

The
Informer

a publication of the Indiana Association of Home Educators

Spring 2013

2013
Legislative
ISSUES

Dear Sweet Mama...
YOU ARE
GOOD
ENOUGH

Writers Have
AUDIENCES

Just For Dads!
Familyman's
Convention
Guide

2013 IAHE
Convention Info

Indiana Association of Home Educators'
REFINE US
O LORD
HOME EDUCATORS' CONVENTION
May 31-June 1, 2013

REACH

**Earn College
Credits Now**

College is Within Your REACH Now

DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

Still think college is a year or two away? If you're a high school junior or senior, you can do more than just think about college. You can actually go to college by enrolling in Bethel College's REACH (Register Early to Achieve College Hours) program and save up to \$12,000 on tuition.

- Homeschool students, jump-start your college career
- Earn college credit that may also apply toward high school graduation
- Reduced tuition of only \$100 per credit hour for the first 24 credits
- Choose from a variety of on-campus and online courses
- Attend campus events and use library resources
- Achieve college credits that may transfer to another college

The Informer Core Values

- To be Christ-focused
- To be Indiana-focused
- To be encouraging
- To be a resource

IAHE

The IAHE is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1983 for the purpose of serving the Lord Jesus Christ by supporting and encouraging families interested in home education. We define home education as parent-directed, home-based, privately-funded education.

Our primary functions are maintaining visibility as home educators with civil government leaders, influencing the legislative process, sponsoring seminars for parent education, and publishing.

The IAHE is governed by a volunteer board of directors. Sixteen regional representative couples are in direct contact with local support groups across the state.

Our major source of income is our annual convention. With the growth of the home education movement, both our needs and responsibilities continue to grow, and we welcome your tax deductible contributions.

Indiana Association of Home Educators

PO Box 217, Stilesville, IN 46180
317-467-6244

Fax: 317-467-6246

iahe@iahe.net

www.iahe.net

Find us on Facebook



BOARD MEMBERS

Steve & Penny Taylor, Phil & Debi Ketron,
Frank & Jackie Franks

MANAGING EDITOR

Jennifer Mayhill
informer@iahe.net

Editors: Tom Carrow & Tawnee Hinton

WRITING DIRECTOR

Tara Bentley
writing@iahe.net

DESIGN DIRECTOR

Amanda Runge
design@iahe.net

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Cameron Mayhill
advertising@iahe.net

COVER PHOTO

Courtesy of Jill Reid, Raindancer Studios

Contents [Vol. 16, Issue 1]

featured

- 8** { **Why IAHE?**
Debi Ketron
- 10** { **Several Issues Before Indiana Legislature**
Micah Clark
- 12** { **The Familyman's Guide to a Successful Homeschool Convention...for Dads**
Todd Wilson
- 15** { **Writers Have Audiences**
Sharon Watson
- 18** { **Homeschool Grad:
Prepared to Tackle the World**
Nicole Frazer
- 20** { **Dear Sweet Mama...
YOU are Good Enough**
Tara Bentley

Check out page 22 for
information on the
**2013 IAHE Home
Educators' Convention!**

in this issue

- Editor's Welcome...**4**
- IAHE State Map...**5**
- Legislative Update...**10**
- Classifieds & Homeschool Business Ads...**23**
- News and Events...**31**

8 WHY
IAHE ?



Welcome

a note from the editor

The Informer Magazine

The Informer is published quarterly by the Indiana Association of Home Educators (IAHE) to provide information, inspiration, and support to homeschool families. Subscriptions are FREE upon request. The mailing list for *The Informer* is never sold or rented.

The articles in this magazine reflect the freedom of home educators in Indiana to choose from a wide variety of homeschool philosophies and teaching methods. Opinions and attitudes expressed in articles do not necessarily reflect the beliefs of the Indiana Association of Home Educators. IAHE does not endorse or advocate any one method or philosophy. The Board encourages each home educator to seek God's will in determining what is best for him, his school, and his students.

ADVERTISING

Advertising is available on a first-come, first-served, space-available basis. For ad information and rates, please download our Advertiser's Packet on our website or contact advertising@iahe.net. We appreciate the advertisers who help us to bring this publication to you. Please let them know that you saw their advertisement. Publication of advertisements does not signify endorsement of items or services offered.

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Please see *The Informer's* Writer's Guidelines at www.iahe.net or contact writing@iahe.net.

COPYRIGHT

© by the Indiana Association of Home Educators. Permission is needed to reprint any portion of the magazine, except where noted. Please contact us at informer@iahe.net.

SCRIPTURE VERSIONS

Scripture quotations marked (NKJV) are taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked (NIV) and (NIV1984) are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.* Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Welcome to the newly redesigned, first full-color issue of *The Informer*. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as we have enjoyed putting it together. You may have noticed we did not produce a Winter 2012 issue. We paused production to give some much-needed attention to a few key areas. We have improved our internal processes, built a larger team, and articulated a clear direction for the future. I'm sure we haven't worked out all the kinks yet, but we appreciate your patience as we aim to produce a timely, excellent, and God-honoring publication. We are excited about the ways God has worked among us already and the new opportunities that lie ahead!

Thank you to all who took time to complete our survey last fall. The many positive comments encouraged us, and we appreciated hearing your new ideas. Our vision is to bring you a high-quality, home education magazine, grounded in our Christian faith, and centered on these themes:

Inspire – We will inspire homeschool families to develop their children into bold, Christian leaders, to persevere with joy as they face difficult times, and to diligently pursue their educational goals.

Equip – We will equip homeschool families with practical tools and resources that will supplement, encourage, and enhance spiritual and academic training.

Connect – We will help homeschool families connect with one another by highlighting opportunities for serving, networking, interacting, and sharing.

As a publication of the Indiana Association of Home Educators, we will focus on uniquely Indiana resources, including state assets and activities that pertain to homeschool families.

Above all, we hope we will encourage your family to be involved in promoting homeschooling in positive ways and supporting the voice of homeschoolers where needed, whether it be through serving in your church, engaging with your community, or participating in civic activities.

We invite you to engage in the community of home educators in Indiana and contribute to *The Informer*. You can find resources for these opportunities at www.iahe.net.

Enjoying the journey,



Jennifer Mayhill
Managing Editor
informer@iahe.net

IAHE Regional Representative Map



Regional Representatives

serve the homeschooling community throughout Indiana. Each representative is a veteran homeschooler who can help answer the questions of a family just starting out. They also communicate with local support groups in their region and keep them up to date on changes in the law and activities throughout the state.

You can contact your regional representative for information about spelling bees, sport clubs, book fairs, curriculum advice, workshops, standardized testing and convention information. They can also help you find a support group in your area, or if none is available, they'll help you start one.

Region 1
Dennis & Tamra Wells
219-689-6091
r1@iahe.net

Region 3
Kevin & Mari Doerr
765-413-7978
r3@iahe.net

Region 4
Pat & Kathy Balke
574-594-3815
r4@iahe.net

Region 5
Warren & Karen Whitesell
765-435-2206
r5@iahe.net

Region 6
Dave & Becky Bowyer
765-342-7442
r6@iahe.net

Region 7
Shawn and Amy Canaday
317-773-3855
r7@iahe.net

Region 8
Mark & Tara Bentley
812-667-6955
r8@iahe.net

Region 9
Dan & Shawn King
765-620-2820
r9@iahe.net

Region 10
Greg & Kimberly Laskowski
812-508-9030
r10@iahe.net

Region 11
Dave & Eve Drew
812-827-2326
r11@iahe.net

Region 12
Jon & Debbie Sweetland
812-944-0912
r12@iahe.net

Region 13
Steve & Rebecca Barnes
765-857-2330
r13@iahe.net

Region 14
Tom & Lisa Heady
765-763-8405
r14@iahe.net

Region 15
Cameron & Jennifer Mayhill
765-461-5340
r15@iahe.net

New Reps
for Region

5

Warren and Karen Whitesell

Warren and Karen are the blessed parents of five children, ranging in age from eight to nineteen. All have been home educated from birth to the present, with the oldest now pursuing a music degree through CollegePlus! Believing there can be no neutral position on the matter of child rearing and education, they have been dedicated to providing a distinctly Christian education. Their goal has been to allow the truths and commands of Scripture, specifically from Psalms 1:1, Proverbs 1:7, and Deuteronomy 6:4-7, to shape, mold, and, at times, correct their approach to home education. God has been gracious and certainly very patient while the family continues to discover what Biblical home education is all about.

The Whitesell family lives in Russellville, Indiana, on a small farm where, in addition to "formal education," plenty of learning opportunities exist with gardening, livestock, etc. As a family, they hope to encourage and minister to other families who are seeking to home educate. ■



For all other regions,
please contact the IAHE Office at

office@iahe.net

Meet Your NEWEST Board Members!

The IAHE welcomes Frank and Jackie Franks as new Board Members. The Franks reside in central Indiana on their eighty acre farm. They home educated and graduated their children: Caleb, Rebecca, and John-Paul. Another daughter, Amy, lives in Texas, with her husband and three sons. Seeing faults in how they had lived their early lives, they decided that, with God's help, they would raise adults committed to Christ. The Franks did this by intentionally homeschooling and discipling, realizing that without discipleship, the results of home education are no better or worse than any other education.

Frank ran his own marketing/distribution company for over twenty-five years and has forty years of business experience. For him, a highlight of home educating was teaching math. In 2003, one of his dreams was fulfilled as the family converted a 440-acre property into a certified organic, grass-fed beef operation and timber farm. The farm was an excellent place to raise children, without the distractions and entrapments of materialism. Today, he is a business consultant and organic farmer.

