



Kick-Off 2013-2014

Welcome to SHIELD! We are so glad that you have joined, rejoined, or are considering membership in our Christian home school support group. We are looking forward to an awesome year and hope you find what you need to make your school year the best yet!

SHIELD membership runs from June 1st to May 31st. Membership applications are available on our website (<http://www.shieldonline.org/>). Cost for a SHIELD membership is \$15 per family per year. We also offer a SCHEA membership for an additional \$15 (a reduced amount for joining as a part of our group). While the SCHEA membership is no longer mandatory, we do encourage you to join if you are able.

SCHEA provides a great number of services to homeschoolers in South Carolina (see <http://www.schomeeducatorsassociation.org/about.php> for more information). Please note that all 2012-13 memberships that are not renewed will expire August 31, 2013. There will be a \$10 late charge for renewing after that date. On September 1st we will have our most current directory and will begin a new email group with only those who have joined or renewed at that time. If you have questions please contact one of the SHIELD Team Leaders.

Tracy Taylor, Strategy Team Leader

834-0316

ttaylor24@sc.rr.com

Karen Collins, Communications Team Leader

445-6043

kscollins2@icloud.com

Mandy Dufries, Financial/Membership Team Leader

996-1379

sixdufries@gmail.com

Academic Presentation Days

Academic Presentation Day Coordinators:

Jennifer Cogle

261-9593

Contact Information:

coglefour@gmail.com

Carolyn Jackson

665-5159

imacarolyn@gmail.com

Academic Presentation Day is a time for your students in 3rd grade and above to present a 3-5 minute oral presentation on a topic of their choice relating to a given theme. Students typically develop and report on an interest sparked by something they are currently studying, such as a report on Daniel Boone or the building of log cabins when studying history, etc. This can be done in a variety of ways, including skits, display boards, drama, reciting poems, displaying art, playing instruments, etc. Students in kindergarten through 2nd grade are not required to give an oral presentation but may participate by providing a display.

Academic Presentation Day is held twice a year the fall and spring. In the fall we focus on history and science. In the spring we focus on art, literature, and music.

Friday October 18, 2013 - More details to come

~All SHIELD members are invited to attend even if not presenting~

Achievement Night

Achievement Night Coordinators:

Tracy Taylor, Strategy Team Leader

Karen Collins, Communications Team Leader

Mandy Dufries, Financial/Membership Team Leader

Linda Barnhill, Senior Coordinator

834-0316

445-6043

996-1379

772-3184

Contact Information:

ttaylor24@sc.rr.com

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elbeemee@gmail.com

Each spring SHIELD celebrates the achievements of our students! Sometimes we forget what we've been doing all year in the midst of doing it and so we take a moment in the spring to recognize all the hard work of our students (and their parents!). The evening includes a Kindergarten Graduation and special recognition of our Seniors. We hand out Certificates of Achievement to all participants 1st -11th grade. The evening ends with cake and also includes the distribution and signing of our annual yearbook!

Date & Location TBD

If you would like to help with this event, please contact one of our coordinators!

Box Tops

Box Top Coordinators:

April Roebuck

Janey Goude

roebucks_5@windstream.net

janeygoude@sc.rr.com

Contact Information:

206-0092

951-0943

SHIELD has joined up with Box Tops for Education. Start collecting now. Ask family, friends, church members, & neighbors to help collect them for you. **Your** Homeschool will earn \$0.10 for each box top collected. Yes, you read that right.... **your** Homeschool. The money can be used for your curriculum, field trips, school supplies, etc.

Clip the box tops (trim as close as possible to help save on shipping), make sure the expiration date has not expired, and put them in groups of 50 – make sure your name is on them. You may either use a rubber band or a plastic baggie.

The 1st deadline is October 15th. The 2nd deadline is February 12th. For participating products, check out this website: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/Image.aspx>

Watch your email and the Encourager newsletter for more information. Contact Coordinators with questions.

Clubs

Club Coordinator:

Melissa Bryan

292-7122

Contact Information:

smabryan@aol.com

SHIELD offers a variety of clubs, and you are sure to find one to suit your family's needs. We currently have girls'/boys' clubs for most age/grades. We also have had several hobby-specific clubs such as American Girl Club, Lego Club, and Book Clubs. SHIELD is always excited to add new clubs to our listing as interests arise. SHIELD has also had other clubs based upon different fun and challenging curriculum.

Do you have a fantastic idea for a club? Bible study? Horseback riding? Archery? Roller Skating? Bowling? Photography? Scrap booking? The ideas are only limited to your imagination.

Please contact Melissa Bryan if you are interested in starting a new club or helping with an already established group.

