



# North Carolina East Optimist News

Hello Optimists! The 2019-2020 Optimist year has finally arrived. Our team has worked hard trying to put together a year that will make you proud to be an Optimist.

We have worked hard, yes, but we need All Optimists working together to get the job done. From the Governor to the Assistant Governor, from the Assistant Governor to both the Secretary and the Treasurer, from all these to the Six Lt Governors, to all the Committee Chairs, to all current officers, to all Officers who have been past leaders, and to all Optimists who hope to be future leaders of this great organization: just IMAGINE what WE can do if we work together!

HELP! We want your ideas, we want your complaints, we want every one working together to reach our goal: TO BETTER SERVE OUR YOUTH!

How can we do this? We do this by making our

projects better, we do this by getting more people involved, we do this by being OPTIMIST STRONG, and we do this by forgetting the mistakes of the past and pressing on to the greater achievements of the future!

Come one, come all, come join this runaway NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT! Just IMAGINE what we can accomplish working together! With God's help we can be successful.

Russell Leake  
NC East District  
Governor  
2019-2020



# Heroes in Uniform



Jim Hart introduced our special guests for today as we continue to recognize our Heroes in Uniform. Charlie Winter and his daughter, Paige were our speakers and honorees. They presented a very powerful story of the shark attack which happened to Paige on June 2nd off our NC coast and how Charlie was able to save her life by pulling her out of the jaws of the shark after having to repeatedly punch it in the face to get it to let her leg go.

Paige did end up having to have her left leg amputated and also 2 fingers, but she is still a very vibrant and strong 17 year- old teenager who reminded us not to blame the shark, because she was in his territory. A framed certificate of heroism was presented to Charlie. Truly an inspiring real-life story!



Sandy Cyphers, Optimist Anniversary Chair promoted a \$100 prize for the best club program about OI 100 year anniversary. Elm City Optimist was the winner and Terry Corle received the \$100 prize.



Sandy Cyphers

# Candidate Qualifications

## District Candidate Qualifications Committee

Are you passionate about the work of Optimist International? Are you currently serving or have you ever served as president of your local Optimist club? The NC East District seeks individuals with proven leadership skills and charisma to chart the course of our district in the years ahead. If you have contagious enthusiasm when it comes to offering hope and positive vision to our youth, you are the person we desire in a leadership role in our district. We need people who are self-starters, willing to lead by example but also able to delegate responsibility. The ideal candidates for District Governor and Zone Lt. Governors are encouragers with organization skills. If you

are interested in taking a leadership role in our district in the 2020-2021 year, please share your interest with me either in person, by email, text, or phone. I am eager to hear from you, and I am...

Forever an Optimist!

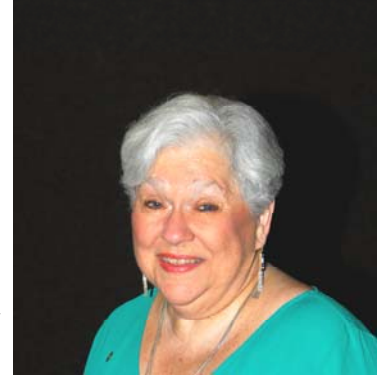
Linda Shepherd

Immediate Past Governor and

District Candidate Qualifications Chair 2019-2020

ljsprof@hotmail.com

(C) 252 567 5673



## International Convention

The International convention will be in Schaumburg IL (a suburb of Chicago) June 28 - July 1. They will have more information out around December and January.

Have a Great Day! Carey

International Convention Ambassador 2019-2020



## Communications Contest for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Since I don't know if we will be able to have the CCDHH contest at the Eastern NC School for the Deaf or not, please check with your local school administration people that deal with the hard of hearing. There are eligible students in about every school system. We must have a minimum of three students participate. If we can't have the contest at the school, we will open it up to any location. We could have it in Raleigh, Wilmington, Goldsboro or some other place. I think it would be a shame for us to not give some student the opportunity to earn this scholar-

ship.

If you have any ideas, please let me know. THANKS,  
BILL EDGERTON,  
919-920-8541



# District New Club Building



My job is to find areas that need a shot of Optimism in their lives. How can we find these areas without thinking of ways to improve the world for our youth? All sug-

gestions are welcome and will be considered. We need to find places that want to be helped, not just places where we start a club only to see it fade away as soon as we are gone. Adrian has promised to send us reinforcements, so let's take him up on

this. Time to get to work!

Russell Leake  
District NCB Chair  
2019-2020



# District Membership

Greetings fellow Optimists. I'll be brief, but just want to let you know we've started the new Optimist year off on the right foot. As of this writing, we are plus 4 members and I know we've got at least 3 members to add this week.

I know over the years you've heard all the hoopla about growing your clubs, etc., but it's for good reason. Our organization needs our leadership in supporting our youth through our various programs.



