

# North Carolina East Optimist Bulletin

**Hello Fellow Optimists,  
Thank you everyone who came to the 2nd  
quarter meeting by zoom. I hope to see eve-  
ryone at the 3rd quarter meeting.**

**As I was searching the internet I ran across  
this little-known fact about Optimist  
Science has also shown us that there are  
many benefits to being more optimistic than  
pessimistic. These benefits, in general, in-  
clude:**

- Optimists are healthier**
- Optimists live longer**
- Optimists are better sales people**
- Optimists are more successful in most en-  
deavors**
- Optimists are not as susceptible to depres-  
sion**
- Optimists have better relationships**

**The saying “Blondes have more fun” might  
be more accurately stated as “Optimists  
have more fun”.**

**So, what can you do about it?  
Spread the word! Give People a reason to  
be an Optimist  
Show them how much fun and rewarding it  
is to be an Opti-  
mist. and It’s  
good for your  
health!**

**Let’s get some  
more people to  
join our fun!!**

**Thank you,  
Your Governor,  
Pamela Franks**



## District Membership

Greetings Fellow Optimists! Hope all is well with you and your clubs. On a personal note, I had knee replacement surgery the end of March, so I've been on the mend for a few weeks. I haven't been as active in my club as I'd like, but am heading in the right direction.

Our District is currently ranked 10th Internationally at minus 2 members.

We have 33 clubs and 735 members. We are ranked #1 in our Mid Atlantic

Region. We're in decent shape, but as membership chair, it's my job to encourage you do seek new members. So please reach out in your community and "just ask".

Also, as info, our organization is down to 53,277 members. Like all civic organizations, membership is a struggle.

Hope to see everyone in Goldsboro. "Remember, Membership is an Honor and

Privilege.....so  
SHARE it!!!

Auston Pusey  
Membership Chair



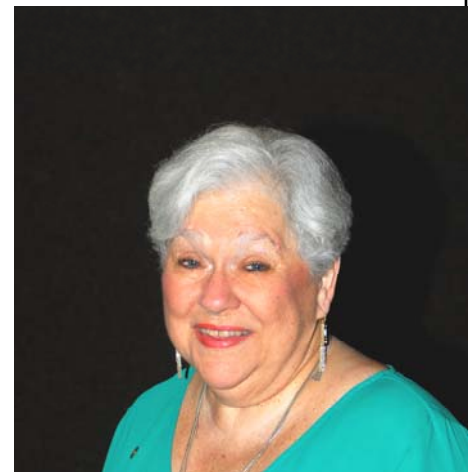
## District New Club Building

**New Club Building Is Depending on YOU!**

As we approach the fourth quarter of the Optimist year, please be reminded that it is not too late to build a new club before the end of September. There are still many children who need the help that you and I can provide to improve life for them.

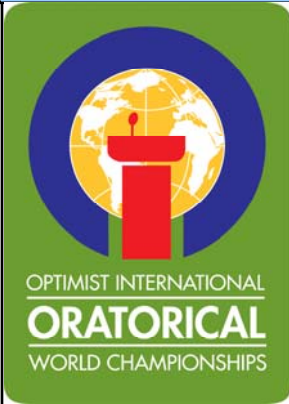
Look around, be aware of conversations you hear, and try to identify members of your community who want to be a part of satisfying needs and showing love and compassion to youth. Seek out those people. If they are really not interested in helping, they will quickly make excuses or just say "no." However, it is entirely possible that they want to help but just don't realize that they don't have to do everything alone. They may love to be a part of a group effort—the kind of effort Optimist members can provide together. Be sure to explain your own joy and the gratification you feel in being an Optimist and providing opportunities for young people.

I will be delighted to travel to the area where the club is needed and try to communicate with key members of the community. Please feel free to reach out and let me know you need my help. We will work together to make things happen! -Linda Shepherd, New Club Building Chair





# District Oratorical Contest



Hello Optimists,  
The North Carolina East District Oratorical Contest was held Tuesday, May 10, at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM. Participating were seven outstanding

young speakers who were: Serenity McNair sponsored by the Golden Circle Optimist Club, Celia Bansah sponsored by the Optimist Club of Greenville, NC, Aryan Phuyal sponsored by the Goldsboro Optimist Club, Edward Thompson and Rachel Iqbal sponsored by the East Wake Optimist Club, Mukta Dharmapurikar sponsored by the Chapel Hill Optimist Club, and Coraline Saunders sponsored by the Roanoke Rapids Optimist Club.

**Congratulations** to the winners--First Place and the winner of a \$2,500 scholarship was **Mukta Dharmapurikar**; second place winner was **Serenity McNair** with a \$1,500 scholarship, and third place winner was **Coraline Saunders** with a \$1,000 scholarship. Mukta will advance to the Regional Contest in July where the top speaker will win a \$5,000 scholarship and advance to the international competition. Please join me in congratulating these

Judges for the contest were: Dr. Laura Bilbro-Berry, Executive Director of Educator Preparation and Lab Schools, Division of Strategy and Policy, University of North Carolina System Office; Dr. Todd Berry,

Associate Dean for Resource Management, Thomas Harriott College of Arts and Sciences, East Carolina University; and Dr. Julie Stanley, Teaching Assistant Professor, Department of Elementary and Middle Grades Education, College of Education, East Carolina University. Timekeeper was Dr. Art Rouse, Acting Dean of the College of Education, East Carolina University.

