

Greetings Home School Families,

September 7th and 29 degrees C, is a great combination and way to enjoy the beginning of the fall season! We hope you've all had a great summer and now we look forward to the many activities that we have a choice of choosing to participate in this fall. As usual our prayer is that each family and child will have their best year ever!

We welcome all the new families to Families Learning Together both near and far away and appreciate the returning families who make the new ones want to join us!

This year once again we look for activities that help us all to learn about and appreciate the great country of Canada that we are privileged to live in. We are starting out this theme with a concert on October 7th done by Canadian Kid's Singer, Michael Mitchell followed by a potluck featuring typical Canadian food (you'll have to think about that one!) and then an hour of Canadian games. So you won't want to miss this activity! We are planning to have Deb Kobza back to present "History Tellers" which is a great and entertaining way to learn Canadian History, so watch for that presentation likely in November. Then we are very excited to tell you that we are making plans to have a Voyageur campout in June 2012 where you all can be a part of the Voyageur/Fur trading era of Canadian history. It has been about 10 years ago since we had fun doing this and now thanks to Rhonda's youthful enthusiasm we are looking forward to that happening again. You will hear more of this in upcoming newsletters!

Just so you know this year's funding will be \$812.50 per child and receipts can be sent in anytime from now until next June. Cheques for receipts will start to be sent out on October 10th. If you have any questions about funding, you can email Daryl Snider at sniderd@shaw.ca.

One thought I've had recently is how good it would be for everyone to get to know a little about some of the families in Families Learning Together and particularly ones that have been homeschooling for a long period of time. Well you will get a taste of that when you read a little about the Traptow family at the end of the newsletter. Should this start a tradition? I think so and so I am asking families to be willing to share a little bit about themselves for the upcoming newsletters this year. Don't wait to be asked but share a little of who you are and what things your family has been up to during your journey of homeschooling. We'll look forward to that.

Ok it is time to read about events coming up and we look forward to seeing many of you at the various ones as well as during our fall visits to your homes. Also we will be putting a directory again together this year and we want to be sure that you all know this and if for some reason you do not want your information to be put in this directory, please let us know right away. Once again if you need information on any activity be sure to check out the Families Learning Together website found at www.familieslearningtogether.com. We will try to put updated information on the calendar and as you click on the event the information should come up! We have had some technical difficulties with it lately but it should be up and current again within the next week.

Thank you to many of you who have organized and shared field trips with all of us here. Again if you don't see something that you would like to see happen, be sure to contact us and share your idea or arrange an event and we'll put it in the newsletter. Happy Homeschooling! Kathy Snider ☺



Activities:

Playground Time at Bower Ponds

Tuesday, September 13th at 2:30 p.m. come join other homeschool families with “playground age children” at the Bower Ponds playground. It is a very nice playground and so if you have never been there before, here`s a good reason to check it out and enjoy the company of other homeschoolers. We chose 2:30 so that if you have younger children that need an afternoon nap, they can have it and be up and ready to join the fun. If you have older children and they don`t nap, then you can go for a bike ride around there before you come! You don`t need to call ahead just come and bring your smiling faces. ☺

Band and Musical News:

We are excited about the music opportunities again this year! I will start again with a quote that I believe is so inspiring when we are considering musical opportunities for our children.

Quote: Long after the toys of childhood are forgotten, the gift of music remains.

Wednesday, September 14th is the big opening day when we start our 10 week fall session of preparing for our Musical and also our bands.

Musical: ‘Holy Moses’

We are pleased to announce that our musical this year is: Holy Moses! The musical is once again written by Kathie Hill and has some great songs, drama as well as dance and solo parts so that many can be involved in an enjoyable way! The songs remind us about the life of Moses, the burning bush, the plagues, crossing the Red Sea, The Ten Commandments and the trip to the Promised Land.

We welcome children from ages approx. 5 years old and up to pre-teens and teens. So if you would like to check it out feel free to come the first couple of times to let your child or children see if it is something that they would enjoy participating in! What you need to do is to please arrive a few minutes before 11 so that we are ready to begin right at **11 a.m.** on the 14th. Again we will meet at Balmoral Bible Chapel as we have in the past years. The first day, Rhonda who is leading our musical again this year, will be ready to introduce you to the songs and get you singing right away. Also everyone will get their CD and start listening and learning the songs at home and in your vehicles. Also those who would like to audition for a part in the drama portion of the musical, can get a book and be ready to audition the following week on Wednesday, Sept. 21st starting at 9:30 a.m. with the choir meeting again at 11 a.m.

The cost is \$25 per child plus \$12 per family for the CD and other materials. This can be paid for after the second week by having it deducted from your funding. The other cost would be the cost of the T-shirts which will likely be around \$12 each. Just so you can plan ahead, final presentations of this will take between Nov. 18 and Nov. 23 with one of our concerts being in Edmonton this year! Contact the Sniders if you have further questions but otherwise you can just come that day if you know you are going to participate or even if you want to check it out for a couple of weeks so your children can decide.

Band:

Come one and all and join the band! There is a band to suit every playing level including no experience at all. Children, teens, parents and grandparents you are all welcome. It is an awesome chance to enjoy both learning to play and just playing together at the senior band level.