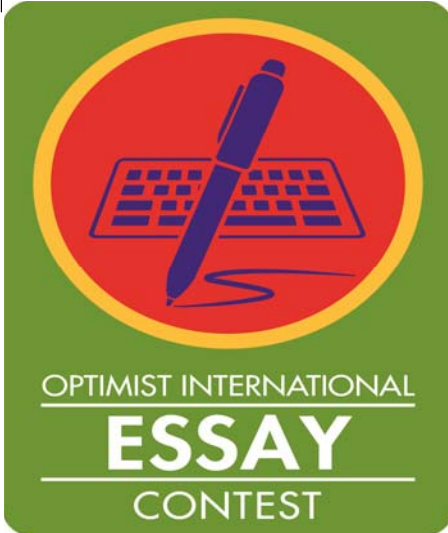
I encourage everyone to seek new members. For complete details on the several recruiting incentives, please visit [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org), click on member resources and then types of membership.

See you at the District Meeting Saturday at The Boys & Girls Home and "Remember, membership is an honor and privilege.....so SHARE it"

Auston Pusey  
District Membership Chair  
2019-2020



# District Essay Contest



The theme for the 201-2020 Essay Contest is "Is Optimism the Key to Achieving the Dreams you imagine."

The annual essay contest is open to youth under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2019.

The student must be educated in the country of their residence. Must not have graduated from high school or the equivalent. They must not be enrolled as a degree seeking student of a post-secondary institution. The essay is to be composed of 700-800 words.

The local club winner will be entered in the NC East Optimist District contest. The district winner will receive a \$2500 scholarship from Optimist International Foundation.

Carol Collier,

District Essay Contest Chair  
2019-2020



# Convention Photo



Receiving Line during reception hour at the District Convention in Greenville.

# Marketing, Social Media & Webmaster

Hi NC East Optimists!

Send us your events!

We can post your event and pictures to our Facebook page. We have 259 people who follow our page. They can see your events and share them - or attend them.

What better way to share information with each other. We can also get ideas for hosting similar fund raisers in our own clubs.

It's all about helping more youth in our local area. Let's help each other out by sharing more information on our Facebook page.



Gail Craft District Chair.

**Save the Date!**

**LET'S PLAY BUNCO!**

The Optimist Club of Wake Forest presents Funko Bunko!

\$20 per person  
Everyone must pre-register and pre-pay.

Winners receive great gift Baskets for:  
Most Wine, Most Bunko's & Most Loses!

WakeForestOptimistClub@gmail.com

**Tuesday, February 11th**  
**6:00-10:00 pm**

@ The Forks  
339 Brooks Street, Downtown Wake Forest, NC

# Personal Growth & Involvement

PGI: please encourage all members to participate in the PGI personal improvement sector of Optimist Clubs. I also need to have a number from each club as to how many "Passports" are needed for new members or misplaced booklets by January 5th 2020. No contest, no competitions. PGI is simply a personal growth measurement tool. We do an awful lot for others do a little something for yourself. You might surprise yourself on exactly how much you really do!!!!

Sara Robbins,

District  
PGI Chair  
2019-2020



Sara Robbins, District Chair

# Club Fitness



## CLUB FITNESS MADE EASY

Let's make it easy to become an honor and distinguished club this year! Below are some things each club should start working on to end up on top by the end of the Optimist year which will end on September 30, 2020.



Pay your OI & District dues on time (This means paying your member dues within 30 days from the billing which occurs at the first of each quarter on October 1st, January 1st, April 1st and July 1st)

Complete 3 or more service projects during the year.

Grow your club by a net of plus 3 members by the end of the year.

Complete at least one club membership recruitment drive - NOW meeting.

Appoint an OI Foundation representative for your club and make a non-restricted donation to the OI Foundation.

Recognize a club member or a local community individual.

Two Club officers attend at least 2 Quarterly District meetings or one District convention during the year.

Elect your new club officers and report their names to OI by May 20, 2020.

Complete your club pride report no later than October 10, 2020.

Your club can be distinguished if you accomplish the above items AND grow your club by plus 15 members by the end of the year OR build one or more new Optimist clubs.



### Important Dates for the Year

November 8, 2019 - 1st Quarter District Meeting in Lake Waccamaw

February 15, 2020 - Deadline to file IRS 990 form for year 2018-2019.

February 21 & 22, 2020 - 2nd Quarter District Meeting in Greenville.

February 28, 2020 - Deadline to submit winning club or zone Essays to District Essay Chair - Carol Collier

May 9, 2020 - District Oratorical Contest & 3rd Quarter District Meeting in Goldsboro.

May 20, 2020 - Deadline to file New Club Officer Report to OI.

June 28 - July 1, 2020 - OI Convention in Schaumburg, IL

September 2020 - District Convention date and place to be announced later.

