

North Carolina East District Bulletin

2nd Quarter District Meeting February, 2025



Message from Governor Ray Cockrell

It Is Football Season!

Love it or hate it – College and professional football around this time of year permeates our lives. In my family we have the entire range of fan engagement. I have a couple of boys that know all the players, know the stats and can engage in somewhat intelligent discussion on most games, how the season is progressing and what is likely to happen on any given weekend. On the other end of the spectrum, I have a couple of beautiful ladies that couldn't care less about the sport or any games that are on – including the college championship game or even the Super Bowl (can you imagine?!?). They routinely find other things to occupy their time when a game is on. I fall somewhere in between those extremes but lean more toward enjoying a great game of football.

Regardless of where you fall on the football spectrum, there are some great lessons we can learn and apply from the game.

Preparation – Coaches and players at the highest levels of the game never fly by the seat of their pants. They cannot just show up on Saturday or Sunday and say, "let's see what happens today." Many long hours go into planning before the season ever begins and a game plan is developed, evaluated, revised and refined for every single game. Do we as Optimists do the same? Do we take the time to plan our year before the season begins? Do we develop a "game plan" for each meeting, event, activity, fundraiser? Preparation can be the

game-changer for our clubs and will keep members engaged.

Communication – it is not enough just to develop the plan. Coaches must make the time in their crazy schedule and the team's tight timelines to ensure everyone knows the goals and targets for the season and the plan for each game. Success is based on everyone working together, moving in the same direction, focused on the same goal. Stronger together! Are we as Optimist communicating with our clubs and members? Are we working to ensure they know the goal, the direction and the plan? Let's communicate to ensure we are all in the know and then we can truly be stronger together.



Motivation – It is not enough for a coach simply to develop a game plan and tell everyone what the plan is – the coach has to sell the plan. The entire team must buy in to the direction the team is moving. That doesn't just happen automatically. The coach must exhibit energy and sell the plan. Everyone needs to be motivated so they have the same core belief in the plan and direction. Are we as Optimist motivating our members. Are we energetic and persuasive so that our clubs and members buy into the work we are doing for kids? Believe! Motivate!

continued...

Whether we are still talking about football or the tremendously positive work we are doing as Optimists, these ideas can help to make us all

Enjoy the Super Bowl!

Rang



Convention Chairman Sandy Cyphers, Wilmington Club

I hope that Santa left you some wonderful goodies and that the new year is looking bright for you and your family.

Our summer conference and convention will be here before we know it....So start looking for those new bathing suits to show off your tan!!!!

[illegible]

I promise you a good time with fellowship, entertainment, food, laughter, prizes and I will think of some other things too.

If anyone has any other suggestions please feel free to share them.

Fun in the sun at myrtle beach!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
 You will not want to miss the fun!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
 Sandy Cyphers-Spitz



Zone 1 Update
Bennie Bass, Lt. Governor
(910) 200-9637

Cape Fear

Great Food is served the third Tuesday of the month!



Cape Fear Christmas Party

Zone 2 Update
Tom Lamont, Lt. Governor



Elizabethtown Christmas
Tree Lot Sales!



Zone 3 Update Gary Pender, Lt. Governor



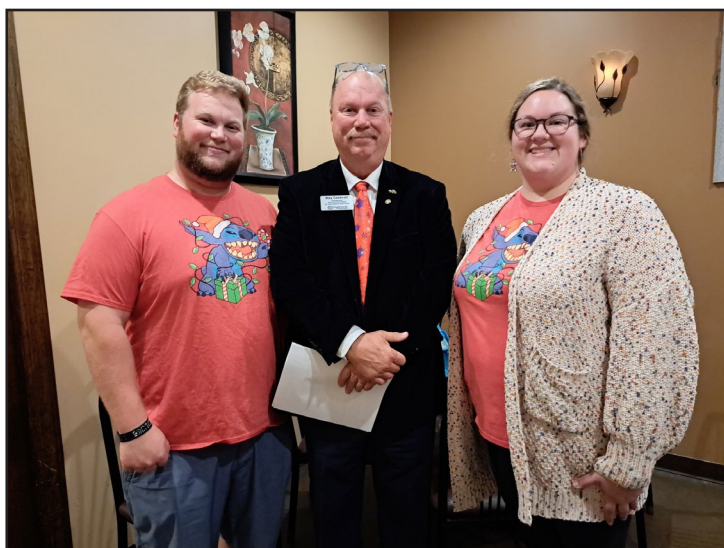
Golden Circle donated
to Dee's Homes



Zone 3 Zone Meeting
November, 2024



Zone 4 Update Angelia Iwaniuk, Lt. Governor



Greenville Club inducting their two newest members!
Related to the Governor!



