

The Eclectic Report

NDHSA, P.O. Box 1066, Devils Lake, N.D. 58301
1.701.662.NDHS (6347) office@ndhsa.org www.ndhsa.org
Face Book at: [North Dakota Home School Association](http://www.facebook.com/NorthDakotaHomeSchoolAssociation)

Volume 5 Issue 2 Editor: Gail M. Bibby billbiby@msn.com February 2015



Logo design by Josiah Kopp

Greetings!

Already into the month of February and inching ever closer to the event of the year: the **North Dakota Home School Association's Annual Christian Home Educators' Convention**. You should have received your convention booklet in the mail already. If you didn't or you have misplaced it go to <http://www.ndhsa.org> and click on convention. Before you know it March 19-21 will be here so mark your calendars, make your lodging reservations, look over the selection of workshops and make your plans accordingly, get those kiddies working on a project for the Art Exhibit, ready that pile of books for the Used-Book Sale, and **REGISTER**.

CONVENTION REMINDER: The Thursday evening Used-Book Sale is held in the Doublewood Inn, NOW the **Baymont Inn and Suites**. The evening session following the book sale is also being held at the Baymont and features the Economides' keynote **4 Keys to Financial Success**. All other events will be held at a First Assembly of God Church, 3401 25th St. S, Fargo, N.D.

LEGISLATIVE REMINDER: It really *does* matter when you contact legislators about your concerns on legislation. I have heard during floor debate a legislator state (more than once!) he has received emails from constituents on the topic being debated.

Continue to pray diligently for our state legislators, no matter the party, all need wisdom from above. Pray for those who are working for good and godly legislation publically (NDFA, NDHSA) and behind the scenes.

Gail

EMAILS NEEDED NOW! HEARING WEDNESDAY

HB 1425 will lower the compulsory attendance age from seven to six. Home educators would need to begin filing their statements of intent when the child is six. Your emails to the House Education committee in opposition to this change DO make a difference. Contact the House Education Committee: Chairman Mike Nathe mrathe@nd.gov, V. Chairman Mike Schatz mischatz@nd.gov, Rep. Dennis Johnson djohnson@nd.gov, Ben Koppelman bkoppelman@nd.gov, Alex Looyen alooyen@nd.gov, Lisa Meier lmeier@nd.gov, Christopher Olson cdolson@nd.gov, Karen Rohr kmrohr@nd.gov, Cynthia Schreiber Beck cschreiberbeck@nd.gov, Denton Zubke dzubke@nd.gov, Bob Hunskor bhunskor@nd.gov, Jerry Kelsh jkesh@nd.gov, Core Mock cmock@nd.gov



The View from my Window

By Theresa Deckert, NDHSA Office Administrator

By the articles we read in the newspaper and the letters on the opinion page, there is no doubt that we are in the midst of another legislative session. I hope you are following bills that concern you and following up with letters to your legislators. In N. D. we have the freedom to be involved through sharing testimony and contacting our legislators.

If you have not had a reason to take a "field trip" to the Capitol yet, let me extend an invitation for you to attend the **North Dakota Homeschool Day at the Capitol** on **April 6 from 9-5**. More details will follow as I confirm speakers and events, but I know we will be hearing from one of our "Homeschool Hall of Fame" families as they recount some of the early days when homeschooling was illegal in N.D.

You will also have the opportunity to go on a tour at the Capitol, listen to committee hearings and even sit on the floor with your legislator. If you plan on doing that, you must contact them prior to your visit and get permission. It is a wonderful educational experience for students and parents alike.

Please remember proper attire when coming to the Capitol. Dress slacks or dresses are most appropriate. Parents must keep an eye on their children at all times as we are in a public place of business.

We will have tables available for support groups to display some of your group events. Please contact me at office@ndhsa.org if your support group would like to have a display. I would also like to have a table hosted by homeschool graduates who are now in the business sector. If you fit that description and are willing, please contact me at the above email address. My hope is to have 1-hour slots. That means 8 slots to fill. I am confident that legislators and other homeschoolers will enjoy the chance to interact with some of our homeschool graduates.

