

MDHSA Connections

Connecting us all together

Homeschoolers Serving Homeschoolers since 1986

November 2015

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REMINDER!

**WE DO NOT HAVE A
NEWSLETTER IN JANUARY.
SO IF YOU NEED TO POST
ANYTHING FOR THE NEW
YEAR, DECEMBER IS WHEN
YOU WANT TO GET IT IN.**



First Fridays!

November 6
**Summit Search
and Rescue!**
Chambersburg BIC
This is for MDHSA

To ALL CO-OP participants!

See page 3 for
information about
clearances

MDHSA
Celebrates
30 years in 2016!!!



How can you Help?

Note From The Editor

**“Our greatest natural resource is the
minds of our children”**

— Walter Elias Disney

What a great opportunity we have to help our children grow and learn. Also to help other homeschool moms and dads. We want to encourage everyone to send in ideas, pictures, techniques, funny/ silly homeschool antics, etc. to share with other homeschoolers. We always want to hear from you. Any submissions for the next newsletter are to be sent in by November 25, 2015.

*Please make sure to send it to
mdhsanewslettereditor@pa.net

Kim Sheffler



MDHSA INFORMATION

MDHSA Administrative Office

MDHSA Office

32 West Main St., #5, (717)749-5767
Waynesboro, PA 17268 mdhsaadmin@pa.net
Diploma program: diploma@pa.net
Website: www.mdhsa-pa.org

Administrator

Barbara Snider barbs.mdhsa@pa.net (717) 749-5767

Treasurer, Office Manager

Stephanie Vickers stephanie.mdhsa@gmail.com (717) 377-9196

Chairman:

Michael Henry mhenry717@hotmail.com (717)-262-8732

Secretary

Lydia Peckman lydia.peckman@gmail.com (717) -369-3923
mdhsa.members.only@gmail.com

Development Chairperson/ Activities Director

Jana Hege jhege@usa.com (717)-749-0474
mdhsaactivities@gmail.com

Five Forks BIC Facilities Coordinator

Jana Hege jhege@usa.com (717) 749-0474

MDHSA activities:

—must be registered with the activities director—
mdhsaactivities@gmail.com

—the announcement must go in the newsletter

—If the activity will be before the newsletter is printed, email it to the mdhsaactivities@pa.net for the AD to send it out to all emails.

—must be for MDHSA members only

—are put on the calendar in the membership section of website by the AD.

— IF the activity has an unlimited number that may attend, the activity may be put on the member Facebook page any time. IF the activity has a limit to how many may attend, you may NOT put the activity invitation on Facebook until the NL is received by mail, which is the day AFTER it is sent out by email. This way all will have a fair chance to sign up for the activities that are limited. Please send out reminders of activities that are announced far ahead!

mdhsa.members.only@gmail.com.

Send non-activity announcements such as MDHSA business, homeschool legislative information or a serious illness, or death in the family of an MDHSA member, business mtg announcements, etc. If this should go in the newsletter, please email the newsletter editor also. The newsletter will be sent via this email, also. . Not to be used for activities and field trips. (Please check spam folders from time to time and add these emails to your contacts)

MDHSA CO-OP Committees

Co-Op North Committee

Kendra Angle 2b2kangle@embarqmail.com (717) 261-2557

Mellissa Ott theotthouse@yahoo.com (717) 860-7099

Rebecca Henry rrhpinkworld@hotmail.com (717) 262-8732

Tanya English tenglish@pa.net (717)263-0371

Angel Snowberger bamcraftymommas@yahoo.com
(717) 491-1830 treasurer

Co-Op South Committee

Jaime Kelly skelly5549@yahoo.com (301)739-9192

Grace Horst ghorst13@gmail.com (717)262-8969

Lisa Shafer theshafers@pa.net (717)677-4476

Kim Travis KTravis76@aol.com (717)375-2662

Barb Ward (Treasurer) ralph.ward@myactv.net (301) 824-3512

Co-Op West

Robin Appenzellar appenzel4@pa.net

Denise Rine dlrine@frontiernet.net

Elena Murphy revjam61@aol.com (717)328-4512

Co-op Treasurers Reports Schedule

Due Date Report for this time period to the treasurer and the administrator

Jan 31 September 1 to December 31

April 30 January 1 to March 31

July 31 April 1 to June 30

Sept 30 September 1 to August 31 and a copy of the bank statement since August 31 is the end of MDHSA's fiscal year.

Put an "as of" date on the report when you send it.