Intermediate and Senior bands will spend the first ten weeks on preparing Christmas music and a variety of other music and so we are looking forward to that. We will be playing at the Festival of Trees again this year in November as well as other places that we will let you know about a little later.

Please call Kathy or Rhonda if you have any questions about finding an instrument or choosing which one or just to let us know that you are playing so we can get all the music ready.

Following are band times: Intermediate and Senior Band: 1:45 – 3:45 Beginner Band: 12:30 - 1:30; Recorder Band 12:30 – 1:15. The cost is \$25 for each 10 week session and parents are free.

Paint Ball

Friday, September 16th from 11 a.m.– 1 p.m. (or 2), we have booked a time for paintball at Sylvan Lake Paintball, which is located just north of Sylvan Lake on Highway 20 and then west on Twmp Rd. 39-2 and it is right across from the Jarvis Bay Provincial Campground. This is intended for ages - approx. ages 10 and up. The cost is either \$18 or \$25 or \$45 depending on the number of paintballs you want. It includes paintballs (100 or 200 or 500), gun and mask and coveralls. Coveralls aren't mandatory but you should wear older clothes if you don't use them. Sometimes it also works out well if you choose the \$18 package and then buy extra paintball in packages and you can split them with others in the group. This is just what was suggested to us and what some have done in the past that day. Extra paintballs cost \$8 for 100, \$35 for 500 and \$120 for 2,000.

Please call the Sniders to book your spot for this activity (k.d.snider@shaw.ca or 348-0723). Also please note that you need to sign a waiver for your child. We only book this once a year, so be sure not to miss out on this opportunity!

Lacombe Corn Maze

We are looking forward to a trip to the Kraay Family Farm on **Tuesday, Sept. 20th at 12:30pm!** The plan is to have a hot dog roast/picnic lunch (bring your own food) and then head out to enjoy the variety of activities offered – “15 acre corn maze, Jumping Pillow, Mini golf, farmyard with over 20 attractions offering hours of “farmtastic” fun for all ages.” This is a great spot for all ages to enjoy especially now that they have added so many activities for the younger children. The costs are as follows: ages 13yrs and up are \$10 plus gst = \$10.50; ages 4-12yrs are \$8 (8.40) and 3yrs old and younger are free. You can check out their website at: <http://kraayfamilyfarm.com/> Directions: “If you are coming from the QE II: We are just 3 miles WEST of Lacombe and WEST of the QE II Highway – Exit 422. Head West towards Bentley and Gull Lake and you will find us!” Contact Rhonda Snider to sign up! (403) 348-0723 or rhondasnider20@gmail.com

Cash Flow for Kids Game Days:

Home School Mom, Entrepreneur and Private Equity Investment Representative, Terri Tough, is excited to offer Cash Flow for Kids Game Days. These events are aimed at helping children (6 and up) learn important financial concepts that will help them immeasurably in their adult lives. Come out to have fun learning about money and how to make it work for you! Please call me to register or if you have any questions! [403-309-3932](tel:403-309-3932) **Dates: September 22 1-2:30, October 6 and October 20 1-2:30, November 10 and November 24 1-2:30, December 8 1 – 2:30.**

Sunnybrook Farm

There is still room to sign up for the Harvest Program at Sunnybrook Farm on **Thursday, September 22nd** and **Friday, Sept. 23rd** at **10am** to 12pm. A reminder to those that have already signed up to join us as well! Originally, our trip was planned on Thursday (22nd) and once that filled up we organized another time to go on Friday (23rd) but now we have some room on both of those days! If you are unsure which day you signed up for you can contact Rhonda to find out or to sign up - (403) 348-0723 or rhondasnider20@gmail.com. Cost is \$4 per child and please try to bring exact change to pay Rhonda that day!

Airplane Rides at Sky Wings

We are excited to once again have the opportunity for our group to go for 15 minute flights over Red Deer and area. This will take place at Sky Wings at the Penhold airport on **Monday, September 26th** between 9a.m. and noon. Three people can fly at a time and so when you call us, please try to have groups of three already but if you don't we can put threes together. We will also be giving you specific flight times so that you won't need to be waiting around so long for your turn. However the other side of this is that everyone will need to be sure to be there for their flight time as you won't want to miss your flight! It's also fun to watch the others and wave good-bye and hello to them. ☺ The cost this year will be \$28/person. If the weather isn't suitable for flying, an alternate date will be given. So if the weather looks bad, please call us the morning of the flight to check. Please don't call Sky Wings as they will be getting ready for us to arrive! Please contact Kathy at k.d.snider@shaw.ca or by calling 403.348.0723 to book your flight and to make sure you get a spot.

Veterinary Clinic Tour

Date: **Tuesday, September 27th** Tour Time: 9AM sharp Place: Lomsnes Veterinary Hospital

3450 - 50 Ave. (Gaetz Ave.) Maximum 20 children

Reserve your spot by contacting Elke Holly by email: bemholly@yahoo.ca OR by calling (403) 346-7402. Come see where your special furry friends get special care at a small animal hospital! Reserve your spot ASAP, as last time the tour filled up very quickly.