Roanoke Rapids collecting toys
for the kids affected by Hurricane Helene
in NC West

Zone 5 Update

David Jennings Lt. Governor

zone5ltgovernor2023@gmail.com
(252) 204-5160



Henderson Club gifting a \$1000 Mini Grant at Vance County Schools Convocation.



Henderson Club volunteering at ACTS (Area Christians Together in Service) soup kitchen.



Henderson Club Fish Fry



Henderson Club teaching Bike Safety



Wake Forest packing 30 goodie bags for Shop with a Cop



Wake Forest JOI Club helping make crafts and serve pizza for Shop with a Cop



Zone 6 Update TBD Lt. Governor



The Garner Parade hosted by the Garner Optimist Club!



The East Wake Club serving kids
at the Boys and Girls Club of Zebulon



The Raleigh Optimist Club found its Charlie Brown Tree!



Tom Lamont picking up toys and books
from the Garner Optimist Club for the
Optimist Cottage, at the
Boys and Girls Home.

Boys & Girls Homes

Linda Shepherd – Golden Circle, Elm City

In my position as District Chair of the NC Boys and Girls Homes at Lake Waccamaw, I am pleased to share with you the opportunities for your service and contributions to this wonderful facility that opens its doors to boys and girls who need the love and care that is missing from their homelife. There are opportunities to volunteer your time in many areas, such as organizing items for the Country Store, planting flowers or vegetables on the farm, helping with maintenance of equipment, or assisting in the school. I am aware that volunteering on a regular basis may be difficult if you live a great distance away. However, giving of your time is appreciated even if just on one occasion. Moreover, it can be a day of fun if two or three of you from your club want to come together!

This Optimist year, we are focusing on providing for our Optimist Cottage. Of course, financial donations are always welcome, but so are almost any items you can think of that are needed for housing, educating, and showing love and comfort to boys and girls.

As a new project in the cottage for this year, individual clubs are sending items to recognize holidays throughout the year. The North Wake Optimist Club took responsibility for Martin Luther King Jr's birthday in January. The Wake Forest Optimist Club and the JOI Club they sponsor are providing celebratory items for Valentine's Day. Please let me know which holiday your club would like to recognize. It will be much better if each club will volunteer for a specific holiday instead of me calling on your club at a time that might not be the best for you.

I would like to recognize all clubs whose members have contributed to our Optimist Cottage since October 1, whether by donating money, giving of their time in labor, or purchasing items to be used at the cottage. As of this writing, those clubs are Goldsboro, Winter Park, Garner, Raleigh, Bennett, Roxboro, Wilmington

Supper, Greenville, Golden Circle, Northern Wake, and Cape Fear.

Your gifts are greatly appreciated. I hope to be able to recognize more clubs in my article in next quarter's bulletin! Will your club be on that list?



Forever an Optimist!

Linda Shepherd

District Chair

NC Boys and Girls Homes

LJSPROF@alumni.WFU.edu

252 567 5673



At the Boys & Girls Homes 70th Anniversary Gala.
Sitting with NC West. 11/2/24



Essay Contest 2024-2025

Liz Griffiths

"How Optimism Has Paved My Road to Success"

Top Finisher receives a \$2,500.00 scholarship

WHO may enter:

Contest is open to contestants under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2024 and who have not yet completed secondary school or its equivalent. Clubs can go to Optimist website and download Club Planning Guide for how to hold a Club Contest. https://optimist.org/Documents/2025/programs/24-25_Essay_Club_Planning_Guide.pdf

DEADLINE for District Contest:
FEBRUARY 28, 2025

Club Essay Winner paperwork must be received by the District Chair. Please advise all contestants of the Contestant Agreement noting that all

Essays will be run through plagiarism and AI detection software.

As the District Essay Chairperson, I ask that if your club is conducting a contest and submitting a District entry to notify me by e-mail so that I can be on the lookout for your packet.

My contact information is:
Liz Griffiths, Essay Chairperson
2512 Nassau Trace
Fuquay Varina, NC 27526
PH: 703-216-1845
E-mail: dliz7898@outlook.com



Optimist Junior Golf David C Jennings, Henderson Club

Greetings Optimists,

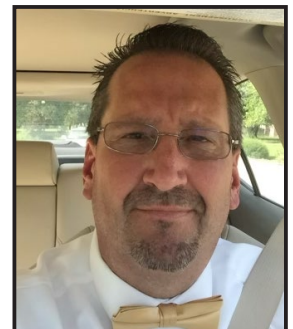
The Optimist International Junior Golf Championship is one of the largest and best-known junior golf tournaments in the world. Each year, more than 600 golfers participate in the championship. Optimists have been involved in the sport of junior golf for more than 30 years by holding local, regional, and international tournaments. The championship consists of qualifiers and culminates with the championship at Trump National Doral Resort and Spa in Miami, FL.

