

# FOCUS

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## A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

*In Loving Memory  
of  
Clyde Brown, Sr.*



*August 24, 1917—February 16, 2008*

*His Motto: "God Loves a Cheerful Giver"*

# A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

CONTINUED FROM COVER

## CLYDE BROWN, SR.

### ~OBITUARY~

On Saturday, February 16, 2008 at 3:25 pm our beloved one, Clyde Brown, Sr. was called home for the reward of peaceful eternal rest. At this time he was freed from all his earthly limitations and released to the arms of his Lord and Savior.

Clyde was born on August 24, 1917 to Alexander and Virginia Brown of Robeson County. He graduated from the Red Stone Academy in Lumberton, North Carolina. Upon graduation he entered the military and attended the Lawson General School of Medical, Surgical and Rehabilitation.

He had a long and distinguished career of professional and community service. He is the recipient of the Director's Commendation which is the highest award given by a local VA Medical Center and the Voluntary Leadership Award along with many other awards and honors. He was active in the Credit Union at the VA Medical Center where he served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors and other positions for many years. He retired from the VA Hospital after thirty-seven years of service.

Clyde was an active member of Haymount Presbyterian Church and served as an Elder, Deacon, Trustee, Sunday School Superintendent and Member of the choir. He has received numerous honors because of his service and contributions to the church. In 2002, he was presented by the Coastal Carolina and Synod of Mid-Atlantic with their prestigious Outstanding Older Adult Award.

The American Institute for Public Service sponsored by Channel 11 television awarded him with the Jefferson Award. He is a lifetime member of the NAACP and member of Eureka #3 Masonic Lodge. Serving on the Board of Directors for the Central Children's Home in Oxford, NC, he worked for support and contributions on their behalf.

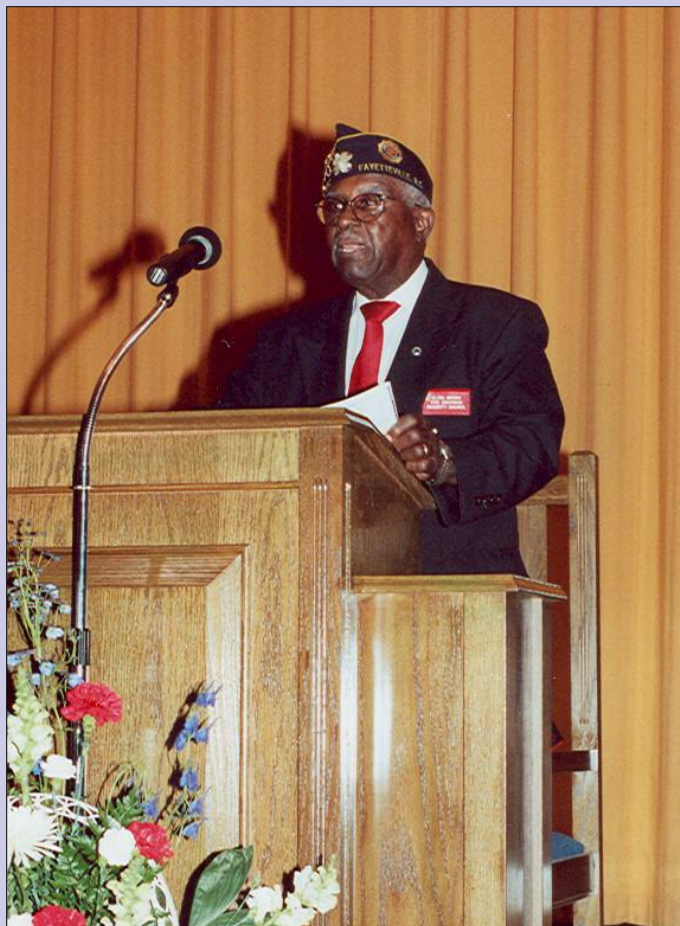
Clyde is also a life member of the American Legion where he has served as Vice Chairman of the Department of North Carolina Volunteer Services and on the National Security Committee and Rehabilitation Committee. The American Legion has honored him with several local, regional and national awards including the National Achievement Award. He has held several offices in the local Post 202, including Post Commander for several terms.

While serving as President for the Ocean City Beach Citizens Council at Topsail Island, North Carolina, Ocean City received its charter. He was also the Chairman of the Vestry Committee at the Wade Chestnut Interdenominational Chapel in Ocean City. Because of his service to this community he was presented with the Cornell C. Chestnut Outstanding Service Award.

Clyde's life can serve as a role model for others. His motto was "God Loves a Cheerful Giver". He truly tried to live up to these words, making a tremendous impact on many lives.

He was preceded in death by his eldest son, Clyde Brown, Jr.

He is survived by: his wife of sixty four years, TeEsther Brown; daughter, Ayoka Lankoke of Fayetteville, NC; son, Crosby Brown of Lithonia, GA; his sister, Katie Jones; brothers, Thurman Brown and Charles Brown all of Fayetteville, NC. His memory will be cherished by his five grandchildren, Kore Brown of Decatur, GA, Osaremi Lankoke of Marietta, GA, Hamilton Brown of Decatur, GA, Heather Brown of Atlanta, GA and Mosasaye Ogunleye of Gainesville, FL. He also has numerous nieces, nephews, family and friends.



