

# Neuhaus News

SPRING 2010

VOLUME XXX • NO. 2

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**MRS. LAURA W. BUSH**

Mrs. Bush, a former teacher, librarian, and an avid supporter of teacher recruitment programs, entertained the over 1000 guests in attendance with stories of her move from D.C. to Dallas, establishing the George W. Bush Library at SMU, and the importance of literacy programs in the U.S. She was introduced by her mother-in-law, Barbara Bush, and both women were humorous, engaging and charming.

Immediately following the Luncheon, guests were invited to attend the Lenox M. Reed Seminar with guest speaker, Marcia K. Henry, Ph.D. Dr. Henry, who has 44+ years of experience in the field of reading and dyslexia, spoke to the crowd about the origins of words and the keys to spelling and pronunciation.

At a ceremony earlier in the day, 16 graduates of the Dyslexia Specialist Preparation Program were recognized.

## 30th Birthday Celebration and Annual Benefit Luncheon

Neuhaus Education Center held its 30th Birthday Celebration Luncheon and Lenox M. Reed Seminar on Thursday, March 11th at the Westin Galleria Hotel. This is our largest fundraising event of the year and through your generous contributions, we raised over \$436,000 so that teachers can acquire the skills and knowledge they need to help all students learn to read. Special thanks to our Luncheon Chairs Gayle Hightower and Mary Webber and Underwriting Chairs Laura McDaniel, Camille Patton and Cynthia Trigg. Charlotte Taylor was our Speaker Liaison and Marilyn Winters was the Decorations Chair.

We were delighted to recognize Mary Farish Johnston as this year's Luncheon honoree. Mrs. Johnston has played a key role in supporting many of Houston's leading educational institutions, including Neuhaus. It is with gratitude that we acknowledge her commitment to a successful future for all readers.



Cynthia Trigg (Underwriter Chair), Gayle Hightower (Luncheon Chair), Mary Webber (Luncheon Chair), Laura McDaniel (Underwriter Chair) and Camille Patton (Underwriter Chair).



Barbara Bush, Maggie Johnston, Laura Bush, Mary Farish Johnston and Dennis N. Johnston

*Photos taken by Kian Adkins, Elegant Portraits*

## Donor Spotlight



W. Temple Webber III (R) accepting for the Temple Foundation, with Nick Espinoza, Houston Zoo.

### T.L.L. TEMPLE FOUNDATION

At the National Philanthropy Day Celebration in November 2009, T.L.L. Temple Foundation was honored as the Outstanding Philanthropic Foundation for 2009. On behalf of the foundation, W. Temple Webber III received this honor from the Association of Fundraising Professionals at the Hilton Americas luncheon. In total, the Foundation has awarded in excess of \$308 million through 5,004 grants designated for a broad range of projects and programs in the areas of education, health care and medical research, community and social services, and cultural arts and the humanities. Neuhaus Education Center is one of the many education services agencies that has received funding from the Temple Foundation.

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NEUHAUS EDUCATION CENTER  
LEGACY OF LITERACY

### LEGACY OF LITERACY

The Legacy of Literacy Society was created to ensure that the next generation of teachers will receive the instruction they need to teach *all* students how to read. The Society is composed of individuals who have generously committed to the work of Neuhaus through thoughtful estate planning. By joining, members are allowing a planned gift to do what they care about most – create the readers of tomorrow.

To join or find out more about the Legacy of Literacy Society, please contact our Development Office at 713.664.7676.

## A Word from the CEO

On a recent visit to Neuhaus, Stephen Klineberg, noted demographer, stated, “We are now in a world where access to education is the critical determinant of a person’s ability to succeed in the 21st century economy.” He went on to point out that the blue collar path to economic security is gone forever. While access to education is certainly critical, how, or even if, that educational experience prepares the student to assume a productive role in the new world order is even more important. And the statistics are not encouraging.



Here in Houston, the school drop-out rate hovers around the 50% level. As a nation, the United States lags behind other developed nations in the numbers of engineers, scientists, researchers, and other post-secondary graduate degreed students our universities turn out every year. Change is needed.

Klineberg also stated, “It is in our economic self-interest to invest in education, especially pre-school and early education.” We, at Neuhaus, concur. Prevention is always better than intervention or remediation. Putting the tools and information in the hands of elementary school teachers so they can successfully teach their students to read, write, spell and comprehend is how we will change the results of our system of education — here in Houston and around the country. Successful students stay in school. Successful teachers stay in the classroom. Successful nations are able to draw upon a wealth of human capital to compete on the world stage. If not now, when? If not Neuhaus, who?