A special thanks for all clubs and individuals who assisted with the opportunity for talented youth to participate in the NC East Oratorical Contest. I sincerely appreciate all who joined the ZOOM presentation on May 10. Hopefully, more clubs will participate in the upcoming year as this is an excellent opportunity for the youth in your community.

Please remember—***“Serving Youth Today--Grows Optimists for Tomorrow!”***

Yours in Optimism,

*Lou Anna*



**Lou Anna Hardee**

**2021-2022 NCE Oratorical Chair**

**NC East District, Optimist International**

**[hardee.louanna@gmail.com](mailto:hardee.louanna@gmail.com)**



# BOYS & GIRLS HOMES of North Carolina



What a very special Christmas season it was for our kids! We had a very kid-centric Christmas Dinner with Chic-Fil-A, songs and games. After the kids wrapped the Executives to look like Reindeer, Santa brought presents for all and they finished the night skating and having a wonderful time. BGHNC held the first Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – if not the first ever, it was the first in a very long time. The residents led the congregation in traditional Christmas carols then participated in a skit to set up and demonstrate the message for the night. President Ricky Creech shared a message from the old favorite, “A Charlie Brown Christmas”. It was a special evening. Of course Santa dropped presents down the chimney for all to enjoy Christmas morning. Christmas Day was spent celebrating “Christmas with the Creeches”. President Ricky and his family shared time by making gingerbread houses, making their own personal pizza as well as fun and games with the kids. Thank you to all the Optimists that did amazing things to make this season so special!

As you enter the new Admissions office on campus, you will find laundry baskets sitting at the bottom of the closet. Each basket is topped with a colorful throw blanket with a small, huggable stuffed animal sticking its head out of one end. Other items visible included a towel set, journal, and bed sheets.

These are “Waccamaw Bundle Baskets,” the welcome items presented to youth admitted to Boys and Girls Homes. These particular baskets were prepared for four youth who arrived on an early February evening.

What makes the baskets even more impactful is that they were provided through the generous donations of Boys and Girls Homes supporters. This is shared with the youth as they arrive, immediately letting them know that there is a much broader community of supporters who care for them. It is a tangible reminder that BGHNC is providing an environment of care that promotes health, healing and hope among children, youth, and families who enter our continuum of care.

You can become a part of that community of care by providing items for inclusion in the Waccamaw Bundle Basket. Here is a complete listing of the requested items for the Bundle Baskets:

Masks, Journal; Ink pens/pencils/color pencils/highlighters, Vision board

Cardboard or plastic puzzles

Coloring books/crayons

Playing cards/Uno, Stuffed animal

Toothbrush/toothpaste, Body wash

Shampoo/conditioner, Lotion

Deodorant, Comb/brush

Towels/wash cloths, Throw blanket

Laundry bag, Snack pack

Word Search/Crossword/Sudoku

We have great friends in Optimist! Thank you for loving our kids!

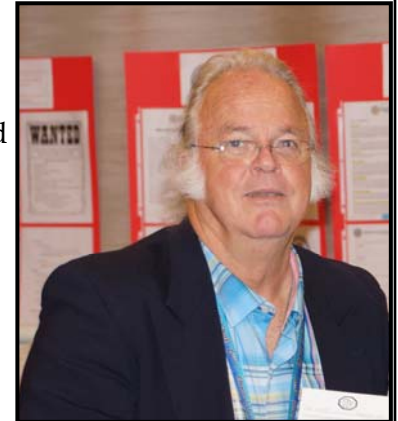


# Communications Contest for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

On May 14th the District CCDHH Oratorical Contest was held in Goldsboro Optimist Club Building. This years Topic was Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times and I don't think it could have been a better topic. The contest started at 10am with about 16 people attending made up of teachers and parents and Optimist members. This year we had 3 contestants 1 was on video and 2 in person that gave us amazing speeches. We had 3 great judges and for the first time that I can remember we had 2 judges that were deaf them selves. I was so excited that they agreed to be judges and help us make better future for these young Girls and Boys. The winner will receive a plaque and a \$2500.00 scholarship from Optimist International. This years win-

ner is Gregory Blake Hemby from Washington NC  
 Congratulation to Gregory for your participation in the District CCDHH Oratorical Contest. It was an honor for me to serve as District Chair for the CCDHH and I look forward to hearing from more speakers next. Thanks to all my judges and time keeper and interpreter for their time and their love for children.

Gary Pender  
 District Chair



The first picture is me presenting Gregory Blake Hemby with a certificate of participation

The second is me presenting Suzie Harrington with a certificate of participation

The third picture is me congratulating Gregory as the winner of the CCDHH Contest

The fourth picture is a



# Club Fitness

The crazy thing about this fitness stuff is you have to keep at it on a regular basis to see the benefits! If I proclaim on January 1 that I will get fit this year – and then never go to the gym or engage in any exercise at all – then the chances of success becoming fit are very slim. It is the same with your clubs. If you “stay on the couch” and don’t make an effort, your club will not enjoy the success of a fit Optimist Club. We have to be vigilant about meeting regularly, staying active and ensuring that there is value in being an Optimist.

