



Editor's Musings:

Greetings,

At the beginning of sorrow it is often hard to see the significance of it. But as the months and years go by it becomes more and more obvious why this was the path chosen for you. You begin to see the value in the grief, God's reasoning for the parting, the benefit in experiencing betrayal and disrespect.

Long winters are like that. Why can't spring come earlier? Why must we endure another snow event? Well, I am confident that we will enjoy with greater zeal the summer ahead of us, simply because it was so slow to come.

I think grief in this life might be like this past winter. It seems never ending. There is much about the Christian life that is very, very good, but we have not been afforded the luxury of never experiencing sorrow and loss and betrayal. And it can feel like this spiritual

winter never ends. But we have the hope of an eternal spring.



I was talking with someone very dear to me recently and we were both sharing about how impossible life would be without the dear Lord Jesus as Saviour, friend, guide. She said, "How does the world survive without Jesus?" I said, "They get drunk ... on something or other!" She replied, "I would, too. I would start drinking early in the morning and drink until I passed out every night." That is exactly the hopelessness of life without Christ. Any trial you may be enduring is sure to end. And there is purpose in it all. James says it like this, "Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

Patience, weary traveler. Spring is on its way. Our eternal home is in the heavenlies. Rejoice! Grace and peace,
Gail M. Biby

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The VIEW from my WINDOW

by Theresa Deckert, office administrator, North Dakota Home School Association

This month I would like to give a shout out to all of our support group leaders who faithfully support and encourage home educators in their area of the state. They serve because they believe in homeschooling and want to help others to be successful. Many start because they wanted some sort of a group for their own family, only to find that they love promoting home education!

Every support group has its own flavor. Some are very active, others meet monthly or just for an occasional field trip. We even have a number of "retired" support group leaders who are done homeschooling their own children, yet stay involved. Some of these we refer to as *area contact people* because there is no longer an active group in their area. They are willing to stay on the NDHSA contact list to be a resource for new homeschoolers in their area.

I want to add a personal thank you to my own area leader – Lori. She has been done homeschooling for three years. She continues to send out our weekly email updates and organize the schedule for our weekly activities. She comes to homeschool group each week leading all three of our choirs, doing projects with the kids, helping with snacks, hauling our tub of supplies to group weekly and constantly encouraging the younger moms in their venture.

She is sort of the initiator who gets things going with our group. I never hear her complain, but I do see her constantly pouring herself into others. Her Christ-like, servant spirit shines brightly!

We have many Lori's out there faithfully serving the homeschooling community, often for many years. As the school year winds down, take a minute and thank your local leadership for all they do. Trust me, they are the backbone of the NDHSA!



BOARD COLUMN

From Mrs. Llor Knight, director and western support group coordinator

As I sit to write this article it is early on a quiet Saturday morning, a late April storm is dusting the ground with a clean white layer of snow and I am recollecting – remembering.



Remembering what? Glad you asked. May is just ahead and with it Memorial Day. Ask the average person on the street, “What is Memorial Day?” You’ll get a wide variety of answers. You might hear, “It’s the first official weekend of the summer season.” Maybe you’d hear a closer answer of “A day to remember friends and family who’ve died and to put flowers or wreaths on their graves.” The holiday actually began as far back as 1866 when it was called Decoration Day. One of the first observations was in Columbus, Mississippi, on April 25, 1866. On that day a group of women visited a nearby cemetery with the intent of decorating the graves of Confederate soldiers fallen at the Battle of Shiloh. Initially, they passed by the graves of the “enemy” Union soldiers but were then moved by the barren contrast and decided to decorate all the graves of the fallen. On May 5, 1868, the Union Veterans Organization (Grand Army of the Republic) established May 30 as Decoration Day – a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. When that first Decoration Day was established, Major General John A. Logan (head of the Grand Army of the Republic) declared, “We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. Let no neglect, no ravage of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic.”

After WWI, the day was expanded to honor any who have died in American wars. In 1971, an act of Congress declared the last Monday in May as a national day of remembrance for all who gave their last full measure of devotion.

