

North Carolina East Optimist News

Hello Optimist Friends!

What a whirlwind year this has been! From new club officer installations to participating in club and zone meetings, it has been my pleasure to serve as your District Governor. I sincerely thank you and congratulate you and your club for the many ways you have made the future brighter for our youth and our communities. Our clubs have conducted projects too numerous to name. Some of those include recognition of academic achievements, sponsorship of sports teams, assistance with nutritional concerns and health issues, and accolades for those who keep us safe, alive, and well!

It has been a year of innovation with a few new faces in some of our district leadership roles. It is my hope that more and more members will be willing to share their skills to guide our district as we move into the second century of Optimism.

The bar was set high for our district and, although

we have not attained all of our goals yet, perhaps we have set into motion an impetus to drive us further forward in the days and weeks ahead. We must be diligent in inviting others to become members so that we can touch the lives of more and more youth. We must never relax in our efforts to bring out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves.

Our International President for the Centennial Year has had as her

theme "Promise Yourself." Let's not forget the tenets of the Optimist Creed that drew many of us into membership. As we grow stronger in our principles, we have



an effect on the attitudes that are prevalent in our society. And our world today does indeed need our positivity and good will toward one another!

Let us each continue our efforts and strive to devote a little bit more of ourselves to the improvement of life whether through giving of our time, our money, or our personality. The personal rewards of selflessness are immeasurable!

Again, thank you for all you do! I look forward to continuing our work together. I am...

Forever an Optimist!

Governor Linda

First Timers at 3rd Quarter Board Meeting



Joy Belle Finch, Golden Circle.



Melissa Ham, Golden Circle



Elizabeth Hawley, Golden Circle



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.

District Centennial

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF OPTIMISM

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION TO BE REMEMBERED!

For the past eleven months, clubs and members in our district have celebrated 100 years of service to youth. The Optimist organization has been "Bringing Out the Best" in youth, our communities and each other for a century and the North Carolina East District has been part of the Optimist Organization for thirty 38 of those remarkable years.

As we embark on the next century of service let



us continue as optimists to CELEBRATE the positive impact the optimist organization has on us as members and in our respective communities.

As we come to the closure of another active optimist year and the beginning of a new year we as optimists need to continue our mission to "provide hope and positive vision" so that the OPTIMIST ORGANIZATION we love can continue to "BRING OUT the BEST into the Next Century.

Our Centennial, Let's Celebrate!

BRINGING OUT THE BEST



INTO THE NEXT CENTURY



As Optimist International President Rebecca would say...

**PROMISE YOURSELF - to
Bring Your Personal Best!**

Sandy Cyphers
N.C. East District
Centennial
Chairman



Marketing, Social Media & Webmaster

Short and sweet.

Hi NC East District!

I need your pictures when you attend Optimist events.

I need to post on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram - along with our website.

I'm only at my club and District events. So I need you all to be photographers at your events.

Please send your pictures to communications@optimistnceast.org

Remember to check the website often. We are always updating it with events and information.

www.optimistnceast.org

The website is a tool to show everyone in NC who we are and what we do.

Our purpose is to help as many kids as possible!



Gail Craft District Chair.

OI Convention Photo



A few of the NC East members attending the Banquet at OI Convention in Louisville. From Left; John Shepherd, Linda Shepherd, Angela Iwaniuk, Billy Edgerton, Jan Edgerton, Nancy Stamper.

OI Convention Photos



Governor Linda and John being greeted by OI President Rebecca Mona on stage at Louisville Convention.



The Blues Brothers promoting next year's OI Convention in Shamburg, IL.

Heroes In Uniform



Jim Hart, Chair of Heroes in Uniform, Scott Strufe, Director of EMS Nash County and Gov. Linda Shepherd.

100th Anniversary International Convention

The end of June, fourteen NC-East District Optimists descended upon Louisville, KY for the Centennial International Optimist Convention. We enjoyed riverboat rides, walks along the Ohio River, exciting and motivating speakers, and fantastic cuisine. We were also surprised to see an hour's worth of some amaz-



ing fireworks on July 3.

