

North Carolina East District Bulletin

4th Quarter District Meeting September 14th, 2024



Message from Governor Terry S. Corle, Sr.

Fellow Optimist of the North Carolina East District:

Welcome to our District Convention here in Cary, North Carolina. It is hard to believe it has been almost a year since we gathered in Pine Knolls Shore to bring to a close the 2022 – 2023 Optimist year. Time goes by fast when you're having fun. Interacting with your fellow Optimist, visiting clubs, and witnessing all the amazing activities our clubs do over the year.

We've been feeding the kids around the state, gave out thousands of dollars in scholarships, provided sports activities for the youth, and provided free libraries to neighborhoods and towns. This highlights just a few incredible projects accomplished by our clubs.

The way we do things today may change in the years to come, but helping our youth is what we do best and will continue to do. Our numbers may be smaller, but how we feel in our hearts when we get a smile, a thank you and sometimes a hug from a youth, makes us realize what an impact we have. Our scholarship programs gives us the opportunity to send our youth to college or trade school, which I look forward to seeing more of in the future. Activities will continue because we are "Friend of Youth."

As your Governor, I am proud to have represented the district this year. Although we

have faced obstacles, we continue to be "Friend of Youth."

I look forward to continue working at the district level and supporting incoming Governor Ray. Enjoy your weekend and remember my favorite tenant of our Optimist Creed: **Promise yourself: to forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievement of the future.**

Yours in Optimism,

Terry S. Corle, Sr.
2023/2024
Governor,
North Carolina East
District of Optimist
International



International
Convention Niagara
Falls, Canada



Dear Fellow Optimists,

As we approach the final stretch of this Optimist year, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering dedication to your Club and District. Your tireless efforts have been instrumental in making this year a success, and I am truly inspired by your passion and commitment to our mission.

Your leadership has not only strengthened your District but also our organization. By doing so you have been creating an environment where members can thrive and grow into the best versions of themselves – Optimists with a capital "O." Because, when we conduct ourselves in accordance with our values – Optimism, Respect, Integrity, and Global Community – we bring out the best in ourselves and those around us.

As we look ahead to the final months of this year, let's continue to build on what we've started. By finishing strong, we provide the next leadership team with a smooth transition and allow them to hit the ground running. I'm counting on you to show how much you care with your actions and deeds.

Thank you for your outstanding service. I am honored to serve alongside you, and I look forward to celebrating our collective achievements as we close out this Optimist year.

Yours in Optimism,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Tracy Huxley'.

Tracy Huxley
2023/2024 President
Optimist International

Governor Elect Ray Cockrell

Another year almost in the books. Huge congratulations to Governor Terry for an excellent year. Terry brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to the leadership position and brought new ideas to the District. Well done, Terry!

I am honored and humbled to have the opportunity to work with all of you once more in the mission of serving youth and continuing to make our District stronger. Always remember that this is OUR organization, and it is up to ALL of us to maintain its health and viability.

As this is OUR organization, I look to you for input on how to keep it strong. I will be in touch shortly to ask for your input on some of the following ideas, ideas such as:

- Are you happy where we are as a District? If not, please let me know how we can make immediate upgrades to our efforts.
- What programs or speakers would be useful to you?
- What training would help make you a stronger Optimist and a stronger leader?
- What opportunities for fellowship sound exciting to you?
- Give me ONE idea that you think will help grow the district, add members or improve attendance at District Meetings

I plan to be with you any chance I get. I will be visiting your clubs and joining you for events and activities. I can't go if you don't invite me or if I don't know when it is happening. I look forward to hearing from each of you about how I can help you and your club.

Our organization faces challenges – but TOGETHER, if we have HOPE and BELIEVE – we can make a difference. WE ARE OPTIMISTS!!

Ray



Leadership 2024-25

Governor	Ray Cockrell
Governor- Elect	Timothy Johnson
Secretary	Kimberly Cockrell
Treasurer	Terry Corle
Lt. Gov - Zone 1	Bennie Bass
Lt. Gov - Zone 2	— — —
Lt. Gov - Zone 3	Gary Pender
Lt. Gov - Zone 4	TBD
Lt. Gov - Zone 5	David Jennings
Lt. Gov - Zone 6	TBD
Boys&Girls Homes	Linda Shepherd
Bulletin Editor / PR	Gail Craft
Candidate Qualifications	Terry Corle
Childhood Health & Wellness	Ray Cockrell
CCDHH	TBD
Dist Conference / Convention	SandyCyphers / Pamela
Essay Contest	Liz Griffiths
Audit / Finance	Terry Corle
JOI Clubs	Paige Bivens
Junior Golf	David Jennings
Int'l Convention	Timothy Johnson
New Club Building	David Griffiths
Leadership Development	TBD
Member Engagement	Angela Iwaniuk
Mkt / Social Media / Web / PR	Gail Craft
OI Foundation	Gary Pender
Oratorical	Timothy Johnson