Jackie's background as an RN and her love of science, creation, and healthy living permeated much of her family's education. For her, a highlight of home education was interweaving the Word of God into everyday living. Feeling inadequate to educate her children at home, she was driven to her knees daily to ask for wisdom and the Holy Spirit's empowering. This prayer was answered more than she expected. Her blog encourages women in the art of making a house a home and filling it with the Spirit of the Lord.

The Franks enjoy beautiful, traditional music, gardening vegetables and berries, raising bees and trees, traveling, organic food (especially homemade artisan breads), and fellowship with family and friends.



Photo by John-Paul Franks

New Reps for Region 9

Dan and Shawn King

Dan and Shawn King live in Clinton, Indiana, with their four children, Danny (15), Abbie (13), Noah (12), and Emily (10) and have been homeschooling for over 12 years, since their oldest was ready for preschool learning. The Kings believe that the home is the best place to learn a love for God and the Bible, and to nurture godly character qualities in their children.

Dan is the pastor of Calvary Baptist Church and enjoys working with the youth in the community. Shawn and the children are always close at hand, and the family stays tightly knit by serving, playing, and learning together as much as possible. Homeschool co-op classes, field trips, church youth group activities, hiking, fishing, 4-H programs, and a small home business all provide just the right amount of family fun.

Dan and Shawn have actively been involved in the homeschool community and are excited to take that a step further by serving as Region 9 Representatives. ■

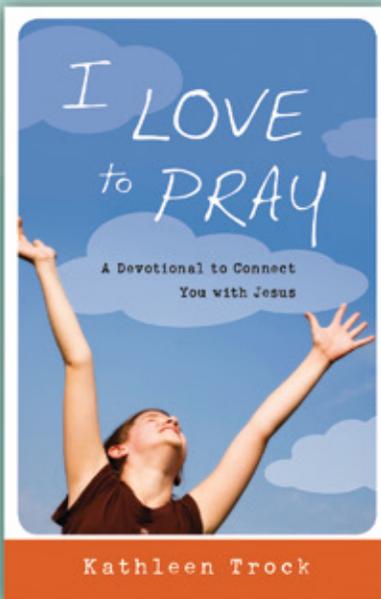


Teach your children

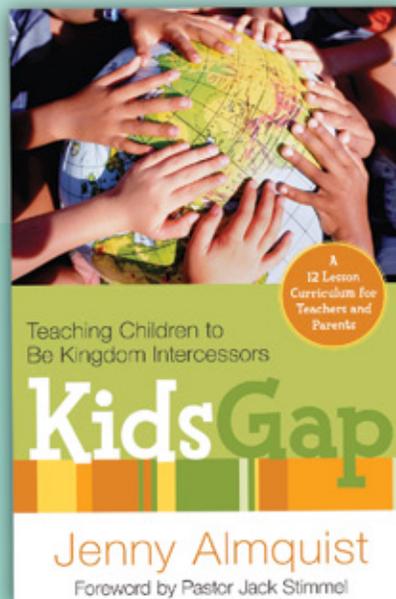
We believe that kids can become powerful prayer warriors.

Let our resources help you disciple them.

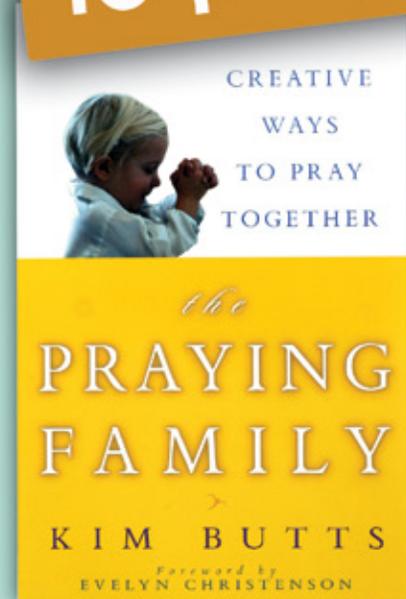
to pray



I Love to Pray is a 40 day devotional for kids (ages 8-12) that helps them to connect with Jesus through prayer. (There is an adult version, **Love to Pray**, available as well that follows the same scriptures and points each day.)
\$8.99



KidsGap: Teaching Children to Be Kingdom Intercessors is a 12-week simple curriculum for teachers and parents to use with their children. It inspires them to pray beyond fix-it prayers in their lives.
\$8.99



The Praying Family provides ideas and insights into developing prayer within your family.
\$12.99

The Informer Reader Special
Use Code INF313 for \$1.00 off each Children's Prayer Product Ordered



Special Issue of Prayer Connect
Be inspired by articles on how God is raising up children to pray for His kingdom to advance.

The March/April issue is themed: "Releasing Children to Pray"
Individual Copy \$5.00 • Multiple Copy Discounts Available

www.prayer-shop.org
812 238-5504 • 800 217-5200
(Includes more than 50 resources to help kids pray)



WHY IAHE



—by Debi Ketron

Have you ever wondered why Indiana homeschoolers need a state organization?

Years ago homeschoolers were few and far between, curriculum resources were less abundant, and connecting with other like-minded families was difficult. In those days, state homeschool organizations were the hub of all things homeschooling. Today, homeschoolers are much easier to find, curriculum vendors seem to pop up everywhere, and many networking opportunities exist, making the need for a state organization seem less obvious. This may feel especially true here in Indiana, a state where homeschooling is less regulated in comparison to many other states.

*The freedom to educate our children at home is a **blessing** and a constitutional right.*

The freedom to educate our children at home is a blessing and a constitutional right. Did you know this right is something the IAHE has actively fought to protect for thirty years? The board members of the IAHE and countless volunteers have worked faithfully behind the scenes in big and little ways to provide many “hidden” benefits to homeschoolers across the state.

The Indiana Association of Home Educators (IAHE) was founded by Judge Ken and Joyce Johnson in 1983, the same year as the Homeschool Legal Defense Association (HSLDA), making it one of the earliest state home education organizations in the nation. The IAHE has been lobbying the legislature on behalf of home educators since its inception. When bills are discovered that have the potential to negatively affect homeschool rights, the IAHE contacts HSLDA for their legal opinion. If the proposed legislation has the potential to negatively affect our home educators’ freedoms, IAHE leaders head to the State House and work to prevent it from becoming law. Your homeschooling rights have been protected by the IAHE in numerous sessions of the state legislature.

The IAHE board also works closely with national organizations to stay informed about issues that homeschooling families in other states are facing in an effort to avoid those challenges here at home. IAHE also works with Dr. Brian Ray of the National Home Education Research Institute (NHERI). As a member of the National Alliance of Christian Home Education Leadership, the IAHE networks with other state leaders in the home education movement. These types of relationships provide mutual encouragement, idea sharing, and benefits to homeschooling families statewide.

It is easier than ever to stay connected and contribute to the Indiana homeschooling community.

To more effectively reach local communities, the IAHE provides a volunteer network of Regional Representative couples located in sixteen regions across the state. Along with the board members, these Representatives answer emails, field calls, and counsel individuals in their regions regarding home education. They work to connect and encourage families, and assist in founding new support groups if there is a need. They also assist at the IAHE state convention and speak at local events. If you haven't met your Reps, please use the map and listing on page five and introduce yourself.

Perhaps the most well-known function of the IAHE is its annual Home Educators' Convention with nationally recognized speakers and a large vendor hall. In 2013, the convention will be held May 31-June 1 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. This is a great time of fellowship, encouragement, learning, and exploration for new and veteran parents. Many moms and dads count this weekend as a special time to focus on the Lord's calling to train and disciple their children. Convention proceeds sustain the year-round efforts of the IAHE and help fund community-building events for homeschooling families such as the annual Mom's Retreat, State Capitol Day, Support Group Leader events, and more. Proceeds also support *The Informer* and help home education related entities such as the Home School Foundation and the NHERI.

Families can connect with the IAHE online. The new website, www.iahe.net, was launched in 2012. Home educators can register to receive up-to-date information on proposed legislation, homeschooling events, and more. A calendar of events for the state is provided on the website, as well as a classifieds section for selling curriculum and a public forum to ask questions and share information. Homeschoolers can also get connected with the IAHE through the IAHE Facebook page and blog. It is easier than ever to stay connected and contribute to the Indiana homeschooling community.

Today's homeschool families have more choices and opportunities than ever before. State organizations play a vital role in helping families navigate choices and make connections, while supporting the very foundations of our legal right to homeschool. In Indiana, the IAHE continues to work hard on your behalf in these areas. With so many areas of impact, today, more than ever, state organizations are needed to encourage, protect, and support you as you home educate your children. ■



Debi Ketron is wife to Phil and mother to four children. The Ketrons home educated for twenty-one years graduating all of their children from their home school. They served as IAHE Region 8 Representatives before joining the Board of Directors. Phil and Debi reside in Dearborn County.



Encore exists so that the process of choosing an instrument is relaxed, enjoyable, and fun.

We invite you to visit the store and experience Encore for yourself.



View all of the fine instruments from "The Studio" at:
www.encoreorchestral.com/studio

5282 E 65th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46220
www.encoreorchestral.com
317.577.3434 • 1.800.974.4713



"When government doesn't know what it's supposed to do, it winds up doing everything."

