



Inside SDH

Volume 1, Issue 10 March 2005

Multicultural Festival

by Kim Barton

The Multicultural Festival is upon us! It is taking place on Tuesday, March 15th at Ft. Lowell park and will start at 11 a.m. There will be no announcements on that day.

Schedule of Events

11:00 a.m. Parade of Flags We will begin the Festival with a Parade of Flags led by Kim B. If you want to participate please bring a flag of your chosen country (any kind of flag will do, it does not have to be a "real" flag). Kim will begin the parade at the ramada and we will wind around the park.

11:30 a.m. Potluck The potluck will be after the Parade of Flags from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We will set the potluck up on separate tables and not at the ramada. The idea for the festival potluck is to make or bring food from different countries or cultures. If you want to, you can decorate the area around the dish you bring, display flags or anything else that highlights your country. If possible, please label your food with it's name and where it is from. If you feel really ambitious, you can list the recipe or provide recipe cards. Don't worry if you can't do any of it, just bring a dish of any kind to

share. Please set up your food so that it will be on the tables by 11:30 and plan on cleaning up by 12:30 so that we can move on to other events. Please form lines on both sides of the tables and help your children to figure out where the lines start so everyone gets a chance to work their way through the line. Bring your own plates, eating utensils and cups. Finally, if you have tables you can bring to the park for the potluck, please call or email Eileen Daily.

12:30 p.m. Open time This will be a time to enjoy the booths, exhibits, activities, crafts, games, and art that everyone has contributed.

1:00 Aikido Demonstration Members from Aikido at the Center for the Traditional Martial Arts will demonstrate their art. Aikido is a Japanese martial art. The aim of Aikido is not to injure or kill an opponent. Instead, Aikido teaches how to resolve conflict as safely and peacefully as possible. Kim B. will be involved with this demonstration.

1:30 Hula Demonstration Shauna C. will lead an interactive Hula demonstration. She will teach both kids and adults how to hula dance.

2:00 Girl Scouts Storytelling Our homeschool Girl Scout troop will lead a Storytime for Little Kids. They will tell Native American stories for 2 to 5 year olds.

2:30 Irish Dancing Performance Natalie F. and Sydney G. will perform traditional Irish dances in traditional Irish costumes. The dances are mostly jigs, some with soft shoes and some with hard shoes. One of the dances is called St. Patrick's Day! They will also perform a dance together called a ceili (kay-lee).

3:00 West African Dance Performance Members of a local West African dance troupe will perform and hold an interactive teaching session.

3:30 East Indian Dance Performance This will be a presentation of dance and a brief discussion about East Indian culture. Taylor F. will be performing a traditional East Indian Dance. Also joining us will be Brandye's teacher, Kahlea. She dances in Tempe with Bedouin Tribe and is an instructor of Tribal Fusion here in Tucson. She has been belly dancing since 1998. She will perform a classically influenced piece, using Indian mudras and postures.

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Multicultural Festival

(continued from page 1)

Lisa B. has made passports for the kids to take with them as they "travel" around to the different countries and cultures. She will have them available on a first-come-first-serve basis. People who want to participate can have stamps or stickers for the kids to put in their passports to show that they have been to your country.

The Multicultural Festival is designed to be a celebration of as many of the world's cultures as

possible. People wanting to participate can choose a culture, or country, and do what they want with it. Some options to consider: wear a costume, make food, bring a craft for the kids to do, bring a game to play, make artwork to display, make a flag, display a map of your country bringing a folktale or story to share (or tell one). You get the picture! Do whatever makes you feel comfortable. It can be as big or as small as you, or your kids want it to be.

Making Paper Flags

by Debbie Gubernick

If you and your child are interested in making paper flags for the SDH Multicultural Festival, there is a link on the Flag Gallery page of the SDH web site, at

<http://www.hozho.homestead.com/MulticulturalFestivalFlags.html> to a flag-making activity page from UptoTen.com. All that is required is a printer, paper, a thin stick, and a stapler. And materials to color the flag. (Sometimes an error message saying "409" will appear - simply click OK and then continue.)

February '05 Treasurer's Report Father/Son Outing

by Claire Buffton

1/25/05 Balance	\$ 940.77
New members @ \$5	\$ 30.00
Pay-outs	\$230.24
(roster hard copies, awards, newsletters, geography bee, etc.)	
Balance as of 2/22/05	\$740.53

by Kim Barton

A Father/Son Outing is planned for Monday, March 28th at Golf'n Stuff for miniature golfing. The fun starts at 7:00 p.m., and the cost will be \$5.75 per person if we have 10 or more people attending. If we do not

have 10 people we do not qualify for a group rate and the cost will go up to \$7.50 per person. The cost includes golf and 4 arcade tokens. Please let me know if you plan to attend.

Stuff About Me from Sophia

by Arleeta Rossi

Dear friends of Sophia,
All of you didn't get a Valentine card from her because she ran out before getting to the end of the line. I wrote a poem inside the card for her, and some of you have asked what that poem was. Here it is:

Stuff About Me

I have a dog, two birds and a hairless rat,
and when I grow up, I will definitely have a cat!
I like to play with my Breyers horses and stable,

and a small plastic dog park that I have on a table.