Field Day

Field Day Coordinator:

Ellen Nagelvoort

Contact Information:

960-8312 *enagelvoort128@gmail.com*

Family Field Day---Fun For the Whole Family! For all members of SHIELD - NEW & OLD!
Come have a blast with your own family as well as others, participating in all kinds of games and relays!
There will be prizes for everyone and YES it is in AIR CONDITIONING!!!!!! Hurray!

Please sign up for this event tonight or email me to let me know how many family members are coming.

Friday 9/6/2013 6:30-8:30 pm Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church gymnasium

** Please consider helping with this great event, speak with Ellen tonight! **

Field Trips

Field Trip Team Coordinator:

Rebecca Becker

Contact Information:

528-6492

jandbbecker@aol.com

SHIELD offers a variety of interesting field trips throughout the school year. These include various learning opportunities such as science & nature classes, special exhibit museum tours, public facility tours, out-of-town trips, park days, etc. We may also plan park days at local parks for some fun fellowship time.

Check the SHIELD Encourager Newsletter and your email throughout the year for up-to-date information on field trips, sign ups, deadlines, and contact information.

Please visit the field trip table to register and pay for field trips from September-November. If you did not bring your checkbook/cash tonight, please go ahead and sign up. Arrangements can be made with individual team members to mail payments.

Please contact the Team Coordinator if you have a field trip idea!

G.I.F.T.

G.I.F.T. Coordinators:

Aimee Kollmansberger

Linda Barnhill

Contact Information:

957-1805

772-3184

mikeandaimee@juno.com

elbeemee@gmail.com

A new offering this year, *Grace, Inspiration, Friendship, Training* has the goal to be an intentional relational community having authentic conversations about real life homeschooling. Our desire is for everyone to contribute to help each other grow as homeschoolers and that all will walk away with practical next steps in the journey.

We gather monthly at various locations. Email for more information.

Iowa Standardized Testing

Iowa Testing Coordinator:
Elizabeth Collins

Contact Information:
356-5858 *aikosmom@sc.rr.com*

SHIELD will offer the Iowa Test of Basic Skills April 9-11, 2014. Order Forms and additional instructions will be available in January and will be announced in the SHIELD newsletter and e-mails. Contact Elizabeth Collins if you have any questions or would like to help with testing.

Lending Library

Library Coordinator:
Jenny Stallings

Contact Information:
808-5365 *Jen9874@msn.com*

Wouldn't you love to clean out the home school supplies that you no longer or never used?! We've got a solution that will bless both you and others! Donate them to the SHIELD library! The SHIELD Library has curriculum and educational resources that may be borrowed by SHIELD members for one month or up to a year. This is a great way to try out curriculum before you decide to purchase it or to save money by using a library item for the entire school year. A list of library items is available at www.shieldonline.org under the resources link. New donations are being processed so please email me if you are in search of a book that is not on the list. If you have items to donate, please contact Jenny Stallings.

Mid-Year Meeting

Mid-Year Meeting Coordinators:
Darby Reeves
Leslie Buzzell

Contact Information:
951-8489 *preeves1@sc.rr.com*
359-1934 *jlbuzzell@gmail.com*

SHIELD recognizes the need for parents to be refreshed at the halfway point in our school year. In January, we come together at our Mid-Year Meeting for an encouraging and uplifting time. We also enjoy light refreshments and a time to become reacquainted with one another. If you have never attended our Mid-Year Meeting, we encourage you to come this year. It's a great way to start off the new year and to begin a new semester of home schooling! More information to come, watch the Encourager newsletter.

Student Talent Showcase

Talent Night Coordinator:
Danita Palazzolo

Contact Information:
646-7598 *ddzolo@sc.rr.com*

Have you seen that little girl recite Psalm 23 on GodTube? She is so cute! We know you see things like this at your house – Come and Share!

- To let Grandparents and other family see what we do as homeschoolers!
- To give your student exposure to being in front of a group
- To remember all the great things your kids did when they were in the grade school years!
- To support and encourage one another in this home schooling adventure!

Our hope is that all we do will be to glorify our Lord, the Creator, and Giver of all good things. We want to celebrate all He has done in and through us!

If you are interested in helping with this event in the spring please contact Danita,
Date, time and location TBD

THRILL

THRILL Advisory Panel:

Michelle Steyne
Karen Collins

Contact Information:

466-4951 *mlsteyne@aol.com*
445-6043 *kscollins2@icloud.com*

THRILL (Teen Homeschoolers Radically Impacting Lexington Lives) is a community service group for 8th-12th graders. The goal of THRILL is to provide your teen with an opportunity to experience community service in ways that might not be possible outside of a group. THRILL's desire is to give students the opportunity to understand the concept of showing Christ's love by serving others.

We will meet beginning with our Kick-Off in August and will continue until the end of March. Service opportunities will include Helping Hands Adult Day Care, Operation Christmas Child, LICS and more.

New this year: We will use our meeting time to discuss upcoming service projects and discuss chapters from the book, Do Hard Things: A Teenage Rebellion Against Low Expectations by Alex & Brett Harris. We will watch and discuss video clips that go along with the book.