— Anonymous

Several Issues Before Indiana Legislature

—by Micah Clark

Nearly 2,000 bills will be filed in this year's Indiana General Assembly. They will cover all sorts of topics, with issues as varied as an across the board 10% cut on state income tax rates, to the sale of toy cigarette lighters, to a bill about wild animals on airport runways. Dozens of other bills will require the IAHE's attention and monitoring.

photo by Salem Stegemiller

A few issues we are monitoring:

Education

Abortion

Marriage

Church Freedoms

The 2012 election brought nearly thirty new faces to the Indiana House of Representatives and several others into the Indiana Senate. Following two walkouts over right-to-work legislation by most of the House Democrats in 2011 and 2012, the Republicans surprised many observers by picking up nine additional seats and achieving a walkout-proof, super majority.

This political shift may not have much of an impact upon homeschool families, but another election result could lead to significant change. The biggest political change that has the potential to impact homeschool families is the election of a new Superintendent of Public Instruction, Glenda Ritz. Superintendent Ritz raised the eyebrows of the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) when she told an audience at a campaign event there were no standards for home education in Indiana. She continued by stating that she thought more regulations were needed. (The teachers' unions were strong backers of Ritz. Those groups tend to strongly oppose home and private school freedoms.) The IAHE is monitoring the actions of the Department of Education and looking forward to meeting Mrs. Ritz.

A few of the issues we are monitoring:

EDUCATION

Although purely a public school problem, many readers of *The Informer* may like to know that the issue of creation and evolution may emerge again this session. A bill authored by Senator Kruse and Representative Thompson is actually an academic freedom bill for scientific inquiry and not

a “creation” measure. The media may describe it differently for sensational reasons.

Senator Scott Schneider authored SB 193 to remove Indiana from the national education standards program called Common Core (or “Obamacore” by its critics) in favor of keeping our own local and state curriculum standards. HSLDA and the IAHE are watching this very closely as there may be ways the Common Core can impact homeschool families.

We may see an effort to expand the school voucher program to allow for easier enrollment of siblings and kindergartners into existing private or charter school programs. It is doubtful that any expansion of the \$1,000 tax deduction for homeschool expense will occur.

Representative Bob Behning has a bill addressing high school dropouts who claim to educate at home. IAHE has worked closely with Representative Behning, Representative Washburne, Senator Kruse, and HSLDA over the last several months to write an acceptable bill that preserves our freedoms. IAHE will be closely monitoring any amendments to the bill this session and updates will be available at www.iahe.net.

ABORTION

Several bills on the topic of abortion will be presented this session. Perhaps the one most likely to see action will address the rise in chemical abortion centers around the state. These centers have very little safety oversight or informed consent information procedures for women who mistakenly think that RU-486 is merely as simple as taking a pill and expecting your “problem” to go away without an invasive surgery or dangerous side effects. Abortion bills have been filed in both the House and Senate to prohibit sex-selection abortions performed because the mother wants either a boy or a girl.

MARRIAGE

Indiana will likely pass a Marriage Protection Amendment for the second time, thus placing it upon the November 2014 ballot for voter approval. However, fierce opposition, distortion of facts, and scare tactics are likely from liberals and homosexual demands groups. Your calls and emails to your state legislators in support of the marriage protection amendment are very important. Indiana law should recognize that marriage requires both a husband and

a wife for the best interest of children and society. There are also serious religious liberty concerns connected with unraveling the time-tested logical definition of marriage.

Senator Joe Zakas may reintroduce a modest divorce reform measure which passed the Senate twelve years ago, but was gutted by divorce attorneys in the House. It extended the waiting period for divorce involving minor children from the current 60 to 120 days with the hope couples would seek counseling and reconciliation.

CHURCH FREEDOMS

Balancing the need for good childcare with the protection of religious liberty is a tricky issue. Though the two are not exclusive, some legislators want to regulate church child care ministries to the point that many churches may not want to offer such services anymore. As a result, child care could become even more expensive and less available for many poor families in Indiana. AFA will be watching these efforts.

No matter the issue of concern to Hoosier homeschool families, the IAHE will be a voice for your rights in the halls of state government. ■

CONTACT YOUR SENATORS & REPRESENTATIVES

Indiana House

317-232-9600

Indiana Senate

317-232-9400



Micah Clark and his wife, Cherie, have two home-educated children, nine-year-old Ben and ten-year-old Olivia. Micah is the Executive Director for the American Family Association of Indiana and the Legislative Advisor for the Indiana Association of Home Educators. Micah works with various issues before the Indiana General Assembly and in the culture, which impact Hoosier families. You can learn more about AFA at www.afain.net.

Editor’s Note: The best way to receive timely updates about legislation is to subscribe to the IAHE Legislative Update at www.iahe.net and/or follow the IAHE on Facebook.

Come Join Us!

May 31 – June 1st

See page 22 for
convention details



The Familyman's Guide to a Successful Homeschool Convention... for Dads

—by Todd Wilson

“But here’s the deal, my fellow homeschooling dad: your wife needs and wants you at her side during the whole painful ordeal.”

Smell that? It’s Spring! Being a Hoosier and a former landscape architect, I love this time of year. The snow piles are melting, the air is fresh, and the grass is turning green. In fact, those first spring crocuses have pushed their heads through the sod and are in their glorious spring splendor, announcing that winter has passed, spring is here, and summer is right around the corner.

Being a homeschooler, those little crocuses also serve as a reminder that we are entering homeschool convention season... and we folks in Indiana have a good one. Or, as they say here, a “good’un.”

Now, I know, to the women folk who are reading this, that even the mere mention of homeschool conventions sends chills down their spines. To a homeschooling mom, it is like the circus coming to town and Disney World all wrapped into one. But, to the husbands of those homeschooling moms, the words ‘homeschool convention’ conjure up the same good feelings as having his bowels cleansed or having the skin removed from his tongue.

Don’t get me wrong. I know there are some dads who are reading this who look forward to the time each year to get away and stroll up and down the aisles of wall-to-wall people, stand in long lines to pay a lot of money for a pretzel that costs as much as their first car, and listen to some curriculum salesman drone on about the virtues of...whoa, I’m getting a little squeamish just writing about it.

But here’s the deal, my fellow homeschooling dad: your wife needs and wants you at her side during the whole painful ordeal. Believe me, I know. My family and I travel all over the country speaking at state homeschool conventions.

“I don’t mean a brief swing by the convention on your lunch hour or maybe spending a few hours on Saturday. I’m talking about taking a day or two off from work, finding someone to watch the kids, and opening and closing the joint, glued to your wife.”

Most of the attendees are women, and I see in their eyes the desire for their husbands’ involvement. I also hear it in their conversations.

In fact, I half wonder if they don’t envy those women who have their husbands by their sides, who prove by their presence that they’re committed to homeschooling; and even more importantly, to what is important to them as homeschooling moms.

So, Dad, let me shoot straight with you: you need to make it a priority to attend the IAHE convention this year. I don’t mean a brief swing by the convention on your lunch hour or maybe spending a few hours on Saturday. I’m talking about taking a day

or two off from work, finding someone to watch the kids, and opening and closing the joint, glued to your wife.

I can hear the air being sucked from your lungs and can see you squirming in

your seat. But take heart, I’m not asking you to go unprepared; I’m going to talk you through the finer points in hopes of making it a great experience for you and your wife.

So here it is...da, da, da, dunnnnn...

.....

The Familyman’s Guide to a Successful Homeschool Convention ...for Dads.

.....

1. Leave the kids behind. I know it is not easy to find someone to watch the kids for a couple of days and nights, but I am telling you there is nothing that can breathe life into a marriage or a

homeschool like a couple of uninterrupted days of hand-holding closeness without the kids. I know you love them and that they may want to attend, but tell them that this year it is just going to be mom and dad. Get on www.priceline.com to find a good deal on an area hotel and then plan to take your wife to one of her favorite restaurants for dinner.

2. Once you get your hotel reservations...throw away all your expectations for a romantic getaway.

Instead think “homeschooling” because that is what your wife will be thinking. When you get back to the hotel room, stretch out on the bed and ask, “So, what did you enjoy most today, honey?” In your self-control, you will have shown your wife just how much you love her, and you will display your commitment to your family and your homeschool.



Marsha was sorry she had ever suggested taking the kids walkie-talkies to the convention.

3. Determine in your heart to stick to your wife like... you used to. Resist the temptation to stand and shoot the breeze with Joe whom you haven't seen...in a week and walk the aisles with your wife.

4. Don't rush your wife. Allow her to take as much time as she needs to examine every item in each booth. I know I'm asking a lot of you, but you can do it. Also, take it to the end. Instead of asking, "Are we finished now?" assume she won't be finished until the closing bell rings. I repeat, don't be in a hurry.

When she asks, "What do you think of this Latin curriculum?" don't just say, "Sure, honey, whatever you think."

5. Listen to your wife's questions and then give thoughtful answers. When she asks, "What do you think of this Latin curriculum?" don't just say, "Sure, honey, whatever you think." Instead, listen, think it through, and give a thoughtful answer. When you sit down at lunch or dinner, don't expect her focus to be on you, but listen as she talks about all that she saw and learned during the day. Smile, hold her hand, and ask questions.

6. Be extravagant in your spending. Take it from this cheapskate, when you allow your wife to buy what she thinks is necessary, you prove to her that she and your children are worth your hard-earned money, that you're committed to homeschooling, and that you want her to have the best tools to make her job easier.

7. Don't fall asleep during speaking sessions. Pinch yourself periodically if you have to...better yet, give a friend permission to smack you in the back of your head if he sees you dozing.