Next year's convention will be in Schaumburg, Illinois which is just a few miles from Chicago. Make plans to go!

Joyce Leake, Convention Ambassador



The Golden Bridge across the Ohio River at Louisville



A paddle wheel boat ride and lunch aboard the Mary Miller Steam Boat. From left; Nancy Stamper, Wayne Sidelinger, Angela Iwaniuk, Carey Foster, Gov. Linda Shepherd and John Shepherd.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Everyone is a leader. We each have gifts and we all use our gifts to influence others and to help others. Most of us are not powerful leaders such as Mother Theresa, Colin Powell or Bill Gates. But each of us can lead a person, a family, a child, a team or even our own lives.

It enriches our lives if we work on improving our leadership skills and expanding on the gifts which we each have been given. This requires effort, work, and most often moving out of our comfort zones. This can make it scary for us when we have opportunities to improve or take on more responsibility. We like the familiar, we are comfortable with what we already know. Moving out of our comfort zones is much like moving into the Twilight Zone – the great unknown.

Only when we are willing to become comfortable with being uncomfortable can change and growth really take place. Good things don't happen to us because we want them to; they happen to us when we take action and are willing to step out of our comfort zones.

So, let's embrace it. Let's learn to lead and influence in a manner appropriate with our giftedness. It's about becoming the person

we were meant to be. It is less about position and more about disposition. It is not so much about superiority but about service in the area of our strengths. It has less to do with a set of behaviors and more to do with a



perspective with which we view life.

When we look at it this way it makes it more attainable and a little less scary. Let's all work on improving our leadership skills and encouraging others to do the same. The world needs us all in leadership roles that match the gifts we have been given.

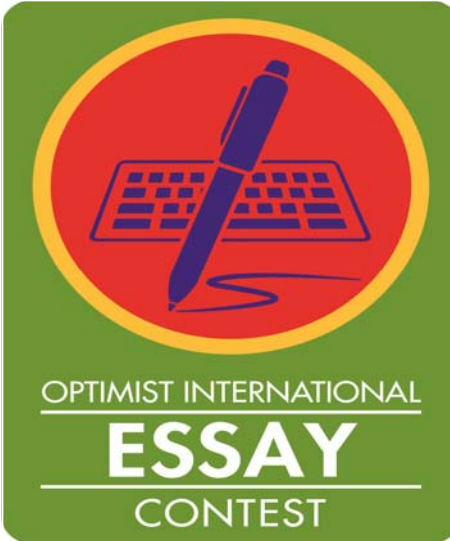


Angela Iwaniuk, District Leadership chair.



Landing Barges still afloat off Normandy Beach in France 74 years later.

District Essay Contest



Benjamin McKay, winner of the District 2019 Essay contest presented plaque by Wake Forest Optimist representative Trish Verne.



Cheryl Elman District Essay Chair

OI Convention Photos

The Mary Miller Steamboat



Nancy Stamper, Jan Edgerton and Billy Edgerton at Banquet in Louisville.



Carey Foster at OI Banquet.

Junior Optimist International



Greetings
Fellow
Optimists!

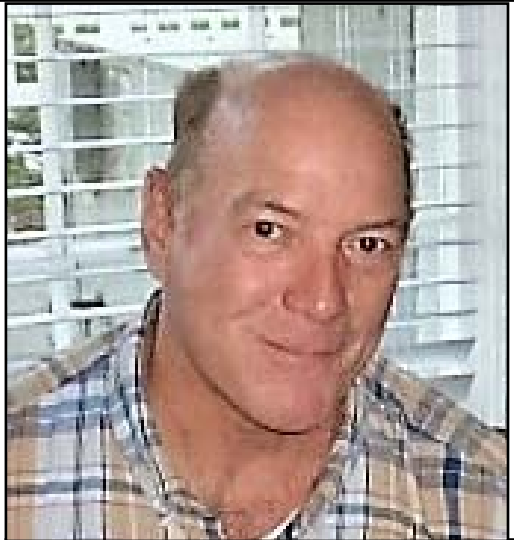
As we move from Summer into Fall, let's not put away our gardening tools just

yet! What better way to surround yourself than to be among our youth? And what better way to facilitate this than to create a "theme JOI Club?"

