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**St. Clair County Christian Home  
Educators Newsletter  
www.sccche.org**

Josh & Nancy Peterson, Coordinators - sccche@gmail.com / 618-806-5674

**UPCOMING SCCCHE MEETING**

**Thursday, December 13th - Talent show and craft fair at 7:00**

Our December meeting will be a wonderful opportunity to share your talents and gifts, especially in the area of music. Acts and musical performances of all kinds and from all ages are welcome, although Christmas music will be especially appreciated. Following the talent show will be the craft fair where you can buy a number of interesting and wonderful things. Many of these will support missions and other worthy causes, not to mention the good opportunity for purchasing Christmas gifts, so bring some extra money to spend on these excellent items!

**For the Talent Show:**

Get your acts together and let [Josh Peterson](#) know the following info by December 12th:

- Name of act
- Type of act
- Names(s) of participants
- Name of piece performed
- Name of composer and arranger
- Name of accompanist
- Number of mics needed
- Number of stands needed
- Other stage needs

**For the Craft Fair:**

We will have tables in the Fellowship Hall (and hallway if needed).  
Set-up begins at 6:00 and set-up **ends at 7:00**, and viewing will happen after the talent show. Get Josh a description of what you will be selling/displaying, and how many tables you need. There will be round tables in the Fellowship Hall.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SCCCHE MEETING**

Thursday, January 17th – an International Potluck.

**FIELD TRIPS**

**McKendree Metroplex**

205 Rec Plex Drive, O'Fallon, IL 62269

January 21st at 10:00 am

Day pass price:  
Ages 5-18 \$5  
Adult \$8  
Family of 4 \$22

What to do? Swim, ice skate, play basketball, fitness  
[gyhttps://www.hiddenvalleyski.com/uploaded/pdfs/1718%20group%20rental%20form.pdf](https://www.hiddenvalleyski.com/uploaded/pdfs/1718%20group%20rental%20form.pdf),  
walk the track, treadmill, dance room, fitness  
classes <http://metrorecplex.com/events/category/group-fitness/>

Must fill out and sign DAY PASS INFORMATION FORM / WAIVER. Arrive early to fill it out there OR I can give you a copy if you see me anywhere.

\*\* those who are already members of this facility, you'll already know what to do. Please come and enjoy thisdayin the company for your fellow homeschoolers.

**HIDDEN VALLEY SKI (see fees)**

17409 Hidden Valley Dr, Eureka, MO 63025

FEBRUARY 12th at 9:45 am. Arrive at 9:30 am  
Payment deadline Feb 2nd

1-Mail to: Wanda Collazo 114 Aquarius Dr, Shiloh, IL 62269  
2-Pay via Paypal: Remember to send as "FRIENDS AND FAMILY" to avoid a fee as we are

not a business.  
PayPal.me/wandacollazo

Fill out the NEW waiver for each skier, print/mail Waiver and payment together, please. You are not officially signed up until payment has been made. Please read the NEW guidelines. The waiver link follows:  
<https://www.hiddenvalleyski.com/uploaded/pdfs/1718%20group%20rental%20form.pdf>  
The guidelines could not be attached to this newsletter, so please connect with Wanda Collazo to find out how to obtain.

Choose 1 of the following options:

1- beginner student skier grades 5 to adult -- \$17.91 includes: ski rental, lesson, use of beginner slopes, lunch. (may choose to upgrade on site for additional \$10.76)

2- intermediate student skier- \$28.67 includes: ski rental, refresher lesson, use of all slopes, lunch

3-Parent skier-\$49.06 can only ski after lesson time, does not incl lunch.

4-Chaperones \$28.67 - MUST be on the slopes, MUST be able to assist students with gear (should have ski knowledge), lunch included. We must have a chaperone ratio of 10 to 1.

We must have a min of 25 student skiers

If you are not skiing, you can hang around inside the lodge or watch and encourage skiers outside. You can help guard skiers' personal items who are outside.

Let's go have fun and be safe!

Living by grace,  
Wanda Collazo  
618-509-3397

## **TLC: THE LIMITED CO-OP**

### **TLC: The Limited Co-op**

Enrichment classes meet on Fridays at First Church of the Nazarene, Belleville. Spring semester runs January 25-April 12, no classes on Feb 8 (church conference) and March 29 (TeenPact).

Interested in offering a class during spring semester? Please email your class concept to

Rebecca Phillips jrphil5@charter.net by December 15. Full catalog listings are due by January 1st. (Include a short description, grade range, class min-max, cost per student, supplies needed, and any outside preparation time.)

TLC schedule & catalog will hopefully be posted at [www.thelimitedcoop.org](http://www.thelimitedcoop.org) by January 4. Registration will open the week of January 7. Mandatory payment meeting on January 17. Classes begin on Friday, January 26.

Interested in finding out more about TLC classes? Set up a family profile at the TLC website.