Optimist INTERNATIONAL

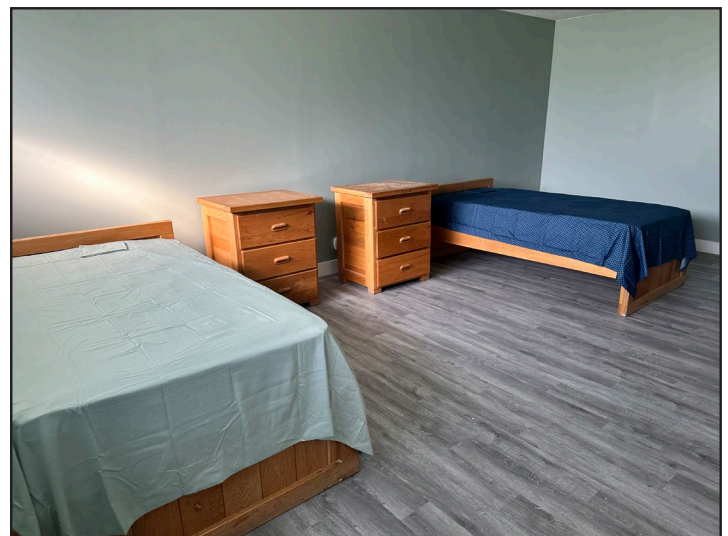
Boys & Girls Homes Ray Cockrell, Chair

I shared with you just about this time last year how fantastic your cottage looks! The renovation to the living areas of the cottage transformed the look and feel of the cottage. You have done it again!! We are just now finishing up the renovation of the bedrooms. No more tile floor! No more cinderblock walls! Fresh paint! It looks amazing!!



We are so blessed by all of you that continue to believe in our work and provide support for YOUR Optimist Cottage. Optimist Day in April provided for a wealth of needs for the cottage, and we are in pretty good shape there. There are other needs for our kids on campus. I have shared with you about our Child Advocacy Center (CAC). This is the program that provides services for victims of sexual assault. We provide a forensic interview and a medical exam that helps to put the perpetrator away! We then continue to work with the victim and their family to provide clinical, therapeutic and healing services. What an amazing program! Here are some of the needs for this team:

- \$25 Gas cards (for families who identify a financial burden coming to the appointment)
- \$25 Gift Cards
 - Food Lion/Walmart/Hills (for families that identify food insecurity on our needs assessment)
- Instant meals (small cups of macaroni and cheese, Chef Boyardee, etc.)
- New stuffed animals for the "Zoo"
- Puzzles (chunky wooden or 25 piece or less)
- New soft/fleece blankets for children's medical exams
- Personal hygiene items (toothbrush/toothpaste, deodorant, combs, body wash, shampoo/conditioner, feminine products)
- 1 pack of mega blocks
- Board games (for all ages)
- New white t-shirts (sizes adult small & adult medium)
- Individual wrapped snacks/chips/cookies
- Juice Boxes
- Small Bottled Water
- Larger items/Projects: (Call us for specifics!)
- New rugs (for the advocate waiting room and interview room)
- Flowers planted/updated landscape
- Pressure washing/gutters cleaned
- Storage bins



Remember that we are willing to go anywhere anytime to share the message of the positive work we are doing for kids at Boys and Girls Homes. I hope you will reach out to invite myself or Tom Lamont, Director of Community Engagement to do a program for your club. I know you know what we do, yet we are making a lot of changes and would love to come and update you on what is happening in your cottage and on our campus.

Thank you for loving our kids!!

Ray



Always
believe
that
something
wonderful
is about to
happen!

Friend of Youth!

Member Engagement **Sandy Cyphers, Wilmington Club**

I cannot believe that the 2023-2024 Optimist Year is quickly ending.

So many great projects from clubs in our district that make a difference in the lives of children as well as our members' lives.

What a wonderful feeling knowing that "NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT OPTIMISTS" do make a difference and we do care about the communities in which we work and reside.

REMINDER!!!! If your club has not submitted their new list of officers for 2024-2025, PLEASE DO SO ASAP! This is important not only to Optimist

International but also to our district. AS THE SAYING GOES "GIT R DONE."

Keep up the great work and continue to press forward to the greater achievements of the future.

Looking forward to acknowledging those Club Presidents and members who made a difference during this quarter.



Sandy Cyphers



Around our NC East District!



Henderson Club



Garner



Roanoke Rapids

Chowan Edenton



Elm City



Cape Fear





Goldsboro



Golden Circle



Raleigh



East Wake



**Wake Forest
& JOI Club**



New Club Building

Linda Shepherd – Golden Circle, Elm City



Despite my efforts to accomplish the desired results expected of me as New Club-Building Chair, it saddens me to report that, as of this writing, no new clubs have been built in the NC East District this Optimist year. There was quite a bit of publicity, including personal contacts, flyers, and newspaper articles, early on in an attempt to build a club in the Outer Banks area. Governor Terry and I traveled to Kitty Hawk in February to conduct an informational meeting, but there was no response from the local citizenry. I have continued to try to contact OBXers who have a following, even speaking to someone I met on a cruise ship in Alaska recently!

My repeated efforts to make contact with the right persons of authority on two military bases in our district also proved futile.

As early as March, we had the understanding that there were the required number of interested students to build a college club at Wake Tech. Upon meeting virtually with college staff, we were told we could not complete the process until classes started for the new school year in August. However, it now seems that there are no students who are committed to join. Additionally, I understand that the student who was eagerly soliciting other students to get this club in place is now considering transferring elsewhere to study!

I scheduled an appointment with the Mayor of Apex in March, and he supported the idea of organizing an Optimist club there, even

introducing me to the staff at the Apex Senior Center where our first informational meeting was held in April. With the help of publicity sent out from the Senior Center, several interested individuals came to our first meeting on a Friday morning, and four people registered right away to become members. In May, we followed up with two more morning meetings at a church, and welcomed two additional members. Since then, we have held evening meetings in restaurants in order to attract people who work in the daytime. To date, we have a total of eight registered members with at least one more application being completed to turn in at our next meeting. We have established a location to have meetings and even a willing club president. The Garner Optimist Club has accepted to sponsor and offer guidance to this new club, and a few Garner Optimists have already been very supportive with their presence and enthusiasm at our meetings. It is our fervent hope that this new club will have the required fifteen member applicants with at least nine of them present so that chartering can become official at our fourth quarter convention.

