

## Retreat 2014 Preview

After five years of always-improving Retreats, how do we make Retreat 2014 even better? The FUSE Board has been working hard to do that, and things are coming together! We've heard, though, that we need plenty of time for just "hanging out," so rest assured that's handled!

This year's Retreat will include favorites like Casino Night & Auction, Open Mic Night, Swimming & Crafts (something new this time!). The Rock 'n Roll dance will have our friend & tattoo specialist Brian as DJ this year! We'll also have a guest appearance from old friend, and professional comedian, Daniel Pewewardy! Applications were mailed June 16th -- contact us right away if you haven't received yours!



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## Retreat 2013

Retreat 2013 marked a special anniversary for FUSE -- our 5th Anniversary! Once again, nearly 80 people participated in the 4-day event at Camp Tawakoni near Augusta.

Highlights included another awesome Casino Night and Auction on Thursday, with even more great prizes. Friday was full of laughs as we welcomed "Hypnosis by Mike" Mike Breeze to FUSE. His mesmerizing powers were especially effective on some of the volunteers - with hilarious results! Open Mic Night was a hit again, with many special performances!

The first-ever FUSE Medallion Hunt was certainly memorable, and the new crafts included cool



decorations made from tiles. There was also a little swimming and plenty of game-playing and pampering and eating! The Luau was a highlight, with plenty of grass skirts! New this year was an impromptu wheelchair race that will likely see a return at 2014's Retreat!

2014's Retreat is coming fast -- mark your calendars and watch your mail: July 31 - August 3, 2014!





## RECOGNIZING FUSE ACHIEVEMENTS

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

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Austin, Aislinn, Katie, Morgan B, Hailey & Tiffany have completed schooling and have new jobs - some as far away as Texas and Korea!

Devon P, Taylor S, Abby and Lauren M are working on advanced degrees.

Elise and Catherine have completed master's programs.

### WEDDINGS:

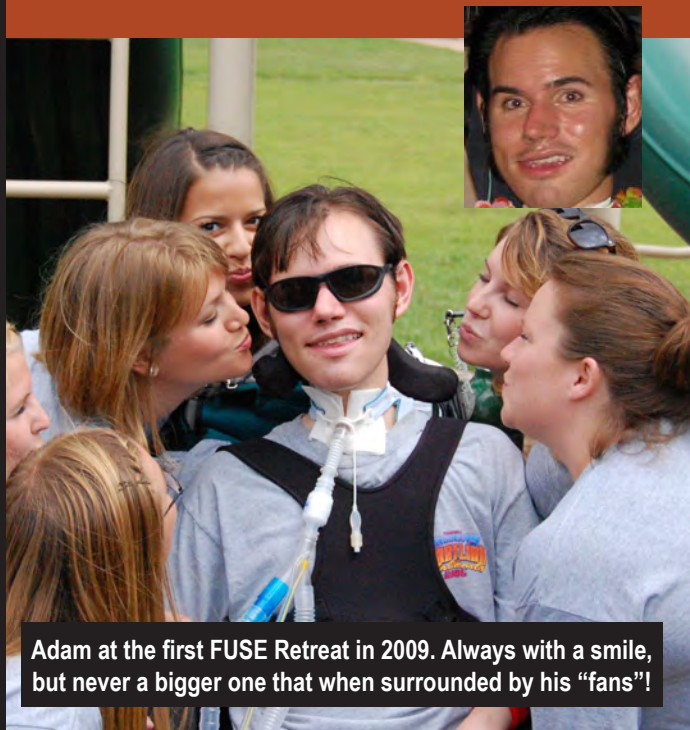
Matt Brown (to Anne)  
Laura (Donnelly) Pray  
(to Dan)  
Duane Unruh (to  
Cyndy)

### BABIES:

Blakley Jarvis was born to Samantha & Joe Jarvis in January. She is the third baby girl named after Blake Reed.

Coleson Bradshaw was born to Nikita Bradshaw last September.