Our NC East Qualifier will be held on Friday, June 13, 2025 at Timberlake Golf Club, 634 Challenge Club Drive, Clinton, North Carolina 28328. Last year we had 7 golfers go on to Doral. We have 14 slots available this year and our goal is to fill them all!

If you have any interest in helping with this event, please let me know. I need all the volunteers I can get.

Thanks for all your help.

David Jennings
zone5ltgovernor2023@gmail.com
252-204-5160



JOI Club

Paige Bivens, Wake Forest Club

Heartfelt JOI

At the Wake Forest High School JOI Club we work each meeting to "bring out the best in youth."

We are forging new friendships and relationships. We are using our core values which align with Optimist International to provide support to the youth in our town, county, and state.

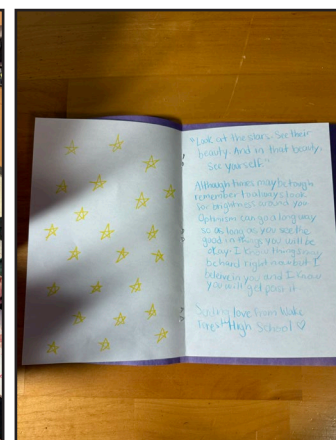
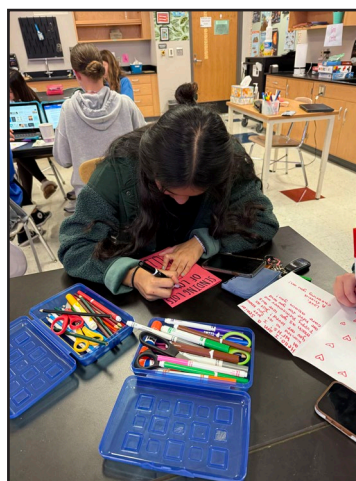
Our belief system and our projects have reflected a core value of leading with your heart. How we do this has been through thoughtful reflection on others besides ourselves.

We have completed 3 projects that affect how others might perceive themselves and offer support for those who may not have all the advantages that we have.

Our first project was to partner with the Wake Forest Optimist Club in making blankets to go in "Care Kits" for foster children in our area. This project provided children in foster care to have something to call their own when most things have been taken.

Our second project added to the first one by writing heartfelt messages in cards to offer words of encouragement to those children and peers who may feel overwhelmed or alone. These cards will be included in the comfort kits. Our third project went beyond our town. We created "pocket hugs" for the Boys and Girls Home of North Carolina. These hugs were constructed from felt hearts so that the recipient can carry the heart in their pocket and know that someone whom they have never met cares about them. We added notes on handmade pockets, which went into "Valentine Bags" that included other cards, and candy.

All these projects afforded individual creativity, which went beyond expectations. This club with its diverse members have truly touched many hearts including mine.



Member Engagement

Angela Iwaniuk



Membership Engagement & Recruitment
Don't forget about our incentives for bringing in new members this year!

- Each quarter – All members who bring in a new member will receive a \$10 Walmart gift card.
 - At year-end – the club which has brought in the most new members will receive \$250.
 - At year-end – the club which has increased their NET members the most will receive \$300.
- At our first quarter meeting we gave out 6 gift cards and at this 2nd quarter meeting we will be recognizing more who have brought in new members. At the time of this article our district is plus 14 members. Our goal for this year is plus 5% growth in new members (which will equal about plus 31members).



The task ahead of us is not just about numbers; it's about building a stronger, more vibrant community that shares our vision and values. Our organization thrives because of the dedication, passion, and diverse talents of its members. As we set out to expand our membership, let's remember that we are inviting others to join something truly remarkable.

As we move forward with our recruitment campaign, let's keep our eyes on the bigger picture. We are not just growing our

membership; we are building a legacy. Each new member brings fresh ideas, perspectives, and energy that will help us achieve our long-term goals. Let's stay focused, stay passionate, and stay committed to our mission.

Build connections with non-members and use your individual personality strengths to not only invite them to join our organization, but to also explain the benefits to them for becoming an Optimist! We make a difference! We make a positive impact on our communities and the youth of our communities. We also offer a chance for members to experience networking and professional development opportunities as well as wonderful fellowship with other Optimists!

You may face challenges in the form of rejections or other obstacles, but it's important to stay positive and persistent. Every "no" brings us one step closer to "yes".

LET'S MAKE NC EAST DISTRICT GREAT AGAIN!