Governor Terry and I have met virtually several times with Jim Boyd, OI Director of Strategic Growth. We have followed his suggestions and applied his ideas, but at this point nothing has come to fruition. Nevertheless, I will continue to press on expectantly until my term as chair ends on September 30. After all, an Optimist never gives up, right?

NEW CLUB BUILDING

CCDHH

Gary Pender, Goldsboro Club

Hello Optimists:

It seems like each year it is getting harder to get contestants for the CCDHH Oratorical Contest. This year I had three to enter one dropped out a few days before the contest and one did not respond to my email nor show up for the contest.

The teacher of the one contestant that came asking if I could let her present her speech any way so I did. Her name is Maria Ambriz. She is a student at Spring Creek School in Wayne County. I conducted it as a contest, but could not give a scholarship to her. I presented her a cash prize of \$100 from the District, along with the teacher donating \$250.



I'm hoping that next year we have a

better turn out. What I would ask

you is that you start now looking for contestants for the contest for next year. In the picture is myself, Maria Ambriz, and her teacher Deanna Cooke.

Thank you for letting me serve you as the District Chair for

the NC East District.

Gary Pender
District CCDHH Chair



OI Foundation Representative Gary Pender, Goldsboro Club

Optimist Foundation is in need of more Dime A Day Members. We are at 44 compared to 68 last year. President's Club is at 11 the same as last year, but I know we can do better.

The Women's Philanthropy is at 6 at my last count, and the year is not up yet. With your help we as the NC Optimist District, can increase all donations to the OI Foundation.

You have heard me say that our District receives \$10,000 a year for scholarships from the Foundation. I am very proud to serve as your OIF Rep and **I Thank You for Your Support, and all you and your club and does for the Children in your community.**

If I can help you in anyway please contact me.

Dime A Day \$36.50
a year.

President Club \$250.00 a year.

Women Philanthropy \$100.00 a year.

Thank You,
Gary Pender
District DFR



JOI Club

Paige Bivens, Wake Forest Club

We've Had a Joi-full Year!

As I write this, I am reflecting on all Wake Forest High School JOI Club did this year to help children and to grow as members.

While this was a challenging year because of so many school conflicts, we persevered and accomplished much.

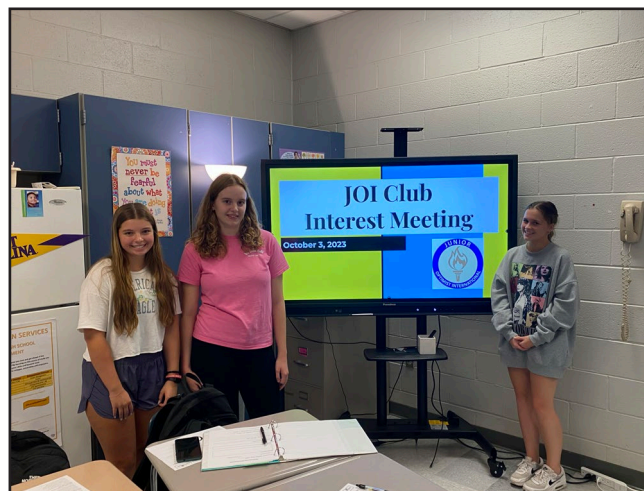
Here is what we did:

- We started the year by walking in the Wake Forest Crop Walk to help alleviate hunger in our community, in the United States, and worldwide. This project was in partnership with the Wake Forest Optimist Club.
- In the fall we made blankets for Comfort Kits given to foster children that have been taken from their homes with no or little personal belongings. Enclosed was a card of encouragement handwritten by each member of the JOI Club.
- Our December project was working with the Wake Forest Police Department and the Wake Forest Optimist Club in a program called "Shop with a Cop". Thirty-five students of need go shopping with a policeman for needs and wants. We provided games and crafts while students arrived and forged some personal relationships with each child.



- As the New Year began, we delved deep into the meaning of the Optimist Creed and then

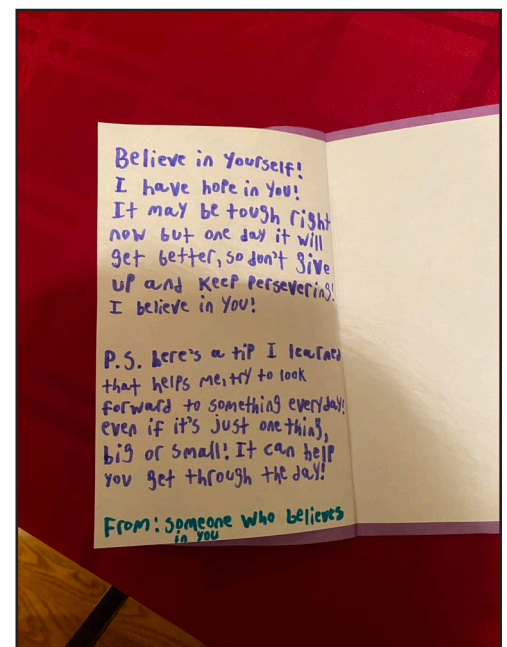
each one of us took a part of the Creed to practice in our community. We shared how we did that and what we learned. This activity made the Optimist Creed a living document.



- Spring gave us the opportunity to provide food for a street Food Pantry in Wake Forest. We filled the pantry with foods and snacks that children would like.

