

North Carolina East Optimist News

Hello Optimists!

At our first Governor-Elect training in January of 2018, our President-Elect at the time, Rebecca Butler-Mona, told us about Mine That Bird, the 2009 winner of the Kentucky Derby. Mine That Bird was so far behind other horses coming out of the starting gate that the NBC reporter even missed seeing him at first. However, Mine That Bird charged by the other horses to finish by "the longest margin of victory in over 60 years," according to Wikipedia.

I believe the NC East District can be like Mine That Bird. Our membership numbers are down, we have no new clubs built, and we are running behind in individual OI giving. We are now in the third quarter of the Optimist year, and I believe we have been warming up so far. Now it is time for us to explode our rosters with new members. With warmer weather ahead of us, we don't have to worry about snow and ice preventing us from traveling outside our lo-

cal club area to build a new club. Tax time is behind us, so it is definitely a good time to make our charitable contributions, keeping the wonderful work of the OI Foundation in the spotlight.

I am so proud of the projects we have in our district to benefit youth. Imagine how much more we will be able to accomplish with more clubs and additional members in our existing clubs! You can make a difference!

Please make a plan for yourself and then carry it out. Remember: An Optimist is known as a Friend of Youth, and our ultimate goal is to benefit as many



young people as possible! Will you do your part? Let's charge by other Optimist districts in member recruitment, club building, and OIF giving. I am counting on each of you to help our district to continue "putting songs in hearts and smiles on faces!" I am...

Forever an Optimist!

Governor Linda



Mine That Bird

Centennial Coin

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Optimist International, the Optimist International has available a special commemorative coin to celebrate the milestone.

The coin, with the 100th anniversary logo on one side and the Optimist International Foundation logo on the other, highlights the partnership between the two organizations in furthering the mission of Optimism worldwide.

That partnership has helped children and communities in thousands of ways: from scholarships to support of Junior Optimist International, to Club Grants and so much more.

The proceeds from the 100th anniversary coin will be dedicated to the start of the new Childhood Health & Wellness effort. The funds will help launch this new Optimist International Program. This high-quality keepsake will be a 1.5-inch bronze coin, in a blue velour box. The donation will be \$100 (USD).

The coin will be available beginning January 15, 2019, and quantities are limited. For more information and to order, please visit www.oifoundation.org or call (800) 500-8130.



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

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF OPTIMISM

WOW!

100 years of serving, dedicating, mentoring and volunteering in the lives of youth.

What a legacy thousands of optimists have left behind in “Bringing Out the Best” in youth.

From the words of Brian Williams, “You may find that making a difference for others make the biggest difference in you.” How true these words are when we see the great youth being recognized by the thousands of club’s youth projects, scholarships and sports achievements



As optimists we have truly made an impact in our communities, across the country and the world.

So this is the time to **CELEBRATE BIG!** Celebrate the great things from the past this organization has achieved and the ones in the future.

There are celebrations of all types. Get your club and celebrate your successes in the community whether on a small scale or larger scale. Your club deserves to Celebrate and think of all the youth it has impacted.

\$100.00 will be awarded to the district club that

Our Centennial, Let's Celebrate!

BRINGING OUT THE BEST



INTO THE NEXT CENTURY

has the best Centennial Celebration before the Summer Conference. I have only received one club’s submission of their celebration. Where are the other 30 plus club’s celebration in the district?

It’s not too late. Plan your celebration and send me the photos. More than one please.

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 Chairman
syphers@ec.rr.com



Marketing, Social Media & Webmaster

Hi NC East District!

We now have 243 Followers on Facebook – up from 229! Tell your fellow members to follow this Facebook page. It's exciting to see how other groups are helping children in our District. You can get ideas about fundraising too.

Facebook Page Name:

**North Carolina East District,
Optimist International**

Remember to check out our NC East website too. We have lots of information updated all the time.

www.optimistnceast.org

Remember to Vote for your favorite video on the Optimist Website:

<https://www.optimist.org/reeloptimism>

(especially vote for Wake Forest!)

Thanks for all you do!

Gail J



First Timer At 2nd Quarter



Gail Craft District Chair.



Francis Buck, Golden Circle

The Optimist International Disaster Relief Fund assist clubs working in their communities to that have been affected by terrible natural disasters.

They are Optimists In Action to get a community back on its feet. Help with their great work by donating to the Optimist International Foundation Disaster Relief Fund.

More information available at www.optimist.org or www.oifoundation.org

Winte

First Timers at 2nd Quarter Board Meeting



Heather Bowser, Orange County



Charles Dunn, Rocky Mount Blackbird



Cari Goodwin, Southern Wake



Jack Alphin, Raleigh Dinner



100th Anniversary International Convention

I'm hoping lots of you have already made your hotel reservations in Louisville for the Centennial OI Convention. There wasn't enough interest in a charter bus, so it's time to book a flight too, unless you're

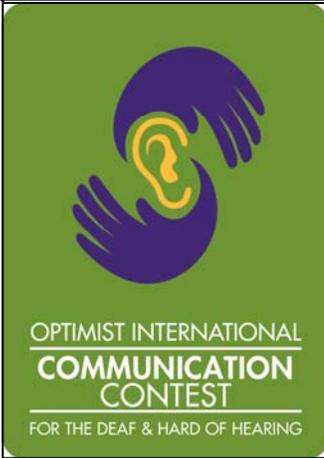
planning on driving, of course, which is another viable option. Please don't miss out on all the celebration, delicious cuisine, and fun-filled activities that are being planned for us!