Yours can be with school, church, social media group, special events or in my case, a sports minded group. Take the bridle off and let your imagination run free! Our future lies with the young people we serve, so let's get out there, follow their lead and have some fun while bringing them into the Optimist circle of life!

After your initial enrollment fee of \$50, there is an annual registration fee of \$60 and a \$10 per member

dues to O.I. And all you need are 8 total members to start up a new club. Call, email or text if I can be of service to help you along on your Optimist journey!



Sam Toler, District JOI Chair

Sam Toler 252-904-8602
stoler6@embarqmail.com



Tristan Murray, 8-14-19 fishing. JOI club Rocky Mount.



Ethan Bellamy, 8-14-19 fishing. JOI Club, Rocky Mount.

District New Club Building

WANTED

15 like minded adults from a community that want to support our youth.

Where do you find them?

- ◆ Sports organizations
- ◆ Church groups
- ◆ Saturday morning breakfast groups
- ◆ Company employees
- ◆ Neighbors
- ◆ Organizations with no leadership support structure
- ◆ Any town without a civic club
- ◆ A group of individuals that just want to do something for their community
- ◆ Teachers from your local school
- ◆ College students that want to add to their resume
- ◆ Military personnel from your local base

Need help? Send Terry an email:

tscorle@gmail.com

District Membership



Sponsors of New Members 3rd Quarter Board Meeting

Jeanelle McCain

Sandra Cyphers

Tammy Pruden

Auston Pusey

Billy Edgerton

Terence Russell

Judy Mooring

If you or your club added a member this Optimist year we Thank You. If not, it isn't too late to add someone now.

Just Ask

Remember

Membership Matters

For every new Optimist added we can help another 35 youth of our community.

Just Ask



A&A Club Winners 1st Quarter 2018-2019



No. 1, Golden Circle, Jean Gilfus; No. 2, Cape Fear, Ray Cockrell; No. 3, South Johnston, No photo; No. 4, Northern Wake, David Fritz; No. 5, Tie, Orange County, Trish Verne and Greenville, Errol Warren.



No. 6, Rocky Mount Evening, Donald Wicker; No. 7, Henderson, Alan Gill; No. 8, Winter Park, Ray Cockrell; No. 9, North Raleigh, David Fritz. There was not a No. 10 award because of a tie for No. 5.

A&A Top Clubs 1st Quarter in Each Zone 2018-2019



Zone 1, Cape Fear, Ray Cockrell; Zone 2, No entries; Zone 3, Golden Circle, Jean Gilfus; Zone 4, Greenville, Errol Warren; Zone 5, Northern Wake, David Fritz; Zone 6, South Johnson, No photo.

Top 3 Lt. Gov. No Photos

No. 1, Lt. Gov. Christy Web, Zone 3; No. 2, Jerry Delbridge, Zone 5; No. 3, Kathy Brennon, Zone 1.

Hello NC East!!

It has been a pleasure serving as your District A & A Chairman! I love truly loved seeing what your clubs have been up to!

I have some exciting news! For the 3rd Quarter we had a grand total of 14 clubs submit their A&A reports! That is a record for any quarter for this year. Thank you to each club who submitted their reports. It really has been fun seeing the different ways that clubs get involved.

Last but not least, I have two reminders:

1) The fourth quarter A & A Report will be due on October 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.