- We also partnered with another club the Wake Forest High School Junioresettes (the Wake Forest Woman's Club service organization) to create a fundraiser and

make posters to advertise the fundraiser so that we could give funds to teachers to buy materials for our fellow students.



continued...

- Our year ended with a celebration of accomplishments and a "Summer Vibe" gathering. We welcomed our new Faculty Advisor Ms. Bhatti and said goodbye to our past Faculty Advisor Mrs. Owens.

We will begin our school year in a few weeks with hopes, dreams, and days filled with JOI!

By Paige Bivens-JOI Advisor
at Wake Forest High School



Membership

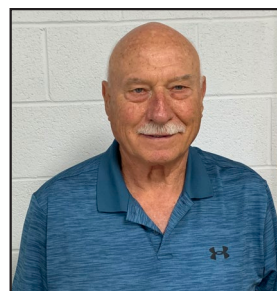
Auston Pusey, Cape Fear Club

Greetings Fellow Optimists! I hope everyone had a minimal amount of damage from Tropical Storm Debby.

I'm writing this a month ahead of our convention, so when you read this, it will be old news. Hopefully by then, our news will have improved. As of this writing our organization is minus 1535 members and our current membership stands at 42,406. Our Mid-Atlantic Region is ranked at number 9 and has NO Districts plus in membership! Our District is ranked number 43 and minus 92. I wish I had better news, but for those of you who have been keeping up, we've had the misfortune of losing a club and just way too many who "lost interest".

I wish I had answers. I know we've had recruiting incentives in the past and they seem to work for some, but for the most part they are ignored.

Bottom line is, recruiting new members is something you have to see enough value in.



This will be my last newsletter, at least for this year. We will have a new Membership Chair next year that I know will do a great job. This person has served in several leadership roles and has a passion for our organization. I've enjoyed my time serving in this capacity, but it's time for a new set of eyes and I look forward to seeing our District return to the top!

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

Auston Pusey
Membership Chair

Oratorical Contest

Timothy Johnson

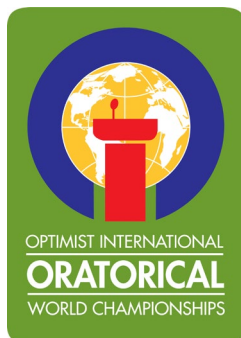
The Oratorical Contest is one of the three main scholarship programs within Optimist International. In fact it is the longest running program sponsored by Optimist International! It gives us the opportunity to accomplish three things.

Firstly, we are privileged to get to the heart and the spirit of what optimism is and what it means from a young person's perspective. Secondly, we can introduce more people to Optimist International and the great things we do. This includes the young people themselves, parents, teachers, youth leaders, contest judges, and the public! And thirdly, we get to hear directly from young people on what being optimistic means to them. And as a bonus, Optimist members directly play a part in continuing the legacy of the Oratorical Contest!

The topic this year was "How to Change the World with Optimism." Each competitor offered their unique perspective on that topic.

We as Optimists have the privilege and honor of providing scholarships to the winners of this contest. They worked hard and put in the hours. They researched and learned and wrote their speeches. And they presented them at our last District gathering in April.

Our District's speaker who came in third place was Abigail Wyatt. She entered through the Raleigh Optimist Club. Her scholarship prize was \$1,000. The Runner Up, second place finisher was Kiara Haley. She was the winner from the Optimist Club of Elm City. Her scholarship prize was \$1,500. And our District's first place winner was Terrence Pittman! He stems from the Blackbird of Rocky Mount Optimist Club! His prize was \$2,500.



Congratulations to these winners and kudos to everyone who competed. All of these competitors, including those who competed at every level in our District, are eligible to compete again! So please encourage them to do so!



