



Inside SDH

Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers • Tucson, AZ • September 2006

AIT : ATHLETES IN TRAINING by Jaimie L.

Athletes in Training (AIT) starts Tuesday, September 5. AIT is a physical education/fitness program taught by trained coaches. Each month will have a specific sport or activity.

Classes will be in two age groups and at two times:

9:15 -10:15 a.m. Ages 7 and up

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Ages 4 to 6

Parents will need to fill out a health questionnaire/ waiver and sign a code of conduct agreement. Children should be dressed appropriately for the activity and wear sneakers.

We meet at Fort Lowell Park. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early to fill out paperwork and make payment. Costs are: \$16.00 first child, \$12.00 second child, \$8.00 third child, and \$8.00 for each additional child. There are discounts for paying in advance. A complete pay schedule will be available on Sept. 5.

You may use this first class as a trial class, and pay only if you plan to participate for the month of September.

Please remember this is not a drop-off class. Parents must be present and close by when their children attend PE (or have another adult there who is responsible for them.)

SDH PARK DAY Come for the fun and information every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the playground area of Ft. Lowell Park (Glenn and Craycroft). Announcements are held at 11:00 a.m.

NEW ROOTS & SHOOTS GROUP by Lara B.

Our Owl Habitat Project was a roaring success! It was fun and rewarding to be a part of it with all of you who participated!

Now we will have our planning meeting and officially start our Roots & Shoots group. If you are interested, please join us on Friday, September 1 from 10:00 a.m. to noon at Bookman's on Grant & Campbell in the community room. We will plan what we'll be up to for the year, so if you have any ideas please bring them! Hope to see you all then! And if you'd like to see the website for Roots & Shoots go to www.rootsandshoots.org. Any questions, contact Lara B. or Liz H.

ART CLUB by Laura C.

The first Art Club meeting will take place on Thursday, September 28 at my home. We will be doing collages and guest artist Julie Glasier will be demonstrating collage techniques. We will start at 10:00 a.m. and go through lunch. Pizza and drinks will be provided. There is no fee, but I ask participants to bring collage material to share. To RSVP and get directions contact me.

WIZARD OF OZ by Laura C.

Wizard of Oz will get under way in September and all children k-12 (younger children welcome if able to fully participate) are invited to participate. A parents meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. on September 14 at Something Sweet, 5319 E. Speedway. Auditions will be on September 28 (time to be determined at parent meeting) and practices will start the following Thursday (time to be determined at parent meeting). Scripts and music will be available at the parents meeting.

FAMILY ART DAY

submitted by Heather M.

Tucson Museum of Art sponsors Family Art Days on the first Sunday of each month. Experience hands-on art making as a family at *Picture This! Art Sundays* a free program for kids 6-12 years and their adult companions. Celebrate creativity through interpreting artworks with gallery games, art projects, and engaging tours.

Canyon Creatures is the topic for September. Join art instructors and wander through the exhibition *The Grand Canyon: From Dream to Icon* and imagine the animals that live within its walls. Make your own canyon critter with clay, colored pencils, and acrylic paints. Meet in the main lobby by 1:00 p.m. for the two hour program on Sunday, September 3. Located at 140 North Main Avenue , downtown Tucson. www.tucsonarts.com

UApresents

by Alica M.

September 19 is the last day to sign-up for the 2006-2007 UApresents season. For the shows we meet in front of Centennial Hall at 10:00 a.m. and are seated as a group. Seats are \$6.00 each and please make your checks out to the University of Arizona. You can find me at the park on Tuesdays or you can mail me your checks and info. I need to know which shows you wish to attend and how many kids and adults per show (please only one adult per family). If you have any questions contact me.

2006-2007 UApresents Shows will be:

- Inti-Illimani – Friday, October 20, 2006
- Momix Opus Cactus – Thursday, November 9, 2006
- Mombasa Party featuring The Royal
- Drummers of Burundi – Tuesday, November 14, 2006
- Interpreti Veneziani – Friday, January 19, 2007
- Preservation Hall Jazz Band – Friday, February 16, 2007
- Ballet Hispanico – Friday, March 2, 2007
- Nai-Ni Chen Dance Co. – Monday, March 12, 2007

To find out more about the shows go to www.uapresents.org

* * * * * SDH ROSTER DEADLINE * * * * *

Fall membership deadline is October 17, 2006. Memberships will be accepted after this date but will not be included in the fall roster. Current members not renewed by the deadline will be removed from the roster. Please fill in the membership form and turn it in!

MUSIC RECITALS

by Victoria M.

We will be having two music recitals this year, just as we have had in the past. They will be on the first Thursdays in December and May in the afternoon. I am looking for a place to have them, so if anyone has any ideas or suggestions, I'd love to hear from you. Thanks to all of you who have shown interest and participated in the recitals in the past. It is a real pleasure for me to see all of you and meet new members.

REST HOME RECITALS

In addition to our regular Winter and Spring Recitals, I am organizing three mini-recitals at a rest home called Loving Hands near Silverbell and Orange Grove. They will be held the first Thursdays in October, March and June. These recitals are a real blessing for the residents at Loving Hands. The folks are always happy to see the children and enjoy their music and company so much. Please call me with any questions or to be included on the program.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

by Emily N. (age 12)

It's almost the first day of school.
 That's pretty cool.
 I get a backpack with accessories.
 I want this notebook please.
 I get on the bus
 and see Busdriver Russ.
 I see my old friends
 and make new friends at school.
 That's cool.

SDH TREASURY REPORT

by Claire B.

June 2006	\$920.80
Pay outs (news letters etc.)	<u>85.47</u>
July/August	\$835.33

CURRICULUM SHOW AND TELL NIGHT

By Jackie O.

