



THE BLADE/BARBARA HENDEL

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: Cheryl Fisher, left Joyce Rimmel, Frank Barone, and Kelly Brooks laugh during a Chicks for Charity event. He celebrated Operation Smile while the Chicks raised funds for the Victory Center.

ON a similar concept is the Chicks for Charity, founded by **Martha Vetter** in 2006. The organization surpassed the \$80,000-mark by the end of 2009 for the Victory Center, its selected charity for 2009-2010.

The group's whole premise is that together members can make a difference. Every little bit helps, and when forces are joined, a little bit can make a big impact. So throughout the year, members host events such as wine tastings, pool and euchre parties, and lemonade stands, then add the cash to the kettle.

To date there are more than 1,500 members ranging in age from a few months to one new chick, **Rosie Barone**, who celebrated her 90th birthday last month during a Chicks event called Holiday Sparkle at the office of her son, Dr. **Frank Barone** and evolv medical aesthetics.

Hosts of the soiree were **Joyce Rimmelin** and **Cheryl Fisher**, who said the event's net added to the more than \$3,500 raised through the three events they hosted. The event was also a "welcome home" for Dr. Barone, who recently returned from Vietnam, and a celebration of the 20th anniversary of Operation Smile, in which Dr. Barone has been involved.

Dr. Barone has gone on more

than 25 missions worldwide and organized the Northwest Chapter of Operation Smile, which provides free surgeries to children from the Toledo area. The good doctor received a letter of proclamation from then-Mayor **Carty Finkbeiner** along with a goblet and a bottle of Holy Toledo Water.

Assisting with the evening were Junior Chicks **Lizzie Rimmelin** and **Lexi Fisher**.