Activity Days at the Collicutt Centre in Red Deer

Thursday, September 29th, Thursday, November 3rd and Thursday, November 24th

On our first activity day, which is Thursday, September 29th this year, we will once again be having a **Craft time** for all ages, between 1-2 p.m. upstairs in the area between the soccer pitches where we usually meet. We will have a variety of tables set up with crafts that the children can choose to do. There will be no cost to making the crafts except for one craft and that is Plate Making. We have done the plates almost every year and it has become a tradition for many. It will be one craft to choose from but there will be lots of others as well. The price for the plates is \$12 per plate and that needs to be paid that day either with cash or using funding. The plates usually take about 4 weeks to get back as they are sent away for processing.

If anyone has a favorite craft that they would like to set up for others to do, please let Kathy know. We need great ideas to make this day lots of fun for the kids.

Gym time will be from 2-3 p.m. There will be areas and games for pre-schoolers up to approx. 13 years of age. Pre-school gym time is very informal with parents staying nearby while the children play on the equipment provided there. For the other ages, there will be a leader in each group with organized games. We will not be having gym time for the teens as you will see in the Teen News in this newsletter, activities specifically for them on other dates. If you are a teen and wish to help out with

activities on our Collicutt Activity days, please let us know and we will be happy to have you help out!

Swim time – before or after the gym time you have the option of swimming at the Collicutt pool and the cost to participate this year when you tell them you are with the homeschool group is \$3.20 for ages 3-12, \$4.40 for 13-17 yrs. Adults accompanying children ages 7 years and under are also \$3.20 and otherwise they are \$6.40. A family group rate is \$14.40.

Scholastic Books - Natalie Tonne will be bringing Scholastic flyers again that you can order from her. Please check the sharing bulleting for more information.

Penny Carnival – please note that we will be having our 10th annual Penny Carnival at the Collicutt Activity day on **Thursday, November 3rd**. We'll tell you more about it in the next month's newsletter but we wanted to give you a sneak preview to let you enjoy the anticipation of it and to let us know if you have an event that you would like to run for the children. Teens, pre-teens, Parents or Grandparents we encourage you to help us run these events – let us know if you are happy to do that! It's very rewarding to see the kids have lots of fun and the more volunteers we have the more fun everyone has!

Now for those of you who like to plan ahead, these are the Activity days for after Christmas: Bower Ponds Party, Friday, January 27th, Collicutt activity days: Thursdays, Feb. 23rd, March 22nd, April 26th. At the end of May we will have our annual bike ride.

Rock Hunt

Friday **September 30th** 12:30pm-4:00pm

To all you rock hounds out there we have set up a date to go on another rock hunt. This year we are going to go to The Lacombe Quarry where we will have a chance to find tumbling materials, petrified wood, agate, jasper, feldspar, quartzite, marble (glacial deposit). We will have guides with us to educate us about rocks and minerals, help identify our finds and pick promising places to search. You will need to bring something to carry your rocks in and dress appropriate for the weather that day. The cost is \$6 per child. To book your spot call Laura Lukat: 403-782-0037 or email: ljo.ljo@hotmail.com by September 28th (space is limited). We will begin our day by meeting at the Silver Cove at 12:30pm in the Lacombe mall. They have a beautiful new store and you might want to plan to spend some time looking around before we go out. We will leave at 1:00pm and travel convoy style to the Quarry, where we will spend the rest of our time rock hunting.

Creative Memories – Mom and Child Workshop

Here's a chance for you and your child/children to have a great time making their very own photo album! Each child will have a kit to create a small paper album of their own and enjoy working with others and seeing theirs as well. The cost is \$27 per child which includes the materials they will need. Each child should bring their photos – 12 – 4 by 6 photos works best and you also need to bring your own adhesive or you can purchase it there. The date scheduled for this event is **Monday, Oct. 3rd** from 9:00am-12:00pm. You are welcome to bring a bag lunch and stay to eat. Children ages 6 and up are welcome to participate with Mom. Contact SherryAnn Hoogland to register - creativescrapstudio@gmail.com or call 403.885.4004.

Red Deer Swim Lessons

Families Learning Together Home School Swim Lessons are booked for **Tuesdays: October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1 and 8 from 2 – 3:30 at the Recreation Centre**. The cost will be \$55 (for people living in town and 20% more for those out of town). To register you contact the city directly and pay them and you don't need to contact us at all. You can do this in a number of different ways. If you already have an account with them and know your pin number, you can call 403.309.8555 and register by using the course codes given below (or do it on line www.reddeer.ca/looknbook).

If you don't know your pin number or if you don't have an account, you can call 403.309.8411 and get your pin and/or set up an

account.

To bypass all that, you have the option of going right into the Rec. Centre and registering and paying in person for your child/children. If you are still confused as to what to do, then you can call and speak to Lindsay at 403.309.8425.

Just be sure that you have the course codes listed below in order to get your child in the correct lesson/level that are for Families Learning Together home school students.

Course Codes, Levels and Times: 2 – 2:40 p.m. : Sea Otter – 50579, Sunfish – 50582, Swim Kids 3 – 50585, Swim Kids 5/6 – 50587, Swim Kids 9/10 – 50589
2:40 – 3:10 p.m. : Salamander – 50581, Crocodile/Whale- 50583, Swim Kids 1/2 – 50584, Swim Kids 4 – 50586, Swim Kids 7/8 – 50588.

