

TCHE 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

Another successful Valentines Day Party

By Ruth Mattson

The Valentine's Day party reminded me of why we are powerful in numbers! As you can imagine, throwing a party for ninety people can seem a bit of a daunting task. I found myself feeling very anxious the day of the party despite hours of planning and preparation.

My friend Sheri Klaas asked me how I was holding up, and I told her about my anxiety, and that I didn't understand why this year seemed scarier than other party years. She gave me an answer that made perfect sense— this year I was forced to delegate to a much larger extent than previous years.

This brings me to the reason I take pen in hand today! I would like to thank each and every parent who contributed your time, effort, talent, and energy to this year's party. I received feedback that this year was the best year ever! I attribute that to you guys! A special thanks to Sheri Klaas and Penny Pfizenmaier who arrived several hours early to decorate, and Teresa Borter and Michelle Williams, who were the last to leave after making sure the church was completely vacuumed and put back in place.



See the TCHE website at www.appraisalservices.com/tchenews.htm for more photos.



"I had fun at our co-op Valentine's Day party. What I liked the most was passing out my cards to everyone. I also like putting the candy on the bingo cards. The water globe was so much fun. I had fun playing the spinning game. We had lots of cupcakes, candy and cookies. I had a blast!" Megan Borter



Next month's issue will have full coverage of the Science & Art Fair

From the Chair



Don't you just love it when someone thinks of you? I do. One day, Ami (that's with an i) Wise called and said she just had to talk to me because she had something for me. When I called her back she said she had been at someone else's house, saw a neat plaque and had thought of me. The plaque read, "Home is where your story begins." "That is neat," I said. "Thought you might need it for one of your writings," she said. Well, here it is. Upon reflection, it is really a deep saying. As Ami stated, one could think about our heavenly home, or bring it into our own homes and our own children. I would like to reflect on this as our homes 20, 30 or more years ago, when we were little ones. Have you thought about your childhood? Have you ever thought about how your own growing up has influenced your life now as a mom or dad? What about your homeschooling choice? The way that you choose to raise your family? The way you serve God? Each of our stories is so different, yet as a homeschooling group we have the tie that binds-Christ. Christ knows all, heals

Ozzie's Reading Club



The Cougar's minor league baseball team offers Ozzie's Reading Club. This is a reading program that provides a reward for your reader at the end of the 8-week program. The reward is 1 free game ticket, a hot dog and an Ozzie T-shirt. You can download order forms for the Ozzie's Reading Club from our website. Two sets of game dates have been chosen for our group. The first date is either April 7th or 8th. The other date is May 1st. Additional tickets can be purchased at \$9.00 each. Many of you may have already started your reading and just need your forms. Just go to our website at www.appraisalservices.com/tchenews.htm and scroll down to Ozzie's reading club. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Bowman or Pat Butler.

all, calls all, and loves all. When was the last time you shared your "story" with your children. They learn a lot from us. They look to us for so much, and to share your story with them is priceless. Have you asked your parents to share their story with you and your children? Another priceless opportunity. Christ lived as an example, yet we know of Him today, because of His Story. Take the opportunity today to talk with your kids. Tell them your story. God does not promise us a tomorrow. We do not know when our story will end. The only way to carry it on is by telling it today.
Sheri.

Science and Art Fair

We had a beautiful night for our 3RD annual Science and Art Fair. We had over 35 children participate in the science portion of the fair with exciting exhibits and a lot of hard work. We had science projects that ranged from our solar system all the way to our taste buds. From cyclones to rainbows and asphalt roads to the solar system, it was great to see how much our children have grown in their creativity and knowledge.

We had 30 kids participate in the art portion of the fair. Once again, the kids had beautiful exhibits for us to admire during the evening. We also had a special Olympic feature this year. Mrs. Kennedy set up the standards and we had ten kids receive gold medals, four kids receive silver medals and six kids receive bronze metals.

It was a great evening of Art and Science. We had special speakers Scott and Denise Albright speak to us about the use of color in art. We also learned how different elements like neon and mercury can also be divided into color. A great time was had by all and the evening ended with an ice cream social organized by the Best Family. Thanks to all of you for helping organize the evening, teaching your kids, and helping with their displays.

April Meeting

Our topic for our April meeting is Curriculum Night. If you have a strong desire to show others the curricula you use and you want to be on the panel to share input, call Sheri Klaas. An array of curricula and styles will be presented that evening. Come and enjoy!

Special Nights Out

Mom's Night Out will be held on Tuesday, March 14TH at 6:30 PM at the home of Laura Carlson, 45 Tammy Lane, Somonauk (Lake Holiday). Our evening will start with a potluck meal, so please bring a dish to pass. We are going to be making a fun educational math game for your children. Please bring the following supplies: 1 new bright color file folder, themed stickers, a fine point black sharpie type marker, and 3/4" round all purpose labels (white, or colors @ 60). You will also need to choose a math skill/concept for your game, i.e. math facts, doubling, fractions, etc. We will also be learning how to make a variety of file folder games so bring paper to take notes as well. If you have any questions or need

directions please call Laura at (815)498-4915 or email her at tamjeb7@cs.com. Please RSVP so I'll know how many tables to set up, thanks.

Also, please plan on coming to the next Couples Night Out. We will be having a Soup and Salad Supper. We will be gathering on Saturday, April 8TH. The time is 6:00 P.M. and the place is the home of Tony and Sharlavan Robinson. If you plan on coming to this great evening of fun and games... please call Sharlavan at (630)553-1815 to RSVP.

We will be playing games so bring your favorite board or card game. Bring smiles and laughter too!

Odds and ends...

- ↪ ICHE Homeschool Convention is May 18-20TH. It is at Northern Illinois University. More information to come for a group discount.
- ↪ A fellow homeschool mom shared the following website you might find of interest. It is about the Elgin Symphony Orchestra's Homeschool music education program. See www.elginsymphony.org/HomeSchool.html.
- ↪ Please change your email address for Amy and John Daly to jnadaly@sbcglobal.net
- ↪ The Tri-County Food Co-op is looking for families that would like to buy organic/natural foods. Food is ordered and shipped from United Natural Foods warehouse in Iowa. They order once a month. There is no fee to join. There is no minimum order amount. The only work involved is to meet the delivery truck in Sandwich and get your items. For more information please call Laura Carlson at (815)498-4915.
- ↪ Legislative Day is March 29TH in Springfield, IL. This is a day for Illinois Homeschool Families to meet their Congressmen and Senators. Bring two HOMEMADE Cherry pies, and join fellow homeschool families for a great day.

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