



CHAPEL HILL NEWS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Exceptional Children</i>	1
<i>Meeting Notes</i>	1
<i>UNC Children's Hospital</i>	2
<i>Announcements</i>	2
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	2
<i>NC East District Meeting</i>	2

**Meeting Notes**

**Program**

**Karen Carr**

Durham Public Schools

**Thanks**

To **Trish & Phyllis** who shared humor and insights this evening:

**Life Membership Game**

No one won the game this evening. The balance carries forward to our next game.

**Exceptional Children**

We welcomed our guest speaker, Karen Carr, EC Parent Liaison, Programs for Exceptional Children, for Durham Public Schools (DPS). Karen first gave us an education on the many acronyms that are used in the programs that serve exceptional children in the schools. It is a massive list and easily understandable how this can be confusing and overwhelming for parents. Parents are already dealing with the challenges inherent with their own children who have special needs as a result of their disability. Karen helps the parents understand the processes for identifying the eligible disability categories and provides them with information about the assistance that is available.

The mission of the Exceptional Children Division of the NC Department of Public Instruction, Exceptional Children Division, is to assure that students with disabilities develop mentally, physically, emotionally, and vocationally through the provision of an appropriate individualized education in the least restrictive environment. While the state has over 100 school systems with programs for exceptional children, Durham is one of only a few that provide a parent liaison on staff.



**Karen Carr**

The program at DPS helps guide parents in their role as advocate for their child. This process includes the development of an Individualized Education Program to plan what each child needs and helps set goals for the child. Karen is well qualified since she is the parent of an exceptional child who recently graduated from college.

The program needs volunteers who can act as a 'surrogate' parent when there is no parent to provide that assistance to a child. The surrogate is responsible only for matters that affect the education of the assigned child. These volunteers cannot be employees of any state or local government agency or involved in the education or care of the child.

Numerous resources are available to help children with special needs. Arranging workshops for parents and making them aware of what help is available is a critical element of Karen's role. Increasing active participation, education and awareness is key to the success of the Exceptional Children's Program.

For more information check the web site:

[www.dpi.state.nc.us/ec/](http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/ec/)

## ***Surgery Dolls, Doctor Kits, Crafts and Games Delivered to UNC Children’s Hospital***

Beth, Trish, and Bob visited UNC Children’s Hospital this week to deliver the surgery dolls we made for the children, along with doctor kits, crafts and games. We also delivered our donations of \$1000 for Pediatric Hematology and Oncology and \$1000 for the Pediatric Snack Fund. Dr. Gold expressed appreciation for all that we are doing and indicated how critical our support is for the children.



Making the dolls and gathering these gifts has been a blessing to us. We welcome the opportunity for our club to work for the children of our community. We are exploring other ways we can help.



### **Thanks, Jerry**



We had our new golf shirts to wear for the Cardinal Track race on October 2nd thanks to Jerry. The shirts are very professionally done with the purple embroidered logo of our club on bright yellow shirts. We looked great in our new shirts and hopefully will attract more attention for our club with them.



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



- Invoices for 1st quarter dues were distributed to those present this evening and will be mailed to others.
- The 1st quarter meeting for Zone 6 is in Raleigh, on October 21st at 6 pm at Perkins Restaurant . We will host the 2nd quarter meeting in Chapel Hill on February 9th.
- Jim indicated that we will have 4 to 5 Optimists helping with the Carrboro Halloween event, October 29th at the town square.
- Plan to attend the Board Meeting next week, October 20th, for the final report on last year and the proposed budget for the coming year.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

October 20	Board meeting
October 27	Program: Terry Smith, M-Powerhouse Youth Symposium
October 29	Carrboro Halloween event at town square
November 3	Program: Lori Harris, President of Port City Optimist Club
November 10	Program: Gene Dodd, North Raleigh Optimist Club
November 17	Board Meeting
November 20	M-Powerhouse Symposium at Orange High School
November 24	No Meeting
November 25	Cardinal Track Club Race * Gallop & Gorge * 7 am
November 28	Ronald McDonald House Sunday Dinner 4 pm Soup & Salad

### **1st Quarter NC East District Meeting:**

**October 29-30, 2010**

**Meeting Location:  
Atlantic Beach, NC**

**Sheraton  
Atlantic Beach  
Oceanfront Hotel  
2717 Fort Macon Road  
Atlantic Beach,  
NC 28512**

**(252) 240-1155**

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