

The View From My Window

From our office administrator, Mrs. Theresa Deckert



It has been years since I have attended a workshop at the annual convention as an audience member rather than workshop presenter. This year I have an MP3 from the convention and have been listening to workshops as I drive around doing errands, etc. Wow – there were some really great workshops this past year, many I wish I had been able to hear in my early days of homeschooling.

I have especially found the sessions by Pamela Gates intriguing as she talks about learning issues. I know my boys would have benefitted from a lot of this information when they were young.

Cheri Frame, with *Credits Before College*, also had some excellent presentations. And here I sit with my last child entering his senior year! Well, we are going to pursue taking the CLEP exam for US history as we just finished that course this year. Hopefully he will be able to earn 6 credits that way. Her workshops were so practical; I hope we have her back again for the benefit of all those who did not make it to her workshops.

Dennis Gunderson did an excellent talk on courtship versus dating. I thought his explanations were very clear. This is one I will be listening to again this summer with my teen son.

It is not too early to begin thinking about **convention next year**. I guarantee you our convention coordinator has already been working on plans. **We will be in Jamestown, February 28 – March 2, 2019**. Jamestown is more affordable for families to attend. The facility lets us bring in our own food and the motels are more reasonably priced.

If you have never attended a convention I would encourage you to start saving and set those dates aside so you can attend. I can't imagine why a person would not want to attend when there is such a wealth of information and resources available and that is not even counting the joy of visiting with so many other homeschoolers!

Editor's Musings:

Greetings!

Our newsletter will take brief hiatus; this issue is June/July. In *The Eclectic Report* for August we will feature back-to-school information.

I have been working with parent educators since 1991. How I have loved the experience. It has made me wiser, gentler and more optimistic about America's future. Many homeschoolers ARE raising a generation of children that knows the difference between right and wrong, true and false, and good and evil. These are skills and attitudes absolutely necessary for holy living and even for our secular culture.

Homeschooling is an old method of training, having been the general mode of transferring knowledge for many centuries. It is only in more recent years that we were induced to believe that 'highly trained licensed professionals' are the

only ones capable of instructing children.

Homeschooling has certainly proven that to be a false belief.

True, the homeschool culture has changed in the almost 30 years I have been involved with it. Some of those changes have been good; some have been harmful; for some the verdict is still out.

But I know this for sure: If God has called you to homeschool, He will provide all that is necessary for you to accomplish the task. His provisions may not be what you expected and they may be different from your wish list, but believe me, He WILL provide for His children while you are providing godly instruction for the next generation.

Grace and peace,
Gail M. Biby



NDHSA Convention
Feb. 28-- March 2, 2019
Jamestown Civic Center

Send clipped labels for **BOX TOPS for Education** to:

Laurie Morstad
9175 80th St. NE,
Hampden, ND 58338

Check for expiration dates.

Earning for this quarter: \$84.70

Thank you to all who participate. It matters!

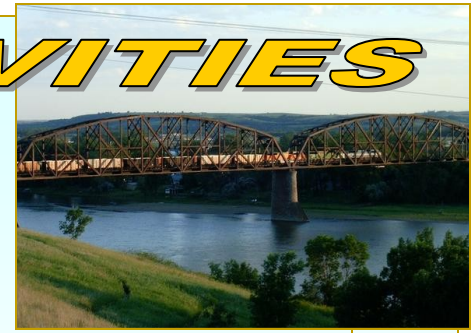


www.ndhsa.org office@ndhsa.org 701.662-6347

The North Dakota Home School Association has been assisting parent educators since 1985.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

By Mrs. Llor Knight, NDHSA board, west region support group coordinator



The summer season officially starts on Memorial Day. Some of us are finished with school, some are not. Some do school year-round and will only be taking a break. This is the time for making memories. I've been asked to share some ideas for summer activities – mostly educational, somewhat educational, and mostly fun, not so educational. On the mostly educational side, summer is a time for history and science with some English thrown in if you encourage your children to journal their activities. On the history side- North Dakota has fifty-seven historic sites, scattered throughout the state. Take some day trips and check out those near you. In my study of North Dakota history, one summer my kids and I (hubby came along when he could), visited all but four of those sites. We learned a lot – did a lot of driving and saw some spectacular scenes throughout our lovely state. Almost every county has a museum – some are bigger than others, but all contain some great stories. Take Grandma and Grandpa along and let them share their memories of using that old wringer washer, wood burning cook stove, and hand pump for water! An historical must is the North Dakota Heritage Center! If you say, "Oh, but we went there last summer." You're still missing things. They are regularly adding to exhibits, bringing in traveling exhibits and changing exhibits. Every time I go, I see something new. Other historic sites are Ft. Union, the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, the Knife River Indian Village and the Theodore Roosevelt National Park [Editor: Ft. Totten has original military post era buildings and is worth the trip; catch some fishing in Devils Lake while you are at it!].