I have a key chain collection from different states,
and I like to play Uno, Rummy and Crazy Eights.

I read books about horses, cats and dogs,

I want to be a veterinarian, but not dissect frogs!

Sometimes I play outside on my trampoline,
but mostly with my dog who isn't one bit mean.

Pokemon, Hello Kitty and Sponge

Bob, too,

are some of the things I like, just to name a few.

When friends come over, there are puzzles, books and crafts.

I like sharing everything-including lots of laughs!

Coming to the park, for me, is fun.

I hope it's the same for everyone.

Happy Valentine's Day, from Sophia!

P.S. On the front of the card was a picture of Sophia's little white toy dog with a red background and a little heart shaped pillow that said Happy Valentines Day!

Sign Language Class

by Kristen Welch

I am offering a beginner class for kids who would like to learn to sign the alphabet, numbers, animals, and colors. Class meets on Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. at my Eastside home. The dates are April 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th. Students should be able to read and spell short words. Kids will play games, sing, play sign-O (bing-O), and sign short poems. Parents can buy "Learn to Sign the Fun Way" by Penny Warner (\$14.95) or find the signs in

another book or online.

For the first class, students should practice the alphabet ahead of time and bring a secret object in a brown paper bag to class. Please call Kristen at 751-6778 to sign up or email me at kdwelch@email.arizona.edu. Class size is limited and parents are expected to stay and help their children learn. Parents should know that I have absolutely no training or credentials that qualify me to teach sign language. My daughter Anna and I

worked on sign language last fall and would like to get a group started that will continue learning with us so we can have fun learning together. We hope that you will join us for a great time!

Teaching Arizona for Home Based Educators

by Debbie Gubernick

Join Alex Kimmelman, director of Pima Community College's Community & Oral History Center, for a free day-long workshop. The session runs from 9:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 5, at the PCC Downtown campus.

Alex will cover educational resources available to homeschoolers, including books, magazines,

journals, museums, and field trips. He provides plenty of information to take home, and sets aside time for questions and discussions.

I attended this workshop in November, and definitely recommend it to all homeschooling parents who are interested in presenting any aspect of the state's history to their children. It is informative, relaxed, and enjoyable.

If you want information on the last workshop, please contact me at debbiegubernick@yahoo.com.

To find out more about this March 5th session, or to register (remember, this workshop is FREE), please contact Alex Kimmelman at: Telephone: (520) 206-7214 Fax: (520) 206-7044 E-mail: alex.kimmelman@pima.edu

Eyes Wide Open

by Sybelle Van Erven

This American Friends Service Committee exhibit is coming to Tucson. It is a visual display of the human cost of the war in Iraq. A pair of boots is displayed for every soldier killed, sometimes with pictures or personal items placed next to them. There is also a field of shoes and a wall of remembrance for Iraqis killed. The exhibit is free and open to the

public. It will be at Armory Park and the adjacent Senior Center on Saturday and Sunday March 5th and 6th. The outdoor display hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and the indoor display hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. You can read about it at <http://www.afsc.org/eyes/default.htm>.

If you cannot make the exhibit there is a 2 minute video on the website that is very impressive.

SDH Spring Clothing Exchange

by Christine Greene

The SDH spring clothing exchange will be March 29th. It's FREE! Please bring outgrown, unused, unwanted, clothing and toys to the park. We will set items out on the tables under the ramada. Browse to your heart's content and take whatever you want or need. All left over items will be donated to New Beginnings for Women and Children, a local shelter.

African American Read-In

by Sybelle Van Erven

On February 13th, Ingo, Bibi and I went to the South Park Church of God in Christ. This is an all African American church which was one of the locations for this year's African American read-in. The read-in was started 16 years ago by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English to make literacy a significant part of celebrating Black History Month. Churches, libraries, bookstores and any other group can organize a read-in, traditionally on the first Sunday or Monday in February. People sign up ahead of time and a

program is made up to show who is reading and what. Anything can be read, as long as the author is African American. Each reading is supposed to last two minutes.

We had a very good time! The church was filled with mainly black families, most of them dressed in beautiful traditional African garb. Many children read from picture books or juvenile literature. Ingo read a piece also and did very well. Bibi cannot read yet, but she did participate by going up with me and holding the microphone. The absolute best part was a lady reading from a book called "crowns," which

is about hats. She changed hats several times while reading. She was known as the "hat lady" during the event, since she always chooses a piece from the same book, but has different hats every year.

After the reading part there was a veritable feast! Several people had brought food to share and we all sat together and talked about the readings and what we liked best. It was fun to socialize with people we would have never met! If you'd like to learn more about the read-in you can go to <http://www.ncte.org/prog/readin/107901.htm>

SDH P.E. Classes

by Eileen Daily

Athletes in Training (AIT) offers SDH P.E. classes on Tuesdays, from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. at Ft. Lowell park. The sports they will be doing through May of 2005 are:

March—Recreational Games

April—Baseball

May—Wacky Water Games

A typical class starts with stretch-

ing. Then the instructors teach the skills for the game, the children practice and then play a game. The program is for ages 5 and up and the cost is \$15 per month for one child with discounts for additional children. Discounts are also given for paying in annual or quarterly payments. Typically a new sport is started each month, so you

can start class any month you choose. Or, you may participate all year. These classes run from September to May each year. The schedule and prices are posted on the bulletin board at the park. If you have any questions, please call or email.

