



The Eclectic Report

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Greetings!

Are you getting excited for the end-of-March extravaganza? Can't wait for the used-book sale or the hours and hours of fellowship? Are you making your list for vendor hall purchases? Me too! It's one of the very best things about Spring . . . the NDHSA Christian Home Educators' Convention.

And the second best? Seed catalogs. We've received seven so far and have carefully perused through each one, circling here, checking the price there, and squealing and squeaking with joy when we see some of the early sales. And we have hours of endless delights ahead of us yet.

So even if you don't find gardening as thrilling as we do at the Blessed Life Ranch, you still have the joy of looking forward to the upcoming convention in Jamestown. Please note the side bar regarding the decrease in the price of our taco-in-the-bag Thursday evening meal. Really inexpensive and you don't have to leave the convention site. Check out the complete convention booklet at www.ndhsa.org

Praise the Lord with me for all the volunteers who make our conventions such a success year after year. You might slip in a little whisper of prayer for our convention coordinator, Karol Kapelle, asking our dear Lord Jesus to strengthen her for the task. (He surely will!)

And finally, here's something to ponder; it has been a comfort and challenge to me.

Our labors in the here and now, insofar as they reflect and flow out of our commitment to the reign of Christ, no matter what happens between now and the end, will survive. Our work matters into eternity. Or, as one wise theologian is apt to describe it, right now counts forever. (Dr. R.C. Sproul, Jr., "The End of the End", Dec.2013-*Tabletalk*)

Grace and peace,
Gail

NDHSA Convention

March 20-22
Jamestown, N.D.



Taco-in-a-bag

Thursday, March 20, supper will be available at the NDHSA convention. The price listed in the booklet was \$4.00, but (here's a first) the price is actually less - \$3.00. Sign up today!

Taco-in-a-bag

\$3.00



The View from my Window

By Theresa Deckert, NDHSA Office Administrator

I can tell that convention time is fast approaching. The last couple of months Karol and I have been processing vendor registrations. I am excited about a few new vendors we have coming this year. This week the very first convention registrations crossed my desk. I am starting to recognize names and think, "Oh that is great, so and so will be there. It will be wonderful to see them again."

The convention has been such a big part of my life for the past 24 years. How many of you remember the very first convention held at New Song Community Church in Bismarck? Greg Harris was the speaker. It was April 20-21, 1990. Motel rooms at Days Inn were just \$27.00 + tax for a double! The seminar began at 6:30 Friday night, which was free. The Saturday conference cost was \$30 per couple or \$20 per individual. That very first convention brought 212 adult attendees.

I have attended every convention since. In 1995 I was there for only part of Friday as my oldest son was in the hospital recovering from an appendectomy. That is the only convention my husband missed. As I perused old schedules, I see that I have been presenting the "Getting Started Workshop" since 1994. My audience now consists of young parents who are my children's ages.

Much has changed since those early days, but it is my hope and prayer that you look forward, with a sense of anticipation, to this annual event. May each one receive the help, encouragement and challenge they need.

State of Parental Rights: Spread the Word

February 5, 2014 www.parentalrights.org

If you have not yet read "The Unbelievable State of Parental Rights in America," **you need to read it today.** It is perhaps too much information to take in a single sitting, but the bottom line is this: violations of parental rights are no longer isolated events; they are common occurrences nationwide.

From Knowledge Quest . . . FREE Gamebook!

We are excited! The 2014 Winter Olympic Games in Sochi are in progress! Are you ready to celebrate with the world? We have a fun and free project for your kids to work on during the Olympic Games that will give them an outlet for their creative energy after they have expended their physical energy trying some of their twirling and leaping stunts across your living room floor.

My Country Book will help your children record their favorite Olympic moments while reinforcing their geography knowledge and providing an interesting keepsake notebook to enjoy when it is finished.

Click this link to download your FREE Country Book: [2014-01-11_CountryBook.pdf](#)



Homeschooling "Home Ec"

An article in the *Boston Globe* last month calls for a return to home ec for all, to help make students better prepared to deal with daily living. I agree. [Read more](#)

Using Cookbooks as Textbooks

Cooking can help connect kids to books, science, and world culture. [Read more](#)

From Kathy Ceceri at newsletters@About.com

7 Big Ideas for Beating Homeschool Burnout

Lee Binz, The HomeScholar LLC

Fatigue is the epic battle for homeschool parents. Often it's the biggest issue that homeschoolers face in the middle of winter. Between homeschooling and house-work, parents feel stretched. Add your own need for self-care, the needs of your children and spouse, and it can feel impossible. Then add the darkness of winter months and even seasoned veterans can be hanging on by a thread.