The field of science picks up at the national park where history drops off. Study biology – plant and animal life, geology, and astronomy. The park is full of prairie dogs, bison, elk, bighorn sheep, with horses, antelope, eagles, and more. Take a hike on some of the marked foot trails. Be sure to take along a guidebook and locate the native flora. If you live too far from the national park, visit one of North Dakota's thirteen state parks or sixty-three wildlife refuges. You'll see a plethora of local fauna and flora. Invest in some guidebooks: North Dakota animals, birds, and plants. These are treasures of knowledge and fun as you identify what you observe. North Dakota also has ten scenic by-ways and back-ways. Find one near you and drive it! Don't forget those guidebooks and the camera! When you're studying animals don't forget Minot, Bismarck and Fargo have zoos. [Editor: And Wahpeton has a fabulous zoo!]

For lessons in geology - learn about the stratified buttes, concretions, petrified trees and fossils. Or try your hand at some astronomy - state and national parks are great for star gazing as they are a distance from light pollution. This year watch the night sky from July 17 to August 24 when the Perseids meteor shower passes through or bring star maps and find the constellations.

So, now for the somewhat educational. I would include organized sports (baseball, football, basketball, track, tennis, golf, bowling) in this category because they all require the use of mathematics- keeping score- to some degree, and of course, sports are physical education! Three of North Dakota's golf courses have been ranked in the top one hundred courses in the country. Concerts in the park also fall into this category. Summer isn't complete without some of these activities: camping, hiking, biking, boating, fishing, and swimming! I'm sure there's math, science, history and other subjects in there somewhere.

What about the mostly fun – not so educational stuff? At the top of my list is a fair. It doesn't have to be the State Fair, although that's spectacular, most counties have a fair of some sort. Check out the barns and see animals, crafts, quilts, foods, etc! Think about exhibiting something, you never know when you might be a blue-ribbon winner. Right behind a fair and maybe tied with it, is a Fourth of July parade and fireworks. If you've never experienced Fourth of July at the state capitol, plan on doing it someday. But get there early – to get a good seat. When we go, we go for the whole day! We take a picnic lunch and dinner, lawn games, board games, balls and Frisbees. We pick our spots, put down blankets and spend the day. The Heritage Center is open and in the evening the Bismarck/Mandan symphony plays a concert, guest speakers present, usually there is a jet fly over and finally a spectacular fireworks display above the capitol building.

Whatever you plan for this summer, whether educational, some-what educational, or just plain fun – make some memories with your kids.

B
O
A
R
D
C
O
L
U
M
N



Summer in North Dakota

Really, can you read too much? I don't think so. (For the children, young people reading this: you still have to keep up with your daily tasks, your various responsibilities etc.!)

I remember as a young person, more than 55 years ago, the joy of spending warm, sometimes muggy, gentle summer days reading *Wild Geese Flying*, *Gone With the Wind*, Readers Digest's latest selection of condensed books like *Goodbye, My Lady*. I read *National Geographic*, the *Saturday Evening Post*, *Up the Down Staircase*,

James Michener's *The Source*, *Airs Above the Ground*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *Animal Farm* and just about any book I could get my hands on. In 1965 I suppose there were trash novels available, but not easily, at least not for me. I read mostly what was in our home, assigned by a teacher or available by a quick trip to the library. I also read from our set of encyclopedias. I was already learning, as Baroness Blixen said in *Out of Africa*, to be "a mental traveler."

Summers are designed for mental traveling. When I read I have a map at hand (or lately I use Google maps) so that I can 'travel' to the places I am reading about. I am currently visiting WWII Singapore.

Summer is also a time of *real* travel. North Dakota is filled with interesting, fun sites to visit. Here are some suggestions:

Visit the N.D. Badlands, Medora (My favorite place to visit!).

Travel to Devils Lake for fishing (some of the best walleye fishing in America!) and water sports.

Plan a trip to Lake Sakakawea, more fishing, camping and water sports.