Heifer Project Used Book Sale

by Ingo van der Heiden and Sybelle Van Erven

The sale of used books, games and videos was postponed until Tuesday, March 1st, in the park, after announcements. Please bring some change and come browse the great stuff many people have donated to help those less fortunate! Feel free to call or email us if you need more info.

Scholastic Book Orders

by Sharon Auvenshine

The Scholastic book orders are due by March 8th. Order forms are available at the park. Make checks payable to "Scholastic" and return them to me.

Oklahoma Land Run Party

by Kristen Welch

Parents and kids who would like to discuss plans for an Oklahoma Land Run party in April may join me at Ft. Lowell park under the ramada at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 29th. If you can't make it, please email Kristen at kdwelch@email.arizona.edu or call 751-6778. Hope to see you there!

What We're Reading

by Erin Shott and Eileen Daily
In the January newsletter, we asked you what you were reading. We thought it would be fun to find new books to read and learn something from each other. Due to space limitations, we were only able to print one book per person in the February newsletter. This month we are listing the rest of your submissions. Thanks again for your participation. Here is the list, in no particular order.

Damien Holloway *Escape from Slavery- The Boyhood of Frederick Douglas in His Own Words*

Kaine Holloways Favorite Book *Winnie the Pooh* by A.A. Milne

Ashlyr Holloways Favorite Book *The Gas We Pass: The Story of Farts* by Shinta Cho

Erinn Holloway *Read to Me- Raising Kids Who Love to Read* by Bernice E. Cullinan

Tom Holloways Favorite Book *For Whom the Bell Tolls* by Ernest Hemingway

Brennan Family *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George

Lara Brennan *Parenting From Your Heart* by Inbal Kashtan

Audrey and Natalie Funk *Hatchet*

by Gary Paulsen

Heather Hawkes *Small Wonder* (Essays) by Barbara Kingsolver

Lisa Bentley *Buddism for mothers* by Sarah Napthali

Greg Bentley *All Tomorrow's Parties* by William Gibson

Zoe Bentley *The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien

Teagan Bentley *Pumpkin Faces* by Emma Rose

Kim Barton *Mastery: The Keys to Success and Long-Term Fulfillment* by George Leonard

Blake Barton *Breath by Breath: The Liberating Practice of Insight Meditation* by Larry Rosenberg

Hunter Barton *Chet Gecko--Private Eye-- The Big Nap and Farewell, my Lunchbag* by Bruce Hale

Gubernick Household *Barrel Fever: stories and essays* by David Sedaris and *Wonder Boys* by Michael Chabon

van Erven/van der Heiden Household *You May Not Tie an Alligator to a Fire Hydrant: 101 Real Dumb Laws* by Jeff Koon and Andy Powell

Sybelle van Erven *The Cartoon Guide to Genetics* by Larry Gonick and Mark Wheelis

Arnold van der Heiden *The United States of Europe: The New Superpower and the End of American Supremacy* by T.R. Reid

Ingo van der Heiden *Going to War in....(Viking Times, Roman Times, etc.) Series* by Various Writers

Bibi van der Heiden *The Secret Fairy Party Book* by Penny Dann

Shott Family *Borrowers Avenged* by Mary Norton

Erin Shott *What If* (essays) edited by Robert Cowley

Craig Shott *The Pentagon's New Map: War and Peace in the Twenty-First Century* by Thomas P.M. Barnett

Riley Shott *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift

Connor Shott *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Stories to Read Together* by Mary Ann Hoberman

Eileen Daily *The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio: How My Mother Raised 10 Kids on 25 Words or Less* by Terry Ryan

Amanda Orach *Blow Out The Moon* by Libby Koponen

UApresents

by Alica McKenna-Johnson
We have two shows this month. Kevin Locke on Friday, March 4th and Momix on Tuesday, March 22nd. We will meet in front of Centennial Hall at 9:05 a.m. and we are seated

as a group. Parking has been challenging so please allow time for it. If you cannot attend please let me know, as there are people who would like your seats. If you cannot remember if you got seats for these

shows just ask—I have it all written down. dragonhawk4@cox.net

Grand Canyon Girls Club

by Emily and James Allerton

The first meeting of the Grand Canyon Girls was a great success with ten girls making valentines cards, snacks and checking out the clubhouse grounds. The Club will meet again on Saturday, March 12th from 4 to 5:30 p.m. The theme for the March meeting will be a Saint Patrick's Day Celebration. Join us for some clover crafts and a great time at 5317 E. 6th St. Be sure to wear green! The Grand Canyon Girls Club is for girls from 6-12 years old (or younger with prior permission). If you need more information, call James at 403-2948.

