

Editor's Notebook

CLICK-TO-VOTE

Here's your chance. You can choose our cover model!

Last month I attended the 8th Annual Parents Leading the Way Conference in Columbia. My task was to champion the children who attended on a field trip to the Riverbanks Zoo while their parents and guardians attended workshops back at the hotel. We had so much fun! Grace Green (see photo) was one of my little buddies and I carried her around piggyback style for most of the afternoon. I told her she is lucky she doesn't weigh much!

It was a such a wonderful experience for me. I learned so much more about the Parent's Anonymous of South Carolina – and even more about the families and children it serves.

They offered 30 workshops for parents and professionals to attend, with topics ranging from stress relief to parenting a special needs child. There were also children's programs – plus a teen program that was sponsored by Benedict College. There were 513 people from all across the state who attended.

We had a fun family dinner party on Friday night – complete with a dance party!

For more information about Parents Anonymous and its free support groups and programs, visit www.paofsc.org. They are also on Facebook. Also, check out my blog for more fun photos of the conference taken by Melissa Xenakis.

Speaking of nonprofits, we are starting our first Click-to-Vote this month. The public will choose our July cover model. Photos of our cover kid participants will be made



PHOTO BY MELISSA XENAKIS, WWW.MELISSAXENAKIS.COM

Shannon and Grace Green, 9, of North Charleston, hang out at the Riverbanks Zoo during the 8th Annual Parents Leading the Way Conference in Columbia in February.

public in three batches – and the fourth week will be the kids with the most votes from the weeks one through three. Be sure to visit each week and vote for your favorite. It costs \$1 for four votes. See how it works on Page 33.

I am so proud to say that proceeds benefit Make-A-Wish.

April 29 marks the 31st anniversary of the wish that inspired the creation of the Make-A-Wish Foundation®.

In honor of Chris' wish, which was to be a police officer, the Make-A-Wish Foundation will celebrate World Wish Day® – a global celebration of wish granting. Wish children in 36 countries around the globe will have their wishes come true that day.

For more information visit www.sc.wish.org.

(Note, some banks offer a \$1 per swipe of your credit card. If you have one of those accounts, your votes will technically be free. You support your favorite child and you support making a terminally ill child's wish come true for free. Who can beat that?)

Take Care,

Shannon

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