Yes, it's easy to become overwhelmed and fatigued! But there are some solutions that will help you face the day bravely, with the confidence and energy you need to make it through the year...or at least until dinnertime. Hey, some ideas might even get you into the evening hours without a meltdown. [Read More - iTired: Dealing with Homeschool Fatigue](#)

The Lamplighter Guild 2014

From Mark Hamby's Lamplighter Publishing

Registration is now officially open for the 2014 Lamplighter Guild for Creative Disciplines, July 14th - 18th. Join us at our new location, the "Grand Canyon of the East," Letchworth State Park in western NY. Surrounded by breathtaking beauty, the Lamplighter Guild promises to be a time of life-transforming inspiration and instruction, now at a more affordable cost! Space is limited to the first 100 students and will fill up quickly. For more information see www.lamplighterguild.com.

A Surprising Ingredient in Teaching

By Diana Waring

As homeschoolers, we are always tempted to wonder whether we measure up to "real teachers." Which leads to the question, What are the essential qualities of an outstanding teacher? Many things come to mind, including knowledge of subject area, ability to communicate with students, commitment to preparation, and consideration for the needs of individual students. Everyone has a list of essential qualities of excellent teachers, but there is one surprising ingredient that few would include in the short list—"surprising" because it has a Biblical guarantee, and "surprising" because it is so rarely considered. Intrigued? Then read on.

<https://blu177.mail.live.com/mail/ViewOfficePreview.aspx?messageid=1dcb17f0-78ab-11e3-9dc9-00237de49fac&folderid=00000000-0000-0000-000000000001&attindex=5&cp=-1&attdepth=5&n=1926924585>

Major Victory for Homeschool Military Enlistees

<http://www.crosswalk.com/newsletters-only/crosswalk-home-school-news/major-victory-for-homeschool-military-enlistees.html>



Science Fair Guide

This complete, printable science fair guide includes an introduction to the scientific method, science fair topic prompts, and information to help you test and present your project!

[Download the printable Science Fair Guide >>](#)

Microscopes for Sale

Interested in an affordable microscope for your science adventures? Larry Winkleman has been servicing and repairing microscopes for more than 40 years and continues to offer homeschool families affordable high quality microscopes.

Current Specials:

Bausch & Lomb HSM \$150

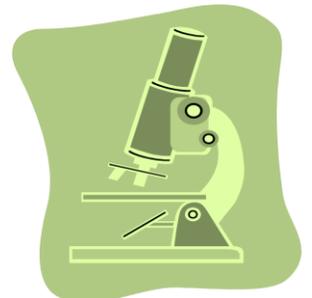
American Optical Series 60 \$140

Parco Model 950 \$125

Bausch & Lomb ST \$100

Go to: www.homeschoolscopes.com for pictures/purchase.

Questions/comments: info@homeschoolscopes.com or 936-828-8747.



Visit www.ndhsa.org
for complete convention booklet

Dr. Chris Seberino offering online classes and tutoring

Here is the **Fall 2014** schedule:

Writing Level 1 - Fundamentals TTh 8:30 - 9:20am CST
Writing Level 2 - Intermediate TTh 10:30 - 11:20am CST
Writing Level 3 - Momentum TTh 11:30 - 12:20pm CST
Grammar 1 TTh 9:30 - 10:20am CST
Spanish 1 T 10:00 - 11:30am CST
Spanish 2 T 12:00 - 1:30pm CST
Italian 1 W 1:00 - 2:30pm CST
Italian 2 W 3:00 - 4:30pm CST
French 1 W 9:00 - 10:30am CST
French 2 W 11:00 - 12:30pm CST
Latin 1A W 10:00 - 11:30am CST

Prealgebra MTh 10:30 - 11:20am CST
Algebra 1 MTh 12:30 - 1:20pm CST
Geometry MTh 2:00 - 2:50pm CST
Algebra 2 MTh 3:00 - 3:50pm CST
Precalculus TF 12:30 - 1:20pm CST
AP Calculus AB TF 10:30 - 11:20am CST
Physics MTh 11:30 - 12:20pm CST
AP Physics B MTh 11:30 - 12:20pm CST
AP Computer Science A TF 11:30 - 12:20pm CST