The Winner, Terrence



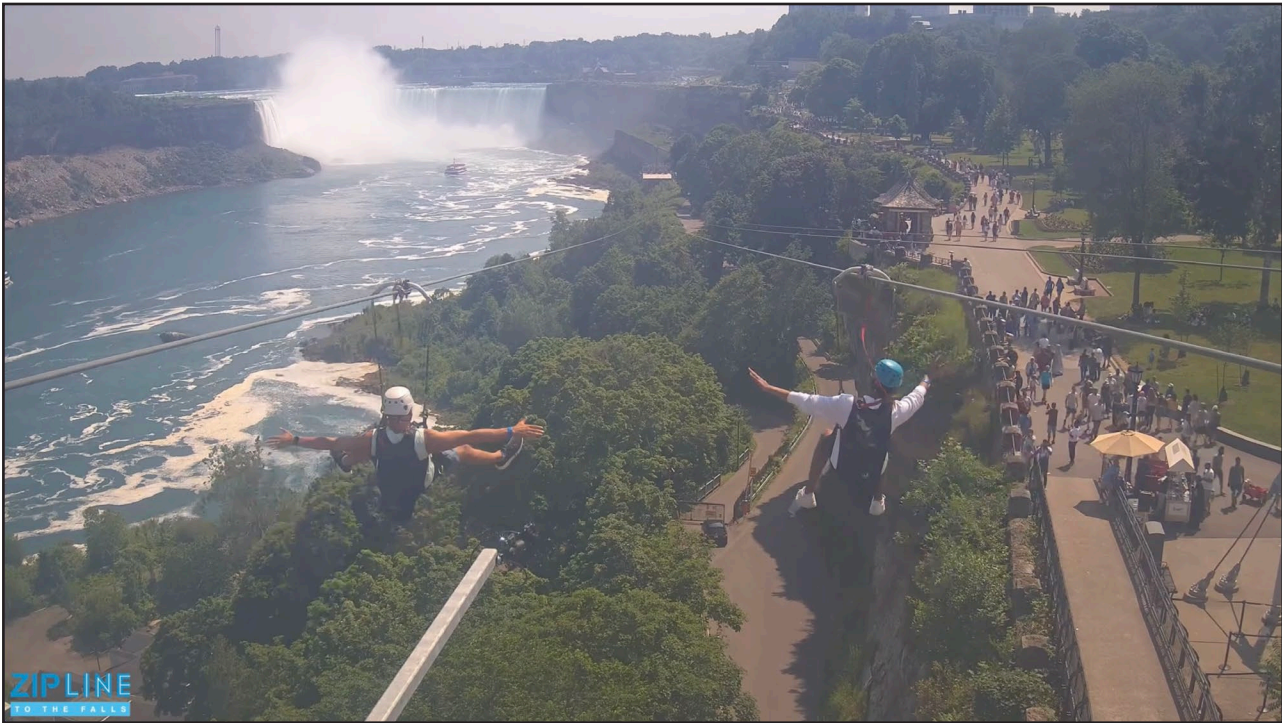
Abigail, Kiara, Terrence



All the Contestants



The Judges



Timothy Johnson, on the left (hanging by a teeny-tiny wire and falling really fast).
At the Optimist International Convention Niagara Falls, Canada.



How we communicate to you:

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



Optimist Junior Golf

David C Jennings, Henderson Club

Greetings Optimists, Our NC East Qualifier was held on June 11, 2024, at Duplin Country Club. We had seven golfers qualify for the Optimist Junior Golf Championship. Our medal round was turned in by Jack DuBose with a 74.

67th place – out of a total of 606 players.

If you have any interest in helping with this event



I would like to thank all Optimist members who helped with this event. Each player received a gift bag with tees, towels, balls, pens, and much more.

We also fed the players as they exited the scoring tent. It was truly a spirited team event, and I am thankful for all the help.



in the future, please let me know.

Thanks for all your help.

David Jennings
zone5ltgovernor2023@gmail.com
252.204.5160

Three of our NC East qualifiers actually played at the tournament in Doral, FL. Our best player tied for 18th place, and the next best player tied for



Q3 NC East District Meeting

4/13/24

Holiday Inn Lumberton

List of attendees in the back.

Terry – Good Morning.

Prayer

Recognized VP's- Gene, Sandy and David G.

Recognized Past Governors – Linda, Sandy, Angela, Ray, Auston, Terry, David G.

Same crowd was at 1st District meeting. At the Q4 meeting this year want to see new faces.

Read jokes of Church ladies sayings and bloopers.

Creed - All

Terry read our OI Background and mission statement

Motion to accept the minutes from Q1

First: Sandy

Second: David J.

Treasure's report "File to Audit"

First: David G

Second: Timothy

Terry – Our bank account started out with \$23,880 now have \$25,635 in bank. We are making money with our store.

I've tried different ways each time trying to communicate with membership. Video "Coffee with the Governor". Put out info, what's happening. 600+ members. 418 have emails. Please get everyone's current email addresses. Print out what is on OI site. If any changes please update there and then send to me. We need to update the District database too.

Last video sent 418. 195 opened the email. 21 viewed the video. It's pretty sad. 5 minutes long. Please view the video. One member unsubscribed. Please get mails corrected. One member opened the video 5x! Send email to all the Club President's that didn't have a member coming to this meeting. Sent to 14 clubs and only one responded. Sent as an urgent message. Please reply.... The International Convention will be in Niagara Falls. Only three from our District are attending. It's an opportunity to talk to other Optimists around the world. Buy stuff from suppliers. Training, Speakers. June 23 – 26th. Passport required. We will have a District Dinner. NC East Hall of Fame nomination forms and criteria to nominate. Please send to Sandy, Auston or Gary. Deadline is 8/1.

District Convention will be in the Raleigh area September 12-14th around RDU. Will have 'Optimists Got Talent' contest. Sing, dance, piano, jokes, theme will be 'Stars on Broadway'.

Training on Friday. Governor Dinner on Thursday. Festivities

on Saturday plus the Duck Race.

Feeding the kids – Wake Forest gets \$200 grant. Check given to Jonathan Biven.

East Wake Club feeds the kids 2x per month. 80-100+. Some kids come back with an empty plate 'Can I take something home for my sister or brother?'. 1 out of 5 children are hungry here in NC. Consider serving food to these kids.

On Optimist Tuesday on 4/9 a company called Grouper Healthcare will pay \$100 towards your membership to your club. They will check your Medicare and health insurance and see if you are eligible.

Linda & Terry are going to Senior Center in Apex to build a new club. Going to present this for their membership.

Bookmarks for Garner – will be given to Elementary & Middle School to advertise the club. Gail can make these for you.

OI doesn't have new membership applications. We made some in place until they are printed by OI.

Lt. Governor Reports

Angela – Zones 3 & 4

Combined Zone meeting in February. 15 members from Zone 3, and 2 clubs from Zone 4. Played a game – Two Truths and a Lie. Carey won.

Roanoke Rapids had 185 kids playing T-Ball. Up plus Five members. Had a Boston Butt Sale fundraiser.

Elm City – sponsored Middle School, May 2nd is Bunco, then 'Kisses for Xmas' fundraiser.

Golden Circle – two new members, lost Celia Wise. Had 2 Essay entries. Robin made a beautiful quilt. Have given over 1500 stuff animals to the police department.

