

CLCN CHRONICLES

The official newsletter of the Christian Learning Center and Network

August

2007

Welcome Back Picnic

hosted by Christian Learning Center and Network - CLCN

ALL Homeschoolers Welcome!

Thursday, September 6th
starting at 5 pm
Dinner at 5:30 pm
at Faith Evangelical Bible Church,
400 N. in Valpo.

Please RSVP to Dawn

Fried chicken will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share (a large portion) and your own dinnerware, drinks and blanket or chairs to sit on. Bring outdoor games and your softball gloves and bats. We will have a family softball game after dinner. We will meet in the side yard of the church by the softball field. In case of rain we will meet in the gym.

Come and meet other homeschoolers from the area.
Meet the teachers for our Fall Enrichment classes and get the early bird registration for membership.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 15 Taltree Arboretum Educator's Day

September 6 Kick-off Picnic/Registration for Fall Classes

FIELD TRIPS/SOCIAL EVENTS

Mom's Night Out - Looking for someone to plan this monthly get-together! This could be a meal out, an activity or movie, or simply meeting in someone's home. If you would like to organize this each month, please contact one of the board members.

The Taltree Arboretum in Valparaiso is hosting an Educator's Day Wednesday, Aug. 15th from 10-2, for any area teacher, including homeschoolers. The day includes lunch and a tour of the grounds, as well as ideas for incorporating the arboretum into your curriculum. If interested, please contact the Taltree office at 219-462-0025 or visit www.taltree.org.

Opportunities for August -

--Aug. 7 - \$7 admission to Children's Museum in Indianapolis

--Chicago Children's Museum - free family nights on Thursday evenings from 5-8 pm; first Monday of each month - free admission for age 15 and under.

--Chicago History Museum is free every Monday

--Art Institute of Chicago is free every Tuesday

NATIONAL HOMESCHOOL HONOR SOCIETY

A local Northwest Indiana chapter of Eta Sigma Alpha, the National Home School Honor Society is starting up, and they need at least 5 members for a charter. Here is a link to their website where they explain the membership requirements:

<http://www.iag-online.org/groups/nwihonorsociety/>. And here is a link to the national organization: <http://esa.homeeducationpartnership.com/>.

EXCITING LINE-UP FOR FALL CLASSES!

Thursdays this fall will be a great time to take advantage of some exciting classes for your children. CLCN has tripled its class offerings from previous years to include 19 selections for your children, as well as a prayer and support time and a staffed nursery for that hour. Here is the schedule for the enrichment classes that run September 20th through November 15th:

9:00 Choir (2nd grade and up)
Stained-Glass Mosaics (10 yrs. and up)

10:00 Ceramics (8-12 yrs. old)
Cooking Essentials (4th grade and up - class will run 1 ½ hrs.)

11:00 *Cooking Essentials (con't. for ½ hr.)

Ceramics (13 yrs. and up)

12:00

Gym Games (4-9 yrs. old)
Nursery (infant - 3 yrs. old)
Mom's Prayer and Support Time

1:00

Beginning Drama (K-5th grade)
Volleyball (10-14 yrs. old)
History of Christianity (8th - 12th grade)

2:00

Volleyball (5-9 yrs. old)
Math Games (3rd - 6th grade)
Speech (8th - 12th grade - class will run 1½ hrs.)**

3:00

*Speech (con't. for ½ hr.)
Beginning Spanish (4 - 13 yrs. old)
Beginning French for younger students (8-11 yrs. old)
Journaling through Scrapbooking (4th - 8th grade)
Advanced Drama (6th - 12th grade - class will run 1½ hrs.)**

4:00

*Advanced Drama (con't. for ½ hr.)
Intermediate Spanish (3rd - 8th grade and have had Spanish before)
Beginning French for older students (12 - 18 yrs. old)
Mom/Daughter Bible Study (4th - 8th grade)

Class Descriptions

(Costs written as \$00/\$00/\$00 are family discount prices for 1st/2nd/3rd or more child.)

Choir - (Regin) Start the day out right by warming up your vocal chords and singing to the Lord! Music selection will cater to the ages and skill levels of the participating students. Those with more experience will be challenged at a higher level. We will incorporate songs ranging from fun to formal, contemporary to traditional. Instruction on the fundamentals of breathing, pitch and dynamics will be given. The choir will rehearse toward a concert in November. Cost is \$30/\$25/\$20.