Ambassador Chair

Joyce Leake



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?"

Who: The contest is open to young people through grade 12 in the U. S. Students must submit the re-

sults of an audiogram completed no longer than 24 months prior to the date of the contest by a qualified Audiologist. Students must be certified to have an uncorrected hearing loss of 40 decibels or more, which must be supported by the audiogram in order to be eligible to compete.

Students with permanent correction should compete in the Optimist International Oratorical Contest.

How to enter: Interested students should contact their local Optimist club or the District CDHH Chairperson, Brenda Farmer, 252-290-5346 or email bfarmer48@yahoo.com.

When: Students, the deadline to enter will be May 14, 2019.

District Contest: The District CCDHH Contest will be held May 22 at Stoneybrook Christian Church, 3502 Airport Blvd., Wilson, NC 27896, at 6:00PM.

This contest offers an opportunity for children who are deaf or hard of hearing to present their thoughts in the community, gaining skills, which can only come from signing or speaking to a large audience. Patterned after the Optimist Oratorical Contest, the Communications Contest for the Hard of Hearing offers hearing impaired youth the chance to compete in speech or sign language.

The Optimist Foundation funds a 2500 scholarship to any district that meets the minimum participation criteria.

For Forms:

Club Planning Guide.

District Planning Guide.

CCDHH Contest Application.

Please visit:

<https://www.optimist.org/member/scholarships2.cfm>

Brenda Farmer

CCDHH Chair

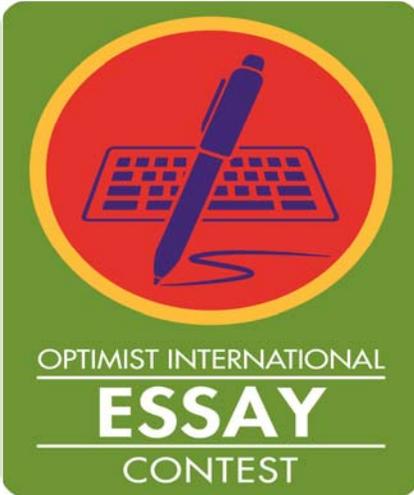


Brenda Farmer

CCDHH Chair 2018-2019



District Essay Contest



The NC East Essay Contest had entries from 10 clubs for the 2018-2019 Contest. The topic was "When All The Worlds' Problems Are Solved, Is Optimism Still Necessary?"

I am presenting at two conferences- in St. Louis, and then HypnoBiz NY so regretfully could not attend the NC East meeting. I thank Yancey Hines for coordinating with Trish and Bob Verne to announce the Essay Winners and presenting the award. Thank you, Linda Shepherd, for receiving the plaque. It really does take a village to get things done at times. The winners are:

1st place Wake Forest Club

Benjamin McKay.

Youngsville, NC 27596

King's Academy

17 years old.

Topic: "When All the World's Problems are Solved, is Optimism Still Necessary?" by

Benjamin McKay

"The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was launched by a UN Summit in New York on 25-27 September 2015 and is aimed at ending poverty in all its forms. The UN 2030 Agenda envisages a world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-

2nd Place Chapel Hill Club

Gavin Hughes

Mebane, NC 27302

Cedar Ridge High School

3rd place Goldsboro Club

Mary Allyse Taylor

Goldsboro, NC 27530

Wayne School of Engineering

The winning essay is attached and is printed in this article.

Thank you.

Cheryl J Elman



Cheryl Elman District Essay Chair

discrimination. 1. Agenda 2030 is the plan of the UN to resolve all conflict by 2030, bring an end to poverty, uphold human rights, and ensure peace and justice for all nations. However, this leads to a very important question: when all the world's problems are solved, is optimism still necessary? It's a single, simple question that is motivated by an observation of the obvious : if all the world's problems are fixed, then how can one look to the bright side of things? Just as one side of a sheet of paper cannot exist without the other side, so positivity and negativity

District Essay Contest

cannot exist independently of one another. When there are no problems and no downside to our circumstances, there no longer exists an upside to look to. It is conceivable that in such an ideal world as we may hope is attained in 2030, optimism will cease to exist, considered only a worthless and outdated tool. When all the world 's problems are solved, is optimism still necessary? No. Not only is it not necessary, but in a world without flaws, optimism itself ceases to exist.

However, the most important question one can ask him or herself is what is the application to our lives today? Is optimism only a tool for drowning the pain of our problems until we can be rid of them? Will we simply forget the heroes who looked to the good in times of darkness as outdated legends of a past time? Will we live to see the end of optimism as we know it? The answer to all three of these questions is also no. Why can we make such a claim?

The first to be addressed is this question of optimism as a tool. When the common man thinks of optimism, he probably thinks of something along the lines of the Cambridge English Dictionary definition: "the tendency to be hopeful and to emphasize or think of the good part in a situation rather than the bad part, or the feeling that in the future good things are more likely to happen than bad things. 2. However, underneath this simple understanding of essentially looking on the bright side is a lethal presupposition that grows in the dark like a fungus. This presupposition is well summed up in the words of Voltaire "Optimism is the madness of insisting that all is well when we are miserable. 3. This could not be further from the truth. True optimism means looking at problems honestly, believing they can be fixed, and still making the choice to fully enjoy the good things of life. Optimism does not mean that we pretend there are no problems, rather that we decide to rise above those obstacles and choose to still fully enjoy the good things. Is optimism simply a tool then for ignoring our problems? No.

