

the CHALKBOARD

October 2007

Volume 1 - Issue 2

San Diego Christian Homeschools' Newsletter

*In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.
Proverbs 3:6*

Hello again fellow Homeschoolers!

We're movin' and shakin' here at SDCH right out of the gate. After years of homeschooling and leadership experience our veteran homeschool board has come up with innovations that are already being adopted in other support groups, such as Lisa's ideas for mom's encouragement meetings, homeschool information nights and our emphasis on a physical education program.

We are simply tickled to be providing a service to the homeschool community that is taking root so quickly, and we hope to continue to put forth ideas that excite others as much as us. Keep your eye right here to find out what we have in store next.

In other news, our web site is coming along nicely. The temporary (and fairly ugly) site has been taken down in favor of a new and cleaner look. Photos of our recent events will be posted as soon as I can find two moments to rub together.

If you have photos that you would like to contribute then just send them to me at jeff@starbasejeff.com and (space permitting) I'll do what I can to get them on the website.

In an ever-increasing effort to improve the look of the newsletter, I've changed the format a bit. I'll be making changes each month until the look matches my vision – but feedback is always welcome. Please let me know if you have any suggestions or comments. Yes, constructive criticism is allowed.

So we'll all keep pluggin' away here, but make sure to drop us a line if you have any comments...
...or if you just feel like saying "hi".

Until next month,

Jeffrey Vaca, Newsletter Editor

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San Diego Christian Homeschools

Park Day Schedule

Park Days are scheduled for the second Friday of each school month at 2:00pm. Park Days that are rained out will be rescheduled.

October 12th	Hilltop Park (Penasquitos)
November 9th	Lindbergh Park (Clairemont)
December 14th	TBA
January 11th	TBA
February 8th	TBA
March 14th	TBA
April 11th	TBA
May 9th	TBA
June	No Park Day Join us for the End of Year Party
July	No Park Day Check website for summer events/activities



October Park Day - Costumes

Friday, October 12th, 2007, at 2:00
Hilltop Park in Rancho Penasquitos
9711 Oviedo Way, San Diego, CA 92129

Have the kids wear a favorite costume to shoe off and join us at October Park Day for a great time of fellowship, fun, and field trip opportunities. We'll have more great events and activities for you and your family to sign up for at Park Day this month. Remember to print out the Event Registration page of the October newsletter and bring it to Park Day with your checkbook to register for all of the great items you wish to participate in this month. If you are unable to make it to Park Day for sign ups please come to the first P.E. class the week following Park Day for another opportunity to sign up.

Driving directions to Hilltop Park: go north on Black Mountain Road into Penasquitos. Turn right on Oviedo Street. Merge right onto Oviedo Way. Hilltop Park is at the top of the hill on the right side of the street. Contact 858-353-1439 for more details.

November Park Day - Legos

Friday, November 9th, 2007, at 2:00
Lindbergh Park in Clairemont (just off the 805 Freeway)
4141 Ashford Street, San Diego, CA 92111

As the weather turns a bit cooler this fall we are exploring other wonderful parks around San Diego that might be a bit less breezy and a bit more convenient for those of us in the Clairemont area. Have your children bring their best Lego creation to display and join us at November Park Day for a sweet time of fellowship and adventure at the newly renovated playground at Lindbergh Park just off Interstate 805. We'll have even more activities to sign up for and look forward to. If you have a park location you would like to suggest for a future Park Day please contact any one of the SDCH Board Members with your suggestion.

Driving Directions to Lindbergh Park: Take 805 to the Balboa Avenue exit and go West on Balboa. Turn Left on Ekstrom Avenue and turn left again to stay on Eckstrom. Eckstrom turns into Ashford. The park is there on your left.

“Pursue faith and love and peace, and enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.”

– 2nd Timothy 2:22b (NLT)

October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 2:00 P.E. Class	3	4 2:00 Art Class	5	6
7 2:00 La Mesa Village Merchants present Oktoberfest	8 Columbus Day 10:00 PetSmart Hotel and Surgery Center Field Trip 6:30 Board Meeting	9 2:00 Presidential Fitness Class	10	11 2:00 Art Class	12 2:00 Park Day	13 5:00 Miramar Air Show, twilight
14	15 7:00 Homeschool Dad's Prayer Time	16 2:00 P.E. Class	17 7:00 Workshop: Records & Forms with free CD	18 2:00 Art Class	19	20
21	22 1:00 Pumpkin Patch field trip 5:30 Homeschool Open Info Night at Mira Mesa Library	23 10:00 Yellow Book Road field trip 2:00 Presidential Fitness Class	24	25 2:00 Art Class	26 2:00 Girl's Book and Tea Club 7:00 Homeschool Dad's Cheesy Movie Night	27 2:00 I.C.R. family field trip
28	29	30 1:15 Olympic Training Center field trip 7:00 Mom's Encouragement Meeting	31 Various Harvest Festivals			