To access the videos that are part of the SAT Math Prep class for *free*, see middle of page here: <https://phil4.com>
Email Dr. Chris Seberino at info@phil4.com or visit <https://phil4.com>



Articles courtesy of Home School Legal Defense Association

Boycotting Tests is Helping Stop the Common Core

Across the country, parents and public school students are slowing the Common Core's progress by refusing to take Common Core-aligned assessments. These efforts have caused some school administrators to cancel standardized testing. [Read more >>](#)

Home School Heartbeat: Teaching Math

If math is the bane of your homeschooling existence, this week's program is for you! Math professor Fred Worth discusses why your students might struggle with this difficult subject and how you can improve their performance. A solid foundation in math can prepare your child for life success! [Read more >>](#)

Tell Your Friends: Art Contest Accepting Entries

All homeschoolers are invited to showcase their talents in HSLDA's annual Art Contest! Open through March 1 for homeschoolers ages 7-19. [For details and entry form >>](#)



2014 Keep ND Clean Contests

The 46th Keep North Dakota Clean (KNDC) poster contest, sponsored by Newman Outdoor Advertising, **has its entry form, themes and rules** available **now** for download at www.keep-nd-clean.org. All entries are due March 14, 2014.

The KNDC poster contest is for students in grades 1-8 and special needs. Students create artwork that reflect his or her knowledge about the responsibility we all have to keep our state and water clean, reduce waste, recycle, plant trees, prevent wildfires, create wildlife habitat, and to use all of our natural resources wisely.

The KNDC digital media contest is for students in grades 9 to 12. The ND Parks and Recreation Department may use the winning media entry to help promote keeping North Dakota trails clean and green. Students creative in art or technology are encouraged to design a striking digital image, create a TV video, or make a radio audio clip. For more information, contact Glenda.Fauske@ndsu.edu; or call (701) 228-5446.

Unite the USA exists to promote positive patriotism, encourage conservative standards, honor veterans, give a voice to the poor and afflicted, and to fully apply "in God we trust" to daily life. As a Christian web site, Unite the USA encourages Americans to unite in the fight for our rights - especially Christian rights such as returning God to the public square. **We hope to activate the post-9/11 generation to become positive patriots of faith!**

As the founders of Unite the USA, Carrie and Stacie Stoelting are boldly working to inspire the American people - who are the heart of our country - to be active, informed citizens. Each month, stimulating articles, action points, and resources are featured. [Sign up](#) for our free monthly e-edition. Learn how to change America and return her to her roots of freedom, faith, and family. Read more at:

www.unitetheusa.org

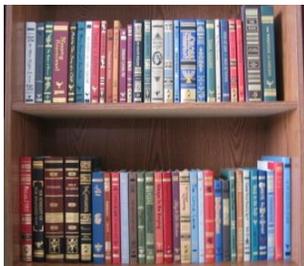
**Click here for
Homeschool.com's
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Websites for 2014!**

Interested in book reviews? Visit:

<http://homeschoolbookreviewblog.wordpress.com>

From: **BIBLICAL HOMESCHOOLING**

Monthly newsletter of general interest, encouragement, and information for homeschooling Christians % Wayne S. Walker, 329 W. Boone St., Salem, IL, 62881 E-mail: wswalker310@juno.com; January, 2014; Volume 16, No. 5



LitPlans are complete units of study for works of literature with step-by-step directions, reproducible student materials, and answer keys. They include daily lessons, reading assignments, study questions, vocabulary worksheets, activities and games, writing assignments, review lessons & worksheets, quizzes, and tests...everything you need to teach the novel.

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PRAY without Ceasing . . .

- **Pray** for our board of directors: **Ken & Lora Knight, Jeff & Theresa Deckert, Pas. Jeff & Karol Kapelle, Sue Huntington, Neil Toman, Pas. Brian & Bev Skaar and Troy & Kristin Durham.** **Praise** God for them.
- **Pray** for homeschool families facing financial, health, or spiritual challenges.
- **Pray for all involved with the March convention. Volunteer if you are able – convention@ndhsa.org**
- **Praise** God for the ways Home School Legal Defense Association has advanced homeschooling in America. **Praise** God that HSLDA is a Capitol Hill watchdog particularly on issues about U.N. treaties and parental rights.
- **Praise** God for America, not without troubles, but best place in the world to live!
- **Pray** for homeschoolers in foreign nations under hardship from their governments. **Praise** God for HSLDA's service to them.
- **Pray for homeschooling fathers. Thank** God for homeschooling moms who lay down their lives everyday to do God's will by teaching their children.
- **Intercede for moms** who are exhausted, discouraged, and ready to give up homeschooling. **Ask** our dear Lord Jesus to send them a season of refreshing and renewal of purpose. Help them if you can.
- **Pray** for Dr. Brian Ray as he continues providing research on homeschooling. His ministry is needful and a blessing to homeschooling.
- **Pray** diligently for your Pastor that our Lord will keep him faithful, honorable in all areas of his life, and filled with wisdom from above.
- **Thank** our heavenly Father that almost 30 years ago He called a few brave families to pioneer homeschooling in N.D. Remember the Larsens, Lunds, Reimches, Dagleys, Birsts, Huntingtons, Tomans . . . Thank you, thank you, Lord Jesus!