Forever an optimist
Shannon Simons
A&A Chair 2019



Shannon Simon, A&A Chair 2018-2019

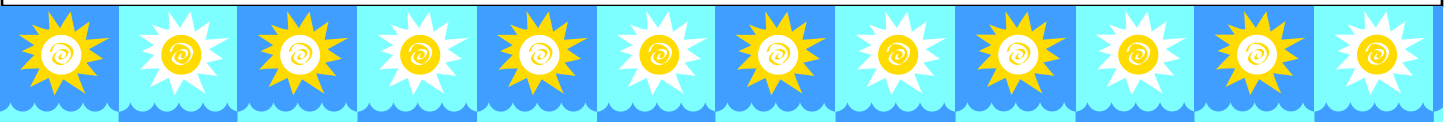
A & A Winners 2nd Quarter



No 1, Golden Circle, Jean Gilfus; No 2, Cape Fear, Ray Cockrell; No 3, Rocky Mount Evening, Donald Wick-
er; No 4, Tie Northern Wayne ,Alan Gill and Greenville, Errol Warren; ; No 5, Roanoke Rapids, Russell
Leake.



No 6, Tie, Wilson Evening, Jimmy Lamm and Henderson, Alan Gil; No 7, Tie Wilson Breakfast and South
Johnston, no photos; No 8, Tie, Washington and North Raleigh, no photos.



Top Clubs In Each Zone



Zones 1, Cape Fear, Ray Cockrell; Zone 2, No entries; Zone 3, Golden Circle, Jean Gilfus; Zone 4, Rocky Mount Evening, Donald Wicker; Zone 5, Northern Wake, Alan Gill; Zone 6, North Raleigh, David Fritz.

Top Lt. Governors 2nd Quarter

Christy

Pamela

Jerry

Webb

Franks

Delbridge

No. 1, Lt. Gov. Christy Webb, Zone 3; No 2, Lt. Gov. Pamela Franks,, Zone 4; No 3, Lt. Governor Jerry Delbridge, Zone 5.



Another bridge across the Ohio closed to traffic foot traffic only.

NC EAST GOLFER WINS THE 2019 OPTIMIST

Haley Quickel represented NC East District at the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships in 2017 and 2018 at PGA National, and again in 2019 at Trump National Doral Miami. This July Haley accomplished a feat that cannot be bested. In addition to winning the Girls 15-18 Year Age Division, Haley also won the Long Drive Contest, and won the award for Low Round of the Day. She won every award for Girls presented by Optimist International at the Championships.

Haley is a rising high school senior (Class of 2020) and has made the trip from her home in Delaware to Greenville Country Club for the past three years to play in NC East District Qualifiers. Haley also has a big NC East connection as her grandparents live in

Callabash.

Haley has committed to play college golf at James Madison University upon graduating from High School.

TRUMP NATIONAL DORAL MIAMI proved to be an excellent venue for the OPTIMIST this year. The five-star resort did not disappoint by providing courses that tested the golfing skills of the 600 plus junior golfers, and in displaying all of its' fabulous facilities for the kids and their families to enjoy.



Looking back to Club House from the "Blue Monster"



Long Drive Contestants from Session 3

Optimist Junior Golf

THE OPTIMIST International Junior Golf Championships



The life-blood of the OPTIMIST is the support from

Optimist Volunteers who come to Florida to work serving young golfers and their families from all over the world. NC East Optimist members are encouraged to join in the fun and help Optimist International continue to make our Tournament the best in the world.



Wilson, NC's Ethan Boyette (far left) is shown here with some of his new friends he met at the Optimist Junior Golf Tournament.

TinaValant.com



TinaValant.com

Both hands on steering wheel, please.



TinaValant.com

Black Bird Optimist John Shepherd (back row far right) is shown here with other Optimist Volunteers in Session 2 .

David Hodges, District Junior Golf Chair.