Here is where we stand as a District:

Zone 1 4 clubs YTD – Net 0

Zone 2 3 clubs YTD – Net -2

Zone 3 7 clubs YTD – Net -3

Zone 4 7 clubs YTD – Net +7

Zone 5 6 clubs YTD – Net +4

Zone 6 6 clubs YTD – Net -8

As a District we are Net -2 for the year. That puts us in 10th place in Optimist International. Imagine where we would stand if we simply add 1 member per Zone. We can make it happen!

Don’t forget we need to send in our Officer Elect forms and please ensure you are up to date on all dues.

We have rounded the corner and are in the home stretch! Let’s get off the couch and finish the year strong and fit. You’ve got this! Optimist Strong!!

Ray Cockrell  
Club Fitness Chair



# OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

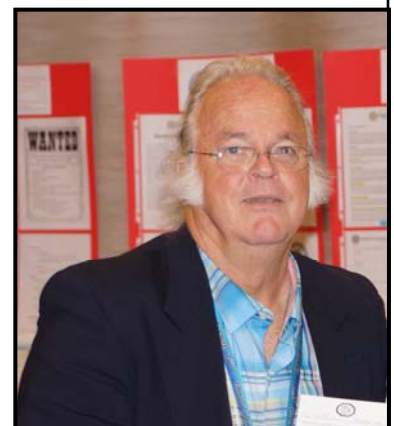
F O U N D A T I O N

Each year our District receives \$10,000.00 in scholarship money from OI Foundation funds for the Essay, Oratorical and the CCDHH Oratorical Contest. More than \$150,000.00 in college scholarships are awarded annually from this program. Let me tell you how you can help we have the Dime A Day only \$36.50 a year and you will receive a Dime A Day Pin. The President Club \$250.00 and receive a special design Pin from Optimist International. The Christian D Larson for \$1000.00 what a great way to honor a club member for being outstanding to the club. The Women’s Philanthropy \$100.00 and receive a pin and

for \$100’00 you can get a In Honor , In Memory or a Military Veteran Banner Patch. With you or your club making a donation we as Optimist Can Make A Difference.

Thank You For Your Donations

Gary Pender  
District Chair



# OI Convention Ambassador



## Reno Nevada, The Biggest Little City in the World".

The 104th Optimist International Convention in Reno, Nevada on June 30-July 3 will be here before we know it. Reno is known as the "Biggest Little City in the World". I've never been there but am looking forward to visiting a new place and seeing some new sights.

For the first time ever this year, there is going to be an International Corn Hole Tournament.

Each district has been asked to organize a corn hole competition, and each district winning team gets to compete in Reno. So, all of you need to start honing up on your corn hole skills so we can bring home a winner.

Russell Leake

OI Convention Ambassador



## Raleigh Optimist Club holds annual Easter Egg Hunt



J.G. Baker, Pres,





# Marketing, Social Media & Webmaster

Hi NC East District -

This is to all the clubs - please, please, please print a roster of you club.

Read through everyone's contact information - a lot of the info posted is not correct - especially email addresses. You would be amazed at the amount of typo's.

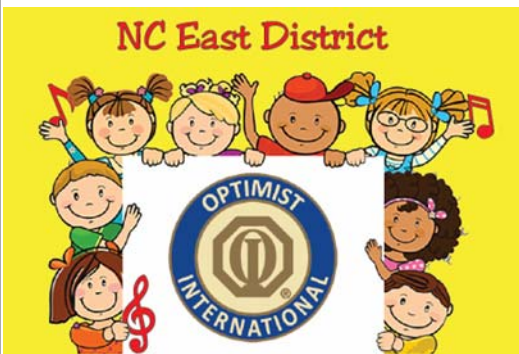


To the President's - when you receive an email from the NC East District or from OI - please forward to your club members. You should have an updated, active and correct list.

Also - please visit our Facebook page to see District events and all the other clubs who post - we try to share all NC East Club postings to this central page.

North Carolina East District, Optimist International

And, also visit our own NC East District website.



That is how OI contacts everyone and keeps everyone updated.

This is also how the NC

East District keeps you updated. We are noticing that some host servers - like embarq mail and aol - will reject emails coming from the District.

OI and the NC East District both use a program called Constant Contact.



Gail Craft District Chair.

