

VALLEY HOME EDUCATORS MAY 2005 NEWSLETTER

Patria Academy International

P. O. Box 211
Leavenworth, Washington 98826

Dear Wenatchee Area Homeschooling Parents,

To be truly effective, the teaching of any subject must be subsumed by Biblical Christian worldview starting points. These starting points bring a perspective and power to the subject under study. For example, Mathematics is a subject that most people deem "neutral" and not affected by what the Christian faith unfolds; i.e., faith as a coordinated system of thinking, justifying (or accounting for) the nature of knowledge, the nature of reality, and the nature of ethics. After some 30 years of study, reflection, writing, and teaching, I believe that God has given me key Biblical perspectives by which Mathematics can be truly understood, studied, and applied.

As Dean of the School of Mathematics of Patria Academy International, a division of Patria Institute, I am developing a seven year mathematics program that will include the following levels (covering grades 6-12):

- Level 0 (year 6): Rudiments of Arithmetic
- Level 1 (year 7): An Introduction to the World of Mathematics (a pre-Algebra course)
- Level 2 (year 8): Mathematics: The Language of Science I (Algebra I)
- Level 3 (year 9): Mathematics: The Measure of Creation (Geometry)
- Level 4 (year 10): Mathematics: The Language of Science II (or Algebra II)
- Level 5 (year 11): Mathematics: Building on Foundations (or pre-Calculus)
- Level 6 (year 12): Mathematics: The Measure of Motion (Calculus)

During the school year of 2005-2006 I have been teaching a group of local home schooling students (including students at The River Academy in Wenatchee) Mathematics from a Biblical Christian perspective. In this teaching, I have unfolded the manifold connections of Mathematics with History, Science, practical living, Philosophy, and Theology.

For the school year of 2006-2007, I will be teaching the following courses, (except Level 1 which will be a DVD course in which I will come to the end of that class, after the DVD lecture, to answer questions.):

At the Columbia Co-op (to be held every Wednesday at the First Presbyterian Church):

- Level 0: Rudiments of Arithmetic
- Level 1: Pre-Algebra (a DVD course by me, James Nickel, along with interaction with by me at the end of each class)
- Level 2: Mathematics: The Language of Science I (Algebra I)
- Level 3: Mathematics: The Measure of Creation (Geometry)

At The River Academy (tentatively scheduled for Tuesday mornings) and open to all local home schooling students:

- Level 5: Mathematics: Building on Foundations (Pre-Calculus)
- Level 6: Mathematics: The Measure of Motion (Calculus)

Students will need to take a Math entrance exam for the course Level for which they are registering (with the exception of Level 0). Students who pass with a 70% score for a specific level will be able to enter that class. (Students who do not pass in the spring may retake the exam in August or register for the next lower class.) Call or email me before the exam day to let me know which day you want your child to take the exam and which level you want me to test them for (509-662-7473 or jdnicke1@juno.com).

Exam days will be:

Wednesday, May 3: First Presbyterian Church on 1400 S. Miller St. at 1:30 pm
Friday, May 19: Life-Trac Ministries on 205 Mission in Cashmere at 10 am
Tuesday, May 23: Virginia Thomas' home at 2058 Broad Crest Court, at 10:30 am.
Call 665-9399 for directions

Tuesday, August 29: Mary Haehl's home at 512 32nd St. NW, East Wenatchee
Call 886-4096 for directions

Each course is 36 weeks long. (Since the Co-op only has a 27-week schedule, we will be adding 9 more classes to their schedule.)

This year, tuition or course fees, if paid in advance, will be \$360 for the first student in a family, \$340 for the 2nd and \$320 for the 3rd. The exception will be the Level 1 DVD course, which will be a flat \$250 per student for the year. Textbooks are extra. Please note: For those attending at the Co-op, there is an additional \$75 fee per family (paid to the Columbia Co-op) that helps to pay for building rent and insurance.

We will be sending out an application/order form in early summer with all the details for registering and for purchasing textbooks and supplies as well as the schedule of classes for next year.

Please feel free to contact Misty Defina (mdefina@nwi.net) or Mary Haehl (haehl@charter.net) for a "parent's eye response" to the courses I have been teaching. Also, please browse my web site for a more Biblical Christian analysis and perspectives.

God bless you in your endeavors to train your children in the Truth that applies to every aspect of human endeavor.