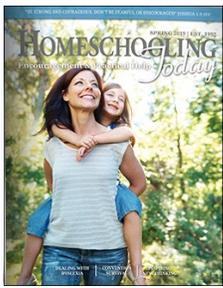
Each year, as we approach Memorial Day, I try to take time to remember. To remember our history and the battles that have been fought for freedom. I lived in Germany for four years as a missionary. Outside of a WWII Concentration Camp museum they have a large sign that simply reads “Lest We Forget.” I don’t want to forget sacrifices young men and women have made for me to be free. I’ve lived in foreign countries. I spent six weeks visiting in Russia. I have children who live in foreign countries. I do not take my freedom for granted. Every time I pass out a gospel tract, every time I attend church, every time I read a political book, every time I hear a broadcast that criticizes the government, every time I begin a new school year teaching my children at home, I give thanks. First and foremost, I thank God that He allowed me to be born and raised and now to live in America. Then I thank Him for all those who gave their lives that I might have and keep those freedoms. I also thank Him for those who fought and didn’t die. My family has record of having veterans who fought in every war since the American Revolution. If some hadn’t survived, I wouldn’t be here.



The Apostle Peter said in his second epistle, “Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;” 2 Peter 2:12-13. I believe we need to put people in remembrance – Lest we forget. We need to remember sacrifices made on our behalf – not only be those in the military, but also by those who fought the legal battles to bring homeschool freedom to us today and ultimately to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who suffered, died, was buried, and rose again to give us freedom over sin and death. “If the Son, therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.” John 8:36.

So, this year, use Memorial Day as a day of remembrance and in doing so, be thankful for freedom!

HOMESCHOOL MAGAZINES



HOMESCHOOLING TODAY is a quarterly magazine published by the Wiggers family. Their stated goal is to “focus on providing information and tools for those who homeschool, shared from a Christian perspective. The magazine doesn’t just offer encouragement but also ready-to-use lessons and activities for anyone who wants to expand the educational experience of their children, while keeping the approach to learning natural.” \$19.99 per year; contact them at: <http://homeschoolingtoday.com/store/>



PRACTICAL HOMESCHOOLING PH is a quarterly publication from Mary Pride. It contains lots of information on curriculum, special sections on preschool, elementary, middle school, high school, and college. The Spotlight Review by Pride covers a particular curricula. She also includes a Hot Products section and A Day at Our House featuring a homeschooling family. Subscribe at: PracticalHomeschooling.com. \$15 for one year. Or contact: Home Life, P.O. Box 1190, Fenton MO 63026.



THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE is a giant quarterly publication which includes articles dealing with challenges, special needs, organization, curriculum resources, multiple-age teaching, inspirational stories and oodles more. Available for \$29/year with more than 120 pages per edition. Contact them at: www.TOSPrint.com

Great QUOTE!

From Katherine vonDuyke, in Mary Pride’s *Complete Guide to Getting Started in Homeschooling*

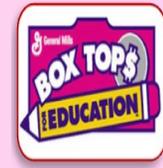
The family is meant to be a place of grace. We were created to interact heart to heart, and mind to mind, knowing each other, caring about each other, being involved, and encouraging one another. Authority is used to bring up and nurture and support the weak among us, our children.

Something from Diana Waring: [Read more: The Bible and History](#)

You can get copies of all the workshops and keynotes from the 2019 NDHSA Convention by contacting: www.Alliancerecording.com
The NDHSA receives a share of the profits.




Send clipped labels for **BOX TOPS for Education**:
Laurie Morstad
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For legal assistance
JOIN
Home School Legal
Defense Association.
www.hslda.org

Find a support group
near you at:
www.ndhsa.org
click on support
groups.

Historic Homeschool Bill HB 1052 Signed by Gov. Burgum





If we give our children regular opportunities to get in touch with God's creation, a habit is formed which will be a source of delight throughout their lives. Many people know little of the natural world because they never take time to observe it. Children take especial joy in their little discoveries.

From *Charlotte Mason Companion*,
Karen Andreola, "Nature Study".



Visit: <https://www.homeschool.com/articles/101ThingsToDoThisSummer/>

No need to be bored this summer. Click the above and visit Homeschool.com for ideas on how to productively spend your summer months. Here are some of the suggestions:

- Make a scrapbook of everything you do this summer.
- Go to a ballgame.
- Become a photographer.
- Take a boat ride.
- Go to camp!
- Go camping.
- Help an elderly person with yard work.
- Make a treasure hunt.
- Set up a lemonade stand.
- Have a family game night.
- Go to a museum.
- Fly a kite.
- Research your family tree.
- Attend a first aid class.
- Start a collection.
- Visit a National Park.



These and many, many more ideas have links to sites that will help you with the project.