Free to Be...You and Me Musical Fun Web Sites

by Georgie Weaver

Come Enjoy the Family Musical "Free To Be ... You And Me" by Marlo Thomas presented by the NEW Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers Chorus. When: Monday, March 7th at 1:00 p.m.
Where: The Inn and the Gardens at the Fountains (792-2002) 5830 N. Fountains Avenue
Directions: South on La Cholla from Orange Grove; Take second driveway on left after Rudasil (under construction, difficult to see, very messy); Road curves around; entrance on right.
This is the chorus's first performance. The residents will join us as well as the daycare that is also part of the Fountains complex. Any questions see Eileen Daily at park or call Georgie Weaver at 742-6291.

by Sybelle Van Erven

<http://www.myfootprint.org>
Find out how much "nature" your lifestyle requires. Answer 15 easy questions and compare your ecological footprint to what other people use and to what is available on this planet. It is eye-opening to put in your info correctly, but place yourself in a different part of the world.
<http://www.boardgamegeek.com>
Used games for sale, great reviews of lots and lots of games.
<http://www.korthalsaltes.com>
Paper models of 80 different polyhedras. Print them on thick paper and make them for free!

Game Day

by Sybelle van Erven

There will be another game day on Friday, March 25th from 1 to 4 p.m. at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Room 50.
I will bring games and encourage others to bring some to share. This is for adults and children alike and I hope we'll have something for all ages and abilities! It is fun to play games you haven't played before. You can come for all or part of it. Remember to bring your own snack. This is a family event and not a drop off and please remind your children that they are not allowed to be outside without adult supervision on the St. Francis grounds. For more info call, email or see me at park.

Folk Tale Collection

by Debbie Gubernick

If you are exhibiting anything in the SDH Multicultural Festival, please consider bringing a folk tale from your country or culture. I will bring folders for children to use to collect the stories. Short one-page tales would probably be best, both because they will be easier for the children to handle, and because it will keep copying costs down. How many copies should you bring? I would guess at least 50, maybe up to 75 or 100.

If you have questions, please contact me at debbiegubernick@yahoo.com.
Thank you!

Spring Music Recital

by Victoria MacDonald

Thanks to the generosity of violin teacher, Rebecca McKee, SDH has been provided with a new venue for our music recitals. The PRIME SCHOOL. This music school is located at 3434 E. Broadway (south of El Con Mall between Country Club and Alvernon just west of the Bank of America).
Our Spring Recital will be held on Thursday, May 5th from 1 p.m. to approximately 3 p.m. I would like to encourage our musical parents to participate this time. I would also like to welcome homeschoolers from other groups around Tucson.
Please call me at 620-1095 to be added to the program or if you have any questions.

Homeschooling Obfuscation by the Media

by Debbie Gubernick

It isn't often that a story from Tucson ends up with national exposure. And it is even rarer for the story to appear to relate to homeschooling.

The way this story of horrific abuse was covered served two purposes - it focused attention away from the abuser himself, away from his responsibility for his actions toward his child, by introducing homeschooling as the center of the story. By the end of the coverage, no television news segment was complete without the obligatory waving of a blank affidavit of intent to homeschool.

The second purpose was to confuse the issues of homeschooling and child abuse. How does anyone know what goes on in the homes of those homeschooled children? How can the safety of those children be ensured? Why do those parents want to homeschool in the first place - what are they trying to keep hidden? What steps should be taken to monitor homeschoolers in order to protect their children?

Both of these purposes are self-serving for the media, but in different ways.

The first one, distracting attention from the abuse to focus on another topic, allows everyone, the media, governments, and the general public to avoid any looks in the mirror in regard to their responsibilities for keeping children safe from abuse. If the media only picks up cases of egregious abuse, it makes child abuse appear rare, infrequent, and

impossible to stop, because who could know? And if the reason such abuse is possible is that the homeschooling laws in Arizona create an ideal situation for abuse to flourish, well, obviously, the fault is with the laws - change the laws, and stop the child abuse. It makes for a neat and tidy wrapping up of an awful situation. And on to the next story...

The second purpose is self-serving for the media because it is set up to guarantee future stories. If a link can be established in the public's mind that homeschooling sets up a potentially dangerous situation for children, then any time child abuse occurs, 1.) can the reporters find a homeschooling connection to give the story "legs" (keep the story going past the initial coverage, and 2.) can local officials and politicians be utilized to add credibility?

In this instance, Pima County Attorney Barbara LaWall was happy to cooperate with the media. In addition to being able to express her concern for the safety of homeschooled children throughout Pima County, she was able to distract attention away from scandals in her office that have been receiving media coverage. She can be linked with a seemingly "safe" subject, one that makes her appear to be watching out for the county's children.

This terrible story has been making the rounds of national homeschooling e-mail lists. People have been concerned about the county

attorney calling for more regulation, and worry that it will contribute to a national trend of legislators introducing bills to rein in homeschoolers. This result is unlikely in Arizona, but the story itself will be added to a growing number of similar stories coming from states like Michigan, Nebraska, New Jersey, Florida, and Tennessee, just to mention a few.

Why the link to homeschooling in the first place? I was thinking about this and came up with the thought that it is a measure of the success of getting the concept of homeschooling "out there" and familiar to the public. When stories of horrific abuse were reported 30 years ago, it would have been mentioned that the abused children were being kept out of school. But now, I think there is a word that exists in the public mind for "children who are kept out of school" - it is homeschoolers. This is unfortunate because it is too simplistic. Just on one level, it overlooks whatever other commonalties these child abusers may have - perhaps that they own televisions, or that they have short hair, or that they drive cars. Or maybe just that they all had been entrusted with the care of a child. Maybe that should be the most important aspect of these stories, that some adults completely misuse the trust that their children have placed in them. And that our society is more than happy to look the other way.