### CONGRATULATIONS!



Adam at the first FUSE Retreat in 2009. Always with a smile, but never a bigger one than when surrounded by his "fans"!



Retreat 2013



Retreat 2012



Retreat  
2011



Retreat 2010

## Missing Adam

Adam Swaney, 26, died March 1, 2014 from complications of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Adam was part of the FUSE Foundation from its beginning, attending all five Retreats. FUSE was important to Adam, and Adam was a big part of FUSE. He will be missed greatly by his FUSE family and friends.

Retreat Dance  
to honor  
"The King"  
Adam  
Swaney:

Start planning your dance outfit now:  
ROCK 'N ROLL EXTRAVAGANZA!!

To honor our friend Adam Swaney, best known at FUSE for his Elvis & Michael Jackson performances at Open Mic Night, we'll "rock out" at this year's dance.

We'll always miss you, Adam, but your spirit will be with us every time we hear "The King"!





## MORE FUN FROM RETREAT 2013

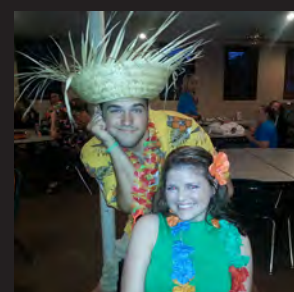
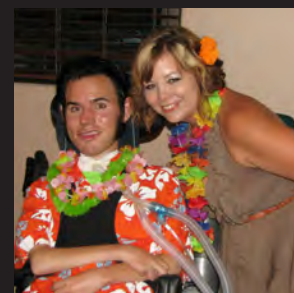
Retreat 2013 was held at Camp Tawakoni August 1-4, with a record attendance! More than 80 people participated. As with many of our FUSE events, but maybe even more so with Retreat, "a picture is worth a thousand words!" Enjoy!



## HYPNOSIS WITH MIKE -- WHAT A GREAT SHOW!



## LUAU LOVELIES!





## A "WIN-WIN" PROPOSITION

Do you like to honor friends or family members after their death by making memorial contributions?

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!

### NOW ONLINE!

*You can now make a donation to FUSE through our PayPal link on our website!*

*www.fusefoundation.net*

**DONATIONS TO FUSE ARE ALWAYS TAX-DEDUCTIBLE!**



Since its beginning in late 2008, FUSE has 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!

The largest amount of FUSE fundraising is done through the annual letter campaign. This is the second year we're combining that campaign with the latest issue of the **FUSE FLASH**, to make sure everyone can SEE where FUSE donations go. The photos speak volumes, don't they?

#### **More interesting info:**

- FUSE is a 501(c)3 charitable organization, so all donations are tax-deductible. Receipts are provided for each contribution.

# WOULDN'T IT BE NICE IF MONEY GREW ON TREES?

- 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.
- The FUSE FOUNDATION has EXTREMELY low administrative costs (mostly mailing!). There are NO paid staff or Board Members. Contributions go to support the FUSE mission!

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

Have ideas for fundraising activities for FUSE? Just contact any of our Board Members.

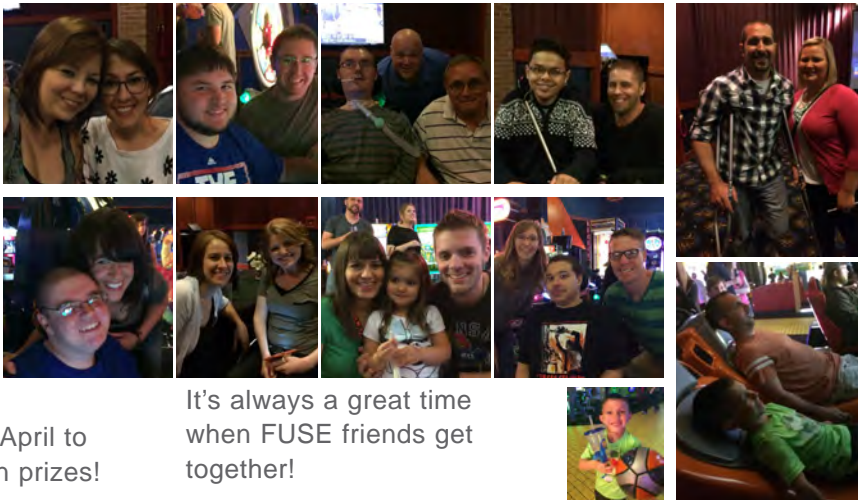
### CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPE INCLUDED WITH THIS ISSUE OF FUSE FLASH