Sincerely,

James D. Nickel
jdnickel@juno.com
www.biblicalchristianworldview.net
217 Wetherald St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801
509-662-7473

It's PASS Test time again

I will be collecting names and money for a group order to Hewitt Homeschooling Resources so we can get the group discount.

The cost is **\$23 per student** which includes the shipping and handling of the tests and booklets to and from Hewitt.

Please mail the following to me by **Wed. May 3rd** to register your students:

-Name of each student being tested-

Grade level for each student (3rd-8th)-

Parent(s)' name(s)-address/phone #/email (to notify the arrival of tests)-

\$23 per student tested-self-addressed stamped envelope (for test results)

My address is: Kathleen Ansley
2009 Center Court Dr
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2150

Great Expectations ~ A Framework for Homeschooling
is coming to Wenatchee on May 19-20

Our 10-hour course, sponsored by Cascade Bible College, is packed with practical information as well as a unique message that has tremendous value for any home- schooling parent. This class not only meets the Washington State legal requirement for parent qualification to provide home-based instruction, but it also provides a great opportunity to begin networking with other like-minded parents who share the same excitement, struggles, questions, and fears about educating children outside of a traditional school setting! This is what our graduates are saying:

** "Your seminar was so inspiring . . . and it left me longing for more. I cannot thank you enough for your help and information." ~~ C from Federal Way

** "Every homeschooling parent should attend this course, not just newcomers to homeschooling." ~~ Too many parents to list!

** "Thank you for a wonderful homeschooling experience...so much information ... presented in a way that kept our attention and made it exciting." ~ D & S, Edmonds

GREAT EXPECTATIONS does not promote one curriculum over another. In fact, we do not recommend one method of teaching over another (natural learning, traditional, etc.). We convey that each family must decide what is best for their family.

Our course is very intensive; we pack volumes into our seminar as we want to give homeschooling families the most value in the least amount of time, so they spend as little time away from their families as possible. We break up the 10-hour instruction time into two sessions -- one 3-hour Friday evening session and one 8-hour all-day Saturday session, which includes a 1 hour "on site" lunch break.

The instructors, Alice Wescott, Ph. D. and Beth Rosenzweig, M. Ed., have home- schooled children from birth to college entrance and for many years have served the homeschooling community in Washington State, providing annual testing and assessments, teaching classes for homeschooling children and parents, and serving on boards in local and state organizations. Plan to come to be informed, inspired, and encouraged about homeschooling your children.

Just the FACTS, please!

LOCATION: Wenatchee Valley Praise Center * 230 North Georgia * East Wenatchee

DATE: May 19-20

TIME: Friday evening 6:30 P.M.-9:30 P.M. & all day Saturday, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

FEE: \$95 Individual/\$125 Couple. However, if the registration form and check are postmarked 10 days prior to the date of the seminar, deduct \$10 (\$85 & \$115 respectively).

QUESTIONS? REGISTRATION FORM? Contact us at: (425) 697-4021 or e-mail us:
GreatExpect4hs@aol.com. Register online at www.EduGreat.com.

Coming to North Central Washington

Stanford Achievement Test, 9th Ed. Abbreviated

Administered by Alice Wescott, Ph. D. and Beth Rosenzweig, M.Ed.

Omak - May 10 * Wenatchee - May 11

The administration of a standardized test to children receiving Home-based Instruction is governed by state law and publisher requirements. We administer the Stanford Achievement Test, 9th Ed., Abbreviated, and our team members are qualified under the publisher's specifications for administration of this test.

Why Test With Us?

(1) We offer a convenient ONE-DAY schedule, which includes:

- * A half-day group standardized test (3 hours) for grades 3-12
- * On-site hand scoring
- * Same afternoon parent review - in order to see how each question was answered.
- * Only parents receive test scores – we keep no results

(2) The test is administered in a group setting, as required for valid standardized testing.

(3) There is no waiting for tests to arrive and then no second long wait for the test scores to be returned.

(4) In addition to the SAT group test for grades 3-12, we offer a more friendly test option for younger children in grades 1-2 and for Special Needs Children: an abbreviated assessment, which gives the parents a grade-level score for Reading, Spelling, and Math for the same fee that we charge for our group test. Parents are given these results immediately after the test.