Parent's Planning Meeting

by Kim Barton

The Parent's Planning Meeting will be Monday, May 16th, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Wilmot Library. The date has been changed from what we agreed on at last year's meeting. All of the free meeting places were booked for May 18th.

The purpose of the Parent's Planning Meeting is to schedule events for the upcoming year and to make sure all volunteer positions are filled. If you have planning items that are not listed below, please let me know so I can add it to the agenda.

Dates to Set

First Park Meeting: Previously set for August 16, 2005
 Monthly evening parents' meetings
 Curriculum exchange
 Fall Clothing Exchange
 Talent Show
 Halloween party
 November event
 Music recital
 December event
 Valentine's exchange
 Group photo
 Spring event
 Spring clothing exchange

Spring music recital

Last scheduled park meeting in May

Summer curriculum exchange

Summer activities

Group summer activity

Parent's meeting May 2006

First park meeting August 2006

Jobs List (Erin S.)

Go through Who's Who list to determine which jobs need filled, added, or removed.

Make Sure each calendar event has someone responsible for organizing and announcing it.

Who's Who List

by Erin Shott

A list of jobs, and who the current responsible person is, is below.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you do not intend to continue filling a job. An updated list, with open positions, will be in the May *Inside SDH* so that it will be available for the May 16th Parent's Planning Meeting.

Announcement Leader: Sybelle Van Erven, Lori Walker

Arizona Opera: Lisa Funk

Arizona Theater Company: Lisa Funk

Athletes in Training: Eileen Daily

Bulletin Board: Sharon Auvenshine

Children's Reading Groups: Heidi Harrington, Erin Shott

City-wide SDH Representative: Debbie Gubernick

Clothing Exchange: Christine Greene

Curriculum Exchange: Sybelle Van Erven

Dad's Meeting: Jeff Orach

E-mail Requests for SDH Info: Erin Shott, Debbie Gubernick

Festival of Lights (November/ December Event): Ann Ventola

Group Photograph: Claire Buffton

Halloween Party: Tara Oster

Homeschool Information Nights: Debbie Gubernick

Ladies' Coffee Night: Kim Barton

May Day Party: Giovana Mealer

Media Representatives: Amy Miller Gray, Debbie Gubernick

Membership Cards: Debbie Gubernick

Membership Roster: Sharon Auvenshine

Multi-Cultural Festival: Brandye Ferguson, Kim Barton

Music Recital: Victoria MacDonald

National History Day Liaison: Debbie Gubernick

New Homeschooler Contacts: Lara Brennan, Eileen Gavin, Karen Metcalf

Newcomer Liaison Committee: Eileen Daily, Christine Greene, Debbie Gubernick, Heather McLean

Newsletter Publication and Distribution: Eileen Daily, Erin Shott

Parent's Meeting Facilitator: Kim Barton, Sharon Auvenshine

Parent's Reading Group: Erin Shott

Roots and Shoots: Heather McLean

Scholastic Books: Sharon Auvenshine

Science Fair: Laura Coleman

SDH t-shirts: Sharon Auvenshine

Spelling Bee: Bridget Werchan

Ted Walker Day: Lisa Funk

Treasurer(s): Teresa Butcher, Claire Buffton

UA Presents: Alica McKenna-Johnson

Webmaster: Debbie Gubernick,

Website Calendar: Debbie Gubernick

Who's Who List: Erin Shott

Valentine Party: Sybelle Van Erven

Yahoo Group Administrator: Sharon Auvenshine

Homeschool Family Camp

by Sybelle Van Erven

This is a post from the UUHomeschoolers list that might interest SDH members:

The spring camp will be Monday, April 4th to Thursday, April 7th at Camp de Benneville Pines in the San Bernardino National Forest. The cost is very reasonable, \$75 per person with a \$300 per family maximum. There is an additional charge for cabins with a living room and kitchen facilities---not that you need them. The camp provides

delicious food, including vegetarian and vegan options if you let them know ahead of time that you want this. We have wonderful activities. Each family that attends brings one craft, games or other activity--we share and always have a good time together. If we have snow (which we might, this year), I can invite my friend David to offer snowshoeing trips. If there is no snow, he can teach terrain navigation (a kind of orienteering mixed with environmental awareness). We can do

archery, if there is no snow---and anything else you'd like to see happen! If you have any questions, please call or e-mail me. I always look forward to seeing my friends, old and new, at camp.

*Caroline Quintanilla
909-794-2928*

uucamper@earthlink.net

Website for the place where the camp will be held (it is an hour east of LA):

<http://www.debenneville.org/facility.html>

SDH Memory Book

by Lara Brennan

I will be putting together an SDH memory book. This will be something simple and basic—mostly black-and-white with maybe a few color pages. I'm not going to try to copy school yearbooks. The memory book will be casual and in paperback. Those of you that take pictures at the different SDH activities, please pass them my way. You can e-mail digital photos to me, or give me prints. It is very important that I have the name of the person(s) and the activity they are doing, so please

write on the back of the photo or include with any e-mailed photos. If you give me prints, and you want them back, please put your name on the envelope so I can easily return them to you. I won't be able to use all of the photos I receive, but I hope to use enough to provide a good representation of all that SDH does. I won't know the exact cost until I have something going, but my guess is that the cost will be about \$5.

