

# Homeschool Herald

## The Newsletter Created By and For Homeschoolers

*The place to share your creative creations.*



We hope you enjoyed the past issues of the *Homeschool Herald*. The March issue is here, so read on! The homeschoolers have worked hard this month, and they never cease to amaze with their creativity and imagination. Included in this issue are their articles, original artwork, stories, and more. Enjoy!

Send us your creative creations! We want it all! Everyone is welcome to

share, and we would be delighted to publish your contributions!

You are invited to join our monthly Herald planning meetings, held in Pickens County. Visit Homeschool Excursions' Calendar Of Events for dates and times.

Submissions may also be sent via e-mail or snail mail.

### Welcome!

Homeschool Excursions hopes you enjoy the March issue of the *Homeschool Herald*.

Homeschool Excursions is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established to provide a valuable resource to homeschool families in Georgia. The *Homeschool Herald* will serve to build community and support since it's available to all families.

Our homeschoolers possess a wealth of creativity, and we hope this newsletter provides an accessible outlet for their expression. All contributions are welcome including pictures, stories, articles, and more. We invite everyone to share ideas, suggestions, and creations.

*-Vered Kleinberger  
Program Coordinator*

Please contact us with any questions, comments, ideas, or suggestions.

**SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING?**

'Dreamt' is the only English word that ends in the letters 'mt'.

It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open..

**THE GIANT PACIFIC OCTOPUS**

The Giant Pacific Octopus is a real creature that lives in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Alaska. It is not a fish. It is a member of the mollusk family, which also includes snails and slugs. They have eight legs with rows of powerful suction cups. If something happens to one of their legs, they can grow it back. They have no bones, but they have a beak that is made out of the same material as



our finger nails and hair. They use it to tear up their food.

They have an organ that can suck in water and then blow it out very fast. That makes them move forward. They can also use their tentacles to pull themselves along the ocean floor. They use their tentacles to grab their prey.

They are very intelligent. They have been seen learning how to open jars, and can learn to solve puzzles, like mazes. They are so smart that they can remember the solution to a challenge if they have ever done it before.

Written by Sage Gilleland, age 10

**STORIES ABOUT MY DAD, WORKING IN NEW ORLEANS**

My Dad, is working in New Orleans and he is a Disaster Insurance Adjuster. When a disaster strikes like Hurricane Katrina the insurance adjusters help the people get their money to repair their homes and businesses from the insurance companies. This process is called a claim. The insurance adjusters go and write down all of the damage that has happened in the middle of Katrina or other storms.

My Dad, Terry, went to Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina flooded New Orleans. He went to New Orleans

in the middle of August. So we all have missed him since then. You see before my Dad took this job the longest time we had gone without seeing him was 3 nights and 4 days. So when my Dad got this job



offer he was gone the next day for 2 weeks. We have grown to be OK when he is gone and we get back in the swing of things



when he leaves again from coming home for 2 or 3 days. The Longest he has been gone is 3 weeks. I have some great stories that my Dad has told me from being there and I would LOVE to share them

with you! Hope you enjoy them!

Little Pekingese

Once he went to do a claim on a older lady's house and there was not much damage that was done by the storm, but she kept telling my dad that she wanted new stuff like new hardwood floors, a new refrigerator, and new carpet. My Dad kept saying " OK I'll write that down but I don't think the insurance company will pay you for all of that". But, she kept saying all



this new stuff that she wanted. My Dad kept saying the same thing. Finally the lady had enough and said to her little Pekinese "Get him". That little dog started biting at the back of my Dad's ankles! My Dad said thank God he had his boots on or that would have been bad. He even asked the lady " Can you please get your dog off me ma'am"? But she just laughed and tossed her head back. I can't believe that lady did that. Isn't that just crazy!!!

### Shrimp Smells

My dad also had to do a claim on a shrimp factory. It was huge...almost 40,000 sq. feet of stinky shrimp (that's almost a million \$\$ worth of shrimp!) He said that the smell of all the shrimp was so bad, because it was ROTTEN from the storm! Since they had no electricity the shrimp had gone bad. He even had to put on a mask so he couldn't breathe the bad fumes and smells. Can you even imagine how bad that must of smelled? My Dad must have been thinking that this was the most rotten claim!!

