



Inside SDH

Volume 2, Issue 2 • Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers • Tucson, Arizona

July 2005

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SDH Parent's meeting in July

by Debbie G.

A parents meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 13, in the community room of the Bookman's store at Grant and Campbell, from 7–9:00 pm. The topic will be the Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers, mission statement—what is it, what does it mean, and what is its relevancy to SDH today.

The mission statement was crafted in February 1999. Enough time has elapsed to warrant revisiting the statement to make sure that it accurately reflects the purpose, business, and values of our group.

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact me.

Note: The date, time and location of the meeting were not 100% confirmed at the time the newsletter was published. If there are any changes, I will notify people on both the SDH-discuss

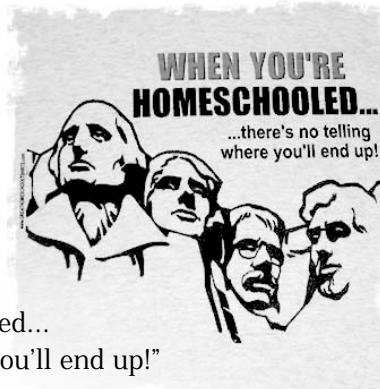
and SDH-newsletter lists, and will also post the changes on the web site and web calendar. Thanks!

SDH Mission Statement: Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers is an open, not-for-profit home education network, providing social and creative outlets for homeschooling families. We are not devoted to any one homeschooling approach, political platform, religious outlook, or philosophical ideal. Our homeschooling community supports all families, regardless of their personal lifestyle or educational choices in the area of home education. Our motto is hozho, a Navajo word meaning "harmony" or "walking in beauty or friendship."

Homeschool Info Night

SDH will be hosting a homeschool information night on Wednesday July 20th from 7– 9:00 pm at Nanini Library off Shannon Road (near Ina on the northwest side of town). Please spread the word to anyone you know who may be considering homeschooling. Any member wishing to sit and be on a panel of homeschooling parents are very welcome to participate in this way.

For directions or more info, call Jaimie L.



"When you're homeschooled... there's no telling where you'll end up!"
—as seen on a t-shirt from
<http://www.greathomeschooltshirts.com>

Arizona Theatre Company Student Matinee Series

by Lisa F.

I will be organizing the tickets for Arizona Theatre Company next year (probably my last).

Tickets are \$6 each except for *Hank Williams* which is \$8 each. If you are interested, send me your check and the number of ticket for each play, specifying how many adults and students. Please add your phone number and email address. ***I must receive your money by no later than July 1st.*** Mail it to me. I will be making only one set of reservations this year, so please don't be late!

The actors are usually available for open discussion with the students afterwards. I will need you to pay me for the entire amount at the time of your reservation as I do not have the time this year to adjust the reservations later in the year.

I don't have any more information about the plays than what is set forth below so please don't email me with questions. Instead please try ATC's website:

<http://www.aztheatreco.org>

Pride and Prejudice

By Jane Austen

Adapted by Jon Jory

September 10 – October 1, 2005

Student Matinee: 10:30 am

Tuesday, September 27 and
Thursday, September 29

One of the world's great classics comes to life with all of the romance and wry wit that have made it an enduring favorite for generations. Elaborate society balls, hunting parties, and smoldering looks propel Darcy and Elizabeth toward the alter to undo his pride and prejudice.

Bad Dates

By Theresa Rebeck

October 22 – November 12, 2005

Student Matinee: Thursday,

November 3rd at 10:30am

From the privacy of her bedroom where she prepares for or unwinds from her dates, Haley Walker relates a series of hilarious tales from her colorful experiences.

Hank Williams: Lost Highway

By Randal Myler and Mark Harelik

November 26 – December 17, 2005

Student Matinee: 10:30am

Thursday, December 1

Cost: \$8

His legacy still shapes American music more than fifty years after his death. Spend an evening with one of the masters of American roots music in the biographical musical that is wonderful. It combines Williams' life story and creates an engaging reflection of fame, artistry and the power of great music.

Crowns

By Regina Taylor

January 14 – February 4, 2006

Student Matinee: 10:30 am

Thursday, January 26, 2006

It's roof raising play with a gospel score and a whole lot of "hattitude". Crowns showcases the soul, faith and spirited style of African-American women, embodied in the fabulous hats they wear to church. Straw or velvet, sassy or demure, church hats give a glimpse into the loves, dreams and history of each "hat queen" and Crowns celebrates them all with spirited gospel music and personal stories full of humor, strength and heart.



Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure

By Steven Dietz

March 4–25, 2006

Student Matinee: 10:30am

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Visit 221b Baker Street as Holmes and Watson investigate a chilling mystery involving a kidnapped damsel, a stack of scandalous letters and the city's seamy underworld. Stride through the London fog as the master detective comes face to face with the mastermind of evil, Professor Moriarity.

Tuesdays with Morrie

By Jeffrey Hatcher & Mitch Albom

April 15 – May 6, 2006

Student Matinee: 10:30am

Thursday, April 27

This is a vivid recounting of the interlocking stories of one man losing his life as another is finding his. After many years, Mitch is reconnected with his aging college professor and mentor. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class" lesson in how to live. This is a chronicle of their time together, through which Mitch shares Morrie's lasting gift with the world.

Hurry!
Deadline is
July 1st!

2005–06 UAPresents Schedule

by Alica M.

Here again is the schedule for Student Matinees for the 2005–2006 season:

The 5 Browns

Thursday, October 27 at 10:30 am

Hubbard Street Dance Company

Tuesday, November 22 at 10:30 am

Garth Fagan

Thursday, January 26 at 10:30 am

The Romero Quartet Friday

Friday, February 3 at 10:30 am

Spanish Harlem Orchestra

Tuesday, March 14 10:30 am

Ballet Folklorico

"Quetzalli" de Veracruz

Tuesday, April 18 at 10:30 am

All shows are at Centennial Hall on the U of A campus. We will meet

Hurry!

Deadline is
June 30th.

there at 9:45 am. Due to the popularity of the shows, please only one adult per family—if this is a problem let me know. Seats are \$5 each.

I will need to know what shows you want to see and the number of adults and children for each show. For payment, make a check out to *The University of Arizona* and find me at park or you can mail it to me.

The deadline is June 30th. You must be or plan to be an SDH member to sign up with me. All announcements regarding the UApresents will be made at park, online, and in the newsletter. If you have any questions you can e-mail or call me or find me at park—I have long red hair.

Preteen Stuff

By Sybelle v.

Games at Something Sweet

On Wednesday, July 6th, kids 10–13 will be meeting at Something Sweet to chat and play card or board games. We will be there from 1:30–4:30 pm. Something Sweet is located at 5319 E. Speedway, at the NE corner of Speedway and Beverly (across from Office Depot). There are soda's and tea to drink and lots of BIG desserts. There are some games there, but if you have a favorite, bring that. We'd like to discuss what things this age group would like to do together, either at park, or on different days. So, come prepared with ideas, and bring some money for your consumption. No need for parents to stay. I will be staying there (although I wouldn't mind some company). Please no younger siblings.

Pool 'n' Pizza

On Wednesday, July 27th, from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm there will be swimming for kids 10–13 at a private pool, located at 8341 E. 7th St. This is Theresa W.'s mom's house (she will not be there). Theresa and I will be staying with the kids. Other parents welcome to stay too, but no younger siblings, please. Kids, please bring a few dollars, so we can order pizza for lunch. I might bring stuff for ice cream sundaes too. Drinks will be provided.

For more info or suggestions on Preteen Stuff, please call or email Sybelle.

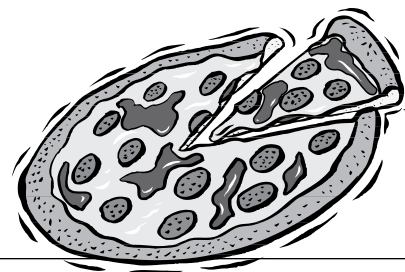
Grand Canyon Girls' Club

- Saturday, July 9th
- Ice Cream Social and Pampered Chef Party
- 3–5:00 pm at 5317 East 6th Street

This month, the girls have decided to invite a Pampered Chef Consultant to come and put on an Ice Cream Party for the girls. They will have fun making (and eating) an ice cream cake and hearing all about Pampered Chef's Kitchen Gadgets. Since the Pampered Chef lady wants to sell some of her wares, she is asking that at least one of each of the girls' parents join us, if possible. If you can not stay, but your daughter wants to come, send her anyway. We should have plenty of Mom's joining us and you don't have to buy anything at all.