I need help brainstorming ideas, and I may need a little bit of hands-on

help. If you'd like to do this with me, please let me know. If you do not want your, or your child(ren)'s, picture in the SDH memory book let me know so I can be sure to omit them. Please contact me with any ideas, and/or if you'd like to help out. Laramike12@aol.com or 744-7760.

Children's Book Discussion Groups

by Erin Shott and Heidi Herrington
Discussions are at 10:30 a.m. the first Park Day of each month. The groups are ability rather than age based. Select the group that best fits the child's reading ability. Selections may also be family read-alouds so the child(ren) is able to

participate in the discussions.

March 1

Group 1: *My Side of the Mountain*
by Jean Craighead George

Group 2: *Cricket in Times Square* by
George Seldon

April 5

Group 1: *Evangeline Mudd and the Golden-haired Apes of the Ikkinasti Jungle* by David Elliot

Group 2: *'Gater Aid* by Jane Cutler

Roots & Shoots March 2005

by Heather McLean

I hope everyone enjoyed the butterfly exhibit. Eighty-seven folks ended up going on the three trips!

I recommend this to everyone! It is a great event....

The 6th Annual Ironwood Festival!

Saturday, March 5, 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Mason Audubon Center

\$5.00 for adults, Free for youth 15 and under

Held at the 20-acre Mason Audubon Center (8751 N. Thornydale Road), youth and adults will enjoy the live animal presentations of bobcat, raptors, reptiles, and others; cultural presentations; hands-on educational activities; guided trail walks; live music; and a variety of food and beverages.

Parking is available at nearby Tortolita Middle School, 4101 W. Hardy Road, with free shuttle service provided.

Schedule of events:

<http://www.tucsonaudubon.org/masoncenter/ifsched.htm>

Friday, March 11, 1 to 3 p.m.

Build your own Worm Composting Bin

1 to 3 p.m. Community Room, Bookman's - Grant & Campbell (we'll start here and then move over to the park behind the store)

Bring:

1. A container for the worm bin.

First decide what size worm bin you'd like and where it will go - on your kitchen counter, under your kitchen sink, by the back door, etc.

For a tiny container, you can use a two liter clear plastic soda bottle

I plan on measuring (and clearing out the clutter) under my kitchen sink and buying a Rubbermaid bin with matching lid to fit. Or you can use your imagination and build or recycle something like an old dresser drawer or trunk.

2. You need a tray to fit under your container to collect drips. You can use the lid (if it comes with one) and use something else to cover it.

3. A couple of dollars for worms

4. Bring any of these if you have them: newspaper (we need lots), burlap sacking, old carpet remnants, black garbage bags, drill with 1/8" bit (or smaller), wood scraps 1 x 2 or 2 x 4, water mister.

Saturday, March 26, 10 a.m. to noon I will be out of town, so Kate M suggested a trip to Sonoran Arthropod Studies Institute on their community day held on the 4th Saturday of each month.

SASI is a private not-for-profit environmental and science education institution fostering an awareness, knowledge and appreciation of all nature through the study and interpretation of the vital roles arthropods play in the Sonoran Desert ecosystem. They have live arthropods and pinned specimens, nature trails and a butterfly garden. We once bought a very cool ant farm here. **BRING WATER.**

Finding them was tricky the first time I went. They are located in Tucson Mountain Park off Gates Pass Road, ¼ mile east of Kinney Rd. here is a gate on the north side of the

Gates Pass and then you travel a bit up the road before you come to their quarters. Their phone if you need help is 520-883-3945.

<http://www.sasionline.org/>

They have some interesting articles like "A Giant Desert Centipede Lays Eggs" and "Pepe the Two Tailed Scorpion," with great photos!

Next month:

Friday, April 1, 10 to noon

Bookman's Community room - Speedway & Wilmot

Discuss Puerto Penasco camping trip and participation in Tucson's Earth Day parade.

2nd week in April:

Tentative camping trip to Puerto Penasco (Rocky Point), Mexico. With possible tide pool excursion with CEDO (Centro de Estudios de Desiertos y Océanos, or the Center for the Study of Deserts and Oceans).

Saturday, April 16

Earth Day Festival 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Parade begins at 10 a.m.

What is Phishing?

by Debbie Gubernick

I recently received an e-mail that appeared to be from PayPal, telling me that my account had been flagged as part of a routine security check, and requesting that I click on a button provided to verify my account information.

Instead of clicking on that button, I went to the PayPal web site, and looked for the section about security. I found a form to submit if a customer had questions, so I copied some of the message, and told them that I was suspicious. I got a reply about one hour later telling me that indeed the e-mail was not from PayPal, and requesting that I forward the entire message, including full headers, to their security section for further investigation.

Phishing (attempting to gain personal/financial information by send-

ing apparently authentic messages) relies on a couple of things - one is that people are worried about the security of their information and will be more than willing to cooperate in efforts to ensure that security, and two, that people tend to do what is asked of them. In the case of the message I received, it would have been very easy to simply click on that button and then follow the instructions for "verification." The main concern that Paypal had was that I had already supplied information to the scammer and that my account could therefore be compromised. Fortunately, I had checked with Paypal first.

