

# TCHÉ News

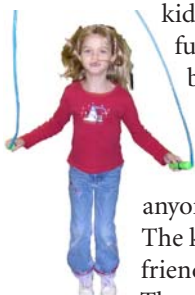
news for the Tri-County Christian Home Educators



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

## Cloverbuds jump roping fundraiser a success

Over a dozen of our Cloverbud Sparks kids had a rope jumping fundraiser on January 21st to benefit the Hope Chest in Plano. The Hope Chest ministry is a food and clothing pantry that helps anyone in need at no charge. The kids took pledges from friends and family members. They promised to jump rope for at least ten minutes in exchange for a food donation.



Two full van loads of food were dropped off at the Hope Chest. Our kids learned a valuable lesson on what it means to help others.

## Newsletter Distribution

If you prefer to receive your newsletter in an electronic format then please contact Pat Butler at [pat@appraisalservices.com](mailto:pat@appraisalservices.com) or call him at (630)897-3339.

The newsletter will be emailed to you each month as an Adobe Acrobat PDF file. Most of you probably already have the free Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer that will allow you to view the PDF file. If not, then please email Pat and he will provide you with instructions on how to download it.

The electronic version of the newsletter will be in color. It will be compressed so that it should travel through your email system without much trouble. Please let Pat know if you have high speed internet access- he can send you a high resolution version of the newsletter that will print out really sharp and crisp from your printer. This is especially nice if you would like to print some of the photos at high resolution. They will basically look as good as regular photos from the photo lab if you have a nice inkjet printer.

We are really encouraging everyone to



Cloverbud Sparks kids show some of the food that was donated to the Hope Chest.

receive this via email for many reasons—

- TCHE saves money on postage and printing materials.
- You'll get your issue right away rather than waiting for it in the mail.
- We can include a lot more color photos because printing costs will not be an issue.
- The quality will be higher because you can view everything in color.
- Less time is spent for the mailing process which means more time can be spent on a higher quality newsletter.

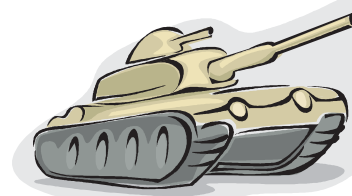
Finally, you can access the current newsletter as well as any back issues at [www.appraisalservices.com/tchenews.htm](http://www.appraisalservices.com/tchenews.htm).

## We Need Your Photos

The majority of photos that I have from last year's events primarily feature our own kids! Diana and I will start to take more group type photos this year to be more inclusive. Meanwhile, feel free to submit any high resolution photos or prints you have of any events so the newsletter photos can be varied. I can scan any regular prints that you have. Thanks. Pat Butler.

## WWII Soldier Reenactment at next monthly meeting

Kenton Skarin will give a presentation at our next monthly meeting on February 3RD at 7 P.M. Kenton will tell us about the life of a WWII soldier and their weapons.



He will tell us about the true story of God's provision for the Air Force Chaplain for the flight crew during the war. Afterwards, he will let each of the children examine and hold some of the weapons. Dads must be present to supervise their kids holding the guns.

This is a family event. Bring your kids, and kids bring your Dad. This program will be held in the gym of Parkview Christian Academy in Yorkville. Kenton is a very inspiring speaker.

# Last year's Valentine's Day Party...



## Make this year's event even better!

TCHE's 2ND Annual Valentine's Day party will take place on Friday, February 11, 2005 at the Plano Christian Church following coop classes at 1:30 P.M. If you have not signed up for the party, it is too late! Unfortunately, we are on a limited budget for this year's party, and supplies have been ordered for the children already signed up.

Please note to those signed up . . . we have 91 adults and children attending this year's party! If you have signed up for a dessert or hors d'oeuvres, please bring enough for 15 people. If you have signed up for forks, plates, cups, or napkins please bring 100. Also, please bring one bag of candy per family.

All children who wish to participate in exchanging Valentine cards should decorate a "mail box" and put their name on it. Since we have so many children, we are splitting them up into 2 groups. Please have each child prepare 36 valentines. We are requesting that you have your child write their name only on the card (fill out the "from" portion, not the "to" portion) so that mail delivery can go smoothly.

If you have not yet signed up for a volunteer position, please be prepared to help the younger children with crafts, help keep the toddlers occupied, and help clean up at the end of the event. Let's make this a memorable event! Thanks to all who are participating.

## Annual Art & Science Fair coming up

Our annual Art & Science fair will be held on March 3RD at 6:00 P.M. at Parkview Christian Academy. All those planning to participate need to register by February 11th by calling Sheri Klaas at (630)553-0317 or Pat Bowman at (815)695-5025. Please let them know your child's name(s), project name and what you will need for setup like electricity and table requirements.