Advertising in this Newsletter:

MDHSA members may advertise at no charge in the newsletter. Members may e-mail their newsletter advertisement to the newsletter editor

Non-members who have a business (music lessons, tutoring classes, etc.) OR Commercial Business will be charged a fee. The fee schedule and detailed instructions are on MDHSA website under the Purchase Tab. These ads are not to be e-mailed directly to the newsletter editor.



MDHSA NEWS

To ALL CO-OP participants! Important Announcement!

As stated in the October Newsletter, and at the MDHSA business meeting, returning members of MDHSA should have sent their clearances into MDHSA by November 1. Assuming they have applied for their clearances and they are still waiting for some of these in the mail, they should send them to the MDHSA office as soon as they get them.

Families who just became members of MDHSA in November or later, should apply for their clearances immediately and get the information to the MDHSA office as soon as possible.

The MDHSA office is closed for Thanksgiving and Christmas vacations. If your clearances have not been received and processed long before that time, it is doubtful you will be able to attend co-op in January. You may NOT bring the clearances to co-op and hope to get in! You may not even come to the church and sit in mothers' meeting.

I apologize for being "tough" about this, but this is one time when I have to put the future of MDHSA before anything else. If you have any questions, you can email me at barbs.mdhsa@pa.net.

BONUS BOOKS

Remember: For each of the first 3 books you sell, you get \$5 off of your MDHSA 2016-2017 Membership! That means that if you get your newsletter by email, you only pay \$20 for membership!

If you sell five books, you will get a free bonus book.

For a copy of the order form, see last month's newsletter or go to the MDHSA website and click on the Announcements and Events page to print a form. You may use either form.

If you announce to your friends on Facebook, that you are selling these, send them to the website and they can fill out a form, put your name as the member referring them, send the form and payment to MDHSA, and you will

If you are scheduling an MDHSA activity,

be sure to put it in the NEWSLETTER!
If you are too late for the newsletter, send it to
mdhsaactivities@gmail.com
so the Development Chair can send it out to all of MDHSA.

Are you a member of Face Book?

Don't miss out on the conversation!
Or the events! Or the News! Or the Support
from your fellow MDHSA members!

**Join the MDHSA private
Member Facebook page now!**

The link was sent to you in your approval email for membership. For the link to get there and any questions, please email
Angel Snowberger

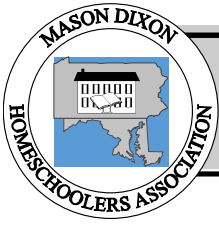
MDHSA Member Business Directory Month

If you have a family business or you or your children sell a product or craft item, etc., or provide a service of any kind, the month of December is going to be MDHSA Member Business Directory Month. This will be open to adult MDHSA members and their dependent children.

Size: No larger than 1/4 page

Email the ad to:

mdhsaadmin@pa.net by Nov. 15 (NOT 25th)



MDHSA NEWS

Members Skill Survey

We'd like to get to know our members a bit better. Please let us know more about your homeschool by checking all the boxes below, that apply, if you:

Homeschooled from Kindergarten

Transitioned from charter to homeschool

Have a child(ren) with special needs

Have a child(ren) with learning challenges

Use a homeschool method other than textbook/workbook

You and your children like textbooks/workbooks, but have learned to make them work for you, not the other way around!

Have chronic illness or disability (mom or dad)

Work outside the home part or full time

Have homeschooled 3 years or more – How many? ____

Homeschooled through high school

“Other” that might help a new homeschooler: _____

We would also love to know of any special skills/hobbies you may have (that you would feel comfortable sharing).

Name: _____

Locality:

_____ Chambersburg _____ Shippensburg _____ Waynesboro/Rouserville _____ Greencastle

_____ Newville _____ Mercersburg _____ Maryland Other: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

May we give your contact information to someone who is interested in homeschooling? YES or NO

_____ Email only _____ Phone only _____ Phone or email either one.

Mail or email this form to mdhsadmin@pa.net. Please put Members Survey in the subject line.



MDHSA Celebrates 30 years in 2016!!!



Yes, it has been 30 years since the inception of MDHSA! We started in a living room with 7 families and now we are everywhere! Co-ops, First Fridays, Field trips and more!

We need ideas from you on how to celebrate this year long milestone. We also need those who are willing to help. No helpers = no celebration. We would not like to let the year pass by with no celebration.