The Grand Canyon Girls Club is a fun Club for girls ages 6–12, younger with prior permission. Be sure to join us the second Saturday of every month for great fun and great friends.

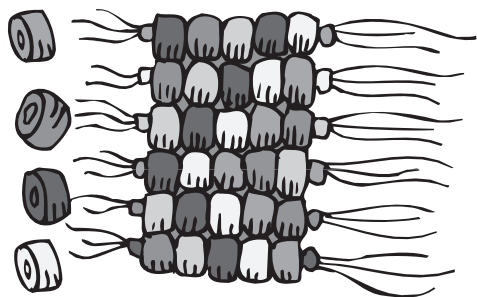
For more info, email Emily.



SDH Teen Summer Meetings

by Sharon H.

I am offering again to chaperone a teen meeting at Cottage Bakery on Kolb in front of Century 12 Theater from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm each Tuesday. Bring money for a drink or snack and cards or other games to share. Questions? Call Sharon H.



Mother Daughter Outing

by Celeste and Melissa W.

On Tuesday the 12th of July, we will be making polymer beads together. We will be meeting at 4 pm at our house. If some of you can only come later, that is fine just let us know when you call. Please bring a snack to share and the Polymer clay you will be using. I will be picking up clay on the weekend before and can get extra if anyone needs clay. Let me know how much you need and the colors you would like. It runs \$2 per block and they are close to an ounce. We often use two or three colors and make about two necklaces or four bracelets out the three blocks of clay, depending on how big the beads are. Please RSVP by the 10th of July.

Call or email us for more information and directions.

Father/Son Outing

Where: Lucky Strike Bowl
4015 E. Speedway (just east of Alvernon on the north side of Speedway)

When: Saturday, July 16th

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Cost: \$6.50 per BOWLER, if we have a minimum of 10 bowlers. This price includes unlimited bowling for two hours, and it also includes shoe rental.

You must RSVP by July 13th. If we do not have enough people I will have to cancel. Please RSVP to Kim B.

Ladies' Outing

by Celeste W.

Saturday the 23rd of July we will spend the day in the cool pines on Mount Lemmon. We will meet in town at a central place for carpooling at 11:00 am then we can go for lunch at the Iron Door restaurant near the ski lifts or bring a picnic lunch along to share. We can go for a nature walk or just hang out and talk. We should bring along water and maybe some snacks for later and just sit and enjoy the cool pines while we visit. Jackets and umbrellas are also good to bring in case the monsoon rains start up later in the day. We can shop a little at the gift shops if we like or go have cookies at the cookie shop, or maybe pie at the pie place. Please RSVP by the 21st of July.

I do have a Mount Lemmon pass and maybe a second guest car pass.

Water Park Trip

By Sybelle v.

I am organizing a trip to Breakers on Tuesday, July 26, at 10:00 am. Breakers is located at 8555 W. Tangerine Rd. (off of I-10). The park has nine different pools, including a wave pool. There are a multitude of slides and ramadas for shade. There are good, safe areas for littler kids to play. There is no outside food allowed, but I'm not sure if they would check your bags for snacks? The cost is \$ 8.95 plus tax, for anyone 4 and over (under 4 is free). The cost is the same for adults, using the coupon at their web site. If we have a group of 25 or more (paid) people going, the rate will be \$ 8 per person, including the tax. That would save us a little over \$ 1.50 per person. In addition, if we are a group, we can order lunch/drink packages for a little less also (between \$ 2.75 – \$ 4.50). For kids doing the library reading program and receiving a Breakers coupon, that could be used. For more info on the park go to <http://www.breakerswaterpark.com>. If you'd like to go, please let me know and we can see if we can get the group rate.



SDH Treasury Report

by Claire B.

May 5th balance	\$572.34
1 new member via mail	+ 10.00
Balance June 5th	= \$582.34

SDH Talent and Art Show

by Erin S.

SDH will present its second annual talent show on September 24, 2005. This year as part of the talent show we will also be organizing an art show featuring works by SDH children. Plan Ahead! If you already have a great summer project to enter in the art show you can give it to Jen Higgins or Erin Shott. We will carefully label and store the pieces until the art show. If you don't have anything for the art show, consider working on your favorite talent during the summer months.

Time and location will be announced in a future newsletter. If you have any questions please contact Kim B. or Erin S.