*Suzanne*

## Memories from IDA

The 60th Annual Conference of the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) was held in Orlando, Florida, in November. Staff members Suzanne Carreker, Katy Farmer, and Rai Thompson presented sessions on teacher knowledge, spelling, and vocabulary. Neuhaus sponsored an all-day symposium on reading comprehension. Two key points from the symposium were: 1) teaching reading comprehension is a challenge due to the layers of skills and processes that are involved and that need to be considered; and 2) assessing reading comprehension is equally challenging because



not all tests measure the same skills and abilities.

The 2010 conference, chaired by Suzanne Carreker, will be in Phoenix, Arizona, from October 27-30.



Neuhaus information was handed out to IDA attendees.

## Language Enrichment-Online (LE-O) Arrives with a Roar!

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At any time and in any place, teachers can access *Language Enrichment-Online* (LE-O), which complements any reading program in Grades K-3. Through online instruction and videos of actual classroom instruction, Neuhaus RTN Content Manager Barbara Conway presents the *Here's Why* and the *Here's How* of comprehensive, research-based literacy instruction. Upon registration, the 30-hour class is available for a 6-week period. For more information about LE-O, visit [www.neuhaus.org](http://www.neuhaus.org). LE-O was made possible through the Suzanne Harter Literacy & Technology Chair. For TEKS standards alignment with LE-O, visit [www.readingteachersnetwork.org](http://www.readingteachersnetwork.org).

## Neuhaus Alumni Association Debuts

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On October 16, 2009, members of the newly formed Neuhaus Alumni Association gathered to hear Erin McTigue, Ph.D., assistant professor and Erin Washburn, Ph.D., both with Texas A&M University, present a workshop on developing students' self-efficacy and academic resiliency. Self-efficacy is the belief that one can produce desired results. Academic resilience is the belief that effort and challenge lead to success in spite of ability. Students with self-efficacy and academic resilience keep going when the going gets tough! The Neuhaus Alumni Association is a group of educators dedicated to increasing their understanding and expertise to help all children become better readers.



Back row (L-R): Mary Lou Slania, Ginger Holland, Elisa Barnes, Ashlie Ballard, Anita Johnson, Sharla Myrick, Pinet McBride, Cindy Blades, Alyson Collins, Rai Thompson, Linda Corbett. Seated (L-R): Donna Osgood, Elda Saldaña, Pam Keirnan, Letitia Ray, Cindy Witte.

## Neuhaus Graduates 16 in the Challenging Dyslexia Specialist Preparation Program

Preceding the 30th birthday luncheon, 16 individuals graduated from Neuhaus Education Center's intensive, three-year Dyslexia Specialists Preparation Program, the only nationally accredited training program for dyslexia specialists in the Greater Houston area.

## Lenox M. Reed Seminar Presents Marcia K. Henry, Ph.D.

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Marcia K. Henry, Ph.D., keynote speaker at the annual Lenox M. Reed Seminar, delighted the audience with her discussion of morphemes, the parts of words that carry meaning, such as prefixes, suffixes, and roots. Knowledge of morphemes supports students in accurately decoding and understanding the meanings of unfamiliar words. Additionally, Dr. Henry, presented information about the Anglo-Saxon, Latin, and Greek origins of English words. Knowledge of word origins further supports students' pronunciation and spelling of words and excites them about language! To learn more about the origins of words, check out "Did You Know" on Neuhaus' interactive web site for teachers at [www.readingteachersnetwork.org](http://www.readingteachersnetwork.org)

Dr. Marcia K. Henry, keynote speaker at the Lenox M. Reed Seminar.



Mr. Mark Sachse, VP Southwest Securities, sponsor of the Lenox M. Reed Seminar, introduces Dr. Henry.

## Visit RTN - Often

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If you have not visited Neuhaus' interactive web site for teachers, Reading Teachers Network (RTN), please go now to [www.readingteachersnetwork.org](http://www.readingteachersnetwork.org). To help you get around, take the video guided tour.