Also new this year: Students and parents will be asked to plan and organize a service project sometime throughout the school year. More details will be explained at THRILL's Kick-Off meeting.

THRILL Kick Off - August 16, 12:00-1:00 - The Harvest Church, Rock Bldg.

Membership fees are \$10 per student for the year.

Yearbook

Yearbook Advisory Panel:

Leah Tilghman, Yearbook Coordinator
Teresa Andrews
Josie Seacrist
Jessica Sims
Wilenda Turner
Linda Barnhill, Senior Coordinator

Contact Information:

920-8475 *leah.tilghman@gmail.com*
520-7222 *tandrews717@yahoo.com*
957-8707 *pjseacrist@yahoo.com*
429-3210 *jess.sims@gmail.com*
608-8005 *wilendasemail@gmail.com*
772-3184 *elbeemee@gmail.com*

We Need You...

We will request pictures, artwork, and quotes from all students throughout the year so we can create a yearbook that reflects YOU! Please be sure to respond to requests made via newsletter and email. Please send your photos to shieldpictures@gmail.com
Deadline to submit pictures is 12/31/13

Don't Miss Out...

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY FOR ONLY \$25.
You may order a yearbook any time during the school year, while supplies last, by mailing a check payable to SHIELD to:
Josie Seacrist, 1149 Counts Ferry Rd, Lexington, SC 29072.
AFTER THE MID-YEAR MEETING THE PRICE WILL INCREASE TO \$30.

Yearbook (continued)

Join the team...

We encourage 8th-12th grade students to participate on the Yearbook Staff. This as an opportunity for students to express their creativity, learn to work with others, and to develop leadership skills by working on a project from start to finish. After the first year on staff, students may be eligible to hold leadership positions on the staff. Your student can also earn high school credit for the time spent working on the yearbook. Ask a panel member for more information. We hold monthly meetings and layout sessions, along with periodic training and photo assignments. We will meet the 3rd Friday of each month from 2-4.*
Be sure to pick up an application to join!

First meeting...

YEARBOOK KICK-OFF AND TRAINING MEETING

8/16/13 at the Lexington Main Library Meeting Room

PARENTS SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND 1st 20 MINS OF THIS MEETING.

Students please bring your laptop, if you have one, and an up to date library card. If you have other questions, or want to be involved but are unable to attend the meeting please contact one of our Yearbook Advisory Panel Members.

Picture Days...

We are very excited to have a new photographer to take the student portraits this year. Her name is Ashley Essig of Joyful Images and she does amazing work. She has agreed to work with us for the same low sitting fee of \$2 per person and is capping that at \$6 per family. Please stop by the yearbook table to check out Ashley's work and make your appointment for the week of September 9th through the 13th. (Make up days the following week.) This year the portraits will be taken at ***Riverbend Community Church***.

Formal...

The Winter Formal is open to all 9th-12th grade homeschoolers in the midland area and their guests. Yearbook Staff Members that are in 8th grade may also attend. This event is one that most teens enjoy, it's well-chaperoned and conservative in nature. The date is January 31, 2014 and it will be held at the Lexington Town Municipal Building. The cost is \$25 and the registration deadline is January 10th. Any registrations received after January 10th will have to pay a \$10 late fee.

Website

Webmaster:

Jason & Jesseca Bennett

Contact Information:

WebsiteCoordinator@shieldonline.org

Check out our website! **www.shieldonline.org**

It is a great way to stay current with upcoming events. You can get contact information, read the current newsletter, see archived newsletters and access any forms you may need. We also started secure online registration this year!

We need YOU!

SHIELD has some great things planned for the coming year! Some awesome ideas have been talked about by our members, and we try to implement as many of them as possible. One big hurdle that many support groups face, however, is the willingness of people to sacrifice their time to lead or help in an area. Many of the areas listed above need assistants or people just willing to give a hand.

Too many times we have great ideas for clubs, teen groups, field trips, etc., but we don't have enough workers to lead. If you see an area of need within SHIELD, then please be part of the solution. God has placed different gifts/talents within each of us . . . Share them with your SHIELD family!

We also want you to know that the SHIELD Leadership Team is always available to discuss new ideas or concerns you may have about SHIELD or any of its groups, any decisions made . . . ANYTHING! Remember, that we try to do all things to glorify our Heavenly Father. The SHIELD Leadership Team prayerfully considers everything before making decisions on anything . . . from what clubs to who leads in various areas. We want you, the SHIELD members, to know that we are volunteers here to serve this awesome Christian support group in the best way we know how. Please always come to us if you have any questions or concerns. We will make every effort to meet with you, email you, call you, etc . . . We are here for you!

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MAY YOU HAVE A BLESSED SCHOOL YEAR!