

March 2012

The Center



The Chicago Southwest Suburban Community
Parish and Community Center Foundation
Sunday services 12:30pm and 4:30pm

<http://www.thecenterpalos.org>
email: centerpalospark@sbcglobal.net
Phone: (708)361-3650

“A place for celebration, enrichment and healing”

INVEST IN A CHILD!

To this day my memories of camp here at The Center are fond ones. I was a camper back in the sixties. My horse's name in Ranch Camp was Snow and he took good care of me on many adventurous rides. One ride in particular, a night ride from Swallow Cliff back to our barn, is etched in my memory. Eight of us boys and our two counselors cantering down a moonlit trail – yes, we cantered it all the way from Swallow Cliff to Route 45. It was exhilarating! Even back in the sixties when I attended camp The Center was on its thirtieth year of offering a summer camp program for youth. 1965 was the first year we offered Ranch Camp – a two-week experience on horseback and living in a ranch cabin. To this day there still is no electricity in the bunkhouse...something we take great pride in!

Though we've grown through almost 76 years of camp, one thing remains the same. It is our commitment to as much innocence and simplicity as we can possibly muster. Camp is two weeks of living outdoors in the fun and positive atmosphere of The Center where respect for people, respect for animals, and respect for all nature are top priorities. Children learn by experience and they absorb those experiences of their early lives into their character. What's two weeks of camp worth to a child these days?

Well if you feel like we do – you know it's worth a lot. For three generations we've tried to hold onto that feeling, that idea, that there is much wonder, awe and growth in the simplest and most natural of things. Those experiences that stay with you a lifetime...a midnight horseback ride under the stars, getting ridiculously muddy in a creek with your cabin mates, listening to the crickets, katydids, frogs, and the occasional yelps of coyotes around a campfire at night, climbing an apple tree with your best friend and eating so many apples that you get sick, coming through with teamwork to “capture the flag.” Camp is two weeks of directly social (sorry, no texting) outdoor living and fresh air!

Please make an investment in our Camp Scholarship Fund. This fund awards scholarships to children who would otherwise be financially unable to attend camp. Each year we try to raise enough money to let approximately one-third of our campers come to camp on a scholarship. Our goal this year is \$50,000. We need your help to make this happen. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated! The success of the scholarship campaign has always been due to contributions both large and small. Please try to contribute in any way that you are able. Our camp experience is 100% wholesome natural fun – good for the mind and soul of any child, and memories that will last a lifetime.

Once upon a time a man found an eagle's egg and placed it under a brooding hen. The eaglet hatched with the chickens and grew to be like them. She clucked and cackled; scratched the earth for worms; flapped her wings and managed to fly a few feet in the air. Years passed.

One day, the eagle, now grown old, saw a magnificent bird above her in the sky. It glided in graceful majesty against the powerful wind, with scarcely a movement of its golden wings. Spellbound, the eagle asked, "Who's that?"

"That's the king of the birds, the eagle," said her neighbor.

"He belongs to the sky. We belong to earth—we're chickens."

So the eagle lived as a chicken, for that's what she thought she was.

So...who do you think you are? How do you see yourself? The one who can't _____ (you fill in the blank) or the one who always _____ (once again, you can fill in that space).

You are not what you can or can not do. Do you know that your true identity is that you are a child of God, a unique presence of the Holy One. When you know that, you can understand what Nelson Mandela meant when he said: "Your playing small does not serve the world."

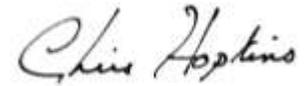
The eagle played it small. She did not understand who she really was. She misunderstood her true identity. And instead of soaring like the eagle she was, she scratched the Earth, remaining Earthbound believing she was a chicken. There is nothing wrong with scratching the earth, if you really are a chicken, but it is not what an eagle was meant to do.

When we misunderstand or do not see our true identity as made in the image and likeness of God, we miss a unique opportunity to be who we were created to be. We miss our chance to make known the vision and dream of God. We miss our chance to participate in the Love of God offering compassion, forgiveness and Love to a world that is sorely in need.

Do not let another day go by without recognizing your true identity.

The world doesn't need another chicken.

PEACE!



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SPRING RETREATS AT THE CENTER

You deserve a break! Treat yourself to a retreat... Now is the time to register!

SPRING FOLKRAFT RETREAT:



Friday, March 16, 5 p.m. – Saturday, March 17, 5 p.m.
Retreat leaders: April Schabes and Lois Lauer
Join us for a delightful weekend of welcoming in the spring, with creative projects inspired by Beatrix Potter, featuring collaged journals, spring twig swags, and delightful baskets of crepe paper crocus and snowdrops, plus naturally dyed eggs with rabbit and leaf designs. All this, plus warm fellowship and walks in the woods to listen for the spring peepers and to look for the earliest signs of new life. Peter Rabbit would love this weekend--we think you will too! Cost per participant is \$116 which includes leadership, accommodations, meals, and all major supplies. Early registration is advised!

WOMEN'S SPRING PATHWAY TO SERENITY RETREAT:
Friday, April 27, 5 p.m. to Saturday, April 28, 5 p.m.
We've planned The Center's 12th spring Pathway to Serenity retreat for women in Alcoholics Anonymous, featuring time for quiet contemplation and meaningful conversation, plus spiritual reflection and meditation, as well as enjoying the beautiful springtime woods. Retreat cost: \$ 96 includes leadership, 3 meals, accommodations, and retreat supplies.