FEE: (\$35.00 per test) If registration and check are postmarked **21** days prior to test date, pay early registration fees: **1st and 2nd child: \$30 per test; 3rd child: \$25 per test; 4th (and subsequent children) \$15 per test**

QUESTIONS? REGISTRATION FORM? Phone: (425) 697- 4021 or E-mail: GreatExpect4HS@aol.com

For a complete list of testing dates or for online registration go to: www.EduGreat.com

BIOLOGY LAB FOR HOME SCHOOLERS!

- * 1 year of High school level Biology laboratories (I've taken students as young as 8th graders).
- * Lab work begins late September, 2006; ends early June, 2007.* We will meet on Tuesday mornings for 1 ½ hours from 9:15-10:45 AM.
- * 4-week break for Christmas & New Year in December.
- * 2-week Spring break in late March.
- * Cost: \$40/month per student (8 total payments during the year) plus a \$30 one-time lab fee.
- * We use *A Beka* Biology text and lab books (parents purchase) plus supplemental materials I provide
- * Minimum class size is 8, maximum is 14
- *
- * For further details, please contact Rob Fitch
- * Home phone: 662-5589; Home email: rfitchk@aol.com
- * Work phone: 682-6755; Work email: rfitch@wvc.edu

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY LAB FOR HOME SCHOOLERS!

- * One year of High School level Human Anatomy & Physiology laboratories.
- * 1 year high school level Biology recommended as prerequisite.
- * Course begins late September, 2006; ends early June, 2007.* We will meet on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:45 AM.
- * 4-week break for Christmas & New Year in December.
- * 2-week Spring break in late March.
- * cost: \$40/month per student (8 total payments during the year) plus a \$30 one-time lab fee
- * We use Anatomy & Physiology Coloring books (parents purchase) plus supplemental materials I provide.
- * Minimum class size is 8, maximum is 14

For further details, please contact Rob Fitch
Home phone: 662-5589; home email: rfitchk@aol.com
Work phone: 682-6755; work email: rfitch@wvc.edu

Raffle

Get your raffle ticket now!

Columbia Christian Homeschool Coop

Items you can win:

Hooked on Phonics
Hooked on Phonics Reading Power
Alpha Omega Lifepacs: 11th grade History; Bible 3rd Grade; History 5th grade
CCHC sweatshirts and t-shirts

\$1.00 per ticket per item or buy 10 get one ticket free.

Buy tickets at Wenatchee First Presbyterian **Wednesday's only**

During coop hours at the Welcome table

9:00-2:00

Winner will be announced at CCHC's annual Presentation Night May 22th 6:30pm
No need to be present to win.

"Celebrating the Homeschool Family"
Washington Homeschool Organization's
21st Annual Convention & Curriculum Exhibit
June 16 & 17, 2006

Admission Price: \$12 Per Day !

WHO Members Get One Day FREE!

Exhibit Hall hours: 9:00 – 5:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday
ShowPlex, Western Washington Fairgrounds

110 9th Ave SW Puyallup, WA

Special Guest – Jim Weiss, Award Winning Storyteller & Recording Artist. Also Featuring – Jessica Hulcy, co-author of the well-known KONOS Character Curriculum

Workshops: Friday & Saturday – see the complete list at www.WashHomeschool.org

Exhibitor Classes: Friday & Saturday– see a full list of exhibitors at www.WashHomeschool.org

PRE-REGISTER FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS: : Leadership Symposium: Friday - 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.-
Registration deadline May 1st

For Registration and Information Click on the link.

<http://www.washhomeschool.org/who2006LeaderSymp.html>

Student Expo: Friday & Saturday –Registration deadline May 1st

For Registration and Information Click on the Link:

<http://www.washhomeschool.org/studentexpowebinfo.pdf>

Graduation: Saturday – 5:00 p.m.- Registration Deadline: May 1

For Registration and Information Click on the Link

<http://www.washhomeschool.org/whoGraduation06.html>

Grad's Night Out: Friday from 1:00 p.m.– Midnight-Registration Deadline May

For Information and Registration Click on the Link

http://www.washhomeschool.org/2006_GNO_Registration_Form.pdf

Speech & Debate: Contact Mary Butcher – Inquiringmind37@yahoo.com - 425-251-0439

Email subscriptions to Valley Home Educators are free. To subscribe please send an email to Sandy Briggs at esbriggs@aol.com with VHE Subscribe in the subject line. To unsubscribe send an email to Sandy with VHE Unsubscribe in the subject line. Information and events of interest to homeschool families are welcome. Deadline for the June Newsletter is May 25, 2006