Any time you receive a message that appears to be from a company that you do business with, don't do anything immediately. Contact the company, either through its web site

(and only reach their web site by either typing the URL into your browser or entering the name into a search engine - do not use any of the links that appear in the suspicious message), or by calling the company. Consider what is the urgency? Why do you need to do something right away? Phishers depend on people complying with their requests.

For more information about phishing, visit the Anti-Phishing Working Group at <http://www.antiphishing.org>, read the FTC's Consumer Alert about phishing at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/pubs/alerts/phishingalrt.htm>, or check the PrivacyRights.org's alert at <http://www.privacyrights.org/ar/phishing.htm>.

Legislative Days 2005

by Debbie Gubernick

Arizona Families for Home Education the sponsor of Legislative Days 2005, is holding the Legislative Days Rally on Monday, March 21, from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the lobby of the Governor's Tower at the State Capitol. Homeschooling families throughout Arizona are invited to participate.

Here is the official blurb from AFHE:

"This is a great time to mingle, hear some speakers including AFHE president Mike Deltenre, and AFHE legislative Liaison, Dorrie Duff, and also to represent homeschooling to the legislators and press in attendance... Following the Rally,

homeschoolers will be able to take a tour of the State Capitol (Sign up is required at the AFHE table). You are welcome to bring a picnic lunch (and blankets to sit on) to enjoy the Capitol grounds following the Homeschool Rally."

In addition, AFHE invites state support groups to create displays that will hang in the lobby of the Governor's tower for two weeks, from March 21 through April 2. "Support groups are invited to prepare a display of pictures and examples of what homeschoolers do. This could include things like pictures of kids on field trips, participation in science fairs or experiments, spelling bees, geography bees, historical re-

enactments, art projects, drama productions, music performances, examples of good academic work such as short stories in the child's own (legible) handwriting..."

The display space is furnished to homeschooling groups free of charge, but the space must be reserved for each group by March 4. If anyone is interested in organizing a display for SDH, please see Sybelle at the March 1 park meeting - I have given her the necessary information and forms to hand over to anyone interested in taking on this project.

If you have questions, please e-mail me at debbiegubernick@yahoo.com.

This Month's Featured Web Sites

by Debbie Gubernick

Visit the SDH Featured Web Sites page at <http://www.hozho.homestead.com/ThisMonthsFeaturedSites.html>, and check out past collections at <http://www.hozho.homestead.com/FeaturedSitesArchive.html>

Grand Illusions

Scroll down to the Fun & Games section to find links to optical illusions and puzzles.

<http://www.grand-illusions.com>

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

From the National Park Service

The trail's route through Tucson and Marana follows Silverbell Road.

<http://www.nps.gov/juba>

Web de Anza

From the University of Oregon

"Web de Anza provides students and scholars with primary source documents and multimedia resources covering Juan Bautista de Anza's two overland expeditions from the Sonoran desert to northern California, leading to the colonization of San Francisco in 1776."

<http://anza.uoregon.edu>

Scrabble

From Mattel

Interactive games including Scrabble Snake and Scrabble Hangman

<http://www.mattelscrabble.com/en/kids>

Einstein

From the American Museum of Natural History

March 14 marks Albert Einstein's 126th birthday

<http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/einstein>

Secrets of Easter Island

From NOVA

Explore Easter Island, learn about its ancient inhabitants, and follow the efforts of an archaeological team as they attempt to raise a 10-ton moai using only the tools and materials available to those ancient inhabitants.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/easter>

Award Winning Reading Material

by Erin Shott and Eileen Daily

The 2005 Literary Awards have been announced. You can find a list of awards, along with the winners, at <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/literaryrelated.htm>. The website

includes such notables as the Dr. Seuss Award, the Caldecott Medal and Children's Notable.

Free Family Fun

by Erin Shott and Eileen Daily

Arizona State Museum offers free activities through their Culture Craft Saturday program. More information can be found at <http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/public/family.shtml>.