We hope you'll consider supporting FUSE with a financial contribution when the time is right for you, so we've enclosed a pre-addressed envelope. We believe the FUSE FLASH 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! **THANK YOU!**



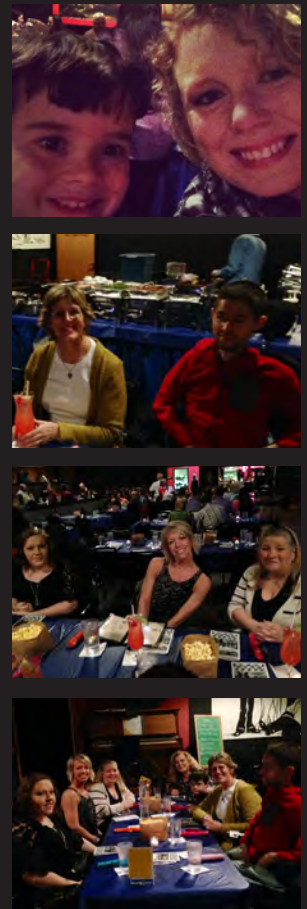
## ALWAYS FUN AT DAVE & BUSTERS

Gathering at Dave & Buster's in Kansas City for food and fun was such a great time in 2012, the FUSE crew was due for a repeat engagement! A fun group gathered in late April to eat, play and win prizes!

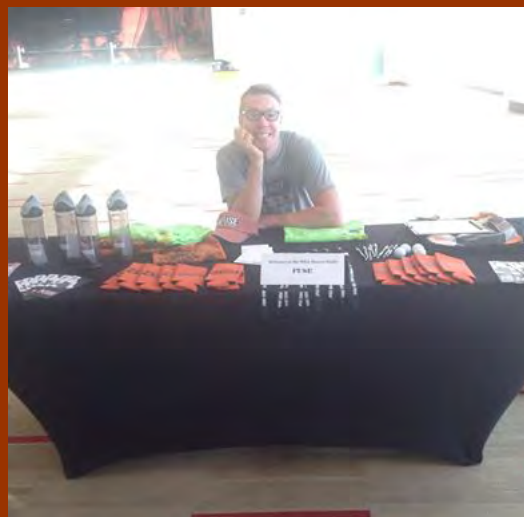


It's always a great time when FUSE friends get together!

## Some FUSE DRAMA!



## Spreading the word about FUSE



Volunteers helped to spread the word about FUSE to MDA families at the Wichita (left) and KC (right) Muscle Walk events. Volunteer Aislinn Maier (on the right in the left picture above) attended the Wichita event, where she made some new friends! Ty & Elise Johnsrud represented FUSE in KC (Elise is the photographer!) and helped to raise awareness about FUSE. A huge thanks to these volunteers for their help!

On March 29, 2013, a small but mighty group visited the Mosley Street Melodrama in downtown Wichita for a fun presentation of "Wild Rebel Angels on Wheels" and a great meal. As it should be, the villain was sufficiently "booed" and the hero prevailed!





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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

- **2014 FUSE RETREAT**  
July 31st - August 3rd  
Camp Tawakoni

Applications mailed June 16th -- don't make us wait for yours! Get it all done early and start planning for a great time!



### 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  
Abby Bauer

CONTACT US AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE WITH ANY QUESTIONS!