Gymnastics

We are booked in for 8 weeks of gymnastics for our group starting **Tuesday, October 4th**. There are two classes to choose from and the first is 10:30 – 11:30 and the second is 11:30 – 12:30. These popular classes will once again take place with Exalta Gymnastics at the Collicut Gymnastics centre. The cost is \$6 per child for each session and can be paid there on each day. Generally this is suitable for ages 6- 12. Please contact the Sniders if you would like to participate in this.

Gymnastics for Ages 12 and up - we are also planning a gymnastic time for teens and this is tentatively set for Friday afternoons starting **Friday, October 7th** for eight weeks. This class is dependent on the number of participants we get. Again let the Sniders know if would like to participate and then we will let you know if it will work out.

Canadian Kid's Singer – Michael Mitchell Concert

We are excited once again to be able to host a concert by Canadian Kid's Singer, Michael Mitchell. Do take advantage of this opportunity, dress in as much red as you can and come to hear both songs and stories about Canada's heritage. This concert will take place on **Friday, October 7th at 11 a.m.** sharp at Balmoral Bible Chapel (where we have band which is at the intersection of Rutherford Dr. and 55th Street or Hwy 11 East). Be sure to come 10 or 15 minutes early to get seated and so we are ready to start promptly at 11 a.m. We also would love it if you and your children could learn the song called: Canada in My Pocket and then we can all sing along and impress him with our preparation! There will also be song sheets there to use as well. Feel free to check out his website found at: www.michael-mitchell.ca. The hour long concert is upbeat and exposes your children to songs about Canada that every Canadian should know! After the concert, you will have the opportunity to purchase his CDs and music books that are great to have and enjoy. Songs such as: Jack Was Every Inch a Sailor, Farewell to Nova Scotia, Alberta Bound, This Land is Your Land and many more are included.

After the concert everyone is welcome to stay for a potluck lunch and depending on the weather we are hoping to play some Canadian themed games outside. Watch for more details in the next newsletter but be sure to mark your calendar now! Please let the Sniders know if you are planning to attend this concert and we can email you the words to the song – Canada in My Pocket if you would like and you can listen to a sample of it as well on the website.

Archery

Thursdays: October 6, 13, & 20 from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. we will once again be having archery times. This will take place at the Red Deer Archery Centre in their new location upstairs in the former All Sports Reply building located at 5237 – 54 Ave. Also take note that you need to use the North-East door and then go upstairs from there. The cost this year is \$10/person and includes the lesson and rental of equipment. Ages approx. 6 years old and up to adult, are welcome to participate. If you are interested in participating, please book your spot with Rhonda (rhondasnider20@gamil.com) or Kathy (k.d.snider@shaw.ca)

or 348-0723.

This is a popular activity and so this year we are doing this 3 week session for one group and then we've booked another 3 week session to give another group an opportunity to get in on the fun. So the second option will take place on the following **Thursdays: November 17 & 24 & December 1st**, again from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. We appreciate Pat at the archery centre as she has been faithful to always fit our group in and she also always tells me how great the home school kids are so..... keep being great! ☺

HS Parent Meeting - Making Learning REAL

We are inviting all homeschool parents – Moms and Dads- and Grandparents are invited too – to a parent meeting on the topic of “Making Learning Real”. Daryl and Kathy Snider will be the guest speakers! We shared on this subject at the AHEA Home School Convention a few years ago and it is a topic that we are passionate about. We will be sharing how homeschooling traditionally gives us the freedom to make learning real and therefore motivating and practical for a lifetime for our children. We encourage parents to come no matter what their children`s ages are as we will be referring to practical ideas for all ages. We hope that this will be an encouragement to you as parents to see your children enjoy learning and have the time to follow their passions and use their gifts and abilities that God has given to each of them. This will take place **Tuesday evening, October 11** at 7 p.m. in Red Deer at a location to be announced. If you could contact us if you would like to attend, then we will have an idea of what we need to choose for a place to have it in and will give you that information in the next newsletter. This evening will also be a good opportunity for Dads to see what their important contributions are in their children`s education in a way they can enjoy.

CYT Production of “Annie”

Contact the Sniders to book your tickets to this fall`s Christian Youth Theatre`s production of Annie. We have a great opportunity once again to enjoy one of their productions for the economical price of \$2 ticket. The show will take place on **Monday, October 31st** starting at 12:30 p.m. Everyone needs to arrive at least 15 minutes early in order that everyone is seated for the start time. Christian Youth Theatre does an excellent job of their productions and so you won`t want to miss this.

FLT HomeSchool Mom`s Supper in Calgary

Monday, October 17th we are planning to have our 3rd annual homeschool Mom`s supper in Calgary and we want all you Moms in Calgary and area to come and visit each other and have fun! We will plan to meet at 6:15 p.m. and visit and share some ideas/ plans after that. Please contact Kathy or Rhonda to tell us you are coming (rhondasnider20@gmail.com or k.d.snider@shaw.ca or 403.348.0723). We plan to meet at the same place we did last year which is as follows for those not there then: New Dynasty Restaurant at #201-150 Crowfoot Crescent NW – back room. The cost for the buffet is 13.95 plus tax per person or people can order off of the menu if preferred. We`re looking forward to the evening!