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*Are you sick of being stuck inside? Are you craving fresh air?
Have you been missing the sunshine all winter?*

If you answered yes to any of these questions, The Children's Farm is the perfect solution! Beginning March 3rd our farm will be open every Saturday and Sunday from 1pm – 4pm. You are welcome to stop by and enjoy the fresh air, natural environment, and of course, the animals! While at our farm, you are encouraged to take a self-guided tour through our barns where you are able to closely interact with all of our farm animals. All of our new babies will be arriving this season so you do not want to miss out! Admission is \$5 per person and children under 2 years old are free! See you soon!

An Expanded Spring Junior Farmers...

Join us in the welcoming of spring! Junior Farmers in the spring sessions will have the unique opportunity to experience all the spring babies of the farm! We will be blessed with the arrival of baby goats, lambs, calves, bunnies, & chicks! Children will spend one hour a week truly engaged with our farm animals. They will enjoy the new babies that have already arrived as well as help prepare for the arrival of others. The junior farmer classes are led by Miss Kay who has a true passion for baby animals herself. She will certainly pass that trait along to all of her junior farmers! Two sessions are available for your consideration.

Spring Kick-Off Session

\$48 – 4 week session

Beginning February 28th, 29th & March 3rd

Spring Session

\$84 - 7 week session

Beginning April 10th, 11th & 14th

Choose a Session:

Ages 3-6

Saturday 10:00-11:00am or 11:30-12:30pm

Tuesday or Wednesday 10:00-11:00am or 1:30-2:30pm

Ages 6-8

Saturday 2:00-3:00pm

Ages 6-12

Tuesday or Wednesday 4:00-5:00pm

Ages 9-12

Saturday 3:30-4:30pm

Seeking outdoor lovers with an enthusiasm for children and animals...

The Children's Farm is looking for educational farm Tour Guides to help with weekday group tours and weekend family time. Educational Farm Volunteers need no experience, as all training will be provided. The only necessary qualifications are an interest in animals and nature and a love for children! Please call Brittany or Amy for more information. (708) 361-3650

Why The World Needs Summer Camp

I recently came across an inspiring article published by the American Camp Association - an organization that The Center's summer camp has been accredited with for over thirty years. The ACA has high standards and does a wonderful job of keeping the camping industry innovative and successful. The resources and networking opportunities they provide to the camp community are endless and I found this article to be one of their most meaningful and accurate pieces. The author is Jeff Merhige, executive director of YMCA Camp Kern and camp professional for over twenty years. His article expresses the struggle parents have when considering the choice to send their child away into the 'waiting arms of strangers who promise to take care of them'. However he goes on to say the following...

Camp is an independent experience that shapes one's character and life — a controlled, safe environment where children and youth are able to make their own decisions about simple things (what activity they want to do, how many s'mores they want to make, or what clothes they are going to wear) and about important things (who they will hang out with . . . who will be their friends).

Camp is a place where kids interact with people face-to-face and, at the same time, learn about themselves and others around a camp fire, under the stars, or sitting around a dining hall table. Children find a world filled with possibilities unavailable to them in everyday life.

Camps give kids a chance to practice being the best they can be. They experience a place designed to create happy memories and encourage self-expression. They have the opportunity to climb trees, ride horses, and even experience the success of winning the big game! It stays with them forever. Kids will learn from a full range of emotions and human experiences including homesickness, friendship, disagreements, teamwork, frustrations, jubilant success, and more.

As parents, our hopes and jobs are to ready our kids to be productive, independent, and capable people — to prepare them to thrive without us. Camp offers a way for kids to start developing those skills in the best possible environment. It makes me a bit sad every time my son runs off to join his cabin group without even a look back . . . and at the same time, I burst with pride watching him growing into a happy, independent, tolerant, open, confident, and capable person. I know that we will have plenty to talk about when he gets home from camp. I also know he will remember the trust and gift of his time at camp, and it will add to him for the rest of his life.

There is so much competition for our children's time in the summer — sports practices, summer school, well-deserved vacations. But let's not forget the value of a camp experience — camp is a gift we can give our children that they will benefit from and remember forever. If ever there was a time when the world needed a generation of future leaders who understood the intricacies of living in a community, having tolerance, and being open — that time is now.

Camp is a gift we can give our children that they will benefit from and remember forever.

The Center has been providing the gift of camp for over 75 years and through the help of our camp scholarship fund, we have also been providing the gift of financial assistance for children who would otherwise not be able to attend. Last year, the scholarship fund was able to grant funding to 56 campers! That means that nearly 40% of our campers attended camp due to the generosity of our scholarship donors.

Fundraising for our 2012 Camp Scholarship Fund is well underway and we are asking for your support. If a monetary contribution is possible and you believe in the mission of The Center's Summer Camp, please, help us pass along the gift of camp. Help us teach tolerance and encourage self expression. Help us build confident youth and provide the experience to create lasting, happy memories. Help us persuade laughter and grow friendships. Help us provide CAMP!





*Summer Camp
at The Children's Farm*



Are you looking forward to Spring?... Mark your calendar...



EMERSON HILL NIGHT: Jenny Riddle as Abigail Adams, Dolley Madison, and Louisa Adams

Sunday, March 18, 5:30 p.m. dinner, followed by 6:30 p.m. program

Jenny Riddle returns to The Center, this year performing as our country's early first ladies. You may remember Jenny's outstanding performances here in past years as America's more modern first ladies and most recently as Julie Andrews. Help us welcome her back as she dramatizes the life of Abigail Adams, Dolley Madison, and Louisa Adams.

Dinner and show cost: \$16. Reservations required.