November 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 2:00 Art Class	2	3
Daylight Saving End 4	5 6:30 Board Meeting	6 Election Day 2:00 P.E. Class	7 10:00 Old Poway Park Living History field trip	8 2:00 Art Class	9 2:00 Park Day	10 6:00 Get-Together Game Night
Veteran's Day 11	12	13 2:00 Presidential Fitness Class	14	15 2:00 Art Class	16 Calico Ghost Town Field Trip	17
18	19 1:00 Craft Class: Great Gourds!!!	20 2:00 P.E. Class	21	Thanksgiving 22	23 Day After Thanksgiving Party	24 Sawdust Art Festival Winter Fantasy
25	26	27 2:00 Presidential Fitness Class	28 7:00 Mom's Encouragement Meeting	29 2:00 Art Class	30 Possible Outback field trip 2:00 Girl's Book and Tea Club	

San Diego Christian Homeschools
presents
2007-08 P.E. Classes and Presidential Fitness Program

Days/Time: Tuesdays throughout school year, at 2:00 p.m.
See schedule and lesson plan on website

Location: Mira Mesa Rec Center on New Salem Street

Cost: Free for members of SDCH,
\$10 per child for non-members (\$20 max) per year

Optional Items: at year-end the Presidential Awards will cost
each participant about \$3

Bring: Please bring your own water bottles and wear
sunscreen and/or a hat or visor to P.E.

Contact: Lisa Vaca at
lisa@starbasejff.com for questions/comments

Website: Visit SDCH on the web at
www.sdChristianHomeschools.com

BRAIN HIGHWAYS

Adventures Trails by **Brain Highways** is 68 fun physical activities organized in fifteen packages to be used at home or at school. With easy instructions and support pages for parents and teachers, this program is easy to follow and understand. Connections and correlations between the activities and brain development are explained in short, easy-to-read articles on neurological organization, sensory processing, the vestibular system, the proprioceptive system, the tactile system, and other related research. Go to www.BrainHighways.com for more details.

For Kids: Adventure Trails offers balance and coordination challenges in fun, non-threatening ways.

For Adults: Adventure Trails offers quick, easy-to-read pages that teach why some movements are so important to brain development. From birthday parties to family fun to P.E. curriculum --Adventure Trails makes it easy and fun to do the movements and exercises that help help to improve children's coordination, attention span, and ability to learn.

We will be doing a three-fold P.E. class, which includes Brain Highways as well as Presidential Fitness and general sports games.
Parents are not required to help out unless they want to.

PRESIDENTIAL PHYSICAL FITNESS

American children have been earning the **Presidential Physical Fitness Award** since 1966. Each of the five items in the President's Challenge Physical Fitness Test measures a specific aspect of fitness.

Those who complete the President's Challenge physical fitness test items and reach or exceed the 85th percentile are eligible to receive the Presidential Award for outstanding achievement (blue).

Those who complete the President's Challenge physical fitness test items and exceed the 50th percentile on all of the test items, but who do not achieve the 85th percentile on one or more, qualify for the National Award (red).

Those who participate in and complete the President's Challenge physical fitness test, but do not meet the 50th percentile on all test items, qualify to receive the Participant Award (white),

Earning any of these awards should bring pride to you. We encourage you to try for improvement from year to year. Remember that people who are trying to be fit and active are all winners!

The Physical Fitness Test Items are:

1. Curl-ups or partial curl-ups (for abdominal strength and endurance).
2. Endurance run/walk (for heart/lung endurance).
3. Pull-ups or right-angle push-ups (for upper body strength and endurance).
4. Shuttle run (for leg strength, power and agility).
5. V-sit reach or sit and reach (for lower back and hamstring flexibility).

www.presidentschallenge.org

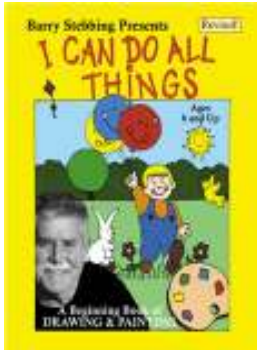
P.E. & Presidential Fitness Schedule

October 2 – P.E.
October 9 – Presidential Fitness
October 16 – P.E.
October 23 – Presidential Fitness
October 30 – 5th Tuesday of month, no P.E.
November 6 – P.E.
November 13 – Presidential Fitness
November 20 – P.E.
November 27 – Presidential Fitness
December 4 – P.E.
December 11 – Presidential Fitness
December 18 – P.E.
December 25 – Christmas day, no P.E.
January 1 – New Year day, no P.E.
January 8 – Presidential Fitness
January 15 – P.E.
January 22 – Presidential Fitness
January 29 – 5th Tuesday of month, no P.E.