Lazer Tag

Come and play lazer tag on **Friday, December 9th at 1:30 p.m.** Lazer Force is located at #3 – 5239 – 53 Ave (next to A & B Sound just to the north of Superstore) and is a great spot to play. This is suitable for ages approx. 8 years old and up and Moms and Dads you`ll have a great time playing as well. The cost is \$17 for three games which takes approx. 1 hour to play. 20 –22 players play at once and they divide into two teams. We can also bring snacks and teams can take turns playing and if we have about 40 people we will be done at about 3 – 3:30. There is also a viewing area upstairs where those waiting to play can watch. Contact Rhonda (rhondasnider20@gmail.com) or Kathy (k.d.snider@shaw.ca) or 403.348.0723 to book your spot.

The Gifts of the Magi – at Rosebud Theatre

This **December 10th** we have booked tickets for the Christmas musical entitled `The Gifts of the Magi` at Rosebud Theatre in the town of Rosebud (which is near Drumheller). It is a popular Christmas classical and one that all ages can enjoy. We have booked it for the Saturday matinee so that Dads can come along with their families as well. Tickets include a very nice lunch before the play where some of the actors are also the servers and music is also a nice addition as they come by the various tables and entertain. The cost of the tickets is 30 for children and \$45 for adults (exact figures will be given later). Contact Kathy if you would like to come (k.d.snider@shaw.ca or by calling 403.348.0723).

Broadway Across Canada: Beauty & The Beast

Saturday, December 31st, Calgary

This is your chance to see a Broadway Musical in our local area! Great Christmas Gift idea! Group Pricing will be approximately \$90 per person including taxes & fees for seat on the floor or first balcony at the Jubilee Auditorium in Calgary. We need a minimum of 15 to get the group pricing. Depending how many participate and the seats available, we will either be at the 1 pm show or 6:30 pm show. Deadline to RSVP to Natalie is Sept 20th so I can have the total number and get the exact price per person. Then the payment must be handed in to Natalie by Sept 26 (cash or cheque). Contact info: iloveepicure@yahoo.ca or 403-348-5813.

Show Description: Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST is the classic story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped in a spell placed by an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed to his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity. TALE AS OLD AS TIME, TRUE AS IT CAN BE. Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, the smash hit Broadway musical, is coming to you! Based on the Academy® Award-winning animated feature film, this eye-popping spectacle has won the hearts of over 35 million people worldwide. This classic musical love story is filled with unforgettable characters, lavish sets and costumes, and dazzling production numbers including "Be Our Guest" and the beloved title song. Experience the romance and enchantment of Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST!

Home School Mom's Retreat

This year's annual Mom's retreat will once again be held at the Pine Lake Salvation Army camp in the Evergreen Lodge. We are booked for **Friday, Feb. 3rd and Saturday, Feb. 4th**. More details will follow but we wanted you to be able to mark those dates down now so you can be sure to be free to come!

April 2012 Interactive Sailing Trip

You could be one of the 15 students, age 12 – 18, taking part in 5 days and nights of exploration and wonder aboard a beautiful 68 foot sailboat in the Canadian Gulf Islands (located between Vancouver and Vancouver Island). You will need to be anxious to take part in ship duties, nature watching and navigation.

We will meet in Sidney (on Vancouver Island), visit the Ocean Discovery Center (where we'll be introduced to a wide spectrum of the creatures we may encounter during the trip), and board the 'Island Odyssey'. With the attention of a highly interactive crew (skipper, first mate, and naturalist) we'll travel among the southern Gulf Islands, daily venturing on land to discover and experience B.C.'s plant and animal wildlife.

The cost is \$950, including food and lodging while on board. A \$250 deposit secures you a bed, with the balance due November 1, 2010. Beds are reserved on a first come first served basis. It truly is a life changing experience. Dates have been confirmed as April 26 – May 1, 2012.

Following is the web site of the company we sail with: explore@bluewateradventures.ca. I, Lynne Gorbahn, am a home schooling mom of 6 children and this will be my 7th trip. I am constantly amazed at the amount of knowledge the students so easily absorb. Please contact me, for further information at **780-586-3682** or lynne.gg@hotmail.com.

OVER THE EDGE – Teen News and Activities

Greetings! We are very excited to introduce a brand new section of the FLT newsletter... just for teens! How do you know if you qualify as a teen? If you have the word 'teen' in your age you are in. ☺ Each month we are planning on having different activities and opportunities to meet other people your age that homeschool with FLT as well. Be sure to read the details for each event and let Rhonda know if you are planning on coming out! We are also going to have the opportunity to serve people in our community and in our world. I (Rhonda) am especially excited about our Spring Wilderness Adventure – a three day trip to Frontier Lodge in May, 2012. Cheers ☺

A 'Wii' Pizza Party

On **Monday, Sept. 19th** we are going to hang out at the Cote's house (11 Hall Crescent, Red Deer), eat pizza, meet each other, play games and give it up with the Wii!! Cost is \$6 each and plan on coming at **6:30pm** and leaving around 9pm. Let Rhonda know if you are coming! (403) 348-0723 or rhondasnider20@gmail.com

Bowling Shebang

Who knew that 'shebang' was another word for party?! ☺ We are planning on going to Heritage Lanes on **Monday, October 3rd** at **7pm** and bowling a couple of games. Cost - \$2 shoe rental. Ages 16 and up is \$5 a game and 15 and under is \$4.50 a game. Let Rhonda know if you are coming (403) 348-0723 or rhondasnider20@gmail.com. Also, bring a favourite card game (like dutch blitz) as we might have some time after to play!