### Baby's Heart

You will love this story.

Another one of the Claims my Dad had to do was so neat, so here it goes. One day my dad had to go lady doctor's office. While they were there her husband came in and introduced himself as a Children's heart surgeon. That means a Doctor that dose surgery on children's hearts. My Dad and his partner, Rick, thought that the way he introduced himself was a little different. They said "Hello" and did the Claim for the lady.

Later that afternoon they went to a man's tile business and my Dad and Rick started to chat with the man and he said that his wife and their baby were there, but he warned them and said the baby was a hurricane baby and that he had some things wrong with him. His heart was backwards. My Dad said he and Rick looked at each other



and remembered the Children's Heart Surgeon that they had met earlier in the day. So, the wife brought the baby in. My Dad said that the they was so proud of the baby. And they were telling him

about how they were going to have to get surgery on the baby's heart. They said the doctor told them that "There was only 50% chance that the baby was going to make it through the surgery." So, when my Dad and Rick left the couple with the baby they headed back to the doctors office were they had met the Children's heart surgeon. Luckily, the surgeon was still there and they told him about the baby and all that was wrong with him and that there was only a 50% chance that the baby was going to live through the surgery. The doctor got so worked up about the baby he gave my Dad and Rick his card and put his cell number on the back. When he gave it to them he said "Don't forget to tell them I have NEVER lost a child

in surgery." When they left there they went back to the man's tile business where the baby was and gave them the card. Isn't that a great story! I hope that baby is doing good wherever he is. I also hope that God connected them for a reason... And I bet He did!

### My Dad

My Dad is always meeting with people that have lost everything. These pictures are an example of what my Dad sees every day. I just couldn't do what he is doing. It is hard for my Dad to see all the damage that has happened, but God has prepared him for what he needs to do. We miss my Dad a lot but we know he is New Orleans for a very GOOD reason... to help others that have lost almost everything that they had.



I love the picture of the teddy bear holding the heart that says "love".

Written by Elizabeth Bradley, Age 10,



Artist: Sage Gilleland, age 10

### **THE ADVENTURE**

Once there was a girl. She had golden plaited hair. One day she went outside while there was a tempest. It was very perilous but she was only 4 1/2 years old. She put on her rubbers and got in her own dinghy and went across a little river. While she was rowing she saw an albatross.

She got across and went into a grotto. While she was in there she was sousing. She felt like she was in a labyrinth. The grotto smelled like a whole bunch of camphor was in there but there wasn't any in there. When she was done she went back across the little river in her little dinghy. When she got in the house she was even more sousing.

Written by Ayla Bartlett, age 10

## WHY ARE HUMANS MOST COMFORTABLE AT 72 DEGREES? WHY NOT AT 98.6 DEGREES?

We feel most comfortable when we maintain our body temperature, so why don't we feel most comfortable when it is 98.6 degrees in the ambient air? We would - if we were nudists.

But most of us cling to the habit of wearing clothes. Clothing helps us retain our body heat, some of which must be dissipated in order for us to feel comfortable in warm environments. Uncovered parts of our body usually radiate enough heat to meet the ambient air temperature halfway. If we are fully clothed at 72 degrees, the uncovered hands, ears, and face will radiate only a small portion of our heat, but enough to make us feel comfortable. Nude at 72 degrees, we would feel cold, for our bodies would give off too much heat.

Humidity and wind also affect our comfort level. The drier the air, the greater ability it has to absorb heat. Wind can also wreck havoc with our comfort level. It hastens the flow of the heat we radiate and then constantly moves the air away and allows slightly cooler air to replace it.

*Submitted by Joel Kuni, of Kirkland, Washington.*

Feldman, David. Why Do Clocks Run Clockwise? and other Imponderables. Perennial Library, 1988. page 178-9.

## COACHING YOUR HORSE MADE EASIER

1. It is tricking your horse to hold a halter behind your back. Eventually, they will not trust you.
2. If your horse runs away, do not run after him or her.
3. Develop your horses curiosity by sitting in a small area with your horse. Wait for your horse to come to you. Once he comes, do not touch him unless he touches you first. Once he touches you praise him.
4. If your horse comes to you when are going to catch him or her smile and hold out the halter to him.



Let him sniff the halter. Then, approach him, put the lead rope around his neck and carefully slide the halter on.

