

# Northeast Texas Children's Newsletter

Volume 5, Number 1

January - March 2014

## Board Members

Sharline Freeman,  
*Executive Director*

Alicia Currin

Kathleen Hooten

Jalinna Jones,  
*Past President*

Jeanette Moser, *Secretary*

Gil Naiser, *Past President*

Joel Shanks

Becky Sinclair

Donna Tavener

Becky Thompson,  
*President*

Wyman Williams

Trish Wood, *Treasurer*

Colette Young

## Ex officio Members

John Ballotti

Marc Clayton

Bonnie Hunter

David McKenna

Cari Sturch

## The Director's Corner

Much is happening at the Children's Museum as we begin our year. First, we welcome Beckey Thompson as our new president. We also welcome Donna Tavener and Cari Sturch as new board members.

We begin the new year with new sponsored and remodeled exhibits. The Cypress Bank play area will open soon, complete with a drive-through window and a car. Duncan Insurance is sponsoring the remodeling of playhouse. Hunt Regional Healthcare will sponsor the hospital exhibit and its remodeling. All of these promise to encourage children as they grow and learn.

This year will also contain some "firsts". The Museum's first Family Night, sponsored by Colette and Larry Young and Dr Pepper Snapple, is on February 21. Another first will be the Museum Store and Silent Auction on April 28. You'll not want to miss either of these!

We invite you to be a part of this exciting year at the Northeast Texas Children's Museum.

## Santa Arrives Following Ice Storm

Santa was challenged to keep on schedule when an ice storm hit northeast Texas. His arrival was delayed at the Northeast Texas Children's Museum by a week for Brunch with Santa. Brunch with Santa gave children an opportunity to meet Santa, enjoy a pancake breakfast courtesy of

Commerce Kiwanis; write letters to Santa; make a Christmas ornament, get a balloon made by Twist-It Creations, and play in the Museum. This year the children were entertained by the Commerce ISD Children's Choir directed by Ms. Eilene Weimer and by Bettina Zavanut who played her guitar as she sang Christmas carols.



*Sharline Freeman,  
Executive Director*



*The mission of the Northeast Texas Children's Museum is to inspire imagination, enhance creativity, and build confidence in Children.*

# WEIRD SCIENCE

The Weird Science program begins on February 11 under the direction of Kathleen Hooten. This program for fifth graders covers 13 TEKS and helps to prepare students for the STARR test. This year's participants will be coming from Greenville, Caddo Mills, Commerce, Chisum, Cooper, Honey Grove, Dodd City and Campbell. The students rotate through three stations, including Crazy Creature Blood (measuring volume lab using graduated cylinders), Earth Ooze (plasticity lab with balance beam balances), and Icy Hot Swamp (salt/freshwater temperature lab using Celsius thermometers). The highlight of each session includes the Mad Scientist's Workshop (wacky science experiments) led by Kathleen. Students leave the program loving the action in science!



## *Healthy Kids from A to Z*



The spring semester of Healthy Kids from A to Z began eight weeks of spring classes on Wednesday, January 15. The session began with the study of the letter "I". This time the letter "I" stood for individual. The children weighed themselves and measured their heights. Snack time included making a face with yogurt and berries. Children from Commerce, Greenville, Cooper, Mt. Pleasant and Blossom have participated in this pre-school program sponsored by Hunt Regional Healthcare Foundation. The second set of eight letters of the alphabet will be a part of the spring curriculum. Classes will conclude on March 5 with the letter "P".

## FAMILY NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

### *Family Night Announced*

The first annual Family Night at the Northeast Texas Children's Museum is set to provide additional time for families to visit. The Children's Museum will open from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. The Family Night is sponsored by Larry and Colette Young with Dr Pepper Snapple. This will be a free admission night, and we hope to see new faces in the Museum.

## *Sixth Annual Daddy-Daughter Dance*

The sixth Daddy Daughter Dance will be held at the Northeast Texas Children's Museum on Saturday, February 8 from 6:30 to 9:00. With the theme of "Sweet Moments", this year's dance promises to be the best yet. Beckey Thompson, chairwoman of the event, will bring her experience from last year to make the dance a special evening for young girls throughout northeast Texas. Daniel Starks, disc jockey, is also bringing a year of experience to the event. In addition to the dance, food, and Valentine photos, young girls may make bracelets, marshmallow pops, and Valentine cards for moms. Each girl will also receive a wrist corsage. We hope that the Daddy Daughter Dance will give young girls "Sweet Memories" for many years to come. Tickets are \$35; tickets are \$40 on the day of the event.



Dr. Howard "Chub" Lambert and his wife, Freda, moved to Commerce in 1968. Dr. Lambert was a math teacher at ETSU and later Texas A&M University-Commerce. When the Children's Museum opened in 1992, he and Freda began a long and continuing involvement with



*Gil Naizer, PhD* the museum. They volunteered one day a week at the museum and did whatever needed to be done. "Chub" made a magnet board and a magnet table for the museum; these have been enjoyed by children for the last 12 years. Can you find the Bill Dings that he made?

When the Children's Museum began a Dino Math program for third graders, "Chub" was back at the museum teaching. Over 4,000 children became his students as he taught them to weigh items in grams and ounces. "Chub" loves wood working and traveling and camping with his wife Freda. They have visited all 50 states. The Northeast Texas Children's Museum appreciates the many hours of volunteerism given by both Freda and "Chub" Lambert.



# Silent Auction



## *Silent Auction and Museum Store Set to Benefit Programs*

A new and exciting event for the Children's Museum will be a fundraising event on Monday, April 28 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. The Silent Auction will be held at the Sam Rayburn Student Center. This event is being chaired by Jalinna Jones and Donna Tavener;

Claire Reynolds will be in charge of the Museum Store which is also a part of the evening. We need items for the Silent Auction, but we also need your attendance for the evening.



### *Donating to the Museum*

To give donors another option, donations to the Northeast Texas Children's Museum can now be made through PayPal by going to our web page at <http://netxcm.com/index.php> or you may come by the Museum to make a donation at any time. You may also mail the form below. Remember that every dollar helps keep our doors open!

#### **Donor Form**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount of Donation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to:** *Northeast Texas Children's Museum  
P. O. Box 994  
NW Corner Culver and Highway 50  
Commerce, Texas 75428*

*Telephone: (903) 886-6055 or (903) 456-4789*

*Email: [director@netxcm.com](mailto:director@netxcm.com)*