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NDHSA Statement of Faith

We believe in Almighty God, the Author of all creation, eternally existing in three persons, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit; the Bible as the inspired, infallible, written Word of God, complete in 66 books and our sole basis of faith and practice; the fallen state of man, guilty by nature and by act and therefore condemned before God; the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, except without sin, the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ on the cross for our sins, His visible bodily resurrection demonstrating His power over death and sin, His personal return; and regeneration by God, the Holy Spirit when we accept His free gift of salvation by His grace, through our personal faith, and not by any works we can do.

Mission statement

To provide a comprehensive home education information system to support, train and protect every willing North Dakota individual, family and church in the methods of privately funded, parent-directed home education.

NDHSA Statement of purpose

1. Encouraging and assisting Christian families in the education of their children according to Biblical principles;
2. Providing to home educators and the general public information pertaining to the Biblical, academic and legal aspects of home education;
3. Entering into activities, in filling out contracts necessary, incidental or beneficial to the accomplishment of the nonprofit purposes of this corporation.

The Eclectic Report

Gail M. Biby, editor

The *Eclectic Report* is published monthly by the NDHSA and is provided free to anyone who asks. The NDHSA is a Christian 501(c)(3) organization funded by the gifts and memberships of interested parties. No substantial part of the activities of the NDHSA is used for the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, promote any political campaign, or on the behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Legal issues are for instructive purposes only and do not constitute the giving of legal advice. If you need legal advice concerning homeschooling, contact Daniel Beasley, Home School Legal Defense Association attorney of reference for North Dakota, if you are a member family, or contact an attorney familiar with homeschool law. Any comments or opinions are those of the editor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NDHSA board or staff members. Bynlined articles ditto! Advertisements likewise. If you have something that may be of interest to homeschoolers, or if you have comments or corrections, send them to the editor at biliby@msn.com.

Gail M. Biby is the publications editor for the NDHSA and has been joyfully working with parent educators for more than 29 years. She has served on the advisory board for LampLighter Publishing, writes a newsletter for her church gals, and volunteers with Caring Hearts Jail Ministry and Metropolitan Prison Pen Pals Ministry. She and her husband Bill are recipients of the 2017 NDHSA Homeschool Pioneer Award. Contact her: biliby@msn.com She is blessed beyond measure and once had a very long bucket list. She now prefers buckets of June berries.

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North Dakota Home School Hall of Fame Inductees

2014 Rev. Clinton & Judi Birst, Mark & Lynette Dagley, Dr. Ray & Rita Larsen, Gerald & Sheryl Lund

2015 Neil and Chris Toman, Dr. Graef Gannon, Rev. Edward and Sue Huntington

2016 Michael Farris J.D., Rev. Thomas & Peggy Patzer

2017 Bill & Gail Biby, Morris & Jackie Conklin, Allen & Barb Entzel

2018 Linus & Anna Evinger

2019 Dr. Brian Ray, the Sack-Headed Anonymous HSer



PRAYER

- **PRAISE** God for His everlasting love for His children.
- **PRAY** for those in spiritual need. Some are in your support group; some are in your church fellowship; they are at your grocery store; meet them at the clinic when your wee one is ill; find them at STOP lights and YIELD signs; see them in the homeless men; know they are in your closest friends and family. It's you, too.
- **ASK GOD** to help homeschoolers finish the year well and to view with gratitude all that has been accomplished during this school term.
- **REMEMBER** the forsaken, those still outside the fold, many who are lonely and afraid, the disillusioned and disheartened, friends who have lost loved ones this past year, and those who are discouraged. Do more than pray...help if you are able.
- **INTERCEDE** for your spouse, your pastor and family, and loved ones yet unsaved.
- **PRAY** for those in prison. Especially for Christians.
- **ASK GOD** to strengthen our resolve in all manner of godly living.
- **PRAY REGULARLY** for the NDHSA board of directors as they continue to provide vision and wisdom. **PRAISE the Lord for new board members: Bob and Melanie Joerger.**
- **PRAISE GOD** for Home School Legal Defense Association; for Daniel Beasley, HSLDA rep for ND; for their continued careful monitoring of federal legislation; for their continued work to expand freedom for homeschoolers.
- **REMEMBER** the suffering Church around the world. Often. Nigeria, Egypt, Kenya, Cameroon, Sri Lanka.

Pray without ceasing.