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Heb.4:15-16, ESV

Send your prayer requests to office@ndhsa.org or billbiby@msn.com

NDHSA Board of Directors

Ken Knight, president and **Lora Knight**, west region support group coordinator, 701.880.6126 or knight_publishing@hotmail.com
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NDHSA statement of faith

Trusting in Jesus Christ as our Saviour, we believe in Almighty God, the author of all creation; the Bible as the inspired Word of God, complete in 66 books and the basis of faith and practice; the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, the death of Jesus Christ for our sins, His bodily resurrection and His personal return; and regeneration by God, the Holy Spirit.

NDHSA Statement of purpose

1. Encouraging and assisting Christian families in the education of their children according to Biblical principles;
2. Providing to home educators and the general public information pertaining to the Biblical, academic and legal aspects of home education;
3. Entering into activities, in filling out contracts necessary, incidental or beneficial to the accomplishment of the nonprofit purposes of this corporation.

The Eclectic Report

Gail Biby, Editor

The Eclectic Report is published monthly by the NDHSA and is provided free to anyone who asks. The NDHSA is a Christian 501(c)(3) organization funded by the gifts of interested parties. No substantial part of the activities of the NDHSA is used for the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, promote any political campaign, or on the behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Legal

issues are for instructive purposes only and do not constitute the giving of legal advice. If you need legal advice concerning homeschooling, contact Dewitt Black, HSLDA attorney of reference, if you are a member family, or contact an attorney familiar with homeschool law. Any comments or opinions are those of the editor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NDHSA board or staff members. Bylined articles ditto! Advertisements likewise. If you have something that may be of interest to homeschoolers, or if you have comments or corrections, send them to the editor at billbiby@msn.com.

Gail M. Biby is the publications editor for the NDHSA and has been joyfully working with parent educators for more than 23 years. She writes a regular column for *Eternal Encouragement* magazine (a magazine by and for Christian women), serves on the advisory board for Mark Hamby's Lamplighter Publishing, writes a women's newsletter for her church gals, and volunteers with Caring Hearts Jail Ministry. She lives a modestly agrarian lifestyle in the Red River Valley of the North with a prince of a man, her husband Bill, and right next door to their daughter Aimee, son-in-love, Ray, and their six children. Contact her at: billbiby@msn.com

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Not a member yet of NDHSA? Family membership fee only \$35. Once you have given your tithes and offerings to your local church, why not consider a donation to the NDHSA. All funds are used to continue the work of the Association and will be used with great frugality and wisdom. But even if God doesn't lead you to donate, we hope that you will pray for the work of the NDHSA, the board of directors, and staff. **CHECK OUT NEW features at our website.**

Join Home School Legal Defense Association

to protect your right to homeschool in North Dakota and to support their work for us on Capitol Hill. Go to: www.hsllda.org Receive an HSLDA discount if a member family of the NDHSA.

Membership MATTERS!

NDHSA Christian Home Educators' Convention

March 20-22, 2014, Jamestown Civic Center

Keynote speaker: **Phil Downer**, Discipleship Network of America (DNA) Ministries <http://www.dnaministries.org/>

Featured speakers: Paul Downer also of *DNA Ministries* and our children's program will be taught by *JANDY Ministries* (Will present Thursday night keynote for the whole family!).

Activities: Used Book Sale (UBS), Art Show, Silent Auction, *Mentor Tables, Business and Crafts* on upper concourse.

Workshops: Oodles of them and **Nancy and Gene Transtrom** are coming back as workshop leaders this year. Can't wait!

Registration: Visit www.ndhsa.org for information or to register for the convention.

See you there!

Find us on Facebook at: North Dakota Home School Association

www.ndhsa.org