Mark your calendars now:

Coming in April:

April 3, Tuesday luncheon, 12 noon: Celebrate the Seder Meal with Chris and Bill Hopkins

April 5th: Holy Thursday Communion Service at 7pm

April 6th: Good Friday Stations of the Cross on the Labyrinth

April 8th: Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 7am

April 10, Tuesday, 5:30 -7 pm: First Wildflower Walk! Will continue every Tuesday for 6 weeks. Please call to register so we can notify you if we decide to have a walk sooner than April 10---Spring wildflowers may come early this year!

Coming up in May:

Our sixth annual Springtime Tea...amidst the Wildflowers!

Sunday, May 6, 2-4 p.m.: An afternoon of "high tea" sandwiches and sweets, plus music, wildflowers, and a heart-warming speech. Weather permitting, seating available both indoors and out. Hats and gloves are encouraged! Tickets: \$25 each, by reservation after March 15

MIND--BODY FITNESS: *New session begins March 5*

6 Monday evenings, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., at the Anderson Center at the Farm

Wellness/fitness educator Pam Johnson is back to lead this popular weekly experience, using the NIA mind-body technique, which includes the stillness of Tai--Chi, the dynamic poses of yoga, the explosive power of martial arts, and the grace and spontaneity of ethnic dance. Pam offers an opportunity to listen and be in tune with your body, to learn how it feels to be in balance without aches and pains, able to move freely like a child, to experience grace and beauty in movement, to reconnect with your breath and yourself, and to peel through layers of stress. This class is beneficial for all fitness levels and is designed for the beginner as well as for those who have taken some form of mind--body classes already. Class fee for 6--week session is \$72. Please pre-register before March 3. Bring yoga mat and water.

REIKI

Sunday, March 25, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room of the Lodge

Reiki is a gentle, relaxing and peaceful form of energy healing, especially beneficial for those suffering from physical or emotional pain. Reiki practitioner Sharon Butler will be joined by fellow Reiki practitioners to offer their healing services, asking a suggested donation of \$10 per participant to The Center. Advance registration is necessary; as participation is limited. Until the 15th of the month, registration is limited to new participants in our Reiki program. After that time, returning participants may register for any remaining spaces.

T'AI CHI CHIH®

8 Fridays, beginning March 16, 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. in the Parlor of the Lodge.

T'ai Chi Chih® is a gentle movement meditation described as "Joy Thru Movement." Explore the possibility of reducing stress, balancing blood pressure and improving balance, coordination, concentration and memory. T'ai Chi Chih® offers the opportunity to experience these and many more potential benefits by learning 20 simple movements which, after this 8 week session, will take only 35 minutes to perform. Dee Burton is an accredited instructor who has been a practitioner of this form for over 6 years. Both beginners and returners of all ages and abilities are welcome! You can participate either standing or seated. Wear comfortable clothing and flat bottomed shoes (no flip flops).

Class fee for 8-weeks is \$80. You may pre-register or you may call in a reservation to attend the first class before committing to the entire 8 weeks.

Celebrating your wedding anniversary in March? Then you are invited to our March

ANNIVERSARY DINNER AND RENEWAL OF VOWS CEREMONY

Sunday, March 25, beginning with 4:30 p.m. Vespers.

Whether you were married in our chapel, a grand cathedral, or a courthouse, we invite you to this beautiful evening of celebrating and renewing your marriage commitment. The evening begins with a Vespers Service at 4:30 p.m. in the Chapel. After Vespers, you will enjoy a gracious candlelight dinner in the lodge and then return to the Chapel for the Renewal of Wedding Vows ceremony. For reservations, send \$75 for dinner for two, to be received no later than March 12.

Planning ahead? The next Anniversary Dinner is scheduled for April 15.

TOASTMASTERS

Wednesday evenings, March 7 and 21, 7:00 p.m.

If you are interested in improving and practicing your public speaking skills, we invite you to join our supportive group. We take turns leading the meetings and giving speeches, and we having fun doing it. We're all in this effort together and gain confidence from the encouragement of each other. We invite you to come as a guest to the next meeting and to consider becoming a Center Toastmaster. Contact Toastmasters Dave Sanders or Lois Lauer for more information.

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY FORUM

Sunday, March 18, 2-3:30 p.m.

Nature Photography Instructor Rick Steffen offers monthly get-togethers during the winter months for photography enthusiasts and those looking for photographic inspiration. We watch and discuss amazing films of outstanding nature photography. Please call The Center to say you will attend.

THE CENTER SINGERS

Every Monday, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The Center Singers, a volunteer choral group of folks who enjoy music, have rehearsals each Monday evening from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the Lodge. The group sings once each month at Chapel Vespers and at the Easter Sunrise Service in April, and always welcomes new members.

FELLOWCRAFTERS GIFT SHOP

Can March really be here already???? We have been blessed to have a mild winter, but we will surely welcome springtime in all its glory! If you can't quite wait for the wildflowers of spring to appear, visit the Fellowcrafters Gift Shop for a lovely assortment of florals to bring a springtime touch to your walls and doors. To help you celebrate St. Patrick's Day, we have a wonderful collection of shamrock pins, magnets, and headbands. New this year are sparkly shamrock necklaces and very cute doorknob hangers. And look closely, for you may even begin to see hints of Easter in the shop. There is a legend that when you see your first Robin of the year, you should make a wish—so be on the lookout because they should be arriving soon (or you may see the brave one that never left the area). May your wishes come true, and happy spring from the Fellowcrafters!