SE park day

by Shauna C.

For the month of July, we're continuing with the informal, weekly SE parkday on Thursdays at 10am. Everyone is welcome to come by and play, socialize, sweat a lot...the usual. The location is still the Purple Heart Park off of Rita Ranch Road, but we will be meeting at the playground with swings due to a desire for more shade. The parking lot for

Art in the Park

by Erin S.

Don't have time for art projects at home, or don't want to clean up the messes they can make? Plan on doing *Art in the Park!* Three *Art in the Park* events are planned for park days before the SDH Talent and Art Show on September 24th. Each event will feature a different art project and everyone is encouraged to participate. Children's completed projects may be submitted for entry in the art show. We will start promptly at 11:30 am. and project help and supplies will remain available until 12:30 pm.

August 30	Watercolors
September 13	Mobiles
September 20	Altered Art

Please bring supplies you are willing to share. If you don't have any, don't worry—there will be plenty for those who want to participate.

Questions? Contact Erin S. or Jennifer H.

Art Resources

Visit the SDH web page for great resources on creating art with your children.

<http://www.hozho.homestead.com/ArtShow.html>

Young Authors' Corner

Mice cream

Story by Melissa W.

A cat was eating ice cream and another cat walked up and said "What kind of ice cream are you having?"

The other cat said "I am having mice cream, what kind are you having?" and he said "I am having bird frappe."

A third cat walked up saying "Hey you guys, you should try the new lizard sorbet."

"I love vanilla with chocolate chips" said a fourth cat.

"Eww" said the cats, "You have been living with the humans too long!"

My cat Smiley comes walking up and said "Mmmm, my favorite, Cockroach Crunch!"

Please submit your child's creations—poems, recipes, artwork—in digital form only, to sdhnewsletter@yahoo.com, no later than the 25th of each month.

Game Day

As of the newsletter's publication date, no Game Day was scheduled for July but there is one coming up in August: Friday the 26th, 1:00 – 4:00 pm. The location is St. Francis in the Foothills, 4625 E River Rd, room 50. Contact Sybelle v. for more information.

SDHMonthly Parent opportunities

Every month of the year, SDH has opportunities for parents to meet, talk and get to know each other better.

Mom's Coffee Night

Currently Mom's Coffee Night is held on the last Wednesday of every month at Something Sweet located at 5319 E. Speedway. That's at the NE corner of Speedway and Beverly (the Office Depot store is on the intersection's NW corner and Live Theater Workshop is in the same plaza). We get together at 7:30 pm but don't worry if you can't make at 7:30—many of us stay until midnight! We chat, laugh, and generally have a great time. It is a great way to get to know others better and there is always a mix of parents of younger or older children so you can ask lots of questions. Contact Kim B. if you'd like more information.



Men's Coffee Night

Men's Coffee Night is the first Wednesday of each month. This is an opportunity for fathers to discuss homeschooling issues, as well as other topics. Please join us at Borders on Oracle, for coffee, tea, good company and conversation. This casual meeting starts around 7:30 pm. contact Jeff O. for more information.



Parents' Book Discussion Group

A Parent's Book Discussion is held the 3rd Thursday of each month at Something Sweet, 5319 E. Speedway at 7:00 pm. Questions? Contact Erin S.

- July 21: *Touching the Void* by Joe Simpson
- August 18: *Living History* by Hillary Rodham Clinton
- September 15: *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking* by Malcolm Gladwell
- October 20: *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
- November 17: *Wicked* by Gregory Maguire
- December 15: *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls
- January 19: *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James and *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- February 16: *Education of a Wandering Man* by Louis L'Amour
- March 16: *Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd

Note: Each of the above books is in high demand at the library. If you plan to get a selection from the library you may want to put an early hold on it.

From the editor

Is it hot or is it me? Maybe you and your family have been lucky and have escaped Tucson's blistering temps this summer or have a vacation looming on the horizon. If so, or if you've got some good memories, please share them with the group! One of best things about Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers is our willingness to share information. So maybe you could be persuaded to reveal your favorite lodgings, kid-friendly activities, restaurants, museums, or out-of-the-way little cow towns, especially for areas within a couple day's drive of the ol' Pueblo. With our collective brains, organizational skills, and ability to pinch a penny, we could probably give Fodor's a run for its money.