8. Encourage your other homeschooling dad-friends that you see in the convention hall. When you pass them, draw close and say, "You 'da dad...keep up the good work...hang in there...you make me proud...don't make me smack you in the back of the head!"

9. Lastly, when your wife asks what you thought about the wall-to-wall people, the long lines for a mortgage-payment sized pretzel, and all the curriculum salesmen, say, **"I wouldn't have missed it for the world."**

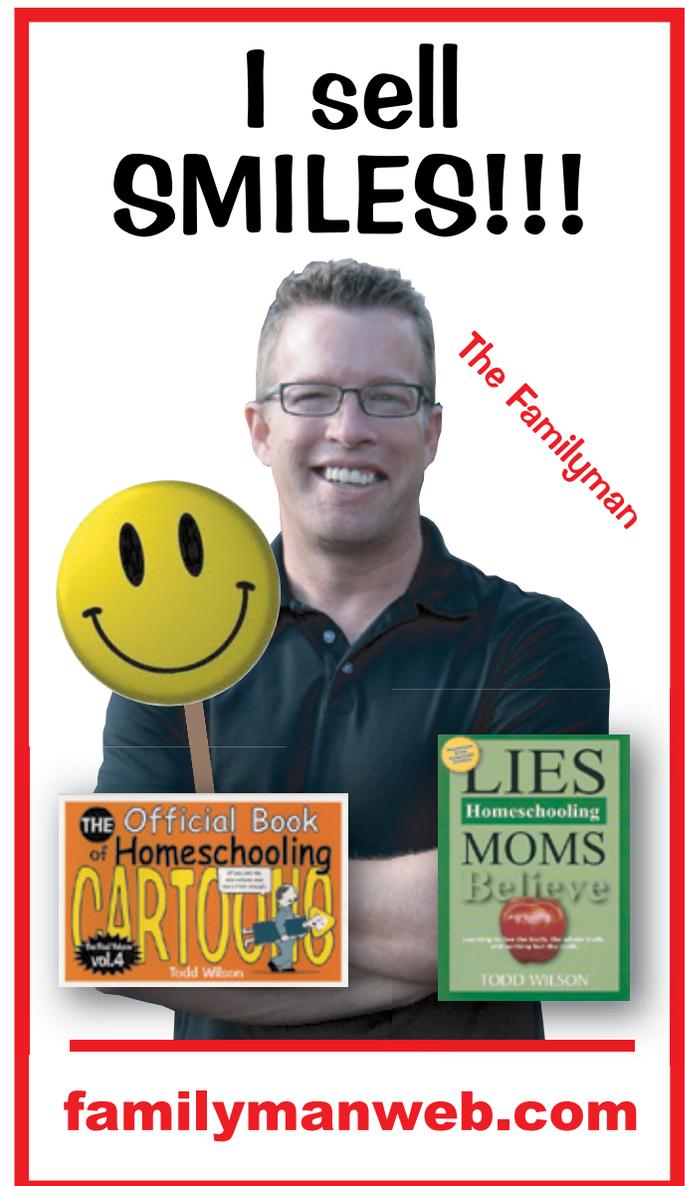
My fellow dad, there is not a homeschooling mom in the world that wouldn't kill for a man like that.

You can do it.

You 'da dad! ■



Todd Wilson, author of *Help! I'm Married to a Homeschooling Mom* and *The Official Book of Homeschooling Cartoons*, is a dad, writer, conference speaker, and former pastor. Todd's humor and gut-honest realness have made him a favorite speaker at homeschool conventions across the country and a guest on *Focus on the Family*.



I sell
SMILES!!!

The Familyman

THE Official Book of Homeschooling
CARTOONS
vol.4
Todd Wilson

LIES
Homeschooling
MOMS
Believe
TODD WILSON

familymanweb.com

Writers Have AUDIENCES

How to Move Tweens and Teens
from Social Media Posts to Essays



—by Sharon Watson

Composition professors state that incoming freshmen do not understand something important and basic: written communications have audiences. Many of today's students write like they speak, or they write in short autobiographical bursts common to texts and Facebook posts. They are unaware of the skills it takes to persuade or inform their readers. Other students believe they are writing essays simply to express themselves and their opinions. Is this the goal of essay writing?

Donald Murray, columnist and Pulitzer-prize winning journalist, says not. "The aim of writing," he reveals, "is communication, not just self-expression." Diaries, journals, and Facebook posts are for self-expression. Most other forms of writing—newspapers, magazines, Internet articles, e-mails, work memos and reports, speeches, TV shows, and, yes, even the lowly school essay—have specific audiences that the writer has to reach.

How can we teach our students to write for specific audiences? How can we get them to think not about themselves but about their readers?

Here are practical writing activities you can do with your middle school or high school students. These simple, fun activities have worked year after year in my writing classes, and they will work for your class at home, too. Let's dig in.

BRAINSTORM AN INTERESTING TOPIC TOGETHER.

Should teens own credit cards? Why shouldn't little kids drink sugary sodas? What are the benefits of bicycle riding? Should teachers give homework?

Choose a topic of interest to your children, like any of the ones above, and brainstorm with them. Let the ideas be anywhere from

serious to silly. After all the ideas are on a whiteboard or piece of paper, ask your students which ideas they would use for each audience. For example, if the topic is sugary sodas, which ideas would they write about if the essay were intended for parents? Let them list three of the brainstormed ideas. Then ask them which ideas they would choose if they were writing to the children. The points in each list will be vastly different from each other.

The results of this simple exercise will educate your children and astound you. You may even see little lights turning on above their heads.

A word of advice: Tell your students ahead of time that they will not be writing this essay. When they know they will not be required to write, they lose their fear and feel safe. Their thinking abilities are unhampered.

TELL ME YOUR OPINION. NO, WAIT, CONVINCE ME.

Students' opinions are all about them.

Persuasive writing is all about the audience. Try this activity to show them the difference between the two forms of writing, reminding them that they will not be required to write this essay. First, ask them to write down the animal they love or the animal they love to hate. This animal can be a category (“I love horses”) or a specific animal (“I hate Fluffy”).



photo from sxc.hu by mokra

Second, ask them to write down at least three reasons they love or love to hate this animal. Have them use sticky notes or separate pieces of paper for each reason. With these three reasons, they have now supported their opinion.

Third, ask your students to try to persuade a friend to buy their preferred animal or to avoid buying the despised one as a pet. They'll write on three sticky notes three new reasons why their friend should or should not have this animal for a pet. What points will best speak to their friend? Which points does their friend have to read in order to become convinced?

Last, have your students line up their opinion reasons and their persuasive points next to each other. Most likely, the reasons for their opinion will not correspond with their persuasive points. The lists will look very different from each other because the purpose of the essay changed. In the first one, there was no audience; students were simply expressing their opinion. In the second one, they had to take into account their friend. They had to think about what would convince their audience.

ORDER UP!

A rational order in the essay helps readers deal with new concepts and ideas. Or, to say it another way, haphazard writing is an enemy of effective communication. An essay without organization is impossible to read or just plain boring. In an effort to teach organization to your students, employ the sticky notes again. Assure students they will not be writing this essay. The activity is just for practice.

Ask your students to use the sticky notes from either of the two activities above or from any brainstorming session you have. Next, ask them to arrange the points in an order that will best influence their audience. To do this, they will move their sticky notes around until it feels right. Feels right? Yes, your students can do this activity without knowing any of the formal order names because, once they have an idea of an audience, most students have an intuitive feel for how to arrange the points without knowing the point-order names. Of course, you will want to make sure their curriculum contains this information so they can eventually add these skills to their repertoire.

If the topic is kids not drinking sugary sodas and the audience is parents, the points could be arranged from most important to least important (order of importance or emphatic order): sodas can make the kids hyperactive, can lead to illnesses, and can be expensive. Notice that the most important point is hyperactivity, not illnesses. Parents are more likely to be concerned with problems that impact them and their children in a big way now, not off in the future. Or the points can be arranged in a chronological order: how it affects your children now, in the near future, and into their adulthood. Another chronological arrangement is how it affects the children in the morning, in the daytime at school, and in the evening at homework/bedtime.

These are just a few examples. Let your students play around with the order of their points, moving them around until it makes sense

to them and to their intended audience. Tell them to explain their choices to you.

CHOOSE AN AUDIENCE.

Children get bored writing for their moms or dads. Why not let them choose their audience once in awhile?

When writing a how-to essay, for instance, allow them write it for their favorite magazine. Writing a how-to for technophiles will be very different from one aimed at students in a beauty school. The same is true of writing for their peers or for little kids. Different audiences require varied vocabularies, sentence lengths, sentence structures, and so on. Whenever possible, encourage your students to choose their own audience and instruct them to write the specific audience on the back of their paper. That way, you can evaluate whether they hit their target.

WRITE FOR A NEWSLETTER.

“When are we ever going to use this?” This annoying question completely evaporates when students are writing for church, homeschool, or family newsletters. With adult supervision, your students can team up with other tweens and teens to put together a monthly or quarterly newsletter filled with interesting biographies, how-to articles, interviews, sports reports, news of interest to the readership, fascinating stories from history, seasonal articles, and much more. This gives experienced writers a place to showcase their writing, and it encourages new writers to get their names in print.

Try these practical writing activities in your homeschool and let me know what you think about how they worked for you and your children.