## BRIEF HISTORY OF CENTRAL CHILDREN'S HOME

The Central Children's Home of North Carolina, Inc. is a residential child care facility for children who are separated from their parents and/or significant others by no fault of their own. It has been serving children for over one-hundred years.

In August 1882, the Colored Orphanage Association was formed in Henderson, North Carolina by members of the Shiloh and Wake Missionary Baptist Associations. The idea of a home was presented by Dr. Augustus Shepard who had become familiar with the large number of homeless, neglected children by traveling throughout the state.

In October 1883, a farm of twenty four acres, located one and one-half miles from Oxford, North Carolina on the Raleigh Road was obtained at a cost of \$1,565.00. The Home was named the "Grant Colored Asylum".

The "Grant Colored Asylum" was renamed and incorporated in 1887 as The Colored Orphanage Asylum of North Carolina". In 1927, the orphanage was re-incorporated as "The Colored Orphanage of North Carolina and in 1965 was re-named The Central Orphanage of North Carolina". In August of 1986, the facility became known as "The Central Children's Home of North Carolina, Inc."

The orphanage was incorporated as a non-denominational institution to care for children deprived of their parents with the goals of providing them with training along religious, moral and industrial lines to prepare them for life as productive citizens.

Historically, children receive work experience in farming, dairying, carpentry, bricklaying, brick-making, barbering, shoe repairing, food preparation, household skills, laundry and related areas. Currently, children work on campus at minimum wage, and other children work in the community at restaurants, grocery stores and various local businesses.

The educational needs of children on campus as well as other black children in the nearby communities were met through the Angier B. Duke School located on the campus of Central Children's Home from 1925 until 1971. After the school closed, students were integrated into the Granville County School System. Students who desire to pursue their educational and vocational goals after high school are still eligible to receive scholarship funds established by the late Robert L. Shepard in 1943.

During the administration of Michael R. L. Alston, program services and employee positions have been expanded to provide greater services to children and the community. In the area of program services a Service Plan Advisory Committee was established in 1985 to review all applications and to monitor the progress of "Individual Service Plans".

A Daily Living Skills Program based on a token economy began in December 1985 in conjunction with a weekly Behavior Management Team meeting to chart and review the daily and weekly progress of each student with emphasis on daily living skills.

To improve program service delivery and the daily living environment for our children, staff patterns were enhanced to include the following: Residential Life Supervisors, Social Services Staff, Student Development Specialist, Program Services Director, additional Residential Child Care Workers, Learning Lab Computer Proctor; and the implementation of contracts with (2) licensed mental health psychotherapists; and a Plant Operations Foreman to effect repairs and maintain buildings, grounds and equipment.

We are licensed by the Department of Social Services under the auspices of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to provide care for 34 children in our Traditional Care Program, 6 children in our Emergency Care Program (90 days), and 2 children in our Respite Care Program (30 days). We also provide preparation for Independent Living and scholarships for those children pursuing higher educational opportunities.

### SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina

The Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Mission Convention of North Carolina

Grand Lodge Prince Hall Masons

Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star

Household of Ruth and Odd Fellows

American Legion Pilgrimage Committee





## Bushido Judo

The Bushido Judo School's 8th annual tournament was held on Saturday, March 15, 2008 at the Central Children's Home gymnasium. The public was invited to attend and Central Children's Home graciously accepted a donation of \$490.00.

Judo, known as "the gentle way" is a soft style of martial arts. It is a non-aggressive art, and values self-esteem and proper behavior above physical prowess. The techniques of Judo involve throwing and grappling, as opposed to the hard striking styles of karate or tae kwon do. Through these gentle techniques, Judo teaches a non-confrontational mentality for the students to use both on the mat and in the rest of their lives. The ultimate goal of Judo is the harmonious development and eventual perfection of the human character.

The Bushido Judo School is one of the largest operating Judo schools in North Carolina, Founded in 1995 by 3rd Degree Black Belt Sensei Darian Stokes, the Bushido Judo School's continuing mission has been to make Judo publicly available to benefit the entire community through martial arts.

Classes offered at the Bushido Judo School include "Pee-Wee" through Adult Judo, Women's Self-Defense and Rape Prevention, and "Warriors of Peace" (a program designed to build self-confidence, as well as teach non-combative ways to handle many situations). For more information, please visit the Bushido Judo School's website at [www.bushidojudo.com](http://www.bushidojudo.com).

***The Greatest Warrior Is Not He Who Conquers His Enemy, But He Who Conquers Himself.***

## HOUSEHOLD OF RUTH & ODD FELLOWS PILGRIMAGE DAY

District Grand Lodge # 7 and District Grand Household of Ruth #10 hosted a picnic at Central Children's Home on Sunday, June 22, 2008. The festivities began at 11 o'clock a.m. It was with glad hearts that we welcomed their visit.

We enjoyed a very informal meeting with the program beginning with a song, "*What A Friend We Have In Jesus*".

Welcome was given by the Executive Director of Central Children's Home, Mr. Michael Alston.

District Grand Master, Herbert Atkinson and District Grand Most Noble Governor, Katie G. Wilson brought greetings on behalf of the District Grand Lodge and Household. The District Grand Most Noble Governor stated "Let us put our trust in the Lord and Central Children's Home shall prevail".

District Grand Treasurer, Doris Williams called the roll of Lodges and Households and collected the donations totaling \$2,409.00.