[www.optimistnceast.org](http://www.optimistnceast.org)

## Wake Forest Optimist Mile of hope



## Oratorical Contest Photos



Top row from left, Edward Thompson, Contestant; East Wake Optimist, Gail Craft, Wake Forest Optimist;  
2nd row from left, Rachael Iqbal, contestant, East Wake Optimist, Aryan Phuyal, contestant; Goldsboro  
3rd row from left, Joyce Leake, Roanoke Rapids Optimist, Lou Anna Hardee, Greenville Optimist;  
4th row from left, Julie Stanley, Judge, Laura Bilbro-Berry, Judge





Top row from left, Bob and Trish Verne, Chapel Hill , 2nd place winner Serenity McNair, Golden Circle  
 2nd row from left, 1st Place Winner Mukta Dharmapuirkar, Contestant, Chapel Hill Optimist, Celia Bansah  
 Contestant, Greenville Optimist  
 3rd row from left 3rd Place Winner, Coraline Saunders, contestant, Roanoke Rapids Linda Shepherd, G. Cir  
 4th row, Art Rouse, Timekeeper, Todd Berry, Judge



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# Childhood Health & Wellness

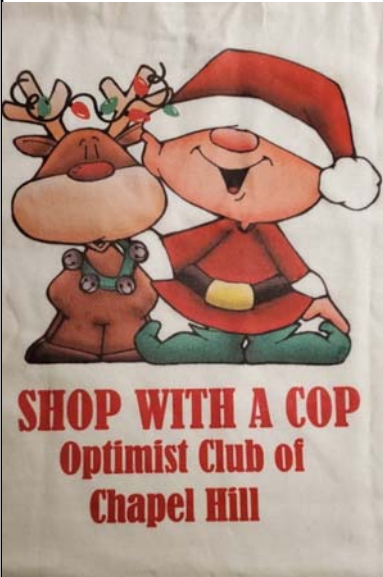


## May 2022 NC East District Childhood Health and Wellness

Congratulations to Mukta Dharmapurikar, who won the district Optimist Oratorical Contest. She also won this year's district Optimist Essay Contest. Mukta is a graduat-

ing senior at Durham Academy, in Durham, NC. She will be attending Harvard University this fall. She also is a recipient of a Coca-Cola Scholars Program scholarship. To help disadvantaged students in their pursuit of future acceptance into STEM classes, careers and research, she founded the Ever Curious Program.

Mukta has been captain of the Speech Team, the Science Olympiad Team, the girl's Varsity Tennis Team, and has been a state and conference tennis champion several times. She is a member of the Leadership Council and writes freelance articles for local media about her research projects. She will be representing



the district at the Mid -Atlantic Oratorical contest. Mukta is a very talented and charming young lady, and we look forward to hearing about her future endeavors and successes.

During the past two weeks, I've been working at an early voting site. At first we were not required to wear a mask, but soon realized that our mask wearing voters were more comfortable when we were also wearing a mask. A couple members of the crew are retired nurses who still work giving vaccination shots to the under-five children. Their contacts in the medical community are very concerned about the rising number of infections and hospitalizations for Covid-19 that has not been addressed in the press. The easiest way to protect yourself and others is to wear a mask. The school year is almost over and the students have made remarkable effort to make up for being in remote learning situations for the past two years. They deserve our continued support.

Stay well, and remember, We Are Optimists.

Trish Verne

Co-Chair, NC  
East District  
Child Health and  
Wellness Com-  
mittee



Continued from February

You always mount a horse on the left side.

You cannot open your eye when you sneeze.

Shorter hair will make a woman look younger.

A typewriyer is older then a fountain pen.

Continued on page 21

# District Convention



## A Grand Conference on the Grand Strand

I am already getting excited about our NC East District convention slated for September 8-10. By popular request, we will be returning to Beach Cove Resort in North Myrtle Beach where many of us have wonderful memories of past summer conferences. For this convention we will be promoting a theme of "Spreading Optimism Around the World." After the havoc Covid has forced upon us all, let's have a large

attendance and make this an event to remember!



Golf Tournament

If all goes as planned, there

will be a golf tournament for participation by our members and friends to kick things off on Thursday. Funds raised will be divided between the OI Foundation and the Boys and Girls Homes at Lake Waccamaw. Remember that you don't have to be a professional or even a halfway decent golfer to participate! Just join in the fun and fellowship of being with fellow Optimists and other friends in the fresh coastal air!

Thursday Night Dinner

Thursday evening, we will have a Dutch dinner for ALL convention attendees where we will recognize our Past Governors. We will dine at Horst Gasthaus, a



Bavarian-themed restaurant with a strolling accordionist for sing-along fun. If you worry that you will not like German food, never fear! A menu will be available for your perusal prior to this date, and you will see that many items are very similar to what you typically order in an American restaurant.

### Friday Events

The Executive Board meeting will be conducted on Friday morning with Leadership Training for club officers in the afternoon. Our dinner will consist of a Mediterranean buffet with some dishes that are already among your favorites. Afterwards, we are planning a night of fun with entertainment by some youth and YOU! Everyone is asked to wear a costume to represent the country of your choice as you walk the red carpet. Will you win the prize for having the best international costume?!

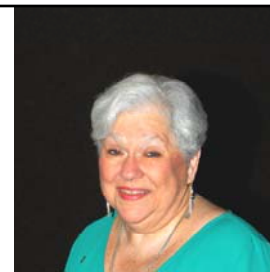
### Saturday Events

The day will begin with our traditional breakfast for old timers, newcomers, and everybody in between, followed by a guest speaker from the local area! Our business session will take place Saturday morning, and Saturday afternoon we will have the duck race to support victims of childhood cancer and other dreaded illnesses. After a little free time to enjoy the beach, the Governor's Banquet and Ball will take place on Saturday evening. After the installation of officers, we



will have live musical entertainment for your dancing and listening pleasure. The Nick Michael's Duo will grace us with a variety of tunes, some of which will be in a style similar to the music of Frank Sinatra!