Consider secondly the question of forgetting the optimistic heroes of the past. Men like Abraham Lincoln are remembered because they were true optimists. Through the trials of the American Civil War, Lincoln pressed forward while his very nation was on the verge of being torn in two. Lincoln did not lie and pretend that circumstances were not dire, rather he believed in the cause of justice and freedom for all. Our nation was unified, because our leader chose optimism. Will we forget the heroes of optimism through the ages? No.

Finally then, how can we say that optimism will never die? The truth is our problems will never die. Our problems all stem from the one thing that we cannot ever completely fix: mankind. Corrupt men will always arise, and people will always make mistakes. We can work to better the world, like with Agenda 2030, but that world must always be fought for. When all the world's problems are solved, is optimism still necessary? No. However, we will never get to the place where all the world's problems are solved. Let this not discourage us, but drive us to realize that every generation needs optimism. We can make the conscious choice every day of our lives to fully take joy in the good things of life, and to choose to always fight for the good, so that through every generation, the flame of hope will live. Will we ever see optimism die? No.



Benjamin McKay

Awards 2017-2018 New Club Building



Sandy Cyphers receives a Builder of Excellence patch for building the Coastal Optimist in 2017-2018. Not Pictured Tammy Pruden President and Dale Harris Secretary.

Honor Clubs 2017-2018



Honor Club award, Greenville, Pamela Franks, President (No photo) and LouAnna Hardee, Secretary/Treasurer.

Also, no photo, Cape Fear, Curtis Keith, President and Katherine Brennan, Secretary/Treasurer.

OI Foundation Awards



Bill Edgerton Receives recognition award for OI Representative 2017-18, Receiving awards Gary Pender.

Boys & Girls Home Awards



Top three clubs for Donations to Boys & Girls Home.

1st Raleigh Optimist , David Fritz right presented by B&G Home representative Ray Cockrell.

2nd Wilmington Optimist (No photo)

3rd Laurinburg (No photo)

District Membership

One New Optimist

Member

And your club can support 35 additional youth in your community.

Your club can continue with and maintain its legacy programs.

Just keep on asking, keep on inviting, and keep on marketing your club to the local community.

Maintain your Facebook , and your website.

Wear your Optimist Pin all the times & have an OI application in your pocket.

Ask Your District Leaders for help and ideas.



Terry Corle District NCB & Membership Chair



District New Club Building

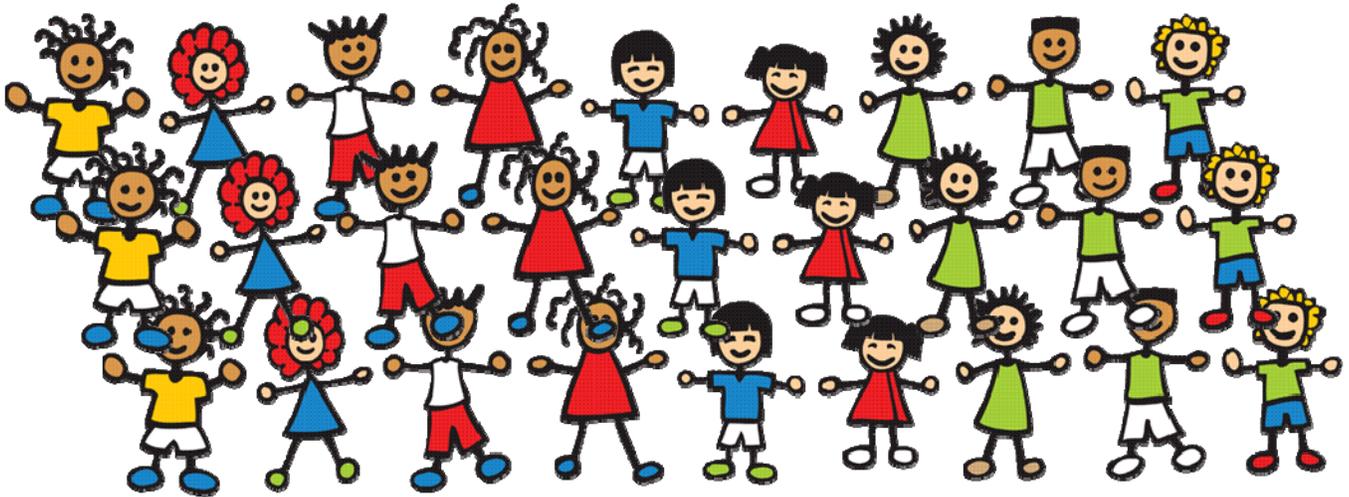
Who said, you can't build new clubs anymore?

Well since October 2018 until the present there have been 77 Optimist Clubs built in OI with 34 of them being JOI clubs. No more excuses, let's get out there and build some clubs. The need that Optimist Clubs fill is just as great now as it was 100 years ago and maybe even more.