Grace was said by Brother Atkinson and lunch was served. There was plenty of food, fun and games.

***"Working Together to Meet the Challenge"***

## A HEART FOR CHILDREN



Linda King, Rosie Moore and Charlie Dolberry

The Middle Ground Association met March 3rd - 7th, 2008 for the annual Central Children's Home Week program. The first program was organized in 1990 by Dorethea S. Rodgers as part of the Association's mission to raise funds to support the Central Children's Home of North Carolina. The program is now under the leadership of Maxine Goss, Chairperson along with Rosie Moore, Charlie Dolberry and Linda King. This year the program was held at Mayo Chapel Missionary Baptist Church.

The purpose of the Children's Home Week program is to make people aware of the needs of the children; although they are not our biological children, they are still our responsibility. This year the week's service met the goal of \$15,000.00.

When the churches came up short because not all churches contributed, Moderator Walter Cherry, Jr. of the Middle Ground Association stepped up and gave the amount of \$5,042.95 to help us reach our goal of \$15,000.

The MGA is in the process of building a new temple, but Moderator Cherry felt the need to sacrifice to be a blessing to the children in spite of the goals of the Middle Ground.

The committee wishes to thank everyone (churches, business and individuals) who gave of their time and resources (money, personal hygiene items, clothes, fruits and candy) to the children.

If you would like to give to the Central Children's Home of North Carolina, Inc., please call Michael Alston, Executive Director at (919) 693-7617 Ext. 11 for further information or visit the website at [www.cch-nc.org](http://www.cch-nc.org). Also, if you would like to visit the Children's Home, please do so. If you would like to participate next year in the Children's Home Week Service of the Middle Ground Association and be a blessing to the children, please contact Maxine Goss at (252) 795-4120 or Linda King (252) 353-5762. Pastor Anthony Grice of Sandy Point MBC volunteered to host the next Children's Home Week program in March 2009. We thank you in advance for your help.

## REDDING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS GO TO THE BRIGHTEST AND BEST

**Aquila Taylor**, a beloved resident of Central Children's Home, is one of ten Granville County students who has been awarded a \$1,000 Redding Memorial Scholarship for the 2008-09 academic school year. These recipients are considered to be among the brightest and most talented students in the county.



The highly competitive scholarship was established in 1977 by Dr. Marshall E. Redding, a former Granville County resident and now a prominent cardiologist and thoracic surgeon in Long Beach, CA. The award honors the memory of Dr. Redding's parents, Mr. J. R. Redding, who served as county Agricultural Extension Agent for 28 years, and Mrs. Bessie B. Redding, a highly respected elementary school teacher. Since 1979 the scholarship has awarded 187 students \$253,700.

Aquila, a student of Early Childhood Education at North Carolina A&T State University, is a 2007 graduate of J. F. Webb High School where she was a tennis athlete and has become active in student government on campus.

Aquila returns to Central Children's Home on weekends to study and lend a hand to other residents during the school year.

We are very proud of Aquila for her outlook on the future and the ambition to become the best she can be.



## Timberlake Baptist Church

We were delighted to have members and friends of Timberlake Baptist Church, Timberlake NC as guests on October 20, 2007. They brought T-shirts and supplies for a tie-dyeing activity with our children and staff. Some of our students also enjoyed a basketball game with some very energetic visitors. We are grateful for the interest of surrounding communities in the well-being of our young people.



Timberlake Guests and CCH Staff



Tie-Dyeing Activity

## Hoop Magicians' Fundraiser Cruise




**Cruisin' with the Hoop Magicians 2008**

**ALL ABOARD!**  
**CRUISE THE CARIBBEAN WITH**  
**THE HOOP MAGICIANS ON THE**  
**CARNIVAL DESTINY**  
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 Key West &  
 on to exciting  
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**Fundraiser Cruise!**

% of proceeds will benefit:  
 Good 'Ol Days Christmas,  
 Andrew Simon





More Information Go To: [www.hoopmagicians.com](http://www.hoopmagicians.com)

## 12 Alternatives to Lashing out at YOUR Kids

The next time everyday parenting pressures build up and you feel like lashing out, STOP! Try one of these simple alternatives. You will feel better and so will your child.

- 1 Take a deep breath. Then another. Remember that you are the adult and you choose how you want to react.
- 2 Close your eyes and imagine you are hearing what your child is about to hear.
- 3 Press your lips together and count to 10. If that is not enough, count to 20.
- 4 Put your child in time-out. Give one time-out minute for each year of the child's age.
- 5 Put yourself in time-out. Think about why you are angry. Are you truly angry at your child or is your child the target for your anger at something else?
- 6 Phone a friend and ask for help.
- 7 If someone can watch the children, go outside and take a walk. Spend a few minutes alone.
- 8 Take a hot bath or splash cold water on your face.
- 9 Hug a pillow.
- 10 Turn on some music. Sing and dance along.
- 11 Pick up a pen and write down your negative feelings. Then throw away the paper.
- 12 Call 1-800-CHILDREN.

