

VALLEY HOME EDUCATORS MARCH 2007 NEWSLETTER

HOMESCHOOL ICE SKATING

THURSDAYS 1:00 - 2:30
Wenatchee Ice Rink at the base of 5th street.

**Cost is \$2.00 for admission and
\$2.00 for skate rental.**

**This IS NOT a drop off event. You need to stay and monitor your own children.
There is no rink monitor provided. That is why we have a reduced rate to get in.**

Home School Book Sale

The Charlotte Mason Society has experienced a decline in student enrollment and will be "down-sizing".

We will be selling our collection of lending library books on March 24th
from 9am-1pm
All books will be priced at 50% off retail cost
with few exceptions

Collections of musician study and artist study kits will also be available

Please call if you are interested and can't come on the 24th
other arrangements can be made

CarrieLee
662-0362

Fundraiser!

IMPACT DIRECTORIES has a fundraising opportunity for your organization.

This information was provided to me (Sandy Briggs) by IMPACT Directories. They got VHE's

information from a local book store. We (VHE) will not be organizing this as a group. If you want to participate you must get your own group of 5 - including a driver -together and contact them yourself.

WE OFFER:

***.18 A BOOK DELIVERED**

33 A MILE

NO EVENING OR SUNDAY WORK.

YOU PROVIDE: *A GROUP OF 5 OR MORE PEOPLE

***INSURED VEHICLES W/ DRIVERS 21 YEARS OR OLDER**

***AVAILABILITY TO WORK 2 SATURDAYS.**

SCHEDULED WENATCHEE DISTRIBUTION DATES

MARCH 24 MARCH 31

IT'S EASY AND PROFITABLE! REGISTER YOUR ORGANIZATION TODAY!

CALL(509)307-7401 ASK FOR BEN

Coming to: Omak on May 10

Wenatchee on May 11

Stanford Achievement Test, 9th Ed. Abbreviated

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

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 so parents can get the results THAT day

* Same day - 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) Tests are professionally scored with no 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 10 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** (Cancellation fee: \$10/test)

Questions? Registration Form? Need Other dates/locations?

Contact us at (425) 697- 4021 or www.EduGreat.com

Great Expectations ~ A Framework for Homeschooling

is coming to **Wenatchee** on **May 11-12**

Just the FACTS, please!

LOCATION: Calvary Crossroads Church * 65 - 23rd St NE * East Wenatchee

DATE: May 11-12, 2007

TIME: Friday evening 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. and all day Saturday, 9 A.M. to 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).

(5) **QUESTIONS? REGISTRATION FORM?** Contact us at: (425) 697-4021 or www.EduGreat.com.

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 homeschooling parent. This class not only meets the Washington State legal requirements 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 our 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**

** "Wow!! Things are going amazingly great, and your class was such a huge inspiration to me. I still think back at how much I enjoyed it." ~~ "M" from Marysville

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

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

Our course is very intensive; we pack volumes into our seminar. The reason for this is that we want to give homeschooling families the most value in the least amount of time, so that 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 lunch break.

The instructors have homeschooled 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.

Wenatchee Scholastic Chess Club
Every Sunday 6-8PM
Grace Lutheran Church (1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee)

The Wenatchee Scholastic Chess club meets weekly throughout the year. Anyone with an interest in playing chess, regardless of their skill level, is welcome to attend. The focus is on enjoying the game, improving gameplay and sportsmanship, and optionally playing in regional chess tournaments. This year's tournament season is drawing to a close, but we play throughout the year and it is never too soon to begin preparing for next year!

There have been dozens of controlled studies on the benefits of chess in developing mental acuity, particularly in children. Chess has the benefit of being a game that anyone can play, but that increases with complexity the more one understands its nuances. A single chess game provides the players with dozens of mental puzzles to solve, in an environment where good decisions will be rewarded with a gain of material, and less optimal decisions will be punished by having your opponent take your pieces. Children who play chess learn to concentrate on solving complex problems and to accept the consequences of the decisions they make. These skills ultimately have been shown to translate into better overall learning in traditional studies like Reading and Mathematics. The best part is they get all these benefits by simply playing a game they enjoy.

Typically a scholastic club is affiliated with a specific school with membership restricted to just its students, but this one is not. It was started by the Grace Lutheran Church several years ago, but is open to anyone. For home-schoolers this has the benefit of not only being able to introduce all the proven benefits of chess to

their children, but without the issues of dealing with a school you don't attend.

New members are always welcome. There is no cost to join. If you are interested, just drop by on Sunday night and play some chess!

