



Welcome New Members:

Doug & Kim Kearnes
Timothy 10th grade
Molly 8th grade

NCHE Newsletter

October is here soon...

October will be here in only a few more days. It's a great time of year to start planning your field trip or activity for the year. We are looking forward to all the fun and exciting events that you are planning for 2008-2009. Remember, it is every members responsibility to

plan a field trip or activity during the year. It is best to plan it before April as the end of school gets very busy with evaluations and end of year events. The recognition list will be printed in the November newsletter. Remember to take lots of pictures

at your event and send them to me for the year book and the website. Try to take a group picture and close up shots.
Thank you,
Debbie Hopper



October is here!



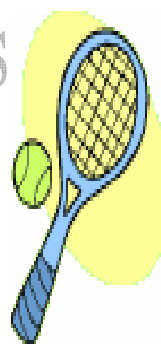
Game Day I - Take a break and join us for Game Day at the Hopper's home on **Friday, October 17, from 2-4 p.m.**

We will have all the usual games available and the pool should still be warm enough for the kids to swim. Bring a snack to share and I'll furnish the lemonade. Please RSVP by

Thursday Oct. 16 to 225-9160, or ddhopper@bellsouth.net. Game Day II will be scheduled for Feb./March We look forward to seeing you at Game Day. The Hoppers

NCHE Tennis

Ages 7 and up.
Mondays from 4-5 PM.
Tuesdays from 9-10 AM
Another day and time may be added if we have enough interest.
\$5 per child for a one hour lesson.
Please contact Becky LaMere to sign up 225-8361
LaMere6@bellsouth.net



The Ross family has a new addition, congratulations!!

Monday, September 8th
@ 12:30 am labor started.
10:00 am
Hannah was born.
She weighed 9
pounds even,
and was 21 inches long.



Conners Corn Maze

Date: Tuesday Oct 14,
2008 @ 10am

Cost: \$7 per person
23 months and younger are free

Please RSVP to Linsey Davis
904-548-0207 or
LinseyBDavis@hotmail.com

Your day at A-Maize-Ing Acres includes the following fun activities:
-A brief description of the maze and how to navigate it.
-A brief lesson on the importance of agriculture.
-A hay ride out to visit the garden, the barnyard (with over 100 animals to learn about including

chickens, ducks, pea cocks, pea hens, pigs, the goats (McKenzie and Snowy, Snowy's baby kid: Mia), Diamond - Mia's dad, Mini Pearl - our baby pigmy goat. And of course Jack, Hershey, and Candy the donkeys.

-After all the fun at the barn, on to see the cows and the baby calves. And be careful... the cows may eat your seat!!!
- Everyone will enjoy a trip through the maze, riding the pedal carts & the cow train, jumping on the hay, racing the ducks, sliding on the slides, playing in the corn box, visiting our pumpkin patch in Oct. and shopping at the general store. The

general store has lots of hand made items and home made jams and jellies, as well as snacks and novelties.

-Shaded picnic areas with tables provided for picnic lunches.

www.connerscornfieldmaze.com



For man, autumn is a time of harvest, of gathering together. For nature, it is a time of sowing, of scattering abroad.
~Edwin Way Teale



Ximenez-Fatio House museum

St. Augustine

Come join us as we explore the Ximenez-Fatio House museum and the Florida Alligator Farm. The date for this expedition is **Friday, November 14th**. We will plan to meet at **9 a. m.** at the Starbucks at River City Market Place. Then we will head south to the museum at St. Augustine for a tour of how folks lived in 1798. The house has been fully restored with period furniture, and we will have our very own tour guide who will explain what life was like during that time. After our tour, we will head to the Alligator Farm where we will eat our sack lunches at the picnic area. We will

then be treated to an educational talk for our group. Afterwards, we will be free to explore the farm on our own. The **TOTAL** cost will be \$10.00 per person; **cash only**. This is a substantial savings as admission to the farm is over \$20 for adults. For questions call Kelly Bartchlett (904) 845-7068 or Laura Harwood (904) 225-0121. For more information check out <http://www.ximenezfatiohouse.org:80/> and <http://www.alligatorfarm.us/> Please R.V.S.P. to Laura by October 30th. The groups will be limited to 35 per group.



St. Augustine's Alligator Farm.

Interested in Acting?

Interested in Acting?



Hey fellow high school students!!!! My name is Heather Van Wagner. I recently moved back to the area and was wondering if anyone would be interested in participating in an acting group with me. There is not too much for people our age to do around Fernandina/Yulee, so I thought we could form our own group! We would probably meet

once a month, depending on the interest, and would try to get something together for the spring. If anyone is interested, please call or e-mail me and we will try to find a date to get everyone together! My number is 904-277-2798 and my e-mail is grace_is_sufficiency@yahoo.com
Thanks Heather



What? Iron Sharpens Iron

When? October 23, 2008 @ 7 PM

Where? Jan Wilson's house 97087 Chimney Ridge Court, Yulee

Questions? 904-335-0571

Thanks! All God's Best, Jan Wilson

Guitar Lessons

Do you know a child who wants to be a guitarist? Jan Smith is offering group guitar lessons. Her mission is to teach and spread the joy of learning while sharing Gods love through music.