Awards for 3rd Quarter 2018-2019



\$365 Patch, Raleigh Dinner, Carlton Baird



\$500 Print, Raleigh Dinner, Rich Cash



\$365 Patch and \$500 Print, Henderson, Alan Gill



\$365 Patch, Whiteville, Ray Cockrell



\$500 Print, Whiteville, Ray Cockrell

Collector Plates

David Hodges

Sandy Cyphers



OI Foundation

Dime-A-Day

Raymond Keith

William Olive

Carlton Baird

Richard Cash

Chester Smith

Jimmy Keith

Lynn Capps

Bart Wester

Elmon Barbour

William Alphin

Chadwick Wester

Sara Robbins

Billy and Janis Edgerton

Arthur Honeycutt

David Hodges

Sandy Cyphers

Craig Woodard

As the 2018-19 fiscal year soon draws to a close, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your OI Foundation Representative. It has been my pleasure to serve as your liaison between the District and the OI Foundation. I want to thank everyone that has contributed to the Foundation in any capacity. You may have given to Dime-A-Day, Women's Philanthropy, Childhood Cancer and Wellness, the President's Club, Friends of Today or the William D. Larson Foundation.

Any amount you have given this year has helped tremendously in our efforts to continue the scholarship awards through our Oratorical and Essay contest, broaden the CCC Matching Grant program, assist clubs through the Pass Through program and contribute towards the OI Research Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology and Oncology.

As of July, NC East District has collected \$10,412 in unrestricted donations to the OI Foundation. We still have time to get this number way up. If you have not contributed or if you feel lead to add to your contribution please consider doing so in the next couple of weeks.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve you.

Optimistically yours,

Carol Collier



Carol Collier OI Foundation
Chair 2018-2019



Annual District Dinner at Convention; From left; Wayne Sidelinger, Billy Edgerton, Jan Edgerton, Barbara Durham, Dan Durham, Carey Foster, Joyce Leake, Russell Leake, Angela Iwaniuk, Nancy Stamper, Gov. Linda Shepherd and John Shepherd. Sandy Cyphers and Terry Corle not present when photo was taken.



How Can I Help?

Thank you for loving our children! We are so grateful for all that Optimists do to provide love and support for the children at B&GH.

For over 50 years Optimists have had a significant impact on the thousands of boys that have come through the Optimist Cottage at Boys and Girls Homes. Thank you for continuing to support that effort today. You are still making a difference for our children!

Just as Optimist Clubs support the cottage, we have many Caring Angels just like you who continue to believe in our mission and the positive impact we are having on the lives of children. As I share this message of hope and gratitude across our state, I often get the question, "How can I help?" By becoming a Caring Angel, you can make a difference right now! You can be a voice for vulnerable, hurting children. Here is how:

Come visit and see our program first-hand. Come and learn about B&GH - then share our story.

Schedule a program about B&GH with your Optimist Club and/or Church.

Become a regular contributor - monthly, quarterly or annually.

Make a memorial or honor gift.

Start a memorial endowment.

Donate goods and/or services (Visit my display for a list of needs).

Encourage your company to donate goods and/or services.

Ask your place of employment about matching gift programs.

Make B&GH a beneficiary in your Will.

Consider transferring stock to B&GH.

Anytime! Anywhere! That is when and where we will go to bring your clubs up to date on the positive work happening for children and your Optimist Cottage at B&GH. We will do a formal presentation, an informal talk or just sit and chat with you and your club. To schedule a program, call Ray Cockrell (910/840-7107, ray.cockrell@bghnc.org) or Gary Pender (919/920-9190, gpender@nc.rr.com). We would love the opportunity!



Ray Cockrell, B&G Home

I look forward to visiting with all of you at the beach. Stop by to see my display and say hello.

Yours in Optimism,
Ray



Optimist Cottage B&G Home Lake Waccamaw

Personal Growth & Involvement

PERSONAL GROWTH & INVOLVEMENT

Where oh where can all those N.C. East District Members be who have not submitted their levels of achievement in P.G.I.?

I would personally like to thank the clubs that participated in the P.G.I. Program this past year and submitting their members for recognition.

