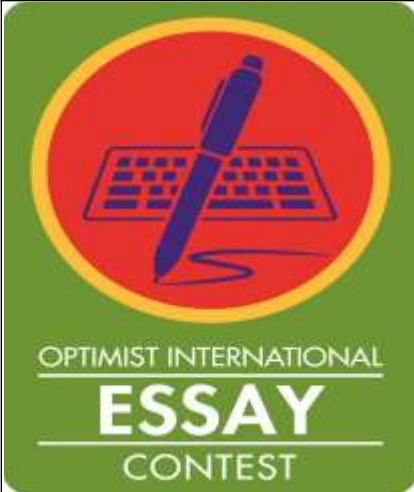
nessed! As JOI Chair, I am always available to assist you in this endeavor. If you have questions which I cannot answer (and you will!) I'll find someone who can.

Let's all work together to make this year a rousing success and grow our brand like never before!

Sam Toler



District Essay Contest



Optimist International Essay Contest

The 2018-2019 Essay Contest has begun. The topic this year is : **“When All the World’s Problems are Solved, is Optimism Still Necessary?”** Is your

club running an essay contest and involving the youth in your area?

OI offers a helpful packet which guides the club and the steps to take. For the past 10 years, downloading it has aided me in running our contest. After filling out the club information, we delivered the information to each middle school and high school in the area- public, charter and private. In addition, put some signs up at local stores, the library to attract the homeschoolers plus announce it in the newspaper or radio.

Are you having tables at Community events? This

too is a great place to have the applications for both Essay and Oratorical. The Henderson Club sells Christmas Trees for 3-4 weeks and we keep applications up on the wall and also give them out to the teens that come for trees.

Some clubs get together and judge the essays together. Our club distributes them to the 3 judges (can be club members) in packets with a 2-week window to score them. We have had between 9 to 75 entries over the years, so have found this to work best. The winner from each club should be sent to me by February 28th, 2019. Please send to your winning entries with their birth certificates to:

Cheryl J Elman, 920
Barker Road, Henderson, NC 27537

Thanks

Cheryl

daveelmanhypnosis@gmail.com

252-432-2205

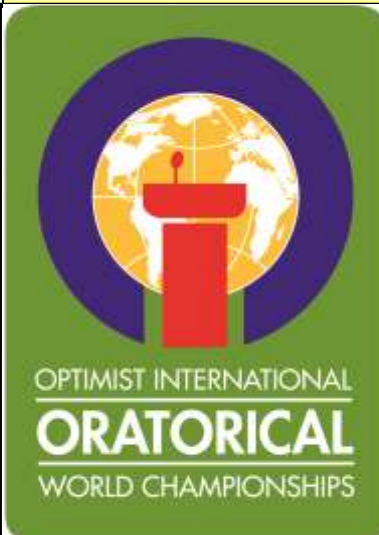


1st Quarter Zone 3 Meeting



Zone 3 1st Quarter meeting in Wilson at Parker's Restaurant. Terry Corle, District NCB and Membership chairman providing a program to increase both. 38 Optimists in attendance. Representatives from Elm City, Bennett Optimist, Golden Circle, Wilson Evening, Goldsboro and Wilson Breakfast. Lt. Governor Christie Webb presided.

District Oratorical Contest 2018



The District Oratorical Contest will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at Hampton Inn at 5606 Lamm Road in Wilson, NC 27896 at the 3rd Quarter District Meeting.

This year's topic: "Is There a Fine Line Between Optimism and Reality?"

Each Zone is eligible to submit two winning contestants to the District Level Contest, and the top winner will receive a \$2500.00 scholarship, the 2nd place student will receive a \$1500.00 scholarship and the 3rd place student will receive a \$1000.00 scholarship for the District.

