

Inside SDH

Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers • Tucson, AZ • July 2008



SUMMER GET-TOGETHERS

by Shelley M.

Here are some fun things to do, plus a way for everyone to see each other! This is the list for the rest of the summer.

Monday, July 7, 10:00 a.m. Crossroads movie (Grant and Swan) – “Monster House.” Children 10 and under are free, everyone else is \$2. Popcorn, soda, and candy is 2/\$3 or 3/\$4. McDonald’s play area on Broadway across from Park Mall after the movie.

Tuesday, July 15, 1:00 p.m. Quincie Douglas pool (36th and Kino). \$1/adult and .50/child. The pool has a beach entry, spray toys, water slide, and a separate splash area.

Monday, July 21, 10:00 a.m. Crossroads movie – “Horton Hears A Who” (If “Horton Hears A Who” is not playing, we will go to “Ice Age” instead. There is a note on the website that “Ice Age” may replace “Horton.”) McDonald’s play area at 22nd near the zoo after the movie.

Monday, July 28, 10:00 a.m. Crossroads movie – “Ant Bully.” McDonald’s play area at Speedway and Alvernon after the movie.

Monday, August 4, 10:00 to noon Bowling! (pending confirmation from Lucky Strike). It will be the same deal as the one in June. \$4 for 2 hours of bowling including shoes. Soda and a slice of pizza are available for \$1.50. I will send out an e-mail to the discuss list requesting RSVP’s when I am positive of the date. If you are not on the listserve, please email or call me and I will make sure you get the information.

Monday, August 11, 11:00 a.m. The pool and hopefully the clubhouse at my apartment complex. I live near Roger and Campbell. Please call or email me for directions.

MOM’S SCRAPBOOKING

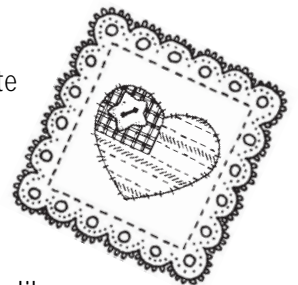
by Lara B.

Hi Everyone. I have been a scrapper for about 10 years now, though I haven’t done it for quite some time. I’ve been keeping everything organized and collecting scrapbooking stuff even though I haven’t actually been doing it. A couple of us have decided to get started up with it again, so we’ll be having scrap parties at my house. We’ll start with two in July, and see from there if and when we’d like to continue after that. Thursdays, July 10th and 24th at 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at my house on the NW side of town, near I-10 & Ina.

Please bring the supplies for your own pages - whatever you’d like to work on that day, things like; photos, album/pages, double-sided tape/tabs, decorative papers, stickers, die-cuts, ribbons, eyelets, tags, etc. I have different things that are available for everyone to use - things like decorative edged scissors, templates, archival markers, archival color pencils, paper punches, edge punches, rubber stamps and ink, circle cutters, and more - as well as *tons* of scrapbooking idea books that I’ve been collecting over the years.

If you have never scrapped, but would like to now, just gather some photos that will go together on the same page(s). Then get some basic supplies to bring - album pages and double-sided tape and/or tabs, as well as some coordinating papers and stickers and/or die-cuts and/or other decorative things you see in the scrapbook section of Michael’s or any scrapbooking store. (If you would like to call and ask questions, please do anytime!) I’m sure I will have extras of things if people forget something.

My kids will be here swimming while we’re scrapping, so if you need to bring older kids, and they’d like to swim too, that would be fine. Please let me know if you plan on coming, and if you need directions.





MOM'S ACTIVITY OUT

by Lara B.

Hi Ladies. If you are on the discussion list then you know that we are trying a new way to do Mom's Coffee Night since there has been sparse attendance to that for quite some time. Based on the input so far, this is the tentative list for the next four months, but it's open for change if need be. (I alternated evening activities with daytime activities, and as each one gets close, I will post a reminder with location on the discuss list.) I do not mind scheduling and reserving the mom's activities, but I don't want to decide alone what it all will be. Please keep comments, recommendations, and lots of input coming so that all moms interested in this are happy!

July – Sunday, July 27 – Bowling at Fiesta Lanes 7:00 p.m. \$5 cover, then 50 cents per for each: game, shoes, pizza, soda, and beer.

August – Saturday, August 23 – Breakfast and lunch at Tohono Chul Tea Room 11:00 a.m. (or maybe at someone's house if anyone would like to host). Here are menus and prices:

<http://www.tohonochulpark.org/breakfast.html> and <http://www.tohonochulpark.org/lunch.html>

September – Wednesday, September 24 – Pool at Bedroxx 6:00 p.m. \$2.50 per hour per person, less if more than 4 (per table): www.bedroxx.com scroll down to Leopard Lounge.

October – Saturday, October 25 – Dessert at Something Sweet 3:00 p.m. Coffee, teas, and deserts ranging from about \$4 to \$7.

NORTHWEST PARK DAY

by Lea C.