Stained-Glass Mosaics - (Peggy) Learn about stained-glass and mosaics while creating a mosaic trivet using materials you will be given. Ideas and examples will be on display. Required: rubber gloves and safety glasses. Cost is \$30/25/20. Materials fee is \$10. Older students will also have the opportunity to create a beveled star Christmas tree topper using stained-glass making techniques. Extra materials fee is \$20.

Ceramics - (Karen) Learn the basics of ceramics, as well as a dry brushing technique that is fun and easy for all ages. Projects will be fired, and then painted with acrylics. Cost is

\$45/\$40/\$36 plus a \$10 per family supplies fee (up to 4 children, add \$2.50 for others.)
There will be a \$5 fee for broken projects by your child.

Cooking Essentials - (Donna) Learn and/or review basic cooking skills and techniques while preparing some delicious made-from-scratch dishes! On the tentative menu is French bread, butterhorn rolls, blueberry muffins, apple pie, healthy breaded chicken strips, homemade macaroni and cheese, and rolled sugar cookies. Students will bring home their creations each week. Students will need to bring some basic cooking utensils from home each week. A list for each class will be available at registration. Cost is \$40/\$35/\$30. Materials (groceries) fee is \$10.

Nursery - Infants through 3 year-olds will be well-taken care of during the Mom's Prayer and Support Time. Cost is \$1 per child per day.

Gym Games - (Rachel) Organized game time for children 4 to 9 years old. We will have a lot of fun running off energy with some old favorites and some games that may be new to you. We will need a minimum of 5 children. There will be no class on October 25th. Cost is: \$20/\$15

Mom's Prayer and Support Time - (Donna) A short devotional on homeschooling will be given, then moms can share prayer requests and pray together for their children and their home schools. There is no cost for this session.

Beginning Drama - (Donna) Children will be introduced to the art of drama through learning about the theatre, stage, costumes and make-up, playing drama games, and performing short, memorized poems or monologues for the final production, which will be held the last week of class. Cost is \$30/\$25/\$20.

Volleyball - (Rachel) Students will learn skills in passing, bumping and serving. These skills will be practiced in fun games not a competitive atmosphere. There will be strength training to improve students overall ability. A minimum of 4 students in class are needed. There will not be class on October 25th. Cost is \$25/20.

Journaling through Scrapbooking - (Dawn) Have a reluctant writer or just need a good reason to write? Well, here is an answer. We will take a different topic every week or so and journal about it. We'll choose topics that are interesting to kids - favorite activities, loved animals, a special holiday, etc. We will brainstorm for ideas, write a first draft, revise and then write or print a final draft. The emphasis will be on creativity, clarity, and descriptive writing. A goal of this class is to encourage students to enjoy writing. Grammar and spelling will only be addressed in the revision. The final draft we'll add to our scrapbook. Students can add a photo, picture or drawing to their writing. We will discuss some basic principles of scrapbook design. This class is geared toward 4th grade through 8th grade students. Paper will be provided. Please bring a glue stick or double sided tape, White glue does not work well. Bring an album with page protectors, not the magnetic kind but the ones the pages slip into. You will

get a week by week schedule after registration. There will be no class on October 25th. Cost is \$25/\$20.

Math Games - (Dawn) This will be a fun way for students to review math facts including addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals, and fractions. It will all be a fun, game atmosphere - not a stressful spelling bee type of games. We need at least 4 students. There will be no class on October 25th. Cost: \$25/\$15.

Speech - (Kristyn) Students will focus on public speaking by learning about choosing a topic, organizing speech information, listening skills, impromptu speaking, dealing with speech anxiety, analyzing persuasive claims, and working with visual aids. Students will present 3 or 4 prepared speeches to the class. Class limit is 10 students. Cost is \$50/\$25.

Beginning/Intermediate Spanish - (Jeannie) Children will learn commonly used phrases, foods, family members, colors, body parts, numbers, rooms in the home, clothing, and animals. They will also sing Spanish songs; play games, meet Raul, the Spanish-speaking puppet; and study Central American culture. Jeannie will use the text Elementary Spanish by Rose Thomas, McGraw-Hill Children's publishing, at an additional cost of \$4.00 per student. (Jeannie has this available for your convenience.) Cost is \$45.00. (If money is a factor, please call Jeannie at 548-3445.) Minimum number of students is 8, Maximum number is 15 for the younger class and 25 for the older class.