We’re training our children in the ways of the Lord. Now let’s make sure they can clearly and effectively communicate these important truths to their generation and the next. ■



Sharon Watson, author of Apologia Press's *Jump In*, is a “retired” homeschool mom with three adult children, two delightful grandchildren, and one terrific husband. Her other textbooks, *The Power in Your Hands: Writing Nonfiction in High School* and *Writing Fiction [in High School]*, make difficult writing concepts understandable. For more info and weekly writing prompts, go to www.WritingWithSharonWatson.com.

Photo by Esther Moulder of ClickPhotography.biz.

WWW.GRACE.EDU

Your Type. Your Place.™

GRACE

College is a series of unscripted teachable moments. A community that engages and encourages you to be career-ready and faith-wise.

You'll feel it the moment you step on our campus. This is your type. This is your place.

GRACE COLLEGE

866.974.7223

facebook.com/gracecollege
twitter.com/gracecollege

HOMESCHOOL GRAD:

Prepared to Tackle the World



—by *Nicole Frazer*

The opportunities that homeschoolers have outside of the classroom uniquely prepare them for life after homeschooling.

For many of us in the homeschooling and post-homeschooling world, when we think of the benefits of homeschooling we tend to focus almost exclusively on the academic benefits. Undoubtedly, I appreciated these. I knew that my tears (and my mom's) over that paper on Louis Pasteur in third grade had paid off when my first college paper came back with a high A on it. As I forced my way through vectors on my second college physics exam, in my heart I thanked my mom that she had forced me to take all the sciences—and then some. But an area in which we sometimes minimize the impact is the area of extracurriculars—how the opportunities that homeschoolers have outside of the classroom (make that...the living room) uniquely prepare them for life after homeschooling.

For example, speech and debate with the National Christian Forensics and Communication Association (NCFCA) helped me to become a strong researcher and a solid public speaker. Speech and debate forced me to comb through academic journals and obscure government websites—skills that translated well into the collegiate environment where twenty and thirty page academic papers quickly become the norm. Also, these skills helped me when I was given last-minute research projects while interning at the Heritage Foundation, and prepared me well for various debating and speaking competitions at college. For example, I recently was awarded first place speaker at a regional-level moot court tournament with nearly one hundred participants; the skills and confidence that I gained through homeschool speech and debate undoubtedly helped prepare me for experiences such as this one.

My parents fiercely believed in exposing their children to everything—even things they didn't enjoy—whether those undesirables were spinach or extracurriculars such as playing the piano. Unlike debate, music was one of those extracurriculars that I was not so fond of, and thanks to my mom I spent ten years learning the piano (and dabbling around on the hammered dulcimer). In hindsight, I

photo from sxc.hu by azze

realize that learning how to read and play music prepared me for a variety of scenarios—from singing in chapel to writing papers on music. This experience taught me the value of persevering—even through things I did not enjoy—and that the benefits of things I dislike often are unseen. Later, when I took college classes, such as one of my political theory classes that involved dragging my way through hundreds of pages of Plato and Aristotle, I knew that, even though I did not enjoy the reading or see the short-term benefits of it, in the long run I would be better prepared to understand the framework of Western political thought.

Disc golf proved to be another outlet that prepared me for life after graduation in ways I never expected. Disc golf, or “frisbee golf,” is an individual sport that has rules similar to ball golf, but players throw discs instead. My parents started playing for fun when they discovered a disc golf course while camping when I was about eight years old; like good homeschooling parents, they drug us kids along as well, and we walked along the course, climbed trees, or started playing ourselves. Eventually, when I was fourteen, we started playing competitively. Since we homeschooled, we had the flexibility to travel to tournaments throughout the year.

Disc golf taught me a variety of skills—the ability to lose gracefully, the realization that life isn’t always fair, and the need to set and achieve long-term goals. For example, after winning amateur national titles at both the junior and women’s levels, my disc golf game began to stagnate, since I basically did not practice. Realizing this, I was forced to make a decision: was I going to practice and train and actually excel at this sport? My parents wisely gave me the latitude to determine this one for myself. I decided to train hard for several months, and shortly afterward I won the 2006 Amateur Women’s World Championships at the age of sixteen—as the youngest player in the field. This ability to set goals and attain them—without anyone else pushing me—has been invaluable in the collegiate world. For example, I recently took the LSAT (Law School Admission Test)—which took several hundreds of hours

This experience taught me the value of persevering—even through things I did not enjoy—and that the benefits of things I dislike often are unseen.

of studying and over several months for which to prepare. But the hard work paid off, and I attained a score in my target range.

But more than anything, disc golf taught me how to relate to other people in a way I never would have otherwise been able to do. Honestly, I’ve seen many homeschoolers, who, when having graduated and entered the “real world,” have had very

little interaction with those outside the sheltered homeschooling bubble. However, through disc golf, I had already been forced outside this bubble. After my parents dropped me off at my playing course, I was alone—and interacting with a wide variety of individuals—from lesbians to hippies to drunks. But I learned how to love those people—and to live as a Christian by being in the world but not of it. These interactions uniquely prepared me to work with, love, and be a witness to others who were incredibly

different from me. Later, between my freshman and sophomore years of college, when I was interning for Senator Richard Lugar, I found that these skills were invaluable, as I worked closely with many people who held viewpoints in stark contrast to my own.

As I forced my way through my next-to-last semester of my undergraduate education and frantically pounding out my law school application essays, I could honestly say that I loved being homeschooled, and that homeschooling did prepare me to face the challenges and embrace the opportunities that I have enjoyed in the post-homeschooling world. Ultimately, I would strongly encourage homeschooling parents to push their children not just in the area of academics, but also in extra-curriculars that will holistically prepare them for the world outside of homeschooling. And kids, seize every opportunity you have to make yourself a more well-rounded person who is prepared to tackle the world outside your four walls. The world outside is waiting. Will you be ready for it? ■



Nicole Frazer joyfully finished her law school applications and was offered admission to: the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Virginia, Duke, Georgetown, Northwestern (Chicago), Vanderbilt, George Washington, and Notre Dame. She is currently studying at the University of Virginia School of Law.

Dear Sweet Mama...
YOU
Are Good Enough



—by Tara Bentley

They worry they will fail their children... that they won't be able to get their kids into college if they pick the wrong book.

Over the years, our family has been blessed with the privilege of working homeschool conventions for different curriculum vendors. When we started, it was simply a fun, weekend job and a way to help out the curriculum companies that we love and support. But it has proven to be more than “fun” and it is truly more than a paycheck for us. Each convention is a small window of opportunity for us to minister to homeschool parents as they make choices for their families.

Many parents already know what they are looking for when they approach us. They already know what works well for their students. Some parents just have typical questions about grade levels, the length of the lessons, or scope and sequence.

But then there are the families who are struggling with their doubts about homeschooling. They are not skeptical about the success of homeschooling. They have seen it in other families. But they are harboring doubts about their own abilities. Doubts that they may not be able to discuss with their local homeschool moms... because they are living a life filled with unspoken fears that they just aren't good

enough. Every decision is overwhelming. They worry they will fail their children... that they won't be able to get their kids into college if they pick the wrong book.

I've seen moms break down in tears over choosing curriculum. I've seen moms paralyzed by so many options. Many moms are drowning in the idea that everyone around them is capable of homeschooling their children but them.

It's easy to sit in our homes with ungraded papers and half-finished lesson plans and let doubt consume us. We believe that everyone has it together but us. We put blinders on, isolate ourselves, and focus on our own weaknesses.

Last year as we worked a convention, I once again had a mom standing before me in tears. She was overwhelmed by the task of choosing curriculum for her children. She was convinced that if she picked the wrong thing she would mess up her child's future and he would never be able to get into college. She was consumed with doubt and fear.

She isn't alone. I've had similar conversations with moms over the years. Each one tied up in emotional knots over curriculum choices, each shadowed by dark clouds of uncertainty on their homeschooling journeys.

As I looked in the tear-filled eyes of this particular mom, I just wanted to hug her

and tell her: "Dear sweet mama, YOU are good enough."

YOU are the best teacher for your child.

YOU are the best person to choose curriculum for your child.

YOU are the best choice.

Too often we focus on the books, the transcripts, the daily piles of paperwork. But that is not the point of homeschooling. It is not about our curriculum choices. It is about raising our children up to fulfill God's purpose in their lives. Maybe that is college, maybe it is not.

If God has called you to homeschool your children, He will equip you regardless of which books you buy at a convention.

Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.

(Proverbs 19:21, NIV1984)

Our curriculum choices are temporary. Grades don't last. Our job as homeschool parents is to remain focused on what is lasting...what is eternal.

Dear sweet mama...with God by your side, YOU are good enough. ■



Tara and Mark Bentley serve as Regional Representatives for the IAHE and have been homeschooling their daughters since 2001. The oldest has since graduated from college, and the youngest is a junior in high school. Tara also blogs about homeschooling, Christian fiction, and more at www.theblondemotherbear.com.