The Northwest Park group will meet May through August at James Kreigh Park on Thursday mornings, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Some of us will arrive earlier as the weather becomes hotter. Be sure to bring plenty of water, snacks, sunscreen, and a chair. Directions: James Kreigh Park; 23 West Calle Concordia. From Ina and Oracle Rd., take Oracle north past Magee and Hardy. Calle Concordia is the next light. Turn left and the park is located on the right. *NOTE: Due to the extreme temperatures, attendance was very low in June.* Please contact Lea if you need further information.

ARIZONA OPERA

by Donna J.

Don't forget – it's time to sign up for opera tickets for the coming school year. AZ Opera gives Tucson students an opportunity to attend final dress rehearsals for several of its productions. During the 2008-09 season, four dress rehearsals are scheduled. (See below.)

Student tickets are just \$6 each for each opera and \$12 each for adults. If you are interested in attending any of this coming season's student dress rehearsals, sign up by letting me know how many adult and how many student tickets you want for each opera and send a check to cover the entire cost of your order. Be sure to also include your phone number and email address. Mail everything to my home address, which you can find in the roster. Please make your check out to me, so I can consolidate our payments. If you have any questions, call or email me. For the first sign-up, I must receive your order and ticket payments by July 15. I will do a second sign-up in September, if seats are available.

All the dress rehearsals take place at the Tucson Convention Center Music Hall, 260 S. Church. For more information, go to Arizona Opera's website: <http://www.azopera.com>

A final note, there is no look-in this year. But there will be a mini-opera, Elixir of Love. It is a great introduction to opera for younger kids who aren't yet ready to sit through longer performances. The mini-opera is set for 1:30 p.m., September 15. Look for more information in August's newsletter and on SDH's discussion board.

In addition to the mini-opera, I will try to coordinate and schedule an "Opera in a Box" session for all of our students. This is an interactive program. Using opera costumes and props, a professional artist will help students create their own opera scenarios. AZ Opera says we may be able to use their opera rehearsal space to hold this event. Look for updates about this program on the discussion group and in the newsletter.

Tucson Student Dress Rehearsal Schedule:

Rigoletto – Friday, October 10, 7:00

Mikado – Thursday, November 13, 7:00

Elixir of Love – Thursday, January 15, 7:00

Don Giovanni – Friday, February 20, 7:00



ARIZONA THEATRE COMPANY STUDENT MATINEE SERIES

by Donna J.

Arizona Theatre Company has some great productions lined up for its 2008-2009 Student Matinee Series. I'm beginning the sign-up for three of the plays: A Raisin in the Sun, Henry V, and Beethoven, as I Knew Him. Tickets will likely go fast for these plays, so order now.

Student tickets are \$8 each for A Raisin in the Sun and Henry V, and \$10 per seat for Beethoven. Adult tickets are \$15 each for A Raisin in the Sun and Henry V, and \$18 per seat for Beethoven. Play information and dates are all listed below.

To sign up, let me know how many adult and how many student seats you want for each performance and send a check to cover the entire cost of your tickets. Be sure to also include your phone number and email address. Mail everything to my home address, which is in the roster. Since ATC wants us to submit only one check, please make your check out to me, so I can consolidate our payments. If you have any questions, call or email me. For the first sign-up, I must receive your order and ticket payment by July 15. If seats are still available, I will do a second sign-up in September. But remember, there is no guarantee, since many school groups attend these performances and spots fill up fast.

Before beginning the sign-up process for the rest of the plays in the student matinee series, I want to determine if there's any interest. ATC has noted that many of these plays contain mature themes and language and these four plays seem more geared to an adult audience. If you are interested in attending the student matinees for any of the following plays, please let me know. The plays are: Enchanted April, The Lady with All the Answers, Hair, Somebody/ Nobody. Tickets are \$8 per admission, per student, for all except Hair, which is \$10. Adult tickets are \$15 each, except for Hair, which is \$18. I would also consider organizing an SDH theater night for parents, if anyone is interested.

A note about age appropriateness— the student matinee series isn't something I would recommend for young children. ATC's plays and musicals are great for tweens and teens. Most of the content is something that just doesn't hold the interest of younger kids, even when there's no mature themes and language. If you want to give a younger student a theater experience, check out the opera dress rehearsals and mini-opera. Also, don't forget CYT's productions.

All ATC performances take place at the Temple of Music and Art in downtown Tucson at 330 S. Scott Ave. Descriptions for each play are taken from an ATC announcement. The actors are available for discussions with the students after each matinee. For more information check ATC's website: <http://www.aztheatreco.org>.

