

# North Carolina East Optimist News & Convention Program Combined

Optimists! This has been the craziest year of my life. I started the year with great expectations, calling on my friends to keep me on the right path, and asking for new friends to challenge me along the way. We were beginning at Lake Waccamaw and were to end at Wilmington. Sounds like a wonderful ride to me. I was having to learn fast because this train was moving in a hurry and I was having to work hard to keep up. Then we took a familiar road to Greenville and I felt right at home. This was home to me because I had spent 4 years at East Carolina, gotten married to the Love Of My Life, and felt like I was ready to take on the world. Then after 44 years in education I felt like it was time for me to share what I had learned with others. Two roads diverged in a yellow wood and I must have taken the wrong one.

Somewhere around the middle of March we were challenged with a virus that we were not ready for and did not know how to handle. Instead, we were

expected to do the same programs but needed to find another way in order to achieve the same results. We had trouble making the adjustments that were necessary for all of us to get the job done. We felt like that everything would eventually come back to familiar territory, but it did not. Then because we are Optimists, we started to look for other ways to get the job done without putting the health of anyone in jeopardy. We started meeting in small groups, keeping 6 feet apart, staying at home, and using new technology that some of us really had problems with. We even started using some new words that some of us had never heard. Now we



are all looking for somewhere where we can Zoom! We are Optimists, so come join us, because we have found a way to meet the needs of our youth and carry us into the future.

Zoom! Zoom! Zoom!

Russell Leake,  
Governor, NCE

## Candidate Qualifications

As reported in the 3rd quarter bulletin, Pamela Franks, current President of the Optimist Club of Greenville and Lieutenant Governor of Zone #4, has submitted her name as a candidate for Governor-Elect for the 2020-2021 Optimist year. Pam's letter of interest was submitted to the Executive Board at the 2nd quarter District Meet-



Pamela Franks  
Gov. Elect Candidate  
2020-2021

ing in February, and she was unanimously endorsed by board members present. Pam's contagious enthusiasm, her youthful energy, and her leadership skills assure that she is an ideal candidate for this position! Nominations will be accepted from the floor at our 4th quarter virtual meeting followed by an official vote to select our Governor-Elect.

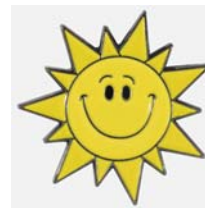
Linda Shepherd,

District Qualifications  
Chair



## District New Club Building

# CHOOSE OPTIMISM!



## 2020-2021 Officers and Chairs



Angela Iwaniuk  
Governor



Carol Collier  
Secretary



Wayne Sidelinger  
Treasurer

**Governor - Angela Iwaniuk**

**Secretary - Carol Collier**

**Treasurer - Wayne Sidelinger**

**Governor Elect - Pam Franks**

**Sergeant-At-Arms - Jimmy Lamm**

**Lt. Governor Zone 1 - Ray Cockrell**

**Lt. Governor Zone 2 - Tommy Brigman**

**Lt. Governor Zone 3 - Gary Pender**

**Lt. Governor Zone 4 - Joyce Leake**

**Lt. Governor Zone 5 - Cheryl Elman**

**Lt. Governor Zone 6 -**

## DISTRICT CHAIRS

**Achievement & Awards**

**Dan Durham**

**Activities**

**Susan Woche**

**Boys & Girls Home**

**Gary Pender**

**Boys & Girls Home Campus**

**Ray Cockrell**

**Bulletin Editor**

**Wayne Sidelinger**

**Candidate Qualifications**

**Russell Leake**

<b>Childhood Health &amp; Wellness</b>	<b>Sara Robbins &amp; Trish Verne</b>
<b>Club Fitness Advisor</b>	<b>Pam Franks</b>
<b>CCDHH</b>	<b>Bill Edgerton</b>
<b>District Conference/Conv</b>	<b>Carey Foster</b>
<b>Essay Contest</b>	<b>Sandy Cyphers</b>
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Al Ludlum</b>
<b>International Convention</b>	<b>Linda Shepherd</b>
<b>JOI Clubs</b>	<b>Sam Toler</b>
<b>Junior Golf</b>	<b>David Hodges</b>
<b>Leadership Development &amp; Sergeant-at- Arms</b>	<b>Jimmy Lamm</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Brenda Farmer</b>
<b>Marketing/Social Media/ Webmaster/Public Relations</b>	<b>Gail Craft</b>
<b>New Club Building</b>	<b>Linda Shepherd</b>
<b>OI Foundation</b>	<b>Bill Edgerton</b>
<b>Oratorical Contest</b>	<b>Lou Anna Hardee</b>
<b>Personal Growth Involvement/ Professional Development Plan</b>	<b>Linda Hawley Isbell</b>

