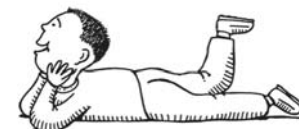


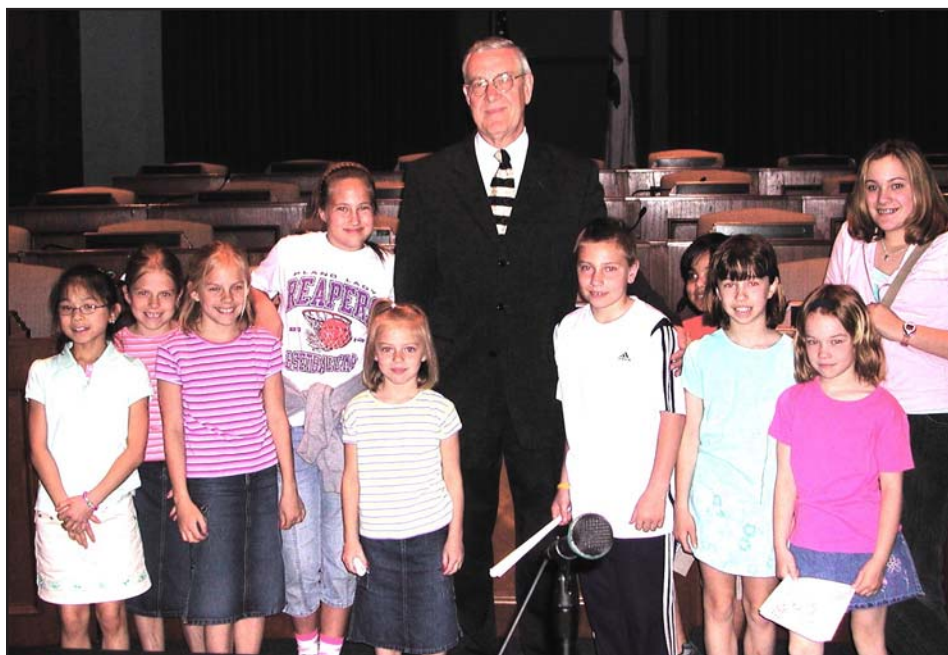
TCHÉ News

news for the Tri-County Christian Home Educators



And all of thy children shall be taught of the Lord, and great shall be the peace of thy children Isaiah 54:13

Legislative Day 2005



(l to r) Mikaela Robinson, Payton Klaas, Bailey Klaas, Elizabeth Goll, Riley Klaas Edward Petka, John Brandau, Marc Robinson, Hannah Wilczewski, Leah Wilczewski, Jessica Muhr — below, Donna and Elizabeth Goll pose with statues of Lincoln family.

And he walked before us...

by Sheri Klaas

After a frustrating three or four weeks before we left for Springfield, the big day finally arrived. The day was forecasted as rainy and cloudy. Everyone was mildly excited. The tour office in Springfield had sternly warned us that every site seeing place was full and busy. "NO ROOM AT THE INN" Sound familiar? Yet HE walked before us. Several of our students/children had spent many hours studying Illinois. I warned all our families, "I am not sure of anything. We will just have to try". Upon arrival to the big "S" we walked right in and had a one minute wait to tour the

State Capitol. What a beautiful building.

We had a visit with Senator Lauzen's administrative assistant- she was awesome. Then we had an audience with Senator Petka. What a Godly Man. He talked with the kids, and he spoke with us.

The kids sang with a couple hundred other kids and then we had a large home school rally. Cherry Pies were abound. What a wonderful sight!

We then proceeded to the sacred grounds where we were told not to tread (REBELS) we went to the New Lincoln Museum . All I have to say is, "AWESOME" You have got to see it



yourself (next year!!!). A fun night was had by all.

Next day- Drill Sergeant Sheri makes everyone be at attention by 8:15. Rebels Robinsons are eating breakfast at 8:12 and Rebel Muhr loses her keys (momentarily). Off to The Lincoln Home and Old State Capitol (More No No's). Waited ten minutes and in we went. HE WALKED BEFORE US! The tour guides were fantastic. Off to Old Salem!!! No Wait Again!! God blessed our trip over and over. The kids learned a lot and as adults we could not have been happier. Maybe we learned a thing or two also.

