

# The Eclectic Report

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Face Book at: [North Dakota Home School Association](http://North Dakota Home School Association)

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## Greetings!

It will soon be here! The **North Dakota Home School Association's Annual Christian Home Educators' Convention**. Misplaced your convention booklet? Go to: <http://www.ndhsa.org> and click on convention. Get your motel reservations, look through the list of vendors, plan which workshops you will attend and get those kiddies working on a project for the Art Exhibit. Recoup some of your curriculum costs and get ready that pile of books for the Used-Book Sale.

One more time . . . **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 First Assembly of God Church, 3401 25<sup>th</sup> St. S, Fargo, N.D.

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. It does me good deep down to see Rep. Nathan Toman at his desk in the House. He's the first homeschooled individual to serve in the legislature--it is something to be very pleased about . . . and I am!

Gail

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](http://www.ndhsa.org) and click on convention.

## April 6, 2015

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

Speakers  
Support group displays  
Field trip options  
Legislator visits  
Heritage Center visits

**Mark your calendar!**

**Theresa is looking for support groups to provide displays.**  
**Contact her at [office@ndhsa.com](mailto:office@ndhsa.com)**

## Homeschool Day at the Capitol



## The View from my Window

By Theresa Deckert, NDHSA Office Administrator

This column will return in the April edition of *The Eclectic Report*.

## Family FUN Days

July 3-5, 2015

Make your Fourth of July weekend special and join the Sip Family. More news to come!  
[wbsip@loretel.net](mailto:wbsip@loretel.net)

**NOTE: Change in Dewitt Black's workshops** at convention--both workshops will be held on **Friday, March 20**.  
**Common Core** - 2:30 p.m.  
**Parental Rights Amendment** - 4:00 p.m.

## CONVENTION CHOIR

Haven't you always wanted to participate in a *State Choir*? Well, now you can! *Calling* one and all **ages 12-99** to sing in the Home Educators' **Convention State Choir**. We will perform during the **Saturday morning general session** and we want YOU to join us as we lift our voices in praise to our Great God.

The music selection is "**That Very Moment**". Find it at [www.rejoicemusic.com](http://www.rejoicemusic.com). Go to Choral/Vocal music tab, then to Rejoice Choral series, then to 4-part choir (SATB). You can download this for \$.99 + tx. If you have a problem go to the F.A.Q. tab, top of the page, and download the required apps. For further assistance call 800.722.3220 (Rejoice Music). If all else fails contact me, Bev Skaar, at [walkalongdeut6.7.com](http://walkalongdeut6.7.com) or call 701.247.2875 and I will mail you the music.

The sanctuary at First Assembly of God, Fargo, is large so we need many voices. There will be two practices during the convention, one on Friday and one on Saturday. Times and places will be announced at the convention. All practices will be at the Assembly of God church.

Thank you for sharing your talents to bless others. I am looking forward to meeting all of you. Have fun practicing!

Bev Skaar, NDHSA state convention choir director

# CONVENTION CHOIR

**NDHSA Annual Christian Home Educators' Convention**  
**March 19-21**  
First Assembly of God Church  
Fargo, N.D.

Two great articles:

**Burnout in Homeschool City** - by Todd Wilson

<http://www.thehomeschoolmagazine-digital.com/thehomeschoolmagazine/201302#pg103>

**A Homeschooling Journey with my Special Needs Child** - by Wendy Hilton

<http://www.thehomeschoolmagazine-digital.com/thehomeschoolmagazine/201302#pg87>

### Graduation this Spring? Mark Art Productions Can Help!

Get announcements, address labels, Class of 2015 seals, guest books, diploma covers and thank you cards. Check out their selection at:

<http://www.grad-announcements.com>

### FREE math and physics classes!

Given by Dr. Chris Seberino

Offers: Prealgebra, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Precalculus, AP Calculus, Physics

Includes videos, graded homework, graded exams, discussion forums and chat rooms.

<https://philfour.com>

<https://philfour.com/checklist/>



**Home School Association for Military Families** has a pen pal program for both military and civilian children. It is a free, literacy based, traditional letter writing program. Check out their website at: [www.hsamf.org](http://www.hsamf.org)

My name is Kim Sawyer and I am a homeschooling mom in Kansas. I also work part-time for a company who trains **Birth Doulas** as well as Childbirth Educators.

Sally Riley, one of our co-directors, will be in Minot, ND, in March at the Erica McCauley Photography Studio to hold our **DONA approved Birth Doula Course**.

Our **Breastfeeding Class** will be taught on **March 26**, and our Birth Doula Workshop, **March 27-29**.

We would love the opportunity to reach out to the homeschooling community in North Dakota, if you would be willing to circulate our flyer and brochure, which are attached, I would greatly appreciate it.

We look forward to serving the homeschool community in North Dakota.

Kim Sawyer  
Office Manager

**Academy of Certified Birth Educators**  
815 S. Clairborne, Suite 125  
Olathe, KS 66062  
913-782-5116

[www.acbe.com](http://www.acbe.com)



## NDHSA Board Column

By Mrs. Jeff (Karol) Kapelle

I attended my first homeschool convention before I even had school-aged children. My husband is a pastor, so some of our homeschooling church friends invited us to attend to help us learn more about it. I did have some previous knowledge about homeschooling since my cousin and her husband were homeschooling in the Hettinger area in the 80s. I remember her telling me about keeping their curtains closed and not letting their children outside for fear of people seeing her children at home during school hours. But before hearing her sordid tales, I never really knew there was even such a thing as homeschooling. To me, the idea of it seemed truly inspiring!