Even though there are no homeschool specific bills this year, it is important for our legislators to know who we are and attending **Homeschool Day at the Capitol** is a great opportunity for that. Hope to see you there!

The **Doublewood Inn** of Fargo has changed its name to **Baymont Inn and Suites**.

2015 NDHSA Christian Home Educators' Convention March 19-21, 2015

Fargo's First Assembly of God

Keynote speakers:

Hal & Melanie Young

Featured speakers:

Steve & Annette Economides

HSLDA Attorney for N.D.

Dewitt Black

For more on this exciting event go to www.ndhsa.org and click on convention.

THURSDAY: Mike Farris, Home School Legal Defense Association founder and constitutional lawyer, will be testifying on the Convention of the States bill HCR 3014 (yes, *that* Mike Farris!) **February 5, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.** in the Brynhild Haugland room (ground floor). Following the hearing join him for his **FREE Constitutional Law Workshop** at the N.D. Heritage Center auditorium from 10:30 a.m.- 12:00 noon. His testimony will be worth hearing; a trip to the Heritage center is worth the drive; Mike's constitutional law workshop makes for a great field trip!

**Homeschool Day
at the Capitol**

Mark your calendars!

April 6, 2015

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Visit our website: www.ndhsa.org Like us on Face Book: [North Dakota Home School Association](http://www.facebook.com/NorthDakotaHomeSchoolAssociation)

Should Money Management For Kids Be Core Curriculum?

The 2009 National Home School Research Institute proved, beyond doubt that homeschooled children excel in every measureable academic category. From a survey of more than 12,000 students the statistics revealed that on standardized tests our kids scored more than 30 percentage points higher than their public schooled peers. But how do they fare in non-academic areas? Are we instilling in our kids the life skills they'll need to survive in the fast-paced, hard-hitting, real world?

Consider the area of personal finance.

Whether our children become highly paid engineers or wonderful, loving homeschool moms, not knowing how to manage their household's income can lead to financial and emotional disaster—disagreements over finances is one of the top reasons for divorce.

Here are 10 reasons why we as parents need to intentionally train our children to become financially independent adults.

1) Teaching them will teach you. Many of us weren't taught to manage money and as a result feel totally unqualified to teach our children. Learning to steward our own money will only produce good for our children and us. *It's not too hard—learn along with them.*

2) They'll learn it somewhere. If our kids don't learn to manage their money at home, where will they learn it—from friends; TV ads; college recruiters; credit card companies? Who will provide them with godly, unbiased instruction? *We are the ones who need to instill these values in our own kids.*

3) It could cost you . . . a lot! Without a plan for training your children to stand financially independent you may join 60 percent of parents who are currently supporting their adult children. We're talking about able-bodied, adult children who move back home and allow mom and dad to foot the bill. *Nest eggs can quickly turn into goose eggs when funding the lifestyles of adult children.*

4) Good habits take time. How easy is it to brush your teeth? Years of repetition have rendered this habit almost automatic for most of us. Initially, developing a system to teach our kids to manage their own money was difficult and cumbersome. Eventually, as our system and we matured we saw great growth in our children. As their earnings increased, and their decision making improved — their enthusiasm about working, earning and managing their own money to reach larger and larger goals soared. *Start now and give your kids the opportunity to develop a lifelong habit of stewardship.*

5) Finances affect everything! How we manage money can affect every area of our lives. Helping our children develop a realistic perspective on finances is critical to their maturity. *We don't want them to be obsessed with money, but to see it as a tool that needs to be used according to the rules.*

6) It's cheaper when they're young! When our kids are younger and we're teaching them about pennies, nickels and dimes the importance seems almost negligible. But as with most lessons, as they mature, the price tag increases. If we start training them when the price tag is smaller, they'll have fewer expensive problems when they're older. *Remember, we aren't raising children . . . we're raising future adults!*

7) Less entitlement attitudes. We can eliminate attitudes of entitlement and the "gimmies" by teaching our children to spend their own money for the things they want. *Let's train our kids that working hard will entitle them to earn and spend their own well-deserved income.*

