

Optimist Mission/Vision – By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in kids.



**Roy Collins**  
CCOC President

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Greetings Fellow Optimist:

First let me wish all fathers a happy belated Father's Day!

Now, I would like for us to reflect upon our theme for this year "Friends of Youth". The Yes Program at Rawlinson Road Middle School was a big success and now we must take it to the next level. Why? If we believe that the children are our future, then we must take the time to invest in our future.

I want to share some disturbing facts about the current educational system in South Carolina.

Fact: SC graduation rate is the 3<sup>rd</sup> worst in the nation. According to the latest Diplomas Count report (June 2010) 55% of South Carolina students graduate on time up from 54% in 2004 the worst in the nation. The national average is 71%. Our surrounding neighboring state's graduation rates are much better, North Carolina- 72.8%, Virginia- 72.7%, Georgia- 58.8% (Charlotte Observer May, 2011).

Fact: South Carolina Kids Count (2010) released a report stating; South Carolina ranked in the bottom ten states on fourth grade reading for the past two decades! Approximately 60 to 70 percent of students in South Carolina are not reaching the national goal of reading proficiency by grade four. Fifty-six percent of blacks score below Basic compared to white students. This trend is also reflected in the 2010 Annual District Report Card. According to the report for District 3, the number of non-white students who are below the basic reading level is 30.4%. The percentage of students in the fourth grade who are below the normal reading scale is 23.8 and it only gets worse by the eighth grade (30.3%).

I know that it will take more than the YES Program to turn this negative trend around but we have to start somewhere and hope it will spread. I heard someone say "do you want our youth to steal the cars or sell the cars".

Yours in optimism,  
Roy

### 2010-2011 OFFICERS

Roy Collins  
*President*

Lonnie Harvey, Jr.  
*Past President*

Belinda Nix  
*External Vice President*

Sharon Floyd  
*Internal Vice President*

Charlie Robinson  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thomas Barr

Rachel Cuff

Susie B. Hinton

Darlene Ledwell

Karen Owens

Ernest L. Watson





Getting the word out about the Central City Optimist Club at the 2011 AKA Business Expo.

Charles Z, Robinson (left), Roy Collins, Jr. (right)

*photo courtesy of Lonnie Harvey*

*photos courtesy of Bob Parker*

## RELAY FOR LIFE



## YES PROGRAM



# COMMUNITY NEWS

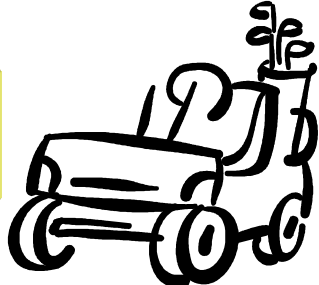
# Upcoming Projects/Events

New Horizon Homecare & Staffing of Rock Hill, SC will be having an event for seniors entitled, "Senior Day in the Park". This event will take place at Cherry Park on Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am-3:00pm. This event is free for seniors.



**ROLLING IN ROCK HILL**  
(more details to follow)

**ANNUAL CENTRAL CITY GOLF TOURNAMENT WILL BE HELD SEPTMEBER 2011**



## Happy Birthday!

**A FATHER MEANS...**  
So many things...An understanding heart, A source of strength and of support right from the very start. A constant readiness to help In a kind and thoughtful way. With encouragement and forgiveness No matter what comes your way. A special generosity and always affection, too A Father means so many things When he's a man like you...  
- Unknown author

- July 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
*Gladys Robinson*
- July 25<sup>th</sup>**  
*Rev W.T. Massey*



## Happy Anniversary!

- July 5<sup>th</sup>**  
*Darlene & David Ledwell*
- July 7<sup>th</sup>**  
*Charlie & Gladys Robinson*



## Charlie Robinson's Information Corner

The fiscal year ends **June 30<sup>th</sup>** and any balance on yearly dues should be mail to Club P.O. Box 446 Rock Hill, SC 29732 or brought to the July Club Meeting.

Also, if you made a pledge to the Scholarship Fund, those funds are currently due.

If you have any questions about the status of your dues, please call Charlie at 327-4547 or e-mail, [charliem.robinson@yahoo.com](mailto:charliem.robinson@yahoo.com)

Thank you in advance for your support.

# MEETING DATES

**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.*



**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
7-2-11	9:00am	St Mary's
8-6-11	9:00am	St Mary's
9-3-11	9:00am	St Mary's
10-1-11	12:00pm (noon)	Club Luncheon (St Mary's)

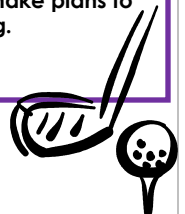


**BOARD MEETINGS**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
7-28-11	7:00pm	Bannon Hall
8-25-11	7:00pm	Bannon Hall
9-22-11	7:00pm	Bannon Hall

**CCOC GOLF COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Central City Optimist Club Golf Committee will be meeting at 6pm, July 19<sup>th</sup> at Bannon Hall. Please make plans to attend this important meeting.  
**Chair:** Leonard Adams



**CENTRAL CITY OPTIMIST CLUB**  
P.O. BOX 446  
ROCK HILL, SC 29731