# You CAN help your child...develop reading fluency

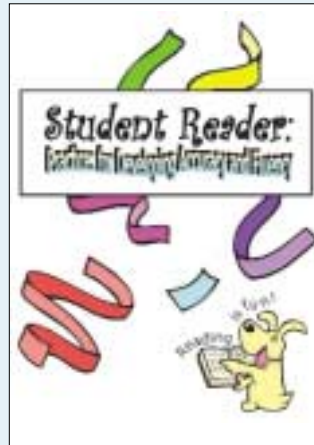
Practice is needed for your child to recognize words accurately and quickly and gain oral reading fluency. The fluent reader focuses on word meaning rather than on how to read the words. Our fluency mantra is "lots of easy reading; make reading easy."

Adequate time for reading practice is not always available in the classroom on a daily basis. Parents can enhance their children's ability by reading to them regularly.

## FAMILY FUN WITH FLUENCY KIT

The kit includes a parent manual, a student reader, rapid word recognition charts, and a story CD. The activities outlined in the manual are user-friendly and designed for parents to use with their children for 10-15 minutes a day, 4-5 times a week.

The kit activities are fun and make reading enjoyable. To order, go online to [www.neuhaus.org/family-fun-with-fluency](http://www.neuhaus.org/family-fun-with-fluency).



## PARENT RESOURCE OFFICE

### SEMINARS FOR PARENTS

**FRIDAYS@NEUHAUS** and **COLLEGE SHARE** are seminar series for parents. Stay tuned

to our website for upcoming seminar dates.

If you are interested in receiving mail or email notification of the 2010-2011 seminar schedules of *Fridays@Neuhaus*, please send your home or email address to: [info@neuhaus.org](mailto:info@neuhaus.org) or call the Parent Resource Office at 713.664.7676.

## Visitors to Neuhaus Education Center



Russanne Kelley (L) and Marjorie Hutcheson, Board President, thank Dr. Stephen Klineberg after his "Changing Face of Houston" presentation at Neuhaus.



Cathie Fisher (L), Neuhaus School Account manager donating children's books to Pamela Sailors, Vice President of Choices In Education, Superintendent of Schools, Neighborhood Centers, Inc.



Daphne Carter, Bonham Elementary Principal HISD, with Russanne Kelley, reports on the excellent progress of her students at Bonham at a Neuhaus board meeting.



Kiley Fisher, Orange Grove Elementary, Aldine ISD, "The materials provided by Neuhaus can be used for any subject at any grade level."

## The Places Neuhaus Goes

**Mary Lou Slania** presented *Developing Metacognitive Skills* to teachers in Brownsville Independent School District in Brownsville, TX.

*Language and Literacy for Young Children* was presented by Katy Farmer at the Conference of Presbyterian Weekday Ministries in Houston, TX; by Rai Thompson at the Houston Area Association for the Education of Young Children Conference in Galveston, TX; by Rai Thompson and Mary Lou Slania to teachers in Aldine

Independent School District in Aldine, TX; and by the Neuhaus teaching staff to early literacy providers from Neighborhood Centers, Inc. in Houston, TX.

**Suzanne Carreker** presented at the annual conference of the South Carolina Branch of The International Dyslexia Association in Greenville, SC, and at the Regional Dyslexia Conference on Dyslexia at Abilene Christian University in Abilene, TX.

# 30th Birthday Luncheon



1. (L-R) 2010 Luncheon Chairs, Gayle Hightower and Mary Webber with Laura W. Bush. 2. Master of Ceremonies, Dominique Sachse, KPRC, Local 2 Anchor. 3. (L-R) Will Neuhaus, John Reed, Graham and Ed Neuhaus and Mark Sachse. 4. Barbara Bush with Virginia McFarland, one of the founders of Neuhaus. 5. (L) Patricia Allen, President-Elect, Marjorie Hutcheson with Laura and Barbara Bush. 6. Russanne Kelley, Marjorie Hutcheson and Lenox Reed, founder and lifetime trustee, with Barbara and Laura Bush. 7. Charlotte Taylor, Speaker Liaison and Marilyn Winters, Decorations Chair, with Laura Bush

**READING CIRCLE** The Reading Circle and the Neuhaus Board hosted a breakfast and afternoon children's tea at the Junior League with Laura Numeroff, children's book author of *"If You Give a Mouse a Cookie."*



Chair Amy Melton (L) with her children, Chair Carolyn Corbett (R), and author Laura Numeroff with the "Mouse".