8) Debt-proofed for the future. We can teach our kids to be above average. Teaching a child to earn and spend wisely; helping them to plan, research and save for things they want without debt; and demonstrating how we run to God rather than to the bank in hard times—*All these things will combine to debt-proof our children so they can withstand life's financial tempests.*

9) Builds a strong work ethic. Helping our children to write a resume, practice mock interviews and search for a job are all skills that will help build a successful financial future. And working a part-time job in their high school years can build a strong work ethic and resume that they can take forward into their adult years. *They'll also learn to manage larger sums of money than most of us can afford to pay them and be able to fund more of their living expenses.*

10) After you're gone. If kids are raised in an environment with loving limits and encouragement to become self-sufficient they will be less likely to compete with each other for material possessions. *Investing your time to teach your children to manage money will leave a legacy that will go beyond the financial realm.*

As home school parents, fully invested in our children's success, we want to equip them to thrive as they move into adulthood. Let's focus on their complete education: academic and life-skills learning. As we do this we will preserve the path that our home school predecessors have forged—our children will continue to exceed the norms and truly guide their generation to a better place.

Steve & Annette Economides are home school parents of five grown children, NY Times Best Selling authors and live in Scottsdale, Arizona. They are committed to bringing financial hope and practical advice to home school families across the country and around the world. Their newest book, "The MoneySmart Family System" was awarded the Family Choice Award for the Best Parenting Resource of 2012. Visit MoneySmartFamily.com for more details.

Editor's Note: I have shortened this article for the sake of space, but you can hear the Economides speak at length on financial matters at the NDHSA convention.

Opportunity to Participate in Homeschool Research Project

Dear Homeschooling Parents:

My name is Rose Shelton. I am a homeschool graduate and currently a senior at Thomas Edison State College.

I am doing a research project for my last class to finish my social sciences degree. My topic is the effects of high levels of extracurricular activities on homeschooled students' academic performance.

In order to complete my project, I need to gather some information from you, the homeschoolers of North Dakota.

I have developed a short survey that will take about 10 minutes to complete. The larger my sample population, the better.

If you are willing to participate please email me as soon as possible at probono13@hotmail.com.

Thank you in advance,
Rose

Should You Attend the Homeschool Convention?

By Nancy Manos

From my observation, homeschooling parents seem to fall into three categories as it relates to the homeschool convention. There's the "I wouldn't miss it for the world" crowd, the "I already have my curriculum and don't really need to go" folks, and then there's the "I'd like to go someday, but probably not this year" group.

The majority of those who attend the annual homeschool convention tend to be "die hard" fans who would be very disappointed if circumstance caused them to miss even one year—even if they've been homeschooling a long time and don't need a lot of resources or workshops to attend. So, what's all the excitement about anyway? Why do homeschooling families around the country put such a high value on attending their state's convention year after year?

My husband, James, and I have two daughters whom we homeschooled through high school. Our first exposure to a state homeschool convention was when our girls were very young and we were living in Minnesota. James would stay home with the girls while I went off with a friend to explore the exhibit hall and enjoy a couple of days with the greater homeschool community.

In those early years, it never occurred to me to attend workshops—I was having too much fun comparing resources and shopping for materials to bring home to share with our daughters. As the years passed, I started attending some workshops as well. I was pleasantly surprised at how much information I got, and how inspired and encouraged I felt after sitting through various sessions.

One of the first things we did when we moved to Arizona was to join the state homeschool organization and find out about their convention. It was a little frightening that first year to drive downtown by myself in a new city and attend my first convention here without knowing anyone. However, because I had experienced the thrill of attending homeschool conventions back in Minnesota, I knew it was worth pushing through the nervousness about a new location and new people. I knew, without a doubt, that I would find the same energy and excitement, the same opportunity to sit under excellent teaching, and a place to browse and shop for new things to add to our bookshelves and our plans for the coming school year. I was not disappointed!

So, what are the advantages of attending the homeschool convention and how can you get the most out of attending? In my opinion, there is absolutely nothing that can compare to being together with thousands of other parents who share the same conviction and passion for teaching their children at home. The atmosphere is charged when you get that many people together in one place, with one heart and one purpose. We are part of a greater community of parents teaching their children at home. It is invigorating and refreshing just to be there with so many of them!