Angela Iwaniuk

Club Fitness Chair



Angela Iwaniuk, District Club Fitness Chair

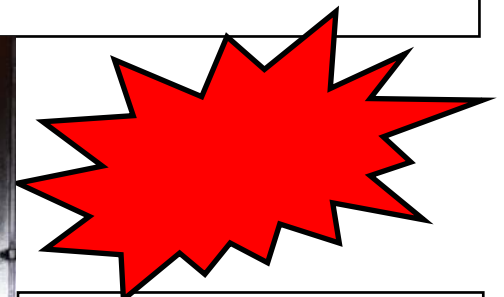
# A&A Club Winners 4th Quarter



No. 1, Golden Circle, Carole Collier; No. 2, Goldsboro, Gary Pender; No. 3. Greenville, Pamela Franks; No. 4, Cape Fear, No Photo; No. 5, Roanoke Rapids, Joyce Leake.



No. 6, Jerry Delbridge; No. 7, Rocky Mount evening, Errol Warren; No. 8, Henderson, Jerry Delbridge; No. 8, Washington, No photo and No. 10, Chapel Hill, No photo.



- A & A Reporting System
- Easy to Use (just fill in the blank)
- Instant Scoring
- Hard copy on your computer
- Send to A & A Chair
- Receive your standing within days
- To be introduced at the 1st District meeting





## A&A Top Clubs 4th Quarter in Each Zone



Zone 1, Cape Fear, No photo; Zone 2, No entry; Zone 3, Golden Circle, Carol Collier; Zone 4, Greenville, Pamela Franks; Zone 5, Northern Wake, Jerry Delbridge and Zone 6, South Johnston, David Fritz.

## Top 3 Lt. Governors



No. 1, Lt. Gov. Christy Webb, Zone 3, Lind Shepherd receiving award; No. 2, Lt. Gov. Pamela Franks, Zone 4; No.3, Lt. Gov. Jerry Delbridge, Zone 5.



Shannon Simon, A&A Chair 2018-2019



Terry Corle District A&A Chair 2019-2020

# THE OPTIMIST

*International Junior Golf Championships*



North Carolina East Optimist District Junior Golf .....Leading the way

It has been my great pleasure and privilege to have served the NC East District for the past five (5) Optimist years in promoting Optimist International's Flagship program. Heading into my sixth consecutive year as District Golf Chair, I take this opportunity to reflect on our District's successes in serving young aspiring golfers while promoting the Optimist brand.

(300%) to 88 golfers.

For the past four (4) years NC East has lead Optimist International in the total number of young golfers playing in Optimist District Qualifiers. (2016: 274 golfers; 2017: 284 golfers; 2018: 279 golfers, 2019: 311 golfers). We have increased NC East golfer participation by one thousand per cent (1000%). Last year, one of every ten golfers (10%) who played in all Optimist International District Qualifiers were from a NC East Qualifier. With the increase in our District golfer participation we have been able to offer more young golfers opportunity to make the trip to Florida to build lasting memories.



Our golfers at the 2015 NC East Qualifier at UNC Finley Golf Course, Chapel Hill, NC

We started in 2015 with just a few qualifying spots/exemptions and having had only thirty (31) golfers participate in our 2014 NC East Qualifier. Outstanding golfers were unable to participate in the OPTIMIST International Junior Golf Championships in Florida due to our lack of spots to offer. Our goal from 2015 to date has been to simply provide the opportunity for young golfers to participate in an OPTIMIST District Qualifier, and to give more NC East District golfers the opportunity to meet kids from all over the world in competing in OI's great and historic golf tournament. In that first year we increased golfer participation almost by three hundred percent

Our goal has been to put these young golfers in a position to earn their place in Florida at the OPTIMIST. We are about OPPORTUNITY.

We have tweaked our District Qualifier opportunities by trying various strategies that have put NC East District as a leader in OPTIMIST Junior Golf. From placing the District in the position to raise funds through donations memorializing a past Optimist member to the development of partnerships with excellent non-profit junior golf organizations, NC East District is recognized for our progress in supporting youth.

We have accomplished this with very little money.

# Optimist Junior Golf



Volunteers welcoming two young golfers from Thailand that made the trip to our Greenville Qualifier in 2016.

Our focus has been on providing kids opportunity....not on raising money. In 2019, no golfer or their parents paid the NC East District one dime for golfer entry fees. Over the past five years we have fed hamburgers and hot dogs to hundreds of young golfers and their families at NC East Junior Golf events.

It is rewarding to know that you have made an impact on a young person. Over the past five years, I have received numerous cards, texts, and emails from young golfers and their parents. The NC East District has made a difference for many kids. We have had several of the best golfers in the world play in NC East District Qualifiers in recent years. We have had many golfers recognized for their play at the OPTIMIST. Last year we were honored to have our Haley Quickel win the Girls 15-18 Year Age Division at Doral. College coaches come to NC East Qualifiers to recruit players. We have NC East golfers playing at all divisions/levels of College golf. There is little more special to me than to hear a parent of one of these college golfers say that we (NC East OPTIMIST Junior Golf) is what got their child excited about playing golf competitively. NC East District provides OPPORTUNITY.