I simply loved the idea of having my children home with me instead of sending them off on a school bus to be gone for nine hours of the day. I don't honestly think I ever gave any thought to any other option but homeschooling. My husband and I had the usual concerns from family and friends when we first announced our intentions, but we persevered and let the chips fall where they may.

So, we began our journey. I wish I could say that everything was smooth sailing, that every school day was pure bliss, and that we have perfect children. Weeeeeelllll, it wasn't, they weren't, and they aren't. There were lots of tears and idle threats ("I'm calling the other school and am going to sign you up! I know, that's bad!"), unfinished projects, etc. But, there were great joys! I remember the pride of taking my firstborn's first grade beautiful cursive penmanship paper to his grandma for her to hang up at her workplace-a public school. Ha! I cherish the feeling of accomplishment at knowing I taught my children to read! But what I treasure most is just the **time** I've had with my children...good and bad.

As the years flew by and I was teaching several of my children at once, classes became more involved and the days were more difficult. The annual homeschool convention became my lifeline! I needed the encouragement and fellowship I experienced there to help me make it through to the end of the year. Sometimes I needed the "how-to" of teaching a specific class, sometimes the opportunity to look "hands-on" at a particular curriculum I was researching, and often, I just needed to hear, "Keep on! You can do it!"

If you're in the same boat, or maybe you're deciding whether or not you even want to get in the boat, please consider attending the NDHSA Home Educator's Convention this month. There will be so many great resources and such wonderful information available to you, and the fellowship is out of this world! If you feel you are past that season of life when the convention was your only hope of continued sanity, consider attending to be a blessing to someone else. Maybe you'd even be willing to volunteer at the "Mentoring Moms" booth. If so, let me know.

I'm so excited that you have decided to join me on this wonderful ride we call homeschooling. You won't regret it! I can't wait to see you all in Fargo in a few weeks. Please find me at the convention and introduce yourself. I'd love to meet you. See you soon!

Karol Kapelle, NDHSA convention coordinator

### URGENT PRAYER REQUEST and OPPORTUNITY to HELP

We recently received the news about the husband of one of the NDHSA's long-time support group leaders. Warren Magnus, husband of Melvena Magnus, has been diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia, a long-term health challenge. He is no longer able to work and this has, of course, brought some financial difficulties to the family. Cavalier Baptist Church will be hosting a baked potato bar and silent auction on March 15, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome and proceeds will be used to help with ongoing medical and travel expenses.

Monetary donations (write your check to Cavalier Baptist Church Deacon's Fund and note "Magnus Benefit") can be mailed to Cavalier Baptist Church, P.O. Box 338, Cavalier, N.D. 58220. Encouraging messages can be sent to the family at [melvena@polarcomm.com](mailto:melvena@polarcomm.com)

Remember the Magnus family in prayer as they walk through this unexpected valley. Give financially if you are able.

### 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 with childcare, finances, curriculum.

-**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, 12<sup>th</sup> grader (and family), Minot; Evan Vanderbeek, 9, (and family); Nancy Larsen (and family) as she recuperates from chemo; and Jon Leedahll (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. Many are dying with the name of our dear Lord Jesus on their lips.

-**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. Pray for his trip to N.D. for our convention.

-**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.

**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**

"God is represented as treasuring the prayers of His saints in vials. . . . They are placed like fragrant flowers in the chambers of the king. . . . And later they are represented as poured out upon the earth; and lo, there are voices, and thunderings, and great providential movements fulfilling God's purposes for His kingdom. We are called 'The Lord's remembrances.' And are commanded to give Him no rest, day or night, but to crowd the heavens with our petitions. And in due time the answer will come with its accumulated blessings. No breath of prayer is lost. The longer it waits, the larger it becomes" (A.B. Simpson).

(Quoted in *We Shall Have Spring Again* by Andree Seu)



Send your prayer requests to [office@ndhsa.org](mailto:office@ndhsa.org) or [billbiby@msn.com](mailto:billbiby@msn.com)

### NDHSA Board of Directors

**Ken Knight**, president and **Llora Knight**, west region support group coordinator, 701.880.6126 or [knight\\_publishing@hotmail.com](mailto:knight_publishing@hotmail.com)  
**Pas. Jeff Kapelle**, director and **Karol Kapelle**, convention coordinator, 701.262.4446 or [kapkian@gondtc.com](mailto:kapkian@gondtc.com)  
**Neil Toman**, treasurer, 701.222.0250 or [ntoman@nd.gov](mailto:ntoman@nd.gov)  
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**Jeff Deckert**, director and **Theresa Deckert**, office administrator & east region support group coordinator, 701.662.4790 or [jntdeck@gondtc.com](mailto:jntdeck@gondtc.com) for NDHSA items, use [office@ndhsa.org](mailto:office@ndhsa.org)  
**Pas. Brian and Bev Skaar**, directors, 701.247.2875 or [walkalongdeut6.7@hotmail.com](mailto:walkalongdeut6.7@hotmail.com)  
**Troy and Kristin Durham**, directors, 701.298.3414 or [tkdurham@ideaone.net](mailto:tkdurham@ideaone.net)

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:billbiby@msn.com)

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