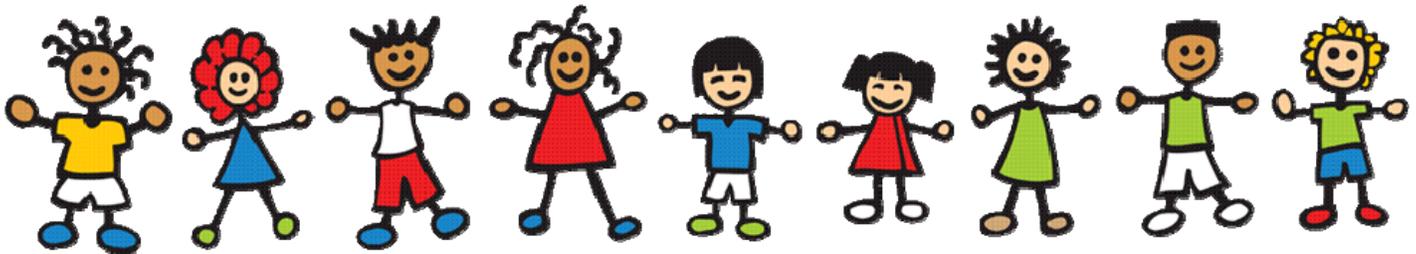
Look around your area and identify: a town, a county, a business, a community, a sports organization, or a group that could and would benefit from having an Optimist Club.

Let us know, give us a contact if you have it and we, the district will pursue getting it started.

One new club in one new community with just 15 members can assist with the needs of 525 youth.



Here is a challenge for all of us. Let us identify three places today within our district that would benefit from having an Optimist Club and then have an all-out effort from everyone to get them started before the International Convention in July.



A&A Club Winners 1st Quarter 2018-2019



From Left: Certificate of Appreciation, Winter Park, Sandy Cyphers; Certificate of Appreciation, Cape Fear, Ray Cockrell; Certificate of Appreciation, Henderson, Alan Gill; Certificate of Achievement, Golden Circle, Linda Isbell.

Hello NC East!!

Let me first say how excited I am to be serving as your District A & A Chairman! I love seeing the work that clubs are doing, and this is a great way to see those efforts.

I know switching to Google Forms has been a challenge for some clubs, and that is ok! No need to worry! That is the primary way we will be collecting A&A Reports, BUT if you absolutely cannot get your Google Form to work, here is what I want you to do:

- 1) Email me first and let me know you are having technical difficulties.
- 2) Have another member of your club print the report out from that Google Form and fill it out on paper. The form is sent to all club Presidents via email, but the President does not have to be the only one to print it out. Anyone in your club will have access to the form, so therefore any member can print it out.
- 3) You can then mail it to me at: Shannon Simons, 5937 Countryside Road, Wilson, NC, 27896.

Last but not least, I have two reminders:

- 1) The third quarter A & A Report will be due on August 15th. Please be mindful of this deadline. If you submit your report late, points may be taken off of your total.
- 2) HAVE FUN! Remember the A&A Report is not a report card. It is a voluntary item to show how much your club loves your communities!

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at:

smsim042@gmail.com.

#foreveranoptimist

Shannon Simons

A&A Chair 2019



Shannon Simon, A&A Chair 2018-2019

Personal Growth & Involvement

CONGRATULATIONS TO GOVERNOR LINDA SHEPHERD FOR ACHIEVING

LEVEL 10!

Governor Linda will be recognized at the 100th Centennial International Convention in Louisville, Kentucky on stage with other Level 10 recipients.

Who will be the next North Carolina East District member to achieve this distinction?

In the lead now for the club with the most members achieving levels during the 2018-2019 year is **GOLDSBORO.**

REMINDER! Each club that participated in submitting members for levels will have their club's name placed in a drawing for \$100.00. The club's P.G.I. Club Chairman will also have their name

placed in a drawing for a prize. Drawing will take place at the Summer Conference.

Please submit all requests for levels to me and I will forward the information to Optimist International.

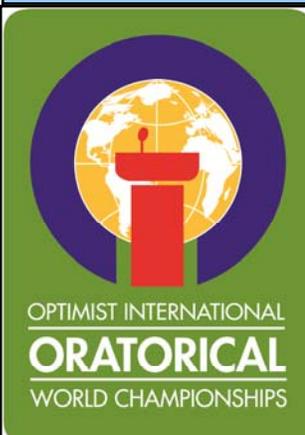
Get Busy! Get Active! Get Involved in the Personal Growth & Involvement Program.

If you have any questions please feel free to call or email me.

**Sandy Cyphers
N.C. East District P.G.I. Chairman
910-367-3295
scyphers@ec.rr.com**



District Oratorical Contest



Our District Oratorical Contest is right around the corner. It 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. All contestants need to be at the Hampton Inn at 9:30am with the contest starting at about 10:00am.

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.

Our topic this year is: "Is There a Fine Line Between Optimism and Reality?"

I look forward to seeing each of you on May 4, 2019 in Wilson!