Connect with the IAHE

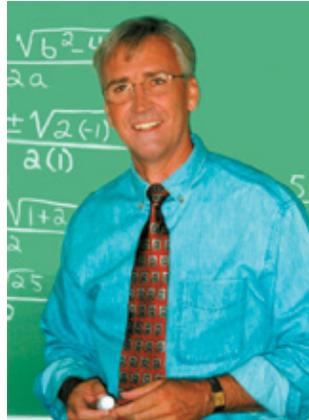
<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Forum</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Legislative Updates</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Blog</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Calendar</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Classifieds</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Resources</p>	<p>Discover new opportunities & share ideas</p> <p>Get connected & get involved</p> <p>Subscribe to weekly, encouraging posts</p> <p>Find or post regional events</p> <p>Buy & sell curriculum & more</p> <p>Explore many curriculum & extracurricular ideas</p>
---	--

Get your free account today
at [www.iahe.net!](http://www.iahe.net)

Chalk Dust Company

- ▲ Quality Math Programs -- Basic Math-Calculus I DVDs, accredited books, student technical support
- ▲ 15 Years Serving the Homeschool Family
- ▲ Discounts - see www.chalkdust.com





Dana Mosely
(aka Uncle Buck)

FREE DVD Evaluation Sampler

800-588-7564

Indiana Association of Home Educators'

REFINE US

O LORD

HOME EDUCATORS' CONVENTION

May 31-June 1, 2013



Gregg Harris • Dr. Brian Ray • Betsy Ray

28th Annual IAHE Home Educators' Convention at the Indiana State Fairgrounds

Focused on the theme...Refine Us O Lord, the IAHE's 2013 Annual Convention will be a time of preparation, encouragement, and teaching for both new and veteran families. Homeschooling is a treasured gift for each of us. It is our goal to provide families with the home education tools they need to bless their efforts in a way that will be honoring and pleasing to God.

WHY ATTEND?

Our prayer is that you'll receive spiritual encouragement in the workshops offered by each of our speakers and that you'll find practical resources and curriculum in our vendor's hall to equip your homeschooling efforts. The convention is also a great opportunity to connect with others who share the same passions and challenges of home educating. We know you'll be inspired!

New this year, we are excited to host our event at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, a first-class convention facility with flexible event space. This change in venue will provide us with increased space for workshop sessions, exhibits, picnicking, and family fellowship.

Enjoy this sampling of what to expect. A full list of our speakers and vendors is available on our website: www.iahe.net. We look forward to seeing you there!

Gregg Harris — Keynote

Gregg's greatest delight is to explain the Gospel to someone who does not yet trust God enough to obey Jesus Christ as Lord. He and his late wife, Sono, have been involved in the Christian homeschooling movement since 1980. He is now a single father of seven children. Gregg introduced Christian homeschooling to over 180,000 families through The Home Schooling Workshop, and wrote *The Christian Home School*. His sons, Joshua, Alex and Brett, are better authors than he will ever be. Gregg serves as a pastor at Christ Church of Willamette (Oregon), is Director of Noble Institute, and serves on the Home School Foundation Board.

Dr. Brian Ray — Keynote

Dr. Brian Ray is a leading international expert in research on homeschooling. He is the president of the National Home Education Research Institute (NHERI) and founding editor of the quarterly refereed academic journal *Home School Researcher*. He has published numerous journal articles and books, been interviewed by major media, served as an expert witness in homeschooling court cases, and testified to legislatures regarding educational issues. He earned his Ph.D. in science education from Oregon State University and his M.S. in zoology from Ohio University. Brian and his wife Betsy live on a small farm in western Oregon.

Betsy Ray — Featured Speaker

Betsy is a warm, compassionate, and fun-hearted teacher. She and Brian have been married for 34 years and have 8 children, ages married to 15, and four grandchildren. All were/are homeschooled through their secondary years. Betsy home educates her children, helps manage a six-acre farm, grows and preserves large amounts of food, is a part of local and statewide homeschool leadership, and is active in her community exercising her gifts of hospitality, teaching, and counseling other women. She earned her B.S. in elementary education. Betsy is also a key support to her husband, Dr. Brian Ray.

2013 IAHE HOME EDUCATORS' CONVENTION ATTENDEE REGISTRATION

Registration Type >>>>

Individual

Couple

Family

Child

Grandparent

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Please print clearly.

Name _____
Last First

Spouse's Name _____
Last First

Number of Children Attending (age 4-19) _____

Additional Paid Attendee Names (20 & older) _____ Circle one

_____ Individual / Grandparent
Last First

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address _____
Street

City State Zip

Phone (____) _____

Mobile (____) _____

Alt Mobile (____) _____

Email _____

Please complete all information on this form and mail, along with payment, to:

IAHE
2013 Home Educators' Convention
P.O. Box 217
Stilesville, IN 46180

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Total _____

Amt Enclosed _____

Check # _____

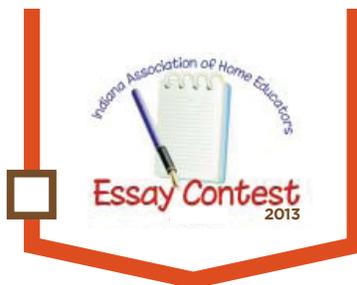
PRICING

	BEFORE MAR 31	BEFORE MAY 11	AT THE DOOR		
			2 DAYS	1 DAY	
Individual	\$35.00	\$45.00	\$55.00	\$35.00	(20 yrs & older)
Couple	\$55.00	\$65.00	\$75.00	\$85.00	(applies to married couples only)
Family	\$75.00	\$85.00	\$95.00	\$75.00	(A family is defined as Parent(s) or Guardian(s) and any children, ages 4-19, currently residing at home)
Child	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	(w/ paying adult - ages 4-19 - pricing is per child)
Grandparent	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	(w/ paying adult - pricing is per grandparent)

2013 IAHE
HOME EDUCATORS' CONVENTION
Essay, Art, & Photography
Contest Registration

Please check one

Fill in all the information that applies to your entry. One entry per form.



Grade _____

Project Entry _____ Adult Division Entry, Art Contest Only

Medium (applies to Art & Photography Only) _____

Last Name _____

First Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (home) _____

Cell (parents) _____

Email _____

Parents' Names _____

Will your parents be attending the 2013 Convention? yes no I have read and understand the 2013 contest rules.

Start 2013 off right with endless educational opportunities at Minnetrista!

Keep your kids engaged and active with immersive learning experiences, interactive tours, and Minnetrista Theatre Preserves performances.

For more information on these programs,
visit: minnetrista.net/for-educators.
Call 287-3558 to register for Minnetrista
educational programming!



Exhibit Hours:

Mon.–Sat., 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.,
Sun., 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Admission:

\$5; Members and kids 3 and under FREE



Minnetrista



Featured Workshops

Additional speakers and workshops can be found at www.iahe.net.

GREGG HARRIS

The New Ark Strategy

The world around us is getting worse, but there are no more undiscovered continents to which we can flee as Pilgrims. How can we protect ourselves and our family members while still fulfilling our callings as Ambassadors for Christ? The answer is to climb aboard the “New Ark” of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. Jesus and His Apostles proclaimed it.

Delight-Directed Study in Homeschooling

“I’m hungry.” “I’m bored!” “I’m lonely.” These are wonderful signs that your child is alive and growing—physically, intellectually, and socially. God has given each appetite to your child for good reason. Your challenge is to avoid wasting it by offering too much “junk food”—snacks, entertainments, and “friends” that satisfy the appetite without delivering long term benefits.

Why Moral Character Matters

We want our children to be good. But where does good moral character come from? Why does anyone want the things they want and do the things they do, whether good or evil? Can we change others? Can we even change ourselves? If not, why not? And if so, how?

The Seasons of Life in Your Homeschool Strategy

What are you aiming for in your homeschool? Good kids who stay out of trouble? Good jobs that provide well? Good marriages that last? A big, happy family? Active in church? Good citizens? These are all worthy goals, but how do they relate to one another in God’s plan? And how can you prepare your children to enjoy all of it as it comes?

An Interesting Guest: How to Use Hospitality to Supplement Your Homeschool

Dinnertime hospitality can be a gift to guest and host. Imagine what could happen if you started looking for interesting guests to bring home. Foreign students? Business people? Missionaries on furlough? Artists? Statesmen? Everybody has to eat. And everybody enjoys explaining what they do to an interested audience. Beware, your children may start getting ideas.

Raising Kids to Do Hard Things

What is God’s strategic purpose for giving us children? How many do we need? How can we best train and educate them? The answers are found in using our own homes and families to launch our children into the future God has prepared for each. Come learn how you can lead your children and your entire family as a team to “do hard things” together for the glory of God.

DR. BRIAN RAY

Isolationism or Teaching Them When They Lie, Sit, Rise, and Walk?

Dr. Ray confronts myths about home education, traces some historical events in American education, considers biblical guidelines for raising children, and sprinkles in research findings about homeschooling. Novice and veteran home educators should be challenged, encouraged, and refreshed.

Research into a New Decade: Homeschool Research Past, Present, and Future

Dr. Ray provides a brief summary of research that shows the successes of the homeschooled, explains current projects and trends, and predicts where research is going and where it should go.

Ministering From a Position of Strength (with Betsy Ray)

What’s my (our) purpose? Where am I going? Where are we going? Will my children (or I) ever get there? Why? God’s vision and execution for our individual and corporate lives is what makes and keeps us grounded, strong, persevering, and effective. Get ready to be exhorted and enabled by Brian and Betsy with biblical concepts and practical suggestions. For all ages, married or single.

Common Challenges to and Succeeding in Home-Based Education

Certain challenges are common to most homeschool families, especially in the “early years.” Key considerations, philosophies, and practices significantly enhance home educators’ success, attitudes, and joy. Dr. Ray will present some nuggets they have gleaned from home educating eight children (ages 15-31) and from years of research and learning from thousands of families.

Loving and Leading (with Betsy Ray)

Husbands and fathers, it is time to love and lead now, like Christ loves the church. Wives and mothers, it is time to love your husband as God declared. Nurture and admonish your children, but do not provoke them. Is this all possible? Yes. Brian and Betsy give challenges, down-to-earth examples, laughter, and practical ideas for your marriage to grow in God’s good and exciting will.