Thank you to all who participated and helped make this trip work. Thank you to Sue Brandau who taught our Illinois class to several of our children. Thanks to Sharlavan who organized and stressed for all of us. Thanks to God for walking before us.

Springfield, by Payton Klaas

I loved going to Springfield but my favorite part was going to the new Lincoln Museum. There were movies you could see. They were, *Lincoln's Eyes*, and *Ghost in the Library*. They were really cool!

At the Lincoln Museum there was a place called, *Mary Todd's Attic*. There is a ton off things to do. You can play dress up, build with Lincoln logs, and play with a lot of neat toys people played with back then. That is why I loved going to Springfield.

Springfield, by Bailey Klaas

My favorite place we went in Springfield was the Lincoln Museum. I enjoyed watching the movie *Lincoln's Eyes* because it really showed me what it was like back then. And it also told about Lincoln's struggles with his family and being president. Another place in Lincoln's Museum was *Mary Todd's attic*. You can

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How are we doing?

The following is a questionnaire to help the leadership know what you think of our group, how you think our group is doing, What direction you feel our group should be moving and so on. Please fill it out and return it to Sheri Klaas. Your input is very important as your leadership team decides next year's schedule and events. Thank you for your time and your thoughts.

Family name _____

Number of Children _____

1. Circle the activities your family was/will be involved in 2004-2005

Monthly Support Meetings *Coop Classes* *Christmas Celebration* *Valentines Day Party*
Science and Art Fair *Field Trips* *Mothers Dinners* *Fathers Dinners*
Book Fair *Graduation*

2. Please name specific ways TCHE has helped meet your families homeschool needs _____

3. List specific needs your family has that are not addressed by our support group _____

4. If we were to have a teacher willing to teach high school classes, your family be interested in classes (circle interests)

Science Government Math
 English Speech Literature

5. If you have participated in the Coop Classes this year, Please rate your families satisfaction level (1-best 5-least)

1 2 3 4 5

6. What type of classes would you like to see offered next year for Coop? _____

7. What type of topics would you like to see covered at our monthly meetings? _____

8. Do you enjoy having speakers at the monthly meetings? Yes No

9. Please give any remaining opinions or remarks. We are open to all _____

Thank you for taking the time to fill this out.

Sheri Klaas
 205 E. Kendall Dr.
 Yorkville, IL 60560

Odds and ends...

(Legislative Day- from page 1)

dress up in old fashioned clothes, build with Lincoln logs, and play with old fashion toys. So as you can see, the Lincoln Museum is a fun [and educational] place to go.

Springfield, by John Brandau

Springfield is very fun to visit. They have just opened up a Lincoln Museum down there. Inside the museum, you can see the White house where he lived when he was President, his cabin when he was a little boy, and two movies called Lincoln's Eyes and The Ghosts of the Library. You may want to go into the little house where you can dress up like people did in Lincoln's time and play with the toys they had back then. You can also visit Lincoln's house. You may want to see the Capitol building or even the old Capitol building. I would love to go to Springfield every year.