Laura Numeroff visited two HISD elementary schools where she read to the children, and Neuhaus donated her books to their libraries.



(L-R) Kristen Latta, Sarah Austin and Jessica Dufour.



**RE(A)D & WHITE BASH** The Friends of Neuhaus held a Re(a)d & White Bash at Winter Street Studios to raise money for Neuhaus. Art work, offered for sale by local artists, provided the décor. Entertainment was provided by The Slags and the delicious food was donated by El Patio and Papadoodle Desserts.

(L-R) Kent L. Hammett, Mandy Bredbenner, Matt Franklin, Mary Katherine Turner, Will Neuhaus, Jennifer Blome.



**CHEVRON HOUSTON MARATHON** Neuhaus Education Center was a Run for a Reason Charity in the Chevron Houston Marathon in January. More than 60 Neuhaus staff, board members and supporters participated in the event. Together, they raised more than \$22,000 for the teacher professional development program.

(Far L) Russanne Kelley and Jana Mullins, grant officer for Rockwell Fund, ran the half-marathon.

Mary North, Director of Parent Resources and Adult Literacy, ran the half-marathon and raised the most money for Neuhaus.



# Recent Donations

The following generous donors have made gifts of \$500 or more to Neuhaus Education Center between 9/1/09 and 3/19/10.

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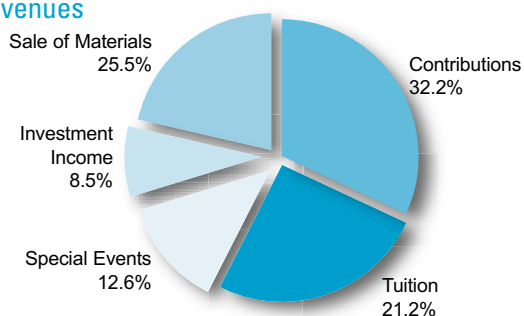
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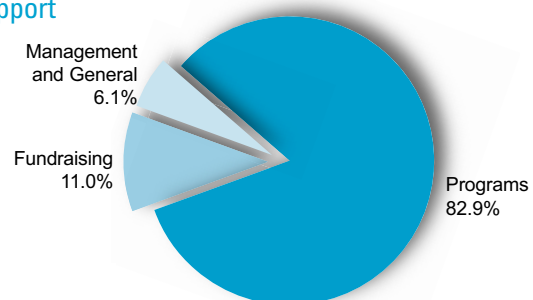
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## FINANCE UPDATE

### Revenues



### Support



Excluding unrealized gains or losses on investments.

### Program statistics for fiscal year 9/1/2008 - 8/31/2009:

- 3,210 teachers received 56,582 instructional hours.
- Each classroom teacher serves no less than 22 children, therefore, approximately 70,620 students benefitted from their teachers' participation in Neuhaus' Teacher Professional Development Programs.
- 154 school districts sent teachers to Neuhaus Education Center.
- 887 schools sent teachers to Neuhaus Education Center, including 117 private schools.
- 3,094 parents were served by Neuhaus Education Center.
- 51 adult students were served by Neuhaus Education Center.
- 19 students graduated from the Dyslexia Specialist Preparation Program.

# Neuhaus Education Center

## Our Mission

Neuhaus Education Center, dedicated to preventing reading failure, provides teachers professional development in research-based methods of literacy instruction.

## Our Vision

Neuhaus will be the premier source for solutions, support, and successful reading instruction for every educator.

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## *What Teachers Say*

**HAPPY 30TH BIRTHDAY, NEUHAUS!**

As a 5th grade teacher of children who are deaf, I have seen astonishing improvement in the writing skills of my students since implementing a multi-sensory approach to grammar. My students are not only identifying parts of speech, they are generating sentences of their own. Thank you, Neuhaus, for making language class the best part of my, and my students', day!

*Amanda Mason*  
Hall Elementary - CCISD

Everything that I've learned here at Neuhaus has helped me tremendously in the classroom. All of the activities were very helpful to me as a teacher, and of course the children benefit a lot. Keep up the good job!

*Aster Eyob*  
Shearn Elementary - HISD

Neuhaus has provided me with continued inspiration and insight throughout the years. I teach 1st - 5th grades and have taught for many years. I still feel enlightened and inspired each time I come. My students thank you!

*Carol Pergoy*  
Wilbern Elementary - Cypress-Fairbanks ISD