WORKSHOPS

One thing I have witnessed in serving on the AFHE Convention Committee since 2005 is how much thought and prayerful consideration goes into selecting speakers and workshop topics for the homeschool convention. You will find a **nice balance of workshops** purposefully chosen to share vision, encouragement, and inspiration, as well as a variety of practical, “how-to” sessions packed with ideas you can take home and use to strengthen and enrich your family’s home education experience.

It’s important to understand that you are not necessarily going to agree with every point that every speaker makes. Go with the attitude that you are going to get all you can out of the teaching. It’s okay if you disagree or something doesn’t resonate with you. Just set that bit aside and focus on gleaning the gems. You’ll find **plenty of great nuggets** that will encourage and inspire you!

Be sure to **read through** the convention workshop schedule and **workshop descriptions before you head to the convention**. Highlight the ones you most want to hear in person and make a note of any that you’d like to purchase recordings of to listen to later. Planning ahead will help you avoid the stress of last-minute decision-making or the disappointment of missing a workshop you really wanted to hear. You might choose to attend workshops together with your spouse. I’ve found that it’s very helpful to have my husband hear the information first-hand along with me, rather than trying to relate highlights to him later if I attended by myself. Another option is to divide and conquer with the wife attending one session while the husband attends another—covering twice as much ground. Find what works best for you.

EXHIBIT HALL

In the exhibit hall you will find a delightful opportunity to browse **myriad curricula and resources** in person, save on shipping charges, and often find a number of exhibitors offering “Convention Specials” as well. Even if you already have a curriculum that’s working well for your family, you may come across a few good books to add to your home library or a new resource that might be the perfect addition to your homeschool plans for the coming year.

Some people—especially first-time convention attendees—might find the exhibit hall to be a bit overwhelming because of the abundance of materials available. However, if you **do some research before** you arrive, and **familiarize yourself with the most commonly used curricula** and resources, You’ll find that it’s not so daunting to experience in person.

Talk to other homeschooling parents, especially those that have been homeschooling awhile; find out what curricula they use and why they like it. **Read books** like *Top 100 Picks for Homeschool Curriculum* by Cathy Duffy and *The Big WHAT NOW Book of Learning Styles* by Carol Barnier to familiarize yourself with some of the most popular and effective curriculum on the market.

One suggestion to help keep you on track in the exhibit hall is to **come prepared with a “Wish List” or shopping list**. By doing some research in advance, you can create a list of items that you want to look for while you’re at the convention. With the bounty of wonderful products and resources, it’s easy to get distracted and go home without the items you specifically came to buy. For some, it can be helpful to make one pass through the entire exhibit hall to see what’s available before making any purchases. Then, after you’ve had some time to think through what you really want to buy, go back through again. Talk to the representatives, compare products, and ask questions.

Whether you have a little to spend or a lot, it helps to **come prepared with a budget**. It isn’t worth having that spectacular math or history program if it’s going to cause stress in your finances and your marriage!

Also keep in mind that in many instances you are supporting fellow homeschoolers when you purchase materials from them. Many of the exhibitors are families who have created products or resources from their own homeschool experience, or homeschooling families who run a business together supporting the homeschool community by offering quality resources you can use in your home.

HAVEN’T DECIDED IF YOU SHOULD ATTEND?

So, what if you’re one of those people who fall into the second category I mentioned at the top of this article? The “I already have my curriculum and don’t really need to go” folks. As a long-time homeschool mom myself who reads a lot of books and articles, has attended dozens of workshops, and listens to many workshop recordings, I can tell you that **the need to come and be refreshed, re-energized, and refocused for the year ahead never diminishes**. As long as you’re educating your children at home, there is always a benefit to this kind of experience.

For those in the third category, you may feel that the investment of time and money is too great at this time, but you’ve heard great things about the convention and hope to attend one day. It may be a wise decision to forego attending the convention this year, depending upon your financial situation. We serve an awesome God and He is well able to provide the encouragement you need through other avenues beyond the homeschool convention. I would certainly never say that the homeschool convention is the only way to get refreshed, re-energized, and refocused for the coming school year. But it is a unique, amazing experience—the only gathering of its kind and size in most states. I would encourage you to consider attending if you are able. Once you go, you’ll see first-hand what all of the excitement is about!