## STOP USING WORDS THAT HURT. START USING WORDS THAT HELP.

- \* Wonderful \* Thank You \*
- \* You Are Terrific \*
- \* I Am Proud Of You \*
- \* Good \* I Like You \*
- \* What Do You Think? \*
- \* Keep Trying \* Way To Go \*
- \* You Can Do It \* Super \*
- \* You Are A Big Help \*
- \* Great Job \*
- \* You Are Trying Hard \*
- \* Everyone Makes Mistakes \*
- \* What Did You Learn? \*
- \* I Love You! \*

These words encourage, inspire, teach, comfort, and nurture. They show children you love, understand, and support them.

For information on positive discipline, child development, or volunteering to help protect children, strengthen families, and build communities, contact:



**Prevent Child Abuse**  
North Carolina

**1-800-CHILDREN**  
[www.preventchildabusenc.org](http://www.preventchildabusenc.org)

## Genesis Academy

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Primary goal of the Genesis Academy is to provide a uniquely individualized educational setting that will meet the specific needs of identified students for a temporary period of time, while preparing him/her for a successful transition into Granville County Schools.

**Genesis Academy** provided a valuable resource to our children during the academic year. It is especially significant during a year in which our agency continues to develop new program services to serve children and families. Whereas, there was only a marginal increase in admissions into our facility during the academic year, there was an appreciable demand for transitional classroom time and instruction. To continue the success and achievements of the Genesis Academy since its inception, we look forward to a fulltime instructor next academic year.

### Statistical Breakdown Analysis August 2007-June 2008

A. Total Number of Students: (30)	(24) male	(06) female
	80% male	20% female

**Interpretation:** The high percentage of male students participating in the transitional classroom is reflective of overall campus census.

B. Days of Instruction: (86)	Regular Classroom Partial Days: (30)
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**Interpretation:** It is noteworthy to mention (2) critical factors regarding instructional days and classroom time. The first factor concerning instructional days is the allotment of only 1 1/2 hours of daily classroom time. The second factor of greater importance is that several students participated in partial classroom instruction at local schools and several other students received instruction in the ALPS program.

C. Grade Levels Served by Genesis Academy:

4th grade	03.3% (01)	8th grade	17.0% (05)
6th grade	06.7% (02)	9th grade	60.0% (18)
7th grade	13.0% (04)		

**Interpretation:** The majority of the students receiving instruction were in higher grade levels primarily because the age criteria for admissions into our facility is currently 11 years of age or older as it relates to grade school enrollment and/or college enrollment.

D. Referral Reasons: Utilization of Genesis Academy

Record Transfer Issues	58% (17)
Regular Classroom: Partial	16% (05)
Disciplinary Issues	26% (08)

**Interpretation:** During the academic year, the Genesis Academy was primarily utilized for transitional issues related to transfer of records and adjustment time to transition into traditional classroom. Whereas, disciplinary issues comprised 26% of the instruction provided by Genesis Academy, it significantly reduced absenteeism as a result of out-of-school suspensions.

### Accomplishments

- ⇒ Genesis Academy provided academic instruction for (30) students, and there was demand for more instructional classroom time.
- ⇒ There was a significant degree of cooperation with the local public schools to partner with Genesis Academy to mainstream students into the traditional classroom setting. The ALPS program was also an important factor in this effort.

### Vision

- ⇒ To continue the success of the Genesis Academy it is important to secure a fulltime certified teacher to provide instruction next academic year.
- ⇒ The potential addition of the NovaNet online courseware system will greatly enhance our ability to provide services for students who experience difficulty in the traditional classroom setting.

## ANNUAL SUMMARY (Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2007)

**Emergency Care**– Located in the H. V. Bryant Cottage, it is designed to provide a safe healthy atmosphere for school age children (ages 4-18) who are facing a crisis and who need temporary shelter away from home for a maximum stay of ninety (90) days.

**Respite Care**– Central Children's Home via an agreement with Kerr-Tar Regional council of Governments and the North Carolina Alliance for Youth provide residential respite care services on a 24-hour basis to males and females between the ages of 7 and 17 who are under the supervision of the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention who need short term care (1 to 30 days). The participating counties are Caswell, Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance and Warren.

**Medium/Moderate Care**– Children reside in one of four cottages, depending on their age. This program offers long-term group care services to children (ages 4-21) who are abused, neglected, and dependent.

**Higher Education**– This program is designed to assist eligible students who have completed high school to pursue goals via colleges, community colleges, and/or vocational schools of their choice. The program provides assistance beginning with the application process through completion of the college and/or vocational training program.

**Therapeutic Counseling**– This program is designed to provide a vehicle to reduce the emotional stress for children in care, as well as to provide out-reach to their families and significant others. Children will be counseled on the issues of separation, grief, sibling relationships, group living, family values and belief systems, issues related to academic deprivation, systemic of emotional stress. Other issues include physical, sexual and/or emotional abuse which necessitate separation from their respective families and significant others.

### AGENCY STATISTICAL REPORT

During the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, there was a total of (77) children served by our three residential programs. The chart below is a breakdown of this data.

Type of Service	In Program Beginning of Period	Admissions During Period	Clients Served During Period	Discharges During Period	In Program End of Period	Average Number Per Day
Moderate Care	24	25	49	38	11	13
Emergency Care	3	8	11	11	0	01
Respite Care	3	14	17	17	0	01
Total All Programs	30	47	77	66	11	15

It is also noted that all of the students were 11 years of age or older. The average length of stay was primarily six months or less. As a historically significant African-American residential child care facility, it is worthwhile to mention that the racial composition of the students during this period was as follows: African-American (76%); Caucasian (20%); Hispanic (1%); Native American (1%); and other/bi-racial (2%).

