

“The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: for attaining wisdom and discipline; for understanding words of insight; for acquiring a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair; for giving prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the young- let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance- for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline. Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They will be a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.

HEAR

Home Educators Association of Roxboro 2010-2011 Support Group Packet

**The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.
*Deuteronomy 6:5-9***

Dear HEAR Members,

Welcome to the Home Educators Association of Roxboro (HEAR) 2010-2011 homeschool year.

The Home Educators Associations of Roxboro is a support group that was organized for the reasons stated in the HEAR Support Group Profile and Statement of Purpose and Belief. We are a Christian organization, regulated by Christian principles.

HEAR is governed by a board of directors. The organization consists of Leader or Leaders, Board Chairperson, Finance Director, Secretary Director, Communication Director, Fellowship Director, Program Director, Activities Director and Annual Events Director. Directors have coordinators serving under their position. All positions in HEAR are voluntary. Though the board has final say in all issues, we value the input of all our members and encourage you to become active and vocal.

We offer activities and support to homeschool families. We encourage volunteerism, sharing responsibilities among all members, so that no one person or group of individuals should be overburdened. With many different opportunities open to our member families, we hope that you will choose the ones that are important to your family and your children. Membership is obtained by dues of \$20 (non-refundable) paid annually per family, with adherence to the principles of the HEAR Statement of Purpose and Belief.

We want your experience educating your child to be a positive and rewarding one and stand ready to offer support and guidance. We are excited about the opportunity to get to know you and your family. Please feel free to contact us, or a member of the board with any concerns or questions. We are here to encourage you in your mission of homeschooling your children. Have a blessed 2010-2011 homeschool year.
In Christ,

Ernie and Jayne Nagy (HEAR Leaders)

*I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God!
Deuteronomy 32:3*

HEAR Support Group Profile

This is the twenty second year as a support group and we want to extend a warm welcome to all the new homeschooling families. It is the desire and vision of the HEAR support group to see all homeschooling families first grow in their relationship with the Lord, and then with one another. Our society offers us many opportunities, many of which steal our time and prohibit the building of relationships. The underlying theme for all support group meeting and activities is **the desire to encourage and build one another up in the faith**. We want to assist the Lord in “recharging your battery,” so to speak; in order for you to press on without growing weary in the calling that God has given you for your family.

When we unite ourselves with like-minded people, we are strengthened and encouraged. We hope that all the new homeschoolers will experience the wonderful networking and “safety in numbers” feeling that we are blessed to have within the HEAR support group. If this is your first year of home schooling, we ask that you not volunteer for anything within the support group this year. Learn all that you can from seasoned home school families and allow us to serve you.

The following is a list of important reminders about the Home Educators Association of Roxboro:

1. Support group meetings are held twice yearly. The mid-year meeting will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2011, starting at 7:00. The end of the year meeting/Family Field Day will be held on May 14, 2011, at Mayo Park starting early afternoon.
2. Our library of home school resources is available on our website, HEARsupport.org. You may check the website library to see what is available and how to obtain the materials. Please refer to the Guidelines for the HEAR Library section included in this packet for more information.
3. Our Coordinators are available to assist you in organizing activities such as field trips, events, and enrichment classes. All scheduled HEAR activities **must** be approved by the coordinators and posted on the HEAR website calendar. We encourage all members to organize an event and participate in the things that interest your family. Don't wait for a “scheduled” outing. Many times the impromptu field trips taken as a family bring the greatest educational benefits and strengthen family relationships.
4. The email chain is an option to receive important HEAR reminders and announcements.
5. The HEAR Herald newsletter is now available on the HEAR website to HEAR members only and submissions are welcome; and encouraged. For more information, contact the newsletter coordinator.

6. Refer to the 2010-2011 HEAR group school calendar on the HEAR website of scheduled activities for this year to plan activities your family will be participating in. Activities will be added as they are planned. Please mark your family calendar with the dates of HEAR activities you want to participate in.
7. HEAR membership is \$20 per year and starting at the beginning of the school year in August. This fee covers the bulk of our expenses, which includes the website, graduation, group events, packet and newsletter copies (only for ones without internet access), secretarial/treasury expenses, speakers, scrapbook and library expenses. Our treasurer keeps accurate records, which are open to all HEAR members. Membership is not required in order to participate in HEAR events (unless otherwise stated). We invite all families, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and others interested in learning more about home education to attend HEAR informational meetings.
8. HEAR membership privileges include HEAR Packet, membership card, website accessibility, newsletter, email, HEAR on-line Lending Library, group graduation, participate in used curriculum sale, first choice for parent workshops, first choice for enrichment classes and planned activities.
9. The HEAR website address is HEARsupport.org and the HEAR mailing address is P.O. Box 792, Roxboro, NC 27573.