## **DISTRICT MEETINGS**

**October 23 & 24<sup>th</sup> 2020– Wilson**

**February 12 & 13 2021– Fayetteville**

**May 7 & 8 2021– Cary**

**Sept 17 & 18 2021 - Wilmington**

# North Carolina East 2019-2020 Officers



2019-2020  
North Carolina  
East District  
Governor  
**Russell Leake**

2019-2020  
North Carolina  
East District  
Secretary  
**Joyce Leake**

2019-2020  
North Carolina  
East District  
Treasurer  
**Dan Durham**

- |                                |                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Governor</b>                | <b>Russell Leake</b>  |
| <b>Governor Assistant</b>      | <b>LouAnna Hardee</b> |
| <b>Immediate Past Governor</b> | <b>Linda Shepherd</b> |
| <b>Past Governor</b>           | <b>Carey Foster</b>   |
| <b>Secretary</b>               | <b>Joyce Leake</b>    |
| <b>Treasurer</b>               | <b>Dan Durham</b>     |

- Lt. Governors 2019-2020**
- Zone 1 Kathy Brennan**
  - Zone 2 Tommy Brigman**
  - Zone 3 Linda H. Isbell**
  - Zone 4 Pamela Franks**
  - Zone 5 Jerry Delbridge**
  - Zone 6 Stan Pickett**

**District Chairpersons 2019-2020**

**Achievement & Awards**

**Terry Corle**

**Boys & Girls Home**

**Gary Pender**

**Boys & Girls Home Campus Contact**

**Ray Cockrell**

**Bulletin Editor**

**Wayne Sidelinger**

**Candidate Qualifications**

**Linda Shepherd**

**CCDHH**

**Billy Edgerton**

**Childhood Health & Wellness**

**Trish Verne**

**Club Fitness**

**Jim Hart**

**Essay Contest**

**Carol Collier**

**Finance**

**Carey Foster**

**JOI Youth Clubs**

**Sam Toler**

**Jr. World Golf**

**David Hodges**

**Leadership Development**

**LouAnna Hardee**

**Marketing, Social Media, Web Master & PR**

**Gail Craft**

**Membership**

**Auston Pusey**

**New Club Building**

**Russell Leake**

**O. I. Foundation**

**Errol Warren**

**On Site Registrar**

**Linda Watson**

**Oratorical Contest**

**Joyce Leake**

**PGI**

**Sara Robbin**

# Marketing, Social Media & Webmaster

Hi NC East!



I hope that everyone is safe and well during this crazy time.

I really miss having fundraisers, creating comfort kits for the kids in CPS, feeding the families at Ronald McDonald house, and taking kids from the Boys & Girls club to activities like bowling and baseball games. Our club was very active helping children.

We've all been put on hold. Yet the kids still need food and fun. Our club is still supporting food drives and food distributions in our area.

Our 4th quarter convention will be done through Zoom this year. We had to cancel our 3rd quarter district meeting because of the pandemic.

By using Zoom we can all stay home (in our PJ's) and stay safe. All of our presentations will be done via video. Hopefully, you'll be able to join us live. The whole meeting will be recorded and availa-

ble online after it is posted. We will post this information on our website. [www.optimistnceast.org](http://www.optimistnceast.org)

We will continue to update the District via emails. The emails come from [communications@optimistnceast.org](mailto:communications@optimistnceast.org). Please make sure that they are not going into your spam folder - or promotions folder. (Google)

Please continue to support the children in our great district of NC East!

Thank you for all you do.

Gail :)



Gail Craft District Chair.

