

"Fun"draising by Phyllis!

Phyllis Box knows how much her son, Devin, enjoys his time at FUSE events, and she just wanted to help. So, this spring she planned her own fundraising event -- making and selling baked goods. She baked and she sold and she baked and she sold, and when



Ron, Phyllis & Devin Box at a FUSE event.

it was all counted up, Phyllis had raised more than \$2,000 for FUSE!

D-Box, as he's known at FUSE, has been part of FUSE from its beginning. He provides one of the highlights at the annual Retreat when he shares his musical talent, and his love for Kenny Chesney, at Open Mic Night!

So, how can YOU help FUSE? Bet you never thought baking could help, but look what a great job Phyllis did! Folks love to eat homemade goodies, and when it helps a great organization -- that's a big WIN-WIN!

Thanks, Phyllis, for all your hard work on behalf of FUSE.



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Retreat 2012: Who Could Forget?

Retreat 2012 saw our Retreat group grow once again! Nearly 80 people participated in the 4-day event. It just keeps getting bigger and better!

Highlights included an awesome Casino Night and Auction on Thursday, with great prizes and strategic bidding to end the night's Auction. A huge "thank you" to all who helped by providing prizes -- there truly was something for everyone! Friday brought the "Minute To Win It" encore, made even more challenging by our large group. Nevertheless, there were lots of laughs, and many great photo opportunities. Open Mic Night was a hit again, with a special performance by Michael Jackson! This is a very creative group!



Crafts were especially fun this year, as many made rockets that were launched on Saturday, and others made cool gifts from recycled bottles. We still squeezed in a little swimming and game-playing and pampering and eating! What a busy time!

2013's Retreat is approaching quickly -- mark your calendars and watch your mail: **August 1-4, 2013!**



RECOGNIZING FUSE ACHIEVEMENTS

*Our FUSE friends
are having LIFE-
CHANGING events:*

2013 COLLEGE GRADUATIONS:

Ian Conner, Friends
University

Tiffany Goracke, Fort
Hays State University

Devon Parks, Kansas
State University

Courtney Reinke,
Wichita State
University

Austin Russell,
Kansas State
University

Sophia Stockton, Mid-
America Nazarene

Joey Weber, Penn
Valley College

2013 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION:

Morgan Green, Olathe

ENGAGEMENTS:

Matt Brown (to Anne
Spears)

Laura Donnelly (to
Dan Pray)

WEDDINGS:

Samantha & Joe Jarvis
Lauren & Chris Miller

OTHER AWARDS:

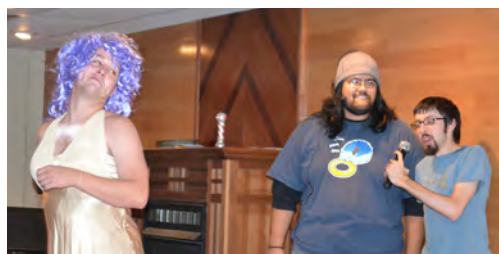
Pat Peck -- received
the Frist Humanitarian
Award -- awesome!

Nick Taylor -- oh,
just the Olympics!
Way to go, Nick!



Michael Jackson (Adam Swaney) performed during Open Mic Night at the 2012 Retreat. The inset photo shows a costume change, both included the "glove".

All sorts of talents appear during Retreat -- some at the Open Mic Night (Talent Show), and others just during the course of the retreat! 2012 included appearances by Michael Jackson, James Bond and numerous other celebrities and musical groups. You just never know who will be there, so be on the lookout!



FAMOUS FOLKS AT FUSE!

Spotted at Retreat 2012: Michael Jackson, James Bond and various other "celebrities"



James Bond (Ian Conner) was ready for the Red Carpet at Retreat 2012 -- including his martini and, of course, his gun.

John & Bruce serenaded a "Proud Mary" wannabe (Jerome Carsten) during Open Mic Night. What moves!



Can you believe this will be our **FIFTH** Retreat? Some "extra-fun" things are planned, so make sure you don't miss out. Applications are being mailed soon, and are due back by July 15th. Please help us by getting **ALL** your paperwork in as soon as you can!

And start planning your dance outfit now -- **FUSE LUAU! Aloha!**

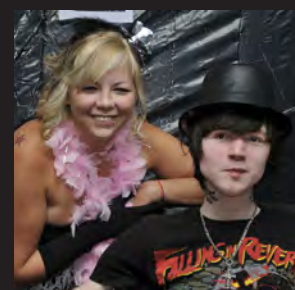


MORE FUN FROM RETREAT 2012

Retreat 2012 was held at Camp Tawakoni August 9-12, with a record attendance! More than 80 people participated. As with many of our FUSE events, but maybe even more so with Retreat, "a picture is worth a thousand words"! Enjoy!



RED CARPET STYLE!



CASINO NIGHT A HUGE HIT! WE'VE GOT SOME GAMBLERS!



UNIQUE FUNDRAISING: WARRIOR DASH

BIG thanks to Ty & Elise Johnsrud for organizing a small but mighty group of volunteers for the KC Warrior Dash.



By volunteering, the group earned a nice donation (\$500!) to the FUSE Foundation -- and had a pretty fun time, too. The weather sure didn't cooperate, but that never stops FUSE folks! Thanks to all who volunteered!