Linda Sheperd  
District Convention Chair



## Hello Optimist

As you have heard me say for the last few years about how giving is down for the Boys and Girls Home well it is. With covid and the weather it has been hard for all of us to have a fund raiser to be able to give. But on a good note all is going well at the home and we could not ask for a better staff than we have now. The LOVE and CARE they receive



from the Home is far more the best it has ever been. I

would like for us to have a Optimist Day at the home as we have in the past and get to meet some of the young girls and boys of the home. Graduation is fast approaching and if you or your club would like to make a donation to help them celebrate. Thank all of you for supporting the Optimist cottage and the kids for all these years. I am willing to visit your club and talk about the home or you can have Ray or someone from the home come and talk to you.



Gary Pender  
B&G Home District Chair

## District Essay Contest

The Essay Contest was a success this year as we had eight club winners participating in the district competition. The third place winner was from the Elm City Optimist Club, the second place winner was from the Optimist Club of Roanoke Rapids, and the first place winner was sponsored by the Northern Wake Club. **The first place winner's name is Mukta Dhar-**



**mapurikar and she is a senior at Durham Academy. Mukta will be receiving a \$2500 scholarship** to help out with college expenses in the fall. Thank you to all of those clubs who participated in this event.

Joyce Leake  
District Essay Chair



# District Essay Contest

Official Topic: "How Does an Optimistic Mindset Change My Tomorrow?" Number of Words: 798

As I peek into the narrow alley, water buffaloes tread through my sight, herded by a child who looks no older than ten. The lights flicker in the creaky outhouse bathroom that mosquitoes often like to call home. The staccato clatter of the powerlooms drowns out the voices of children playing ball near the gutter. Here, in this rural Indian village with no telephones or computers and parents who never finished high school, my mother built herself a life with what she found along the way. Optimism fueled her drive to make the best of what she had today to build a better tomorrow. She taught me to do the same, to see potential in every situation. When I forgot my chessboard on a trip to India, I crafted my own, giving new life to my grandmother's discarded newspapers. When I ran out of kitchenware in my cooking set, I marched outside armed with a shovel, emerging a few hours later with a brand-new clay pot. When I couldn't find the perfect book for my sister's birthday, I wrote her one instead. From graham cracker dollhouses to cardboard kitchen racks, the optimist in me saw the value of resourcefulness and ingenuity, repurposing what was around me to build the life in front of me.

While my mother taught me the big things, like the importance of seeing the bright side, in return, I teach her the little things, like pop music and American idioms. Sometimes, we learn new things together, watching videos on how to operate a drill or fix a door, our eyes lighting up in unison when we finally figure it out. She treats education like her life depends on it, because for her, it did. As a dark-skinned girl in a colorist society, where marriage was the ticket out and fair skin was the currency, she knew school was her only chance. An optimistic mindset changed her tomorrow by giving her courage to pursue an education, even if it meant leaving everything she knew behind. And education gave her the optimism to imagine her own

tomorrow, to know that by soaking up the wisdom around her, she could attain the skills and knowledge to become anyone she wanted to be. In contrast, a resigned, pessimistic outlook left my grandmother, one of the sharpest people I know, as a housewife in rural India while my mother bought her ticket to the US. These conflicting journeys revealed that optimism is not just an asset; it is a necessity, one that can mean the difference between a blossoming future and a withering past.

Through these experiences, I've learned that optimism means finding hope in my mother's story and using the lessons she taught me to change my tomorrow. For me, an optimistic mindset begins with education and resourcefulness: the knowledge and nurture to find my beginning and the flexibility and fearlessness to pave the road ahead. Here in the US, we don't have roaming water buffaloes or antiquated powerlooms, but the same education disparities and hopelessness my grandmother faced persist. My mother's optimism has translated into my own resolve to act, to utilize my resourcefulness to support my community's education and to infuse optimism into my community's culture. Maneuvering the outhouses, writing my sister a novel, learning to operate a drill, have evolved into tutoring English Learners, hosting career workshops for underrepresented students, becoming a Peer Educator to guide 9th graders. I want to help students find the optimism to change their tomorrows. I want to summon my flexibility and fearlessness in becoming their knowledge and nurture. I want to teach them to use what's around them to build the life in front of them, undaunted by apparent hurdles.



Optimism is not just a cornerstone of my foundation; it is also a stepping stone to my future. An optimistic mindset changes my tomorrow by reminding me of the obstacles my mother overcame to make my life possible. In hard times, it motivates me to use my education and resourcefulness to make the best of what's around me, to salvage every opportunity to

learn and grow. Most importantly, it gives me faith in my power to better the world, even if my impact is small. Sustained by my optimistic mindset, I now strive to forge my path in congruence with the needs of my community, to both continue my own education and support the education of others. Moving forward, I know that I'll traverse both the narrow alleys of my mother's village and the open highways of the US. I will see many paths, filled with possibilities and challenges alike, and come to crossroads requiring consequential decisions. But even in uncertain times, I know that because of my optimism, I will always have the courage to changing my tomorrow

North Carolina East District  
Optimist International  
Second Quarter District Meeting  
Via ZOOM  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Saturday, February 12, 2022  
Minutes

Governor Pamela Franks called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Terry Corle provided the flag and everyone pledged Allegiance to the US Flag. Governor-Elect Ray Cockrell provided the invocation.