Clubs in our district need to encourage their members to get involved in the P.G.I. program. There are hundreds of members in our district who could and do need to the recognition for Levels 1 thru 9.

As a member why are you not involved in this special recognition program? As an active club member, you have attended club meetings, participated in projects and served and chaired on committees.

What does it take to be recognized????????? IT'S SIMPLE!!!!!!!

TAKE THE PASSPORT BOOKLET, MARK AN X IN ALL THE AREAS REQUIRED IN THAT SPECIFIC LEVEL AND HAVE IT SIGNED BY CLUB PRESIDENT OR CLUB SECRETARY. MAIL THE INFORMATION TO THE DISTRICT P.G.I. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS WILL BE RECOGNIZED AT A DISTRICT MEETING.

What are you waiting for? Get busy filling out the PASSPORT!

Grow in OPTIMISM.

Sandy Cyphers

N.C. District
P.G.I. Chairman



Gov. Linda Shepherd, 4th from left, on stage at Louisville Convention receiving PGI award No 10



Childhood Cancer Champaign

(New Name) Childhood Health & Wellness

Childhood Health and Wellness: Bella's Hats has been well received by our district. So far 357 hats have been turned in with the Golden Circle Optimist leading the pack! We have a month left in this Optimist year so we can easily hit and go over 400 hats. Hats are beginning



Ronald McDonald Houses are low. Individuals and organizations seem to take "vacations" during the summer and don't give as much as during the Holiday Seasons. When buying groceries remember the families at their home away from home. Cake mixes, brownie mixes, canned frosting, laundry pods, garbage bags, children's books, crayons, colorings books, etc. Please continue to collect the tabs from cans. It is amazing how something so small can help so big!



to be out in stores so be watching when you are out shopping and remember Bella. We evenly divide the hats between Vidant, UNC and Duke.

Support Childhood Health and Wellness by buying several tickets to our Duck Dunk this weekend. FUN!!!!



Sara Robbins, District Chair
2018-2019

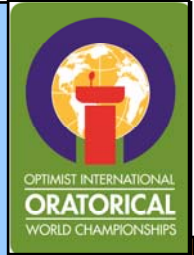
The pantry's at all



Fun time at 3rd Quarterly Board Meeting.

District Oratorical Contest

May 2019



From left: Natalie Saeed, Greenville; 2nd Place Winner \$1500 Scholarship Benjamin McKay, Wake Forest; 1st Place Winner \$2500 Scholarship Sarah Fox, Wake Forest; Carter Lewis, Goldsboro; 3rd Place Winner \$1000 Scholarship Katherine Stanley, Greenville; Zacchaeus Jones, Goldsboro

Mrs. Shepherd,

I wanted to thank you and all of the wonderful people from Optimist International for giving me such an amazing opportunity to compete and travel to St. Louis. We had such a fantastic time at the competi-



tion! It was so awesome to meet the other wonderful competitors from all around the country and world, and it encouraged me to stay optimistic all the more! We also had the amazing opportunity to visit around St. Louis a

little while we were there, and visit the arch and that was so incredible!

Thank you for making all of that possible! I have so

loved getting to participate in the Optimist competition and meet all of you along the way. Thank you for your investment in me and other young people of today!

Thank you again so much, and I wish you all the best!

Sarah



Linda Isbell, District Chair

NORTH CAROLINA EAST DISTRICT
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
3rd QUARTER DISTRICT GATHERING
Wilson, NC - District Board Meeting
Saturday, May 4, 2019

The following members of the Executive Committee were present:

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Linda Shepherd | Governor |
| Russell Leake | Governor-Elect |
| Carey Foster | Immediate Past Governor |
| Jimmy Lamm | Convention Chair & Past Governor |
| Jim Hart | Past Governor |
| Angela Iwaniuk | Secretary/Treasurer |
| Tommy Brigman | Lt. Governor-Zone 2 |
| David Fritz | Lt. Governor-Zone 6 |

Clubs Represented: 17

Zone 1: Wilmington

Zone 2: Laurinburg

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: Chapel Hill, Henderson and Wake Forest,

Zone 6: Raleigh and Raleigh Dinner

Others in attendance were:

Scott Strufe, EMS Director of Nash County

Oratorical Contestants and Families

Total Members Present: 40 Total Guests Present: 25

Governor Linda Shepherd called the meeting to order. Jim Hart gave the invocation and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Governor Shepherd welcomed everyone to the 3rd quarter meeting and recognized all guests, first-timers and past governors.