Beginning French - (Ellen) Learn the basics of French vocabulary, conversations, and grammar. Just bring a notebook and pencil. We will play games, do skits, listen to French tapes, etc. Cost is \$36.

History of Christianity - (Dawn) From the persecution of the early church to the tumultuous days of the Reformation to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, historian Timothy George provides fascinating glimpses of the events and people responsible for the spread of Christianity. This is a superb introduction to church history for students. Each class will include a video, discussion and review of student work. Each week students will be given a person or event from history to research and write a paragraph about. I need a mom to cover the class on October 25th for a reduced fee for her student; otherwise, there will be no class on October 25th. Cost is \$40/\$35

Advanced Drama - (Donna) Enjoy some fun drama games to loosen up, learn about the theatre and the stage, then practice each day for a final dramatic performance for your families. Each student will audition for a part and/or work backstage with props, make-up, costumes or assistant directing. Cost is \$40/\$35/\$30.

Mother/Daughter Bible Study - (Dawn/Rachel) This is an opportunity for moms and daughters to take a little time out of the hectic homeschool schedule to strengthen their special bond and grow in their walks with the Lord. The grades listed are only suggestions - older or younger girls are welcome. Rachel had the opportunity to visit India last year and the fees from this class

will go toward sending Rachel back to India (for a mission trip). We will not have class on October 25th, unless a mother would like to host the class. Cost: \$30 a family.

Registration is Thursday, September 6th, (during Welcome Back Picnic,) beginning at 5 pm at Faith Evangelical Bible Church, 400 North in Valparaiso.

If you are unable to attend the registration session, you must pre-register and pay by September 6th through Suzanne. Families must be members of CLCN in order to participate in the classes. There is a minimal charge for membership.

An additional \$10 per family registration fee will be charged as a gift to the church for using the facility.

SPRING CO-OP UPDATE

Plans are not yet final for the CLCN spring co-op "Amazing Animals in the News." Liberty Bible Church is in the process of evaluating its policy regarding the use of its facility by outside groups. We will not know the status of our request for the use of LBC for co-op until the end of August. We have also been made aware that we will most likely need to begin paying a substantial fee for that usage.

At this time, the place of our co-op is undecided and we ask for your prayers regarding the location of a reasonably-priced facility that will provide adequate room. If your church home might be an option, or if you know of another facility that might work, please contact one of the board members as soon as possible.

DID YOU KNOW . . . ?

--Home Depot hosts a FREE kid's workshop the first Saturday of every month where kids can make (or take home to make) a fun wooden kit. Kits have included a race car, butterfly house, plastic bag storage box, and a roller coaster car. Each month is a different kit. A work area is set up in the back of the store where kids and their parents can complete their project. Each child receives a Home Depot work apron the first time and can use it to keep the pins they will receive after completing each new project. The workshop runs from 9 to noon on the first Saturday of each month.

--Hoosier Energy Rural Electric Cooperative has a free lending library with materials for math, science, history, etc. in a searchable database. You can order and check out ten items for 30 days. They even mail the items to you for free and send a prepaid envelope with your order to return it all! They send the order within a day or two, so it generally gets to you the same week you order. To take part in the Freshwater Fred Lending Library, visit www.hepn.com/library/content/splash.asp.

LENDING LIBRARY

CLCN offers a Lending Library to its members and is most often available during Fun Fridays at Liberty Bible Church. There are books available that appeal to parents and kids. We also have a Geo Safari available. All items are available to check for a 2-week period.

YAHOOGROUPS.COM

To get in on our e-mail loop, go to www.yahogroups.com and search for CLCN and join. This is an easy way to get information to and from homeschoolers in NW Indiana.

HOMESCHOOLING RESOURCES

The Indiana Association of Home Educators (IAHE) sends out the *Informer*, a bimonthly magazine to provide information, inspiration, and support to homeschooling families. It is free upon request (317-859-1202 or iahe@inhomeeducators.org or write IAHE at 8106 Madison Ave, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227.

Some other helpful websites include: www.ifhsonline.org Indiana Foundation for Home Schooling, and www.hslda.org Home School Legal Defense Association.