# Club Fitness

## Club Fitness Report

Despite a 6-month hiatus due to COVID19, the NC East District is surviving, and many clubs have been able to continue with several of their community projects. Several clubs have learned how to meet virtually through Zoom to keep members connected and involved. A few clubs have resumed meeting in person by following the proper guidelines.

As of September, our District has lost a net of 58 members and unfortunately, all Zones are in the negative for membership. However, we do have 6 clubs who are showing positive membership and may be eligible to be an Honor Club. The clubs who are positive in membership at this point are Wilmington with plus 1, Laurinburg with plus 1, Goldsboro with plus 3, Roanoke Rapids with plus 3, Wake Forest with plus 1, and Roxboro with plus 3. We congratulate these clubs and believe it or not, we have gained a few new members during our Pandemic lockdown!

We still have a few days to work on membership recruitment, and there may possibly be a few other clubs who end this Optimist year with plus in membership.

Most of our 35 clubs are current on paying their dues. The few clubs who are late are being notified to make payments before September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Unfortunately, only about 35% of our clubs have reported their new officers for 2020-2021 and there will be emails going out to the clubs who have not reported yet, to remind them to input the names of the club's new officers.

Angela Iwaniuk  
Club Fitness Chair 2019-2020

ZONE	Lt. Governor	# Clubs In Zone	Net Member Gain/Loss	New Clubs Bullt	Clubs Disbanded	Pote
Zone 1	Kathy Brennan	5	-7	0	0	Wilr
Zone 2	Tommy Brigman	4	-3	0	0	Lau
Zone 3	Linda H. Isbell	7	-10	0	0	Go
Zone 4	Pam Franks	8	-13	0	0	Ro
Zone 5	Jerry Delbridge	6	-7	0	0	Wak Rox
Zone 6	Stan Pickett	5	-18	0	1	
<b>Total</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>-58</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	



Angela Iwaniuk, District  
Club Fitness Chair



A&A Club Winners 3rd Quarter 2019-2020



A & A Reports

Clubs that submitted reports in the order they were received by the chair

**Congratulations**

**Greenville**

**Roanoke Rapids**

**Henderson**

**Washington**



Terry Corle District A&A Chair 2019-

A&A Club Winners 3rd Quarter 2019-2020

# CCDHH



Congratulations to the top two winners in the District CCDHH Contest. Also a big congratulations and thank you to our NC East District CCDHH chairman, Bill Edgerton who worked very hard to have a contest this year. And this year is probably the most difficult year ever COVID19 and school closings. Pictured right to left, 2nd place winner Landon Carter of Seven Springs, 1st place winner Anyia Williams of LaGrange. Anyia will receive a \$2500 scholarship from OI Foundation and a plaque from NC East District.

Illy Edgerton

District CCDHHChair



# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Hello Optimists,

Year 2020 will be a year that none of us will forget and I hope each of you are doing well and continue to stay safe!

I feel as though we are enduring a “**virtual hurricane**” as we continue our daily activities in the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. It seems we are limited to what we can do safely on a daily basis as activities can only be planned for a few days out and remembering to wear masks on trips to the grocery, pharmacy, and other essential sites proves to be a challenge. Never did we ever expect a time such as we are having and especially not being able to have face-to-face contact with family, friends, and co-workers.

As we embark on the first NC East Virtual Convention, we want to ensure an informative and entertaining convention. We also realize that we are not masters of the ZOOM program but will do our best and hope you participate. The virtual event will be recorded and those who register, will have a link to watch later. So, I encourage and hope everyone will register for the **first** Virtual Convention where you can attend from the comfort of your home.

As Chair of Leadership Development—

- An informative session on “**The Need for Succession Leadership: Identifying and Fostering Future Leaders**” is planned for the upcoming convention
- **Club Pride Report**—Club Presidents and Secretaries, please remember to file your report due September 30: Clubs have until September 30, 2020 to submit for awards purposes, and have until **October 10, 2020 11:59 PM** to submit online per the Optimist International Website.

Needless to say, Governor Russell Leake has had

a year like no other NC East Governor. With deadlines for reports delayed as well as cancellations of the third and fourth quarter face-to-face meetings, he has maintained his position the very best that he could. There is still time to recruit members and new clubs have been built in the last two weeks of past Septembers. Let’s all rally to end the year as strong as possible as we are all in this together.

