



**Bennett
Clayton
FOUNDATION**

B C F

For Children with OI

news

from Bennett and his family

volume 1 issue 2

'07 Charity Golf Event—Another Success!



Bennett hits first ball of 2007 tournament

A record number of golfers played in the fourth annual Charity Golf Event on August 10th at Shoreland Country Club. 138 golfers watched Bennett hit the first ball from the teebox, followed by a day of golf and fun. Other friends and family joined golfers for the silent auction, prizes, children's games and hog roast & sweet corn dinner. The theme of "It's 5:00 Somewhere!" was a hit with special Jimmy Buffett and Margaritaville® prizes. Congratulations to Dave Lurth, our Jimmy Buffett look-alike. Honorable mention goes to Joel Starks and Chuck Keller! Best decorated cart



Bennett and Kaitlyn with "parrot head" Chuck Keller

belonged to Nancy Rydland and Rob Ryman. Golfers and volunteers came from as far away as Colorado and Illinois. Bennett and his cousins raised \$148.50 selling lemonade. Thanks to the many volunteers, sponsors, golfers, Shoreland staff and everyone who attended or helped in many ways, the Bennett Clayton Foundation raised \$18,000 with this event. ■

Concert to Benefit BCF Scholarship Fund

St. Peter's vocal jazz group, The Riverlights, will present a concert on Sunday evening, December 9th in Union Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m. Proceeds from the concert will go to the Bennett Clayton Foundation Scholarship Fund. (See related article.) In past years The Riverlights have presented concerts which benefited St. Peter Area Hospice, Relay for Life, flood & tornado relief, The Arts Center, The Red Cross, as well as several other local organizations and charities. This year the

group has offered to support BCF. Two members of the group are employed by Scholarship America and suggested the partnership between The Riverlights and BCF.

The evening's program will include secular, sacred and Christmas music to begin the holiday season. The concert is open to the public; donations may be made at the door. Please join us! ■

Our Sponsors



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In the Beginning...

When the DeBlieck and Olson families first learned Bennett had OI, we quickly decided we had much to learn, much to do and that there were many more people who needed our help. The first golf event was born and we went to work. But we didn't do it alone. Many people stepped forward as sponsors. In the Spring issue of this newsletter, we introduced you to the five "Birdie Sponsors" who generously supported us in the beginning and continue to do so. In this issue, we want to recognize our "Par Sponsors". In future issues of this newsletter, we will acknowledge sponsors at other levels.

As Par Sponsors, the Nicollet County Bank and Iris Consulting Corporation have been with us from the beginning. Others who have supported us at the Par Sponsorship level, as well, include Premier Landscaping & Design, Homegrown Insulation Systems, Mankato Clinic @ Daniels Health Center, Gluek Brewing Company, Ryan Johnson Construction, John & Leslie Frank and Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que.

We sincerely appreciate all of our sponsors at every level. ■

Personal Health Grant Deadline

The semi-annual deadline for The Bennett Clayton Foundation Personal Health Grant is quickly approaching. Deadlines of June 30th and December 31st have been established for this grant. Applications are invited for consideration prior to the next deadline, December 31, 2007. Please see our website for more information and an application form - www.BCFforOI.org ■

Bennett Clayton Foundation Scholarship

The Bennett Clayton Foundation has entered into an agreement with Scholarship America to create and support a scholarship for Minnesota high school students with OI in their pursuit of a post-secondary degree. Criteria has been developed by the Foundation and will be managed by Scholarship America. Final arrangements will be in place by early 2008 with applications being considered for students entering secondary institutions that fall. Watch for details and application materials on our website, www.BCFforOI.org. ■

Bennett...



...is a kindergartener in Mrs. Koppelman's class at South Elementary



...went duck hunting with his Dad and Grandpa



...rode in an antique tractor parade with neighbor, Paul Michels at LeSueur Pioneer Power.

News from OIF

Linked Clinical Research Centers Open Their Doors This Winter

The OI Foundation (Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation) and Children's Brittle Bone Foundation are thrilled to announce the opening of the Linked Clinical Research Centers (LCRC). First year funding of \$550,000 is allocated by the two Foundations.

The LCRC will ensure that people with OI throughout the U.S. have access to the highest standard of care. The centers will define the standard of medical and surgical care for people with OI, and advance the standard of care and improve treatment through clinical research.

The three major goals of the LCRC are:

- Define the natural history of OI from birth to old age so doctors will be able to identify and treat the effects of OI over the lifespan;
- Recruit families for participation in natural history and other studies through the Centers; and
- Integrate research to find treatments and a cure for OI into routine care at the Centers.

In January, 2008, three or four centers will be selected to start the project. Additional centers will be added each year. Each Center will be linked to a central database containing clinical and genetic information.

The OI Foundation is grateful for the generous gifts already received from the William G. McGowan Charitable Fund and the Bennett Clayton Foundation for Children with OI. ■

The mission of the Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation is to improve the quality of life for people with OI through research to find treatments and a cure, education, awareness, and mutual support. To learn more, visit www.oif.org, e-mail Bonelink@oif.org, or phone 1-800-981-BONE.

Others Helping...



Left to right, they are Kevin Traut, Bennett, Ron Coomer, Steve Traut, Anthony Tibor. Kevin and Steve represented Superior Press in Los Angeles. Anthony, along with Patty Chouanard-McAdams, organized the tournament on behalf of Wells Fargo.

Once again, Wells Fargo Bank held a charity golf event in the metro area. This year's event was held at Prestwick Golf Club in Woodbury, with proceeds benefiting the Bennett Clayton Foundation, The Stairstep Foundation and The Mental Health Organization of Minnesota. Bennett's aunt and uncle, Paula and Ron Coomer, represented BCF as players in the tournament. Bennett and his Grandma Brenda met golfers on the course and at the luncheon. Many of these vendors and sponsors had come from all around the country to support Wells Fargo in this venture. We sincerely appreciate their generous contributions to BCF. ■

Fast Facts from the OI Foundation

Definition:

Osteogenesis imperfecta (OI) is a genetic disorder characterized by bones that break easily, often from little or no apparent cause. A classification system of different types of OI is commonly used to help describe how severely a person with OI is affected. For example, a person may have just a few or as many as several hundred fractures in a lifetime.

Prevalence:

While the number of people affected with OI in the United States is unknown, the best estimate suggests a minimum of 20,000 and possibly as many as 50,000.

The mission of the Bennett Clayton Foundation for Children with OI is to raise funds for education, research and support for issues affecting children with Osteogenesis Imperfecta.

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Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation.

Part of the Community

Girls' Night Out

BCF shared space with St. Peter Lumber and Silpada Jewelry at Girls' Night Out on October 4th, sponsored by the St. Peter Area Chamber of Commerce.

Recognizing October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, visitors were given a pink tulip bulb and information about the Bennett Clayton Foundation.

Winterfest

We look forward to participating in St. Peter's Winterfest 2008 parade on Friday, February 8th. ■

Time is Running Out

Congress has provided an excellent tax incentive for charitable contributions, but time is running out. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows individuals 70½ and older to make tax-exempt charitable contributions up to \$100,000 directly from their IRA assets to an eligible charity. The transaction must be made by December 31, 2007, as it is not certain that this provision will be extended.

If you are in a position to participate in this tax-exempt contribution opportunity, the Bennett Clayton Foundation will appreciate your consideration in any amount, large or small. Please see your accountant or tax advisor for details. ■

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