Beyond promoting junior golf, we have had the opportunity to spread the word about Optimism and Optimist International. Hundreds of kids and their

parents and grandparents have learned about our organization through NC East District golf events. I would like to thank the NC East Optimist Clubs who have stepped up to volunteer at a NC East Qualifier. Last year, a total of eleven (11) NC East Optimist Clubs were represented in providing volunteers. Junior Golf is NC East District's largest district-wide program. We would like to offer all Optimist members the opportunity to help out these kids. Let me know if you want to make a difference.



2017 NC East Golfers at Phase 2 of the OPTIMIST (Boys 14-15 and Girls 13-14 divisions). Some special golfers here.

Thanks to you all for giving me the opportunity to serve both as your District Golf Chairman and on Optimist International's Golf Committee.

Please be on the watch for the 2020 NC East District Qualifier Schedule and updates. We hope to finalize our schedule in December.

David Hodges

Chairman

District Optimist Junior Golf





# OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

F O U N D A T I O N

## OI FOUNDATION

It is my honor to serve as your District OI Foundation Representative this year. Thank you for this opportunity. Also thank you Club Reps for volunteering to assist me in this endeavor.

**Simply put the Goal of the OI Foundation is to solicit, collect and safeguard money. That money then funds the programs so important to our Clubs and District.**

In 2017-2018,

- The OI Foundation supported the 2018 Oratorical Contest by awarding **\$65,000** in scholarship funding.
- 126 students went off to College with Optimist Oratorical, Essay and CCDHH scholarships totaling **\$358,000**.
- The Foundation contributed **\$53,420** towards the OI Research Fellowship at Johns Hopkins plus an additional **\$77,000** toward a new research effort on pediatric bone marrow transplants.
- **\$366,399** was awarded to 21 clubs in the form of Club Grants
- General OI grants for childhood cancer, disaster relief, the *Optimist Magazine*, convention training and development totaled **\$551,000**

In fact, according to the annual Report the total funding for 2017-2018 was **\$1,637,000**.

Our District has a long history of giving to the Foundation and it is through your generosity that the expenses for these programs are met.

The motto for this year's fundraising effort is **"Go for the Gold"**. Throughout history gold has been the standard for excellence. We all want that gold medal or gold star and what better way to achieve that than by making a contribution to *Helping Optimists Help Kids*.

There are many ways to contribute to the Foundation.

- *Your club may "honor" or "in memory of" a veteran with a \$100 donation.*
- *You can become a "Friend of Today" by making a mini-*

*imum donation of \$500 annually and receive a signed and numbered collector's print.*

- **"Go for the Gold"** by having your Club contribute \$365 (\$1.00 per day)
- *Individually, spare a "Dime a Day" and contribute \$36.50 to the Foundation.*
- *Contribute \$250.00 and become a member of the **Presidents Club**. Make a statement that you are dedicated to the future of Optimism*
- *Become a **Christian D. Larson Partner** with your \$1,000 contribution. Or Clubs make a \$1,000 contribution in recognition of someone in your Club who embodies the tenets of our Creed.*
- **William H. Harrison Society.** *Become a member with Life to Date giving of \$10,000 or more and annual contribution of \$1,000.*
- *Research has shown that women give where they believe they make a difference. In support of the Foundation and because women bring a different perspective to their giving the **Woman's Philanthropy Council** was formed. The giving circle of the Women's Philanthropy Council begins with a minimum gift of \$100.*

Each club should already have a Club Foundation Representative. Between them and me we will try to answer any of your questions. At any time you are interested in having me visit your club or attend a Zone Meeting to further explain the mission as well as the vision of the OI Foundation please feel free to contact me.

As we move forward in this Optimist year I would hope that you will consider making a donation to the OI Foundation. Please, your contribution will make a difference in a kid's life.

Errol Warren

NC East District

OI Foundation Representative

2019-2020



# OI Foundation

**Dime a Day Members:**

Charles Buis

Linda Watson

Barbara Hester

Celia Wise Carol Collier

Mary Elder

Yancey Hines

Thurman Murphy

Thomas Farmer

Russell Leake

Joyce Leake

Harvey Smith

Lynne Smith

Errol Warren

Judy Taylor

Eric Pait

Ray Cockrell

Sharon White

Dale Harris

Ralph Pickett

J.G. Baker

George Peterson

Emilee Peterson

Wayne Sidelinger

Terry Corle

Christie Webb

**\$365. Patch**

Wilson Evening

Rocky Mount Evening

Chapel Hill

**\$500 Print**

Wilson Evening

Rocky Mount Evening

Chapel Hill

Terry Corle

**Benefactor**

Terry Corle

**Christian Larson Plaque**

Jewel Wilson

Jackie Young



Bill Edgerton, Goldsboro receiving a Christian Larson plaque for Jewel Wilson and Jackie Young, Goldsboro



Lind & John Shepherd receiving Benefactor award and Print.