SPIRITUAL COMPANIONSHIP

A spiritual companion helps others freely explore what God is doing in their lives and guides them toward determining their own response. Spiritual companionship is not psychotherapy, although a person in therapy may also seek spiritual companionship, in order to explore how God's call and compassion are present during life's toughest moments. We all need the love, support, and witness of other travelers on this, our spiritual journey. Spiritual Director Kathy Fontaine donates her time and expertise to The Center, by offering her one-on-one spiritual companionship services to anyone seeking spiritual direction through prayer, meditation, and dialogue. The cost is \$20/hour, which Kathy donates to the camp scholarship fund. Please, call the office at any time for details about setting up appointments with Kathy, who is here as a spiritual companion all day every Tuesday.

WOMANTALK COFFEE HOUR! Tuesday, March 27, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

WOMANTALK! is a wonderfully nurturing and supportive women's discussion group, led by Mary Ann Grzych, and focusing on the month's readings in Sarah Ban Breathnach's *Simple Abundance daybook*, or any other inspirational resources that ladies would like to bring to share. The focus of Womantalk is on learning to live authentically, joyfully, simply, and gratefully. No cost, but please call to register.

CENTER CINEMAPLEASE STAY TUNED FOR THE NEXT CENTER CINEMA IN APRIL.....



For your spiritual enrichment.....

Meditation: Attending the Silence

Every **Tuesday evening: 5:30 pm- 6:00 pm**

Every **Monday and Thursday morning: 9:00 am-9:30 am**

Please join Chris Hopkins for a 20 minute period of silent meditation each week. Come whenever you are able.

Gather Round the Table

Sunday evening, March 11th & March 25th : 6:00 pm

This gathering is a circle of rich conversation and prayer. We remember when Jesus broke bread with his disciples and friends and we do the same. We welcome all to spend a brief time of deepening their relationship with God. We gather in a circle of mutuality, open and inclusive—please join us!

GOD AS US!

THE SACRED FEMININE & THE SACRED MASCULINE

Tuesday evenings: 6:30 pm & Thursday mornings: 10:00 am

(even if you missed the first week-Feb. 28 & March 1st- please join us!)

Our conversation will be sparked by two very dynamic presenters: Richard Rohr, OFM & Rev. Cynthia Bourgeault, PhD.

Richard and Cynthia weave issues of gender, spirituality and Divine awareness together. These two Scripture scholars help us open our ears and our hearts to new and contemporary insights mined from ancient texts, including the Bible. You will not be bored! Registration required. Free will offering is greatly appreciated for each session that you attend.

Family Service Sunday

March 18th at 10:00 am

Please join us as we gather in the Great Hall of the Lodge (on the west side of Southwest Highway) for this family friendly service. This month we will reflect upon God as Love. We will share a bit of hospitality together, because Jesus *always* ate with his friends!

**Our Family Services will continue once a month throughout 2012. So that you can mark your calendar, the dates are: April 22nd, May 20th, June 24th, July 29th, August 26th, Sept. 23rd, October 21st, November 25th & December 24th. All the services, except for Christmas Eve, are on Sunday at 10am.*

Vespers in the Chapel

Every Sunday, 12:30 pm & 4:30 pm

Please join us each week for a nondenominational service of music, meditation and prayer led by Rev. Chris Hopkins. The Chapel stands on the highest point of The Center's grounds and symbolizes the underlying spirituality of all Center programs.

All are welcome!

New Offering!

29 Gifts: How a month of giving can change your life by Cami Walker—**4 Mondays 9:45 -10:45 am beginning February 27th**

4 Mondays 9:45 -10:45 am beginning February 27th

Cami Walker was a new bride of one month when she was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. She was advised by her friend and South African healer Mbali Creazzo to give away 29 gifts in 29 days. By day 29 while Walker still had (and has) MS, her whole outlook on life had shifted to the positive! This book is her story and our inspiration. Let's make a commitment to follow Mbali's advice for ourselves. We will meet for 4 weeks and share our own stories of how giving 29 gifts in 29 days has changed our lives for the better. Please call to register (361.3650). Free will offering is greatly appreciated.



EASTER EGG ROUNDUP AT THE FARM:

Saturday, April 7 Advance Tickets Required: Tickets go on sale March 1st!

Tickets available for:

10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30 a.m., 12:00 Noon, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, and 2:30 p.m.

\$18 per child (no charge for adults)

Children, accompanied by parents, are invited for a special day of decorating an egg from the chicken coop, visiting the bunnies, riding a horse, seeing the farm animals wearing their best Easter bonnets, meeting the Easter Bunny, and finding a colored egg in the Easter Bunny's Magic Forest! Be sure to dress to be outside! Advance tickets for the Easter Egg Roundup are required because we have to have enough eggs and treats for all the children who visit. Tickets are available at the lodge office. You usually need to get them early, as they are limited in number.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST! 8 AM – 12 NOON

If you come in the morning, please take the time to enjoy breakfast in the Anderson Center at the farm. All you can eat pan-

cakes and sausage, orange juice and hot coffee cost \$6 per adult and \$3 per child. The Palos Heights Kiwanis Club generously donates their time and their talents as pancake makers to provide this delicious additional opportunity to support The Center. You can stop for pancakes before, during, or after your Easter Egg Roundup experience. If you have no children to bring to the Roundup, you are welcome to come just for the breakfast! Advance tickets to the pancake breakfast are available in the office, plus at the door as long as the pancakes last!

PLUS HOT DOGS FOR SALE! 12 NOON - 3 P

Farm volunteers and staff will be grilling and selling hot dogs, plus soda, coffee, and bakesale goodies for afternoon visitors who want to picnic under the pavilion before, during, or after their Easter Egg Roundup experience..

PLEASE PLAN TO COME FOR BREAKFAST OR STAY FOR LUNCH...OR BOTH!



Farm and Nature Discovery Preschool

February was a wonderful month with our study of animal homes and hibernation. We also had our Valentine Tea parties. The parents did a wonderful job putting the parties together for the children.