February 5 – P.E.
February 12 – Presidential Fitness
February 19 – P.E.
February 26 – Presidential Fitness
March 4 – P.E.
March 11 – Presidential Fitness
March 18 – P.E.
March 25 – Presidential Fitness
April 1 – P.E.
April 8 – Presidential Fitness
April 15 – P.E.
April 22 – Presidential Fitness
April 29 – 5th Tuesday of the month, no P.E.
May 6 – P.E.
May 13 – Presidential Fitness
May 20 – P.E.
May 27 – Presidential Challenge Awards



Art Class A "How Great Thou Art" Series



The Philosophy: ART is a learned discipline. *The purpose at How Great Thou ART is to teach students the fundamentals of drawing, painting, color theory, etc.... They believe the most important quality in learning is having a good attitude; students need to believe that they can learn to draw, paint, letter and so forth. Art is not for just some, or those we call "talented." God has given all of us, to one degree or another, abilities in art that should be nurtured.*

This art class is a comprehensive beginner's art course for students 6

and up. Sections covered in this class are: Beginning Drawing, How to use colored Pencils, Blending with Watercolor Markers & Beginning Painting. This class also includes some art appreciation and art journaling.

Date: *Weekly starting Thursday Sept. 27, 2007

Time: 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Location: 9090 Rotherham Ave. San Diego, 92129

Cost: Members \$45.00 includes all materials for the entire year
Non-Members \$55.00

Contact: Bea Host at beahost@san.rr.com

*aprox 25-28 classes, no classes the month of December, no classes 4/3/08-4/17/08, last day of class 5/28/08



Field Trip

The La Jolla PetSmart store has invited the kids of SDCH and their families to experience a very special behind-the-scenes tour of their one-of-a-kind pet "mall". This particular location features a Pet Hotel, Doggy Day Care, Pet-Owner Training School, Banfield Pet Hospital-Surgical Center, and more. We will also get a guided tour of the aquatics department and the small animal habitats. Plus, there will be some special gifts for the kids to take home from their new friends at PetSmart. So sign up early and get ready to ask those pet-related questions.

Date: Monday, October 8, 2007

Time: 10:00 a.m. (arrive at 9:45)

Location: La Jolla PetSmart
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037 (directions will be e-mailed)

Ages: All ages are welcome and encouraged to attend

Cost: Free for all members of SDCH
(\$2.00 each for non-SDCH members)

Register: Contact Lisa Vaca right away to sign up for this great field trip opportunity at 858-353-1439

La Mesa Village Presents

Oktoberfest 2007

October 5th thru
October 7th

Fun For The Whole Family!

400 Craft & Unique Gift Booths • Two Beer Gardens
Great Food • Carnival Rides • Costumed Dancers & Live Music

In the heart of La Mesa off Spring Street to La Mesa Boulevard
40,000 Sq. Feet of Antiques Every Day!!

SDCH visits the 34th Annual Oktoberfest presented by La Mesa Village Merchants Association

Friday through Sunday October 5th, 6th, 7th
(hours vary, visit www.lmvma.com for more details).

You don't want to miss the Grand Daddy of all street fairs and the largest 3-day Oktoberfest West of the Mississippi. Put on your walking shoes and be prepared to walk 7 city blocks filled with over 400 craft, vendors, and commercial booths, 5 food courts, a children's carnival, and more... The final day of Oktoberfest is much more family-friendly than the big weekend days, and this is when all the really great deals are offered.

On Sunday October 7th join your fellow SDCH families at the La Mesa Village Oktoberfest for fellowship, food and fun. Get there early, if you want to. The event begins at noon on this date and closes at 6:00 but plan to meet us at 4:00 in front of Por Favor's Mexican Restaurant at 8304 La Mesa Blvd. on the corner of Palm and La Mesa Blvd.

Parking? No problem. Just take the S.D. Trolley, Orange Line (La Mesa Blvd.) to the heart of the fair and meet your fellow SDCH families two blocks from the trolley station in the heart of Old La Mesa.

Homeschool Dad's Prayer Time Hosted by Wayne McBrayer

This is a special time for the God-ordained leaders of our homes to get together and pray for each other's families and homeschools.