When a Free Lunch Isn’t Free: Public School Homeschool Programs

“Hi, we are the local government school district, and we are here to help you, to give you a free education for your children at home.” It is of paramount importance to consider who should be in authority over what is taught to children. Dr. Ray will help you promote liberty and biblical thinking by separating the government from education.

2013 Convention Schedule

BETSY RAY

THURSDAY

6:30–8:00 PM Info Night: “You Can Homeschool”

FRIDAY

8:00 AM Registration & Exhibit Hall Open

8:30–10:00 General Session A

10:15–11:00 Workshop 1

11:00–1:00 PM Shopping & Lunch

1:00 Exhibit Hall Opens to Public

1:00–1:45 Workshop 2

1:45–2:15 Shopping

2:15–3:00 Workshop 3

3:00–4:00 Shopping

4:00–5:30 General Session B

6:00 Exhibit Hall Closes

SATURDAY

8:00 AM Registration & Exhibit Hall Open

8:30–10:00 General Session A

10:15–11:00 Workshop 1

11:00–1:00 PM Shopping & Lunch

1:00 Exhibit Hall Opens to Public

1:00–1:45 Workshop 2

1:45–2:15 Shopping

2:15–3:00 Workshop 3

3:00–4:00 Shopping

4:00–5:30 General Session B

6:00 Exhibit Hall Closes

**You’ll have time to learn,
shop & fellowship!**

Parents: Igniting the Fires of Your Mind

We all want our children to be excited about learning. That excitement can be caught from parents who challenge themselves in new areas. Betsy will give ideas and relate experiences that could make teaching more than just getting through textbooks.

Fruitful Preparation

The teenage years should be the beginning of the harvest as our young people come into their own. If we plan for the storms of life and prepare, we can build through these years with less frustration, wasted time, conflicts, and fruitlessness.

What Do You Do All Day, Dear?

This is for all the other moms who have been futilely asking for a maid every year for Christmas. How do you do more than is humanly possible (which most of us are trying to do) or justify not doing it (which is an easily-acquired skill!)?

Life is a Bowl of Cherries

Life can be sweet, refreshing, and joyful. Do people see God’s joy in you? Do your children see God’s joy in you? Does your husband get refreshed by your joyful spirit? God gives us joy, He is our joy, and He commands us to be joyful and full of it regardless of our circumstances. No matter your personality, God wants you to bear His Spirit to your family.

Info Night: You CAN Homeschool

Thursday, May 30

6:30 – 8:00 PM

Indiana State Fairgrounds

Marsh Blue Ribbon Pavilion, Wool Room

Free parking (Thursday night only)

Do you know someone considering the possibility of homeschooling? Help them get started! Invite them to our FREE Information Night. This Thursday night event is geared to helping parents get answers to many questions about where to begin. Veteran homeschooling parents will be on hand to give an overview of home education in Indiana followed by a Q & A session. This event is free to everyone, but RSVPs are requested. Please email us at infonight@iahe.net with the names of those who will attend.

General Information

LOCATION

Having outgrown last year's facility, we invite you to join us this year at the Indiana State Fairgrounds; 1202 East 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205-2869 in the Champions Pavilion and the Marsh Blue Ribbon Pavilion.

WHY PRE-REGISTER? ENJOY THESE BENEFITS!

1. Pick up your registration packet when you arrive and be on your way!
2. Receive exclusive access to our virtual "Gift Basket" with great items from some of your favorite homeschool vendors worth at least \$200. (Visit www.greatamericanhomeschoolconferences.com for details.)

Questions? Email registration@iahe.net.

REGISTRATION

Discounts Available

Early Bird: February 1 – March 31
Pre-Registration: April 1 – May 11

Register online or by mail. Your registration covers admission to the entire convention for both days with full access to the Exhibit Hall. Please see registration form for details. After Pre-Registration ends May 11, families will have to register on-site with "At-the-Door" prices at the registration booth. See page 23 for convention registration form, or visit www.iahe.net.

CANCELLATION POLICY

We are unable to offer refunds or adjustments onsite at the convention. Refund requests must be made in writing, postmarked no later than May 11, 2013. All refunds are subject to a \$5/person cancellation fee. After May 11, no refunds will be given, but a credit for next year's convention will be issued upon receipt of a written request.

GRANDPARENTS

The IAHE encourages grandparents to become knowledgeable about home education. Grandparents attending with a paying adult will be admitted for the discounted rate of \$10.00 per person. Include the grandparent's name(s) on

your registration form, and a convention badge will be included in your registration materials.

WORKING SCHOLARSHIPS

For those who would otherwise be unable to attend the convention due to financial constraints, the IAHE offers Working Scholarships. For specific information and details, please email: work@iahe.net.

VOLUNTEERS

As a volunteer organization, the IAHE appreciates all helpers, teens and adults, at the convention! If you enjoy being involved by serving others, please send the hours and preferred day you are willing to serve, and previous convention experience, if any to: volunteer@iahe.net.

EXHIBIT HALL

Many organizations, publishers, and businesses serving the homeschooling community will be represented, displaying textbooks, teaching materials, and enrichment aids for examination and purchase. Your convention registration includes unlimited access to the Exhibit Hall, open from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM on both Friday and Saturday. Please support our exhibitors with your patronage. Your onsite purchases at the convention help ensure our vendors' participation year after year.

EXHIBIT HALL ONLY PASS

Exhibit Hall Only passes are only available for purchase on-site during the convention at the Registration Booth in front of the Exhibit Hall. These shopping only passes give individuals access to the exhibit hall beginning at 1:00 PM each day and valid only on the day of purchase, from 1:00 PM to close. The pricing per day is \$20/person/individual, \$30/married couple, and \$10 for the first child. For a family with more than one child, our Family Pass is available for \$50/family. (A family is defined as Parent(s) or Guardian(s) and any children [ages 4 – 19] currently residing at home.) Toddlers three years of age or younger are free but must be carried or in a stroller. A grandparent is welcome

to attend free with a paying adult.

CHILDREN AND THE CONVENTION

Children are welcome at our convention. Please be sensitive to other attendees and sit toward the back of the room so that you can easily take your children out if they become disruptive. Our sessions are recorded, so we request that you please keep children as quiet as possible. We also ask that you keep chairs available for adults and allow little ones to sit on your lap or on the floor with you if additional seating is needed. All children in the Exhibit Hall age three and younger must be carried or in a stroller. This is for their safety as well as the safety of others.

HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY

The convention workshops and Exhibit Hall are handicapped accessible.

AUDIO TAPING

All General Sessions and most workshops presented by featured speakers will be recorded so you may share the messages with others long after the convention. Details will be in the convention program.

FOOD

On-site concessions will be available. Families are also permitted to bring food or coolers for lunch at the outdoor picnic areas.

PARKING

The Indiana State Fairgrounds charges \$5/day per vehicle. Please be advised that there is no re-entry without an additional charge.

HOTELS

The IAHE has room blocks at the following hotels, all located within 10 miles of the Fairgrounds: Hampton Inn Northeast Castleton, Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel at Keystone Crossing, Homewood Suites by Hilton at the Crossing, and Indianapolis Marriott North. To receive our special group rate, please mention the IAHE Convention when you make your reservation.

Your kids will love these fun art classes!

Art Classes

Pottery A & B
Friday, May 31
8:30 – 11:00 AM & 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Drawing A & B
Saturday, June 1
8:30 – 11:00 AM & 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Pottery Classes

Join instructor, potter and homeschooling mom, Linda Owens in a two-part pottery class to explore the spiritual analogies of the pottery process and possible ways God works in our lives. Our theme is “You, LORD, Are Our Father and Our Potter, Isaiah 64:8.” Linda has worked with stoneware clay for over 30 years, taught pottery classes, given many demonstrations, and led workshops for

church, school, and training groups. She has sold her work in juried art shows, galleries and private commissions. All materials will be provided.

Fee: \$10 for each class (A & B). Each class limited to 50 students.

Recommended for ages 10 through adult. Younger children (at least 6 years old) may attend with a parent or high school sibling who registers as a student for the class and stays with the child all the time. Children under 10 may use materials provided to the parent or high school sibling attending the class.

Drawing Classes

Join the Overton sisters, homeschool graduates and former winners in the

IAHE art contest, for a drawing class centered on the theme “Inspiration in the Psalms.” Amber, Heather, and Alyssa Overton also own their own art business and sell online. The class will cover basic techniques, tools, mediums, light, shading, and perspective. Students will illustrate a Psalm, and both classes (A & B) will use different methods. All materials will be provided.

Fee: \$10 per class per student. Each class is limited to 25 students.

Ages 6 through High School.

Have questions? Contact Linda at artfullylin@yahoo.com.

Art Class Registration

You must be registered for the Convention in order to register for these classes. All participants must also be pre-registered for the Art Classes using this form. If openings are still available on the day of instruction, on-site registrations may be allowed. Class size is limited.

Registration for 

Pottery Classes — May 31

Drawing Classes — June 1

Parent Name _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

STUDENT NAME _____	Pottery A _____ @ \$10 = _____
STUDENT NAME _____	Pottery B _____ @ \$10 = _____
STUDENT NAME _____	Drawing A _____ @ \$10 = _____
STUDENT NAME _____	Drawing B _____ @ \$10 = _____

Make check payable to Linda Owens Total \$ _____

Mail Art Class registration form with your Convention Registration and check to Linda Owens, c/o IAHE, P.O. Box 217, Stilesville, IN 46180

Questions: artfullylin@yahoo.com

2013 IAHE ESSAY, ART, AND PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS

You and your students are invited to submit entries in the 2013 IAHE Contests. Essays, art projects, and matted photography projects that are the original work of each contestant and that are submitted properly, following each contests' instructions will be accepted. You can find all of the detailed General Contest Rules and Information, as well as specific Rules and Instructions for the Art Contest, Photography Contest, and Essay Contest at www.iahe.net. You must read and accept all rules and regulations to participate.