During the month of March, we will be taking a look at nature with all of our senses. This will be an interesting and fun month. We will be outdoors; smelling the air and seeing the change as spring is approaching.

We thank all the parents who have re-registered their children to come back again in the fall and we welcome all the new families who are registering.

We are pleased to announce that once again, we will have a two-week summer program in June at the preschool. This was so successful last summer and a good introduction to some of our newcomers. Summer school registration will begin March 15th. Please call for a registration form or download one from our website.

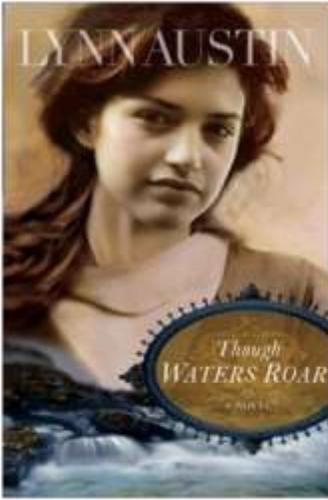
Registration is *now* for the fall session. If you would like a tour of the school or information sent to you, please call Kristin at (708)361-8933, or email me at farmandnature@sbcglobal.net.



TUESDAY LUNCHEONS

12:00 NOON - 2:00 P.M.

We have a wonderful luncheon and enlightening program every Tuesday at The Center. The luncheons begin at 12:00 noon and are followed by the program. Cost is \$15. Please make reservations by the Sunday before the Tuesday luncheon. Call 708-361-3650 to make your reservation.



Tuesday, March 6: Book Review by the Author!

Local author Lynn Austin will review her Christy Award winning novel *“Though Waters Roar”* about four generations of women who struggle with social justice and family secrets. Lynn is a popular writer of historical fiction and has won Christy Awards for this and 4 other of her books, one of which has been made into a Hallmark movie. Join us to hear about this entertaining and faith-based novel, straight from the author herself!

Tuesday, March 13: The Illinois and Michigan Canallers!

Chris and Carroll Brooks are joined by fellow volunteers Jim Carr, Jo Ann Starha, and Andrea Zoella who promote the story of the Illinois & Michigan Canal era. Dressed in period costumes, the Canallers give first-person dramatic portrayals of real and composite historical characters of the 1800's. Their characters reflect the aspirations and adventures of men, women, and children who transformed the prairie landscape of Northeastern Illinois into a bustling corridor of transportation, business, and community. Join us for an educational and entertaining afternoon.



Tuesday, March 20: Creative Container Gardens!

No room for a big garden? Can't handle all the work of a big garden? Then let Prairie Godmother Jackie Riffice show you how to grow beautiful flowers and healthy delicious veggies and herbs in creative containers on your balcony, deck, patio, or other small space. Jackie heads up the Prairie Godmothers organization which provides coaching, designing, advice and/or labor to help you make your home and garden an oasis of environmentally responsible greenness. Join us as Jackie demonstrates and inspires us to get growing!

Tuesday, March 27: Traveling through Turkey!

Nancy Mitchell and Jan Musil will show slides and tell tales of their adventures through Turkey, from modern Istanbul to Biblical Ephesus. They were amazed by the antiquities they saw and even experienced the unique fairy chimney formations of Canakkale from a hot air balloon! Join us for an armchair excursion through this fascinating modern and ancient part of the world.





*Visitors are always welcome at the Log Cabins!
Come...let us entice you "to express your creative spirit" at...*

**THE LOG CABIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS:
MARCH -APRIL ART SCHEDULE 2012**

Classes and workshops for adults and children in fine arts and folk arts
All classes require pre-registration

KIDS' ART CLASSES:

Drawing, Printmaking, Papermaking, Painting, Pottery, And More!
New 6-week sessions begin Saturday morning, February 25 and April 14
Choose 9 - 10:30 am or 10:30 am -12 noon

SMALL CLASSES, ENTHUSIASTIC TEACHERS!

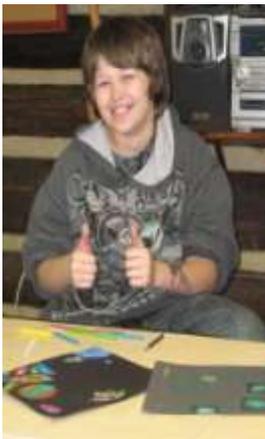
Grades K-1: Jessie Schaar, 2-3: Sarah Zalewski, 4-8: Maggie Martin
At the Log Cabins, kids become part of a creative community, learn new artistic skills, and are encouraged to express their own unique personalities. Class Fee: \$66. All materials provided.

ART BIRTHDAY PARTIES

You supply the cake and balloons. We supply the creative fun! \$10 per child plus a \$2 - 5 per child supply fee for chosen projects. Talk to one of the art teachers or email loislauer@sbcglobal.net to schedule your child's party today!

TEEN DRAWING AND PAINTING (grades 7-12)

6 Monday evenings, beginning February 27 and April 16, 6:00- 7:30 p.m.
Instructor: Magen Martin
Instruction and critique in the basic elements of art such as composition, shading, colors, and textures. Choose either to draw or to paint. Class Fee: \$66 includes all supplies, except sketchbooks and pencils.



FAMILY ART – Instructor: Shari Wenzel

Sunday afternoons, 2-3:30 p.m. For families with children of any age. Class Fee per workshop: \$6 per person.
SPRINGTIME ART- Sunday, March 11 - Spring your clocks ahead and jump into an afternoon of springtime art projects.