Governor Franks welcomed and introduced:

1st Timers - Ray Cockrell introduced Alexandria Everson, the new Director

of Development and Community Engagement at the Boys and Girls Home

Past Governors - Attending were: Linda Shepherd, Jim Hart, Sandy Cyphers,

Gary Pender, Wayne Sidelinger, Russell Leake, Al Ludlum,  
and Angela Iwaniuk.

Charter Club Members - Attending were Sandy Cyphers, Linda Shepherd,  
and Wayne Sidelinger

Guests - McNeil Chestnut and OI VP Kathleen Manchec

OI President Patsy Garner joined the meeting via ZOOM and brought information pertinent to all. She shared information regarding clubs in Nepal and the interest in growing clubs globally. She shared a story about her travels and a bookmark which included the Creed on one side and the Purposes on the other side. She shared the importance of the "Power of the Creed" being very useful in recruiting members. OI President Garner encouraged all Optimists to get together and share ideas. More clubs around the world were needed and encouraged existing clubs to consider building clubs internationally. She reported that she met with leaders in the past twelve months from the Rotary, Lions, and Kiwanis Clubs who shared their ideas--found that Optimists who reached out to the communities were the ones to get things done. A past Rotary President stated that when you are looking for a good member, look for an Optimist. OI President Garner shared information regarding "Celebrate Communities 2.20" and to watch for more information to follow. Everyone was thanked for all they were doing as Optimists and en-

couraged to continue their efforts in serving youth.

Governor Franks called on Sandy Cyphers to introduce Guest Speaker McNeil Chestnut to provide guidance on parliamentary procedures and "Roberts Rules of Order."

Mr. Chestnut "Mac" retired from the post of Senior Financial Counsel for the NC Office of the Attorney General and is now engaged in a practice limited to government relations principally representing financial organizations on legislative and regulatory matters. He shared a wealth of information and advised that the Policies should be reviewed and updated as needed (i.e., with the technology of today, electronics notifications of meetings and ZOOM sessions might be considered). The Policies should include those items as a guide to conduct business meetings. He also provided guidance relative to motions on the floor and their approval/status. He was glad to be present and would advise as needed throughout the business session.

Lou Anna Hardee had provided the minutes of the 1st Quarter Board Meeting. A motion to accept minutes was made by Gary Pender, seconded by Sandy Cyphers; motion approved.

The 1st Quarter Financial Report provided by Lou Anna Hardee was reviewed. Governor Franks called for the report to be filed for audit.

Governor Franks invited District Chairs to report.

Essay Contest: Joyce Leake shared that hopefully, everyone had been getting the word out about the Essay Contest and plans made for their club level competition.

She indicated she would need for each participating club to turn in its winning essay, proof of birth certificate or passport, and entry form by February 28. With so much negativity all around us, she said she was looking forward to reading these essays titled, "How Does an Optimistic Mindset Change My Tomorrow?"

Oratorical Contest: Al Ludlum reported for Lou Anna Hardee that no decision would be made until later regarding the date/time of the District Oratorical and whether it would be via ZOOM or Face to Face. More information would be forthcoming, and she reminded everyone to refer to her information in the Bulletin and note the suggested timeline:

Club Contest completed before April 1, 2022

Zone Contest completed before April 15, 2022



Zone Contest winners' documentation due by April 20 to District Chair Lou Anna Hardee, 5425 NC 33 East Greenville, NC 27858 (252-341-3565)

**Boys & Girls Home:** Gary Pender shared that it took more funds now than it did several years ago and he encouraged clubs to consider recognizing a member with the Walt Armentrout Award and/or Century Club where funds would benefit the Boys and Girls Home. Gary shared that over \$11,000 was raised for the Boys and Girls Home during the Holiday Raffle. While everyone did an awesome job promoting the raffle, more funds were needed. In lieu of an alter call, he encouraged those who wished to make contributions to send him or Ray Cockrell a check and they would see to it being credited appropriately. J. G. Baker shared that the Raleigh Club had voted to send \$2,000 to the Boys and Girls Home.

Ray Cockrell commented that while Gary always spoke on the financial side of the Boys and Girls Home's need, he wanted to share those residents at the B & G Home had a wonderful Christmas this past year including a fun night, skating, games, singing Charlie Brown Songs, Silent Night, and a visit from Santa Claus. On Christmas morning and after Santa's visit, residents enjoyed a wonderful day of activities.

Ray Cockrell further introduced Alexandra Everson who is doing an exceptional job already since she joined the Boys and Girls Home. Alexandra stated she was glad to be at the B & G Home and attending the district meeting.

**Optimist International Foundation:** Gary Pender reported that everyone needed to be aware that the OI Foundation provided each district with \$10,000 to support scholarships awarded through the Essay, Oratorical, and Communication Contest for the Deaf, and Hard of Hearing Contests. It was important that clubs support OIF through their donations/contributions. He stated that NC East District ranked #34 out of 40 and encouraged clubs/members to join the "Dime a Day" Program. He said clubs/members could send contributions/checks to him and he would complete the paperwork for everyone. At present, 14 had joined the "Dime a Day" and last year there were 66 members. He also shared that there was an incentive for clubs to win \$100 through members/clubs increasing their contributions.