Linda Hawley Isbell (District Oratorical Chair)

P.O. Box 114
Elm City, NC
27822

252-289-7200

Email: linda-hawley3@yahoo.com



Linda Isbell, District Chair



Note: It has been reported to me by the Editor of the NC East District Bulletin that the District Members did not know the meaning of an “OPTIMIST Qualifier” (District Junior Golf tournament required to enter the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships). This article, in part, is a repeat my last Quarter’s Bulletin Report that covers that issue in detail. Other pertinent information has been added to reflect activities that are coming up in the near future, as well as, what great events that we conducted in the Second Quarter. PLEASE BE SURE TO FORWARD THIS BULLETIN TO ALL MEMBERS IN YOUR CLUB. There could be other reports from Committee Chairmen in this and the last that Members need to understand. The Editor spends lots of time preparing our bulletins. Make sure to read bulletins, or someday soon there will be little need for their existence. A special thank you goes out to Wayne Sidelinger for his work and for reporting this issue.

David Hodges, NC East District Optimist Junior Golf Committee

Previous Quarter Article:

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 OPTIMIST. Optimists have been involved in the sport of junior golf for more than 30 years by holding local, regional and international tournaments. More than 5,000 golfers compete in official Optimist District qualifying tournaments. The best of these golfers, along with international golfers from around the globe, advance to the annual Optimist International Junior Golf Championships.

Our North Carolina East District leads the Optimist

organization in the largest number of participants in District Qualifiers. Our district’s mission with Junior Golf is toward giving young golfers the opportunity to participate in Optimist International’s flagship program. By promoting participation in our NC East District Qualifiers we hope to inspire these kids to be their best while at the same time promoting the Optimist brand.

Optimist International strongly encourages districts to partner tournaments with other junior golf organizations. This year we are pleased to offer junior golfers the opportunity to play in OPTIMIST qualifiers through our partnerships with the Peggy Kirk Bell Girls Golf Tour, the North Carolina Junior Golf Foundation, and the Tarheel Youth Golf Association. We also offer a traditional OPTIMIST Qualifier that is independent of any other junior golf organizations.

I encourage the members of the NC East District to be a part of NC East Optimist Junior Golf. There are lots of ways that your club can help out. Spread the word about our tournaments to young golfers in your communities. Contact schools with golf teams. Contact golf courses in your area. Help serve as volunteers at one of our events. Support a junior golfer by paying their registration fee to a Qualifier. Make a money contribution to support our junior golf program.

I am here to assist you in any way that I can to make your club a part of NC East District Optimist Junior Golf.



Vogan sisters (New Bern) at Greenville event



Volunteers at Chapel Hill Qualifier

Optimist Junior Golf

THE OPTIMIST International Junior Golf Championships



New Bern High team
at Wilson Qualifier

Thank You again to
the many volunteers,

and especially to our tournaments' host Clubs, for
their support of our four recent NC East Qualifiers

Orange County Optimist Club

Greenville Optimist Club

Golden Circle Optimist Club

THE OPTIMIST moves to Trump National Doral Mi-
ami this year. Check out the special offer for NC East
District Members to serve the kids this July in Miami.

Upcoming volunteer opportunities at NC East Dis-
trict Qualifiers: June

8, 2019, Belmont
Lake Golf Club,
Rocky Mount, NC

June 19-20, 2019,
Greenville Country
Club, Greenville,
NC



David Hodges crew of helpers at Wedgewood, Wilson, NC Junior Golf Tournament



From Left: Dennis Speck, David, Hodges Terry Corle , Jamie Franks , LouAnna Hardee, Curtis Hardee, Pam Franks, Ken Dixon, Smiley Hendricks , John Shepherd.

Awards for 2nd Quarter 2018-2019



\$365 donation Patch, Goldsboro, Gary Pender.

\$500 donation Print, Bill & Jan Edgerton, Gary Pender receiving award.

The following members and/or clubs are stepping up to the plate to set an example by contributing to the OI Foundation

Dollar Tabs, Per Member Donation and Year Bars for 2017-2018 end of year.

Rocky Mount Breakfast	\$46.14
Wilmington Cape Fear	\$49.50
Raleigh Dinner	\$130.33
Golden Circle	\$25.10
Goldsboro	\$69.29
Henderson	\$25.23
North Raleigh	\$92.94

Roanoke Rapids	\$34.00
Rocky Mount Evening	\$26.69
Whiteville	\$60.81
Wilmington	\$10.63
Wilson Evening	\$52.03
Wilmington Winter Park	\$53.23
Chapel Hill	\$218.75
Elm City	\$21.82
Rocky Mount Blackbird	\$16.82

Presidents Club \$250 Donation

Kathy Sandifer

Bill & Jan Edgerton
 Carey & Ellen Foster

Dime-A-Day Donation

Betsy Winborne	Golden Circle
Jean McLamb	Golden Circle
Angela Iwaniuk	Golden Circle
Diane Johnson	Golden Circle

Brenda Farmer	Golden Circle
Kathy Sandifer	Golden Circle
Norma Duell	Golden Circle
Joy Finch	Golden Circle
Dorothy Windham	Golden Circle

OI Foundation

Dime-A-Day

Jeanette Ferrell	Golden Circle	Nancy Stamper	Golden Circle
Brenda Carter	Golden Circle	Diane Keeter	Golden Circle
Linda Isbell	Golden Circle	Judy Mooring	Golden Circle
Jean Gilfus	Golden Circle	Shannon Simons	Golden Circle
Melissa Harris	Golden Circle	Pamela Franks	Greenville
		Carey & Ellen Foster	Roanoke Rapids
		Linda Shepherd	Golden Circle

Total Silent Auction at 2nd quarter board meeting to be equally shared by OI Foundation and Boys & Girls home was \$2652.

