



April 2017

Raise your hand if you have ever wondered “where in the world did this child come from?” Keep your hand up if you have wanted to trade him/her in for another or get a refund? My hand is up. Why do they do the things that they do? As we have found out; they don’t come with a money back guarantee, nor do they have an exchange policy. You get what you get. Praise God! Ha! This could be fun if you jump in and splash around. After the fun runs out, we must get back to reality, back to being children of God with children. We have a most serious, but a most wonderful responsibility of raising children to worship and serve our LORD God.

Give some thought to this; If God would tell us exactly how our children would turn out/end up, don’t you think we would try to sway, cajole, or direct our children to the destination we would now know about? In our selfish, human ways, we probably would mess up since we now know what they are going to be in life, how mature they would be, how organized, how talented, how gifted. How would we direct their lives more to that direction such as education, job, spouse, etc? How do we know we would do a proper job? In messing up, we probably would stop them from participating in many of life’s most important lessons. The exact thing we would prevent from happening to them might turn out to be one of the most important lessons. This gives weight to statement that God is all-knowing, not us. He allows these tests, trials and happenings to take place for many reasons.....two reasons would be to make us better and stronger! We still need to deeply care about our children’s future, but we need to be sensitive to God’s leadings and raise them as He directs.

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C.H.E.F. Board Members

- President – Ross & Julie Little **(337) 654-8004**
- Vice President – Barney & Holly Ware **(337) 422-4965**
- Past President – Don & Monica Gauthreaux **(337) 873-4015**
- Secretary – Roy & Kristine Cuthkelvin **(337) 517-7155**
- Treasurer – Robert & Laura Gavlas **(720) 210-7365**
- Facebook Admin – Seaneen Hebert **(337) 212-1316**
- Hospitality Coordinator – Tiffany Olivier **(281) 253-6177**
- Field Trip Coordinator – Laura Horn **(337) 394-8919**
- Newsletter & Webmaster – Cindy North **(337) 524-0732**
- Park Day Coordinator – Mary Lewis **(337) 251-0017**



Home Court Advantage Meeting

Join us this month for a “Moms Only” fellowship. This is a chance for mom’s to come together to discuss home school topics. We talk about struggles and challenges that we have faced, and also bring encouragement, especially from those who have been home schooling for a long time. We usually share a scripture or two to go along with our topic for the night. Nursing infants are welcome. We would love to see you there!

Home Court Advantage is a CHEF of Lafayette members only activity. However, member moms can invite a friend to attend the monthly gatherings.

RSVP with Julie Little (337) 654-8003

julielittle7@gmail.com

WHEN: Thursday, April 27th – 6:30 PM

**WHERE: Indulge Breakfast and Dessert Restaurant
1921 Kaliste Saloom Rd. #111
Lafayette, LA 70508**



UPCOMING HOMESCHOOL EVENTS



Homeschool Legislative Day – April 26th

A day at the Legislature for Homeschool Families in Louisiana. This is the first of two Legislative Days (The second will be May 24, details later).

Our headquarters will be the Pentagon Barracks. The Lt. Governor has graciously allowed us to use his suite at 959 3rd St. in Baton Rouge (Corner of N. 3rd and State Capitol Dr.). We will have meals and hear from speakers at the Pentagon Barracks.

Our speakers will include various legislators and homeschool leaders in Louisiana. We require that boys & men wear coat and tie and girls & ladies wear nice dress or skirt. It's important that we are excellent representatives for homeschoolers across the state as our group moves through the state Capitol.



Your ticket includes both breakfast and lunch.

Before April 20 the cost is \$8/person.

After April 20, the cost is \$12/person.

6 to 12 years old -\$2 discount. 5 & under – Free.

Register early, space is limited. All participants must register, regardless of whether meals are desired. No refunds after April 20. Register Online at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/homeschool-legislative-day-tickets-33033011627?aff=eac2>

EventBrite.com (search Homeschool Legislative Day) or mail the completed registration form and check payable to Chef of Lafayette, P.O. Box 1373, Scott, LA 70583.

Missions (Teaching our children God's great commission)

In Matt. 28:19, Jesus Commands us to "make disciples of all nations".

Please join us at 1:45 pm on Tuesday, April 18th to bless the residents at Cornerstone Village (103 W. Martial Ave., Lafayette). We will join/assist in craft time with the residents. Children are welcome to recite scripture, play the piano, perform a song or read a poem.

RSVP: Laura Gavlas (303) 667-8607 or LauraGavlas@gmail.com

2017 Magee's Creek Canoe Expedition

We will travel to Magee's Creek on Saturday, April 22 for a day of Canoeing adventure. For those driving in on Saturday, we will depart Lafayette at 6:00 am to arrive approximately at 9:00 am at the Canoe and Trail Outpost, 118 Dillon's Bridge Road, Tylertown, MS 39967.