She is a professional musician trained in music therapy, educating young and old music students for more than thirty-five years in guitar, piano, recorder, pipe organ, and voice.

Using a balance of styles developed, she incorporates traditional method for teaching beginner to advanced. An emphasis on playing by sight, chords, and ear ~ building a strong understanding of music theory.

* 5-6 person group for a six week

session and recital is \$40. (due first day)

* Students must be at least 7 years old (dexterity purposes)

* Course will be for absolute beginners up to early intermediate. (can play less than 5 chords, know less than 3 strums, are new to tablature and/or note reading)

* Group can pick a time frame of Friday AM (Jan's 1st pick) or PM (2nd pick), Monday (3rd pick) held at St. Peter's Parish, Fernandina Beach in the choir room.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce Jan Smith to our home educator's group. We are blessed to have her in our community, and have her offer affordable quality lessons specifically to NCHE youth. For further information please contact her at 904.310.6639 or 276.920.3967 (cell) Call on me for a reference, Kirsten Mosco (904)548-9900.

www.4lyons.com has inexpensive guitars in all sizes if you can't find a loaner.



Amelia Island Museum of History

Check the Website Out

Pam Rushton does a great job of keeping up our NCHE website. If you have not checked it out lately you need to stop by the next time you're surfing the web (do people still say that?). Pam has updated the photos and there are pictures of Orientation Night, Beach Day, and the NCHE Family Cook Out. There are also links to other home school support groups and information about NCHE (newsletters, calendar, etc.). If you know of someone interested in home schooling our website is a great place to send them to get information.

www.geocities.com/nassaucountyhomeeducators



Thank you Pam for the great job you do in keeping up the website.



Mom's Lunch Out?

MOMS!!!! Join us Saturday, October 11 at 1 p.m. at the Cracker Barrel in River City for our first Mom's Lunch Out! There will not be a Mom's Night Out for this month as this activity replaces it. We can have good food, fellowship, fun and...there could possibly be shopping involved!!!! For this event we can car-pool, if desired. In fact, if you'll be kind enough to contact me in advance (why not do it now, while you're thinking of it?) via

phone or email, we can create a caravan and all meet at the Target parking lot.

When I was new to this area, Mom's Night Out was a great way for me to get to know some of the mom's in the home school group in a non-intimidating way. I have heard new homeschoolers say this was a great way for them to get advice on home schooling or even just plain mom-issues. Friendships have developed and been cultivated, we get a break and the chance to get some sage

Tour the Amelia Island Museum of History on Thursday, October 9th @ 10:00 a.m..

Come learn about Nassau County's rich and unique history; please join us for the 45 minute to 1 hour guided tour. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the parking lot located on 233 South 3rd Street, Fernandina Beach. Our will begin at 10:15. The cost is \$5.00 for children 5 years and older and \$8.00 for adults. Children under 5 are free but she prefers 5 and older on the tour. Please bring cash so I can collect the money in the parking lot and pay in full as a group.

R.S.V.P. to Angela Dee by 10/1/08

E-mail: www.balm4.netzero.net or call 548.0492.



advice from one another. Unfortunately, Mom's Night Out participation has dwindled quite a bit over the past several months but we don't want to call it quits without one more try!

So please, if you don't want to see this great activity end, contact Michele to RSVP :)

Michele Reuter
904-225-0707 or 654-6714

itsabeautifullawn@comcast.net



Bethlehem Marketplace

Wednesday, October 29

6:00 - 9:00 pm

Admission: One non-perishable food item... can goods, rice, noodles, jelly, peanut butter, sauces, canned meats, etc.



- Food and entertainment for the entire family.
- Reasonably priced food; games for all ages.

Come and experience the excitement of:

Baby Moses' journey down the Nile, Daniel in the Lion's Den, The Fishermen, David & Goliath, Jonah & the Whale, Noah's Ark and many more!!

Springhill Baptist Church
941017 Old Nassauville Rd.
Fernandina Beach, FL
(904) 261-4741

Bring your children to a safe, fun environment-
A Halloween alternative event

*No scary costumes please!

STATE PARKS INVITE VISITORS TO ENJOY October EVENTS

Talbot Islands hosts interpretive programs for the entire family-

JACKSONVILLE – The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Talbot Islands State Parks invite visitors to explore the area's natural environment throughout the month of October. Visitors will have the chance to discover the importance of the wildlife and vegetation that is part of north Florida's barrier islands.

October programs include:

Trekking on a Trail; Big Talbot Island State Park

Saturday, October 4th at 11:00 a.m.

Join a park ranger for an introduction to the basics of hiking. Weather, wildlife tracking, trail safety and proper gear will all be discussed. The program will take place at the Bluffs pavilion on Big Talbot Island. No reservations are necessary and the program is free with \$2 vehicle entrance fee.

