

THE DCHE DISPATCH

A newsletter of the DeKalb Christian Home Educators
Volume 5, Issue No. 2 – September/October 2015

Longtime DCHE Members, Friends Move to St. Louis

By Deanna Cauthen



Jerome Morris and Mary Muse-Morris with Amadi and Kamau during the 50th anniversary march at Selma.

Longtime DeKalb Christian Home Educators members, Jerome Morris and Mary Muse-Morris along with children, Amadi and Kamau have left the Atlanta area and have headed west to the great state of Missouri.

This past spring, Jerome Morris recently accepted a professorship position at the University of Missouri in St. Louis. He had been a professor at the University of Georgia for many years.

Although DCHE is sad to see them go and they will be greatly missed, we wish them all the best in this new adventure. We pray that the Lord will bless them and that they will always know that they are a part of the DCHE family. Godspeed!

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She Who Reads the Map, Rules the World

By Michelle Howe

This article is a reprint from *Homeschooling Helper* e-newsletter, 2004

I was furiously counting stitches, praying I had not mistakenly dropped one or more, which I tend to do when I get sidetracked or nervous or both. As I concentrated on reaching that 150-stitch mark, I couldn't help but glance up to the front seat where my sixty-five-year-old mother sat with her head bent over the Arizona state map. It was an epiphany for me.

Like most good daughters, I have tried to polish my home management skills to impress upon my mother that, yes, I did indeed heed her lessons from years past. Overall, I've done pretty well. While I couldn't prepare a meal when I first got married, I am now well beyond a passably good cook. Over the past almost twenty years of married life, I have accomplished quite a lot. I birthed four children in just over six years then homeschooled each of them through their eighth grade. I have read and reviewed more books than I can count and written hundreds of parenting articles to minister to other fledgling women like myself in their parenting task.

Still (and this irks me to no end), I cannot and probably never will succeed in one area my mother has perfected--map reading! It is plain and simple; the one who reads the maps rules the world.

Reading the Map

I have seen it often. No matter how many other intelligent, gifted, and accomplished souls inhabit the planet, the person who holds the map holds the future--might as well throw in the past and present while we're at it.

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I have watched my mom at work. Believe me, she has her technique down to a science. Before leaving on any trip--long distance or just across town--my mother has no qualms about getting out her stash of maps. With a genteel grace, she spreads these old, wrinkled specimens out on the kitchen table, peers down at the intersecting lines and colors that I cannot decipher and, lo and behold, finds what she's looking for.

It's simple, she tells me. Then her pointer finger begins its automatic trek across the page, detailing every highway and byway from start to finish. I have long suspected that Mom's finger is really a magnetic homing device in disguise. Perhaps it is, because one way or another, she finds the shortest route to the heart of any city and the heart of any matter.

Reading My Mind

Mom's ability to read maps is no more astonishing than her ability to read minds--mine in particular. As I sigh with impatience, Mom slows me down in her gentle, casual style. She lingers over the stream of comings and goings, entreating me to do the same. Whether on the telephone or in person, Mom makes me feel like I'm her most important stopping point of the day.

After we've chatted or visited, I come away with the inner rejuvenation one experiences after having basked in the sun and sea for days. I'm worth the journey, whether Mom has to navigate around detour after detour to get to my heart's reluctant hiding spot or, on clearer days, where Mom has only to redirect my line of vision to the stop signs in front of me. In any case, my mom's intuitive direction-finding nature has saved me from countless mishaps and backtracking.

I used to be jealous of Mom's sense of direction, especially when my own seemed to be so out of whack, but lately, I have been giving thanks for it. Perhaps, with age and experience, I will eventually be one of those so-rare individuals who hold a map with a selfless, casual confidence. Until that time, I think I'll keep checking with Mom before taking any important trips.



www.ixl.com

A fun way to practice math!

Mission Statement

The mission of the *DeKalb Christian Home Educators* is to provide Christ-centered support to the entire home schooling family. To this end we endeavor to: Gather for mutual support and encouragement, share our resources, skills, experience, questions, and problems, discover opportunities for teacher training and extracurricular activities, present a unified voice in the legal and political arenas.

DCHE Board Members

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Interested in joining DCHE? Visit our website at <http://www.dchehomeschool.org/> or email meeting coordinator Michelle Shaw at michelleas@aol.com



DCHE Geography Club

Join the **DCHE Geography Club** for a trip around the world. Students will play games and complete learning activities that are suggested by The National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE).

Geography club membership fee is \$10 for Dekalb Christian Home Educators group members. \$15 for non DCHE-members. Meetings are at Crossroads Presbyterian Church.

The Geography Club will continue to meet the third Wednesday of the following months: September, October, November, February, March, and May from 1-2 p.m.

The National Geographic Bee is hosted by Gwinnett Homeschool Support Group in January, additional fee applies.

DCHE Beginner's Tennis

The price is \$5 per class per child. We need a minimum of 10 students to start. The class will run for 3 weeks starting September 7, 2015-September 25, 2015. If we have less than that, it will be \$10.00 per student.

Tennis lessons will be at Southland Subdivision located in Stone Mountain. **You must commit for the 3 weeks at least one class per week.** The child must be a mature 5+ and can follow instructions. Tennis rackets will be provided by the coach. For more info, contact Fran Bosley at francesbosley@bellsouth.net.

Events Around Town

PSAT Testing

Pine Lake Baptist Church

4528 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain

NIPA will be offering PSAT testing for students in grades 9-11.

Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2015.

Arrival Time: 7:30am

Start Time: 8:00am

Cost: \$30.00

For more information, contact NIPA Continuing Education Coordinator Dawnn Murray at latrise_2@yahoo.com.