The mission of the OI Foundation is: By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.

Donating to the OI Foundation is a very worthwhile cause. Without your donations the CCDHH scholarships, the Childhood Cancer Campaign, the Pass Through program and many other such projects could not be accomplished. I challenge each Zone to encourage the clubs within your Zone to become 100% in giving to the Dime-A-Day program. Your contribution will definitely make a difference in the life of a child.

Optimistically Yours,
Carol Collier



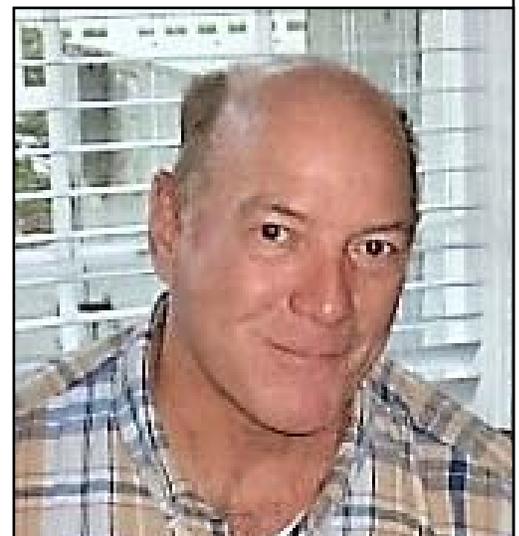
Carol Collier OI Foundation
Chair 2018-2019



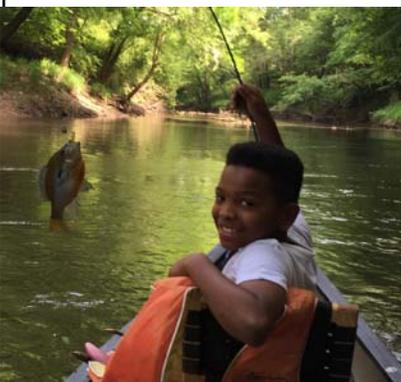
Optimists, the time is now to "make your mark on tomorrow" by building a JOI Club during the 2018-2019 cycle. It's the cheapest ticket in town (\$10 per year for Optimist dues) and it ensures that Optimist values and goals will extend well into the future. Your club can aid in establishing this "lasting achievement" program and bring smiles to the young faces of our youth.

Contact me at stoler6@embarqmail.com and I'll show you how your group can get started. It's fun and it'll last a lifetime.

Sam Toler
District JOI Chair



Sam Toler, District JOI Chair





I'll say it again – **Optimists Make a Difference!!** I know you are making a difference in your communities and impacting lives because that is what Optimists do! You are also making a difference in Lake Waccamaw for the children that have experienced the pain of abuse and neglect, and need a friend on their side. You are that friend!

The Optimist Cottage is doing great! There are six boys in the cottage right now. We have a strong couple working as Residential Counselors that have developed a great working relationship with the boys. Our grounds crew is beginning to do some landscaping around the cottage to spruce it up for Spring.

It is really exciting to watch the boys in the cottage begin to heal and trust – and just be a kid again. Mr. Brandon and Ms. Pauline recently took the boys up to a ranch near Salisbury. It is an animal farm where the boys could run and play and interact with ani-

mals. We know, especially from our horses over at the farm the tremendous therapeutic nature of animals! It is always good for the boys to get off campus for a day of adventure.

During Spring Break this past week, we held our traditional FOCUS Week. This is a week of fun, activity, games, small group discussion, discovery and bible study that puts a focus on the spiritual development of our kids. Way to go Pastor Joe!

I look forward to sharing some of our success stories with you when we are together in Wilson. It is important to celebrate these successes to stay connected to our mission. I will share those during my comments on Saturday. Please plan to stop by my display and find pictures of the campus as well as needs for the campus, Thomas Academy and the Lake House.

Thank you for Loving our kids!!

Ray



Ray Cockrell, B&G Home



Optimist Cottage Boys & Girls Home Lake Waccamaw

Childhood Cancer Champaign

(New Name) Childhood Health & Wellness

Wow! Are we really on a roll!!! Three Children's Hospital have responded to our recent donations of hats for cancer patients and jugs and bags of pop tabs as part of their fundraiser projects. Please, please continue to ask our clubs for hats and remind them often about pop



on soda cans. Soup, dog and cat food, energy drinks, supplemental nutrition drinks and adult beverage cans all have tabs. Color of tabs does not matter. Keep up the great collection and remember to bring all donations to our next district meeting. Encourage our clubs to support boys and girls athletic teams ie., baseball, swim teams, soccer, cheerleaders, golf, football, basketball. Whatever type of athletic endeavors encourage our youth to be involved in healthy activities certainly is worthy of our support. See you in May!!



tabs. Summer is quickly approaching and knitted hats may be hard to find but ball caps can replace those items. No hair equals sunburn. (Right Wayne?). Pop tabs don't just come



Sara Robbins
Childhood Health and Wellness

Sara Robbins, District Chair
2018-2019

We are now in the 3rd quarter which means 2nd quarter dues should have already been taken care of. Should there be anyone that has not, then take care of that immediately. Clubs should have already set goals to increase membership in their clubs and to make up for any members they may have lost. As Optimist, we all know that the more members we have working, the more YOUTH we can serve.