In closing, I miss seeing all my Optimist Friends and hope to see you when the pandemic subsides. Remember--“**Serving Youth Today—Grows Optimists for Tomorrow!**”

Have a wonderful Fall!

Yours in Optimism,

*Lou Anna*

**Lou Anna Hardee, 2019-20 Leadership Development Chair**

and Assistant Governor

**NC East District, Optimist International**

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

*cell: 252-341-3565*



## Ricky Creech named President/CEO for B&GH

Lake Waccamaw, NC – Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina Board Chairman David Wyatt has announced Ricky Creech as the new President and CEO for the nonprofit organization.

“I am very pleased and excited to announce our board selected Ricky as our new president,” said Wyatt.

“He comes to us after serving as president and CEO at Southstone Behavioral



Health Center in Virginia. He had previously served as president and CEO of Buckhorn Children & Family Services. His experiences with those organizations will help him guide B&GH into the future.”

Creech is excited about the position.

“I am humbled by the honor to serve the Boys & Girls Homes of NC as their next president and CEO,” he said. “Following the long legacy of stellar executive leadership will afford me the opportunity to stand on the shoulders of giants, such as Gary Faircloth, and peer into the future and write the next chapter that will build on the rich history of changing the lives of those who enter our doors.”

Creech will officially start on Oct. 1. Retiring President Gary Faircloth will continue in an advisory role until the end of October.

“I am looking forward to working with Ricky,” said Faircloth. “I will do everything I can to achieve a smooth transition.”

Creech is already preparing for the next steps. “While



celebrating the past, we must do so with a vision of the future that will allow us to expand services and programs, continue to strengthen and increase our business partners and donors, utilize the gift of volunteer service, and leverage the wisdom and skills of an incredible Board of Directors and Staff Team with the focus of maximizing our greatest potential in living out the mission, vision and values of B&GH for many more years to come.”

A graduate of the South Carolina Fire Academy, he received his Associate of Arts degree from North Greenville University and his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Furman University. He holds a Certificate in Theology and a Masters in Social Work from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary as well as a number of certifications ranging from abuse and neglect to disaster planning.

An ordained minister, Creech was the executive director for the District of Columbia Baptist Convention and the executive director of the Birmingham Baptist Association among other church leadership positions.

Creech and his wife Donna are currently residents of Ringgold, Va., and have three daughters.



Ray Cockrell, B&G Home

Ray

# In Memoriam

A memorial to our members who have passed away during the past year.

Carl R. Currie  
Wilmington – Cape Fear

Russell Priest Jr.  
Elizabethtown

Bill Riggins  
Laurinburg

Cecil McLamb  
Wilson Evening

William A. Knight  
Rocky Mount Breakfast

Cedric G. Roberts  
Greenville

Lynette Ware  
Washington

Harrison W. Phelps  
Washington

Eugene H. Darrow  
Raleigh

C. Douglas Holland  
Raleigh

William T. Vick  
Raleigh

# Childhood Health & Wellness



It has been six months that I have been sewing masks. The daily dozen that are put on the gate are gone in a matter of hours. We thought there would be no need for them by now but that is not the case. I hope you and yours are doing well. We look forward to getting back to normal activities. Take care.

Trish and Bob



## Junior Optimist International

Greetings Optimists! Recent happenings in the world have lead to much consternation among all of us, Optimists included. Now is the time for us to be leaders, and let our optimism come to the forefront. I am pleased



to announce that along those lines, Pamela Franks and the Greenville club

have been busy forming a new JOI club from their area. The yet to be named

group shares a common

bond in that they attend church together and share

a desire to assist others within their community. Super!! Way to go Pam!