As part of our outcome measurement strategies (70%) of the children discharged from our programs received services according to their respective plans of care. We attribute much of this success to better utilization of assessments, "Enrich Programs" (food, nutrition & exercise program) and our outstanding "Independent Living Component".



## ANNUAL SUMMARY (Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2007)

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Revenue & Support	\$1,820,596	\$1,306,507	\$(514,089)
Total Expenses	<u>2,095,939</u>	<u>1,560,044</u>	<u>535,895</u>
Excess Support & Revenue			
Over (under) Expenses	\$ (275,343)	\$ (253,537)	\$ (21,806)

### Financial Reporting/Accounting Basis

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temp. Restr.</u>	<u>Perm. Restr.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Net Assets Beginning 9/30/06	\$ 831,657	\$ 101,557	\$ -0-	\$ 933,214
Change in Net Assets	<u>(136,914)</u>	<u>(50,933)</u>	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>(187,847)</u>
Net Assets Ending 9/30/07	\$ 694,743	\$ 50,624	\$ -0-	\$ 745,367

### Donors

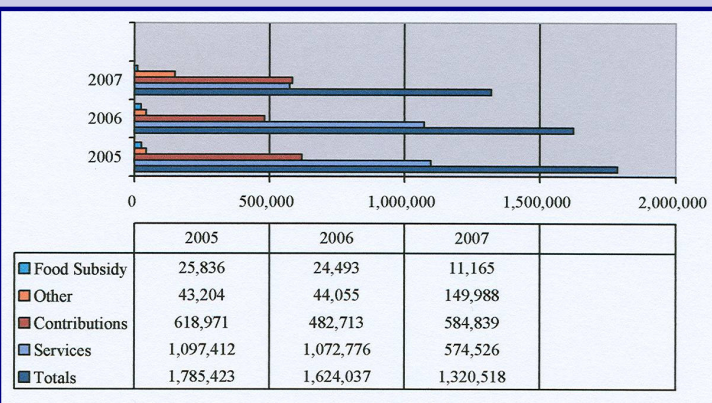
Central Children's Home would like to thank all donors who have continued to support the mission of this agency through financial contributions, in-kind donations, time and effort.

### DONOR SUMMARY

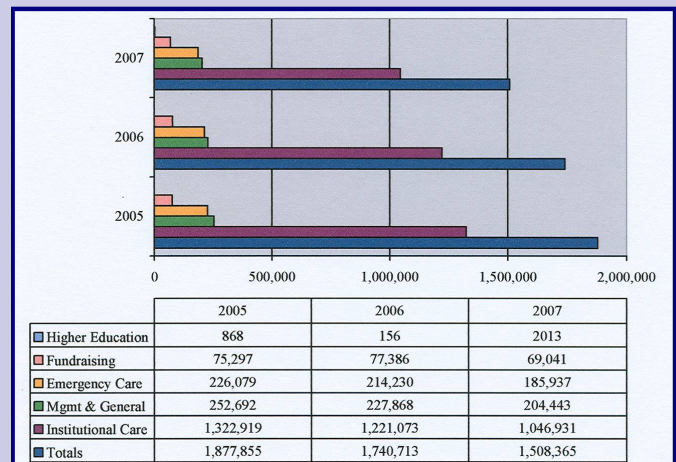
Religious	\$341,311	Individuals	\$62,652
Fraternal	40,747	Alumni Assoc.	11,837
Civic	20,641	Duke Endowment	25,000
Special Grants	7,012	Parrish Endowment	18,039
Other Donations	7,000		

### Financial Summary

#### Revenue and Support



#### Expenses by Function



Total Assets	\$1,130,010
Total Liabilities	<u>384,643</u>
Total Net Assets	\$ 745,367

## 2007 CENTRAL CHILDREN'S HOME ALUMNI REUNION

Former residents, staff members, and supporters of Central Children's Home returned to the campus August 4 and 5, 2007 for the Annual Alumni Reunion. The attendance was one of the largest crowds ever.

The events began Saturday morning with a meet and greet breakfast. Acquaintances were renewed and family members were introduced. For some, it was their first return visit since leaving the Home. Some alumni took the opportunity to tour the grounds with family members.

Alumni held their annual meeting on Saturday afternoon and the "Old School Dance" on Saturday night as a fundraiser. Some Oxford residents and out-of-town guests attended.

The Recognition Ceremony on Sunday was the highlight of the weekend. Alumni posthumously honored Mr. Henry Plummer Cheatham, Superintendent 1907—1935. A short video clip featuring Mr. Cheatham was shown. Several Cheatham family members attended from various cities and states. A portrait of Mr. Cheatham was unveiled. Cheatham family members were presented with a framed drawing of the H. P. Cheatham Building, which is listed on the National Register of Historical Places. The Cheatham family presented the Home a donation of \$1,000.

Bishop Luke Witherspoon, a former resident of the Home and Pastor and Founder of Westminster Church, Atlantic City, NJ delivered the inspirational message for the Recognition Ceremony. Bishop Witherspoon's wife and son attended and shared their musical talent, along with other members of The Witherspoon Singers, who sang to the delight of the crowd.

Mr. Michael Alston, Executive Director of Central Children's Home, presented achievement awards to current residents for performance during the 2006-07 school year.