Angela Iwaniuk receiving Collector Plate.



Rocky Mount Evening, Errol Warren Receiving Patch and Print



Welcome to Boys and Girls Homes – the safe haven for hurting and abused children and the home of your Optimist Cottage. We are honored to have you back on our campus to celebrate Optimism.

Optimists Make a Difference! These words have never been more true as your Optimist Cottage is serving kids and on the cutting edge of new programming for Boys and Girls Homes. A few weeks ago our campus population dropped and staffing was a challenge. We had needs to do some renova-



Optimist Cottage B&G Home Lake Waccamaw

tions in the Jaycees and Civitan Cottages. The Optimist Cottage was able to extend a welcoming hand to house those residents while updates were made to their cottage.

On the cutting edge. Two new programs that are coming to B&GH are providing a common space for siblings – allowing siblings to stay together as a family. The second new program is providing a home for children of mothers who are going through sub-

stance abuse recovery. We already have a sibling group of three boys – ages 10, 8 and 6 who are in the cottage now. We are seeking to grow this program.

In March we will be partnering with the Brunswick County Recovery Center. They will open a residential program for women with substance abuse addictions. Often these women have children and we will be providing a home for these kids while their mother is in recovery. The Optimist Cottage will be the home for this program.

For many years, the Optimist Cottage has been helping meet the needs of hurting children. We continue to do that today and will be meeting the needs of children well into the future. Thank you for all you do for our children!

Yours in Optimism,

Ray



Ray Cockrell, B&G Home



Mason Smith, Boys & Girls Home Rep

# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Hello Fellow Optimists,

The 2019-2020 Optimist Year is well underway and what an exciting time to be an Optimist. For me--to serve as the NC East Leadership Development Chair is truly an honor and privilege. As we work to 'Bring Out the Best in Kids,' Governor Russell Leake and I request your assistance as we strive to incorporate your suggestions for invigorating training, teleconferences, and entertaining programs for the upcoming year (a box for anonymous suggestions will be provided at each meeting). We value your time, effort, and appreciate all you do and will do for the youth in your communities. This year we wish to utilize a mentoring concept to help members grow through the PGI, PDP, and other Optimist International programs.

## Now for a sneak peek-

At the First Quarter Meeting, the Vice President of the Mid-Atlantic Region, David Bowman and his lovely wife, Pam, will be our guests. David will install officers who were unable to attend the annual convention last month and I understand provide some training, as well.

In addition, an overview of the new Achievements and Awards (A & A) will be provided by Terry Corle. The new A & A Report is in a different format and provides/compiles up-to-date information immediately upon club entries. Entries will coincide with OI's Recognition and Awards Program (Bringing Out the Best; Honor; and Distinguished). We hope to have 100 percent participation in the A &

A program for the upcoming year.

The Second Quarter Meeting is planned for Greenville, NC, and highlights Past Governor Linda Shepherd's, Awards Luncheon.

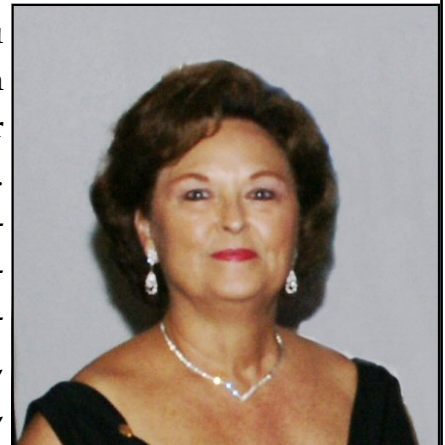
The Third Quarter Meeting is planned for Goldsboro, NC and will highlight the Essay Winner and NC East District Oratorical Contest.

I have heard talk about a Mardi Gras; Masquerade Party; Las Vegas Casino/Gaming Night so who knows what the year will reveal.

Additional information will be forthcoming for these meetings and the annual convention.

If I can assist you

in anyway, I am only an e-mail or phone call away. Let's continue efforts to grow attendance at district meetings, build new clubs, increase mem-



bers, and let us ALL--*"iMAGINE: Optimist Strong, working together to better serve our youth."*

Yours in Optimism,

**Lou Anna Hardee**  
**2019-20 Leadership Development Chair**  
**NC East District, Optimist International**

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

## Childhood Health & Wellness

Where do we stand in our efforts to cure childhood cancer? There is some good news and some not so good news. Government funding for cancer research totaled \$5.6 billion in 2017. For pediatric cancers and other sub types it was about 6.2% or about \$352 million. In 2018, funding for the fiscal year 2019, the National Institute of Health was budgeted \$39.1 billion. And the National Cancer Institute was to receive \$6.14 billion for the STAR Act, enacted in June 2018. The Cancer Moon Shot project will receive \$100 million. This is a lot of funding for cancer research, but not a lot for childhood cancer research.