ENCHANTED APRIL by Matthew Barber from the novel by Elizabeth von Arnim

Tuesday, September 23, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. *"To those who appreciate wisteria and sunshine. Small castle on the Mediterranean, Northern Italy, to be let for the month of April."* That simple newspaper notice seduces a quartet of British women to rent a villa for one blissful spring in 1922, where their lives of ordered regularity blossom into glorious disarray. Seduced by cinnamon breezes, they learn to let their hair, and their guards, down and awaken to the simple joys of friendship, love and marriage. A Tony-nominated Broadway hit based on the bestselling novel; a heartwarming, verdant comedy about the romantic rediscovery of life's enchantments. "A lush, thoroughly refreshing theatrical holiday. A magical triumph." - *LA Times*.

THE LADY WITH ALL THE ANSWERS by David Rambo

Tuesday, November 4, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. *Dear Ann Landers...* For decades she allowed lovelorn teens, confused couples and everyone else in need of help to turn to her for advice. No topic was off-limits from love to death to how to properly hang a roll of toilet paper. Now, late on a 1975 night in Ann Landers' Chicago apartment, an ironic twist of events confronts her with a looming deadline for a column dealing with her own personal dilemma. "Engaging from beginning to end" - *LA Times*. Contains mature themes.

HAIR The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical by Gerome Ragni and James Rado / Music by Galt MacDermott

Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. It's the dawning of the Age of Aquarius, the year is 1968, and a tribe of hippies in New York's Central Park is letting down their gleaming, streaming, long beautiful hair – and a revolutionary musical that changes everything opens on Broadway and conquers the world. If you experienced it then, you'll want to groove to it again. If you were too young the first time around, come discover what the fuss was all about as ATC stages a glorious new production of Hair to celebrate its 40th Anniversary. Contains mature themes and language.

A RAISIN IN THE SUN by Lorraine Hansberry

Thursday, January 15, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. A gripping and explosive tale of one family living and learning together on the South Side of Chicago in the 1950s, A Raisin in the Sun was the first authentic voice of an African American playwright to hit the Broadway stage. "The play that changed American theatre forever...a seething interplay of past and present, of wisdom and passion." - *The New York Times*

continued on next page

ARIZONA THEATRE COMPANY *continued*

SOMEBODY/NOBODY by Jane Martin

Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Sheena is a somebody who wants to be a nobody. Loli is a nobody desperate to be a somebody. In this hilarious world premiere comedy about Hollywood, fame and the TMZ, renowned playwright Jane Martin takes dead aim at our culture of celebrity. Contains mature themes and language.

The Guthrie Theatre and the Acting Company's Production of **KING HENRY V** By William Shakespeare

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Young, restless and ambitious, Henry V inherits a troubled crown and seeks to secure his position at home by launching a hasty invasion of France. The charismatic warrior King's aggressive pursuit of the French crown earns him iconic status, uniting England and France and briefly banishing the civil strife that will long outlive him. This Shakespearean epic expertly balances the thrilling heroics of battle with the painful and complex reactions of men who are sometimes unsure of the justice of their cause. KING HENRY V is a rousing, fascinating story about the power of courage and the price of glory.

BEETHOVEN, AS I KNEW HIM The Music of Ludwig van Beethoven / Text by Hershey Felder

Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

We embraced him last season as the inimitable New Yorker George Gershwin and the elegant and mystical Chopin. Now, Hershey Felder completes his musical trilogy with his brand new production about the headstrong German genius Ludwig van Beethoven.

SDH MONTHLY PARENT OPPORTUNITIES

Parents' Book Discussion Group - July 15

For the summer months of June, July, and August the book group will still meet on the third Tuesday of the month, but instead of at park it will be at the Borders on Oracle (across and a little south of the Tucson Mall) from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

The Cafe is open until 11:00 p.m. and should be perfect for sitting outdoors!

People are always welcome to join whether they've read the book or not.

- July: *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult
- August: *Citizen Vince* by Jess Walter
- September: *The War of Gifts* by Orson Scott
- October: *A Complaint-Free World* by Will Bowen

Note: Some of these books have long lists at the library, so you might want to get on the list asap if you plan to get them from there.

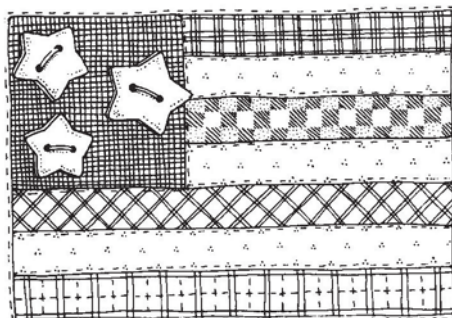
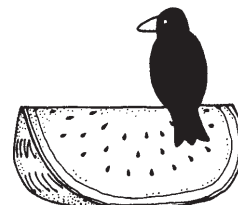


Moms' Coffee Night - July 30

Held on the last Wednesday of every month at Denny's (3655 E. Speedway, two blocks west of Alvernon) from 7:30 p.m. to midnight (or any time in between). **See page 2 for an alternative Mom's Activity Night to take place on Sunday, July 27.**

Dads' Coffee Night - July 2

Held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Borders on Oracle.



Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers

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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."