The Alumni Association presented its Elisabeth R. Chavis Scholarship to a resident of the Home who graduated Spring 2007 and enrolled at NC A&T State University.

A donation from Alumni and Friends in the amount of \$10,000 was presented to the Home.

The weekend culminated with a delicious lunch prepared by the Cafeteria Staff of the Home.



Henry Plummer Cheatham

**Honorable Henry Plummer Cheatham**, Superintendent of the Colored Orphanage of North Carolina 1907 to 1935, was born a slave in Granville County, December 27, 1857. He attended the schools of his community and obtained the degrees of A.B. and A.M. from Shaw University, and the degree of LL.D. from Howard University.

He held many responsible positions, which were as follows: Teacher in Granville County, Principal of the Plymouth State Normal School, Register of Deeds of Vance County for eight years, member of the United States 51st and 52nd Congresses from the Second North Carolina District, Register of Deeds for the District of Columbia for eight years.

Honorable Cheatham was a member of the group of men who helped in the early organization of the Orphanage. During his administration he made many friends for the Institution. Among these friends was the Duke family, whose generous gifts have meant much to the Institution.

When he came to the Orphanage all the buildings were of frame structure. He introduced courses in brick making and with the help of many friends built brick buildings. When he died in 1935 the following buildings were completed: Three dormitories, school building, laundry, office building, dining room and chapel building, and a storehouse.

Under his wise and vigorous and devoted administration, the spiritual development of the Institution kept pace with the material expansion. He found the Orphanage an insignificant home for a small group of orphan children; he left it the leading institution of its type in the entire country.

## 13TH ANNUAL CENTRAL CHILDREN'S HOME DAY CELEBRATION

Our 13th Annual Central Children's Day Re-enactment Celebration was held on June 21, 2008 as we capitalized on the 125th anniversary of the founding of Central Children's Home. The festivities kicked off with a parade downtown which began at 11:00am on Spring Street and concluded on Orange Street. There were over 120 entries featuring a line-up of Dignitaries, "Buffalo Soldiers", Shriners, Prince Hall Masonic Marchers, Fancy Cars, Antique Cars, Motorcycle Clubs, Marching Bands, Floats (Order of Eastern Star, Church Groups, Civic Groups, American Legion, Fraternities and Sororities), Clowns, Horseback Riding Clubs and many more. Monetary prizes were awarded to commercial and non-commercial float participants. Congratulation to all of you on a great job of construction and display.

In the meantime, our campus was preparing a grand celebration with 90 plus vendors from all over North Carolina making ready their wares. They offered everything from T-shirts and memorabilia to food including Sno-cones, watermelon, complete meals and almost anything else to tickle your appetite on a hot day.

There were activities for the children including face-painting and stadium sized inflatables. There were a host of recreational activities including a baseball tournament, and horseback riding.

The Pavilion entertainment began at 12:00 noon with Steppers, Christian Rappers, and singers, both professional and volunteers.

The gospel music entertainment was unsurpassed. The audience was ministered to in song and message by a number of individuals and groups.



**ENTERTAINMENT**



**PARADE PARTICIPATION**



**ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN**

The publication and sale of our Annual Souvenir Journal was a great success. The journal sold for \$5.00 each and contained pictures of our celebration in previous years. It also featured ads offering congratulations and best wishes from city and county officials and dignitaries, individuals, area businesses, churches, civic and fraternal groups, etc. If you are interested in placing an ad in our journal, rent a booth to sell your wares, would like to perform during the campus activities or participate in the parade next year, please contact us and we will be glad to accommodate you to the best of our ability.

Although it was very hot on June 21st, everyone enjoyed themselves tremendously. The heat added to the warmth, care and concern expressed by the fellowship, participation and support whether you traveled across town or from far away places.

In conclusion, we extend a very special thanks to the Hester-Crews Post #166 and its outstanding Auxiliary Unit of the American Legion for their dedication and support for sponsoring this annual celebration.



## AMERICAN LEGION PILGRIMAGE DAY 2007

On Sunday, October 28, 2007 many Posts and Units embarked on Central Children's Home of North Carolina to observe it's 66th Annual American Legion Pilgrimage Day. Many who could not attend submitted their gifts in advance.

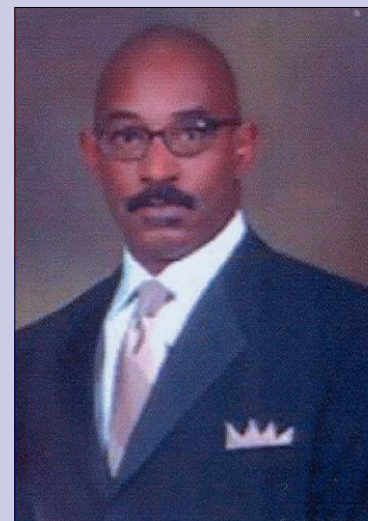
The project began in 1941 by a group of predominantly black veterans who felt the need to bring support to the children housed at the Central Children's Home in Oxford. Our theme for this year was "Our Children: The Future of America".