Greenville didn't attend. They raised money through concessions at ECU football.

Blackbird – Oratorical Contest and Essay Contest. They helped the Salvation Army helped with bell ringing.

The Zone is looking good.

David J. – Zone 5 - Henderson, Wake Forest, North Wake and Roxboro

Henderson & Wake Forest most active clubs in the Zone.

Wake Forest has a big car show on September 21st.

Zone meeting in February. Both clubs are feeding the kids.

Wake Forest does Back Pack Buddies and has a JOI club.

May 6th in Henderson Fish Plate fundraiser at 220 Seafood. 4-7pm.

Timothy – Zone 6 East Wake, Raleigh, Garner.

Benson disbanded

East Wake small but mighty. Thanksgiving and Christmas Meals, Gifts to children, Bingo night raised over \$2,000.

Meals for kids 2x per month. Applying for grants.

Garner – very active. Seven Scholarships to kids on an application basis. BUG program – 'Bringing up a Grade' is a Middle School program. Town of Garner named

their parade – the 'Garner Optimist Club Parade'! I was blown away by attendance. 33 members present – it was crowded.

Raleigh Club – 44 members. Meeting at the Farm. Scouts, sports teams, football, volleyball, robotics club all rent facilities and fields. Xmas trees sold \$10K and cleared \$7K, \$2k grant local community, Essay contest had a few entries, youth mentoring, Boys2Men – interpersonal growth, Pond/Fishing program – catch and release and give out trophy's for biggest, smallest, turtle on hook, etc. Lasts through August. Ed Moore takes 20 families with children that have cancer to the beach. All expenses paid for the weekend. This year they are going to Myrtle Beach (instead of Atlantic Beach).

Bennie – Zone 1 – Wilmington, Winter Park, Cape Fear and Wilmington Supper

Three clubs represented today.

Two clubs starting Ball today. WP rebuilding Optimist Cottage. Held Essay contest.

Auston – Cape Fear is a very busy club. A-Team, club. Average age of our club is 70 years old. Car show every year. Fall and Spring Ball. Travel Ball taken over Rec Ball. Not a lot of scholarship money out there for players. Major facelift and getting new members to grow. Essay winner in top three of District. We are the largest club in the District! We serve good food too.

Terry – I visited a couple of weeks ago. Visited Clubhouse and complex. Seven ball fields. Concessions, restrooms. Really impressive 3rd Tuesday they feed the club. They put out a good spread.

We are doing things. We need to continue this. Don't complain about OI or District. Just keep helping the kids. In 2010 we had 29 clubs and 700+ members. Now we have more clubs and less members.

New Club Building

Linda – I sign all of my emails: 'I am forever an Optimist'. I expect only the best. Outerbanks needs a club. Terry and I went to Kill Devil Hills. Put ad in two newspapers. Fliers. Contacted Asst Superintendent of Schools, Police department, Fire department and Sheriff's office and all municipalities. One person showed up. We drove to this meeting with high expectations. We tried. Also Contacted Fort Liberty and Camp LeJeune. Still trying. Nothing has happened. Last year Mayor of Apex was an Oratorical Judge. Contacted him and they have a very active senior center. Next day received an email – 'when can you come back?'. Going next week on Friday. Very Optimistic! At Wake Tech – Ary Smith, of Wake Forest, is starting a club in August. Has two Advisors and kids lined up. Making it official in August. We have a lot of area children who need our help. Please let me know where you need me to go! David G. I'm working on a club.

Paige – Community Colleges sponsor clubs 100%. They pay dues etc.

Jr. Golf

David J. – June 11th at Duplin Country Club – 8 am start. Working with Carolina Jr. Golf Association. May 1st opens reservations. We're giving them Optimist Golf Tees & Towels. Golf balls and bags will be donated. We are feeding the kids after the course. David G. and I are creating packets. If interested in helping that day let him know. Feeding pizza to kids. Easy for us and them. We had 22 last year. 8 qualifier's. Need four spotters on the course. Making 25 bags. Carolina Golf contacts all high schools. Terry – Gary Pender not here to talk about CCDHH. Have only one contestant so far.

Foundation – Dime a Day – every Optimist needs to donate to the Foundation. This is where scholarship money comes from for Essay, Oratorical and CCDHH grants. They provide a lot of training sponsorships. Next meeting bring back the jars full of dimes. Will get a discount on registration for Q4 meeting.

The Oratorical Contest will start at 1:30. We have seven contestants. Please stay here and watch the kids. Lunch will be from Smithfield's BBQ @ noon.

JOI Clubs

Paige – we have ONE in Wake Forest. Collaborate with other clubs like the Rotary and Lions. We do that for two reasons. Modeled for the JOI club. We involve them in so many things that we do in the community. Lions Cottage – needed books. Rotary Club had Cars & Carnivores car show and needed volunteers. We reach more children. We worked with the Juniorettes in HS. We partner with them at least 2x per year. When you start a JOI club do the collaborative projects. They come up with projects on their own -sometimes off campus. They are part of a bigger picture. I encourage you all to start a JOI club. We only have one in the District... JOI stands for Junior Optimist International. JOY and JOI are interchangeable. They are our future. Can be MS or HS clubs. Bring the youth into our organization.