ADULT CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

MEMOIR WRITING WORKSHOP

6 Monday afternoons beginning March 5, 1-3 pm Instructor: Beth LaMie (www.bethlamie.com)
Discover and preserve your own family stories. Use writing prompts, exercises and sharing techniques to capture memories. Learn how to ferret out story ideas, how to organize your thoughts and experiences, how to enjoy the process and how to elicit stories from others. Beth is a Personal Historian who enjoys helping people start writing their own fabulous family stories. Please bring paper, a notebook or journal and your favorite writing instrument.
Class Fee: \$78 per 6 week session.

PEN AND INK DRAWING

6 Thursday mornings beginning March 1 and April 19, 9:00-11:30 a.m. Instructor: Lois Hrejsa
Enjoy instruction and critique in shape, value, texture, shading, shadow, composition, and perspective, as you learn basic drawing, with the added interest of stark black and white contrast. Beginner? Start with simple exercises. Experienced? Work on further development of techniques, landscape drawings, portraits, and individual style. Class Fee: \$98 per 6 week session.
List of required supplies available in office.



*Log Cabin 1 in Pen and Ink
By Lois Hrejsa*

WATERCOLOR PAINTING

6 Wednesday or Thursday evenings beginning Feb 29/March 1 and April 18/19, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
Instructor: Lenox Wallace (www.lenoxwallace.com)
or 6 Thursday afternoons beginning March 1 and April 19, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Instructor: Lois Hrejsa
Critique and guidance in composition, values, textures, negative painting, brush stroke usage, and more. Wednesday evenings feature structured lessons for beginning watercolorists. Thursday evenings are for experienced painters, each working individually with occasional guidance and critique. Thursday afternoons include instruction in techniques, color mixing and theory, washes, light and shadow, etc, for beginning painters, while ongoing students receive advanced assignments and further explore their particular area of interest. Class Fee: \$98 for 6 week session. List of required supplies available in office.

STONEWARE POTTERY

6 Thursday evenings beginning March 1 and April 19, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Karen Stasky

Make strong professional-looking stoneware pottery, such as beautiful stoneware bowls, mugs, and vases, in addition to interesting decorative pieces. Beginner? Learn a variety of hand-building techniques. Returning student? Learn to throw pots on one of the wheels. Class Fee: \$78 per 6 week session plus \$15 materials fee.

WOODCARVING

6 Wed evenings beginning Feb 29 and April 18, 6:30 – 8:30p.m.

Instructor: Keith Miller

or 6 Thurs mornings beginning March 1 and April 19, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Instructor: Keith Miller

Learn and practice the tools and techniques of woodcarving in the round, using basswood and butternut. Create beautiful animals, objects, and faces. If you're new to woodcarving, you'll make 3-6 projects such as a goose, a shoe, an egret, and miniature people. If you're experienced, you may design your own projects. Class Fee: \$78 per 6 week session. Wood and bench knives are available for purchase in class for approximately \$25.



COLLAGE

6 Wed mornings beginning Feb 29 and April 18, 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Instructor: April Schabes

(www.aprilsart.blogspot.com)

Experiment with color and composition to create your own mixed-media collages... an opportunity to “play in your own world of artistic expression with a fun and easy art form!” Class Fee: \$98 per 6 week session. List of required supplies available in office.

QUILTING

6 Wednesday afternoons beginning Feb 29 and April 18, 1-3 p.m.

Instructor: Denise Dulzo

Bring your own sewing machine and your own choice of fabrics. Join our merry group of quilters, as you learn to design your project, cut your fabrics, piece them together, add batting and backing, and stitch it all together to create a baby quilt, wall hanging, or other pieced fabric project. Class Fee: \$78 per 6 week session. Purchase your own fabrics before the first class. A list of required fabrics and supplies is available in the office.



BASKETMAKING

6 Thursday mornings beginning Feb 9 and March 29, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Ann Fowler

or 6 Thursday evenings beginning Feb 9 and March 29, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Jane Dwyer

Begin by making an easy and beautiful wood-bottomed basket with your choice of colored trim. Continue on to learn techniques for weaving a variety of shapes and sizes of baskets and choose your own project in consultation with the instructor. You can expect to make 2-3 baskets in 6 weeks, depending on your style and choice of projects. Class Fee: \$78 per 6-week session, plus \$25 materials fee per 6 week session.

WEAVING

6 Wednesday mornings, beginning, Feb 8 and March 28, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Nettie Botts

New weavers: learn the basics while making a sampler - then design and complete a project of your choice. Returning weavers study and weave a project in the pattern weave of your choice. Class Fee: \$78 per 6 week session, plus \$10 materials fee for new weavers. Students purchase own threads and yarns for future projects.

LAPIDARY

5 Wednesday evenings, beginning March 14, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Sharon Byrne

or 5 Monday mornings, beginning Feb 20 and April 2, 9 - 11 a.m.

Instructor: Larry Rothenberg

Turn rough hunks of rock into beautifully polished gemstones. Create a pair of round or oval stones, and then advance to more complex designs. Class Fee: \$65 per 5 week session, plus \$10 materials fee for new students. Students purchase rocks for future projects.

SILVER JEWELRY (Interested in an afternoon or evening silver jewelry class? Let us know!)

6 Tuesday mornings, beginning March 6, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.:

Instructors: Dan Snyder and Dave Sanders

Learn to saw, file and solder to create beautiful silver jewelry pins, pendants, brooches, bracelets, and more.

Class fee: \$78 per 6 week session. Materials fee: Students can expect to pay \$40-\$50 in silver costs, to be paid directly to the instructor.

