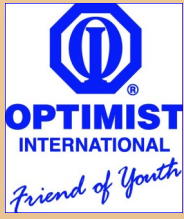




# **“Optimist OPTICS” - continued**



**Ed Harrison  
Memorial  
Golf Scramble**

Financial Support for:

**YMCA  
Camp Carson**

**Santa  
Clothes Club**

## **Program**

Our own member, Dr. John Bender, spoke on his experiences being drafted into the military. Born in Cleveland in 1922 and growing up during the depression, no one had money for college. Dr. B reported that he was not a top student but became interested in medical school because his brother had muscular dystrophy.

The Battle of the Bulge put fear into all Americans and when John started medical school at age 23, he and the other 79 men in his class were all drafted. All doctors had the rank of private first class with \$80/month pay.

After 4 years of medical school, 1 year of internship, a 2 year residency, and 3 years of urology study, Dr. Bender was drafted for the Korean War.

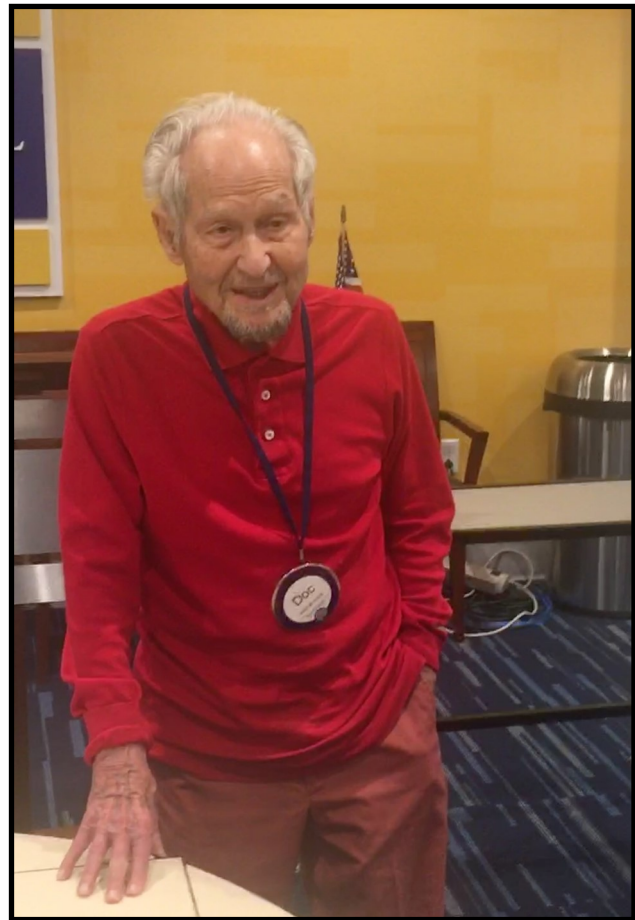
Infantry training for 3 1/2 months at Camp Pickett in West Virginia replaced 1 month of medical training. He also spent time in the desert. He encountered bedbugs, a tarantula, ants that attack, an armadillo, and ticks.

In Korea, he quickly diagnosed a soldier with meningitis who was transported out so the other 1000 men in the unit stayed healthy. But, Dr. Bender was recruited as a urologist for a prison camp and will continue his discussion at a later meeting complete with personal photos. You won't want to miss it!!

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Olson



**Meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 11:45am  
Old National Bank Building, Downtown; Blue and Gold Room  
Mail Club at: P.O. Box 15905, Evansville, Indiana 47716 - 0905  
www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org  
Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.**