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."
— James 5:16b

Date: Monday, October 15th, 2007

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: 8814 Shaula Way
Mira Mesa

Contact: Wayne McBrayer at
e-mail at vadertyme@aol.com

SDCH Homeschool Workshop Night Forms and Records

Form Sharing and Record Keeping Information

There's no getting around it – homeschoolers need forms. How else are we going to keep records? Whether we use good old fashioned paper records stashed in a folder somewhere or prefer to take advantage of modern technology and file our data electronically, we need forms. Some of us like access to an abundance of forms in different styles with lots of detail, while some of us may only want the bare essentials. Chances are you've got favorite forms of your own and maybe even a few that you've "edited" to fit your personal record keeping style. The SDCH team recently explored the exciting world of homeschool-record-keeping and the many forms used therein. We came across a few "new twists" on our old favorites and were also pleasantly surprised to find many forms we had never even heard of... as well as a few we never thought we'd actually need, but now can't live without. Through many libraries, curriculum resources, private files, and the internet we've sought high and low for the best of various forms used by home educators around the world (in some parts of Europe it is apparently popular to formally "home train" infants... and yes, there are forms for that).

The first, and easiest, of the forms we compiled were what everyone knows of as "the basics," such as attendance charts, lesson plans, assignment calendars, report cards, etc. It was only while we were seeking (and receiving) the permission to reprint and distribute these handy forms to our SDCH members that we were blessed by many of those we contacted who wanted to share even more forms with us. Isn't it wonderful that homeschoolers almost always have a generous attitude toward each other, rarely doing anything for monetary gain or self-glorification?

It is with this same unselfish attitude and non-controlling mind set that we have taken the effort to compile a great number of these amazing forms and record-keeping helps which we would like to now pass on to our fellow SDCH homeschool families... for free! In addition to the items we have freely received from other homeschool organizations and education officials regarding suggested record keeping, we have also received many awesome submissions from veteran homeschoolers who want to share what really "works" and help you to avoid wasting time on what doesn't work so well. We've got Attendance Forms, Field Trip Logs, Book Reports, Lesson Planers, Health Certificates, Assignment Sheets, Curriculum Listing forms, Resumes, Chore Charts, Report Cards, Transcripts, E-Journaling, TPS Reports, Award Certificates, To Do Lists, Weekly-, Monthly-, Yearly- Homeschool-Calendars, and more...

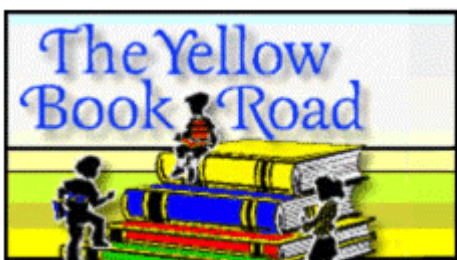
Join your fellow SDCH members for a fun and informative evening of form-swapping and record-keeping suggestions as we as we gather for the first of this year's series of Homeschool Workshops and Info Nights. Rather than photocopy a bunch of forms to send you home with, thanks to the computer-saavy homeschool dads in the group, we are able to provide each attendee with a free CD loaded with these valuable documents to help you keep records or aid you in organizing your homeschool, as a free gift for our SDCH families.

Date: Wednesday, October 17th, 2007
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Location: Contact SDCHgroup@yahoo.com for location

Cost: Free!!! SDCH members will receive the CD free, non-members may purchase it for \$6*
Register: at October Park Day or contact an SDCH Board Member to attend and reserve a CD.
Contact: Lisa Vaca at lisa@starbasejeff.com

Bring your own favorite forms and record keeping ideas to share too. Refreshments provided.

*If you know of someone who is not yet a member of SDCH but he/she is interested in receiving the CD of forms and record-keeping helps please invite them to come to the meeting where they can purchase the CD for \$6 (or invite them to join SDCH for only \$15 per year – what a deal!).



Our SDCH students are excited to meet the "mysterious" author of the "top secret" book that every kid is talking about this fall. Yes, Mr. Pseudonymous Bosch himself will be available to autograph the "enigma" of a book he wrote earlier this year, and to shake the weary hands of those "puzzle-loving" readers who have actually been "brave" enough to turn it's pages...

As an extra special treat, Mrs. Vaca will "stealthily" be bringing her copy of "the book" to our October Park Day for a brief out-loud reading (will she even survive?) to those brave enough to listen...

Date: Monday, October 23rd, 2007
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: 7200 Parkway Drive
La Mesa
Cost: Free to attend the event (book is available to purchase)
Register: at October Park Day or at P.E. on Oct. 16th
Contact: Lisa Vaca at lisa@StarBaseJeff.com



The Name of this Book is Secret
By Pseudonymous Bosch
Hardcover, 384 pages.
Reading Level: Ages 9 to 14 and up.