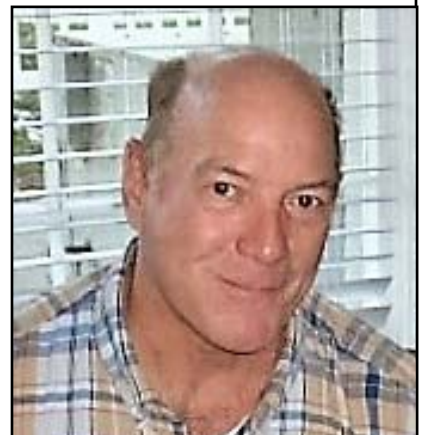
If you and your club would like to follow those same foot prints, let me know

so I can help you get started. Email me at [stoler6@embarqmail.com](mailto:stoler6@embarqmail.com) or text

or call at 252-904-8602 so we can get started on truly growing the Optimist

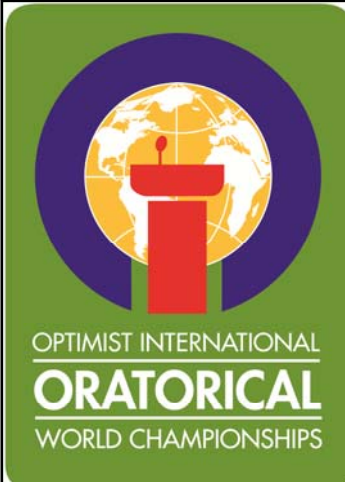
brand!

Sam Toler



Sam Toler, District JOI Chair

# District Oratorical Contest



COVID-19 could not stop the 26 students from Zones 3, 4, and 5 who chose to participate in our Oratorical Contest this year. Several clubs were able to have face to face contests, but the district contest was on Zoom. Cheryl Elman was our facilitator and did an amazing job. All six candidates did an awesome job and represented their zones well.

The winners were as follows:

Alyssa Febres – first place – \$2500 scholarship – sponsored by Northern Wake

Anihya Taylor – second place – \$1500 scholarship – sponsored by Golden Circle

Eli Mayfield – third place – \$1000 scholarship – sponsored by Wake Forest Optimist



2nd Place Anihya Taylor  
Golden Circle Optimist



3rd Place Eli Mayfield Wake  
Forest Optimist



First Place Alyssa Febres, Northern Wake Optimist.



Joyce Leake District Oratorical  
Chair 2019-2020

**North Carolina East District - Optimist International  
Financial Report - 10/01/2019 - 2/29/20**

4/14/2020

<b>Receipts</b>							
<b>Acct #</b>	<b>Account Name</b>	<b>1st Qtr</b>	<b>2nd Qtr</b>	<b>3rd Qtr</b>	<b>4th Qtr</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget</b>
100	Dues [H]	\$3,902.50	\$6,931.00			\$10,833.50	\$13,140.00
110	Allotment from OI [G]		\$301.00			\$301.00	\$0.00
120	District Convention [A]						\$711.00
130	District Meetings [B]	\$970.00	\$2,078.00			\$3,048.00	\$9,848.50
145	Jr. Golf [D]						\$3,407.00
146	OI Foundation - Auction						\$10,079.80
147	B&G Homes - Auction						\$82.00
150	Miscellaneous Receipts	\$101.00				\$101.00	\$0.00
155	Linda Loot						\$500.00
160	Merchandise Sales						\$500.00
170	Donations						\$400.00
190	Other - fifty fifty						\$0.00
	<b>Subtotal Receipts</b>	<b>\$4,973.50</b>	<b>\$9,310.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$14,283.50</b>	<b>\$38,668.30</b>
650	Transfer from Prev Adm						\$12,338.05
	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$4,973.50</b>	<b>\$9,310.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$14,283.50</b>	<b>\$51,006.35</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>							
<b>Acct #</b>	<b>Account Name</b>	<b>1st Qtr</b>	<b>2nd Qtr</b>	<b>3rd Qtr</b>	<b>4th Qtr</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget</b>
200	Governor	\$271.68	\$524.88			\$796.56	\$2,000.00
210	Lt. Governors [F]	\$151.28	\$221.84			\$373.12	\$4,414.00
250	Secretary/Treasurer						\$600.00
255	Governor Elect						\$1,000.00
260	Immediate Past Governor(0)						\$0.00
261	Past Governor (0)						\$150.00
262	B&G Chair Travel to G&B Home						\$150.00
263	NCB ChairPerson						\$0.00
265	Committ Chairs (N)		\$60.00			\$60.00	\$7,203.04
300	Clerical / Secretary						\$25.00
301	Postage						\$30.00
320	Office Supplies						\$60.00
330	District Bulletin						\$650.00
331	Web Page						\$200.00
340	District Directory	\$554.74				\$554.74	\$575.00
350	District Committee (A)						\$575.00
360	District Meeting ( B )	\$537.23	\$1,475.96			\$2,013.19	\$6,615.48
361	Lt Governor Conference						\$400.00
370	Oratorial						\$1,200.00
371	CCDHH (K)						\$200.00
380	Jr. Golf (d)						\$10,000.00
390	Essay						\$150.00
400	Badges & Pins/Officers	\$298.40				\$298.40	\$800.00
410	Awards, Current Year (J)						\$200.00
411	Awards Past Year (J)		\$986.81			\$986.81	\$1,000.00
420	Audit/Bank Charges	\$7.50				\$7.50	\$0.00
421	Audit/Review/990						\$100.00
430	Merchandise Expenses						\$430.00
441	Membership Promotion						\$600.00
442	A&A Awards						\$100.00
443	Personal Growth						\$25.00
444	Childhood Health Wellness CCC						\$25.00
445	New Club Building						\$100.00
446	Leadership Development						\$400.00
447	OI Foundation		\$21.31			\$21.31	\$500.00