Trying to decide whether to attend this event? Here's a quick curriculum quiz to help:

1. Usborne Internet-linked books are:
 - a) a series of books about a dysfunctional family with an aging rock star dad.
 - b) a series of visually stunning children's books exploring just about every subject under the sun—and beyond
2. Set, Blink, are Quiddler are:
 - a) a 3 point, an 11 point and a 72 point Scrabble score
 - b) a new generation of fun, fast, and furious logic and word games
3. Rainbow Resource is:
 - a) a new Lisa Frank outlet for all your rainbow and unicorn needs
 - b) a 1000 page teachers' supply catalog created by and geared toward homeschoolers offering a discount on every item
4. Rap ups are:
 - a) Arby's new low-carb lunch offering
 - b) math aids to help your kinesthetic learner memorize her times tables
5. Jim Weiss is:
 - a) a relative of a former Tucson anchorwoman running for elected office
 - b) an amazing storyteller sure to enthrall you and your child alike
6. Cuisinaire rods are:
 - a) the newest over-priced kitchen gadget from France
 - b) centimeter-width blocks in varying lengths and colors that help illustrate math concepts (they're also just a lot of fun to build with!)

If you answered "a" to any of the questions, you owe it to yourself to come to our Curriculum Show and Tell and see what other homeschoolers are using to help teach and engage their children.

If you answered "b" to any of the above questions, please come and bring some of your own tried and true learning aids. Remember curriculum can be anything! Videos, games, puzzles, audio tapes, coloring books, art kits, etc. and yes, even packaged curriculum too!

We will meet on Wednesday, September 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Something Sweet, 5319 East Speedway (two blocks west of Craycroft, on the north side of the street). Who knows how long we'll stay! So if you're running late, come anyway – we'll likely still be there.

UNSCHOOLING DISCUSSION

by Debbie G.

Whether you are presently unschooling, considering unschooling, or just curious about unschooling, please come to a discussion about unschooling on Tuesday, September 26, at our regular weekly Fort Lowell Park meeting. We'll be talking about what unschooling is, different ways to go about it, and how to talk about it with family, friends and other interested parties without getting too defensive.

So join us for some relaxed conversation after announcements! (note: the date, time, and location for this event have changed!)

In the meantime, here are some web sites with information about unschooling

Unschooling or Homeschooling? By Billy Greer

<http://www.homeschoolingfriends.org/unschooling.html>

What Is Unschooling? By Earl Stevens

http://www.naturalchild.com/guest/earl_stevens.html

A Conversation with John Holt (1980)

Interviewer: Marlene Bumgarner

http://www.naturalchild.com/guest/marlene_bumgarner.html

Jon's Homeschool Resources' Unschooling Pages

By Jon Shemitz

<http://www.midnightbeach.com/hs/unschool.html>

John Holt's definition of unschooling,

from his book "Teach Your Own"

<http://www.holtgws.com/teachyourown.html>

For people who are new/newer to SDH, I am the mother of four grown/almost grown unschooled kids, ages 17 to 23. If you have questions about the discussion, please e-mail me. Thanks!

NORTHWEST PARK DAY - Richardson Park

by Ester S.

For those in the northwest, we will meet at Richardson Park between Orange Grove and Ina on Cmo. De lat Tierra on Thursdays from 10:00. If the weather will be too uncomfortable (rain, mud etc.), you can find us at the Nanini Library just off Shannon. Once we have our SDH shirts, we'll have them on so we can recognize each other.

SDH MONTHLY PARENT OPPORTUNITIES

Parents' Book Discussion Group - September 21

Held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Something Sweet, 5319 E. Speedway. (NW corner of Speedway and Beverly east of Craycroft). Any questions, contact Lara B.

2006

- September: *The Death of Innocents*
by Helen Prejean
- October: *Atlas Shrugged*
by Ayn Rand
- November: *Protecting the Gift*
by Gavin de Becker
- December: *Mapping Time*
by E. G. Richards

2007

- January: *Kissing the Virgin's Mouth* by Donna Gershtwn
- February: *Think: Why Crucial Decisions Can't Be Made in the Blink of an Eye*
by M. LeGault
- March: *The Light of Day* by Jamie Saul
- April: *Zero: The Biography of a Dangerous Idea* by Charles Seife
- May: *Straight Man* by Richard Russo
- June: *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell
- July: *Freakanomics* by Steven Levitt

Note: Some of the above books may have a waiting list at the library. If you plan to get a selection from the library, you may want to look into putting an early hold on it.

Mom's Coffee Night - September 27

Held on the last Wednesday of every month at Something Sweet, 5319 E. Speedway (NW corner of Speedway and Beverly east of Craycroft) from 7:30 p.m. to midnight (or anytime in between)

Men's Coffee Night - September 6

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

FEATURED WEBSITES

WebRangers from the United States National Park Service

Print out a WebRangers ID card, and play interactive games about the geology and biology of national parkland, and about how parkland is preserved and maintained.

<http://www.nps.gov/WebRangers/index.html>

BBC Schools Learning resources for home and school from the BBC

Interactive learning activities for preschool through teens.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools>

New Deal Network from the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute

The New Deal Network is a database of photographs, political cartoon, texts provided as a resource for learning about the Roosevelt era's public work and art projects. Classroom materials include 17 ex-slave narratives collected by the WPA, and timelines for 1933 and 1933 that list national and international headline, along with popular movies, songs, and literature.

<http://newdeal.feri.org>

Free Weekly Homeschool Planner and Organizer from Mary Ann Kelley's TheHomeschoolMom.com

Mary Ann offers a free collection of organizer pages, covering household, homeschool, and even unschool planning and record keeping.

<http://www.thehomeschoolmom.com/gettingorganized/planner.php>