This is the story of a secret, and also a secret story. This is the story of Cass and Max-Ernest, two friendless 11-year olds who come together to solve the mystery surrounding a dead magician and the clues he left behind. When they find a mysterious case containing vials of liquid labeled The Symphony of Smells with an encoded message asking for help, they decide to investigate...

Exploring Homeschooling

Presented by San Diego Christian Homeschools

Do you know anyone who is considering homeschooling their children or do you think your friends and neighbors might be interested in learning more about homeschooling? Invite them to come to the Open Public Meeting at the Mira Mesa Library this month regarding homeschooling, presented by SDCH. The "experts" – homeschoolers just like us, will answer all of their questions.

Bring your friends, family, and neighbors who might like to know more about homeschooling. The Board will have brochures that you can distribute.

Date: Monday, October 22nd, 2007
Time: 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Location: Mira Mesa Library
8405 New Salem Street
San Diego CA 92126

Cost: Free and open to the general public!!!
Contact: The SDCH Board of Directors SDCHgroup@yahoo.com
or 858-353-1439

Girl's Book and Tea Club

Please read and come ready to discuss:

Corrie ten Boom: Keeper of the Angels' Den
by Janet and Geoff Benge

The life of Corrie ten Boom, survivor of the Nazi concentration camps, is a testimony to the victory of forgiveness over bitterness. Suddenly, Corrie's ordered life was lost in the insanity of war. With bravery and compassion, her family and countless other Dutch citizens risked everything to extend God's hand to those innocents marked for certain execution in a world gone mad. Corrie ten Boom's life of determination, faith, and forgiveness in the face of unimaginable brutality and hardship is a stunning testimony of the sustaining power of God (1892-1983).

Pages: 208 (paperback)
Ages: 10+

Next Meeting: Friday, October 26, 2007
Time: 2:00 pm to 03:30 pm
Location: Roxanne Kenny's House
kbrbak@aol.com

Contact: Bea Host, beahost@san.rr.com

This club is for girls in 5th through 7th grade and their moms.

Watch future newsletters for a Reading Club for all ages. If you are interested in helping to start the all-ages reading club please contact Bea Host.

"Thanks be to God for his gift that is too wonderful for words."

- 2nd Cor. 9:15

Homeschool Dad's Cheesy Movie Night

C'mon Dads! You know you can't pass up a night of cheesy movies and making jokes about it with the guys. Join us for fun, food, and cheesy movies!!!

Date: Friday, October 26th, 2007
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: 8814 Shaula Way
Mira Mesa

Contact: Wayne McBryer at
vadertyme@aol.com

Pumpkin Patch at Mountain Valley Ranch

From the website, www.MountainValleyFarms.com, "Meander through our fertile fields that yield a wide variety of colorful pumpkins. Select and pick your choice of pumpkin or shop inside the cool comfort of our barn. Ask our pumpkin expert for help because some pumpkins are better for carving, while others are much sweeter for your holiday baking requirements. We also grow Indian maize corn, popping corn, and gourds with many odd shapes and color patterns. The children love our Farm Animal Exhibit, animated with birds, calves, pigs, and ponies. We plant a huge living, breathing Corn Maze in which visitors simply love getting lost. There is also a "corn cannon" that each kid will get to "fire" corn from. We have a collection of old farm implements, but most visitors think the 1930 Model A Automobile is quite the photo opportunity."

Date: Monday, October 22nd, 2007
Time: 1:00 pm
Location: 842 Highway 78, Ramona, CA

Cost: \$6.00 per kid all ages (non-participants are free)
\$4.00 for adults (non-participants are free)

Register: at October Park Day or at P.E. on 10/16/2007

Contact: Lisa at Lisa@starbasejeff.com

Optional: Purchase gourds for our November Craft Day.

Institute for Creation Research



All the SDCH families (dads and grandparents too) are getting together for a special tour of the ICR creation museum this month. ICR opens at 9:00 a.m. on Saturdays so you can get there as early as you want to. They have arranged a special tour guide to walk us through "time" in the creation museum starting at 2:00 p.m. We hope you can join us for this inspirational and educational field trip.

Date: Saturday, October 27th, 2007
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location: 10946 Woodside Avenue North, Santee, 92071

Cost: Free!
Register: at October Park Day or at P.E. on Oct. 16th
Contact: Jeff Vaca at
or Jeff@StarBaseJeff.com

San Diego Christian Homeschools Field Trip to:



U.S. Olympic Training Center

The U.S. Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista is the first USOC training facility to be master-planned from the ground up and is dedicated to the development of America's future Olympic athletes. The Training Center rests on a 150-acre complex adjacent to Lower Otay Lake in San Diego County. The center has sport venues and support facilities for nine Olympic sports: archery, canoe/kayak, cycling, field hockey, rowing, soccer, softball, tennis, and track & field. Join SDCH for a special tour of the facility this fall.