We will also be having an ice cream social after the fair. We are looking for three volunteers to help set up for the fair, three to help with the ice cream social, two people to help as greeters and give programs, and six people to bring toppings and ice cream supplies.

## Book Fair

We are at the beginning stages of organizing our annual book fair. Our book fair is a place where members of our group as well as of the general public can come to sell their gently used books. Mark your calendars to May 5TH at 7 P.M. at Parkview Christian Academy.

If you are interested in reserving a table to sell some of your books please call Diana Butler at (630)844-1259 or send her an email at [diana@appraisalservices.com](mailto:diana@appraisalservices.com). We are looking to have a record turnout this year so please try to attend as a buyer or seller. Thanks!

## Reminders

- Our next monthly meeting will be held at Parkview Christian Academy at 201 W. Center Street in Yorkville on February 3rd at 7 P.M.
- Babes in the Woods outdoor program sponsored by the Kendall County Forest Preserve is on February 15TH. Kids learn about deers and will hunt for their tracks in the snow. (630)553-4111 for more information.
- A Men's fellowship group meeting with chili cookoff will be held on February 19TH at 6:00 P.M. at Mike Brabo's house at 501 W. Madison in Yorkville. Call Mike or Carol Brabo at (630)880-0871 for more information.
- Box Tops fundraiser is ongoing. Bring your box tops to any of our meetings and give them to Marielena Garrison.
- Ozzy's reading program is starting soon. Contact Donna Goll at (630)552-3293 for more information or wait for next month's newsletter.

# Tips for the Science Fair

These articles on the Science Fair are not meant to intimidate, but to stimulate. After seeing my article in print (WOW, great job Mr. Butler!) and speaking with several of you fellow home educators, I realized that I have only touched on one small area of possible science fair projects. In addition to the survey and the experiment mentioned last month we can add the model. There were many excellent models at last year's science fair, you will remember Tim Carlson's catapult and the Klaas family's bridge. Models are favorites to view at a science fair because they work, are often



“hands-on” for visitors and help us to understand the structure of the real thing.

Also appropriate are mathematical projects such as deriving formulas, working a proof or generating statistical data. One of the best examples of this is the project my husband helped our oldest daughter, Elizabeth, design. As the only girl in a class of twelve at Cross Lutheran, she questioned the probability of such an event and used coins to generate representative data and then graphed the results. She learned a lot, we had a lot of fun generating the data, and it made an excellent presentation, but

mathematical projects are not as “showy” as models at fairs.

There are other projects, such as a theoretical discussion or research presentation. Remember Katie Engel's presentation on the Theory of Evolution vs. Creation. And for younger children, collections, with classification, are appropriate. I still remember my first science fair project in third grade, a collection of molds. My family at first tolerated and eventually encouraged my enthusiasm for providing the proper growing conditions for mold to grow on everything! This experience instilled in me sharper observational skills and an awe of the way things work that has not diminished through the years. May you, also, find such benefit in your science fair projects. Your efforts could last a lifetime. Hope to see you March 3!

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## Stanford Achievement Tests

Stanford Achievement Tests will be administered to home schooled children, grades 4-12, at Helmar Lutheran Church in Newark, from March 28-April 1, 2005. Cost for the test is \$40.50 for the SAT or \$58.25 for the combined SAT/OLSAT (Otis-Lennon School Ability Test). There is a \$10.00 administration fee. Tests results are strictly confidential and are mailed to you directly from Bob Jones University Testing and Evaluation. Look for application forms at the February meeting, at co-op, or call Patricia Bowman (815)695-5025 to receive one by mail. Forms must be returned to her with full test payment by February 14.

## Creation Science Expedition

There is a trip sponsored by Creation Expeditions to Peace River in Arcadia, Florida from March 14<sup>TH</sup> to the 16<sup>TH</sup>. The trip includes canoeing a stretch of the river and digging for fossils. The emphasis is on teaching creation science as interpreted by the Bible. The trip costs \$155 per person and \$125 for children under 12 years old.

Our local coordinator is Mike Brabo and ASL Interpreters are provided for the

deaf. Contact Mike for more information at (630)880-0871 (cell phone) or at (630)553-3440 TTY.

## Prayer request corner

*Jack Keye*- specifically pray for Jack's tibia bone to come together to avoid any further surgeries, and for the great recovery he's already experienced.

*Monica Vaughn*- pray that Monica gets the help and rest she needs for the remainder of her pregnancy.

Keep both the Keye and the Vaughn families in your prayers as they care for their loved ones during these coming months.

## Graduation Ceremony

We are considering having a graduation ceremony to recognize the accomplishments of our children. We would like to have the names of parents with 8th and 12th graders so that we may call them to gauge their interest. Call Laura Carlson if you are interested. Her number is (815)498-4915.

# TCHE News

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