Check out www.CanoeAndTrailOutpost.com. We will canoe on Magee's Creek on the 6 mile day trip. Cost is \$30 per canoe. **If you plan to attend, we must know By 10:00 am, Monday, April 17. Please let me know By contacting me ASAP: email**

RossLittle25@gmail.com cell 337.654.8000 **may text me on the cell).**



Here is what you should bring:

1. Clothes that can get wet and dry quickly.
2. Shoes that can get wet. Plastic or similar sandals are best. Tennis shoes are not as good as they stay wet after they get wet. Plan to be walking in the water often, especially in the beginning.
3. Lunch to be brought with you in the canoe. It is best to pack in an ice chest and include drinks in the ice chest. Avoid glass containers for your drinks.
4. Sun protection. This would include sunscreen, a wide brimmed hat or a light long-sleeved shirt as sun protection.
5. A change of clothes for after the trip. These would be kept in your car until after the trip. Showers are available so bring towels to be kept with your change of clothes. You won't be bringing your towels with you in the canoe.
6. Something to sit on. I like to bring some sort of cushion. This is not absolutely necessary, but I have had one on every trip for the past 10 years.
7. We may stop on the way home in Baton Rouge for dinner, so bring enough money for dinner.
8. It is best to have two persons per canoe and at least one adult per canoe. Parents are responsible for children. All participants should be able to swim.
9. When we arrive at the Outpost, we will check in, each receive a life vest and hop in a bus to take us to the put in point, up river. Then, we canoe down river back to the outpost. We hope to be back at the outpost by around 3:00. We will stop often on the river to snack and watch the scenery. The water can be shallow so be prepared to occasionally step out of the boat and drag the canoe. This depends on the water level on that day. On the other hand, sometimes the water level is so high that canoeing is not allowed.

Monthly Park Day Gatherings

Join us at Thomas Park, the 1st and 3rd Friday of this month, for fellowship and play! It's Baseball time, bring your bat, ball and glove. Don't forget snacks and water for the little ones. Meet by the playground. Contact Mary Lewis with questions (337) 551-9697

WHEN: Friday, April 7th and April 21st
TIME: 2:30 – 5:00 PM
WHERE: Thomas Park, 300 Geraldine Dr., Lafayette, LA 70503



Creation Bible Study

Continue in April - Friday's @ 6:30 – 8:30 PM
6:30 – 7:00 – Finger food & snacks
7:00 – 7:30 – Film clip
7:30 – 8:30 - Discussion
Ross and Julie Little's Home
101 Ruthwood Dr., Lafayette
Contact Ross @ (337) 654-8004
(not a CHEF event)



Etcetera

April Birthdays

4th Barney Ward
6th Aubrey Karaba
19th Rose Karaba
26th Robert Gavlas
26th Andrew Lawrie
26th Maliek Sinegal



Important Dates in April

7th & 21st Park Day Gatherings
7th, 14th, 21st, 28th cont. Creation Studies
18th – Missions at Cornerstone Village
22nd – Canoe Expedition
26th – Homeschool Legislative Day
27th - Home Court Advantage



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The Apostle Paul -----had a "thorn in his side" that God would not remove. Paul wisely did not tell us what it was. God did answer Paul by telling him that He would not remove it and that His Grace was sufficient to sustain him in carrying out the duties to which God had called him. What is your thorn? No, you cannot say your child(ren). This is a personal issue. Why won't God remove your thorn? Same reason He did not remove Paul's. This 'thorn' is personal between us and God. Paul didn't tell, should we run around telling? As Paul did, we should grow closer to Jesus and walk hand in His hand!

When God had Samuel anoint David, King of Israel; David did not assume the throne the next day, nor did he take power when he turned 21. David had to go through many trials and tests. In other words, he had to be schooled for a while. These peaks and valleys were in David's life to strengthen him. He had to go through all of these, through all those years to prepare him for being king of God's chosen people. We, parents/ grand-parents, must allow these and not interfere. We are called to help our children through those tests and trials which are causing them to look inside themselves and reach deep to find that they need a healthy dependence on the Lord. If we shelter our child(ren) from the "heat" of life and "growing pains" of maturity and spiritual faith building, then we are administering to them a formula of failure. They must find their way to the foot of the Cross of Christ, our strong Tower.

We don't really know how our children will turn out. We don't really know what decisions they will make in the future. We can only educate, direct and guide them by seeking God's Will for their lives. And then we must "STAY THE COURSE" and not let our flesh/weaknesses cause us to give in to the 'easy way'. Their struggles are for our growth, too! Do not help a butterfly escape its cocoon. You will only make it weak and crippled because it was denied the struggle it needed to grow strong.

So, parents, God's Grace is sufficient to sustain us in the journey of home-schooling. So, children, God's Grace is sufficient to lead and guide your parents in raising and training you in the direction you should go. Look up 1 John 2:27 "But the Anointing which you have received of Him abideth in you..."

Remember parents, our children are learning from us,

Don Gauthreaux

Husband, Parent, Past President

Disclaimer: The articles and recommended resources contained in CHEF of Lafayette Newsletters have been submitted for and are intended to provide information that may be used to Christian homeschoolers. The views and opinions reflect those of the contributor and are those of CHEF of Lafayette.