Gary invited Sandy Cyphers to share information regarding the Women's Philanthropy Fundraiser OIF Program. Sandy shared that there was an incentive for those making contributions to have their name put in a drawing (2 or 3 perhaps) of \$100.

**CCDHH Contest:** Gary Pender that plans were under-

way to hold the contest as he had two individuals already interested in participating and three were needed. Topic for 2021-22 is "Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times."

**Junior Golf:** No report

**Convention:** Linda Shepherd asked everyone to mark their calendar for September 8 -11, 2022, for the NC East District Summer Conference which would take place at the Beach Cove Resort in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. She said as most of you know, this location has been the site of great meetings and wonderful fun in previous years; we are looking forward to informative sessions and lots of good times again in September.

Throughout the conference, we will be promoting a theme that represents the purpose of our organization "Spreading Optimism around the World." There will be fun/games, special food, and contests. Feel free to share your ideas with me about ways to support this theme through our activities at the convention.

**New Club Building:** Linda Shepherd shared that Optimist International wanted 100 new clubs during this year and that meant the NC East needed three new clubs; she invited everyone to let her know how/where she could assist with efforts to build new clubs and serve more youth.

**Childhood Cancer and Wellness:** Sara Robbins reported that two carloads of items had been delivered (paper towels, diapers, and baby supplies) to the RMD Home in Greenville. The Golden Circle had held a "pounding" and all those items had been delivered. There had been an abundant supply of Bella Hats contributed and two more bags were to be delivered. Drinks tabs totaling 21 pounds were collected/donated and did you know that it took 1,579 tabs to equal a pound. Through a joint effort, the Golden Circle and Wilson Breakfast Optimists contributed a dishwasher to the RMD Home, in the hospital, in Greenville. Gail and Sam Toler had delivered a pounding to the RMD House. Also, she had met with printers and would have tickets for the Duck Race in Myrtle Beach but wanted to hold off selling them until the third quarter meeting.

Governor Franks reminded everyone regarding completion of the Learning Management System by March 31, 2022, which would be needed for Honor/Distinguished Status. She also shared to watch for a notice of a special meeting to discuss/review/approve the District Policies to be in concert with the OI By Laws. OI was holding allotments until Districts updated necessary language.

Governor Franks thanked OI Vice President of the Mid-

Atlantic Region Kathleen Manchec for attending the meeting and offering words of wisdom. VP Manchec shared that there were four districts in the Mid-Atlantic Region updating their policies following a review by the OI Committee.

Governor Franks called upon Ray Cockrell, Governor Elect for remarks. Ray referred to page 7 of the Bulletin and the story of a woodcutter. The moral of the story applies to us as Optimists--sometimes working hard alone is not enough to achieve success. You must work smartly too! The woodcutter in the story is the best person for the job but he was working so hard he did not take time to re-sharpen his primary tool. How often do we try to work harder and harder to make our clubs and our District successful? Take a step back and use the tools OI has available to re-energize and to sharpen your saw. With the right attitude and the right tools, nothing is impossible in life. Think of that and how we can "sharpen our saws" and apply to our lives.

Governor Franks thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Gary Pender shared that he hoped to have all details finalized the upcoming week for the Third Quarter Meeting which would be in Goldsboro in May.

J.G. Baker read the Optimist Creed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Anna Hardee

Lou Anna Hardee, Secretary-Treasurer

NC East District,  
Optimist International



In conclusion, there were 21 participants who attended the ZOOM 2nd Quarter District Meeting.

## District Chairpersons 2021-2022

Achievement & Awards	Carey Foster	Finance	Al Ludlum
Activities	Sandy Cyphers	OI Conv Ambassador	Russell Leake
B&G Home	Gary Pender	JOI Youth Clubs	Amanda Sanders
B&G Home Campus Contact	Ray Cockrell	Junior World Golf	Dennis Medlin
Bulletin Editor	Wayne Sidelinger	Leadership Development	Sandy Cyphers
Candidate Qualifications	Angela Iwaniuk	Marketing, Social Media,	Gail Craft
CCDHH	Gary Pender	Web Master	Gail Craft
Child Health & Wellness	Sara Robbins &	Public Relations	Gail Craft
CO-Chair	Trish Verne	Membership	Auston Pusey
Club Fitness	Ray Cockrell	O. I. Foundation	Gary Pender
District Convention & NCB	Linda Shepherd	Oratorical Contest	LouAnna Hardee
Essay Contest	Joyce Leake	PGI	Linda Isbell