HEAR
(Home Educators Association of Roxboro)
Statement of Purpose and Belief

The Home Educators of Roxboro was founded in the fall of 1988 as a support group for Christian home educators in the Roxboro, North Carolina area. HEAR, from its conception, was formed upon the principles and commands found in the Holy Scriptures, (ie...the Bible). We provide support for one another in an effort to help each family grow in the knowledge and wisdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to walk out their calling as a family according to God's Holy Word. This purpose, by its very nature, sets us apart from organizations of a secular nature.

As an increasing number of families seek alternative means of educating their children in the coming months and years ahead, we believe that a tremendous growth will occur in home education. As these families seek out support groups to help them get started, we believe that it is imperative that we as HEAR members are open and honest as to where we stand and to who's calling we are responding. If these people then choose to be a part of our group, then they will do so having the full knowledge of our stand for Christ Jesus. Should a family or families decide that they cannot agree to our "Statement of Purpose and Belief", then they can begin a support group with others of like mind, or receive help from NCHE or HEAR members outside of the group setting.

In obedience to the scripture: "...then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being in one spirit and purpose.. (Phil. 2:2 NIV), we of the Home Educators Association of Roxboro have purposed that our support group be consistently and forthrightly Christian. We believe that it is essential that everyone be "like-minded" if our group is to function harmoniously. Therefore, it is vital that all be aware of the foundation on which this group is built. Implications of this are as follows: HEAR will not allow any activities, presentations, witnessing, literature or communications within the group that are in opposition to the following statements of belief, either directly or indirectly, stated or implied, in whole or in part:

- 1) The Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God and is without error in whole and in part, including theological concepts as well as geographical and historical details.
- 2) God has existed from all eternity in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ is God come in human flesh being fully God and fully man except without sin.
- 3) All men are in violation of God's righteous requirements and His holy character both by nature and act, and are therefore under His wrath and just condemnation. The central purpose of the coming of Jesus Christ was to pay the penalty for man's sin through His substitutionary death on the cross – the successful accomplishment of which was attested to by His subsequent visible bodily resurrection.
- 4) A Christian is one who confesses with his or her mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord, and believes in their heart that God has raised Him from the Dead, as outlined in Romans 10:10

HEAR Fieldtrip/Event Guidelines

All HEAR members are encouraged to organize and plan an event. If you are interested in doing this we ask that you contact the appropriate coordinator. They will be available to help you with the details of organizing and scheduling. Check the Website Interactive Calendar to make sure there is not a conflict in the HEAR schedule. Please refer to the list of coordinators in your packet.

If you would like to plan a HEAR event, please follow the guidelines and suggestions outlined below.

1. Gather all needed information including location, directions, fees, times of operation, age and group size allowed, indoors or outdoors, preschool and stroller or wheelchair friendly, self guided or tour guide, gift shop, teacher guides available, reservation requirements, picnic or other food options, and any other information that would be helpful to pass on to participants considering the event.
2. Call and inform the appropriate coordinator of your plans. They will be available for assistance should you need it and inform you of any conflicts.
3. Proceed with planning by informing other home school families by way of the website, phone, newsletter, e-mail and support group meetings. Note: If you want to have a good turn out you will need to begin planning and notifying people as early as possible (1-2 months is recommended). For continuity and to avoid duplicate mailings, all email correspondence is sent via the email coordinator. (Jayne Nagy).
4. Keep a sign up sheet or list of all participants (and ages if relevant), along with phone numbers in order to inform locations of how many to expect. This is also good to have in the event that you need to cancel the trip for any unforeseen reason.
5. Be sure to inform everyone of any specific rules or policies that must be adhered to. Some locations have rules on food, dress, behavior, souvenirs, staying in authorized areas, staying with your group, etc. (*It is an understood policy that any and all HEAR group activities require a parent or guardian chaperone. In the case of a class being taught with a teacher involved, older children may be left only if that teacher fully understands and is willing to take on the responsibility.) Let's make sure when we leave a location that they enjoyed having us as much as we enjoyed being there.
6. It's a good idea to call the location in which you are visiting a few days before arrival to confirm everything and let them know how many will be attending, if necessary. Never assume that your reservations and requests were recorded properly.
7. Car-pooling from a specific destination is recommended. Plan to be there 15 minutes before departure. That way no one will get left and you can use that time to give any last minute instructions. It would also be helpful to pass out directions and cell phone numbers to each car in case of separation or in the event that

someone wants to linger and take in other area attractions on the way home. This is suggested for destinations of one hour or more to reach.