Date: Tuesday October 30th, 2007
Time: 1:15 pm
Location: The Olympic Training Center
2800 Olympic Parkway

Driving directions from San Diego are: take I-805 South to the Olympic Parkway exit. Travel eight miles east to the Copley Visitors Center. Meet our group by the entrance.

Ages: All ages are welcome
Cost: Free

Homeschool Encouragement Meetings

Join other local Christian Homeschool moms about once a month for these friendly round-table discussions and receive encouragement in your personal homeschooling journey. With everyone given an opportunity to "share" in a safe, confidential environment, Encouragement Meetings are a great way to share personal concerns or "vent" our frustrations, as well as a great place to offer and receive support, suggestions, and prayer in all areas of our lives as Homeschool Moms. We will meet at various coffee spots of cafes around town. No childcare is available, but babies are always welcome. For times/locations or for more information please send an e-mail request to SDCHgroup@yahoo.com or call 858-353-1439 or visit our website at www.sdchristianhomeschools.com.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October. 30th, 2007
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf
5657 Balboa Avenue (at corner of Genesee)
Clairemont

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up..."

- 1st Thess. 5:11

Take a "Living History" Tour of Old Poway

Join SDCH at Old Poway Park and experience a "living history" field trip appropriate for any age or grade level. The history of rural Poway and early California will be covered, meeting the state learning requirements of the 3rd through 8th grades, and of interest to all grades. The tour includes presentations in the Nelson House; an 1800's Poway farmhouse, the Heritage Museum; which will focus on the pioneer time of Poway and the Kumeyaay Indians, and an Operation Lifesaver Train Safety presentation, complete with a train-ride aboard the Poway Midland Railroad!

Date: Wednesday, November 7th, 2007
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: 14114 Midland Road, Poway

Cost: \$2.00 per person all ages
Register: at October Park Day or at P.E. on 10/16/2007
CONTACT: Lisa at Lisa@starbasejeff.com

SDCH to visit Calico Ghost Town

The 1880's was one of the most colorful periods in American history. As a nation, we were just beginning to feel birth pangs of the 20th century. However, the American west was just coming to life. Today, this bygone age lives on at Calico Ghost Town. Nestled in a quiet canyon, Calico's history is as rich as the silver ore taken from its mountains.

Here, you can relive the dreams of long-ago prospectors as you roam the tunnels of Maggie's Mine or climb aboard a railroad car destined for old workings to the north. Along the wooden sidewalks of Main Street, there are shops and attractions of every type. At each stop, you'll find everything from a ten-gallon hat to a three-course meal.

Rate includes admission and all the attractions. Cabins are only \$33 per night and sleep four people. Call for cabin reservations.

Date: Friday, November 16, 2007
(optional overnight-stay in camp cabins available),
Time: 10:00 am – all day
Location: Calico Ghost Town
phone 1-800-TO-CALICO
web www.calicotown.com
mail P.O. Box 638, Yermo, CA 92398

Cost: \$6.00 per person,
age 4 and under: free
Ages: all ages
Contact: Lisa Vaca at Lisa@StarBaseJeff.com

Driving Directions from San Diego to Calico Ghost Town in Yermo, CA

From San Diego the drive time will be about 3+ hours. Please plan to leave at 6:30 to get there on time (too early is better than too late).

Take the 15 North to the 215 North, back to the 15 North (this will help you avoid the congested fwys of Riverside)

Just past Barstow take the #191 exit to Ghost Town Road and turn left.

SDCH Craft Class: Great Gourds

Attend this fun and educational craft class and learn all about gourds while making a work of art you can keep or give as a special Christmas gift. Using a variety of tools and finishing mediums, we will be making gourd birdhouses, gourd bowls, gourd Christmas ornaments, gourd baskets, and more. You may purchase your gourd(s) ahead of time at our field trip to Mountain Valley Ranch's Pumpkin Patch, where they range in price from 50 cents to a few dollars. Gourds can also be purchased at many produce stores and even some grocery stores. Choose sizes and shapes that ignite your imagination.