**North Carolina East District - Optimist International  
Financial Report - 10/01/2021 - 3/31/2022**

5/15/2022

<b>Receipts</b>							
Acct #	Account Name	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	Budget
100	Dues [H]	\$2,461.50	\$2,940.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,402.00	\$11,079.00
105	Corporate Club	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
110	Allotment from OI [G]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$591.00
120	District Convention [A]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,404.00
130	District Meetings [B]	\$1,337.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,337.00	\$2,651.00
145	Jr. Golf [D]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
150	Miscellaneous Receipts	\$188.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$188.10	\$0.00
160	Interest Earned (MM)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
190	OI Foundation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
191	Auction B&G	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
192	Other - fifty fifty	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
800	CCDHH [K]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<b>Subtotal Receipts</b>	<b>\$3,986.60</b>	<b>\$2,940.50</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$6,927.10</b>	<b>\$24,225.00</b>
650	Transfer from Prev Adm						\$19,235.62
	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$3,986.60</b>	<b>\$2,940.50</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$6,927.10</b>	<b>\$43,460.62</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>							
Acct #	Account Name	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	Budget
200	Governor	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
210	Lt. Governors [F]	\$144.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$144.00	\$3,914.80
250	Secretary/Treasurer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
255	Governor Elect	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
260	Immediate Past Governor (O)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
261	Past Governor (O)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
262	Boys & Girls Home (Chair Travel to B&GH)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
263	NCB Chairperson	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
265	Committee Chairs [N]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,220.24
300	Clerical/Secretary	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
301	Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00
320	Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60.00
330	District Bulletin	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.00
331	Web Page	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
340	District Directory	\$511.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$511.93	\$575.00
350	District Convention [A]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,947.20
351	District Conv Allotment [A]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$737.00
360	District Meetings [B]	\$1,877.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,877.31	\$2,651.00
361	Lt. Governor's Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
370	Oratorical [C]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
371	CCDHH [K]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
380	Jr. Golf [D]	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$3,000.00
390	Essay Contest [E]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
400	Badges & Pins/Officers	\$315.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$315.32	\$650.00
410	Awards, Current Year [J]	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
411	Awards, Past Year [J]	\$749.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$749.54	\$800.00
420	Audit/Bank Charges	\$12.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12.00	\$0.00
421	Audit / Review / 990	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
430	Merchandise Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
440	New Club Supplies	\$138.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$138.35	\$500.00
441	Membership Promotion	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
442	A&A Awards	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
443	Personal Growth	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
444	Childhood Health & Wellness ( CCC)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
445	New Club Building	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
446	Leadership Development	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
447	OI Foundation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
448	Boys & Girls Home	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
450	Gifts [I]	\$76.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$76.31	\$150.00
470	Miscellaneous Expense	\$15.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15.30	\$176.10
480	Previous Administration Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
490	Next Administration Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		<b>\$3,840.06</b>	<b>\$65.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,905.06</b>	<b>\$31,586.34</b>



**North Carolina East District - Optimist International  
Financial Report - 10/01/2021 - 3/31/2022**

5/15/2022

	<b>International Convention</b>						
500	Governor	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
510	Lt. Gov. Elect Max \$300. For 3	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
540	Secretary/Treasurer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
550	Governor Designate	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
551	Secretary/Treasurer Designate	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
560	District OI Conv Meal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
	<b>Total International Convention</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,400.00</b>
	<b>Subtotal Disbursements</b>	<b>\$3,840.06</b>	<b>\$65.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,905.06</b>	<b>\$36,986.34</b>
							<b>-\$12,761.34</b>
460	Transfer to next Administration						\$6,474.28
	Above line includes escrows. See escrow breakdown below.						
599	<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$3,840.06</b>	<b>\$65.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,905.06</b>	<b>\$43,460.62</b>
<b>Reconciliation</b>							
	<b>YTD Financial Report Summary</b>						<b>Total</b>
	Receipts (Includes Transfers from 2020-21)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,927.10	
	Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,905.06	
	Net	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,022.04	
	<b>1st Qtr Bank Account Summary</b>	<b>BB&amp;T</b>	<b>Convention</b>	<b>Jr Golf</b>			
	Beginning Balance	\$19,235.62	\$0.00	\$591.05			
	Deposits & Other Credits	\$3,986.60	\$0.00	\$0.00			
	Expenditures /Withdrawals	\$3,840.06	\$0.00	\$0.00			
	Ending Account Balance	\$19,382.16	\$0.00	\$591.05			
	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$19,382.16</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$591.05</b>			
<b>RECONCILIATION OF ESCROW FUNDS</b>							
	<b>DISTRICT CONVENTION</b>		<b>Current Year</b>				
			<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>				
	Start-of-Year Balance	\$ -					
	Receipts 10-1-21 through 9-30-22	\$0.00					
	Disbursements 10-1-21 through 9-30-22	\$0.00					
	End-of-Year Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00				
	<b>JUNIOR GOLF</b>						
	Start-of-Year Balance	\$591.05					
	Receipts 10-1-21 through 9-30-22	-\$65.00					
	Disbursements 10-1-21 through 9-30-22	\$0.00					
	End-of-Year Balance	\$526.05	-\$65.00				
	<b>CCDHH</b>						
	Start-of-Year Balance	\$0.00					
	Receipts 10-1-21 through 9-30-22	\$0.00					
	Disbursements 10-1-21 through 9-30-22	\$0.00					
	End-of-Year Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00				

Continued from page 13

More women than men are fussier about their food.

Your air contains 430 parts per billion in old.

Nerve impulses in the brain are faster than the speed of sound.

Continued next edition

# 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.

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