The deadline to submit applications to the District is April 22, 2019. Please send the following information:

ation:

District Entry Form

Student Application

Copy of Birth Certificate or Passport

Printed copy of speech

Copy of Student Evaluation

Please send all applications to:

Linda Hawley Isbell (District Oratorical Chair)

P.O. Box 114 Elm City, NC 27822

252-289-7200

Email: lindahawley3@yahoo.com



District Convention

We are currently on hold with the 2019 NCE District Annual Convention for The Inn at Pine Knoll Shores. The hotel is currently closed due to damage from hurricane Florence. We do not know how much damage occurred. The Inn plans to be open by spring.

A spreadsheet outlining all aspects of planning will be distributed which included designated individuals, clubs' and zones responsibilities as well as dates to have items finalized. There are many facets involved; it takes a vast amount of work, team effort, and everyone is dedicated to having all plans finalized by July.

We will meet at the second quarter district

meeting and have a wrap-up session at the third quarter. Members of the Convention Committee welcome any suggestions that you have; this is YOUR Convention-- so feel free to share your ideas by contacting your Lt. Governor or me.

Yours in Optimism,

Al Ludlum

Convention Committee Chair

NC East District



Lt. Governors 2018-2019

Zone 1.....	Kathy Brennan
Zone 2.....	Tommy Brigman
Zone 3.....	Christie Webb
Zone 4.....	Pamela Franks
Zone 5.....	Jerry Delbridge
Zone 6.....	JG Baker

District Chairpersons 2018-2019

Achievement & Awards.....	Heather Bower
Boys & Girls Home.....	Jerry Riggins
Boys & Girls Home Campus Contact.....	Ray Cockrell
Bulletin Editor.....	Wayne Sidelinger
Candidate Qualifications.....	Carey Foster
CCDHH.....	Brenda Farmer
Childhood Health & Wellness (Formerly Childhood Cancer).....	Sara Robbins
Club Fitness.....	Joyce & Russell Leake
District Centennial.....	Sandy Cyphers
District Convention.....	Al Ludlum
Essay Contest.....	Cheryl Modjoros-Elman
Finance.....	Errol Warren
International Convention Ambassadors.....	Joyce & Russell Leake
Internet Safety, Marketing, Social Media, and Web Master.....	Gail Craft
JOI Youth Clubs.....	Sam Toler
Jr. World Golf.....	David Hodges
Leadership Development.....	Angela Iwaniuk
Membership & New Club Building.....	Terry Corle
O. I. Foundation.....	Carol Collier
Oratorical Contest.....	Linda Hawley-Isbell
PGI.....	Sandy Cyphers
Public Relations.....	Gail Craft and Wayne Sidelinger



Joyce Leake District Secretary/
Treasurer 2017-2018



Angela Iwaniuk District Secretary/
Treasurer 2018-2019

NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
FOURTH QUARTER DISTRICT CONVENTION
Myrtle Beach, SC
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Saturday, September 7, 2018

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

Carey Foster	Governor
Linda Shepherd	Governor-elect
Jim Hart	Immediate Past Governor
Phil Best	Lt. Governor-Zone 1
Tommy Brigman	Lt. Governor-Zone 2
James Lamm	Lt. Governor-Zone 3
Russell Leake	Lt. Governor-Zone 4
Ed Taylor	Lt. Governor-Zone 5
JG Baker	Lt. Governor-Zone 6
Al Ludlum	Webmaster
Joyce Leake	District Sec./Treas.
Deanna Morrow	OI Representative

The following clubs were represented:

- Zone 1: Coastal, Wilmington, Cape Fear
- Zone 2: Laurinburg, Whiteville
- Zone 3: Golden Circle, Wilson Evening, Elm City, Goldsboro, Bennett
- Zone 4: Blackbirds, Roanoke Rapids, Greenville, Mahler Thorp, Rocky Mount Evening, Rocky Mount Breakfast
- Zone 5: Wake Forest, Henderson, Chapel Hill

Zone 6: Raleigh Dinner, Raleigh
Governor Carey Foster called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Billy Edgerton gave the invocation.