Membership

Auston – Lost 80 members. Now 77 down. Seek out new members. Bring in at least one new member. Will bring it up by a third. Sell what you do. 77 down- CRA's last year – Benson Club closed but we lost 38. They were tired of paying dues. Start a new club. You have to be a part of that club. Member & Mentor to the club. New clubs tend to close and very few hang on. They don't mind volunteering. They just don't want to be a member of an organization. FOO's – was \$100, now \$140. Plays havoc on members... Past FOO's have to pay an extra \$40 this year. Betty got a '5 New Member' pin. Cape Fear will feed you 15x per year.

Linda – FOO – if club has money – they could pay the extra \$40.

Angela – Club gets back \$56 from OI for FOO.

Auston – The FOO is not a liability.

Sandy - VP needs to take this back to OI. There's some logic for the \$140.

Essay Contest

Sandy – Thank you, as the Essay Chair it was wonderful to read all the essays. We had a Judge, retired teacher, a book writer and Professor of English read and judge them. 29 youth in local clubs. 90 entries. All great! 2nd runner up from Cape Fear. 1st runner up from the Wilmington Optimist Club, and the winner is from the Wake Forest Optimist Club winning a \$2,500 scholarship!
Member Engagement – a line of Creed to 'expect only the best'. Leadership – Do your best. Look out for synergy. Inspire your team. Know when to lead and when to follow. This is for you and the District to be successful. We need more members!

Called people up to the front of the room. These Optimist's brought in new members. Sandy gave them 'lifesaver candy. Then gave them trail mix, popcorn and a pink bag. (ed. Auston loves his pink bag). Every club needs to be up by two members by the Q4 conference. The President of the club will get \$200, and also a ticket for a \$200 basket for every member in your club who brings in a member. Go Do it. I've been an Optimist for 30+ years. There were 162K Optimist's when I joined. Now we are below 60K. It breaks my heart. I'm challenging each one of you to bring in new members to continue our future.

Terry – every member we lose we lose helping 35 kids. $77 \times 35 = 2,590$ kids that we can't help anymore.

Governor Elect

Ray – Governor Elect – Governor Terry, Thank you. Cape Fear Club became a Distinguished Club for this past year and they get an award! Joyce Leake was a Distinguished Lt. Governor. All past Governor's know that you don't do this by yourself. It takes team knowledge and energy to run with it.

My wife and I are new to the Military Family. We want to recognize this tradition of a challenge coin. This is used to create unifying comradery. Your identity becomes part of a group. We created the challenge coin for our folks. Together We Can. Gave the Optimist Challenge Coin to his Leadership team from last year. Special thanks to his wife, Kimberly.

Candidate Qualifications – Executive Board Meeting met last night and approved Mr. Timothy Johnson to become Governor Elect.

Do we have any other names to nominate? Asked 3x.
Motion to elect Timothy Johnson as Governor Elect.
All Aye. Unanimous.

Linda won the 50/50 raffle.

Linda & John were given a "Builder of Excellence" pin.
Gene – International VP. It's fun to be here. You do an amazing amount of work. Read the John Maxwell 'Five Levels of Leadership' books. Why go through all the work? We have a shortage in Leadership. We need more people to step up. It's always WIIFM – "What's in it for me?". That's what they are always asking. All the other people need a reason.

Getting new members will lead to Growth. I created this article by using the internet and AI – "Give me 10 reasons to create an Optimist Club".

(ed. Gene sent me article and I sent to District). It's also in our Directory.

The International Convention is where you meet people at the Club level, District and Optimist International. You build your network and meet like minded people. Recently we sponsored a club in Nepal. Conduct the meetings in English. They are in the Himalaya's. They have 20+ clubs and their own District now.

Fun Fact – 20% of members used to be Cheerleaders!
Dr. Martin Seligman – 'Learned Optimism' book. Optimism makes us sustainable. Most optimists say that we should give back to the community!
Gave out a marketing card to hand out to potential members.

Terry – Thank you to all who attended.
Meeting adjourned 12:30.

Lunch catered by Smithfield's BBQ, and then we had the Oratorical Contest.



Registrants

Member Name	Club/Position
David Jennings	Lt. Gov. Zone 5
Jeanetta Jennings	Guest
Gail Craft	Dist. Sec.
Sandy Cyphers	Member Engagement
Terry Corle	Governor
Sarah Corle	Elm City
Tricia Corle	Guest
Eugene Reardon	IVP Guest
Ray Cockrell	Wilmington Cape Fear
Kimberly Cockrell	Wilmington
Debbie Scott	Henderson
Jonathan Bivens	Wake Forest
Paige Bivens	Wake Forest
David Griffiths	Garner
Liz Griffiths	Garner
Dan Durham	Roanoke Rapids
Barbara Durham	Roanoke Rapids
Timothy Johnson	Raleigh
Dannelle Johnson	Raleigh
Linda Shepherd	Golden Circle to pay Registration
John Shepherd	Blackbird Club
Angela Iwaniuk	Bennett Club
Brenda Farmer	Golden Circle to pay Registration
Robin Murtha	Golden Circle to pay Registration
Shana Bunn First Timer	Golden circle
Gary Pender	Goldsboro
Louwanna Pender	Goldsboro
Betty Mosely	Roanoke Rapids
Carey Foster	Roanoke Rapids
Bennie Bass	
Auston Pusey	Wilmington Cape Fear
Kiara Haley & Guest	