Suggestions:

--Picnic for Members Combined with the Pool Party

--Picnic for members at a local park such as Norlo Park where there are Horseshoes, tennis courts, basketball courts, volleyball courts, walking paths. We could either borrow or rent a bounce house (maybe the kind that you can hook up water to and slide down if the Park will allow water use) to have placed at the park for kids to use. MDHSA could buy chicken and everyone could bring a dish to pass. We could have a small program in the pavilion after eating. Perhaps a co-op group or several people could take this on to plan or a group of individuals who like working together. The Park will need to be contacted soon or no later than January to reserve a pavilion.

--Community Outreach and Awareness: MDHSA could rent a booth at Caledonia Park Craft days (or a town craft festival). We would give away pencils, or buttons, etc., with " MDHSA 30 years "on them, and pamphlets about homeschooling and MDHSA, answer questions graciously. Perhaps members could provide their non-food craft items at the tent for sale, but MDHSA would receive half of the proceeds and the member would receive half of the proceeds. Perhaps we could have things like Face Painting or other hands on things to offer. Perhaps another co-op group or several people could take this on, or simply a committee of people who are willing to do this. The Chamber of Commerce or Caledonia will need to be contacted soon to reserve a space.

*Design 30th anniversary T-Shirts (Kim Smith is going to be making an announcement about this).

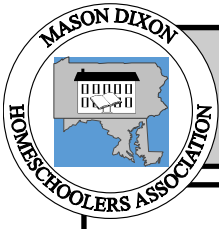
* Put Fast Facts in the Newsletter for the next year about MDHSA. (Barb Snider is working on this).

---Ideas how to include or invite past members of MDHSA to enjoy the celebration.

--Your ideas???!!!

--If you are willing to: be on a committee, set up or work on one of these activities or if you have other ideas for our 30th year, contact Barb Snider at mdhsadmin@pa.net by December 15. Put Anniversary in the subject line.

--If you see events in your community that MDHSA could participate in to make note of our anniversary, let Barb Snider know at mdhsadmin@pa.net



MDHSA NEWS/ACTIVITIES

First Friday Events

Summit Search and Rescue!

Come join the fun on Friday, November 6 at 1 p.m. for First Friday at Chambersburg BIC.
This is for MDHSA members only and no need to register ahead of time

For all ages and the cost is by donation. There will be a donation basket that day.
The program is approx. 1 hour.

Summit Search and Rescue is a non-profit (501-C3) organization providing man trailing bloodhound teams to be utilized for both the locating of missing persons and for criminal investigation.

Our assembly program is presented in an age appropriate way to groups ranging from pre-school age to senior citizens. The physiology of the canine nose is explained as compared with that of a human. We highlight the many ways this marvelous nose can benefit mankind. The attributes of the bloodhound are presented including the often comical abundance of skin. From the puppy beginnings to intensive adult dog training – how it all comes to be unfolds.



Science again comes into play as we learn about the uniqueness of the scent of each of us and how the bloodhound uses that to “find his man”. We conclude by demonstrating the dogs in action as they find a lost member of the group and pick a “criminal” out of a line-up.

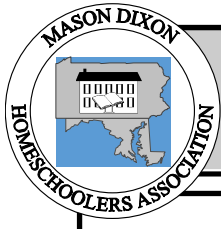
Safety lessons are shared along the way – we love to work our hounds but would prefer preventing people from getting lost whenever possible.

First Friday Tri State Astronomers

Friday December, 4th at 1pm
Cost is by donation

Local amateur enthusiast club members from [TriState Astronomers](#) will come and present some basic astronomy. Pray for clear skies as they will be bringing along some telescopes so that we can do some solar viewing.





MDHSA NEWS/ACTIVITIES

Small In-Home Workshops

We would love to have small In-home workshops led by members. These will be:

- For MDHSA adult members only

Informative teaching workshops on subjects of interests to homeschoolers

You can:

- Host and lead a workshop,
- Host it and someone else leads
- Lead it and have someone else host
- Have it in the morning, evening or weekend—your choice

Have it at home, at the MDHSA conference room, or another location, such as a library, or a restaurant at a table if the group is small.

If you are interested in leading or hosting a workshop, contact Barb Snider at mdhsaadmin@pa.net for approval of the idea. Then send your announcement to both the newsletter editor and Development Chair/Activities Director so it can be put on the activity calendar. (See Newsletter for email addresses).

Small In-Home Parent Workshop -MDHSA Diploma Program

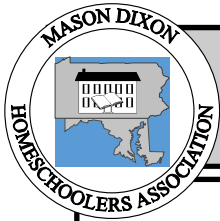
Tuesday, February 16th, 2016 at 7pm.