Report of Budget



**North Carolina East District - Optimist International**  
**1st Quarter Financial Report - 10/01/2019 - 2/29/20**

4/15/2020

<b>International Convention</b>							
500	Governor						\$1,000.00
510	Lt. Gov. Elect Max \$300. For 3						\$900.00
540	Secretary/Treasurer						\$1,000.00
550	Governor Designate						\$1,000.00
551	Secretary/Treasurer Designate						\$1,000.00
560	District OI Conv Meal						\$500.00
	<b>Total International Convention</b>						<b>\$5,400.00</b>
	<b>Subtotal Disbursements</b>	<b>\$2,076.94</b>	<b>\$3,290.80</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,076.94</b>	<b>\$51,005.52</b>
460	Transfer to next Administration Above line includes escrows. See escrow breakdown below.						\$0.83
599	<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$2,076.94</b>	<b>\$3,290.80</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,076.94</b>	<b>\$51,006.35</b>
<b>Reconciliation</b>							
	<b>YTD Financial Report Summary</b>						<b>Total</b>
	Receipts (Includes Transfers from 2018-19)	\$12,338.05				\$4,973.00	\$12,338.05
	Disbursements						
	Net	\$12,338.05					
	<b>1st Qtr Bank Account Summary</b>	<b>BB&amp;T</b>	<b>Convention</b>	<b>Jr Golf</b>			
	Beginning Balance	\$12,338.05					
	Deposits & Other Credits	\$4,973.50					
	Expenditures /Withdrawals	\$1,886.05					
	Ending Account Balance	\$15,425.50	\$0.00	\$0.00			
	Total Funds	\$15,425.50	\$0.00	\$0.00			
<b>RECONCILLATION OF ESCROW FUNDS</b>							
	<b>DISTRICT CONVENTION</b>		<b>Current Year</b>				
			<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>				
	Start-of-Year Balance	\$ 2,205.50					
	Receipts 10-1-19 through 9-30-20						
	Disbursements 10-1-19 through 9-30-20						
	End-of-Year Balance						
	<b>JUNIOR GOLF</b>						
	Start-of-Year Balance	\$79.80					
	Receipts 10-1-19 through 9-30-20	\$0.00					
	Disbursements 10-1-19 through 9-30-20						
	End-of-Year Balance	\$79.80					
	<b>CCDHH</b>						
	Start-of-Year Balance	\$0.00					
	Receipts 10-1-19 through 9-30-20	\$0.00					
	Disbursements 10-1-19 through 9-30-20	\$0.00					
	End-of-Year Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00				

# THE OPTIMIST CREED

## Promise Yourself

- To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
- To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
- To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
- To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
- To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.
- To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
- To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
- To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.
- To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
- To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

NCE Bulletin

Issued Quarterly: Nov., Feb., May., Sept.

Published by Wayne Sidelinger

Bulletin Editor.

1104 Windemere Dr. NW,

Wilson, NC 27896

Cell 252-290-2858

Email: [wsidelinger@nc.rr.com](mailto:wsidelinger@nc.rr.com)

NCE Web

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

OI Web

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