5. Once you have caught your horse do not go out and work him really hard. Maybe take him to graze or on a nice quiet trail. You do not want him to regret coming to you in the pasture. You want him to see you with a halter and come to you happily.

6. If it doesn't work try bringing a feed bucket with you to catch him.

Remember to always have a smile and make being with your horse pleasurable.

Written by Caroline A. Weaver

## MEWTWO

If you are a pokemon fanatic like I am you probably already now a little about what I'm talking about. If you don't, well... Just listen. Mewtwo (my favorite pokemon) was cloned and created by scientist trying to recreate and extinct pokemon called Mew from a mew fossil. Once successfully cloned, Mewtwo awoke for the first time to find that the scientist cared nothing about him and that he only saw him as an experiment. His temper uncontrollable and powers

the same, Mewtwo destroyed the lab and the scientist within. Standing in the remains of the lab, the notorious leader of Team Rocket found that the cloning process he had been funding was an success. He tricks Mewtwo into going with him to train him to control his powers, which he did. When mewtwo asked, "So, these are my powers, but what is my purpose?" This is when the leader made the fatal mistake of saying, "To serve your master, me." Mewtwo was outraged by this answer and destroyed the train facility he was in. Mewtwo is and one of a kind pokemon and trading card. I own one Mewtwo card and I used to have a Rocket's Mewtwo card. If you would like to talk to me more about pokemon or pokemon cards, email me at [abbie327@tds.net](mailto:abbie327@tds.net)



Written by Abby Jones

**WEEDS? WHATWEEDS?**

Spring is on it's way and the flowers are starting to bloom. One plant you'll start to see at this time of year is Bloodroot. It is not edible (do not ingest), but does contain many wonderful medicinal properties.

These include:

- The blood-red fresh root was used in minute doses as an appetite stimulant, or in larger doses as an arterial sedative.
- Formerly, the root was used as an ingredient in cough medicines.
- American Indians used root tea for rheumatism, asthma, bronchitis, lung ailments, laryngitis, fevers, and as an emetic.
- Root juice applied to warts, and also as a dye and as a decorative skin stain.
- Native Americans, early settlers and herbal practitioners have prescribed Bloodroot for myriad medical conditions from skin cancers to sore throats.
- Its most persistent and possibly valid use takes advantage of the flesh destroying properties of the root juice or powered root for treating conditions of the skin such as ringworm, warts, polyps, fungal growths and the like.



- A bachelor of the Ponca tribe would rub a piece of the root as a love charm on the palm of his marry. After shaking hands, the girls would be found willing to marry in 5-6 days.
- Experimentally, the alkaloid sanguinarine has shown antiseptic, anesthetic, and anticancer activity.
- It is used commercially as a

plague-inhibiting agent in toothpaste, mouthwash, and rinses.

- Another important constituent is Berberine (also found in Goldenseal, Oregon Grape and Honeysuckle) which is showing promise in fighting brain tumors and many other cancers.
- The root is used in many pharmaceuticals, mixed with other compounds to treat heart problems and to treat migraines.
- For ringworm apply the fluid extract.

- Bloodroot is said to repel insects.
- In *toxic doses*, it causes burning in the stomach, intense thirst, vomiting, faintness vertigo, intense prostration with dimness of eyesight.



There is an abundance of information available about the uses of Bloodroot. The Peterson Field Guides are always a terrific source, particularly *Edible Wild Plants* and *Eastern/Central Medicinal Plants*. Please research all plants before using them, and NEVER pick and eat anything without first consulting an herbalist or a qualified plant guide. Always be aware of whether the area you are gathering from may have been sprayed with chemicals.

Index of images and information:

Peterson Field Guides

<http://www.infonavigate.com/photographs/Nature-Trip-Durham-NC-March-30-2002.htm>

<http://www.invasive.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=1377034>

<http://2bnthewild.com/plants/H261.htm>

<http://www.botanical.com/botanical/mgmh/b/bloodr59.html>

<http://altnature.com/gallery/bloodroot.htm>

<http://www.dontveter.com/howtogrow/bloodroot.html>

Think twice before you pull that weed! You may be throwing away a medicine chest's worth of resources. *Please consult your physician before making any medical or dietary decisions.*

Compiled by Plant Enthusiast, Vered Kleinberger



Artist: Sam Ingram, age 8



Artist: Ayla Bartlett, age 10

### ANNE FRANK'S LIFE

Anne Frank by Rachel Epstein is a true story of Anne's life. She lived in Amsterdam during World War II. This story tells of Anne Frank's journey in hiding and in the death camps.

