

WESTERN PA HOMESCHOOLERS

Newsletter #6
A Network for Sharing Local Information about Homeschooling - Fall - 1983

SECOND ANNUAL HOMESCHOOLERS' WEEKEND A GREAT SUCCESS... from Susan Richman, editor

We're so glad so many families were able to share in our second big Homeschoolers' Weekend here at our farm in Kittanning this past June. 51 families came, up from 32 last year. I never quite tallied up all the children, but there were sure a LOT!!! Everyone was grateful for the sunny weather-- the pond saw lots of use, and discussion groups could be held outdoors. It was especially nice to see so many new families involved, many who are officially beginning homeschooling this fall.

Discussion group topics ranged from "Dealing with Professionals", "How Learning Evolves", "What if your Superintendent Doesn't Agree?", "Creative Math Ideas", "Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing-- At Home", "Home Computers", "Legal issues of Homeschooling", "Siblings-- Learning & Growing Together", "The Great Social Life Question", and more. It was only frustrating that it wasn't possible to attend all sessions! We all gained so much by meeting and talking with each other-- finding friends who support our parenting styles, hearing stories from "experienced" homeschoolers, responding to questions from parents new to the idea, all of us gathering new information and perspectives. A special thank you to all the many people who helped by leading discussions-- you were truly the core of the weekend's success. If anyone has suggestions for further discussion topics for next June, or if you'd like to help lead a session, let me know.

Another big thanks to all those who pitched in with cleanup work, or who helped newcomers feel right at home. Many folks were meeting a whole group of new faces, and I hope everyone felt welcome! Also glad that a number of families brought items for the "Second Hand Resource Table", the Sharing Table, and the children's art and writing display.

We're all looking forward to another fine weekend next year, and hope many families continue the friendships and sharing from this get-together throughout the year.

WESTERN PA SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT HAVE COOPERATED WITH HOMESCHOOLING FAMILIES..

- FOX CHAPEL
- WEST JEFFERSON HILLS
- NORTH HILLS
- WOODLAND HILLS
- SOUTH WEST BUTLER
- PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- TITUSVILLE
- ARMSTRONG
- JEFFERSON-MORGAN
- SHALER
- KISKI
- TRINITY
- KANE
- MT. UNION

Several other school districts are also currently cooperating with homeschoolers. If you would like more information on other districts, please contact me and I will let you know more details. Many new families have gotten in touch with our network this summer and early fall, seeking support and info on homeschooling. We wish the best of luck to these families in seeking out what is best for their children. Again, if your school district is now helping out homeschoolers, do let me know. Any relevant correspondence with school people will also be useful to have on file, if you would like to share with us. Thanks!

Donations to Western PA Homeschoolers Keep our Network functioning!
We ask for at least \$3.00 per family for a year's worth of newsletters, and the Children's Magazines. A special THANK YOU to the many generous families who have donated much more. Checks should be made out to Susan Richman, R.D.2, Kittanning, PA 16201. THANK YOU!!!

THANK YOU TYPISTS THANK YOU TYPISTS THANK YOU TYPISTS THANK YOU TYPISTS!!!!

This issue of the newsletter would not be coming to you if it weren't for the wonderful typing help of Joanne Sherosky, Dave Porterfield, Ann Dehagen, Pat Ulan, and Susan Jaffer. If anyone else would like to help out in this way, drop me a note and I'll send you details. Thanks also to my little Molly, who does take sound naps at times! Because so many people offered to help, no one had too much work to do. My family definitely appreciates the help!!!

Western PA Homeschoolers
Masthead lettered by Jesse Richman

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