STAINED GLASS

6 Thursday evenings beginning March 1 and April 19, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Harry Meneghini

Create beautiful stained glass pieces, by learning the principles of glass design and color and the techniques of cutting and soldering, using both lead came and copper foil to join the pieces of glass. Start with simple projects, and eventually design your own windows, pictures, and lamps. Class Fee: \$78 per 6 week session. A list of glass and supplies which will need to be purchased by each student will be distributed the first day of class, or may be obtained at The Center office, although Harry suggests waiting until after the first class to make any purchases.

CREATIVE WRITING

6 Thursday evenings, beginning March 1 and April 19, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Instructor: Brent Palucki

Work on descriptive paragraphs, short stories, and poems, as you develop your own style, through a series of writing assignments and fun and supportive class critique sessions. Class Fee: \$60 per 6 week session. Please bring a notebook and your favorite pen or pencil.

WRITING FOR MAGAZINES

6 Monday evenings, beginning February 27 and April 16, 6:30 pm - 8 pm

Instructor: Susan Alexander

Learn how to prepare, how to organize your article, how to choose appropriate magazines, how to research their submitting guidelines, how to edit...and how to get your first article submitted by the end of the 6 week class. Susan writes a column for an international magazine and would love to help you get started on a writing journey too. Class Fee: \$60 per 6 week session. Please bring a paper, pencil, and favorite magazine to first class.



CALLIGRAPHY

Instructor: Marge Boyd (www.penandpaints.blogspot.com)

6 week session begins Mon afternoon, Feb 27 and April 16, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Come and learn the beautiful art of fine lettering. In the course of a year of calligraphy classes, you will learn the graceful uncial, italic, and book-hand styles of writing. You construct a small book in whose pages you add lettering and other decorations. Class Fee: \$98 per 6 week session. List of required supplies available in office.

PAPERMAKING

Instructor: Marilyn VandenBout (www.vbartworks.blogspot.com)

Wed evening, March 21, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Create beautiful handmade papers with unique pulps, filled with many interesting petals and leaves.

Wed. evening, April 18, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Explore many forms of "painting" with pulp to create lovely and unique papers.

Class fee per workshop: \$13 plus \$5 materials fee per workshop.

PAPER-CRAFTS:

Instructor: Ann Fowler

Fellowcrafter Ann Fowler loves paper! She folds, cuts, glues, punches, and arranges layers of papers to create sometimes whimsical, sometimes heartwarming, always beautiful, cards!

Tues morning, Feb 28, 9:30 a.m.– 12 noon: Shiny Cards! Make 3 shiny, beautiful cards—with no glue!

Tues morning, March 27, 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon : Easter Cards Use stamps and stickers for 2 cute and 1 religious card.

Tues morning, April 24, 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon: Fun Folds!

Use a scorer to gate fold, buckle fold and triangular fold to add a new look (and shape!) to your cards.

Class fees: \$17 per workshop plus \$6 materials fee per workshop. Bring craft tweezers if you have them.

GOURDCRAFT

Instructor: Karen Caldwell(www.picturetrail.com/karencaldwell)

**Early registration is necessary in order for Karen to have your gourd ready for you.*

BOWLS, BASKETS, BIRDHOUSES, AND MASKS*:

Monday, March 12, 1-3:30 or 6:30 - 9 p.m.

Create a unique bowl, basket, mask, or birdhouse using acrylic paints, pigment inks and glazes to color the designs, and a protective coat for a finishing touch. Students choose their own theme: spring, Easter, nature, wild woman mask, warrior, etc-- great artistic addition to any room in your house! Class fee: \$17 plus \$15 materials fee. Follow-up Students: 3:30 - 6:30 to finish a project--burn a design, add a rim, or other embellishments. Register as a Follow-up student @ \$6.50 per hour plus \$5 materials fee.

OCEAN DRUMS*

3 Monday evenings, April 16, 23, and 30, 6:30 - 9 p.m. (Interested in a 4 - 6:30 p.m. class? Let us know.)

Create an amazing gourd drum, starting with a dried 12" gourd, and then drawing, painting, and wood-burning on designs. The Ocean Drum represents love of natural sound and our attempts to capture the uncapturable as if we could hold the sea in our hands. Class Fee: \$49 plus \$72 materials fee. (If you are interested in a larger drum, contact Karen in advance.)





NATURAL EASTER EGGS

Friday afternoon, March 30, 1-3 pm

Bring a basket of one or two dozen hard-boiled eggs, and create your own batch of beautiful earth-toned eggs, dyed with bark, berries, greens, and flower petals. These treasures can be kept for years, and look great in a basket of handmade Easter grass (yes—we'll make the grass too—just bring the basket!). Class fee: \$13 plus \$5 materials fee.

Instructor: Lois Lauer

SPRING EQUINOX STORY NECKLACES

Wednesday, March 21, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Storyteller/jewelry-designer Catherine Myers invites you to honor the changes in your own life as the seasons around you change. Create a design of stone beads that mark a milestone, goal, or a vision of what is to come! Use beads from Catherine's extensive collection or you may bring old beads from broken jewelry, to rework into your personal necklaces. Catherine will also bring silver and copper wire for wrapping a stone of your choice. Class fee: \$17 plus \$15 materials fee

Instructor: Catherine Myers



Pre-registration is required for all Log Cabin classes and workshops. Class and materials fees are due at time of registration. All class fees include a \$10 non-refundable, non-transferable registration fee. No refunds or transfers of fees are available for cancellations made less than 24 hours prior to the beginning of class. To register by mail, send check and the following information: Name, address, phone, email, name and date/time of class, and if registration is for a child, send birth date and grade in school, plus parents' names and emergency contact information.