Angela Iwaniuk
Membership Engagement Chair

How we communicate to you:

Facebook:	North Carolina East District
Website:	OptimistNCEast.org
Int'l Website:	Optimist.org
Email:	Constant Contact



New Club Building David Griffiths, Garner

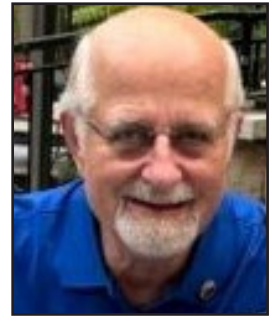
PLEASE WELCOME our newest Optimist Members. The Wake Tech Optimist Club was organized on the campus of Wake Tech Community College, north campus, on November 21, 2024. The new Club was organized with 17 new Optimists, all students at Wake Tech. This new Club represents our District only Collegiate Optimist Club and was formed due to the tremendous efforts of Aryanah Smith and Paige Bivens of the Wake Forest Optimist Club. The Wake Forest Optimist Club is the sponsoring club.

Wanting to build an Optimist Club but not sure who to contact in the new community, a recent new approach to the creation of a list interested individuals within the prospective community is thru the use of social media, Facebook, twitter, Instagram, etc. By placing a ad for a specific geographical area, seeking individuals looking for an avenue to help inspire the youth in their community, a list of prospective members can be generated. As individual responses are received, immediate contact with invitation to

an informational meeting has resulted in the formation of a new club in one District. Utilizing the same approach has led to new contacts who became new members of an existing club.

I am currently working with Optimist International Marketing team to develop several ads that can be used to build New Clubs and for adding members to existing Clubs. If interested in how this works, please contact me. It is my intent to implement this process this year to assist in New Club Building. I would also like to work with existing Clubs to use this approach to increase their membership ranks.

Dave Griffiths, Chairperson
North Carolina East District
Ph: 703.216.010
Email: David.griffiths@studio229llc.com



Optimist.org

PROMISE YOURSELF

**To think only of the
best, to work only
for the best and to
expect only the best.**

OI Foundation Representative Gary Pender, Goldsboro Club

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION CLUB PASS THROUGH GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

If your Optimist Club is seeking grant funds or contributions for funding of your charitable community service projects or other charitable, literary or educational programs, you may request the assistance of Optimist International Foundation (OIF) as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. This program is only available in the United States. Please follow the guidelines below to qualify for the Club Pass Through Grant Program.

- Complete the OIF Pass Through Grant Application and mail or fax to the Optimist International Foundation.
- If you are trying to secure a grant from a corporation or foundation that has their own Grant Application Form, please complete any information pertaining the Club (but leave the 501(c)(3) signature section blank) and forward that to OIF. We will complete the information regarding the 501(c)(3) and attach any documents that may be necessary. We will mail the completed form and documents to the corporation/foundation/grantor.
- Checks received from corporations/foundations/grantors must be made payable to "Optimist International Foundation." OIF will deposit the check and issue a check to the Club for the amount received after the check

has cleared the OIF bank. Unless otherwise directed, the check will be sent to the Club officer who signed the application form. A tax receipt will be issued to the corporation/foundation/grantor in January of the following year.



- The Club must report to OIF a final accounting of all grant funds received, using the form that will be mailed with the OIF check issued to the Club. OIF cannot proceed with any further Club Pass Through Grants for the Club until a final report is received from the Club.

Please note:

The amount of funds qualifying for this program is \$100 or more per Donor/grantor. OIF cannot process Pass Through gifts that are property or real estate. (See "Is It a Charitable Income Tax Contribution Deduction" for more information.)

- Recognition Items are not applicable with Pass Through Grant funds.

Direct any questions to:

Optimist International Foundation • 4494 Lindell Boulevard • St. Louis, MO 63108

Phone: 800.500.8130 • Fax: 314.535.7436
info@oifoundation.org



Oratorical Contest Timothy Johnson

As you may already know, Optimist International sponsors three scholarship contests for students to earn money to pursue opportunities in higher education: the Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH), the Essay Contest and the Oratorical Contest. The contests are conducted at the Club level, then Zone and Regional (if necessary) and at the District level. District-level scholarships are funded by the Optimist International Foundations and awarded by Optimist International.

The Topic for the 2024-2025 Optimist year is: "How Optimism Has Guided Me Through Trying Times."

The contest is open to contestants under the age of 19 as of October 1st of the current Optimist International contest year (October 1 – September 30) and who have not yet completed high school. There is no minimum age.

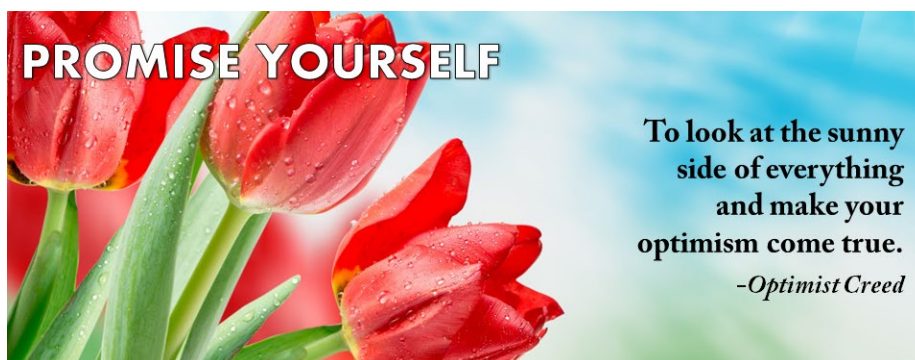
Interested students submit a speech on the pre-assigned topic to their local Optimist Club. To find out the contact in your area, please e-mail the District Oratorical Chairperson, Timothy Johnson, at NCEastZone6LtGovernor@gmail.com.