ED Opportunities at the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center Baker City, Oregon

Your members may be interested in about the educational opportunities available at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center near Baker City, Oregon. We would appreciate it if you could help us distribute it. Kids 15 and under are always free at the Center and Home school families only need to identify themselves for free entry. This year we are featuring a new activity based exhibit called Load Your Wagon: Critters, Costumes, and Curiosity. We also have on line resources accessed by following the education link on our website oregontrail.blm.gov

Please contact me if you need additional information or have questions.

Gary Koy
Assistant Director
National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center
Baker City, Oregon 97814

541-523-1827
oregontrail.blm.gov

New Exhibit - March 7 through June 15, 2007

Pack Your Wagon: Critters, Costumes, and Curiosity

Pack and repack a full-size wagon replica. Map your route to Oregon along a 20-foot magnetic map of the Oregon Trail. Try on pioneer costumes and pose for a photograph. Animal track rubber stamping activity, wildlife memory game, and piles of animal puppets add to the experience.

***NEW* Activity Workbooks**

Available to teachers and students who visit the Center.

"Oregon Trail Scavenger Hunt" "Explorers of the Pacific Northwest"

Traveling Trunks

If you can't come to the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, the Center will come to you. One of our interpreters is available on a limited basis to travel to your class to present a living history presentation on explorers and fur traders, and the skills they needed to successfully complete their expeditions or a presentation on Oregon Trail pioneers and the material objects common to their journeys.

Other Educational Resources: We are continually developing new products and programs to assist educators in teaching the history of the Oregon Trail and westward expansion. Among other resources, we

offer two free guides: The Oregon Trail Education Resource Guide and Explorers of the Pacific Northwest in CD format. To download these resources from our website follow the education link.
www.oregontrail.blm.gov

I am an Area Representative for Into Edventures (www.intoedventures.org), a company which brings exchange students to United States, and I would like to share with you a little bit of our Program since you may find interesting this great “world of cultural exchanges”.

Exchange Student Opportunities

Our students come to America with good English skills and happy to share their culture while learning American ways of life, and your family will have a lifelong relative in their country when they return home.

A host family is needed which can provide a bed, meals eaten with the family, and a chance to be part of an American family. Host families do not need to have teenagers of their own; young families may like the opportunity to have an “older” sibling to share experiences, love and ideas with their children and empty nesters make great host families too.

The exchange students come with full insurance and are responsible for the expenses out of home.

If you believe this experience could be an addition to you, your neighbors, colleagues or friends' lives please contact me for more detailed information on our exchange student's program or pass along this message.

I am also available to speak with a group of parents who are interested in having their kids introduced to this kind of cultural exchange and provide details of our company and work in America.

Sincerely, Sonia Bernardes, Area Representative

Into EdVentures Ph.#206-903-6853

Here is another exchange student web site to check out.

<http://www.labo-exchange.com/>

Math Web Sites

We are not quite to algebra at our house as their interest in not there, but I love math so read all kinds of thing related to it. :)
I read on another yahoo list called LivingMathForum and recently someone suggested "Hands On Equations" by Borenson

<http://www.borenson.com/index5.htm>. I don't know anything else about it but here are a few of the comments:

- "He teaches algebra concepts in a hands-on method."
- "It's particularly useful for visual-spatial learners because 1.) they tend to not be as good in algebra so a foundation is especially helpful for them and 2.) they are "whole to part" learners. Most high schoolers go into algebra and they're learning in a "part to whole" way. The v-s learner having already done Borenson is assimilating the "new parts into the whole" that they already have established by doing Borenson."

Another algebra program suggested was video based courses by Thinkwell; this link was given
<http://www.livingmath.net/MathPrograms/Algebraonup/ThinkwellMath/tabid/474/Default.aspx>.

Also mentioned were math videos such as the Basic Math series from The Teaching Company (we recently found that our local library has these as well as the Standard Deviant math videos that someone suggested to me awhile back).

You might want to check out the list
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LivingMathForum/> and search the archives and files for more info.

WANTED -

I am interested in purchasing the Charlotte Mason Original Home Schooling, which is a 6 volume book set.

Julie Lolos
884-5815
ajalolos7@msn.com

For Sale:

Jr. Size fooseball table game combo:
includes pool, air hockey, ping pong
there are 9 game tables in all

purchased for Christmas and used few times
in excellent condition

original price at purchase \$400+
asking price \$225
includes all accessories
fully assembled

Call CarrieLee if interested
662-0362

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 April Newsletter is March 25, 2007