Check out our tourism website at: ndtourism.org. Lots of places to see, activities for all, history to study, and safe traveling.

Go to car shows; bike famous trails; go birding; participate in an archaeological dig.

Read through Llor Knight's N.D. study series then visit some out-of-the-way locations.

Visit the North Dakota Capitol and the Heritage Center in Bismarck.

Kayak on the Red River.

You can visit wind farms (I love the one near Lake Ashtabula!), power plants, coal mines.

Visit military outposts like Ft. Totten, Ft. Abraham Lincoln.

Golf, motorcycle ride, hike, bike, take scenic auto tours.

If you are bored this summer in North Dakota, it is your own fault! :->

Scripture Memory for the Summer

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous!
For praise from the upright is
beautiful.

Praise the Lord with the harp;
Make melody to Him with an
instrument of ten strings.

Sing to Him a new song;
Play skillfully with a shout of joy.

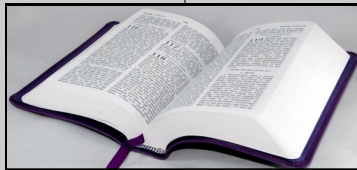
For the word of the Lord is right,
And all His work is done in truth.
He loves righteousness and justice;
The earth is full of the goodness of
the Lord.

Our soul waits for the Lord;
He is our help and our shield,
For our heart shall rejoice in Him,
Because we have trusted in His holy
name,
Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us,
Just as we hope in You.

Psalm 33: 1-5; 20-22

O God, You are my God;
Early will I seek You;
My soul thirsts for You;
My flesh longs for You
In a dry and thirsty land
Where there is no water.
So I have looked for You in the
sanctuary,
To see Your power and Your glory.
Because Your lovingkindness is better
than life,
My lips shall praise You.
Thus I will bless You while I live;
I will lift up my hands in Your name.
My soul shall be satisfied as with
marrow and fatness,
And my mouth shall praise You with
joyful lips.
When I remember You on my bed,
I meditate on You in the night watches.
Because You have been my help,
Therefore in the shadow of Your wings
I will rejoice.
My soul follows close behind You;
Your right hand upholds me.

Psalm 63:1-8



NDHSA office hours vary a bit in the summer so if you call and our 'girl Friday' is actually off for the day, be sure to leave a clear, slow message with a number or email addy and she will get back to you. office@ndhsa.org 701.662.NDHS

www.ndhsa.org



FYI 2018-2019 WRITING CLASSES

Hello everyone! My name is Ashley Wangerin, and I'm offering language arts classes for homeschoolers during the 2018-2019 school year.

Classes include:

- persuasive essays and paragraphs
- creative writing
- literature
- speech

Students complete fun & challenging assignments, receive tutor & peer feedback, and practice essential skills, all in a supportive environment.

Perfect for both beginning and advanced students in grades 4-12. Classes held in Moorhead, MN (I am working to get all my classes online).

I was homeschooled all 12 years, have degrees in English and literacy from MSUM and UND, and I've taught homeschoolers since 2008.

Email hswritingtutor@gmail.com for more info or to join the email list!

Capitol City Homeschool Summit

July 14 - 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Gracepoint Church

Hosted by the Bismarck Mandan Area Home Educators

Admission: 2 non-perishable food items.

Register at: www.bmahe.com

Activities and Offerings:

- **Used Curriculum Sale:** Register to sell your items for a small fee!
- **Workshops:** 8 different sessions covering topics such as getting started, homeschooling high school, dads who homeschool, different homeschooling methods, homeschooling with preschoolers, organization/planning and encouragement.
- **Exhibitors:** Central ND resources and activities, curriculum booths, and more.
- **Clothing Swap:** Trade out your children's old clothes for new-to-you clothes!

Details at bmahe.com Please register today & share with your friends.





JOIN!

The NDHSA depends upon the gifts and memberships of interested parties to maintain their current staff and services. Membership allows you access to member-only sections of www.ndhsa.org and discounted convention fees. Go to the website and join today.



Happy 4th of July!

SUMMER Reading Ideas

Books that can be read online at <http://www.archive.org/search> and searching for books by Amy Carmichael

- Lotus Buds
- Nor Scrip
- Overweights of Joy
- Ragland Spiritual Pioneer
- The Continuation of a Story
- Things as They Are
- Walker of Tinnevelly

Tackle a book that requires discipline to complete. Like: *Les Miserables*; *War and Peace*; *The Count of Monte Cristo*; *The Gulag Archipelago*; a collection of books from one author e.g. Pearl S. Buck, John Piper, Elisabeth Elliot. Read through a collection of Scriptural commentary e.g. Matthew Henry (You've got ALL summer!)