Shark Teeth; Fort George Island Cultural State Park

Sunday, October 12th at 11:00 a.m.

Join a park ranger for a discussion on the different types of shark teeth that can be found on the area's beaches. This program will take place at the Ribault Club on Fort George Island Cultural State Park. No reservations are necessary and the program is free.

Beach Walk; Little Talbot Island State Park

Saturday, October 18th at 11:00 a.m.

Join a park ranger for a walk on the beach as they explain the importance of undeveloped beach habitat, including many interesting facts about sea creatures and common shells found in the area. The program will take place at pavilion five on Little Talbot Island. No reservations are necessary and the program is free with regular park admission.

Talbot Critter; Little Talbot Island State Park

Sunday, October 26th at 1:00 p.m.

Join a park ranger to learn about the many common species that inhabit the natural communities of the undeveloped barrier islands of northeast Florida. The program will take place at pavilion six on Little Talbot Island. No reservations are necessary and the program is free with regular park admission.

The Florida Park Service is dedicated to providing programs that are accessible to all. Persons with special needs which may limit participation or enjoyment of any program should advise the park in advance so assistance with reasonable accommodations can be provided.

For additional information on any of these programs, call the Talbot Islands Ranger Station at (904) 251-2320. For more information about Florida State Parks, visit www.FloridaStateParks.org.

These events will take place: October 4th, 12th, 18th and 26th. Talbot Islands State Parks, 12157 Heckscher Drive, Jacksonville, Florida.

CONTACT: Tera Meeks or Eric Steffey, (904) 251-2323

Jessica Kemper, (850) 245-3029, (850) 251-0834 (cell)



On **October 11th**, we are taking a field trip to the **Okefenokee Wildlife Refuge**. **October 11th** is a Saturday and coincides with the **Annual Okefenokee Festival**. In addition to the Visitor Center, the boardwalk and hiking trails, on that day, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., the Chesser Island Homestead will have an Open House to showcase how people once lived in Southeast Georgia. We can see how settlers made soap, brooms, butter, quilts, baskets, and other everyday items. We can examine how settlers washed clothes, smoked meat, made pickets, and survived in and around the swamp. We can sample boiled peanuts, soup, biscuits, and other items cooked on a wood-burning stove. We can listen to the sounds of bluegrass music, stories, and four-note singing. We can encounter horses, mules, and other livestock. And enjoy the games your grandparents played - musical chairs, wheelbarrow races and more! Additionally, in Folkston, there will be a parade that morning to coincide with this special day.

While I don't think attending all of these events as a group is feasible, I have arranged for our home school group to have a **boat tour at 2:00 p.m.** at a discounted price, if we can get a group of 10 together - \$14.40 for ages 12 and up, \$9.00 for ages 5-11, free for kids 4 & under. The boat tour lasts for 90 minutes and you can read more about it at

<http://www.okefenokeeadventures.com/tours.htm>. Additionally, if you would like to participate with us, we can get the refuge entry fee of \$5 waived. If you are interested, please contact me by October 4th, so we can make arrangements for you to get an entry fee waiver, as well as where to plan to meet for the boat tour. My phone number is 548.0572 and my email address is pej2007@aol.com. Thank you! piper john.



The tour of Wolfson Children's Hospital has been rescheduled for November 18th. Thanks!! Dana Cobb



Park Day every Thursday at
Center Park @ 1:30 p.m.

Janet DiDonato
P.O. Box 15279
Fernandina Beach, FL 32035
717.572.6542
jdidonato@criticaldesign.net

Pres.: Dick and Debbie Hopper
225.9160 ddhopper@bellsouth.net
Vice President: Brett Whitaker
261.3954
Secretary: Michele Reuter 225.0707
Treasurer: Teresa Taylor 491.8513
Website: Pam Rushton:
mrush78787@aol.com
261.3689
Newsletter: Janet DiDonato

We Are on the Web!

geocities.com/nassaucountyhomeeducators

October 2008



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November Activities: a.m./Mom's Night Out a.m./ Wolfson Children's	Daylight saving time 11/1 @ 2 11/13 @ 7 p.m./ St. Augustine, 11-14 @ 9 Hospital 11-18/		1	Park Day @ 1:30/ 2	3	4
5	Tennis 4-5/ 6	Tennis 9-10/ 7	8	Amelia Island History 9 Museum @ 9 a.m./ Park Day @ 1:30/	10	Mom's Lunch Out 11 p.m./ Okefenokee @ 11:00 a.m.
12	Tennis 4-5/ 13	Conner's Corn 14 Maze @ 10 a.m./ Tennis 9-10/	15	Park Day @ 1:30/ 16	Game Day @ 2-4/ 17	18
19	Tennis 4-5/ Dead- line for the November Newsletter 20	Tennis 9-10/ 21	22	Park Day @ 1:30/ Irons sharpen Irons @ 7 p.m. 23	24	25
26	Tennis 4-5/ 27	Tennis 9-10/ 28	29	Park Day @ 1:30/ 30	Halloween	31 