

# 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 kids toured Fox Valley Publications in November. This building has been in Plainfield for about 15 years and publishes five daily newspapers including The Beacon News and There Herald News. It also publishes the Fox Valley Shopping News.

This building currently handles the pre-press operations, printing and inserting for its daily and weekly newspapers.

The individual newspapers have their own sales, editorial and circulation staff in their respective cities.

There was a great deal of activity in the packaging department on the day of our visit. They were at the beginning of the busy holiday season.

## By Allison Butler

We went to Fox Valley Publications for our tour. My mom used to work there a long time ago. I remember visiting the building when I was a little girl.



What I liked most about the tour was seeing the robots. The robots are computer operated and follow lines that are in the ground the pressmen tell the robots what they want them to do by telling the computer and the robot will do it. We saw the robot deliver a newspaper roll.

My other favorite part was when my mom's friend Ms. Kim let us take home some end rolls. We use these to draw on and to wrap presents.

## By Jenna Butler



What I learned at the newspaper tour was that the buildings they make newspapers in are really big. They make newspapers not only in one color- black but, four colors. They are

## Our Trip to Fox Valley Press



*Kids are pictured in front of the Goss Colorliner Press, a three-story computerized printing press. left to right, front to back- Marc Robinson, Mikaela Robinson, Victoria Czerwein, Angela Czerwein, Michael Mattson, Natalie Czerwein, Allison Butler, Jenna Butler, and Michelle Mattson.*

magenta, yellow, blue and black. And, all the time the machines are really, really loud. They have a film room with yellow lights. The black films are very clear and they make plates from them. They use the plates on the presses to make the newspapers.

And they have robots that are controlled by computers. And they have a machine that stacks the newspapers up and wraps them up.

My favorite part was when we all got on a big scale and we weighed ourselves! We weighed over one thousand pounds!

## By Victoria Czerwien

What goes into making a newspaper? Our TCHÉ field trip to the newspaper factory was a great—I know I learned a lot.

Here are some of the facts we learned. They use giant paper rolls that weigh two

tons; they also have special robots that carry the giant paper rolls to the machines. They use fifty paper rolls a day!



It was really cool because at the end of the tour they let each of us take paper roll remnants. They also use Tin Plates to make the newspaper; they use 40,000 plates a month. The tin plates are 35% recycled material. The paper is printed by the press machine. The Press machine runs as fast as 100 mph, it also prints 72,000 papers a day.

There are five daily papers and two weekly papers. They also told us that you do not need a college degree to work at the press, you go there as a journeyman and work your way up to a pressman.

Our trip was fun and I would like to go back again some day.

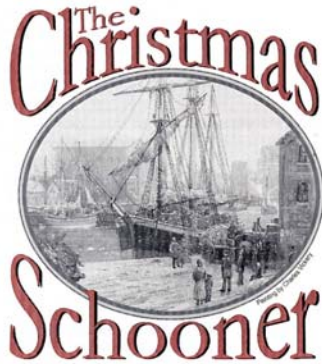
# Obergs in Christmas Play

The Christmas Schooner is a true Chicago story based in the late 1800's when many German families immigrated to Chicago. They brought with them the tradition of the Tannenbaum,

the Christmas tree. Alma and Peter Stossel, played by Margo Lindner and Jim Oberg, a

German immigrant family who moved from Chicago to Manistique, MI, heard of a relative still living in Chicago about the difficulty in obtain-

ing Christmas trees. That gave Peter Stossel a mission in his heart to provide Christmas trees using the huge growths of pines then prevalent in the Manistique area. Though traveling the Great Lakes was treacherous, Peter Stossel and his crew risked the winter storms to bring the



Tannenbaum to Chicago families just as they had at home.

Jonathan Oberg will be playing Karl, Peter Stossel's son, at fifteen years old. This is a heartwarming musical that focuses on the importance of family and the traditions we hold so dearly to our hearts.

Performances will be December 8<sup>TH</sup> through the 11<sup>TH</sup> at the Sandwich Opera House. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday the performances will be at 8 P.M. On Sunday, December 11<sup>TH</sup>, the performance will be at 2 P.M. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Sandwich Opera House at (815)786-2555. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students and seniors. It is reserved seating, so purchasing early is recommended.

Come out and support Jim and Jonathan for their first time singing and acting performance in this classic musical.

## Newsletter tidbits



We can still use photos for the newsletter from any members who attend TCHE events. I try to take as many pictures as I can, but I don't attend every TCHE event. Even if you just take one or two quick photos, that's all we need to accompany any article about your event.

Also, feel free to submit a standard 'head shot' type photo with any article. A lot of members don't know each other and even a simple photo of your face is useful in making that connection.

Please remember that I can scan in any conventional photos that you may have- so the format doesn't matter.

The deadline for each issue is the 25<sup>TH</sup> of each month. However, please feel free to contribute any information you have as early as possible. It allows us to have a little more time to gather additional information and/or get photos to accompany the article.