Contest Overview

All entries must be submitted to the IAHE with the completed Entry Form and \$5 entry fee, postmarked or hand-delivered by Wednesday, May 1, 2013. Entries received after the deadline will not be accepted. Contestants do not need to be registered for the convention to enter. Winners will be notified in writing by Monday, May 20. All entries will be displayed at the IAHE Convention, May 31–June 1 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Winners will be honored at the convention Saturday, June 1.

Art & Photography Contest Overview

Detailed submission instructions, including matting, mounting, entry forms, project summary cards, media categories, mailing information, and more can be found on our website (see above). Projects will be scored on expression of theme, composition, creativity, use of medium, and technical skill. First, second, third, and honorable mention winners will be awarded in each category where quantity of entries is allowed. Champion and Reserve Champion awards will also be given.

Theme: The Psalms

4 Divisions: K – 3rd Grade, 4th – 7th Grade, 8th – 12th Grade, Adult

Vision: The vision for this year's art and photography contests is that, after reading, studying, meditating on, and praying through the Psalms, each participant will convey their inspiration from a verse or verses through an art project. Each participant should research and apply knowledge of design elements and principles of design. Proper use of these will greatly enhance the artist efforts to convey a unique artistic message that brings glory to Our Creator.

Examples:

Psalms 42:1 – Illustrate or photograph a deer standing by a stream of water early in the morning

Psalms 24:1-3 – Illustrate or photograph a beautiful nature scene

The Art Project

Using a drawing, painting, sculpture or collage (detailed descriptions online), illustrate a concept or scene from any passage of Scripture from the book of Psalms, with the entire referenced verse neatly hand printed in any style of manuscript or calligraphy on a 3x5 card to be displayed and judged as part of the project. **Questions: art@iahe.net.**

The Photography Project

Using film or digital photography (detailed category descriptions are online with rules for enhanced entries), photograph a concept or scene from any passage of Scripture in the book of Psalms, with the entire referenced verse neatly hand printed in any style of manuscript or calligraphy on a 3x5 card to be displayed and judged as part of the project. **Questions: photography@iahe.net.**

Essay Contest Overview

Detailed submission instructions, including formatting, cover sheet, word count, citations, mailing information, and more can be found online. Projects will be scored on grammar, organization, content, original thought, word choice, fluency, voice. First, second, third, and honorable mention winners will be awarded in each category. **Questions: essay@iahe.net.**

Theme

“For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined.” (Psalm 66:10)

The Essay Project

Grades 2-5

In 200 words or less, tell of a time in your life you were tested. What were the results?

Grades 6-8

In 400 words or less, describe why it is important to be refined as silver by God.

Grades 9-12

In 750 words or less, compare the physical refining process of metal to the Lord's work in us. If possible, use the term “Refiner's Fire.” ■

Visit www.iahe.net for more info!

Additional Speakers
More Workshops & Descriptions
Exhibitors
Special Announcements
Contest Rules
Art Class Details

CLASSIFIEDS & HOMESCHOOL BUSINESS ADS

Advertise in *The Informer*! Promote your homeschool family-owned business, place a classified ad, or advertise a ministry, service or educational opportunity that is directly related to home education. Contact advertising@iahe.net for details and rates.

ACCOMPLISHED CLASSICAL VIOLINIST

(homeschool graduate)

Capable of bringing your student to high levels of mastery
Studied under BM & MM graduate of The Juilliard School of Music
Christian character & musical references available

(260) 705-1815

MUSIC LESSONS

Piano, guitar, harp and music theory/history.
Fulfill your homeschool music requirements in one weekly half hour lesson. All ages.

Tucker Music (812) 537-5193
bdptucker@embarqmail.com

PROVIDENCE FARM GRASS-FED ANGUS BEEF & Pastured Poultry

All-Natural + Finished on USDA Certified Organic Pastures
www.providencefarmallnatural.com
Family Owned & Operated
30 miles North of Fort Wayne

(888) 777-6917
providencefarm03@earthlink.net

Family Portrait & Wedding Photography

by Jill Reid

Raindancer
studios



www.raindancerstudios.com

This moment made possible by the
Home School Foundation—the heart of HSLDA

Please call 540-338-8688
or visit www.homeschoolfoundation.org



Through families like yours
the Home School Foundation
makes moments like these
happen every day for
homeschooling families
in need.



NEWS & EVENTS

Did you know that some kind of homeschooling event or activity happens almost every day across Indiana? When you sign up for a free IAHE account at www.iahe.net, you can access the online calendar where these events are communicated. Events are organized by region and clickable links to sign-ups are available when applicable. The online calendar is a great way to stay connected to timely events in or nearby your area.

F-Troop's 9th Annual Book Sale

Monday, May 21, 10:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Greenwood Christian Church



Don't miss the biggest sale in the region! Come shop the great bargains in a bigger gymnasium with even more tables of school materials. Rain or shine. If you are interested in selling, please email Cheryl before May 10. Space is limited. This is strictly for homeschooling families or people who used to homeschool. Address: 2045 Averitt Road, Greenwood, IN, 46143. Sale entrance is on the east side of building in the gymnasium near the office entry doors.

Contact Cheryl Oldham coldham@sbcglobal.net for information or to sell.

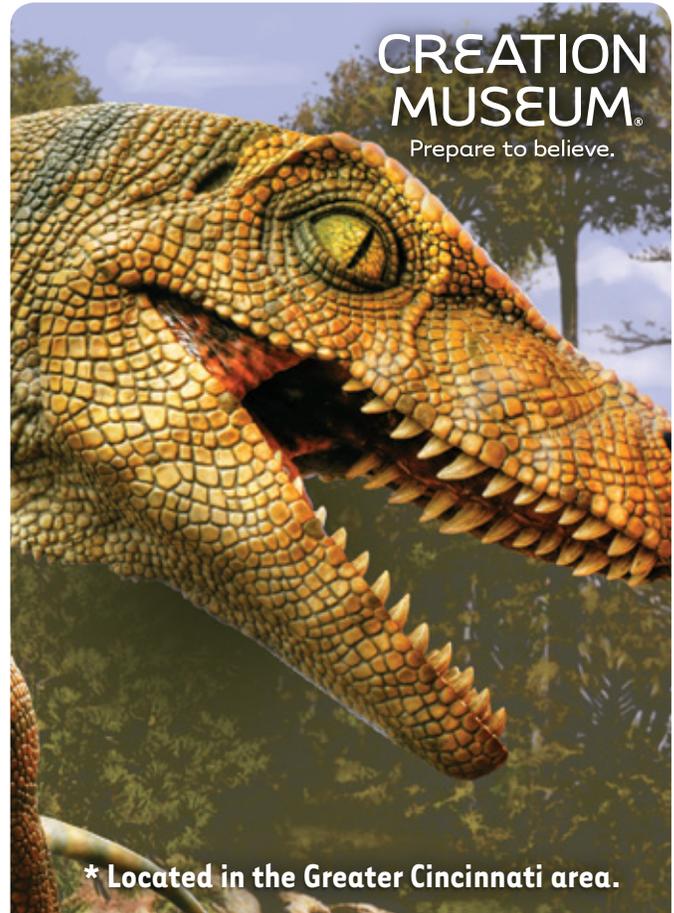
Tipton Book Sale

Tuesday, June 4, 3-7 p.m.
Tipton 4-H Building – St Rd 19 & Fairgrounds Rd.



Sponsored by Homeschool Helpers, this is a huge sale including 60+ tables, free workshops, and free admission. We have a lot of curriculum and teaching aids. Also, several home businesses will be represented. Sellers must reserve space for \$4 per table. Sale is cash only.

Contact Patricia Shuck: TiptonBookSale@aol.com or (765) 963-3817



* Located in the Greater Cincinnati area.



LET THERE BE FUN! Our world-class exhibits, planetarium, and beautiful outdoor gardens with paved trails and petting zoo create a day full of excitement for everyone in the family!

Visit us at CreationMuseum.org

FREE DVD

with paid adult admission (\$12.99 value)

Redeem coupon at ticket counter when purchasing tickets for your free DVD. One free DVD per family please. Free DVD title may vary from day to day. Coupon MUST be completed and presented at time of ticket purchase to honor offer. Not valid in Dragon Hall Bookstore. Free DVD cannot be exchanged for a different title in Dragon Hall bookstore. Expires 5/31/13.

To redeem coupon, please include your name, address, and email address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Indiana Association of Home Educators

P.O. Box 217

Stilesville, IN 46180

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #819
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Equipping • Serving • Ministering • Since 1983

SEE PAGE 22 FOR MORE DETAILS.

*28th Annual Home Educators' Convention
at the Indiana State Fairgrounds*

Indiana Association of Home Educators'

REFINE US

O LORD

HOME EDUCATORS' CONVENTION

May 31-June 1, 2013

**NEW LOCATION // INSPIRING KEYNOTES // INFORMATIVE WORKSHOPS
LARGE EXHIBIT HALL // SPECIAL INFO NIGHT ON THURSDAY EVENING**