Our program was called to order by Commander William Pointer, Jr. of local Post 166. The members of the J.F. Webb High School ROTC Color Guard advanced the colors under the direction of Col. Gibbs. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Wanda Williams of Unit 202, Fayetteville and our National Anthem was led by the Adult Choir of First Baptist Church of Oxford. George R. Jennings, Chaplain of Elizabeth City Post 223 gave the invocation followed by Wilbert Morton, Vice Commander, 5th District Commander with the welcome. We enjoyed greetings from Hubert Gooch, Jr., County Commissioner, Howard Herring, Sr., Mayor Pro-tem and Mr. Michael Alston, Sr., Executive Director of Central Children's Home. Musical selections were rendered by the Adult Choir of First Baptist Church, Oxford, NC.

The guest speaker for this special event was Master Sergeant Ralph Jones, Retired. Mr. Jones is currently employed as Senior Budget Analyst, Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, NC.

*"Praise the Lord on the Sabbath"* Now that's the way to start a message! Mr. Jones shared that we are in a new army; the Army of the Lord. The war is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities. Mr. Jones bestowed honor to those who established Central Children's Home, to the individuals on the panel, to his wife, and to his mother. He shared that as a cohesive unit, we can bring our country back to what it used to be. He asked "What happened to the grandmothers and neighbors who would chastise youth when they do wrong?" His most profound statement was "This is the answer to the future of our children; Take your children to Christ."

Although we did not obtain our goal of \$22,000, Mr. Alston, children and staff of Central Children's Home were pleased with the donation of \$20,870.11. Plaques were presented by Commander William Pointer, Jr. and President Helen Amis of Post & Unit #166 to recognize 1st place contributors along with Certificates for 2nd and 3rd place donors.



Mr. Ralph Jones

A first place plaque went to Post #223, Elizabeth City, NC for their gracious donation of \$3,000. Second place went to Post #202, Fayetteville, NC who contributed \$2,000 and third place went to Post #107, Salisbury, NC with a donation of \$1,777. A first place plaque went to Unit #202, Fayetteville, NC who presented \$875. Second place went to Unit #319, Clinton, NC and third place went to Unit #175, Durham, NC. Unit #166, Oxford, NC who is a participating sponsor of Pilgrimage Day, yielded to the visitors. The Central Children's Home Day Committee donated \$6,000.

We were honored with a song from Linda Kearney, a former resident of Central Children's Home.

In conclusion, a Post Everlasting Ceremony was conducted by Post #166 in memory of all the comrades who passed since last year. Taps was played by Augustus Washington.

Following grace and benediction by Chaplain, Comrade John Wimbush everyone was invited to the Dining Hall for lunch.



Linda Kearney

## TAKE-A-KID FISHING FOUNDATION

Staff and students of Central Children's Home of Oxford, North Carolina ventured to Atlantic Beach, NC on June 24, 2008 for a day of fun and fishing. This has been an annual event for 15 years for the residents and staff of Central Children's Home sponsored by the Take-A-Kid Fishing Foundation.

While there, they enjoyed hours of excitement while fishing off Bogue's Pier.

As you can see from the picture, the catch of the day was a staff and student in the jaws of a shark at the NC Aquarium.

Lunch was provided by the sponsoring foundation and then everyone headed home from a long day of "exhausting" events.



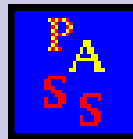
We are very grateful to all organizations and individuals who show kindness and consideration to the children we serve.

*"What a Child Doesn't Receive He Can Seldom Later Give"*

P.D. James

## Safety is Everybody's Business

We at Central Children's Home strive to protect staff and students by providing training in all areas of safety.



Pull  
Aim  
Squeeze  
Sweep



**Use of Fire Extinguishers:** Above, the local fires department is instructing a staff member in the proper use and implementation of a fire extinguisher. It's easy to remember how to use a fire extinguisher if you can remember the acronym PASS, which stands for Pull, Aim, Squeeze and Sweep.

**Bloodborne Pathogens:** Another training emphasized at Central Children's Home is Bloodborne Pathogens. The purpose of this exposure control plan is to eliminate or minimize employee occupational exposure to human blood or other infectious body fluids.

**First Aid Safety:** In most facilities, not a day goes by without some type of mishap occurring. It can be as minor as a small cut or as serious as a chemical burn. But any injury can be painful and affect an employees work performance...as well as their life off the job.

**Emergency Care for the Workplace:** This training provides an overview of the knowledge needed to give effective emergency care such as: assessing responsiveness, controlling bleeding, managing shock, warning signs, specific first aid problems, and more.

**CPR:** This training teaches employees how to recognize life-threatening emergencies and how to provide basic life support.



