

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

Our Trip to the Water Plant

Our kids toured the Yorkville Water Department Treatment facility on October 12th, 2005.

By Joe Krotz

I had fun at the water plant and I also learned a lot of stuff. I always thought that it was an easy job, but it is

not. You have to learn about all kinds of chemicals. I also learned about the dangers of a water plant. They could get acid on them but they have stuff to clean

them off quickly. I liked being able to go inside the water tower. I am very happy that I was able to go.



By Mikaela Robinson

On our recent field trip to the Water Treatment Plant we learned how our water is treated before it comes through our faucet. We got to go inside the water tower. The tower is so high our guide, Joe, said when he was on top of it he could feel it swaying. They told us they put some



Brian Sorenson and Joe Moore of the Yorkville Water Department are pictured below with the students of Tri-County Christian Home Educators. A tour of the newest water treatment facility for Grande Reserve helped educate the children about how water makes it from various sources to our homes

chemicals like flouride in our water to help our teeth and take some out like chlorine. There were two sets of fire hydrants outside. The blue hydrants was the treated

water and the red had not been treated or tested yet. Sometimes it was hard to understand, but it was still interesting. This
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Meet Some of Your Leadership Members

Dwight and Patricia Bowman

The Resource Center advisors on Leadership are Dwight and Pat Bowman. They bring 20 years of homeschooling experience to this position. They are currently homeschooling three children while the other two are attending college.

As Resource Center advisors they oversee the excellent library maintained by Beth Wilczewski. Weekly newspapers from God's World Press and book orders from God's World Press and from Scholastic are also handled by Beth Wilczewski. Reading

incentive programs from Ozzie and Pizza Hut are coordinated by Donna Goll. And programs performed for school age children at the Sandwich Opera House are available for us to attend. Ruth Mattson has more information on these programs.

Another resource of this group is the book fair held in May. This is an opportunity to buy and sell used curriculum and books. And there is a Science and Art Fair in February which is growing each year and provides an opportunity for your child

to display a project, discuss it with others and receive recognition for their efforts.

This is a lot of work for everyone involved, but the rewards are definitely worth the effort. Now is a good time to begin planning your project.

We are thankful for the many wonderful people who give of their time so our group can take advantage of these resources. If we can be of service to you and your family this year please contact us.

Couples Night Out Coming Soon



Mark your calendars today! The next couples night out is scheduled for Friday, November 11th at 7:00 p.m. at La Patisserie in Sandwich.

Please come for an evening of fellowship and great conversation. We are

planning an evening of appetizers and pastries rather than a sit down dinner. This new format will allow us to mingle with one another more freely. The cost is \$20 per couple and is all inclusive.

Please make your reservations by

November 7th by calling Sharlavan Robinson (630)553-1815. Due to commitments made on the part of the caterer, cancellations cannot be accepted after November 4th.

From the Chair



When I kept things to myself, I felt weak deep inside of me.
Psalm 32:3

I was walking around the small sidewalk around the park. The kids were all playing and having fun. "What a beautiful fall day, Thank you God," I said to myself as I walked around and around. I began to notice the gorgeous colors each time around. Leaves were gently falling. I began to think about my homeschool journey. How like the seasons, it has changed. How friendships have come and gone, changed and molded, grown and blossomed.

I remembered one of the biggest things I wanted to know when I began was, "How do you (the mom) get it all done?" That was my biggest question. I would look at the Carlsons and Pfizenmaiers, and wonder how these ladies schooled children, cooked breakfast, lunch and dinner, and

did laundry to boot! I believe I even asked this question at a meeting once. Funny, how things have changed. Thanks to those families and more, our family continues to wade through the waters of homeschooling.

Do you have some "advise" or "tips" you could share with others? Simple things that have made your life or your home a better place. Is there a special secret weapon you pull out to get everyone motivated in your home? Our November meeting is "Give us your TIP night"! Don't keep it inside

Come on Thursday night and share it with us!

God gives us all bits of wisdom, come share it! In Christ's Love, Sheri.

(Water Plant from page 1)

is Mikaela Robinson with news on the move.

By Mason Klaas

These are the things I liked at the water treatment plant.



1. The pipes. Because they have water in them.
2. The little computer-thing that showed you the big water tower.
3. I loved going inside that big tower. It was really empty.
4. I liked the men. They have a cool job.

TCHE Member in Play

The Oswego Playhouse is putting on the play *Christmas with Little Women* at the Little White School Museum in Oswego. The play will be Sat. and Sun. Dec 3rd and 4th with shows both days at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 per person.