Loaves and Fishes – Volunteer in Red Deer

On **Monday, October 24th** we have the opportunity to serve a meal to the homeless people of Red Deer. Meet at the Loaves and Fishes building (6002, 54th Ave) at 4:40pm and we will be done by 7:15pm. We will be serving the meal, cleaning up and doing dishes. Parents are welcome to join us if they would like to help out as well. Guess who you talk to if you are coming!? Rhonda!! :D (403) 348-0723 or rhondasnider20@gmail.com

Indoor Rock Climbing

We are literally going to go 'over the edge' with this activity! On **Monday, November 7th** from 6:30pm to 9pm at **Best Body Fitness** (#5 Beju Industrial Drive) in **Sylvan Lake**. Whether you have rock climbed before or not you are welcome to join us! Cost is \$8.50 per person and that includes the harness. You can either bring tight-fitting, indoor shoes to climb in (i.e. runners)

or you can rent a pair of climbing shoes for \$5. Let Rhonda know if you are going to be there.

Operation Christmas Child – Volunteer in Calgary

We quite enjoyed this last year and so we are planning another trip to Calgary on **Monday, November 28th** to volunteer at the Operation Christmas Child centre – sorting shoeboxes for kids around the world! We will be volunteering from 9am to 3:30pm (with time for lunch). You must be 14 years old to participate in this event (not our rule but theirs). We will then head over to Peter's Drive In for some supper! Please let Rhonda know if you are planning on participating and if you would like to carpool. Parents are more than welcome to join us!

Christmas Banquet

To finish off our fabulous fall fun (☺) we are going to put on the fancies and have a formal Christmas Dinner. On **Monday, December 5th** at **6pm** at a wonderful location that is yet to be announced! Stay tuned for more details and start picking out your dress/tux now!!

Frontier Lodge – A Spring Adventure in 2012!

Many of you know that I (Rhonda) have been involved with Frontier Lodge for the past few years and have loved it! Check out their website at www.frontierlodge.ca. I am thrilled to share this experience with the teens of FLT. At the end of May, 2012 we will be going on a three-day trip with activities such as – hiking, rock climbing, rappelling and possibly white-water canoeing and mountain biking! The cost will be \$180 and that will include three days of programming and two nights at Frontier Lodge. The exact dates are to come but I wanted to put it on your radar screen and so you could start saving and getting excited for it now! Let Rhonda know if you are interested in coming or if you would like some more information. We will also need some parents to come out on this trip with us and so let me know if you and your teens would like to participate!

Lacombe News:

Canadian University College will be offering Home School Red Cross swimming classes, and gym classes for Fall 2011 . They are outlined below.

Swimming Classes: Eight (45) minute classes @ \$27.50 for the set of classes. They will be running Tue. & Thurs.. From 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Oct. 4, 6, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27, Nov. 1 with no class on Tues. Oct. 11. We will not be able to tell you until just a day or two before the class if your child's time will be 2:30 – 3:15 p.m. or 3:15 – 4:00 p.m. If you aren't sure what level your child is in, make an appointment at a local swimming pool and they will test them free of charge. We require a home school parent to be a supervisor in the change rooms when the children are changing.

Gym Class: 10 (one) hour classes @ \$60.00 for the set of classes. Gym classes will run on Tuesdays, 1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. on the following dates: Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 18, 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Dec. 6, no class Oct. 11. Children must be 10 years and older. Maximum 32 children, minimum # 16 children. Families enrolling 4 or more children pay for the first 3 and then the rest are free.

We are now taking registrations for the classes. Please note some of the classes have a maximum number so you may want to register soon so you will be guaranteed a spot. Payment must accompany registration, or make special arrangements with Shirley. To register or for more information phone 782-2822.

Homeschool Moms' Coffee Nights: the third Thursday of every month in Lacombe at Kavaccino's, 7 pm. Come out when you

can, and join other moms to relax, laugh, get new ideas and enjoy good conversation. We'd love to see you there! Call or e-mail Gayle for more information or to receive the monthly e-mail reminder.

Rocky News:

Swimming – Rec Swims and Swim Lessons will once again take place on Thursday afternoons at the Rocky Pool. To find out more information and/or to register contact Connie Vander Baaren at 403.844.2750.

Skating and Hockey will also be starting soon and again on Tuesday afternoons.

Music and Recorder: If anyone is interested in having music/choir learning the Holy Moses songs and having more recorder lessons once again this fall, please let Kathy know (k.d.snider@shaw.ca or 403.348.-0723).