NC East District Financial Report 10-01-23 to 12-31-23

North Carolina East District 2023-2024

Account Name		Budgeted	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Actual	Difference
Receipts		Receipts	Receipts	Receipts	Receipts	Receipts	Receipts	
#100	Dues	\$ 11,376.00	\$ 2,262.50	\$ 2,844.50	\$ 2,248.50		\$ 7,355.50	\$ (4,020.50)
#105	Corporate Partners						\$ -	\$ -
#110	Allotment OI	\$ 711.00					\$ -	\$ (711.00)
#120	Dist Convention	\$ 5,000.00					\$ -	\$ (5,000.00)
#130	Dist Meetings	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,115.00	\$ 805.00	\$ 407.00		\$ 2,327.00	\$ 327.00
#145	Jr. Golf	\$ 2,500.00					\$ -	\$ (2,500.00)
#150	Misc	\$ 500.00			\$ 255.00		\$ 255.00	\$ (245.00)
#160	Optimist Store	\$ 600.00	\$ 724.00		\$ 52.00		\$ 776.00	\$ 176.00
#190	OI Foundation Auction						\$ -	\$ -
#191	B&G Homes Auction						\$ -	\$ -
#192	Fifty-Fifty		\$ 95.31				\$ 95.31	\$ 95.31
#650	Transfer Prev Admin	\$ 23,880.66					\$ -	\$ (23,880.66)
#800	CCDHH	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
Total Receipts		\$ 46,567.66	\$ 4,196.81	\$ 3,649.50	\$ 2,962.50	\$ -	\$ 10,808.81	\$ (35,758.85)

Account Name		Budgeted	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Actual	Difference
Disbursements		Disb	Disb	Disb	Disb	Disb	Disb	
#200	Governor	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 143.25	\$ 32.18		\$ 175.43	\$ (2,324.57)
#210	Lt. Governors	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 142.31	\$ 42.54	\$ 236.49		\$ 421.34	\$ (2,078.66)
#250	Secretary/Treasurer	\$ 600.00			\$ 115.86		\$ 115.86	\$ (484.14)
#255	Governor-Elect	\$ 750.00					\$ -	\$ (750.00)
#260	Immediate Past Gov.	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
#261	Past Governor	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
#262	B&G Homes Chair	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
#283	New Club Building	\$ 1,000.00			\$ 99.84		\$ 99.84	\$ (900.16)
#265	Committee Chairs	\$ 6,400.00					\$ -	\$ (6,400.00)
#300	Clerical/Secretary						\$ -	\$ -
#301	Postage	\$ 100.00	\$ 17.05				\$ 17.05	\$ (82.95)
#320	Office Supplies	\$ 300.00	\$ 289.69				\$ 289.69	\$ (10.31)
#330	District Bulletin	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#331	Web Page	\$ 325.00					\$ -	\$ (325.00)
#340	District Directory	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
#350	District Convention	\$ 6,000.00					\$ -	\$ (6,000.00)
#360	District Meetings	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 1,223.53	\$ 1,287.00	\$ 999.00		\$ 3,509.53	\$ (990.47)
#361	Lt. Governor's Conf						\$ -	\$ -
#370	Oratorical Contest	\$ 1,000.00			\$ 41.60		\$ 41.60	\$ (958.40)
#371	CCDHH Contest	\$ 1,000.00					\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
#380	Jr. Golf	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 980.62	\$ 1,053.45		\$ 2,034.07	\$ 34.07
#390	Essay Contest	\$ 1,000.00			107.25		\$ 107.25	\$ (892.75)
#400	Badges & Pins Officers	\$ 400.00	\$ 222.97				\$ 222.97	\$ (177.03)
#410	Feed The Youth	\$ 6,000.00		\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		\$ 400.00	\$ (5,600.00)
#411	Awards, Past Year	\$ 500.00		\$ 809.26			\$ 809.26	\$ 309.26
#420	Bank Charges	\$ 50.00	\$ 70.56				\$ 70.56	\$ 20.56
#421	Audit Review 990	\$ 100.00					\$ -	\$ (100.00)
#430	Optimist Store	\$ 500.00	\$ 204.47	\$ 233.75			\$ 438.22	\$ (61.78)
#440	NCB Supplies	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#441	Membership	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#442	A&A	\$ -					\$ -	\$ -
#443	Personal Growth						\$ -	\$ -
#444	Childhood Health	\$ 2,000.00					\$ -	\$ (2,000.00)
#446	Leadership Develop	\$ 300.00					\$ -	\$ (300.00)
#447	OI Foundation	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#448	Boys and Girls Homes	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
#450	Gifts (Guests)	\$ 200.00					\$ -	\$ (200.00)
#470	Miscellaneous	\$ 3,042.66	\$ 128.92		\$ 633.83		\$ 762.75	\$ (2,279.91)
#480	Previous Admin Exp	\$ 500.00	\$ 96.00				\$ 96.00	\$ (404.00)
#490	Next Admin Exp	\$ 500.00					\$ -	\$ (500.00)
Total Disbursements		\$ 46,567.66	\$ 2,395.50	\$ 3,696.42	\$ 3,519.50	\$ -	\$ 9,611.42	\$ (36,956.24)

YTD Summary								
Total Receipts			\$ 4,196.81	\$ 3,649.50	\$ 2,962.50	\$ -	\$ 10,808.81	
Total Disbursements			\$ 2,395.50	\$ 3,696.42	\$ 3,519.50	\$ -	\$ 9,611.42	
Beginning Bank Balance			\$ 23,880.66	\$ 25,681.97	\$ 25,635.05	\$ 25,078.05		
Receipts			\$ 4,196.81	\$ 3,649.50	\$ 2,962.50	\$ -		
Disbursements			\$ 2,395.50	\$ 3,696.42	\$ 3,519.50	\$ -		
Ending Bank Balance			\$ 25,681.97	\$ 25,635.05	\$ 25,078.05	\$ 25,078.05		

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

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