In this season of our lives having graduated both of our children, attending the homeschool convention for my family has changed. Now, our focus is on equipping and encouraging our fellow homeschoolers. But, I can tell you that the thrill is still there and I am one of those “die hard” fans who wouldn’t miss the homeschool convention for anything!

And remember, when you attend the homeschool convention hosted by your state organization, you are supporting an organization that serves homeschool families in your state all year long and that works hard to preserve the freedom to homeschool in your state.

Nancy Manos and her husband, James, live in Chandler, Arizona and have two daughters whom they homeschooled through high school. The Manos’ home education journey was a rich, rewarding, sometimes challenging experience, and Nancy is passionate about encouraging others in the homeschool adventure. Nancy and James have served on the board of directors for Arizona Families for Home Education (AFHE) since 2004. Nancy has served on the AFHE Convention Committee since 2005 in a variety of positions including volunteer coordinator, speaker coordinator, publications coordinator, and in November 2012 became the AFHE Convention Director. www.nancymanos.com

Common Core

Editor's Note: Here is an excellent example of a well-thought-out, well-researched and intelligent letter to the editor from Mrs. Theresa Deckert. This is the kind of letter that is reasoned and polite and actually changes people's minds.

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to a letter to the editor in the January 20, 2015 Devils Lake *Daily Journal*. As a homeschooling parent I am a bit reluctant to become involved in this debate, but I have been researching the Common Core issue for over two years. I do not feel the author intended to be misleading, but several points she makes are so in my opinion.

Rep. Jim Kasper, R-Fargo, is a sponsor of HB 1461 which will in essence remove North Dakota from the Common Core experiment. The "Journal Mailbag" writer emailed Rep. Kasper about Common Core and questions his qualifications to pass judgment on the standards. Rep. Kasper responded that he consults with Dr. Sandra Stotsky. So who is Dr. Sandra Stotsky? Find her bio. at the University of Arkansas website www.uaedreform.org/sandra_stotsky/ where she is Professor Emeritus.

"Dr. Sandra Stotsky is credited with developing one of the country's strongest sets of academic standards for K-12 students as well as the strongest academic standards and licensure tests for prospective teachers while serving as Senior Associate Commissioner in Massachusetts Department of Education from 1999-2003. She is also known nation-wide for her in-depth analyses of the problems in Common Core's English language arts standards."

She also served on the National Validation Committee for the Common Core State Systematic Initiative (2009-2010), holds a Harvard Doctorate in reading research and reading education, has served on ERIC Steering Committee for the U.S. Department of Education Institute of Education Sciences and the Steering Committee of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reading assessment framework. Perhaps this is why Rep. Kasper consults with her. She is an expert in the area of educational standards.

The writer also seems to imply that this is a "far right" issue. Au contraire, according to the February 27, 2014, *U.S. News & World Report* article "Who Is Fighting the Common Core? The Push Against Common Core Is Coming From Both Sides of the Political Aisle", "The push against Common Core features the usual antagonists of Pres. Barack Obama . . . who have accused the administration of strong-arming 45 states into accepting it . . . The Common Core opposition, however, includes some traditional allies of the Obama administration, including parent-teacher organizations in a state that voted over-whelmingly for the president's reelection and the National Education Association (NEA) one of the country's most powerful teachers' unions."

I have muddled through all the standards on the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction website including the science standards which are indeed written and were released for public comment in April 2014 by the DPI. As I spent time perusing the DPI website, I was even more intrigued by the comparison study done with the, then current, North Dakota educational standards and the Common Core Standards. **Do not be misled; N.D. had standards in place before the introduction of Common Core.** It is interesting to note that in the elementary grades the former standards had a significant number of standards that were actually *more rigorous* than the Common Core. At the high school level the Common Core had a greater percentage of more rigorous material. Go to: www.dpi.nd.us/standard/common_core.shtm.

While it is true that the standards do not "dictate" curriculum, most educators realize that testing does drive curriculum. It is another way to subtly force teachers into preparing children for a test rather than letting them do what they do best – teach.