The deadline to enter is determined by the sponsoring Optimist Club. All Club-level contests are typically held by late March, so that the District Contest can be held at our 3rd Quarter District Gathering.

Districts and Clubs may opt to hold an online Oratorical Contest. Please contact our District Oratorical Chair Timothy Johnson for guidance on holding an online contest.

The Optimist Oratorical Contest gives young people the chance to speak to the world. More than \$150,000 in college scholarships funded by the Optimist International Foundations is awarded annually from this program.

First conducted in 1928, this is the second most popular Optimist International Program. Nearly 2,000 clubs participate in this program each year. The winners at the Club level receive medallions and Zone winners receive a plaque. Districts have the opportunity to provide a first place scholarship of \$2,500, a second place scholarship of \$1,500, and a third place scholarship of \$1,000.



11/9/24 Q1 District Meeting

Held at Boys and Girls Home of North Carolina
Lake Waccamaw, NC

Meeting began at 9:15am

First-timers attending:

Kama and Kristi Norton - Cape Fear
Rebecca Lakey - Pres Garner Club

Past Governors attending:

Linda Shepherd
Auston Pusey
Gary Pender
Angela Iwaniuk
Jimmy Lamont

Minutes from last meeting and 4th qtr financial report:

Motion to accept – Gary Pender
2nd Louwanna Pender
Approved

Adopt agenda:

Motion – Angela Iwaniuk
2nd David Jennings
All in favor - passed

Linda Shepherd- Audit committee reviewed the 2023-24
financials and provided a clean report

24-25 Budget - Adjusted revenues in dues column due to
lower membership as of now

Line item #470 increased to help out the NC West District.
Sent them \$2,561.00 from district and clubs. (\$1,000.00
from district.)

Passed around NC West Governor Greg Phipps letter of
appreciation.

Motion to accept budget as presented - Jimmy Lamont
2nd Gary Pender
All in favor - passed

Reindeer skit – Joshua Cockrell and Ray Cockrell

Governor Goals

- Training a priority
- Build the district with membership
- Marketing - active in social media promoting club events
- Communication - Governor Ray wants to visit clubs and events – everything is personal
- Finance - make sure everyone is current with dues
- Questions - 3 new clubs - (defer to Dave) Paige asked if they must be adult clubs. Dave Griffiths answered affirmative

Jobs skit – David Jennings, Timothy Johnson and Ray
Cockrell

Governor Goals cont.

Grow personally as leaders - "Energy Bus" by John Gordon.

Maintaining positive energy and attitude

Rules for the Ride of your Life -

1. You're the driver of the bus - you are the one that makes
things happen in your life

2 Desire - you have to want it. Create vision and focus
on it. Drive, desire, Vision.

3. Fuel your ride with positive energy

4. Invite people on your bus to share your vision. Together
We Can. Getting right people in the right seats on your bus.

5. Don't waste energy on those that don't get on the bus.
Energy vampires - folks that drain you. Stay focused.

6. Enthusiasm attracts more passengers and energizes
them during the ride. Something is always wrong does not
attract. Conversations - leave folks

7. Love your passengers. Love those on the bus with you.
Show them that you care.

8. Drive with purpose. Move towards that goal.

9. Have fun and enjoy the ride. We only have this life once.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

-Member Engagement - Angela Iwaniuk- Goat Trophy
(Greatest of all Time) Club that wins it is required to bring
to next district meeting - presented to Cape Fear Club -
presented to Auston Pusey for 12 members.

-Dave Jennings drove 3 hours

-Paige Bivens has new member incentives - \$10 Walmart
gift card -

-The club that brings in most members will receive \$250.
Club that has most net will receive \$300.

-Optimist International: Virtual Ship Cruise aboard
SS Optimist - each quarter they give awards for clubs
bringing in most members.

NEW CLUB BUILDING

- Wake Tech Optimist Club -
Dave Griffiths - They have 20 members. Org meeting this
Thursday afternoon. Wake Forest agreed to pay for new
member dues. Leftover will be used for service project.

-Apex Club - Linda Shepherd worked on that this summer.
They have 7 potential new members. They are working on
getting info out to businesses.

-Hoping to expand into Holly Springs area. Opportunities to
reach more individuals.