Opportunity Knocks

Human beings have an innate need for their lives to have a meaningful purpose. Joining and becoming actively involved in an Optimist Club's youth-serving projects/ activities provides an individual the opportunity to satisfy this need. Opportunity is "knocking at the door". Please encourage your friends, co-workers, relatives and mere acquaintances to "open the door" and avail themselves of this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the youth in their own communities and beyond.

Embracing this mindset can be helpful to those Optimists who find recruiting new Members to be "out of their comfort zones".

Yours in Optimism,
Dave Phillips

Russell @
Joyce Leake



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Optimist Club members enjoy many benefits from their involvement in club activities in addition to contributing to make their community a better place to live. Along with a positive attitude, lifelong friendships and engagement in the community, members also add meaning and purpose to their life as well as a sense of accomplishment.

Many years ago, the Optimist International Leadership Development Committee designed a program to recognize and celebrate the personal accomplishments our members achieve in the course of their participation in club activities. The Personal Growth and Involvement (PGI) program offered 10 levels of activities that benefited the member who participated as an active club member. Each level was celebrated with a colored backing for their Optimist pin, and Level X members were recognized on stage at the International Convention and received a special backing for their pin.

The 2012 Optimist International Leadership Development Committee reviewed the PGI program. The program had been of great benefit to clubs and members. It rewarded people for their participation in club activities. At the same time, there were requests from membership for a professional development program that could be shown to benefit our members in ways that would enhance their value as members of the community workforce. After several years of development the Optimist Professional Development Program (PDP) was rolled out on October 1, 2016.

PGI and PDP co-exist side by side as separate programs. The accomplishments performed in the PGI are not transferable to the PDP and the accomplishments performed for the PDP are not transferable to the PGI. All accomplishments for the PDP must be done after October 1, 2016. So what is the difference?

PGI recognizes "personal growth" with categories like attendance, membership growth, knowledge of the organization, personal growth (through training modules), and communication skills.

PDP recognizes "professional development" with categories like project management, marketing, continuous improvement, organizational knowledge, and communication skills. While there is some overlap especially in the last two categories, the emphasis in the PDP is on developing professional skills for someone that translate to work outside of the Optimist Club.

In consultation with the ad-hoc young members committee it was decided that the PDP would recognize achievement with certificates that could be displayed in the workplace rather than pin backings.

To learn more about the two programs and to find online tracking forms please visit: www.optimist.org

“ Never underestimate the valuable and important difference you make in every life you touch for the impact you make today has powerful rippling effect on every tomorrow. ”
– Leon Brown



NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
2nd QUARTER DISTRICT GATHERING
Cary, NC - District Board Meeting
Saturday, February 23, 2019

Zone 5: Henderson, Wake Forest, Chapel Hill, and Orange County.
Zone 6: Raleigh, Raleigh Dinner and Southern Wake.

Others in attendance were:

Stewart Mallard, OI Vice President.

Total Members Present: 55 Total Guests Present: 3

The following members of the Executive Committee were present:

Linda Shepherd	Governor
Russell Leake	Governor-Elect
Carey Foster	Immediate Past Governor
Jim Hart	Past Governor
Errol Warren	Finance Chair & Past Governor
Tommy Brigman	Lt. Governor-Zone 2
Christie Webb	Lt. Governor-Zone 3
Pamela Franks	Lt. Governor-Zone 4
Jerry Delbridge	Lt. Governor-Zone 5
David Fritz	Lt. Governor-Zone 6
Angela Iwaniuk	District Sec./Treasurer

Clubs Represented: 22

Zone 1: Wilmington, Wilmington Winter Park and the Coastal of Wilmington.

Zone 2: Laurinburg and Whiteville.

Zone 3: Elm City, Goldsboro, Wilson Evening, Wilson Golden Circle and Wilson Bennett

Zone 4: Rocky Mount Breakfast, Rocky Mount Evening, Greenville, Roanoke Rapids, Blackbird and Mahler Thorp of Rocky Mount.

Governor Linda Shepherd called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. Governor Shepherd led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Governor Shepherd welcomed everyone to the 2nd quarter meeting and recognized all guests, first-timers and past governors. We had five first-timers and ten past-governors in attendance. Our special guest for this meeting was Stewart Mallard who is serving as the OI VP for our Mid-Atlantic region this year.

A silent auction was held during this meeting, with items lined up all around the meeting room. Anyone who wanted to bid on an item, wrote their bid on a bid sheet underneath each item and the top bidder paid for his or her item at the end of the meeting. All proceeds were equally divided between the OI Foundation and The Boys & Girls Home of Lake Waccamaw.

Jim Hart paid tribute to our heroes in uniform by showing a video in honor of our police officers and he also read the officers creed.

Angela Iwaniuk passed out the minutes and financial reports from the 1st quarter and asked if there were any questions or changes needed to them. Jim Hart made a motion to approve the 1st quarter minutes and Sandy Cyphers seconded; All were in favor to approve. Lou Anna Hardee made a motion to accept the 1st quarter financial report and Jimmy Lamm seconded; All were in favor to approve.