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORT FUSE

Some of our FUSE supporters have found that memorial contributions are a great way to honor someone they've lost, while supporting an organization they love. Please consider us for your future memorials!



We know no one **really** likes to talk about fundraising, but for a non-profit organization, with no paid staff, it's a very important part of FUSE. Since our beginning in late 2008, we have existed solely because of the generosity of people like you, people who believe in the mission of FUSE, and are willing to **give** to see it succeed. THANK YOU!

Our main fundraising is done through our annual letter campaign. This year we're sending that letter with this issue of the **FUSE FLASH**, to save some administrative costs, but also to make sure that everyone can SEE where FUSE donations go.

More interesting info:

- FUSE is a 501(c)3 charitable organization, so all donations are tax-deductible.

SHOW US THE MONEY!

FUSE Fundraising History

Letter Campaigns:
2009 through 2013

Special Events:
Western Kansas Cross Country Challenge (Dodge City) 2009
Pipeliners' Golf Tournament (McPherson) 2009 & 2010
Phyllis' Baked Goodies (Wichita / Rose Hill) 2013
Warrior Dash Volunteers (KC) 2013

- We've had some success with regional grants, but are always looking for more opportunities.
- We love corporate matching -- some of our donors have this available, and we're happy to provide the documentation needed.

Do you have ideas for fundraising activities for FUSE? If you do, please contact one of our Board Members. We hope we'll be able to expand our fundraising geographically, just as we've been able to expand our membership!

Finally, THANK YOU to all of you who are already helping -- we couldn't do it without you!

COMING SOON: Make a donation to FUSE through our PayPal link on our website!

2013 LETTER CAMPAIGN INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

As with all non-profit organizations, obtaining our funding is always a challenge. We believe that means trying new things some times, so we're trying something new with our letter campaign. Enclosed with this newsletter is our letter regarding the 2013 campaign. We believe the newsletter is the best way to show you where the money goes, and hope that it makes you feel really good about supporting FUSE! If a financial donation doesn't fit your budget right now, we appreciate your continuing support through your prayers!



WINNING AT DAVE & BUSTERS

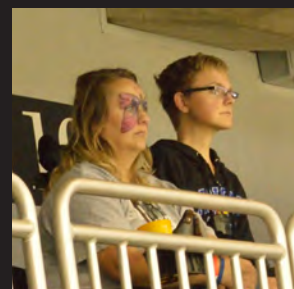
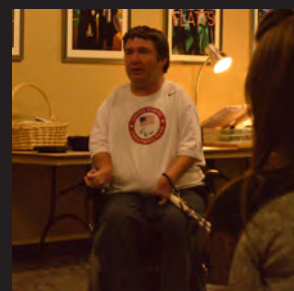
Waaaaay back in June of 2012 FUSE friends gathered at Dave & Busters in Kansas City for food and fun. As the pictures show, a great time was had by all who attended (more than 30!). This was our first event in the Kansas

City area, after welcoming several new Topeka and Kansas City friends at Retreat 2011. At D&B we met even MORE new friends, and some even

attended Retreat 2012 just a few weeks later. Though Ty wasn't completed successful in getting it the tickets to "rain down in there", there was still a lot of winning going on -- just like any time FUSE folks get together!



BRING ON THE THUNDER!

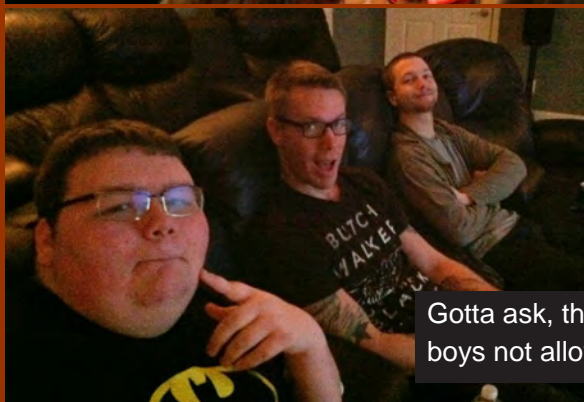


On March 2, 2013, a great group gathered to cheer on the Wichita Thunder, but not before enjoying a fun pizza supper and a special presentation by Nick Taylor. He brought his Olympic medals -- how awesome!

Relaxing at Rachel's!



Rachel Gill hosted a small but feisty group at her Kansas City home in February. Thanks, Rachel!



Gotta ask, though -- were the boys not allowed at the table?





ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:
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Ideas for future events?

FUSE Foundation events are provided to fulfill our Mission -- *empowering through educational opportunities, support and social networking*. If you have event ideas, contact any Board Member. We'd love to hear your thoughts!

Upcoming Events

- **2013 FUSE RETREAT**
August 1-4, Camp Tawakoni

It's our FIFTH Retreat!!

Applications available June 1st -- don't make us wait for yours! Get it all done early and start planning for a great time!

- **FUN AT THE T-BONES!**

June 22nd in Kansas City. Make your reservation for this fun night at the ballpark! Details on our Facebook group page.



OUR MISSION

To facilitate an inter-dependent community of young adults with neuromuscular disease, that empowers through educational opportunities, support and social networking.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terri Reed, President
Chad Yeager, Vice President
Robert Neidhart, Treasurer
Teri Russell, Secretary
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CONTACT US AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE WITH ANY QUESTIONS!