During wildflower season, my family and I were "hiking" at Picacho Peak State Park (or what passes for hiking when you've got a toddler) and I struck up a conversation with a man wearing a Red Sox cap. Turns out he's not from Boston but does vacation in Cape Cod, Massachusetts every summer and he gave us a great tip on a local motel (Olde Tavern Motel & Inn in Orleans) that was clean, reasonably-priced, convenient to some of the best beaches on the bay and the Atlantic, and—unlike most accommodations—had both front and back screened doors so we could enjoy a cool, delicious cross breeze. Ahhhhh!

Now surely, you've got a better tale to tell than that!

Submit your travel tips and experiences—or any other newsletter article or comment to:

sdhnewsletter@yahoo.com

(The deadline is Monday, July 25.)

— Jackie S.

July 2005

SDH Calendar of Events

For more information about the events listed in this calendar, see the newsletter articles.

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
					1	2
3	4 Independence Day	5 Teen Summer Meetings 11am-4pm at Cottage Bakery	6 Preteen Games 1:30-4:30pm at Something Sweet Men's Coffee Night 7:30pm at Borders on Oracle	7 SE Park Day 10am at Purple Heart Park	8	9 Grand Canyon Girls' Club 3-5pm at 5317 East 6th Street
10	11	12 Teen Summer Meetings 11am-4pm at Cottage Bakery Mother/Daughter Outing 4pm	13 SDH Parents' Meeting 7-9:00pm at Bookman's Grant and Campbell (time and location tentative)	14 SE Park Day 10am at Purple Heart Park	15	16 Father/Son Outing 10am-noon at Lucky Strike Bowl, 4015 E. Speedway
17	18	19 Teen Summer Meetings 11am-4pm at Cottage Bakery	20 Homeschool Information Night 7-9pm at Nanini Library	21 SE Park Day 10am at Purple Heart Park Parent's Book Discussion 7pm at Something Sweet	22	23 Ladies' Outing 11am carpool to Mt. Lemmon
24	25 SDH newsletter deadline 12:00midnight	26 Water Park Trip 10am at Breakers 8555 W. Tangerine Road Teen Summer Meetings 11am-4pm at Cottage Bakery	27 Preteen swim party 11am-3pm at 8341 E. 7th St. Mom's Coffee Night 7:30pm at Something Sweet	28 SE Park Day 10am at Purple Heart Park	29	30
31						

Upcoming SDH Events at a Glance

July

See calendar listing previous page.

SDH meets every Tuesday at 10:30 am (beginning August 16th) at the playground area at Ft. Lowell Park.

August

Men's Coffee Night

Wednesday, August 3rd
7:30 pm at Borders on Oracle

SE Park Days

each Thursday (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th)
10:00 am at Purple Heart Park

Grand Canyon Girls' Club

Saturday, August 13th
3–5:00 pm at 5317 East 6th Street

First SDH Park Day 2005–2006!

Tuesday, August 16th
10:30 am at Fort Lowell Park

Parents' Book Discussion Group

Thursday, August 18th
7:30 pm at Something Sweet

Game Day

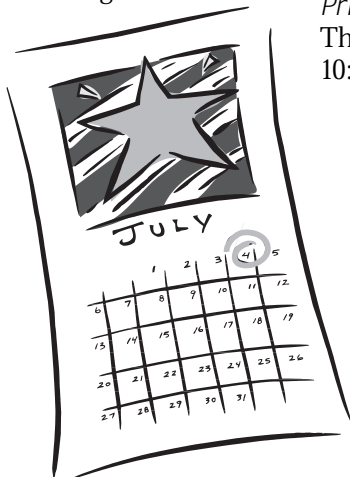
Friday, August 26th
1–4:00 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills, room 50

Art in the Park: Watercolors

Tuesday, August 30th
11:30 after announcements
at Fort Lowell Park

Moms' Coffee Night

Wednesday, August 31st
7:30 pm at Something Sweet



September

SE Park Days

each Thursday (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th)
10:00 am at Purple Heart Park