8. If you arrive early, wait for everyone and go in as a group. Assemble in the parking lot 15 minutes early. Being on time is important. Some locations schedule groups back to back.
9. Remind children that this is not a playtime and to be respectful of guides and others by not talking and visiting with friends. Home school families tend to be under a microscope. Good behavior is important, especially if we want to leave a good impression. If applicable, inform children that there will be a time later for visiting and playing, perhaps if there is a picnic planned afterwards.
10. Be sure to have the name and address of locations and people involved available to participants. A thank you note is a nice way to tell people how much you appreciate their time, and it can be used as a writing assignment.
11. All participates in the field trip/event are required to sign a HEAR waiver and photo permission form before participating in the field trip/event. HEAR members have their forms on file with the HEAR membership coordinator. Contact membership coordinator to make sure of status of members' form. Non members will need to fill out a form before participating. Have blank forms available ahead of time for non members.

Participating in an event that is well planned is a blessing to everyone.

HEAR Library Function and Guidelines

The HEAR library was established as a service to all its members. In addition to using the library resources, members may donate or request the purchase of items and offer suggestions concerning its function. The library is kept at the librarian's home. If you would like to check out any of the Hear library materials, please read the following guidelines:

1. Only HEAR members may check out materials from the HEAR Library.
2. The website will contain a list of library contents.
3. The HEAR librarian must be contacted to make checkout arrangements.
4. Materials may be kept for four weeks.
5. Patrons are responsible for returning the materials to the librarian when they are due.
6. Due date return slips will be given to each patron.
7. Children 16 and over are allowed to check out materials. Parents must check out materials for younger children.
8. Persons checking out materials are responsible to replace or pay for lost or damaged items.
9. If materials come in a set (given one number), it must not be separated.
10. The HEAR library will consist of materials such as home school helps, how to home school information, legal information related to family and home schooling, videos, CDs, and DVDs etc.
11. The HEAR library is portable and, in order to keep it less cluttered and easy for our librarian to maintain, it will not contain curriculum and materials that are accessible through the public library.
12. Money from each HEAR membership is allotted annually to the HEAR library for purchases of resource materials. Fundraisers and donations may be used for making library purchases.

Hear Activity Objectives and Guidelines

Objectives:

1. To promote positive Christian group interaction and learning activities to further the life experiences of the children.
2. To provide a media in which families can share aspects of their homeschooling achievements, challenges and questions.
3. To provide additional learning activities as opportunities arise to students to further their skills and knowledge.
4. To promote responsible social behavior and respect for others in a group environment.
5. To have fun, fellowship, and grow as a group.

Guidelines:

1. Participation in Hear activities is voluntary however, activities are provided for the benefit and mutual support of the home school group. These activities are planned, coordinated and put on for the benefit of all. Please respect the effort to coordinate these events and participate as often as you can. When attending activities, demonstrations, presentations, etc, parents and children alike will be attentive to the speaker and avoid socializing amongst themselves during presentations. This will ensure all present can enjoy the presentation and will demonstrate respect to the presenter.
2. HEAR is not a babysitter service. Each family participates for the mutual support of the group. Parents or guardians must accompany their child to HEAR activities or have a chaperone designated that will have total responsibility of their child.
3. HEAR supports the biblical teachings concerning the discipline of children. It is the parent's responsibility to provide appropriate disciplinary measures for their children at all times.
4. If a child is misbehaving in an offensive, harmful, or destructive manner, the child will be brought to his/her parent or guardian and the function coordinator will be notified. The parent/guardian will take appropriate measure to correct the problem.
5. If the parent/guardian fails to correct the problem, the child and guardian/parent will be asked to leave the activity and the board will be notified of the situation.
6. If the same child continues to be disruptive at any following HEAR activities, even if the parent intervenes, the HEAR board has the right to act in the best interest of the group and suspend the disruptive child from attending HEAR activities for a specified period.