## From the Chair

*And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.*

*Ephesians 3:17-19*

Sleigh Bells Ring, Can you hear them..... It's not hard to get into the swing of things after Thanksgiving. There is decorating to do, shopping, baking, and packages to be sent of and, of course, all the cards. If you are like me you love all these things. Sometimes it is just hard to love them all at the same time.

Each year as I get older and my calendar (which isn't mine anymore as it

has six other people's schedules on it) gets more full in December, I try to figure out how to hear God during this season. As much as I love to hear the sleigh bells, it is God that I yearn to hear. It is God that I want my children to hear at this season too. Now, I am not going to lecture you on too much stuff or too worldly of ways during this season. Yet, as homeschool parents, is there a way to hear God through all this other noise? I say, "Yes." How? Time—Yep, Time. Take the time to show our kids all God's wonders of the season. Take time to read great Christmas stories of people helping people. Put the schoolbooks aside and go to the nursing home with another

family and sing some carols. Take time to bake with the kids/family-- not when they go to bed.

God is so present during this time, He sent his only Son! Put on the Christmas music. Sandy Patti can belt it out! Tracy Joyner always says, "Don't you know there are only five days between Thanksgiving and Christmas?" Use your five days wisely. Listen for God, and hear Him calling you and your family.

We are so lucky to know Christ and to enjoy the fullness of this season. With Christ's Blessings, a Merry Christmas to all! Sheri.



# BOOK TALK

## Did you get your membership directory?

Membership directories were e-mailed out to members last week. We hope you have all received them without a problem.

We can send a hardcopy printout for those of you that do not have e-mail access.

However, there will be an additional charge for doing so.

This service is also available to any of you that prefer a paper copy but cannot print one out. We were able to keep our costs down this year by going "paperless." At the same time, we know many of you cannot or prefer not to do this. Please contact Diana or Pat at (630)844-1259 if you would like a paper copy of the membership list. Thank you.



*l to r- Ray Williams, Lorryya Williams, Brandon Wright, Mrs. Cederoth, Jenna Butler, Jordan Wright, and Allison Butler.*

The Oswego Book Talks group is growing. Typically we have seven children from four families that present a book report in front of their K-3RD grade peers on a selected topic.

Over the past few months, we have seen up to an additional 3 families bring their children to give a presentation. The children are growing not only in the

speaking abilities but also in their confidence. We meet at the Oswego Public Library on the 2ND Wednesday of every month at 11:30 A.M. Our next topic is your favorite Christmas story or Christmas family tradition. You may contact Peg Wright or Diana Butler with any questions.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

PATRICK BUTLER  
Newsletter Editor/Publisher  
pat@appraisalservices.com  
(630)897-3339

FRAN & SHERI KLAAS  
Leadership  
(630)553-0317

PETE & SUE BRANDAU  
Leadership  
(630)553-3966

TIM & LAURA CARLSON  
Leadership  
(815)498-4915

DWIGHT & PATRICIA BOWMAN  
Leadership  
(815)695-5025

TONY & SHARLAVAN ROBINSON  
Leadership  
(630)553-1815

PAT & DIANA BUTLER  
Leadership  
(630)844-1259

## Odds and ends...

- Don't miss our Jan Meeting for Couples only. Please come alone if your spouse can't make it. Come and listen to our speakers talk about Marriage/Unity. No babysitting will be available.
- Any Oswego residents in favor of the Library referendum who would like to help pass out fliers or have a support sign please call Andy Kaczmarek at Tebrugge Engineering phone (630)552-4390.
- I am sure we have many people that we should remember in our prayer during this time. Please include Donna Haag and her family in your prayers. Donna's mother recently passed away.
- If you are interested in attending a Nutcracker Suite performance it will be Wednesday, December 14TH. The performance will be held at North Central College, in Naperville at 10:00 A.M. The tickets are \$7.00 each. You can order tickets from Laura Kamuda. Her number is (815)372-3291. You will need to order your tickets by December 1ST.

# WOOSH OOSH



If you were close enough, you might have heard the wooshing sound of rockets launching during the last few months. Pat Butler taught a rocket class as part of the co-op offerings. The kids learned about the science behind the rocketry as well as learning about proper construction techniques.

Model rocketry is a very safe hobby and there is a lot of science that can be

explored in this subject area. It makes a great unit study too as topics such as math, science, and history can be integrated into the study of model rockets.

The rocketry class won't be offered again in the spring as Pat's has some scheduling conflicts. Nonetheless, he'd like to pull together an informal group of rocketeers for possibly getting together for more study and to attend some group

launches in the suburban area. There are rocketry competitions that are held by the National Association of Rocketry and Pat's ultimate goal is to get a group of home-schoolers together to compete in these competitions. You can contact Pat at (630)844-1259 if any of your kids are interested.

## TCHE News

307 Boulder Hill Pass  
Montgomery, IL 60538