## “A Christmas Carol” Invitation



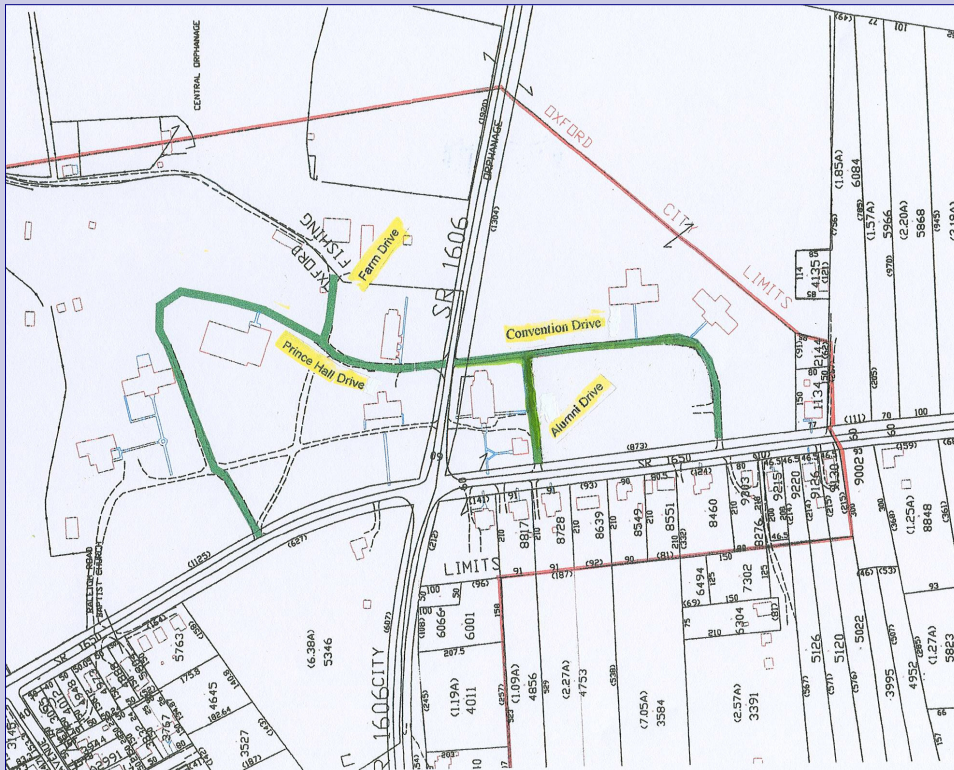
On Wednesday, December 5, 2007, 12 students and 4 staff of Central Children's Home attended the Theatre in the Park's annual production of Ira David Woods "A Christmas Carol" held at Raleigh's Memorial Auditorium. This was made possible by Mr. Arnold Lynch, Program Manager, Nortel and Board of Directors, Theatre in the Park. "Through a generous grant from Bank of America, this is something we do for children in the Triangle every year" says Mr. Lynch.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Mr. Arnold Lynch, Nortel and Mr. Adam Twiss, Development Director, Theatre in the Park for their thoughtfulness in the donation of the tickets. Our students and staff enjoyed themselves very much.

**God Bless you all!**

## Street Designation and Dedication

The old dirt roads and driveways of the Central Children's Home were recently paved as a result of the efforts of Honorable Judge Toby Fitch who is also the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Prince Hall Masons of the Jurisdiction of North Carolina.



The Grand Master was successful in lobbying state funds for this project with the support of Representative Michael Wray of the 27th District and our local Representative Jim Crawford and Senator Doug Berger of the North Carolina General Assembly.

To demonstrate our appreciation for the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of North Carolina and its Masonic family a portion of the roadway was designated as Prince Hall Drive. The other major portion of the roadway was designated as Convention Drive in recognition of the General Baptist State Convention and the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention for their financial support since our inception. Farm Drive acknowledges our agricultural legacy over the years. Lastly, Alumni Drive gives honor to former students, staff, volunteers and Board members.



## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MICHAEL ALSTON, SR.



Mike and Anna serve cake to guests during Retirement Reception Saturday, June 28, 2008

- (11) Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.
- (12) I know both how to be abased, and how to abound: everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.
- (13) I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Philippians 4:11-13

### Farewell Message

To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven; therefore, it is time for a new beginning and a fresh vision for the Central Children's Home as this legendary institution celebrates its 125th anniversary. Likewise, it is time for a change to promote growth and prosperity to survive in the new scheme of things.

To achieve this noble purpose, the Board of Directors is preparing to announce the appointment of a new Executive Director to serve in the capacity as institutional leader with a fresh vision and new direction for the future. Without a doubt, there will be many challenges; however, we are confident in the commitment of our Board of Directors to exercise due diligence in providing adequate finances, means and resources to fulfill the missionary goals and objectives in the future. We are further encouraged by the pending commission of a feasibility study to determine the highest and best use of the rich land assets of the Children's Home. The Board is also committed to utilizing the recommendations of a recent organizational and programs assessment study sponsored by the Duke Endowment to develop alternative program opportunities to serve children and their families.

In closing, many thanks are extended to everyone for the privilege to serve the Children's Home the last 23 years. Great pride is taken in the efforts to place this great institution on "The National Register of Historical Places" as well as the achievement of "national accreditation by COA". There are many more blessings to mention; however, it is my prayer that the heavens continue to smile upon the Central Children's Home in all its endeavors.

In regards to the Alston Family, we plan to return to Spartanburg, South Carolina after the appointment of a new Executive Director. This location is Anna's hometown, and it is less than one hour from my family in Hendersonville, North Carolina. This arrangement will allow the opportunity to enjoy fellowship with our relatives and friends in both the Carolinas during our retirement years.

Lastly, we extend well wishes to all the friends of the Central Children's Home throughout the State of North Carolina, and everyone in the town of Oxford and neighboring communities, and we look forward to exchanging visits in the years to come.

Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. (II Corinthians 13:11) Amen

WE WILL NOT BE REMEMBERED BY OUR WORDS, BUT BY OUR KIND DEEDS.

## Contribution Form

Enclosed is my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please apply my contribution towards:

☐ General Operation    ☐ Scholarship Fund    ☐ Capital Improvement

☐ In Memory or Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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