The STAR Act is the most comprehensive legislation designed to study Survivorship, Treatment, Access and Research for children affected by childhood cancer. It passed the House and Senate after years of hard work by many organizations that raise money for childhood cancer. It will need support in the future to ensure it is fully funded every year to move the research forward and create better lives for the kids that survive.

Optimist International teamed up with Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center's Division of Pediatric/Oncology in 2004. We raised over \$1million for research, and continue to support the mission to find a cure for pediatric cancer. Check out Ashley's story on the Johns Hopkins' web site entitled "Optimist International and Johns Hopkins- Partners in Curing Childhood Cancer". Ashley was treated at Johns Hopkins children's center for a rare form of leukemia. Today, Ashley and many more children are able to live healthy, happy lives thanks to the contributions from Optimist International and the excellent care teams throughout Johns Hopkins.

Three new therapies have been developed recently. Johns Hopkins Pediatric Oncology and UNC-Lineberger Cancer Hospital are two of the two dozen cancer centers in the U.S. that are administering CAR-T therapy for children. This is very effective for patients with the ALL form of leukemia. Another new

treatment is Proton therapy. It more precisely targets tumors and minimizes damage to healthy tissues around tumors. Patients are able to experience fewer short term side effects and long term complications, especially important for their young growing bodies. KYMRIA is a treatment that uses the patient's own white blood cells to treat non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Despite these successes we still do not have a vaccine or a cure. Drug development centers do not consider childhood cancer drugs profitable. This is highlighted by the disparity in funding and development of treatments designed for adults. Since 1980 fewer than ten drugs have been specially developed for childhood cancer, and only three have been approved. Clinical research is needed as ten thousand new cases in children occur each year. Over a million adults will develop cancer each year.

Her name is Lorelei Partin. She is seven years old and ready to be a kid again. She was treated for leukemia at UNC and celebrated her last treatment surrounded by family and the staff as she "rang the bell, three times well." Her mother, Katie Ware, is principal at Wiley Magnet School in Cary, NC. The bell was donated to the pediatric oncology clinic by the Optimist Club of Chapel Hill. Check out their celebration at <https://unclineberger.org/news/loreleirings-the-bell/>.

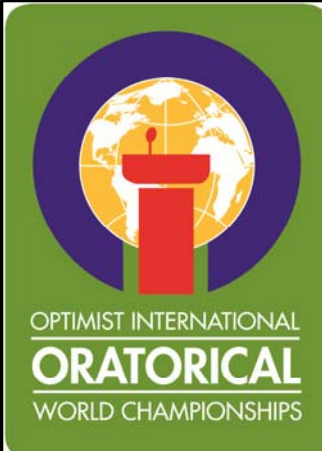
Yes, we can make a difference in children's lives. The future of our communities is our children. Cancer is complicated, but we are part of the solution, and conquering cancer is a team sport.

Trish Verne,  
District Childhood Health & Wellness Chair





# District Oratorical Contest



If you have not already done so, please go ahead and select a club Oratorical Chairperson. The sooner the information gets out, the better participation we will likely have. The topic is a challenging one this year, and I can't wait to hear it broached from several different perspectives.

Let's get the word out so our young people

can start thinking about the topic "Imagine a World Without Borders" and be prepared to blow us away with their speeches in the spring.

Joyce Leake

District Oratorical  
Chair 2019-2020



# Junior Optimist International

Hello fellow Optimists and welcome to the 2020 version of another Optimist Year! I trust you are thinking not only of how to grow the membership of your respective clubs for this year, but are considering ways to grow Optimism itself for the future. The

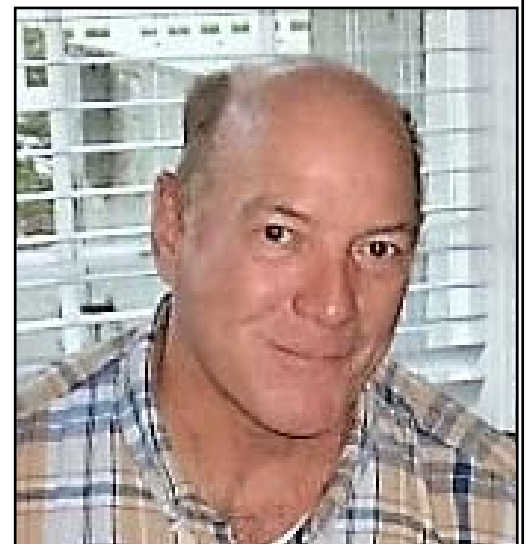


3 members of the River Rats JOI club pose with their mascot dog "Jenny" at an October 11th campout at Joe Hester's cabin on Fishing Creek.