Held at the home of Patti Eby -
5664 Greenvillage Road, Chambersburg, PA 17202.
Led by Mary Hudzinski.

If you want to know more about the requirements of the MDHSA Diploma Program, this workshop is for you. Open to parents who are current MDHSA members.

Space is limited so contact Patti to reserve your place.

E-mail gattie@centurylink.net or Call/Text 717-462-7046. (Must include the 717).
Diploma Program Guides will be available for purchase at the workshop.



MDHSA NEWS/ ACTIVITIES



**Spring registration for
Co-op South
is available online now.**

Due Nov 17

First Annual MDHSA Talent, Art, and Science Show!

January 29, 2015, Location TBA

Science Fair:

We will have a science fair for all ages, divided into two ages groups: elementary and high school. The projects will be judged and prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third in each age group.

Art Fair

Same as the science fair.
All mediums are welcome.

Talent Show:

This is not a competition, just a showcase. Performances must be under seven minutes.

We will try to limit the talent portion to one and a half hours.

On the day of the show, all art and science projects must be brought to the venue before 5 p.m. Judging will take place between 5 and 6 p.m. The talent show will be held at 7 p.m., to allow guests time to view the art and science projects.

To register for any portion of the show, please email participants' name, age, and what they plan to do to jhege@usa.com. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date

"A Christmas Carol"
by Totem Pole Playhouse at the
Majestic Theater at
Gettysburg College. Friday,
December 18th, 10am



Come enjoy a live theater version of a classic. Totem Pole Playhouse is putting on "A Christmas Carol" at the Gettysburg College's Majestic Theater. Tickets will be \$10 each which is an amazing discount! All ages are welcome but a ticket must be purchased for everyone no matter their age, even babies. Money will be due on December 1st and can be mailed to

Angel Snowberger
1175 Stanley Avenue,
Chambersburg PA 17201.

Please contact Angel with questions at
717-491-1830 or angelandsean@comcast.net

We have 50 seats blocked off for us for now but can get more if we need them.





OUTSIDE OPPORTUNITIES

Homeschool Bowling,

\$5 a bowler for 2 games and rental shoes!

Open to All and at Sunshine Lanes
in Waynesboro.

This will be a monthly event.



Cosmic Skate Homeschool Skate

From 10 am -1pm, and the third Thursday
of each month,

there will be a Homeschool Skate
at Cosmic Skate in Waynesboro.

Cost is \$5 per person. They are also
going to show movies on the wall for children who
don't skate and will be playing Christian music.



Red Bridge Homeschool Skate

The 4th Thursday of each month
\$5 per person (max \$15/family)

IF DATE FALLS ON HOLIDAYS IN
NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER,

CALL RED BRIDGE TO VERIFY IF THERE WILL BE

Due to the holidays, homeschool skates at Red Bridge
will move up a week in November and December.



SKATING THAT DAY.
NO SKATE IN JULY
717-264-9916
Red Bridge Roller Rink,

Christian Homeschool Association of Pennsylvania
CHAP

Homeschool Convention and Curriculum Fair
May 13 & 14, 2016

(Please note: This is NOT Mother's Day Weekend
as often happens with CHAP!)

8 AM to 5 PM

Location: Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg

Registration opens online in February.

www.chaponline.com

To Homeschoolers in Washington County:

My name is Ana Billotti; I am the new Children's Associate Librarian at the Alice Virginia and David W. Fletcher Branch Library in Hagerstown, MD. I will be facilitating the program "Homeschool Happenings at the Library" beginning this September and I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself.

"Homeschool Happenings at the Library" will occur on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 2:00 to 3:30 PM beginning in September and ending in May of each year. This program is generally geared towards elementary aged through middle school aged children. Each program will focus on a different topic or subject area and we invite experts to come in and present on the material.

Our first program of the year will be on Wednesday, September 23rd. At this program will announce the schedule for this coming year along with some of the presenters we already have scheduled. We will have Lisa McCoy with us from the Washington County 4-H. She will be presenting information and providing activities that focus on food, nutrition, and healthy living.

Another program that many of you may be interested in is our Homeschool Bookclub which occurs on the third Wednesday of each month from 2:00 to 3:00 PM. This program is led by Mr. Jeff and is meant for children in fifth through eighth grade. Each month a new book is selected by the members of the Homeschool Bookclub, read, and then discussed at the next meeting the following month.