Contact Rebecca Phillips with questions. Email, call 618-206-8652 or text 618-334-7249.

## **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

## **ENTERTAINMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

## **SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES**

### **MECH Mustangs Basketball**

Come support the MECH Mustangs, homeschool boys basketball team, on Tuesday, December 11th. They are playing at First Baptist Academy, OF. 5:00

### **MECH is looking to add Girl's Volleyball & Basketball, and 12 and under Boys & Girls Basketball**

The Metro East Christian Homeschool (MECH) Mustangs is looking to grow! We would like to gauge interest in girls volleyball, girls basketball, as well as 12 and under boys and girls basketball teams.

Please email [mechmustangsbasketball@gmail.com](mailto:mechmustangsbasketball@gmail.com) by 31 December indicating your interest, gender and age group. We will follow up with more information in January '19.

Additionally, the MECH Mustangs are planning to offer a basketball camp in the near future. Please email [mechmustangsbasketball@gmail.com](mailto:mechmustangsbasketball@gmail.com) and title it "Basketball Camp" if you are interested in that as well. The camp would be two days and is open to boys and girls.

Thanks,  
Athletic Director  
Zac Costilla

## **YEARBOOK**

### **SCCCH Yearbook Cover Design Contest for 2018-2019**

NOTIFICATION DEADLINE: December Meeting

Please notify yearbook coordinator that you intend to submit a cover design)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE - January Meeting

Turn your yearbook cover design implementing the below guidelines

If your child is interested in entering the design contest for the 2018-2019 yearbook cover, the yearbook theme will be Streams, Creeks, Rivers based on John 4:14, John 7:37-39, Zech 14:8-9, John 4:1-15, Psalm 23:2 - Artist's choice.

Submission should be done by a current SCCCHE student - any age.

The cover will be judged on how well it follows the guidelines and represents the theme and our homeschool group. The winning entry for the yearbook cover will receive one free yearbook! Remaining entries will be used inside the yearbook as backgrounds for pages and ads.

See the website for submission info.

## **CALENDAR CHECK**

### **A NOTE FROM OUR COORDINATORS**

#### **A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE CO-COORDINATOR**

December is a busy month, and it is particularly busy for those who, like me, serve as pastors! Sometimes I get a bit overwhelmed with the crass commercialism of the season, and the lack of focus on what is really important. Those of you who have talked with me in past Decembers as the busy and nearly crushing time of Christmas approaches know that I can sometimes be more Grinch than Cindy Lou Who, the sweet girl of Whoville in Dr. Seuss's wonderful book, How the Grinch Stole Christmas! Perhaps the difference between

the Grinch and myself is that the Grinch thinks that Christmas comes from a store, while I know that it is so much more...but I see the whole world around me out shopping galore, and the missed message makes my heart a little bit sore.

Really, I do find it difficult to enjoy the blessed message of God's love shown forth in sending His Son as the baby in the manger of Bethlehem when this simple yet profound gift is drowned out by the cacophony of commercialism and the cluttered calendars that have come to accompany all things Christmas. I guess I'm a Grinch not because I don't know what Christmas means but because I DO know what Christmas means, but I find it hard to focus on that true meaning due to the distractions all around.

I wonder, if a Grinch would visit our local Whoville, and take all our Christmas gifts and even our Christmas Tree, would we actually find our Christmas joy to be more full and more free? If a Grinch would come to the Whos of Home-School-ville and steal every Christmas thing, would we rejoice to hear the Christmas bells ring, and would we still join hands at Christmas and sing?

We have a lot we could learn from the Whos of Whoville—and then we can go beyond the understanding of even Cindy Lou Who. We can know that Christmas is not about presents or parties or stuff in a stocking not used in a shoe. The importance of Christmas is not WHAT, but a WHO. We can learn the lessons of the Whos of Whoville, yes that is true. But we can learn of the love of our Lord too...yes, that's just what we can do.

If you recall, in the book *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* the Grinch comes to a blessed realization when he hears the Whos singing joyfully on Christmas morning even after he had stolen every last present, decoration, tree, and bit of holiday food from the town. Dr. Seuss writes, "Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! 'Maybe Christmas' he thought, 'doesn't come from a store.' 'Maybe Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!'"

In fact, Christmas means more than even the Grinch comprehended. In the birth of His Son, the relationship between God and humanity is mended! So let the bells of your Home-School-ville ring. Let the parents and students of your Home-School-ville sing! Shopping and presents are not the main thing, God sent His Son salvation to bring. That's good news for every Who in Home-School-ville, it's true. God's love at Christmas can reach every Who...yes, every Who, even including YOU.

Merry Christmas!

Rev. Dr. Kirk M. Clayton  
SCCCE Co-Coordinator

**It's on the website**

[SCCCH.org](http://SCCCH.org)

Have a question about things in the group? Deleted your newsletter? Need a phone number for a leader? Want to know about field trips? It's all on the website.

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