way to do that is through the JOI program. It's the "seed sowing" program of the Optimists and it is the way we can build our brand, from the ground up! With OI memberships at \$10 annually, it is also one of the best bargains I know of! Help me tap into that

reservoir of energy that these young people possess and together we'll convert it into something useful for Optimism! I am available to help you get started with a new club or get re-energized with an existing group. Contact me at [stoler6@embarqmail.com](mailto:stoler6@embarqmail.com) and let's get some seeds planted for our future!

Sam Toler, East-District JOI Chair



Sam Toler, District JOI Chair

## Officer Installation 2019 Convention



From Left: Stan Pickett, Lt. Governor Zone 6; Jerry Delbridge, Lt. Governor Zone 5; Carey Foster, Past Governor; Linda Shepherd, Governor and Dan Durham, District Treasurer.



From Left: Joyce Leake, District Secretary; Russell Leake, Governor; Angela Iwaniuk, Governor Elect and Stewart Mallard, Installing officer.



Governor Russell Leake being congratulated by Optimist International Vice President, and Installing officer Stewart Mallard.



Boy Scout color guard and leader from Cub Packs 785 and 452 in Greenville brought in the American Flag to start the business meeting on Saturday morning. Linda Shepherd presented their leader with a plaque.

NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT  
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL  
4th QUARTER DISTRICT GATHERING

Greenville, NC - District Board Meeting  
Saturday, October 5, 2019

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
Angela Iwaniuk	Secretary/Treasurer 2018-2019
Pam Franks	Lt. Governor-Zone 4
Jerry Delbridge	Lt. Governor-Zone 5
David Fritz	Lt. Governor-Zone 6

Clubs Represented: 14

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

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

Zone 5: Henderson and Wake Forest

Zone 6: Raleigh and Raleigh Dinner

Others in attendance were:

Stewart Mallard - OI Representative

Mason Smith - Boys & Girls Home

Charlie Winter - Havelock Fire Department -  
(Honoring Heroes)

Paige Winter - Daughter of Charlie and a shark at-

tack survivor

Total Members Present: 43 Total Guests Present: 4

Governor Linda Shepherd called the meeting to order. Jim Hart gave the invocation and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance while the American and NC flags were presented by a boy scout color guard from packs 785 and 452. Governor Shepherd welcomed everyone to the 4th quarter meeting and recognized all guests, first-timers and past governors. Governor Shepherd expressed her thanks to everyone for attending this rescheduled 4th quarter meeting because our originally planned meeting for September 5-7 in Pine Knoll Shores had to be cancelled due to hurricane Dorian.

Angela Iwaniuk passed out the minutes and financial reports from the 3rd quarter and asked if there were any questions or changes needed to them. Jim Hart motioned to accept the minutes and Rich Cash seconded the motion. Rich Cash motioned to accept the financial report and John Shepherd seconded. The minutes and financial reports were approved by all members.

The Committee Reports began with Achievements and Awards by Shannon Simons. Fourteen clubs participated in the 3rd quarter. The top 10 clubs were recognized.

Mason Smith, the new director of Civic Club Relations at The Boys and Girls Home gave members an update on things going on at The Boys & Girls Home and had an altar call. Gary Pender, our Boys & Girls home chair shared with us a fundraiser that is being held to benefit the home and gave members a chance to participate.

Wayne Sidelinger our Bulletin editor encouraged all District Chairs and clubs to submit information for the 1st quarter bulletin to him within the next 3 weeks. He requested pictures and information from clubs for any projects that they wanted to share.

Next, Linda Shepherd asked members to turn in any pop-tabs for Children's Health & Wellness and she

had an alter call for clubs who wanted to donate. She also reminded everyone that we are conducting a 50/50 raffle to support Childhood Health and Wellness since we were unable to conduct our "Duck Race" this weekend.

Next Joyce Leake shared information on the OI Convention which was held in Louisville, KY in July. The NC East District had 14 members represented at the convention. Joyce presented certificate of attendance awards to the 14 members who attended in Louisville. Our convention for 2020 will be held June 28 - July 1st, 2020 in Schaumburg, Illinois which is just outside of Chicago and Joyce encouraged members to start making plans to attend. More information will be shared throughout the coming months regarding the 2020 convention.

Russell Leake, Club Fitness chair, gave everyone a great "pep" talk and encouraged us all to work on making our clubs the best they can be.

Carey Foster next gave his Candidate Qualifications report. Angela Iwaniuk was the elected candidate for Governor-Elect for 2019-2020. Stewart Mallard, our OI Representative inducted Angela as the 2019-2020 Governor-Elect for 2019-2020. Other district officers were installed by Stewart at last night's (10/4/19) installation ceremony and banquet held at The Hilton.