-Raise hands those who ever brought in a new member.
How did you bring that individual in? Use same tactics to
add members to your club can be used to create a new
club. Paige Bivens talked about needing their talent. Auston
Pusey uses food.

-Dave Griffiths organized a sports club. The folks wanted
to stay in contact with the young folks all year long. Took
advantage of Optimist insurance.

-College (Wake Tech) formed on a campus.

-Special Needs and Exceptional Club

-JOI clubs for public schools - games and trunk or
treat - learning to partner with others and support their
community

-Club within a club - like Raleigh Club - noon downtown
and evening at farm - or maybe focus on different projects

-Dave Griffiths became an Optimist in Topeka, KS in 1987.

They had 10 Optimist clubs. Had their own flag football and basketball program.

-You can build a new club. Desire to help others help the youth in that community. As a sponsoring club, you work with the new club. Must have 15.

ESSAY CONTEST – Liz Griffiths
"How Optimism Paves my Road to Success"

- submit by Feb 28
- Send in as as soon as you can
- Can only sponsor 1 contestant per club.
- If you have 2-3 you have to have a contest. Must have 3 judges. Printout kit from Optimist.org.
- No fee in NC. Governor Ray will confirm with Liz.
- Can present medallions with award ceremony or just a certificate from the club.
- Must meet guidelines.
- Can be submitted electronically.
- Liz will make a Gmail account just for Essay Contest.
- Must make sure student wrote essay NOT using AI. There is a resource scanner to make sure not plagiarized.
- 2024-2025 Essay Club Chair Planning Guide passed out.

ORATORICAL CONTEST - Timothy Johnson

- Easy to get judges - Timothy can help out.
 - 1 person from your club
 - Local Toastmasters Club
 - Community Leader (radio or TV personality)
- Theme – "How Optimism Has Guided Me Through Trying Times"
- Anybody under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2024
- Middle school or high school
- Speech is 4-5 minutes long
- Enter through local club, enter through zone, through district
- Club sets own deadline. District completes before May 15.
- Timothy - contacted different schools to share information about scholarships. Look for homeschool groups. Look for Scout groups, etc. He can send press release to spread the word.
- Scholarship amounts - \$2500, \$1500 and \$1000
- Medals and plaques awarded at local club
- Questions - one student can do both - winners cannot compete again at OI. Liz - monetary award is \$500 or less at club level.
- Winner from last year financially could not compete last year. So we could try to help out.
- Get info to PTA meeting.
- Do essay before oratorical.
- Pass out info through November so students can work on during winter break.
- Get forms filled out and signed and in Timothy's hands.
- Two weeks before contest.

CCDHH – Governor Ray will coordinate that one.

JOI CLUB – Paige Bivens

- If we don't get our youth involved, then Optimist won't grow.
- She has 45 members today. Started with 12.

- Project is care blankets.
- They participate through a Club Fair.
- Interest meeting had standing room only in classroom.
- Not hard - go to Principals.
- Majority of HS have clubs during the school day. No exclusions.
- There is a JOI handbook. She will support us all she can.
- Ask Principal for a strong advisor. Advisors can be paid a stipend through the school system.

BGHNC - Linda Shepherd

- 70th anniversary celebrated recently.
- Lindsay McGraw – BGHNC shares her story as a former resident
- She was a resident and is now residential staff
- Was a resident from 2015 - 2017 , then graduated.
- Currently works in Lions Cottage with the boys.
- Civic orgs do make a difference.
- Blessing to come back to BGHNC and be a blessing for the kids as she knows their emotions and why
- The kids notice the encouragement provided.
- \$500 donation from Goldsboro club
- Tom Lamont
 - Promoted nativity weekend December 6-8
 - Carolyn's Kaleidoscope Child Advocacy Center has been accredited.
 - Open house on Nov 13.
 - Duck race - in Winston Salem and Wilmington - raised over \$50,000 for the vans. 2 new vans.
 - Optimist Cottage Christmas Decorations -
 - new artificial tree - 6ft
 - new decorations

Optimist Cottage renovations - Tim Burrelson from Winter Park noticed it needed to feel like home. Needed new life, color, new hope. Upgraded, dining, living, game room and hallway. This year - renovated bedrooms and bathrooms. Garner Optimist took kids to baseball game. Garner Optimist gave a foosball table in girls Jaycee cottage. Cape Fear Optimist had a special softball tournament - collected items for the Country Store. Goldsboro Club provided new bedding. Cape Fear Club - through fire department gave \$10,000 toward new vans. Optimist Day April 12, 2025. Goal is 100 Optimists. Will have a special project.

-New Goal for Home: challenged getting new staff members - need to upgrade staff areas.