Date: Monday, November 19th, 2007
Time: 1:00 pm
Location: Vaca home, 8661 Perseus Road in Mira Mesa

Ages: 5 to 8 will require parent help with the tools
9 and up do not need parent help
Cost: Free for SDCH members if you bring your own gourd(s) or \$2 if you need us to get you a gourd(s).
Non-members must pay \$2 for paints, tools, and other supplies, plus \$2 if you need us to get you a gourd(s).
Register: Lisa Vaca at lisa@starbasejeff.com

Mom's Christmas Brunch and Cookie Exchange

DETAILS: Join your fellow homeschool moms for a relaxing holiday brunch and tea as we fellowship and help to get each other into the Christmas spirit. Please plan to bring a dish to share with the group and enough cookies for each guest to go home with some for her family. This was one of our greatest mom's events in the past and we know it will bless you all to join us this year. Please mark your calendars now so you won't miss it.

Date: Saturday, Dec. 1st, 2007
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: The home of Bea Host in Rancho Penasquitos

RSVP: to Bea Host at beahost@san.rr.com
before November 24th

Field Trip to Outback Steakhouse



Join your SDCH friends for an AWESOME free field trip to the Outback Restaurant in Poway, near the Target. On this field trip everyone gets a tour of the dining room which includes a very educational and interactive explanation of each of the many Australian artifacts adorning the walls. Then we will all get to tour the kitchen where each child will don

an apron and choose a special giant potato which will be named, washed, sliced and made into a surprise... for later. We'll also get to watch their top secret method for how the Bloomin' Onions are made and have all of our many questions answered regarding industrial kitchens and restaurant cooking and operation. In the lounge area each child will receive a specially made mini-smoothie that they get to drink while sitting on the big barstools and being entertained by the skills of the drink maker.

Finally, once back in the dining room the friendly wait staff will serve all of us a free lunch of their special Chicken Fingers and Fries (remember the potato you named?), plus a couple of Bloomin' Onions to share. At the end of our tour each kid gets a special surprise to take home (last time they gave us t-shirts and a coupon for a free kid's meal... Bloomin' cool!). This field trip is completely FREE. It is put on as a community service by Outback Restaurants. Outback requires us to have at least 30 or more people in attendance for this tour to be successful and worth the huge effort that they put in to it.

FROM THE WEBSITE: "Outback Steakhouse takes great pride in giving back. We have a strong commitment to improve the quality of life in each of our communities. Being good neighbors is more than just an idea; it is the driving force in how we do business. Each of our restaurants seeks out local groups and events with which to share its food, time and money. By enlisting the volunteer spirit of our Outbackers, our restaurants create awareness of local groups and help build our communities from within." Visit www.outback.com for more details.

Date: Friday, November 30, 2007
Time: 10:30 am
Location: Outback Steakhouse - Poway
14701 Pomerado Road
Poway CA

Cost: Free
Register: at October Park Day or at P.E. on Oct. 16th
or contact Lisa Vaca at lisa@starbasejeff.com

Join S.D.C.H. for Christian Youth Theater's
Special School-Day Presentation of the...



Tickets \$11 all ages

Traditions of Christmas is a spectacular show that is certain get your whole family into the Christmas spirit... and to remind us what Christmas is really all about.

This family holiday presentation has thrilled children and families for 15 years with its variety of song and dance, costumes, special effects, stories, and music portraying familiar "traditions of Christmas" on stage. Come find out the "truth" behind all your favorite Christmas songs. Guest appearances from favorite characters include Rudolph, Frosty, The Grinch, Charlie Brown and, of course, Santa Claus, who all pay special tribute to the "real" reason for the season: the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sign ups and payments are due no later than Oct. 12th.

Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2007
Time: 09:00 am
Location: E.C. Performing Arts Center
210 E. Main Street
El Cajon CA 92020

Dear Homeschoolers,

We are happy to announce that we are now offering Scholastic Books through our homeschool group. Flyer will be available at Park Day or you may request them from Bea Host at beahost@san.rr.com or by phone. Orders will be placed once a month after Park Day, starting 10/12/07, from the prior month's flyers. You can also place your Scholastic Book Club orders online using the SDCH password. This month's offers are filled with great books and software at terrific values.

To order online, go to the Web address below and enter our group's personalized user name and password.

www.scholastic.com/parentordering

Class User Name: sdch

Password: read

Remember, placing your online credit card order is completely safe and secure.

Plus, when you shop online, you can take advantage of exclusive online-only offers and choose from an expanded selection of books and software. Of course, you can always use the printed flyer instead and hand in your Book Club order form and payment at Park Day.

Our goal is for SDCH to earn points that will go towards our group's Reading Club (coming soon, look for info in the news letter) and also to get books for our future homeschool lending library. Thank you for your help in supporting SDCH and for encouraging reading among our children. If you have any questions regarding the Scholastic Book Program, please don't hesitate to contact Bea Host.

Other Upcoming Events

Sawdust Festival – Winter Fantasy

The Sawdust Festival takes place in Laguna Beach every year. SDCH is considering attending this as a group in November. We can get a group discount. If you are interested please contact Bea Host or Lisa Vaca.