Nicole Fantana, an employee of the city of Myrtle Beach and a former foster child, welcomed NC East District Optimists to her town. She told of a very difficult early life but remembers receiving Christmas gifts from an Optimist Club as a child. She said she would probably have had nothing without their generosity.

Billy Edgerton recognized Optimist members who have died since the Convention last year. Most were listed in the bulletin but Phil Brantley and Tommy Little were not.

First timers were recognized and welcomed. Included in this number were three members of Coastal Optimist Club, the newest club in our district.

Minutes from third quarter were brought before the group for consideration. Errol Warren stated that an addition to the minutes is needed. He wants to add that after the 3rd quarter meeting broke, the district oratorical contest was held. Wayne Sidelinger made a motion to accept this change with a second by Gary Pender. Minutes passed with a motion by Sandy Cypher and a second by Horace Goff subject to this change. Angela Iwaniuk, Club Fitness Chair, stressed

how important it is for clubs to push for new members by the end of September.

Linda Shepherd — By-laws update

The District Sec./Treasurer cannot serve 2 consecutive terms.

All money must go through the District Sec./Treasurer.

The alcohol issue was addressed (Summary of changes given to all present).

Errol Warren wants to change item 5 on the Summary of Changes to NC East District Policies sheet so that it states “The District may provide transportation and hotel reimbursement for the District Oratorical winner to attend the World championship.” **The word “Oratorical” was not previously shown.**

Ed Taylor made a motion to accept this change and Bob Verne seconded the motion.

Committee Reports

A & A — Chairman Dan Durham recognized the top ten clubs. (10 — Greenville, 9 — N. Raleigh, 8 — Henderson, 7 — Raleigh Dinner, 6 — N. Wake, 5 — Roanoke Rapids, 4 — Goldsboro, 3 — Golden Circle, 2 — Rocky Mount Evening, 1 — Garner). The top 3 Lt. Governors were Ed Taylor, JG Baker and Russell Leake. Zones one and two did not participate in the A & A.

OI Foundation — Billy Edgerton introduced Craig Boring from OI who thanked the clubs for their foundation support. He told of a young woman with a severe speech impediment who had actually won an Optimist Oratorical Contest along with \$17,000 in college scholarships.

Billy’s goal is to raise Dime-a-Day participation to 10% of our district members. Seventeen more participants are needed to achieve this goal. Numerous generous checks were presented at the altar call. Benefactor awards and Dime-a-Day pins were presented to Don and Judy Harritan, Jerry and Jean Medlin, Trish and Bob Verne, Raleigh North Club, Sandy Cy-

phers, and Jim Hart. The Cape Fear Club received the Golden Benefactor Award for a lifetime giving of \$50,000 or more.

Boys & Girls Home — Gary Pender thanked everyone for allowing him to serve as Chair for a number of years. He mentioned various ways that members can donate to the Boys & Girls Home including donating to the country store. Ray Cockrell mentioned several ways that the Home has diversified its services. A campus charter school, a program for teen mothers, Create Hope (for victims of crime — clinicians will be advocates for these kids.), and a CAC (Child Advocacy Center to help abused children) are some of the new services. Ray also shared a letter from a girl named Charity who credits the Boys & Girls Home for the best part of her childhood and for helping her achieve her goal to become a nurse. Several of those in charge at the Home are former residents there. The Home also serves approximately 180 other kids who are in foster care. Generous contributions were presented at the altar call.

Membership — Auston Pusey suggested having eating meetings every month. Collect \$100 in dues and have 15-20 eating events each year. Good food draws people! Take every opportunity to talk Optimism to folks. We must be open to new ideas. Several vowed to bring in a new member by the end of the year.