OI FOUNDATION - Gary Pender

- Each district receives \$10,000 for scholarships.
- Dime-a-Day = \$36.50
- President's Club = \$250
- Women's Philanthropy = \$100
- Christian D. Larson Award - presented to honor a person in your club = \$1,000
- Use the above to continue to support these scholarships -
- Goldsboro gave \$500
- Tom Lamont talked about Dime-A-Day
- Dime-a Day drawing for \$50 - 58 people last year
- Philanthropy \$100 - 8 last year
- Presidents \$100 - 2 last year

2022-2023 – Banner Patch Dollar per member - Golden Circle, Elm City, Rocky Mount, Roanoke Rapids, Wake Forest, Wilson Evening, Henderson, Raleigh, Cape Fear, Wilmington, Winter Park, Goldsboro.
 2023-2024 - Banner Patch Dollar per member - Henderson, Rocky Mount, Golden Circle, Raleigh, Timothy Johnson Dime-a-Day Pin

LT GOVERNORS

-Zone 1- Auston Pusey for Bennie Bass - buy Christmas trees - car show had 173 cars - last softball tournament last weekend
 -Zone 2 - Tom Lamont - Elizabethtown is dormant. Trying to get them to start meeting again. Laurinburg club – he visited them recently. Had semi-annual fish fry. Moving Christmas trees to ballpark. Having a golf tournament Nov 23. They have 18 teams. First Thursday of every month they have a guest speaker. Hope to get them back connected to District.
 -Zone 3 - Elm City folded to Golden Circle club. Bennett club - started 15-18 years ago to raise money to help families with children who have cancer in Wilson County. Only fundraiser is Kisses for Cancer in front of Parkers - raised over \$2,000. Wilson Evening - down to 9 members. Not doing Christmas Trees. Wayne was 94 when he died. Goldsboro down to 18 members. They do not sell Christmas trees anymore. Sold since 1957. They team up with others for their projects. Well known in Goldsboro for popcorn. Tabled Halloween downtown. Helped with Touch a Truck. Helps with Downtown Freedom Fest - they direct traffic.
 -Zone 4 - Roanoke Rapids is having fundraiser this morning.
 -Zone 5 - Dave Jennings - Orange County club reinstated. Wake Forest and Henderson club most active. Wake Forest car show was very successful. Funds all other activities. 178 cars. Crop Hunger Walk with their JOI club. Henderson stays busy all year round.
 -Zone 6 no Lt Governor - Garner had golf tournament MeFine Foundation. 4,000 participants for recent fundraiser. Christmas Tree Lot. Their tree farm was fine. Optimist Christmas Parade took over from Town of Garner. They have a Grinch and Santa. Child-focused parade. 12/7 is the parade. Block party is 2-4pm. Parade afterwards. Have 40 participants. NO entry fee at this time. Invitation only. Raleigh Optimist - Timothy Johnson ordered 200 tall trees. Quarterly roadside clean-up in Fuquay-Varina area. Fishing tournament in summer.

Next meeting is 2/1/24 in Roanoke Rapids. Will send out information.

May 3 is 3rd Quarter meeting in Goldsboro - oratorical meeting.

Timothy Johnson - Governor-Elect
 -Wants to be servant leadership
 -Will accept help- from past governors
 -Wants to visit all clubs

-Wants to visit all zone club meetings
 -Blown away by folks who came today

Raffles

-\$10 Chick-fil-A to Cape Fear
 -\$25 Olive Garden to Kimberly Cockrell

Dismissed for lunch at Optimist Cottage.

Returned to Fellowship Hall for review and training in Optimist Institute.

Adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Registrants

Ray & Kimberly Cockrell	Wilmington Optimist Club
Jimmy Lamm	Wilson Optimist Club
Will & Angela Iwaniuk	Bennett Optimist Club
Timothy Johnson	Raleigh Optimist Club
Joshua & Hayley Cockrell	Greenville Optimist Club
John & Linda Shepherd	Golden Circle Optimist Club
Dave and Liz Griffiths	Garner Optimist Club
Auston & Alice Pusey	Cape Fear Optimist Club
Robert & Doris Padgett	Cape Fear Optimist Club
Roger & Valerie Lauter	Cape Fear Optimist Club
Billy Sebrell	Cape Fear Optimist Club
Donnie Pridgen	Cape Fear Optimist Club
Barbara Arnold	Cape Fear Optimist Club
Kristy & Kama Norton	Cape Fear Optimist Club
Tom & Donna Lamont	Winterpark Optimist Club /
Guest	
Andrew Fallis	Guest
Mike Smith	Winterpark Optimist Club
Buck O'Shields	Winterpark Optimist Club
David Jennings	Henderson Optimist Club
Gary & Louwanna Pender	Goldsboro Optimist Club
Jonathan & Paige Bivens	Wake Forest Optimist Club
Rebecca Lakey	Garner Optimist Club