Men's Coffee Night

Wednesday, September 7th
7:30 pm at Borders on Oracle

Grand Canyon Girls' Club

Saturday, September 10th
3–5:00 pm at 5317 East 6th Street

Art in the Park: Mobiles

Tuesday, September 13th
11:30 after announcements at Fort Lowell Park

Parents' Book Discussion Group

Thursday, September 15th
7:30 pm at Something Sweet

Art in the Park: Altered Art

Tuesday, September 20th
11:30 after announcements at Fort Lowell Park

SDH Talent and Art Show

Saturday, September 24th
time and location TBD

Arizona Theatre Company

Student Matinee

Pride and Prejudice
Tuesday, September 27th
10:30 am at Temple of Music and Art

Moms' Coffee Night

Wednesday, September 28
7:30 pm at Something Sweet

Arizona Theatre Company

Student Matinee

Pride and Prejudice
Thursday, September 29th
10:30 am at Temple of Music and Art

October

Men's Coffee Night

Wednesday, October 5th
7:30 pm at Borders on Oracle

Grand Canyon Girls' Club

Saturday, October 8th
3–5:00 pm at 5317 East 6th Street

Biography Dressup

Sunday, October 9th
time and location TBD

Parents' Book Discussion Group

Thursday, October 20th
7:30 pm at Something Sweet

Fall Clothing Exchange

Tuesday, October 25th
after 11:00 am announcements
at Fort Lowell Park

UA Presents Student Matinee

The 5 Browns
Thursday, October 27th
10:30 am at Centennial Hall

Moms' Coffee Night

Wednesday, October 26th
7:30 pm at Something Sweet

••••• Save these Dates!

Halloween Party

Tuesday, November 1st
after 11:00 am announcements
at Fort Lowell Park
Contact: Tara O.

Fall Music Recital

Thursday, December 1st
Contact: Victoria M.

Achievement Day

Tuesday, December 6th
after 11:00 am announcements
at Fort Lowell Park
Contact: Heather H.

Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers FAQs

About SDH

SDH is a home education network serving homeschoolers throughout Tucson and Southern Arizona.

- SDH was founded in January 1999.
- Over the years, an average of 95 families are SDH members, with children from infants through teenagers.
- SDH meets on Tuesdays at Fort Lowell Park, from mid-August through mid-May at 10:30 am. Group announcements begin at 11:00 am.

What are the benefits of joining?

Every month, the Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers newsletter, *Inside SDH*, will be sent to you either electronically or by mail.

- Get the SDH membership roster, plus regular updates.
- Participate in SDH-discuss, an e-mail list restricted to current members of SDH.
- Participate in and help organize SDH group activities for your children and children of all ages.

What does it cost?

\$10 per year (after January, the fee is reduced to \$5 for the remainder of the year—SDH years run August through July)

How do I join SDH?

To join, come to the Tuesday park meeting—you can submit the form below plus the fee to a newcomer committee member in a yellow SDH t-shirt or to Treasurer Claire B.

More questions?

Send to: sdhtucson@yahoo.com

To join SDH, submit this form and \$10 cash (\$5 after January 1st) to either a Newcomer Committee member in a yellow SDH t-shirt or the SDH treasurer, Claire B.

Parents' Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____

e-mail address _____

- If you provide an e-mail address, your newsletter, *Inside SDH*, will be delivered via e-mail. Please check the box if you wish to have your e-mail listed for contact purposes but wish to receive a printed, snail-mailed newsletter.

Child(ren)'s Name(s) and Birthdate(s) (mm/yy)

If provided, this information will be included on the SDH roster. The roster is available *only* to SDH members and is never sold or used for any solicitation purposes.

Every attempt is made to record payment and personal information correctly. If you provided an e-mail address, you will receive an invitation to join the online discussion list and newsletter group. If you did not provide an e-mail address, you will receive the next published newsletter by mail. If you have any questions regarding your membership, please see the treasurer.

Fall Membership deadline is October 11, 2005. *Memberships will be accepted after this date but will not be included in the fall roster. Current memberships not renewed by this deadline will be removed from the roster and all SDH e-mail lists.*

Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers

<http://tucsonhomeschoolers.org>

Info: sdhtucson@yahoo.com

Newsletter: sdhnewsletter@yahoo.com



© Jim Almstrom

Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers is an open, not-for-profit home education network, providing social and creative outlets for homeschooling families. We are not devoted to any one homeschooling approach, political platform, religious outlook, or philosophical ideal. Our homeschooling community supports all families, regardless of their personal lifestyle or educational choices in the area of home education. Our motto is “**hozho**,” a Navajo word meaning “harmony” or “walking in beauty or friendship.”