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- KCCHS Used Book Sale will be held on Friday, May 13th at MorningStar Community Church on the corner of Barnes Rd & Prairie in SW Aurora. Set up time is 8:30 AM and the sale begins at 9:00 AM. For more info call Laura at 815-498-4915.
- HEART, the DeKalb County Home School Group, is having their Curriculum Sale on Monday, May 16th from 5:30-7:30 PM. The sale will be held at Glad Tiding Church, 2125 N. First Street in DeKalb, IL.
- Tired of the big convention up here and looking for a smaller one? There is a Southern Illinois Convention on June 3-4. Key note speaker is Norm Wakefield. For more detailed information, visit www.iche.org.
- Circa Amicas 4H club will be holding a performance to demonstrate the theater skills they have been learning. The performance will be at Parkview Christian School on Friday, May 6th from 6:30-8:30 PM with mini-workshops to follow. This is a fundraiser for the club. We are asking \$1 donation per person/max. \$5 per family. Popcorn is available. Bring the family for a fun evening as you encourage our 4H'ers.
- The Aurora Skate Center Home School Skating Sessions will begin on Thursday, September 15, from 9:00 AM TO 3 PM. Admission will remain \$4 per child (including rental skates), parents skate free. No registration is necessary...simply calendar the dates (we will meet every Thursday) and show up. Weekly classes for beginners and more advanced skaters, for those of you who wish to advance your skills, are held in both the morning and afternoon part of the session.
- Remember that there is no support group meeting in June. Check out our web site for latest news and updates.
- Anyone interested in teaching a class for Coop in the FALL SESSION MUST let Sheri Klaas or Sharlavan Robinson know. We will be setting up classes in mid-May. We have very few classes so far. No volunteers means No Coop. Also remember that Coop is being moved to Mondays next year.
- Huge thank you to Sharlavan Robinson for hosting our final womans dinner. Fun was had by all.
- Anyone who has an opinion on topics they would like to see covered next year at our support group meetings should e-mail or call Sheri Klaas in May. The schedule is currently being worked on. Any suggestions are welcome.
- Plano Christian church called and said that many items were left there from Coop. If any family thinks they are missing anything please stop by or call by May 4, 2005.
- Scholastic orders are due by May 6, 2005. If you are planning to place an order you can bring your order and payment to the Annual Book Fair or mail it directly to Beth Wilczewski, 11 Marlin Drive, Oswego, IL 60543. Please include your phone number on your order form. If you have any questions you may contact her at 630-551-0951.
- The Yorkville Parks and Recreation Department Building, located at the Beecher Community Center, is holding a home school recreation club for local families. It is a time for parents to come and spend time with their children and use a variety of equipment, exercise, and meet other families. This club will meet through May 26th. Please call Tim Evans or Becky Scheberl at 553-4357 for more information.

Romania residents could use your help

Marilena Garrison is sending 10 boxes to 10 families in Romania sometime soon. She could use some help filling them. The following items are needed- shampoo-kids and adults, female pads -Kotex,etc., medicine- Tylenol, Advil, kid's fever reducer, shoes/socks/flip-flops- any size, lady's deodorant, cough drops, vitamins, disposable diapers, boys' pants-sizes 6-12, gum, pencils/pens, sheets/towels-any gently used, candy-not chocolate, some sugar-free.

The following food is most impor-

tant- 20 jars of peanut butter, dried fruit, cereal, cookies, peanut butter crackers, and bouillion cubes.

Also...since it costs hundreds of dollars to mail these boxes, donations for shipping would also be a great help. The Garrisons personally know these people as they are family and friends. Let's bring these items to the book sale on May 5TH so she has them soon! Thanks for your generosity. The people of Romania are truly appreciative.

Annual Book Fair

Don't miss our annual book fair this Thursday, May 5th. It will be held from 6:00 - 8:00 PM at Parkview Christian Academy. We already have 15 people who will come to sell their gently used books and curricula. If last year is any indication, we expect more people to come in at the last minute to sell their wares... books I mean. In fact, my phone doesn't seem to stop ringing! Just ask my husband Pat.

I know, I know the last thing you want to think about right now is buying more



books. What you really want to think about is that summer break. It is just around the corner and the kids are ready too- I am sure of that.

But, the best time to buy books for next year or for a little extra reading during the summer is now. You will find great prices and varied types of materials at the book fair. And, you will find the friendliest, nicest and the most knowledgeable sellers of books ANYWHERE! So come to our annual book fair and enjoy an evening of shopping. We will even provide some refreshments.

Newsletter tidbits



We can always use more news articles and photos for the newsletter. Right now, we have the same four or five people submitting news and photos for each issue. A lot of times, these people are submitting articles and photos from events that someone else is in charge of.

We'd like this newsletter to be sort of a record of what the group is doing. If you attend a small gathering with other TCHE members, won't you please just take a photo and write a small article? If you are in charge of organizing an event, won't you please provide us with information in advance, and after the event is done?

We could especially use articles written by our kids. Feel free to write on any relevant topic. Our major events of the year provide a really good opportunity for some interesting articles. The science fair, Valentine's day, and Christmas party are some of our larger events where our kids can be a 'reporter' for an evening and provide an interesting article. If someone wants to do more of a major project then we can provide assistance with the space planning and photo layout.

Our deadline is the 25th day of each month. However, we always appreciate it when you can supply us with articles and photos anytime before that date. Thanks!