

CLCN CHRONICLES

The official newsletter of the Christian Learning Center and Network

November

2007

MARK YOUR CALENDAR (SEE BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION)

- November 12 Deadline for Mom's "Day" Out
 14 Deadline for Spring Co-op
 16 Fall Class Open House--**don't miss it!!**
 17 Mom's "Day" Out
 25 Prayer requests/info. due for Dec. newsletter

SPRING CO-OP PLANS RESUME!

If you were thinking about joining the CLCN Spring Co-op, but thought you missed the deadline, there's good news! Registrations will be accepted until Wednesday, November 14th, in order that more families might be able to take part. "Amazing Animals in the News" will run for six consecutive Thursdays, February 7 to March 13, from 9:15 am - 12:15 pm. Kindergarten through 6th graders will explore different ecosystems and the amazing animals that live in them. In conjunction with that, the teens will learn the newspaper process, from planning, reporting, photography, writing and editing, to layout and publishing. They will also edit and publish a co-op newsletter to give each family on the final day. Submissions for the newsletter will come from stories and art submitted by the younger students, as well as contributions from the teens. The pre-school class will explore an animal alphabet. An amazing live-animal show will conclude the co-op sessions. Cost for the co-op is \$25 per family. Contact Mia as quickly as possible .

FIELD TRIPS/SOCIAL EVENTS

Mom's "Day" Out - The next Mom's Fellowship Time will be on Saturday, November 17. We will be going to The Lighthouse Place Outlet Mall in Michigan City at 10 a.m. for some Christmas shopping/window shopping with lunch/coffee to follow. Please respond by November 12th to Jennifer.

2008 COMMENCEMENT PLANS UNDERWAY

Seven homeschool seniors have expressed interest in participating in next spring's 2nd annual CLCN Commencement ceremony. An initial meeting of the seniors and parents was held November 9th and the plans have begun. Additional participants will be accepted through January. Be watching future issues of this newsletter for updates on the graduation plans. We will have many opportunities for other homeschoolers to take part.

FALL CLASS STUDENTS INVITE YOU TO OPEN HOUSE!

Want to be an encouragement to our students taking part in the fall classes? Please consider joining them at their Open House, scheduled for Friday night, November 16th from 7-9 pm at Faith Evangelical Bible Church on 400 North. During the open house, you will get the chance to hear and see what these children and teens have learned during the past nine weeks. Each class has been asked to share during the open house. Perhaps the French students will "parley-vous"? Maybe the Math Games kids will share some strategies? For sure the Drama students, both young and old, will entertain us with poems and a very funny play. And the Cooking Class will share some delicious treats that they have diligently prepared.

Will your family be there? Hope so!!

SPANISH CLUB LOOKS TO CONTINUE

Los Adventureros Homeschool Spanish Club (for junior/senior high students) is looking for 2007-08 members, as well as suggestions for a location to meet each month, due to Fun Friday being on hold for the time being. If you would like to be a part of this fun club, which provides enrichment opportunities in the Spanish language and culture, as well as leadership skills and offices for your transcript, please contact Fabesi or Donna.

HOMESCHOOL TALENT PRESENTATION AND BENEFIT

The Home Educators Reaching Out (H.E.R.O.) organization is inviting area homeschoolers to audition for a homeschool talent presentation and benefit, Saturday, February 9, 2008 at Faith Evangelical Bible Church, 305 E. 400 N., Valparaiso, beginning at 7:00 pm. Donations will be accepted for *Feed My Starving Children*, an organization committed to feeding God's starving children, hungry in body and spirit. Master of Ceremonies will be Don Tersigni, a professional comedian and homeschool dad. Don has appeared on HBO Comic Relief, ABC's America's Funniest People, FOX's Show me the Funny, The Michael Essany Show on E!TV. He was also comedy winner of Ed McMahon's "Next Big Star" TV show.

All current area homeschoolers are eligible to audition for the benefit. Any type of talent presentation is welcome, including parent/child acts. There is no age limit, and to encourage those just learning a new skill, categories will be as follows: Child Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced; Youth Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced; and Teen Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced. Auditions will be held approximately one month prior to the benefit. Please e-mail Donna if any of your family members would like to audition for the benefit. You will be notified in December when auditions will be held.

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/>.

FREE FIELD TRIPS

Brookfield Zoo Free general admission is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays in January, February, October, November, and December. Additionally, Saturdays and Sundays are free in January and February.

Adler Planetarium Museum admission is free on the following days in 2007: every Mon & Tues in Nov - Nov. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27

Field Museum every Mon & Tues in Nov (same as above)

Chicago History Museum Free on Mondays

Shedd Aquarium November -Mondays and Tuesdays (Nov. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27)

Museum of Science & Industry November 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20 and 22 December 24

Hellenic Museum & Cultural Center No free days; Admission \$3/person

Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum Free days are Thursdays; suggested donation of \$7/adult

Jane Addams Hull House Museum Free every day

Art Institute of Chicago Thurs. and Fri. evenings are free from 5pm-9pm until August 31.

Chicago Cultural Center Free every day

FREEBIES!

--On-line Activities and Games for Homeschoolers:

-A great learn-to-read website: <http://www.starfall.com/>

-Math, reading games and more: <http://www.funbrain.com/index.html> and <http://www.rainforestmaths.com/>

-Like to listen to Adventures in Odyssey? Check this out and listen on-line: http://www.oneplace.com/Ministries/Adventures_in_Odyssey/

-HomeschoolRadioShows.com has free downloadable stories that are wholesome and timeless. <http://www.homeschoolradioshows.com/>

-Need to motivate a child to read or check on comprehension? Check out this site: <http://bookadventure.org/>

-For some fun ideas check out: <http://familyfun.go.com/>

--Register at Homeschool eStore to receive one free download per week. Previous downloads have included: an astronomy study guide, Monet and the Impressionists for Kids book that contains 21 activities, blackline maps for World History, spelling rules index cards, composers &

instruments lapbook e-book for 4th-12th grades and many more!

<http://www.homeschoolestore.com/catalog/login.php>

--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.

--You can find/give away free items through the Freecycle network? This web-based group is located by zip code all around the country and provides a place to recycle items and ask for something you need. A free Yahoo account is necessary to join, but is simple and quick to set up. Go to freecycle.org for more information. This is a great way to share God's blessings in our lives!

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. Please contact Dawn for specific instructions.

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.