March 2005

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1</p> <p>9:15 a.m. AIT P.E. 10:30 a.m. Park Day 10:30 a.m. Book Discussion for Children 11:00 a.m. Announcements Herifer Project Used Book Sale</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Biology class</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10 a.m., UApresents Kevin Locke, Centennial Hall 1 to 3 p.m., Homeschoolers Roller Skating, AZ Skate Center 3:30 to 4:30, Japanese Class</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Home Educator's History Workshop, PCC Downtown Campus</p>	<p>5</p> <p>1 to 3 p.m. Roots & Shoots, Worm composting, Bookman's on Speedway 3:30 to 4:30, Japanese Class, Columbus Library</p>
<p>6</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Free to be...You and Me Rehearsal (see January newsletter) 1:00 Free to be...You and Me Performance, The Inn & The Gardens</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:15 a.m. AIT P.E. 10:30 a.m. Park Day 11:00 a.m. Announcement Scholastic Book Orders Due</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10 a.m., Go, Dog Go!, Center for the Arts, Pima Community College (see February newsletter)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10 a.m., Go, Dog Go!, Center for the Arts, Pima Community College (see February newsletter)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9 a.m. to 1 p.m., SARSEF, Tucson Convention Center 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Biology class</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Home Educator's History Workshop, PCC Downtown Campus</p>	<p>12</p> <p>4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Grand Canyon Girls Club</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:15 a.m. AIT P.E. 10:30 a.m. Park Day 11:15 Multicultural Festival Parade of Flags 11:30 -12:30 Potluck 12:30-3:30 Multicultural Festival Entertainment</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10 a.m., UApresents Momix, Centennial Hall 10:30 a.m. Park Day 11:00 a.m. Announcements</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7 p.m. Parent's Book Discussion, Something Sweet</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Biology class</p>	<p>18</p> <p>3:30 to 4:30, Japanese Class, Columbus Library</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7 p.m. Father/Son Outing at Golf'n Stuff</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:15 a.m. AIT P.E. 10 a.m., UApresents Momix, Centennial Hall 10:30 a.m. Park Day 11:00 a.m. Announcements</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Mom's Coffee Night, Something Sweet</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Biology class</p>	<p>25</p> <p>1 to 4 p.m., Game Day, St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Room 50 3:30 to 4:30, Japanese Class, Columbus Library Deadline for April <i>Inside SDH</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Roots & Shoots, SASI</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:15 a.m. AIT P.E. 10 a.m., Oklahoma Land Run party meeting, Ft. Lowell park under the ramada 10:30 a.m. Park Day 11:00 a.m. Announcements Spring Clothing Exchange</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>		

Monthly 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 p.m. but don't worry if you can't make it 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 with younger or older children so you can ask lots of questions. Contact Kim Barton 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 p.m. Contact Jeff Orach or Brian Metcalf for more information.

Parent's Book Discussion Group

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

March 17: *Word Freak* by Stefan Fatsis

April 21: *House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

May 19: *The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth

June 16: *Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi

Upcoming Events

April

Roots & Shoots, Friday, April 1, 10 to noon, Bookman's Community room - Speedway & Wilmot

AIT P.E. Classes Tuesday's

April 5, 12, 19, 26, 9:15 a.m.,

Ft. Lowell Park

Children's Book Discussion, April 5,

10:30 a.m. at Ft. Lowell Park

Men's Coffee Night, April 6, 7:30

p.m., Borders on Oracle

Earth Day Parade, Saturday, April

16

Parent's Book Discussion, April 21,

7 p.m. at Something Sweet

Newsletter Deadline April 25

Mom's Coffee Night, April 27, 7:30

p. m., Something Sweet

May

AIT P.E. Classes Tuesday's, May 3,

10, 17, 24, 31, 9:15 a.m., Ft. Lowell

Park

Children's Book Discussion, May 3,

10:30 a.m. at Ft. Lowell

Men's Coffee Night, May 4, 7:30

p.m., Borders on Oracle

Spring Music Recital, May 5, 3 p.m.,

The Prime School

SDH Annual Parent's Planning Meet-

ing, Monday, May 16, 7:00 to 9:00

p.m. at Wilmot Library

Parent's Book Discussion, May 19,

7 p.m. at Something Sweet

Last Ft. Lowell Park Day, May 24

Mom's Coffee Night, May 25, 7:30

p. m., Something Sweet

June

Men's Coffee Night, June 1, 7:30

p.m., Borders on Oracle

Parent's Book Discussion, June 16,

7 p.m. at Something Sweet

Mom's Coffee Night, June 29, 7:30

p. m., Something Sweet

July

Men's Coffee Night, July 6, 7:30

p.m., Borders on Oracle

Parent's Book Discussion, July 21,

7 p.m. at Something Sweet

Mom's Coffee Night, July 27, 7:30

p. m., Something Sweet

August

Men's Coffee Night, August 3, 7:30

p.m., Borders on Oracle

First SDH Park Day for 2005-2006,

August 16, 10:30 a.m., Ft. Lowell

Park

Parent's Book Discussion, August 18,

7 p.m. at Something Sweet

Mom's Coffee Night, August 31,

7:30 p. m., Something Sweet

SDH Membership Form

To Join SDH, return this form and \$10 cash (\$5 after January 1st) to either a Newcomer Committee member in a yellow SDH t-shirt or SDH's treasurers Claire B. or Teresa B.

Parents' Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____ Phone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

If you provide an e-mail address your SDH newsletter 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) 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.

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 Ft. Lowell park, from mid-August through mid-May at 10:30 a.m.

What are the benefits of joining?

Every month, Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers Newsletter 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?

\$10.00 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 above form plus the fee to a newcomer committee member in a yellow SDH t-shirt or to Treasurers Claire B. or Teresa B.

Questions to sdhtucson@yahoo.com

From the Editors

We'd love to hear from you about what interests your children right now or whatever hobbies they are currently pursuing with enthusiasm. Specifically, we would love to hear about those things that are beyond just "math," "history," or

"geography." For example, maybe your children became interested in finding out everything they could about And is currently finding all the books at the library on that topic, talking to experts, etc. Please send in one sentence per child, or

even just list what your children are currently interested in studying. Send your submissions for the April *Inside SDH* to sdhnewsletter@yahoo.com by March 25.

Erin Shott and Eileen Daily

Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers

<http://tucsonhomeschoolers.org>

Info: sdhtucson@yahoo.com

Newsletter: sdhnewsletter@yahoo.com



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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."