Did you know if we didn't have her diary we wouldn't know what it was like for a young girls in hiding? Adolf Hitler killed six million people because he was trying to make the world better but when he died he left the world worse than before. Anne Frank's dad was a businessman. He was in the German army during World War I. They started hiding in the hiding place in 1942. Before they were in the hiding place Anne packed her diary, hair curlers, a comb, schools, and old letters.

She covered her wall in her room with photos of celebrities including Princess Elizabeth and her sister Margot, and movie stars. She made a long list of makeup and clothing that she would buy. This lady that was in the hiding place made Anne feel she was always being criticized all the time. Food was hard to get during the war for everybody. When she went to the camp she and her sister died from typhus. Anne died in March 1945. Her dad was the only family member that survived.

I loved this book because it is a true story about her life and how important she is. This book is about caring, helping each other at bad times, and about love.

I was also able to go see the Anne Frank exhibit down at Kennesaw University. It was really neat to see a short movie about her life, pictures from the time, and also take a virtual tour of the hiding place on the computers they have there. It is open M-F from 10-5 and Sat and Sun from 1-5.

Read and Reported by Ayla Bartlett, age 10

### HOMESCHOOL FOOTBALL

The 'Falcon' organization is gearing up for their 2006 Football Season. The 'Falcons' plan to field a middle school team (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades) and a Varsity team (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades) this year.

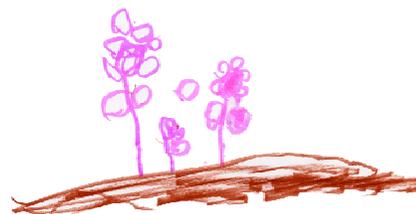
This is the time when players should be working out by stretching, exercising, lifting weights and running. Preparing yourself now for the football season will eliminate having to get into shape when you put the pads on in August. If you are playing other sports, then that sport might give you some of the conditioning you need. If you are not playing another sport, then you should be preparing yourself on your own or with some of your friends or teammates. Prepare yourself to be the best player you can be and make sure you are studying hard and doing your best to do your school work.

North Georgia Falcons based in the Canton and North Georgia area are open for tackle football sign ups. High School level Home Schooled young men.

For more info call (706) 253-FOOT or (706) 253-7128 and ask for Coach Roger McDaniel.

The NG Falcons are the NACA (National Association of Christian Athletes) 2006 National Champions.

Visit <http://www.georgiafootballleague.com/> for more information. Good Luck!



### HOMESCHOOL EXCURSIONS UPCOMING EVENTS

Our calendar is always changing. Continue checking our website or join our e-mail list for updates.

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| March 31 | Tour the Georgia Dome in Atlanta                       |
| April 4  | Visit the Misty Mountain Railroad in Blairsville       |
| April 6  | Visit the Carlos Museum at Emory University in Atlanta |
| April 20 | Monthly climbing day at Adrenaline Climbing in Suwanee |
| April 24 | Turner Field tour in Atlanta                           |
| April 25 | Puss N Boots in Buckhead                               |
| April 28 | Cagle Dairy tour in Cherokee Co.                       |

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**HOMESCHOOLERS HAVING FUN!****TEENAGE WRITING CONFERENCE**

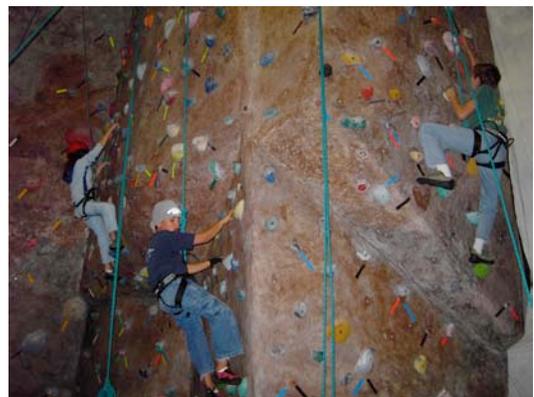
The fifth annual ALPHA SF/F/H Workshop for Young Writers (ages 14 - 19) will be held at the University of Pittsburgh's Greensburg Campus July 19 - 28, 2006, in conjunction with Pittsburgh's science fiction convention, Confluence, July 28 - 30th. This year's writers-in-residence will be New York Times bestselling authors Tamora Pierce and Timothy Zahn, Campbell Award-winner Wen Spencer, and Rhysling Award-winner Theodora Goss.

