

North Dakota Home School Association *THE ECLECTIC REPORT*

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Editor's Musings:

Greetings,

I watched about 10 minutes of the movie *Gravity* a few weeks ago. Why only 10 minutes? I simply could not bear the thought of being adrift in the darkness of space, alone and untethered. It haunted me.

In the watches of the night when I struggled with insomnia the movie was again in my thoughts. To think that one could be so alone, so forsaken, so free floating was alarming to me.

Then (I believe it was God's sweet Spirit) I was reminded of several verses long since forgotten. The Scriptures teach that we could go to the very depths of the ocean, and there God would be with us; we could go to the highest heavens, and

there, too, God would be with us.

He has promised never to leave us or forsake us. We are held in the hollow of His hand. We are the sheep of His pasture (the Shepherd never abandons the sheep). Even when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, He is with us.

Those who belong to the Lord Jesus will never be floating aimlessly in far away dark places.

We are forever securely tethered to the Lord. Oh, what comfort, What peace.

Grace and peace,
Gail M. Biby

P.S. Hope to see you at convention.



On the Calendar:

- **Feb. 28-March 2 - NDHSA convention-Jamestown**
Keynote: Dr. Brian Ray
- **March 25 - Home School Day at the Capitol**

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The VIEW from my WINDOW

By Theresa Deckert, NDHSA Office Administrator



I call my article *The View from My Window* because I see myself in a unique position to observe homeschooling, both remembering and reflecting on the past and noting changes and new concerns. A legislative year is upon us bringing opportunity and challenges.

We have seen something this session that I never thought I would see – **the ND House of Representatives gave a homeschooling bill (HB 1052) a unanimous vote**, but not only that, the Department of Public Instruction testified in favor of that bill! Granted, this bill was carefully researched and hours were spent in planning and praying. We currently have several liberty-minded homeschooling dads in the legislature and home educators have worked hard to get to know their own state representatives: **but the view from my window sees the gracious hand of God**. We are not done; the bill now moves through the Senate. Keep this an item of prayer – it is a much-needed bill.

Another thing I have observed is the introduction of both a **tax credit bill** (HB 3121) and an **Educational Savings Account bill** (SB 2142 – which failed). There is a lot of confusion about what these are and the difference between the two. I would like to refer you to two excellent articles that Home School Legal Defense has posted. To quote from one: "Although a credit or deduction could be helpful for homeschoolers, Home School Legal Defense Association opposes any tax break legislation that could come with governmental regulations. Homeschoolers have fought far too long and much too hard to throw off the chains of government regulation that hinder effective education and interfere with liberty. It would be inconsistent and foolhardy to accept tax incentives in exchange for government regulation. However, HSLDA supports tax credits that promote educational choice without threatening any regulation of homeschoolers." You can read the entire article here - <https://hsllda.org/content/docs/nche/000010/TaxCreditsIssue.pdf>

Another article deals with **Educational Savings Accounts** (ESA's). Sound good? Read on - <https://hsllda.org/content/docs/news/2017/201703010.asp>

The freedoms we enjoy in North Dakota came at great financial and personal cost to many families. HSLDA represented more home educating families in North Dakota per capita than in any other state. As we celebrate the 30 year anniversary of the legalization of home education in our state, let us remain vigilant!

BOARD COLUMN

From Convention Coordinator Karol Kapelle

Are you ready? I can hardly believe our annual convention is less than a month away! I'm so thrilled to be celebrating thirty years of homeschool freedom in North Dakota! Our theme is "**Lest We Forget**". We never want to forget the price that was paid by many of our ND families, especially in those early years, as they fought for the right to home educate their children. We must be diligent to keep the freedoms gained by these pioneers and those that continue to stand guard. Please plan to join us for a fantastic weekend of activities.

We'll start the weekend out with our **Used Book Sale** on Thursday night from 7:00—9:00 on the Upper Concourse of the Civic Center. Make sure you register for a booth if you would like to be a seller. Then we'll start bright and early on Friday morning with the **doors opening for registration at 8:00 AM**.

We have a great lineup of speakers: **Dr. Brian Ray with the National Home Educators Research Institute**, **Dara Halydier** of *Abiding Truth Ministry*, **Lisa Nehring** from *True North Homeschool Academy*, **Nancy Manos** (Executive Director of Arizona Christian Home Educators), North Dakota's own, **Chuck Black** and many more!

Be sure your teens attend the **Civics and American Government Teen Track** presented by Jake MacAulay of *The American View* and former presidential candidate, Dr. Michael Peroutka. We also have an exciting variety of workshops for those that don't choose to attend the main Teen Track. Sessions include topics such as computers, music, science, public speaking, dating and courtship. Take note that these sessions will be held at the Gladstone Inn across the parking lot from the Jamestown Civic Center.

Children, ages 5-10, may participate in the "**Treasure Hunt**" **children's program**. Darcy Ready and her puppet friends will keep your kids in stitches while presenting great truths from God's Word. There are also many workshops planned for students ages 9-12 including a penmanship refresher course and several science experiments. You must be pre-registered for the science classes, so be sure to go to the website to sign up for those ("2019 Convention" and then "Science Class Registrations").

Of course, our **exhibit hall** will be filled with exciting curriculum choices, colleges and resources. There are many new exhibitors that you'll want to check out.

Oh, don't forget about the **Ed Wiley Comedy Show on Friday night**. It's going to be hilarious!

See you soon.