Sharing Bulletin

What in the World? Everyone wanting to enjoy this Current Event monthly publication again or for the first time, please let us know (k.d.snider@shaw.ca). We will put your name on the list, take off \$10 from your funding for the year and then each month email you the passwords so that you can access it and print it. This is an awesome way for you and your children to be informed of what is happening in the world. It gives a nice overview of current topics and some relevant questions to answer or discuss. It can be your 'Social Studies' curriculum! We will have three levels again and they are intended for Grades 3-5 (Canadian Reader), Grades 5-7 and 8-10. If you want to check out a sample issue, you can do so at their website www.lesplan.com. Everyone will receive the passwords for all three levels. Again each year we are asked to share that we have these passwords and subscription for our group only and so they are not to be passed on to others as you can share the website with others where there are sample issues for them to look at. Thanks.

Little Passports - A Global Adventure, is a subscription program (\$10-\$14 a month depending on the package you choose) that sends your child to a different country each month. When they initially sign up they receive the cutest little suitcase that will contain their Passport, a world map, and a letter from their world traveler friends Sam and Sophia. Each month after that Sam and Sophia's letters will introduce them to a new country and let them know what adventures they have been on. Personally as a home schooler I enjoy how the learning is spontaneous and engaging. I enjoy the picture postcard they send as well as games, puzzles, and treasure and there is something for all learning styles. Oh there is also the boarding pass to put on their suitcase, stickers for their suitcase and passport and pin points to post on their world map keep track of all the countries they've been too.

Noah (7) has been receiving his packets for about 6 months now and each packet he is excited to see where he is going next!! It's been an easy and fun way to cover geography with very little effort from me - so I can just have fun with Noah learning! I encourage you that if you have wanna be world travelers in your house to check Little Passports out. P.S. Grandparents - this would be a great and ongoing gift for grandkids too!

www.littlepassports.com or go to my blog <http://lorid-ifihadablog.blogspot.com> and click on the Little Passports header to get 10% off until September 30 (I am now an affiliate because I love the program so much). Lori D.

Christian Youth Theater - Classes Begin Thursday, Sept 8th

1) CYT still has space for registrants in our fall classes for children ages 6 - 18 (Drama, Voice & Dance) which run on Thursday for 4 - 6 pm for 10 weeks. For more information & to register, go to our website: www.cytcentralalberta.org Any students who are 8 - 18 also have the opportunity to audition for our fall production - Annie!! Auditions are Friday, Sept 9th from 4 - 7:30 pm.

2) Dog Auditions - Sept 17th - We are looking for a real live Sandy! Email: office@cytcentralalberta.org for more info or call 403-986-2981

3) Master Classes - Sept 24th, Taught by Locally Acclaimed David Gibbons: "Approaches to Acting, Character and Commanding the Stage" will run from 3:30 - 4:30 pm and "The Voice: The Tools for Speaking, Projecting, and Singing with Confidence" will run from 4:30 - 5:30 pm. Cost is \$15 per class or both for \$25 and classes are open to any children ages 8 - 18. (No CYT experience needed). Email: office@cytcentralalberta.org for more info or call 403-986-2981.

Dinosaur and Human Coexistence Conference – Friday, **September 9th** starting at 7 p.m. and Saturday, **Sept 10th** – starting at 10 a.m. This conference covers a topic which often is of great interest to homeschool families. This will take place in **Calgary** at Bethel United Reformed Church (730 – 101 Street SW, Calgary). There are three extremely qualified presenters, one being homeschool father and author on the subject, Vance Nelson. For more information please contact 403.872.9475.

Piano Lessons with Natalie - My name is Natalie Coté, I am 16 years old, am in grade 8 piano and have been taking lessons for 11 years. I am again offering private piano lessons for kids approx. ages 5-12 with little or no experience. It will be \$10.00 per 1/2 hour lesson and I hope to have all the lessons on Tuesdays. The lessons will start in October and end in May and there will be two recitals so the kids can learn how to perform and play in front of others.

If you are interested please contact me at pianocrazy.natalie@gmail.com or [403-346-9406](tel:403-346-9406). I look forward to hearing from you!

Lessons with Amy – Teenage homeschooler, Amy Cote, will once again be available to give voice lessons this fall to children approx. 5 – 12 years of age. The cost is \$10 for a half hour lesson. Amy has had voice lessons throughout her years as well as musical background such as piano, clarinet and musical theatre. You can contact Amy Cote at 403-346-9406 or queen7077@gmail.com for more information about voice lessons.

Volunteers Wanted: There is a Wednesday ladies group, run by part of the WOW ministry of CrossRoads Church, that is looking for some loving, kind volunteers (aged 16 and up) to commit to spending 2 1/2 hours with preK aged children from 8:45 to 11:30am. There is an easy curriculum, toys & snack for the children. There is also a small honorarium available for your service.

Please contact Lucy Lynett at 403-346-3433 or lynett@shaw.ca for details!

Scholastic Flyers - Natalie Tonne will have Scholastic flyers for all ages available at the activity days this year. Order due dates are on the back of the flyers & orders can be paid by cash or cheque (Option of using funding only if pre-approved with Sniders that you have funding available). If orders arrive by the next Activity Day, they will be delivered then, otherwise I will call to arrange for delivery. For further questions: ilovepicure@yahoo.ca or 403-348-5813.

Mom's Stamp Club - One Wednesday a month from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm in Red Deer, location TBA

Mom's Only - it is our turn! We will get together once a month to make 2 - 3 projects using different stamping techniques led by a Stampin' Up Demonstrator. This is a stamp club where each member must commit to ordering \$20 per month of Stampin' Up for 10 months of the club and in turn for one of the months you get the Hostess Benefits (free products!). I have 3 people committed already and need 7 more to run it. Deadline to take part is Sept 15. Contact Natalie: iloveepicure@yahoo.ca or 403-348-5813.