Draft Budget/ North Carolina East District 2024 - 2025

Account Name	Budgeted	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Actual	Difference
Receipts	Receipts	Receipts	Receipts	Receipts	Receipts	Receipts	
#100 Dues	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,111.00	\$ 320.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,431.00	\$ (7,569.00)
#105 Corporate Partners						\$ -	\$ -
#110 Allotment OI	\$ 626.00	\$ 305.83				\$ 305.83	\$ (320.17)
#120 Dist Convention	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 642.13				\$ 642.13	\$ (2,357.87)
#130 Dist Meetings	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 382.00				\$ 382.00	\$ (2,618.00)
#145 Jr. Golf						\$ -	\$ -
#150 Miscellaneous	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,751.00				\$ 1,751.00	\$ 1,251.00
#160 Optimist Store	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#190 OI Foundation Auction						\$ -	\$ -
#191 Auction B & G Home	\$ 400.00					\$ -	\$ (400.00)
#192 Fifty Fifty	\$ 200.00					\$ -	\$ (200.00)
#650 Transfer Prev Admin	\$ 16,717.00					\$ -	\$ (16,717.00)
#800 CCDHH	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
Total Receipts	\$ 34,943.00	\$ 5,191.96	\$ 320.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,511.96	\$ (29,431.04)
Account Name	Budgeted	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Actual	Difference
Disbursements	Disbursements	Disbursements	Disbursements	Disbursements	Disbursements	Disbursements	
#200 Governor	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,500.00)
#210 Lt. Governors	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 308.88				\$ 308.88	\$ (1,491.12)
#250 District Secretary	\$ 300.00					\$ -	\$ (300.00)
#252 District Treasurer	\$ 300.00						
#255 Governor Elect	\$ 750.00					\$ -	\$ (750.00)
#260 Immediate Past Gov. OI Conv. *						\$ -	\$ -
#261 Past Governor	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
#262 B & G Home Chair	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
#283 New Club Building	\$ 1,000.00					\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
#265 Committee Chairs	\$ 3,000.00					\$ -	\$ (3,000.00)
#300 Clerical/Secretary						\$ -	\$ -
#301 Postage	\$ 50.00					\$ -	\$ (50.00)
#320 Office Supplies	\$ 300.00					\$ -	\$ (300.00)
#330 District Bulletin	\$ 500.00	\$ 209.17				\$ 209.17	\$ (290.83)
#331 Web Page	\$ 325.00					\$ -	\$ (325.00)
#340 District Directory	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
#350 District Convention	\$ 6,000.00					\$ -	\$ (6,000.00)
#360 District Meetings	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 320.00				\$ 320.00	\$ (2,680.00)
#361 Lt Governor's Conf.						\$ -	\$ -
#370 Oratorical Contest	\$ 1,000.00					\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
#371 CCDHH Contest	\$ 1,000.00					\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
#380 Jr. Golf	\$ 2,000.00					\$ -	\$ (2,000.00)
#390 Essay Contest	\$ 1,000.00					\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
#400 Badges & Pins Officers	\$ 400.00	\$ 254.83				\$ 254.83	\$ (145.17)
#410 Awards Current Year						\$ -	\$ -
#411 Awards, Past Year	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#420 Audit/Bank Charges	\$ 100.00					\$ -	\$ (100.00)
#421 Audit Review 990	\$ 100.00					\$ -	\$ (100.00)
#430 Merchandise/ Optimist Store	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#440 NCB Supplies	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#441 Membership	\$ 2,100.00					\$ -	\$ (2,100.00)
#442 A & A	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
#443 Personal Growth						\$ -	\$ -
#444 Childhood Health	\$ 1,000.00					\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
#446 Leadership Develop	\$ 250.00					\$ -	\$ (250.00)
#447 OI Foundation	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#448 Boys & Girls Home	\$ 1,000.00					\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
#450 Gifts (Guest)	\$ 200.00					\$ -	\$ (200.00)
#470 Miscellaneous	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,089.00				\$ 3,089.00	\$ 1,089.00
#480 Previous Admin Exp	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#490 Next Admin Exp						\$ -	\$ -
Total Disbursements	\$ 34,475.00	\$ 4,181.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,181.88	\$ (30,293.12)
* #260 Only if current Gov can't attend							
YTD Summary							
Total Receipts	\$ 34,943.00	\$ 5,191.96	\$ 320.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,511.96	
Total Disbursements	\$ 34,475.00	\$ 4,181.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,181.88	
	\$ 468.00	\$ 1,010.08					
Beginning Bank Balance	\$ 16,075.40	10/01/202					
Receipts	\$ 5,191.96						
Disbursements	\$ 4,181.88						
Ending Bank Balance	\$ 17,085.48	12/31/24					
Note: A minus number in H means we are under budget							
A plus number in H means we are over budget							

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.



Optimist

INTERNATIONAL

Facebook: North Carolina East District, Optimist International
communications@optimistnceast.org
www.optimist.org • www.optimistnceast.org