Do not be lulled into thinking this behemoth of education reform will be a super saver. Because I am a home educator, I regularly buy school textbooks. Searching for curriculum reveals that all the major textbook companies are rewriting their offerings to align with the Common Core. I anticipate many districts having to buy all new curriculum because the old materials are not aligned. None of this takes into account the cost of new testing.

I urge each parent, grandparent, educator and taxpayer to begin researching Common Core themselves. You will soon find out why parents and educators across the country are in an uproar!

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING . . .

–**Pray for** our board: **Ken & Llorra Knight, Jeff & Theresa Deckert, Pas. Jeff & Karol Kapelle, Sue Huntington, Neil Toman, Pas. Brian & Bev Skaar and Troy & Kristin Durham.** Pray for them regarding legislative issues, convention work, and general board governance.

–**Pray for** single parent homeschoolers. Maybe God would use you to come alongside and help them.

–**Pray for** all involved with the legislative session. Pray for wisdom for legislators and for those who testify.

–**Continue to Pray** for those with health challenges: Alvin (and Becky) Reich, Jamestown; Nathaniel Breur, 12th grader (and family), Minot; Evan Vanderbeek, 9, (and family); Nancy Larsen (and family) as she recuperates from chemo; and Jon Leedahl (Adie, too) as he recovers in Australia.

–**Pray for** Christians in the Middle East. Beg God to strengthen them to the very end. Pray for Iraqi, Syrian, and Libyan Christians. Pray for Christians in Kenya, and Niger. *Open Doors USA* reports that 100 million Christians are persecuted globally.

–**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 the Lord** they are carefully watching the latest trend i.e. "medical kidnapping". **THANK God** for Dee Black and his many years of wise, gentle, and patient assistance to N.D. parent educators and NDHSA staff. This editor has depended on Dee's wisdom many times and is grateful to God for him.

–**Pray for homeschooling mothers and fathers** in your support group, on your block, in your city, in North Dakota.

–**Pray** diligently for your Pastor that our Lord will keep him faithful, honorable in all areas of his life, and filled with godly wisdom.

NDHSA Board of Directors

Ken Knight, president and Llorra Knight, west region support group coordinator, 701.880.6126 or knight_publishing@hotmail.com
Pas. Jeff Kapelle, director and Karol Kapelle, convention coordinator, 701.262.4446 or kapklan@gondtc.com
Neil Toman, treasurer, 701.222.0250 or ntoman@nd.gov
Susan Huntington, director, 701.663.7858 or essh2nd@hotmail.com
Jeff Deckert, director and Theresa Deckert, office administrator & east region support group coordinator, 701.662.4790 or jntdeck@gondtc.com for NDHSA items, use office@ndhsa.org
Pas. Brian and Bev Skaar, directors, 701.247.2875 or walkalongdeut6.7@hotmail.com
Troy and Kristin Durham, directors, 701.298.3414 or tkdurham@ideaone.net

O Lord, how entirely needful is Thy grace for me, to begin any good work, to go on with it, and to accomplish it. For without that grace I can do nothing, but in Thee I can do all things, when Thy grace doth strengthen me. *Imitation of Christ, Thomas A Kempis*

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 billboby@msn.com

NDHSA statement of faith

We believe in Almighty God, the Author of all creation, eternally existing in three persons, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit; the Bible as the inspired, infallible, written Word of God, complete in 66 books and our sole basis of faith and practice; the fallen state of man, guilty by nature and by act and therefore condemned before God; the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, except without sin, the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ on the cross for our sins, His visible bodily resurrection demonstrating His power over death and sin, His personal return; and regeneration by God, the Holy Spirit when we accept His free gift of salvation by His grace, through our personal faith, and not by any works we can do.

Mission statement

To provide a comprehensive home education information system to support, train and protect every willing North Dakota individual, family and church in the methods of privately funded, parent-directed home education.

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 24 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

NDHSA, P.O. Box 1066, Devils Lake, N.D. 58301

701.662.NDHS(6347)

www.ndhsa.org

office@ndhsa.org