District Convention chair Jimmy Lamm was unable to attend because his wife had just had surgery at Vidant hospital in Greenville. Linda Shepherd expressed her appreciation for all his work in rescheduling our cancelled convention and encouraged all members to send messages of appreciation to Jimmy.

David Hodges shared information on Junior Golf and the recent Optimist Golf Championship Tournament held in Florida. NC East was well-represented with golfers from our district who played in the championship tournament. David expressed his plan to continue growing the Junior Golf program in the coming year and asked for members and clubs to support his efforts.

Terry Corle New Club Building and Membership chair was next. He gave out certificates and Linda Loot to those bringing in new members in the 3rd quarter. Terry also encouraged clubs to get their new members involved so that they would want to become long-term members.

Carol Collier was up next to present awards for those contributing to Dime A Day and the OI Foundation. She encouraged everyone to support the OI Foundation because much of the money we donate comes back to us through scholarships, grants and other benefits for our district. She also had an altar call for the OI Foundation.

After a short break, a touching Memorial Service was held to remember the NC East members who have passed away during the year. When each name was called out a picture of that person was hung on a beautiful cross by someone who was close to that person or someone from their club or zone. We lost 9 members during the past year who included: Ellen Foster from Roanoke Rapids, Glenn Edgerton and Edmund Farfour from Goldsboro, Milton Brooks from Washington, WC Hudson from Garner, Earl Miller from Garner, Edward Moore from Greenville, Donald Smith from Whiteville and Robert Starner from Laurinburg.

Jim Hart next introduced our special guests for today as we continue to recognize our Heroes in Uniform. Charlie Winter and his daughter, Paige were our speakers and honorees. They presented a very powerful story of the shark attack which happened to Paige on June 2nd off our NC coast and how Charlie was able to save her life by pulling her out of the jaws of the shark after having to repeatedly punch it in the face to get it to let her leg go. Paige did end up having to have her left leg amputated and also 2 fingers, but she is still a very vibrant and strong 17 year - old teenager who reminded us not to blame the shark, because she was in his territory. A framed certificate of heroism was presented to Charlie. Truly an inspiring real-life story!

Gail Craft, Web Master and Social Media Chair

spoke next and shared statistics on our Web page and social media pages. She encouraged us to share our club's projects and events so that we can in turn share those things on the NC East Facebook page. She also encouraged everyone to invite their friends to like our Facebook page.

Governor Linda revealed to everyone that our district will be burying a time-capsule at the 1st quarter meeting at The Boys & Girls Home in Lake Waccamaw on November 9th. She collected items that members have brought for the time capsule and encouraged everyone to bring other items to Lake Waccamaw. This is one way that our district will be honoring the Optimist Centennial this year.

Governor Designate Russell Leake shared a few thoughts with the members and encouraged everyone to attend the 1st quarter meeting in November.

OI Representative, Stewart Mallard spoke for a few minutes and praised our district for the good job done this year and encouraged us to continue our efforts in the year ahead. Governor Linda gave

Stewart a thank-you gift for being with us.

Linda's Lieutenants next led everyone in the song "An Optimist Can" and the meeting was closed with the Optimist Creed.

Governor Linda made a few closing comments and the meeting was adjourned with a buffet lunch following.

Respectfully submitted by, Angela Iwaniuk

NC East District Secretary/  
Treasurer  
2018-2019

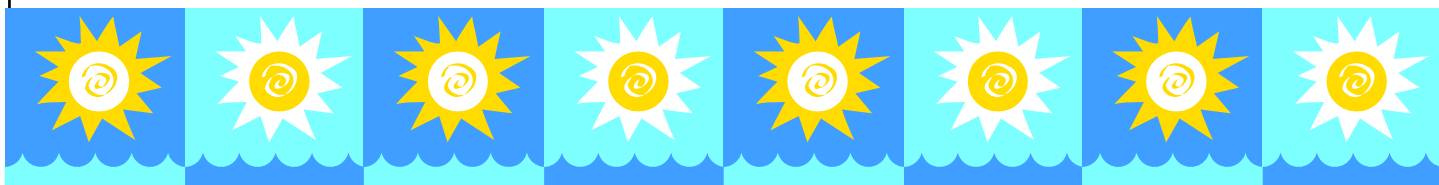


Angela Iwaniuk District Secretary/  
Treasurer 2018-2019

## Boys & Girls Home Walt Armentrout Award



Fromm left: Gary Pender, presenting awards, 2 newest recipients, Louwanna Pender and Dawn Clark, Goldsboro along with past recipients Billy Edgerton, Goldsboro, Dan Durham, Roanoke Rapids and Carey Foster, Roanoke Rapids.



# 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.

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