Childhood Cancer — Trish Verne mentioned numerous ways to help kids with cancer. The cancer dolls have been a big success at UNC Hospital. Cancer survival kits provide much comfort to patients and their families. One out of 5 kids with cancer will not make it. It is predicted they will only live 2-5 years after being diagnosed, and there’s a good chance the cancer will recur. Save pop tops (cans) as

they help provide funds for the Ronald McDonald House. September is Childhood Cancer Awareness month. Only 4% of the money raised by the Cancer Society goes to childhood cancer. Polio vaccine is now being used for cancer treatment. Bob Verne commended his wife for the wonderful job she has done as chair of this committee. Laura Allen, an Optimist from South Carolina who is working with

-3-

Childhood Cancer Partners, said this group is currently helping over 200 children in North Carolina. Cancer is the #1 disease killer of children, and there are only nine places in NC and SC combined for children with cancer to go. They are currently servicing 430 kids in NC and SC and will stay with them until they are 21 years old.

NCB—Sandy Cyphers celebrated the newest club in our district. It is the Coastal Optimist Club and they have 19 members. Three members- Ashley Hamilton, Dale Harris, and Tammy Pruden- were in attendance at the Convention and were presented an Awards banner and an Optimist Creed banner for their club. Sandy stressed the necessity to build new clubs with the Outer Banks being a prime target.

Jr. Golf—David Hodges reported that NC Jr. Golf has made a name for itself. One out of the 7 girls in Nationals was from NC. Three OI Board Members are big Jr. Golf supporters. David has been reappointed to the OI Jr. Golf Committee. Golfers in Eastern NC are experiencing much success in tournaments, and as a result, are getting recognition and some are earning college scholarships.

Allan Ludlum reported that the NCEast District Golf Tournament was again a success with 14 golfers participating and \$300 was raised for

the Boys & Girls Home. Prizes were presented to the winners and the losers.

Wayne Sidelinger had some corrections to make in the bulletin. He also mentioned that the Hospitality Room is free and full of delicious snacks. Everyone needs to come and check it out!

Jimmy Lamm, Convention Chair, expressed his pleasure regarding the attendance at the Convention this year. He hopes that all have enjoyed the activities they have participated in.

Russell Leake was accepted as Governor-Elect for next year.

Lou Anna Hardee, OI VP of Mid-Atlantic Region, asked how many Club Presidents are familiar with the score board on the OI web site. There is an Optimist Recognition Program. NCEast clubs always excel at paying their dues. Lt. Governors were encouraged to get busy and do whatever is needed in order to be distinguished. Recruit and share information and you will pick up new members. We have to start thinking outside the box.

Deanna Morrow, OI Representative, reinforced the things that need to be done to end the year distinguished.

Linda Shepherd, incoming Governor, stressed that we all need to share what it means to be an Optimist. She also discussed some changes that will accompany her administration. The District Directory for next year will be pocket-sized. There will be a brand new Website, under the direction of Webmaster Gail Craft, that should be easier to navigate. Each club should add a Centennial Chair, and the Dime-a-Day will be raised to \$40 instead of \$36.50.

Carey Foster passed out OI Convention certifi-

cates to those who were in attendance. The meeting was adjourned with all reciting the Optimist Creed.

Joyce Leake
District Secretary/Treasurer

Wilson Evening Officers 2018-2019



From left, Seated: President Allan Starling, Secretary Wayne Sidelinger, Treasurer Ray Davis and Vice President Al Boulo. Standing: Installing Officer Lt. Governor Christie Webb, Assistant Sgt. At Arms Will Tyson, Board Member Jimmy Lamm, Sgt at Arms Kent Montgomery and Board Member Horae Goff.



Rocky Mount Evening President Gene Whicker, left, presents the clubs 2017/2018 Optimist of the Year award to Sam Toler during installation ceremony, October 4, 2018.

Rocky Mount Evening President Gene Whicker presents a Lifetime Achievement award to Voloria Peele in recognition of the years of tireless work by her late husband Tommy Peele a club member for 25 years.

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.

NCE Bulletin

Issued Quarterly: Nov., Feb., May., Sept.

Published by Wayne Sidelinger

Bulletin Editor.

1104 Windemere Dr. NW,

Wilson, NC 27896

Cell 252-290-2858

Email: wsidelinger@nc.rr.com

NCE Web

www.optimistnceast.org

OI Web

www.optimist.org