We welcome you and your children to both of these programs and if you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to contact me. I welcome all feedback in the hopes of making this coming "Homeschool Happenings at the Library" session one of the best ones yet. I can be reached at [301-739-3250 ext. 250](tel:301-739-3250) or at my email ABillotti@washcolibrary.org. Thank you for your time and consideration. We hope to see you at the library soon.

Sincerely,
Ana Billotti

The Maryland Association of Christian Home Educators
M.A.C.H.E.

Sponsors

The 2016 Maryland State Home School Curriculum Fair
(Frederick County Fairgrounds, Frederick, MD)

April 22nd , 4 P.M. to 9 P.M.

April 23rd , 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

<http://www.machemd.org/event-cfair.asp>

Mark Your
Calendar



OUTSIDE OPPORTUNITIES

Tuscarora Wildlife Homeschool Calendar for 2015 – 2016

October 15 – “What is an ecosystem?”

November 12 – Eastern Deciduous Forest Ecosystem

February 11 – Savannah Ecosystem

March 17 – Desert Ecosystem

April 14 – Tundra Ecosystem

May 12 – Year end wrap up; students can share ecosystem projects

Programs begin promptly at 1:30 – and end at 3:00; depending on the size of the group, I may group into younger and older groups and co-teach with another teacher.

Please pre-register for each session or for the whole year, this helps me plan for the size of the group as well as the appropriate level for activities.

Please spread the word so that others know that activities happen at the Center!

Sheila Snider, Director

Tuscarora Wildlife Education Project

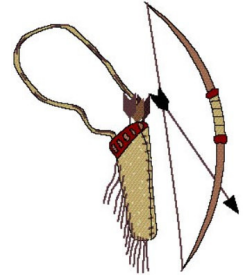
717-328-2126

4881 Ft. Loudon Road

Mercersburg, PA 17236



Archery Club for Homeschoolers Starting



My husband is the State Coordinator for Scholastic 3D Archery so we will be sponsored by them.

Come to the kick off meeting to learn about a new archery club for homeschoolers in the area.

Tuesday Nov.17 at 4:00-6:00 pm.
760E Buchanan Valley Road
Orrtanna, PA 17353

-GPS will take you to the mailboxes on Buchanan Valley Road

-at the mailboxes, turn up the gravel road (private drive) and it's the last house on the left.

-Open to all ages (including Mom and Dad or Grandma and Grandpa)

-College scholarship opportunities
-Leadership opportunities

-Bring your own equipment or use ours
-Competition or just for fun - you choose

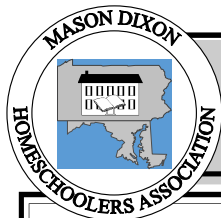
-Local (If some of you have a good travel distance from our house we may be able to find a place closer to your location. Let's talk.)

-All skill levels

We will be having SOUP for supper so call or write Pam Heavner to RSVP or with questions 717-334-2788

soapchicks@gmail.com

(Editor's Note: Pam Heavner is a former MDHSA member, and she and her husband taught archery several years ago at co-op West).



CALENDAR

If you are planning an MDHSA activity, we would really like to get it on the calendar as soon as possible. This will give our members an opportunity to plan, so that they may attend. You will find additional details for all activities throughout the MDHSA Newsletter.

November 2015

- 6- Summit Search and Rescue
- 16 - Literature Fair at Grove Family Library
- 26 - Thanksgiving



December 2015

- 4- Tri State Astronomers
- 18 - "A Christmas Carol" performance
- 25 - Christmas



January 2016

- 7 - First Friday. Please be aware that this activity is actually the second Friday due to the holiday.
- 29 -Talent, Art, and Science Show

February 2016

March 2016

April 2016

May 2016

June 2016

**Any one with ideas for
"First Fridays" Please contact
Angel Snowberger.**

All ideas will be considered even

Newsletter Announcements

The MDHSA Newsletter is published monthly from August–December and February–June.

All MDHSA members are welcome to submit items to the newsletter. Feel free to send any information that you think will benefit our homeschool community. Articles, classifieds, contests, community events and other information will be accepted if appropriate and if space allows.

Newsletter deadline is the 25th of each month. Please send items to mdhsanewslettereditor@pa.net

Please send all **written** information to MDHSA 32 West Main St. #5, Waynesboro, PA 17268

Suggestions to the newsletter are always welcome.



Mason Dixon Homeschoolers Association

Newsletter Editor—Kim Sheffler

32 West Main St. #5

Waynesboro, PA 17268