Homeschool Hangout at DeKalb County Public Library-Stonecrest Branch

3123 Klondike Road, Lithonia

Date : Wednesdays at 2:00pm

Ages: 5-12

For more information, contact Children's Librarian, Glenda Zachary at 770-482-3828 or email her at zacharyg@dekalblibrary.org

Free Admission to National Parks

Beginning in the 2015-16 school year, fourth graders in the US and their families will be entitled to free admission to America's national parks, federal lands and waters. To sign up go to, <http://www.nationalparks.org/ook/ekiap-signup>.



Youth Pizza Party

Who: Teens

(Ages 13 and up)

When: Saturday, September 26th
5:30-8:00pm

Where: Grace Church
650 Rowland Road, Stone Mountain,

Cost: \$5.00 per person

The teens will have a pizza dinner followed up by a planning meeting to decide activities for the rest of the school year. The rest of the evening will be dedicated to *Ultimate Frisbee* and other outside games.

Please RSVP to Andrew at acauthen3@gmail.com or call Deanna Cauthen at 404-510-4634 by Thursday, September 24th.

DeKalb Christian Home Educator General Meeting

DCHE Meeting

Saturday, September 5

10:00- 2:00 PM

at

Grace Church for All Nations
(Formerly Grace Presbyterian Church)
650 Rowland Road, Stone Mountain

The kick-off meeting will feature three panel discussions:

- Scheduling and Organization-
- Homeschooling Dads-
- Homeschooling Curriculum Choices-

Each panel will last approximately 45 minutes and will include a time for questions and answers.

During this meeting we will meet new members, catch up with each other, **collect membership applications and dues**, and announce our clubs and activities for this school year. There will also be a book sale.

For more information, contact Michelle Shaw at michelleas@aol.com or you may call her at 770-498-3445.



Math-Drills.Com
Free Math Worksheets



Signs of a Hands-On Learner by Stef Layton

An excerpted reprint from an article on Homeschooling Today.com- August 31, 2015

1. Listen for Questions.

The first year of homeschool my son asked to see everything. “Can you show me” and “What does that look like” filled our mornings. I would become so frustrated and think he was purposely stalling. Then it magically dawned on me the boy is visual. At an early age children naturally love picture books so incorporate more visuals. As the years progressed he wanted to see it then build it. Tune your ears to pick up on their questions.

2. Make Play Matter.

The more you can play with your early learners the better. Offer many different play opportunities. My son picked building blocks over every other toy every time. {my auditory learner runs straight for the music box and loves to dance on stage at church}.

3. Ask “Or” Questions. Give your children a chance to pick an activity, and notice which type of activity they choose repeatedly. 8 times out of 10 my son would pick something to do with his hands. “Do you want to draw the statue of liberty or act like a statue? Do you want to sing the ABC song or build the alphabet with Scrabble tiles?” Again, see what the student picks repeatedly of two choices.

4. Look for Clues. Children usually give off clues to their learning style and love language outside of the “school” time. What are favorite toys? How do they retell a story? Which senses do they favor? Pay attention outside of the school books.

5. Notice the No’s. I was so focused on what my son did like I forgot to notice the things he did not enjoy. He hated to sing song back to any type of educational song. While his 3 year old brother was belting out 8 Parts of Speech on the way to Classical Conversations, my 2nd grader sat tight-lipped. It took me 6 months of singing Eleanor of Aquitaine by myself to finally realize the child was not auditory and hated the program. {disclaimer, CC is a great program I loved it – it just wasn’t a great fit for our son!}.

Boy wouldn’t it be easy if children came with an owner’s manual? Just when I became comfortable with a hands-on learner my second child surprises us being an auditory learner. Also, be careful of labels. Noticing a learning style should help you to better teach but not pigeon-hole your child. Always explore new and different activities regardless if you have hands-on learners.

Thankfully, we can pray and ask God to reveal our children’s uniqueness to us. Give yourself time and grace – we are still homeschooling even though it took me the 1st 3 years to figure out what all this “learning style” talk was all about.

-Odds and Ends-

!!! REGISTRATION !!!

Stars and Strikes Junior Bowling Program



9:30 AM

August 29 and September 5, 2015

3 to 5 – Pee Wee

6 to 8 - Bantam

9 to 12 – Prep

13+ – Junior/Major

- * Instructional bowling league**
- * Focus on Character and Skills Development**
- * Opportunity to earn scholarships**

Stars and Strikes

1741 Mountain Industrial Boulevard

Stone Mountain, GA 30088

404/219-6282

Ask for Tom

-The DCHE Market Place

Presents...

A Sew-cial Affair



Saturday, October 3 at 1:00 pm

The Coleman Event Center

5351 Rock Springs Rd, Lithonia GA 30038

Come join us for an afternoon of fun by exploring your creativity through sewing. This "sew" exciting event will feature:

Prizes and Surprises

You may be the lucky winner of a brand new sewing machine... Enter your name upon arrival. Drawing will take place at the close of the event. Must be present to win.

"Sew, Try It" Stations:

Our talented instructors will patiently guide you through creating your first sewing masterpiece. You may never have touched a sewing machine before or even picked up a needle and thread, that's ok, no sewing experience necessary! "Sew, Try It" sessions are **FREE**.

Pajama Pants Class (Optional):

Cost \$55 (includes patterns, fabrics & instructions).

This class is the **ONLY** class that requires a fee and **RSVP**.

For more information, contact Dovlane Ferguson at 678-595-6337 or email her atandsewon.co@gmail.com. You may also visit her website at www.andsewon.biz.



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Editor's Note: Please submit any information that you would like included in the *DCHE Dispatch* to the editor no later than the 15th of the month. Email newsletter submissions to Deanna Cauthen at dzstories@yahoo.com.