SDCH Christmas Party

December 7th is the date of our first Christmas Party!

There will be delicious food and a puppet show to entertain the kids. More details to come. Contact Wayne McBrayer.

Fourth of July Parade Planning Meeting

SDCH is excited to be able participate in the local 4th of July parade. We'll be having a planning meeting sometime in January, so put on your thinking caps and help up come up with some ideas (theme, slogan, costumes, float, hands outs, and what not). Contact Jeff or Lisa Vaca for more information.

*“Good leaders abhor wrongdoing of all kinds; sound leadership has a moral foundation.”
– Proverbs 16:12*

San Diego Christian Homeschools Board of Directors and Board Meeting Information

San Diego Christian Homeschools is a support group for homeschool families in San Diego County.

Website: www.sdChristianHomeschools.com

E-mail: SDCHgroup@yahoo.com

Voice mail: 858-353-1439

We are the servant-leaders of SDCH for the 2007/2008 school year. Please feel free to contact any of us with questions, comments, or suggestions you have. It is our blessing to serve the Lord by ministering to you.

President:	Valerie McBrayer	valerie.mcbrayer@sdsheiff.org
Vice President:	Rebecca Herman	rlh-aoii@pacbell.net
Secretary:	Roxanne Kenny	roxannekenny@san.rr.com
Treasurer:	Bea Host	beahost@san.rr.com
Membership:	Janet Cobb	jilaree@yahoo.com
Events:	Lisa Vaca	lisa@starbasejeff.com
Dad's Rep:	Wayne McBrayer	vadertyme@aol.com
Website:	Jeffrey Vaca	jeff@starbasejeff.com
Board Member:	Barry Kenny	krbak@aol.com
Board Member:	Kevin Host	beahost@san.rr.com

Board Meetings

Board Meetings are generally scheduled on the Monday evening before Park Day each month and meet at various homes of Board Members.

October 8th	6:30 at Jeff & Lisa's house
November 5th	6:30 at Wayne & Valerie's
December 10th	6:30 – location TBA
January 7th	6:30 – location TBA
February 4th	6:30 – location TBA
March 10th	6:30 – location TBA
April 7th	6:30 – location TBA
May 5th	6:30 – location TBA

Please pray about how you can volunteer with us to serve the local homeschool community as a Board Member of SDCH.

Please prayerfully consider joining our leadership team. Several great opportunities are still available.

San Diego Christian Homeschools

"In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." - Proverbs 3:6

Event Registration Form for all Field Trips, Classes, and Special Events

Parent's Name: _____ Date: October 2007

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Is your family a current member of SDCH? Yes No (if not please include non-member fee with form, if applicable)

REGISTRATION FORM DIRECTIONS:

1. Using the SDCH Newsletter, Website, and E-mail Updates, determine the items you wish to participate in.
2. At Park Days or other occasions place your name(s) on the sign up list of each item you are interested in.
3. Fill out this form indicating each item you have signed up for, number of family members, and total costs.
4. Add all items together, enter the sum at the bottom, and make your check payable to SDCH for the amount.
5. Place your form and check in an envelope and deposit it in the box at Park Day or mail it to Events Coordinator.

✓	Name or Description of Class, Trip, Event:	Date/Time:	Adults	Kids	Total
	Pumpkin Patch at Mountain Valley Ranch	10/22/07 at 1:00	____ @ \$4.00	____ @ \$6.00	
	Old Poway Park Living History Program	11/07/07 at 10:00	____ @ \$2.00	____ @ \$2.00	
	Calico Ghost Town (under 4 free)	11/16/07, all day	____ @ \$6.00	____ @ \$6.00	
	Craft Class: Gourds - free, or \$2 for gourd(s)	11/19/07 at 1:00		____ @ \$2.00	
	Traditions of Christmas, CCT production	12/11/07 at 9:00	____ @ \$11.00	____ @ \$11.00	
	How Great Thou Art – 25 classes, all supplies	Thursdays, 2:00		____ @ \$45.00	
			____ @	____ @	
			____ @	____ @	
			____ @	____ @	

I have enclosed cash ____ or check ____ (ck # _____) in the **TOTAL AMOUNT** of: _____

Deposit this form and your payment (made payable to SDCH) in the box at Park Day or you may send it by mail to Lisa Vaca, Events Coordinator, at (address available upon request). The Treasurer will give you an itemized receipt. Please watch for e-mail updates or announcements from the Events Coordinator regarding the items you have signed up for. If you have any questions regarding events please e-mail us at SDCHgroup@yahoo.com or call Lisa Vaca at (number available upon request) or 858-353-1439. Thank you.