Read through the entire Scriptures, from Genesis to Revelation; no study notes, no background notes, just the Bible from cover to cover. It will change you and will be the best read of your life!

NDHSA Board of Directors

- ~Ken Knight, president & Llorra Knight, W region spt.grp. coordinator 701.880.6126 knight_publishing@hotmail.com
- ~Pas. Jeff Kapelle, director & Karol Kapelle, convention coordinator 701.262.4446 kapklan@gondtc.com
- ~Susan Huntington, director 701.663.7858 sooznh@gmail.com
- ~Jeff Deckert, director & Theresa Deckert, office administrator & E region spt.grp. coord. 701.662.4790 intdeck@gondtc.com
- ~Pas. Brian, director & Bev Skaar, convention choir director 701.247.2875 walkalongdeut6.7@hotmail.com
- ~Troy Durham, conv. vendor hall coordinator & Kristin Durham, conv. art exhibit director 701.730.4159 tkdurham@centurylink.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 M. 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 and memberships 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 Daniel Beasley, Home School Legal Defense Association attorney of reference for North Dakota, 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. Billed 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 billbivy@msn.com.

Gail M. Biby is the publications editor for the NDHSA and has been joyfully working with parent educators for more than 27 years. She serves on the advisory board for Lamplighter Publishing, writes a women's newsletter for her church gals, and volunteers with Caring Hearts Jail Ministry and Metropolitan Prison Pen Pals Ministry. She and her husband Bill are recipients of the 2017 NDHSA Homeschool Pioneer Award. Contact her at: billbivy@msn.com She has been blessed beyond measurability and once had a very long bucket list.

NDHSA P.O. Box 1066 Devils Lake, N.D. 58301 701.662.6347

www.ndhsa.org office@ndhsa.org

Like us on FB: [North Dakota Home School Association](https://www.facebook.com/NorthDakotaHomeSchoolAssociation) Visit us at: www.ndhsa.org Instagram link: <https://www.instagram.com/ndhsassociation/>

North Dakota Home School Hall of Fame Inductees

- 2014 Rev. Clinton & Judi Birst, Mark & Lynette Dagley, Dr. Ray & Rita Larsen, Gerald & Sheryl Lund
- 2015 Neil and Chris Toman, Dr. Graef Gannon, Rev. Edward and Sue Huntington
- 2016 Michael Farris J.D., Rev. Thomas & Peggy Patzer
- 2017 Bill & Gail Biby, Morris & Jackie Conklin, Allen & Barb Entzel
- 2018 Linus & Anna Evinger

Prayer Reminders:

ASK God to continue to give wisdom in all governance affairs of the NDHSA to our board of directors: **Ken & Llorra Knight, Jeff & Theresa Deckert, Pas. Jeff & Karol Kapelle, Sue Huntington, Pas. Brian & Bev Skaar and Troy & Kristin Durham.** **PRAISE** God for their faithful service.

PRAY for Christians worldwide. God will strengthen them, He will grant them safety according to His plans, He will give them courage...even to the end.

SUPPORT your local support group in prayer during these summer months and ask God if you should volunteer next year.

PRAY for courage to do what you fear but know you must do.

INTERCEDE for those experiencing indescribable loss of a loved one. Ask God to help them go on...even with joy. Remember the Stegman family as they grieve the sudden loss of wife, mom, grandma, Betty Lou. Remember Paula Deckert whose mom went to be with Jesus this week.

PRAISE God for Home School Legal Defense Association and for our attorney, **Daniel Beasley.**

REMEMBER to resist the evil ones; they will flee.

PRAISE the LORD for good friends and the family of God.

PRAY for your Pastor and his family. Pray for him, his wife, and children regularly and encourage them whenever you can. Check with them to see if their needs are being met.

PRAISE GOD for homeschooling dads, that God will strengthen their resolve and show them how to lead and participate with devotion and grace.

REMEMBER this: **PRAY** for those in prison. It is a hard life for Christians.

PRAY for grace to finish well; to sing songs in the night; to love the unlovable; to be filled with joy no matter your circumstances.

BEG God to make us wise as serpents and harmless as doves.