Violin Lessons in Calgary: Hello Calgary families! Are you looking for a violin instructor? I have completed gr. 8 (RCM) and am currently working on my gr. 10. I'm a homeschool grad with 3 years teaching experience ranging from both young children through adult students. I also play in a semi-prof. orchestra on a weekly basis. I focus largely on technique, sight reading, ear-training and discuss theory during lessons so students understand why we do what we do. I love my violin and believe the most important thing I can impart is a joy for playing, I teach from my home in Rockyridge NW. My rates are \$40.00 an hour. You can reach me at: mountainmover1720@shaw.ca, or by phone at: (403) 698-2960 to set up an interview session. *Olivia Wall.*

Book Buying Co-op - _Most people have heard of food buying groups or co-ops in which a group of people get together and pool orders so as to get a discount on groceries. I was wondering if there would be any interest in starting a buying group for food for the mind! There are limitless books, cd's and movies that would be available should we be able to get enough people together to meet minimum order requirements and of course, the more that are bought usually means a higher discount. If this sounds like something you and your family might be interested in this, I have started a Facebook group, which I think will be the easiest way for most people to communicate with one another. Just search Facebook for "book buying group" and request to join. If you don't have access to Facebook, you can email me at jennybowen@gmail.com or call me at 403-347-6334. I am looking forward to connecting with people and getting their input on this idea.

Personal Care Products from Home School Family: My name is Doris Rego. I have a business called Spiritual Essence. We offer a chance for you to have top quality personal care products that are SLS free(sodium Laureth Sulfate- the stuff that can make you itchy), mineral oil free and fragrance free. You can then choose an essential oil blend that is right for you and your family and have it mixed in. In this way your product is uniquely your own. These products are great for children as you can make them as gentle as you like with a kid friendly therapeutic oil. Maybe you would like a preblended essence or maybe you feel creative and would like to blend your own. Either way, book a session and we will make a free trial size product for you to use at the session and then you can sample some products and experience some aromatherapy revitalization. We look forward to spending some time with you. You may call at 403-784-2345 or e-mail us at dorisjunemarie@gmail.com:

Student Union Coupon Paks For Sale: If anyone is interested in purchasing one of these \$20 coupon books, you can contact Jen Connolly at 403.5050.5035 right sway. Recommended for finding great savings!

A Likely Story Used Books - Home School Graduate, Emily Berger from the Lacombe area runs this used books resource. You can contact her to have access to what she has available for sale. She has hundreds of titles of children's fiction & biographies, history & information, children's pictures books, youth & adult fiction & biographies, homeschooling resources, Christian living and more! Email to receive a digital list of available titles: ransomed2serve@gmail.com.

Wanted: I am looking to borrow or buy a Jaye Wile General Science text book and Solutions manual. If you have one available, please contact Lorraine Parker at mlparker@xplornet.com or 403.784.3078. Thanks.

Wanted: Looking for two teacher's manuals to either borrow or buy (already have the workbooks) . They are: Kindergarten Beginnings third edition. (BJU Press); A Reason for Science Level E.

Please contact Patricia if you can help out - patricia.epicure1@gmail.com or 403.782.2050.

Creative Memories Opportunities – by SherryAnn Hoogland - Do you take photos of your treasured family and then leave them on the computer, planning to print and sort them someday? Creative Memories has numerous ways that you can preserve these memories for you and your child/family. I hold monthly weekend drop-in sessions for traditional and digital albums and Monday night drop-in for digital albums only. Please contact me for more details or check out my website at www.mycmsite.com/sherryannhoogland . If you wish to be added to my mailing list, send me an email at creativescrapstudio@gmail.com.

Creative Memories Croptoberfest - Opportunity to work on your Traditional or Digital albums and learn about new products and techniques. When: Friday, October 14 (7-10 pm) and Saturday October 15 (9 am – 5 pm) at the Hoogland's, Woody Nook Road. Registration: Friday night only - \$20 Saturday only - \$35 SAVE! Registration for complete event - \$50.00 Lunch will be provided Saturday noon; snacks on Friday night. Door prizes and other goodies

Traptow Family – Cool Beans – Double Decker Bus

The Traptow Family has been homeschooling with Families Learning Together for many years and so are known and loved by many of us! They have had lots of adventures with their family including a year with Youth With a Mission and time in the Philippines a couple of years ago. You can find them at their latest adventure in an authentic English Double Decker Bus in downtown Red Deer where they run their Cool Beans business. Check out these websites to see and learn more about it and then be sure to go visit them and enjoy your time at Cool Beans!

www.coolbeanscoffe.ca and www.reddeerdirectory.com/blog/food/double-decker-coffee-bus-is-brewing-up-customers-in-red-deer/

Here`s their message to us: *It's back to school and you definitely need a break! Come down to the Double Decker Bus and have a yummy latte or smoothie or even stop for lunch and have a delicious homemade Panini. We won't disappoint. Cool Beans coffee, the coolest place in town, and run by an awesome home school family!*