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. The minutes and financial reports were approved by all members.

The Committee Reports began with Achievements and Awards by Shannon Simons. Twelve clubs participated in the 2nd quarter. The top 10 clubs were recognized.

Ray Cockrell gave members an update on things at The Boys & Girls Home and had an altar call.

Next, Sara Robbins shared information on Childhood Health & Wellness and had an altar call.

Next Russell and Joyce Leake shared information on the upcoming OI Convention in Louisville, KY which will be in July. They encourage all to attend.

Linda Shepherd spoke next on behalf of Brenda Farmer to let everyone know that we will not be having a CCDHH contest this year due to lack of participation and lack of resources at NC East School for the Deaf.

David Hodges shared information on Junior Golf qualifiers in our District and the upcoming Optimist Golf Championship Tournament in Florida and he also had an altar call for Jr. Golf.

At 10 am - Linda Hawley Isbell opened our District Oratorical Contest by welcoming all contestants and their families. She also shared all the rules for the contest before the students began speaking. There were 6 contestants.

After the Oratorical Contest, Sam Toler shared information for JOI clubs and encouraged members to

look for opportunities to start a JOI Club.

New Club Building and Membership was next. Linda Shepherd and Angela Iwaniuk spoke on behalf of Terry Corle who was not present for the meeting. Linda Loot was awarded to those bringing in new members in the 2nd quarter.

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.

PGI and Centennial was next, and since Sandy Cyphers was unable to be with us, Angela Iwaniuk presented an award to Linda Shepherd for attaining Level 10 in PGI. Linda will also be recognized on stage in Louisville. Sandy also provided a Centennial Cake for our lunch on Saturday.

Next, Jimmy Lamm invited members to head to the beach in September for the District's annual convention. He outlined all planned activities and hopes that members will be glad to have it back in NC this year.

Next, Cary Foster was up for Candidate Qualifications. He asked each zone to breakout to elect a new Lt. Governor for next year for each Zone.

Gail Craft, Web Master and Social Media Chair spoke next and she showed videos made by the Wake Forest JOI Club and the Wake Forest Optimist Club which they entered in the REEL Optimism Video Contest.

Governor-Elect Russell Leake shared a few thoughts with the members before Jim Hart introduced our special guest Scott Strufe, EMS Director in Nash County. Our District is recognizing the EMS as our heroes in uniform this quarter and Scott shared a lot of information regarding EMS and their important role in our lives.

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

Directly after the closing, Bill Edgerton led us in a blessing before our lunch. After the luncheon, presentations were made for Essay Oratorical Contests. Trish Verne (for Cheryl Elman) presented 1st place Essay winner, Benjamin McKay with an award for his winning essay, which he read to everyone. Benjamin will also receive a \$2500 scholarship from OI.

Linda Isbell next presented the top 3 Oratorical Contestants with their awards. The first place winner was Sarah Fox who will receive a \$2500 scholarship from OI. Second place winner was Benjamin McKay who will receive a \$1500 scholarship from OI. Third place winner was Katherine Stanley who receive a \$1000 scholarship from OI. Sarah will also be eligible to compete in the regional and world finals in St. Louis, Missouri.

The meeting was adjourned and the contestants were asked to remain for photos.

Respectfully submitted by, Angela Iwaniuk

NC East District Secretary/Treasurer 2018-2019



Angela Iwaniuk District Secretary/
Treasurer 2018-2019

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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