PS. If you plan to attend either of Kathy Miller's **computer workshops**, you should bring a fully-charged laptop with Microsoft Word and/or Excel installed.

www.ndhsa.org



Ed Wiley Comedy Show

Friday, Mar. 1—7:00 PM
Jamestown Civic Center

OPEN TO PUBLIC

ADMISSION:
\$5 person or \$25 family
Children under 6 free

FREE downloads from Apologia

The first month of homeschooling in 2019 is just about over! It won't be long before we're evaluating this homeschool year, praying over plans for next year, and researching curriculum.

As we move one month closer to the finish line of the 2018-2019 year, we have gathered a list of reader favorites from Apologia's Homeschool-101 blog to encourage and inspire you.

Grab a cup of tea, hot chocolate, or coffee and enjoy!

[A List of Books and Authors Your Student Should Read Before Going to College](#)

[Experiment: Invisible Ink \(with video and printable\)](#)

[Devotional: The HAND That Rocks the Cradle - A Mother's Mission](#)

[How to Write a Lab Report with Video and Samples](#)

[7 Must-Knows for Grading Your Child's Writing Assignments](#)

[Devotional: The "Five" Books of Psalms](#)

[STEM Experiment: Building Strong Bridges \(with video and printable\)](#)

[Devotional: Selah - A Devotional About Resting in Him](#)

[Tips for Homeschooling Multiple Ages](#)



Convention around the corner!

Get your registrations in ASAP!

We're having some trouble with our online registration process. The forms come through, but people haven't necessarily paid through PayPal. So we have registrants that either think they've paid or they just didn't finish the process. If you hit "submit" after the first page, you must continue on to the payment page and finish that process. If you choose not to continue after hitting "submit" on the first page, you should simply email kapklan@gondtc or office@ndhsa.org and tell us to cancel your registration form.

Another reminder: If you are attending the computer workshops with Kathy Miller, you MUST bring a fully-charged laptop with Microsoft Word and/or Excel already installed.



The Conference recordings will be delivered by E-mail the same day they are given. You can order them even before the event and without a form or a list. Just order them on your personal device, or at home before you come to the convention. Visit: www.Alliancerecording.com in a few days.

Give NDHSA the credit for the improved service and every sale helps support the state organization. Fulfillment is being handled by Alliance Recording. Visit www.Alliancerecording.com in a few days and click on North Dakota in the list on the right.

Go here for everything about Legislative Session:

<https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/66-2019/regular>

Now is the time to make donations to sustain the work of the NDHSA. Donations are down but the work continues to grow. **Help if you can.**

HOMESCHOOL DAY at THE CAPITOL

March 25, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Great field trip!



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

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

For legal assistance
JOIN
Home School Legal
Defense Association.
www.hslida.org

Find a support group near you at:
www.ndhsa.org
click on support groups.

NDHSA Convention
Feb. 28--March 2, 2019
Jamestown Civic Center
Keynote: Dr. Brian Ray

Prairie Waters Education Center

Prairie Waters Education Center is an outdoor education center located 20 miles south of Valley City in Kathryn, ND. We have field trip opportunities for students of all ages and a research program called "River Watch" for high school students. All our activities are FREE!

A little more about our programs:

Field trip programs for students K-12: We have many different hands-on activities to get students active and interested in their surroundings. Most of our activities are related to water as a natural resource and as a habitat. Popular activities include searching for macroinvertebrates (water bugs) in our stream, looking at their features under a microscope and geocaching just to name a few. The complete activity list can be found on our website at www.vcsu.edu/prairiewaters. If you don't see what you are interested in, we can design activities to suit your needs. Field trips are open to students ages K-12. We can accommodate both small and large groups; your trip here can last all day or for just an hour. We try to be as flexible and user-friendly as possible.

River Watch: River Watch is a STEM research program in which high school students monitor the water quality of a river in their area. We tailor each group's plan to their geographic area. Additionally, North Dakota River Watch students have the opportunity to present their project at the biennial North Dakota Water Quality Monitoring Conference in Bismarck. All equipment and training is provided by Prairie Waters and is FREE! In fact, a training workshop is planned for March 21, 2019, anyone interested is invited to attend.

You can find out more information on our website at: <http://www.vcsu.edu/prairiewaters/>

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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. 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 28 years. She has served on the advisory board for Lamplighter Publishing, writes a 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: billbiby@msn.com. She is blessed beyond measure and once had a very long bucket list. She now prefers buckets of June berries.

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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. Grael 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
2019 ????



- **PRAY** for all aspects of the upcoming NDHSA convention. Ask God to make this event life-changing and encouraging to all attendees.
- **PRAY** for those in spiritual need. Some are in your support group; some are in your church fellowship; they are at your grocery store; meet them at the clinic when your wee one is ill; find them at STOP lights and YIELD signs; see them in the homeless men; know they are in your closest friends and family.
- **ASK GOD** to make you holy - and obedient - and kind - and generous. And wise.
- **REMEMBER** the forsaken, those still outside the fold, many who are lonely and afraid, the disillusioned and disheartened, friends who have lost loved ones this past year, and those who are discouraged. Do more than pray...help if you are able.
- **PRAISE GOD** for salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. He is *the Way, the Truth and the Life*.
- **INTERCEDE** for your spouse, your pastor and family, our state legislators, our national leaders, and loved ones yet unsaved.
- **ASK GOD** to make us wise. Oh, Lord, make us wise!
- **PRAY** for those in prison. Especially for Christians.
- **ASK GOD** to fill us with the knowledge of His will; to help us grow in grace; to love His Word and to obey it.
- **PRAY REGULARLY** for the NDHSA board of directors as they continue to provide vision and wisdom.
- **PRAISE GOD** for Home School Legal Defense Association; for Daniel Beasley, HSLDA rep for ND; for their continued careful monitoring of federal legislation; for their continued work to expand freedom for homeschoolers.
- **REMEMBER** the suffering Church around the world. Often.

PRAYER