Heather Bower, A & A Chair recognized the 8 clubs who participated in the new A & A reporting for the 1st quarter. She also recognized Wilson Golden Cir-

cle as the number one club in the district for the 1st quarter. There were several questions regarding the new reporting and the Greenville club and Rocky Mount Evening club reported that they had submitted their reports on-line, but were not recognized. This will be checked into before the next district meeting and resolved. Sandy Cyphers had many comments and questions regarding the new A & A reporting.

Ray Cockrell shared a wonderful video taken at the Optimist cottage at The Boys and Girls Home in Lake Waccamaw. It was wonderful to see the faces of the boys in our cottage. Ray also had an altar call for B & G Home.

An altar call was held for Childhood Health and Wellness in the absence of Sara Robbins. Whiteville Club donated \$500 to be used for Childhood Cancer.

Next, Russell Leake shared a cute and informative video for Club Fitness, which asked the question "Is your club fit?" Joyce Leake shared a video regarding the upcoming international convention in Louisville, KY. She asked for those interested in chartering a bus to go to Kentucky to contact her.

Gail Craft, Marketing Chair and Web Master, next shared a video which gave the statistics for our Facebook page and our Web site. She asked that everyone go to our Facebook page and "like" it and she encouraged increased usage of social media to continue to get the good word out about our organization.

Cheryl Elman, Essay Chair, reminded everyone that the deadline to get our club's winning essays to her is February 28th. This year's topic is "When All the World's Problems are Solved, is Optimism Still Necessary?" A plaque will be presented to the winner of the \$2500 scholarship at our next meeting.

David Hodges, Junior Golf Chair, shared a video and gave the dates and locations for all the NC East qualifiers. He encouraged members to volunteer to help in these qualifiers. There are 6 qualifiers which will result in many qualifying and eligible to play in the

Optimist Tournament. He reminded everyone that NC East is the number ONE District in Junior Golf. We currently have the most qualifiers, most players who participate and are being recognized by OI as the top district for Junior Golf. "NC East District is first in flight and first in Optimist Junior Golf". David is also a board member for Optimist International Junior Golf.

The meeting took a short break and after the break a presentation was made by Cheryl Elman on "Sleep Talk for Children".

Sam Toler next encouraged members to become involved with Junior Optimist Clubs and to find opportunities to start new JOI clubs.

Terry Corle gave a presentation on Membership and New Club Building. He gave out \$10 Linda Loot to all members who had brought in a new member in the 1st quarter. He also had a display of balloons and invited members to take a balloon if they would promise to bring in a new member or build a new club in the next quarter.

Next, Carol Collier showed a Power Point presentation which gave the names of member and clubs who were being recognized in the 1st quarter for Dime-A-Day and other OI Foundation contributions. She also asked for an alter call for new donations.

Linda Hawley Isbell, this year's Oratorical Chair, shared information about this year's competition. This year's topic is, "Is There a Fine Line Between Optimism and Reality?" The deadline for zones to submit their top two contestants is April 22, 2019, and the contest will take place at the 3rd quarter meeting on May 4th and will be held at the Hampton Inn in Wilson, NC. The winner will receive a \$2500 scholarship, second-place will receive a \$1500 scholarship and third place will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

Sandy Cyphers, PGI and Centennial Chair, encouraged us all to work on achieving more levels of Personal Growth & Involvement. She shared that one of our members would be recognized for level 10 PGI

at the next district meeting. Sandy also hosted a silent movie showing with popcorn on Friday night after dinner for those who attended on Friday night. She was dressed in her 1900's bathing suit to help celebrate our centennial year.

Jimmy Lamm, our new District Convention chair, asked for people to let him know if they have recommendations for the upcoming District Convention which is planned for September 6-8th at Atlantic Beach, NC. He will be calling on different members to help him with some of the plans.

Stewart Mallard, OI Mid-Atlantic Region Vice President, gave a few comments of encouragement for members.

Governor-Elect Russell Leake gave a few comments regarding his plans for next year and his hopes for our district to grow stronger this year and next year.

Governor Shepherd gave her closing remarks, and Linda's Lieutenants led the members in the song "An Optimist Can". There being no further business, the meeting was closed with all members recit-

ing the Optimist Creed.

After a lunch break, members paid for the Silent Auction items. The district raised \$2,520 with \$1,260 going to OI Foundation and \$1,260 to the Boys and Girls Home.

Respectfully submitted by,

Angela Iwaniuk

NC East
District Secretary/
Treasurer
2018-2019



Angela Iwaniuk District Secretary/
Treasurer 2018-2019

District Convention September 5-8, 2019

Hello Optimists, we have some great news to share with you. We have secured a site for this years 2019 convention. the convention will be held in Atlantic Beach at THE INN at Pine Knoll Shores. The convention dates are

September 5-8, 2019 and we hope that we will have a good representation of Optimists at this special event to celebrate Governor Shepherd's year as our leader.

As soon as we can get the convention committee together we will begin to send out information on the convention schedules and fees that we have to pay. We hope that everyone will enjoy their stay at

the THE INN at Pine Knoll

Shores. We hope to have everything in place by the end of May.

Yours in Optimism,

Jimmy Lamm,
Convention Chair



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