Home of The Clovers 4H Club Presents Our Spring Fundraiser...



Manure for Money



Help support our 4H club while improving your soil quality! The Home of the Clovers 4H members are selling prepackaged bags of composted manure for your garden.

Bags of manure will be ready for pick up on Sunday, April 22nd during our Sheep to Shawl event. Please stop by between noon and 4pm. Manure purchases will grant you free admission to this wonderful event.

18in. X 30in. Prepackaged Bags
\$6 per bag
3 bags for \$15

Name _____

Phone _____

of Bags _____ Total \$ Due _____

Please Place Orders By April 1st

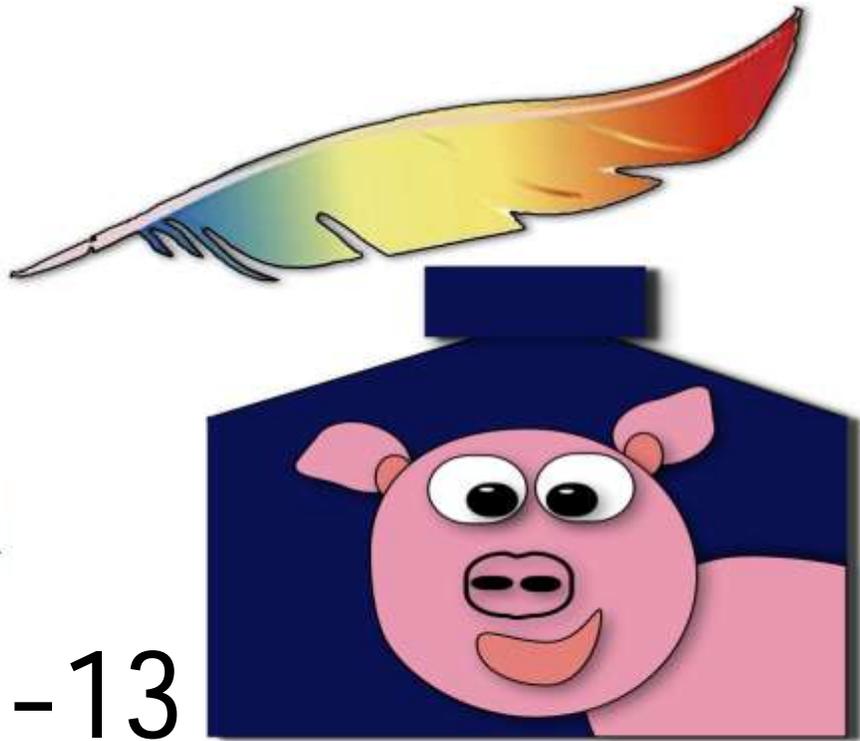
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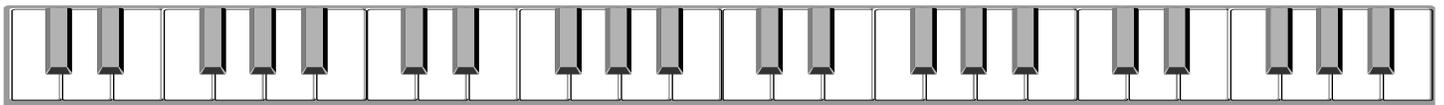
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Wild 4

May 12-13



Program Director Lois Lauer--and some of her closest "pen" pals-- will be living with the animals to raise money to further our mission.



Fellowship Corner: Shirley Swanson



I was first introduced to The Center when, as a young girl growing up in Blue Island, our church's young people's group scheduled some activities at The Center. Especially fun and memorable were the barn dances which were held in the Lodge.

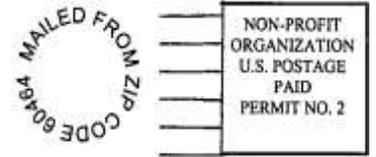
When we moved to Palos, we attended a number of events, and I played for several weddings. Music has been my lifelong interest, having been an organist, choir director, piano soloist and piano teacher. I was asked to accompany the Center Singers several years ago, and it has been a great experience. What a wonderful group of people! Everyone is so kind and so caring.

The Center, its lovely setting, its many worthwhile activities, and the devoted people there, are such an important part of life in the Palos area, and bring a feeling of joy and peace to all who spend time there.

Shirley, we really appreciate all of your help and talent . You are an important part of why The Center thrives.



The Center



The Chicago Southwest Suburban Community
Parish and Community Center Foundation
12700 Southwest Highway, Palos Park, IL 60464

<http://www.thecenterpalos.org>
email: centerpalospark@sbcglobal.net

Sheep to Shawl Sunday, April 22nd, 2012 Noon - 4pm



Every wonder where your wool socks came from, how your favorite blanket was made, or why you see so many sheep farms while driving through the western United States?

Through the wool they grow, the meat they produce, and the endless products they provide, sheep have become an asset to our society. Sheep shearing is an antique practice that **has evolved greatly over the years and this year's Sheep to Shawl** event will focus on demonstrating different forms of shearing.

The highlight of the event is the 1:30 P.M. presentation of the sheep which will be accompanied by the pipes and drums of the Emerald Society and then the actual shearing of our own sheep. We will have electric and hand shearing demonstrations for guests to enjoy. The electric shearing will be done by lifelong sheep shearer, Harold Davis and the hand shearing will be done by our Palos Park local, Paul Lalley.

In addition to the shearing, guests can partake in the next few steps of the wool making process; carding, spinning, and weaving as well as **visiting all of our animals in the barns. Children will be able to make a "sheep to shawl" craft and have lunch straight from the farm's grill.**

Admission is \$5 per person and gates open at noon. See you there!