This is a one hour one act play in two parts. In the first part of this classic story by Louisa May Alcott, Mrs. March must leave to tend to father who is too ill to travel and unable to come home for the holidays.

Part II is the next Christmas and we find Jo has become an author, Meg is engaged, and Amy is off to Europe. Barbra Gilley, homeschooler and a member of TCHE, plays the part of Jo.

Mark your calendars and come out to see this Christmas play to support and congratulate Barbra. Break a leg!

Odds and ends...

- The next Cloverbud meeting will be held on Monday, November 7th. The program topic is food preservation.
- Please remember that all children are welcome at our meetings. Having said this, all meetings will not be of interest to children, so please bear this in mind when deciding whether or not to bring them. We will try to let you know when babysitting is available. All children must remain either in our room or the gym. Even older children may not wander around the school or sit in other rooms. Babysitting will be on a donation basis. I would encourage all who use it to be generous as we want to encourage our youth to be responsible and yet make it worth their while. Also remember, there is ABSOLUTLY NO eating or drinking in the gym.
- **Remember to bring your Kathryn Beich Fundraising orders to the November meeting.** The order for the group will be placed the next day. The tentative delivery date will then be Monday, November 21, 2005.
- Christmas Event- We will be Christmas caroling for this year's Christmas event. Save the date! The date is December 3, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at Parkview Christian Academy. Please dress warm and bring a flashlight. We will provide you with songbooks and hot chocolate and fellowship after caroling back at Parkview. Bring your best Christmas caroling voices and a Christmas treat to share. Please RSVP with Sharlavan Robinson at (630)553-1815 or Sue Brandau at (630)553-3966.
- ICHE 2005 Young Adult Conference- Saturday, November 19, 2005 in Wheaton. This conference is designed for young adults age 17 and up, parents are encouraged to attend. Sessions are planned to challenge, refresh, and inspire you! For more information contact ICHE directly at info@iche.org.
- Jewel Shop and Save days- Remember to pick up your coupons during the November and December meetings. The shop and save days are the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Start planning your shopping today. After all, it is for a good cause!
- Interested in guitar lessons? Chet Romans will be teaching again and it will be during the co-op classes on Monday mornings. Right now we are trying to see how many would be interested. He can teach a beginner's class as well as an intermediate class.
- Scholastic Classroom Magazines- Donna Haag will have information regarding these magazines at our November meeting. The magazines are available at a discount for multiple orders and range from weekly to monthly and are available for all grade levels. Donna will attempt to announce this during the meeting, but if time does not permit, please be sure to see her.

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Field Trip Information

Field trip policies

Please note that for paid field trips, payment will be required upon sign-up. We will no longer take verbal sign-ups, with payment deadlines. It is simply too chaotic for the field trip coordinator to try and chase down payment on the due date. Instead, there will be field trip forms available in your newsletter or online. You

On-line field trip registration form

must make payment by the deadline or you will not be able to go. This may mean you have to pay for a field trip 30-60 days in advance. There will be no refunds unless a true family emergency (an injury or worse --you may make requests for refunds from the leadership who will decide if your situation merits refunds).

All checks should be made payable to Ruth Mattson unless communicated otherwise. If we do not receive minimum numbers by the deadline, Ruth will contact another home school group who are very eager to join us on our field trips.

Upcoming Field Trips

January 2006

Where: Rialto Square Theatre in Joliet, Illinois.

Date: January 18, 2006.

Time: 10:00 AM.

Description: We are going to visit the historic Rialto Square Theatre in Joliet, IL to see the FACE TO FACE PRODUCTIONS performance of Ben and Me. It's a celebration of Ben Franklin's 300th birthday! Ben and his pet mouse Amos

sing their way through a musical production of Robert Lawson's delightful tale. What results is a fanciful, yet intriguing, portrait of one of America's founding fathers. Amos relates how their unusual partnership came to be, and how he became instrumental in Ben's many inventions and discoveries. Together they grow to understand the importance of freedom for a new nation revolting against British rule, and Ben is inspired to help write the Declaration of Independence.

This field trip is \$6.50 per person, including babies (you may want to get a babysitter for your tots!) Money for this field trip is due to Ruth Mattson in full by November 15, 2005. The contract and money will be mailed in after that, so please plan accordingly! You may sign up and pay her at the coop, or mail it to her home.

TCHE News

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