<http://alpha.spellcaster.org/>

The ten-day workshop includes private, air-conditioned dormitory rooms, meals (dinner Wednesday the 19th through lunch Friday, the 28th), Confluence membership, required reading material, and local transportation. Tuition for Alpha 2006 is \$900.

Former Alpha students have sold stories to Boys' Life, Realms of Fantasy, Writers of the Future, Fantasy Magazine, Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet, Fantastic Stories, Corpse Blossoms, Aberrant Dreams, and Fantastical Visions, among other publications.

Required to apply: a SF/F/H genre story, 2000 to 6000 words long to be submitted electronically to [story-submit@spellcaster.org](mailto:story-submit@spellcaster.org). Deadline for completing the online application and story submission is March 31. Early application is advisable for handicapped and foreign students.



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### Pickens County Homeschoolers



Do you feel like you're on your own? Well, you're not! Come join other homeschooling families in the Pickens

County area. Visit our Yahoo! group for upcoming events or just to chat.

[pickenshomeschooler@yahoogroups.com](mailto:pickenshomeschooler@yahoogroups.com)

See you soon!

### PUTTING THE 'FAMILY' BACK IN 'ENTERTAINMENT'



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### PROGRAMS AT THE PICKENS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Homeschool Excursions wishes to thank the Pickens County Library for the continued use of their facilities as we develop the Homeschool Herald. Thank you!

Please call the library for a list of their exciting upcoming activities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT  
THE PICKENS COUNTY LIBRARY AT (706)  
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Please help support this newsletter and Homeschool Excursions. 100% of the income generated through advertising supplements program costs to make all activities affordable.

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**EDITOR'S NOTE**

Many families have asked if their homeschoolers can submit contributions even if they can't attend the planning meetings in Pickens County. Of course they can! You are welcome to e-mail or snail mail their creative contributions to Homeschool Excursions.

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO...**

- All the homeschoolers who contributed to the production of this first issue. This couldn't have been done without you!
- The Pickens County Library for allowing us to use your facility for our meetings.
- The Ashbeck family for donating the paper on which to print the Herald.
- Janis Kleinberger for all her assistance and generosity.
- The Jones Family for their continued support.
- Our advertisers for their help in making the newsletter possible.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY OF IMAGES**

Spring Logo drawn by Breanne Grover.  
Clip art drawn by Ayla, Laurana, and Katherine Bartlett, and by Sam Ingram.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Please contact Homeschool Excursions to be placed on our mailing list, e-mail loop, or for advertising rates.

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# The March Issue

Spring is on its way, and we're getting ready!

The Homeschool Herald is a monthly newsletter composed of materials created by homeschoolers from throughout Georgia. Submissions from kids of all ages are welcome, so send us your creative creations.

Spring is the time for many holidays: Passover, Easter, Spring Break... What does your family do

for these occasions? Any special traditions? Share with us!

The Herald is the place for you to get recognized for your achievements, talents, and creativity! Let us know what you like to do: sports, what books you like to read, how

you spend your free time, and anything else you want to include.

Write, draw, or record and send it to be included in future issues! We want your creative creations!



## What's Inside?

### What happens after a hurricane?

Read about one of Georgia's homeschooling fathers and his incredible work following hurricanes.

### Weeds? What weeds?

Bloodroot is starting to bloom. This is an amazing medicinal plant, so look inside this issue for its uses...

### Anne Frank

Anne Frank is an important historical figure. A local homeschooler read a book about her and shares what she learned. Read all about it!

### Songs, Poems, Pictures, Stories, Articles, and More

See what the homeschoolers have created this month. Each Herald is very different, so explore this issue, and we hope you enjoy the creativity of these homeschoolers!

Homeschool Excursions, Inc.  
PO Box 1283  
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